

# Wagon encampment moves to Geiser-Pollman Park

By Lisa Britton  
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Memorial Day weekend always brings a wagon encampment re-enactment at the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center. The center is closed to visitors, but the annual event is still happening. Center staff have packed up the wagons and are heading west to set up camp at Geiser-Pollman Park. The “Oregon or Bust” encampment will be active from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, May 29 and 30. Visitors will learn more about camp life, the hopes and fears

shared by emigrants, and what motivated them to make the journey. Folksinger Hank Cramer will be playing live music throughout the afternoon at 12:30 p.m., 2 p.m., 3:30 p.m. Cramer will also be featured in NHOTIC’s first summer concert in the park. The music begins at 5 p.m. Saturday, May 29. Saturday evening concerts are planned for nearly every weekend this summer. Here is the full schedule of NHOTIC events:

**Summer schedule**

June 5-6: Carter Junction, ongoing performances, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.,

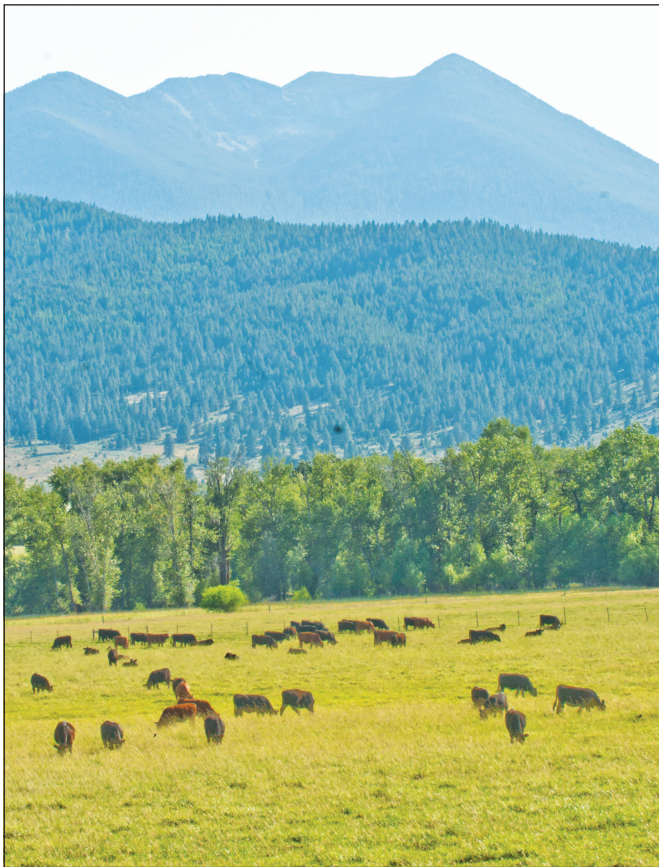
at NHOTIC  
June 5: Carter Junction, 5 p.m., Geiser-Pollman Park  
June 12: Wild Horse Day, times TBD, NHOTIC  
June 12: Lonnie Shurtleff, 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m., NHOTIC  
June 12: Lonnie Shurtleff, 5 p.m., Geiser-Pollman Park  
June 19: TBD, 5 p.m., Geiser-Pollman Park  
July 3 and 4: Great Bear Folk Theater, 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m., at NHOTIC  
July 3: Great Bear Folk Theater, 5 p.m., Geiser-Pollman Park  
July 9-11: Susan Matley (per-

forming as Matilda Sager Delaney), 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m., at NHOTIC  
July 10: Susan Matley (performing as Matilda Sager Delaney), 5 p.m., Geiser-Pollman Park  
July 17 and 18: Frontier’s Day at Miners Jubilee, times TBD, Geiser-Pollman Park  
July 23-25: Linda Russell, 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m., at NHOTIC  
July 24: Linda Russell, 5 p.m., Geiser-Pollman Park  
Aug. 6-8: William Rossiter, 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m., at NHOTIC  
Aug. 7: William Rossiter, 5 p.m.,

Geiser-Pollman Park  
Aug. 12-15: Mike Follin (performing as Dr. Balthazar), 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m., at NHOTIC  
Aug. 14: Mike Follin (performing as Dr. Balthazar), 5 p.m., Geiser-Pollman Park  
Aug. 28: TBD, 5 p.m., Geiser-Pollman Park  
Sept. 4-5: Labor Day Wagon Encampment, times TBD, NHOTIC  
Sept. 4-5: Carter Junction, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at NHOTIC  
Sept. 3-5: Karen Haas, 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m., at NHOTIC  
Sept. 4: Karen Haas, 5 p.m., Geiser-Pollman Park

## BEEF

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Union County Sheriff Cody Bowen drew the winning ticket for Brett Baxter, a high school principal in La Grande. Baxter chose the Union Food Bank to receive the freezer full of beef, and Old West posted a video of the delivery on Facebook. Kavanaugh said the loan program is also supported with a grant from the Northwest Credit Union Foundation.



