



Bank It:
A Habit of Helping Foundation

October 2014

Newsletter

Thank You !

2014 CommUNITY Visions

2014 has been an extremely exciting year for Bank It!

Alva Easter Egg Hunt

During the months of January, February and March, Bank It raised funds and awareness for The Alva Easter Egg Hunt. Each year, this organization purchases gifts and prizes for hundreds of local children who participate in the annual Easter Egg Hunt. This event brings in families from all over northwest Oklahoma and the prizes are always very exciting. This year, Bank It raised 5,649 for the Easter Egg Hunt. These funds are meant to be spread out over the next several years for purchasing prizes annually.

Boy Scouts Troop #392

During April, May & June, The CommUNITY Vision was the local Boy Scout Troop #392. The Community rallied together to support this organization by raising \$5,871! The Boy Scouts plan on using the funds to help restore and replace some exercise equipment at Hatfield Park as well as continue cleaning up the hiking trails. Another area they hope to concentrate on is their official Boy Scouts camping ground. The Boy Scouts have owned approximately 40 acres of land north of Alva, which has never been maintained enough to host events. With these funds, they hope to begin work on this land to allow for monthly camp outs by the boys and their sponsors. Another area of need that the Boy Scout sponsors are planning to use part of these funds for, is assistance to families for uniform costs,

dues, patch purchases, and camping trips. Some families want to participate, but may be discouraged due to the costs of these things. Hopefully with some aid from these funds, more boys can enjoy the life experiences Boy Scouts can offer.

Cherokee Strip Museum

The 3rd Quarter's CommUNITY Vision was the Cherokee Strip Museum. This great piece of Northwest Oklahoma has done many things for our community. They are working on a community events center that will host meetings for organizations, weddings, family reunions and community events. Together with the community, Bank It raised over \$11,000 for this organization.

Neighbors in Need

The current CommUNITY Vision is the local participating Food Bank. Each year, Bank It will designate the 4th quarter CommUNITY Vision to our Neighbors in Need. The funds collected during this season are used throughout the entire following year. This allows for the Food Bank to provide for families in need for a longer period of time. Families struggling don't just need help during the holiday season, many face hardships throughout the year and this way, they can get the food and supplies they need, *when they need it.*

Currently we are collecting applications for some amazing 2015 CommUNITY Visions, see page 3

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Call for 2015 CommUNITY Visions:

Applications are due November 14, 2014.

See attached application!

Drop off at any donation location!



"The tremendous generosity of the Alva CommUNITY is truly amazing"

*-Magen Paris,
President, Bank It*

**Join the
CommUNITY
Vision!**

Bank It

What's the Big Idea?

The theory behind this program is for each person in Alva to donate small amounts (at their local financial institution) that will go towards the benefit of other local area small organizations that work diligently to support our incredible community. The neat part about this idea is that community members can donate when they deposit their paychecks at their local banks. Citizens can hold out, say 5 dollars and tell the cashier or teller to 'donate that to Bank It'. Each quarter, new organizations in need will be highlighted while funds and support will be generated for them. This program is completely unique to Alva, as it was founded here by Leadership Northwest Oklahoma (LNWOK) Class II in 2011. It is unlikely you will find another community in the world, with financial institutions willing to support a program by matching funds donated at their locations.

Each quarter, Bank It selects a new CommUNITY Vision. In order to be selected as a CommUNITY Vision for the next year, applications must be approved, and interviews with presentations are mandatory. Bank It wishes to maintain that the organizations selected are really giving back to this community and therefore future plans must be explained in detail to the Bank It Board of Directors. Not only is Bank It focusing on the here and now, with quarterly CommUNITY Visions, but they are also "Banking on Alva's Future". When the LNWOK Class II founded this program, they felt it was very important to set aside funds for Alva's future. With the Share Trust Foundation as a role model, the founding board decided on a Growth Fund for future projects, and a Rainy Day Fund for families in crisis. 15% of all funds donated are allocated to the Growth Fund. 20% of all funds donated are allocated to the Rainy Day Fund. Already, Bank It has helped several needy families with high summer utility bills, bills resulting from accidental death of family members, medical bills, and funeral costs. When tragedy strikes our small CommUNITY, Bank It wants to be here to help. This is something the board of directors is very passionate about. The remaining 65% of all funds donated go directly to the CommUNITY Vision. No funds are used for administrative fees, and all funds remain in Alva, FOR Alva; either now, or in the future.

