

First week of August brings fairs to Baker, La Grande

By Lisa Britton
and John Vollinger
Go! Magazine

BAKER CITY, LA GRANDE — Eastern Oregon youth are gussying up their animals and entertainers are preparing for the stage in anticipation of this summer's county fairs.

In Baker City, the fair was held last year in a limited capacity. This year will look a bit more like normal, said Devon Colton, fair administrative assistant for Baker County. She is hopeful for large crowds at the fair, she said, especially after the great turnout for the town's Miners Jubilee in mid-July.

"It was really encouraging to see that people want to get out," she said.

The Baker County Fair in Baker City begins July 30 with a horse show, then continues the next week, Aug. 1-6.

Union County didn't have

a public fair in 2020. This year it returns, Aug. 4-7 at the Union County Fairgrounds in La Grande.

BAKER COUNTY FAIR

A full week of fair activities are planned starting with a 4-H/FFA horse show at 8 a.m. on Friday and Saturday, July 30 and 31. Sunday, Aug. 1, is open class check-in (except flowers and horticulture, which need to come on Monday, Aug. 2, from 8-11 a.m.).

Animals arrive Tuesday, Aug. 3, and the fair opens to the public at noon that day. That evening brings a cornhole tournament starting at 7 p.m.

For the rest of the week, Wednesday through Friday, the fair opens to the public at 9 a.m. each day. A "Kidz Fun Zone" with inflatables and yard games is open those three days as well.

Two concerts are planned: Olivia Harms takes the stage

at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 4, and Trailer Hitch plays at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 5.

Showing of the fair animals happens throughout the week. An outdoor arena will again be used for swine, sheep and goats. Beef exhibits will be shown inside Cockram arena, and the small animals will be located in part of the event center.

PeeWee Showmanship is set for 4:30 p.m. Thursday. Youth who want to participate can find forms at www.bakerfair.com/fair or at the Extension office, 2600 East St., Baker City. Open class forms are also on this site, and can be submitted with entries.

Several vendors have committed to the week, and Colton said more are welcome. For information, check the website or call/text her at 541-519-2110. Forms can be emailed to devon.colton@oregonstate.edu.

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Submitted photo
Olivia Harms plays Aug. 4 at the Baker County Fair.



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FIRST FRIDAY AT CROSSROADS

Picturing Paradise

Cuadros are embroidered and appliquéd fabric pictures created by women of Compacto Humano and Manos Ancashinas, two art cooperatives located in Pamplona Alta, a shantytown situated on the outskirts of Lima, Peru. This project, which in part, evolved into an exhibition, features the work of these women, placing emphasis on them as artists and the way their art reflects creativity, resilience, and hope despite the harsh conditions of their lives.

Exhibition on display Friday, July 2 through Saturday, July 31
Crossroads is open Monday through Saturday from 10:00am to 5:00pm