

Celebrate summer at the Miners Jubilee

Baker City's annual festival is July 15-17

By Lisa Britton
Go! Magazine

BAKER CITY — Miners Jubilee marks the middle of summer, and this year's annual festival is happening July 15-17.

A mainstay for this summer tradition is a bursting Geiser-Pollman Park filled with vendor booths and a variety of food options. The park will be open 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Sunday.

Shelly Cutler, director of the Baker County Chamber, said she has 87 vendors and eight food vendors signed up for the park.

"I don't have any spaces left — it's completely full," she said. "It's getting back to normal."

Buy and wear a Jubilee button for discounts. Buttons are on sale for \$2 at downtown businesses and the chamber office, 490 Campbell St.

BRONCS AND BULLS

The Challenge of Champions Tour will present the Baker City Bronc and Bull Riding during Jubilee weekend.

The bronc riding is at 7 p.m. Friday, July 15. The bull action starts at 6 p.m.



Travel Baker County/Contributed photo

Vendors draw in the crowds in Geiser-Pollman Park for Miners Jubilee. This year's festival is July 15-17.

Saturday, July 16.

Tickets can be purchased at www.bakerbronsandbulls.com. General admission is \$20, or \$12 for ages 10 and younger.

SATURDAY, JULY 16

Stretch those legs early with the annual Miners Jubilee fun run/walk, which benefits the track and cross-country programs at Baker High School. Registration is at 7 a.m. on Main Street (\$25) and the event begins at 8 a.m.

In the park, the Baker City Lions Club will serve up breakfast from 7-11 a.m. Cost is \$10 adults or \$8 ages 3-10, for a meal of sausage, pancakes, eggs, coffee and juice.

Back downtown, the Jubilee parade begins at 11 a.m. The route starts at Baker Middle School, then heads east on Broadway to Second Street. Floats go south on Second to Valley Avenue, then east to Main Street, and north on Main to finish at Madison Street. This year's theme is "Honoring Our Heritage."

At Geiser-Pollman Park, two events commence at 2 p.m. — the Oregon State gold panning championship happens on Grove Street between Baker Heritage Museum and the park, and the Baker City Lions Club horseshoe tournament takes place in the northwest corner of the park (\$5 per person; teams of two).

Across Grove Street from the park, Baker Heritage Museum will have a "eureka!" treasure hunt out front both Saturday and Sunday.

"Our goal is to educate children in geology and archaeology," said Lynn Weems, museum director.

Inside the museum, visitors can sign a replica of Independence Rock. Admission is \$9 adults, \$8 seniors and \$5 for ages 6-12.

SUNDAY, JULY 17

The Baker Lions Club will heat up the griddles again from 7-11 a.m. Cost is \$10 adults or \$8 ages 3-10. The menu is ham, pancakes, eggs, coffee and juice.

Sunday also brings the duck race, put on by the Baker County 4-H program. Ducks will be available to purchase all weekend. The race starts at noon and the plastic floaties will traverse Powder River from Wade Williams to the finish at the bridge between the park and the Baker County Library.

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