Bank It is just trying to create a 'HABIT OF HELPING'. Trying to create an avenue for helping others that is both convenient, and well organized. Bank It is not asking for large sums of money (although we won't turn anything down) Just a couple of dollars each time you visit your financial institution. And it's also tax deductible.

So next time you hear someone ask about Bank It, please share this information with them!

The Habit of Helping

Bank It Success 2011-2014

- 2011 Summer Youth Programs, School Classrooms, Woods County Senior Citizens, Neighbors in Need.
- 2012 Hatfield Park Project, Girl Scout Hut, Northwest Family Services, Neighbors in Need.
- 2013 Creature Concerns, Summer Youth Programs, Woods County Fire Departments, Neighbors in Need.
- 2014 Alva Easter Egg Hunt, Boy Scouts Troop #392, Cherokee Strip Museum,

CommUNITY Donations: **\$152,974**

Bank Matches: **\$52,727**

TOTAL Raised: **\$205,674**

You See?

*A little giving from a lot of people
can create an enormous cycle of
generosity*

Apply today! Bank It needs your application!

CommUNITY Vision Application

Bank It excited to see the applicants for 2015 CommUNITY Visions! We need your help to spread the word and get our great local organizations to apply for funding.

The applications are **due Friday, November 14, 2014**. You may drop off your completed application off at any donation location, or email to nwbankit@gmail.com. Once applications are received and reviewed, applicants will be asked to attend a Board meeting where they will present their organizations needs, explaining how they will use the funds to further their organization and continue to give back to the Alva Community. This is an opportunity for the Bank It Board to ask questions and verify that the funds will be used for the betterment of our community.

Please see the final page of this newsletter for a copy of the application. If you would like to fill it

out online and email the application, please visit www.ahabitofhelping.com.

Rainy Day Application

If you are or know of a family struggling with a life crisis, please visit www.ahabitofhelping.com and fill out a Rainy Day Fund Application. This will let the Bank It Board understand your need and hopefully find a way to help. The Rainy Day Fund was created to help community members facing significant life struggles. A detailed explanation of needs will be required.

Donation Locations

*Alva State Bank, BancCentral, NA
Community Bank, High Plains Bank,
Hopeton State Bank*

Bank It: a Habit of Helping Foundation 501C3 Status Non-profit Organization

Tax Deduction

Bank It has been working hard over the last several years to become a stand-alone 501C3 status non-profit organization. Previously, Bank It maintained an account at Community Foundations of Oklahoma, allowing for donations to be tax deductible under their umbrella for non-profits.

Recently, Bank It received the news that it was finally accepted by the IRS as a 501C3 Status Non-profit organization. This is tremendous news. Now all funds donated will stay local and allow Bank It to accept donations made payable to Bank It and also allow for a tax write off for you.

Donation Locations



Don't Forget... *some have pledged to match a portion of the funds donated!* (at their location, by their customers)

**Bank It:
A Habit of
Helping
Foundation**

www.ahabitofhelping.com

Facebook:
Northwest Bank IT

Phone: 580-716-1198
Email: nwbankit@gmail.com



Bank It Board



Bank It Board of Directors:

Back Row: Kirk Trezell, Halah Simon, Kendra Schnebel

Front Row: Christie Kornele, Magen Paris, Cathy Brown

Creating a Habit of Helping in NW Oklahoma

Join the CommUNITY Visions!
Stop by any of the following financial institutions!

Your Community Banks Support **Bank It!**



*Don't Forget... some have pledged to match a portion
of the funds donated!*

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, or discontinue receiving this newsletter,
please e-mail nwbankit@gmail.com



Bank It: A Habit of Helping Foundation

CommUNITY Vision Funding Application

Year 2015

Organization Name		Is this a 501C3 Non-Profit Organization?	
Mailing Address		Phone Number	
Representative Name & Title		Email Address	
Website		Have you been a CommUNITY Vision before?	
How did you hear about Bank It?		How many people are in your organization? Adults/Children	/
Please describe you organization, the project you are seeking funds for or the needs of your organization. If you need additional space, please attach another sheet to this application.			
Please describe <i>in detail</i> the funds or items being sought, what they will be used for and the anticipated expenses. Include the goal you hope to complete, how you will accomplish this goal and how this will give back to the community. If you need additional space, please attach another sheet to this application.			
Describe how your organization usually gets funds for these types of projects.			
Briefly explain why <i>Bank It</i> should select your organization as a 2015 CommUNITY Vision?			
To be completed by Bank It Board of Directors.			
Reviewed by	Bank It Board Members	Date:	
Approved/Denied		Explanation	
Final Approval By:	Bank It Board Members	Date:	
Designated Quarter		Main Contact	