



For Immediate Release

## **Community Bank Candy Buy Back Program Collects 915 Pounds for US Troops**

**JOSEPH, OREGON** – November 8, 2017

This past week, local trick-or-treaters joined in with kids across the nation when they gave up some of their Halloween candy for a good cause. Every branch of Community Bank purchased candy back at a price of one dollar per pound, up to five pounds per child. The goodies are being shipped to Operation Gratitude for inclusion in Care Packages to U.S. Service Members deployed overseas in harm's way and to First Responders serving here at home.

As it turns out many people were not interested in receiving any money for their candy. They donated their candy to the effort, or turned around and donated the funds to the annual Charity Drive currently underway at the bank's branches. The Walmart in Pendleton donated a whopping 370 pounds of their extra Halloween candy!

Community Bank is proud to participate in the Operation Gratitude program and overwhelmed with the generosity of our communities. During the week leading up to Veteran's Day, "it's nice to see kids take time to think of all our service members," said Community Bank President, Tom Moran. "These people deserve much more than candy for their service, but it's a great opportunity to show kids that they can do something to support our troops."

### **About Operation Gratitude**

Operation Gratitude is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, volunteer-based organization that seeks to lift spirits and meet the evolving needs of the U.S. Military and First Responder communities, and provide volunteer opportunities for Americans to express their appreciation to all who serve our nation. Every year, Operation Gratitude sends 200,000+ individually-addressed Care Packages to Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines deployed overseas, to their children left behind, and to New Recruits, Veterans, First Responders, Wounded Heroes and their Caregivers. Each package contains food, hygiene products, entertainment and handmade items, as well as personal letters of support. To date, Operation Gratitude volunteers have assembled and shipped 1,919,000 care packages.

### **Contact**

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