S. John Collins/Baker City Herald File

Cattle grazing in Baker Valley.

**How it works**  
Once a loan is approved, the borrower specifies where he or she wants to buy meat (beef, lamb, chicken, pork, etc.). Kavanaugh said Old West cuts a check to the butcher. The loan recipient hands over the check and receives a supply of fresh meat. When the program was about to launch, Kavanaugh called meat processors around Northeast Oregon. At Billy Bob’s Butcher Shop, co-owner Kaleen Smith was

quick to praise the idea. “He said ‘is there a need?’ I said you’re already behind the ball,” Smith said.

She said the shop has offered its own type of loan program to help people purchase meat. And, she said, meat

prices are continuing to rise. “Not everybody had the money up front,” she said. She’s telling customers about the Old West program, and helping connect consumers with producers, too. “I’d advise people to look into it,” she said of the bank loan. Rohlfs said it costs about \$1,200 for half a beef, which includes cutting and wrapping. When meat supply dwindled in the grocery stores, he had more locals seeking out meat from his ranch. The Old West program, he said, will help people buy good-quality meat and support the local economy. “They’re helping producers, the local butcher shops, and the local community,” Rohlfs said. “I told (Kavanaugh) I’ll raise as much beef as I can to help out the cause.” To learn more about the Farm to Table Loan, call any branch of Old West Federal Credit Union. The bank’s website is www.oldwestfcu.org.

## Memorial Day service planned

Ralph Cole, who was born in Baker City and served for 26 1/2 years in the military, will be the speaker during a Memorial Day service Monday, May 31 at 11 a.m. at Mount Hope Cemetery. Veterans can have a free lunch at noon Monday at either the Veterans of Foreign Wars Club or the Baker Elks Lodge.

## Fugitive arrested

A Salem man wanted on a nationwide felony warrant for first-degree sexual abuse was arrested Sunday morning, May 23 near Baker City after a resident, notified by Baker County Sheriff’s deputies about the fugitive, reported seeing the man walking along Highway 86. David Alan Boaz, 50, was arrested just after 8 o’clock near the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center. Deputies learned about Boaz’s presence late on May 22 when they stopped a car that had run out of gas on Highway 86 near Milepost 12. The driver, a woman, and the male passenger, Boaz, went to get fuel, but only the woman returned. Deputies then learned about Boaz’s warrant. Deputies searched the area overnight and told residents in the area to call if they saw anyone matching Boaz’s description. He was arrested about five miles west of where the car ran out of gas.

## COUNCIL

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“The Second Amendment to me is the basis of one of our rights,” Waggoner said. “Is (the resolution) enforceable by the city? No, not really, but when you have a governor that does not listen to the people, these types of things are the only thing that we can do to show our people and the governor that this is something that we, as a people, on this side of the state, it’s important to us,” said Waggoner. Mayor Kerry McQuisten said the resolution — which is in the tinted box at right — adds a fourth layer of protection, the other three being a similar ordinance that Baker County voters overwhelmingly approved in November 2018, along with the Oregon and federal constitutions. Spriet, who voted against approving the resolution, said he fully supports the Second Amendment. “I do think there’s some language here that might be interpreted in a way that we hadn’t intended as a council,” Spriet said. Sells, who cast the other opposing vote, also said she absolutely supports the Second Amendment. “I do feel like our words matter and how they’re written in here matters, how they’re portrayed and how other people read it matters and so I agree,” Sells said. “I’d really like to see some of the language adjusted to better support a more generalized resolution,” said Sells. Spriet noted that some clauses in the resolution refer to “the council” having a particular viewpoint on an issue, while others ascribe these to the “citizens of Baker City.” Spriet said he would like to see the resolution be

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— Baker City Councilor Johnny Waggoner Sr., who introduced a resolution declaring Baker City a Second Amendment sanctuary

consistent and refer to what the council believes rather than seeming to speak for all citizens. McQuisten said that in the fourth “whereas” clause, which states that “the citizens of Baker City are opposed to any legislation considered by the Oregon State Legislature or the United States Congress that would infringe upon the right to keep and bear arms,” Waggoner was referring to the 2018 election when county voters approved the Second Amendment Preservation ordinance, with 5,432 yes votes to 2,736 no votes. Spriet also mentioned the section in the resolution which reads: “Be it further resolved that the Baker City Council will not appropriate any funds for any enforcement of unconstitutional laws against the People of Baker City, Oregon.” Spriet said he believes that clause could be interpreted as the city not fully funding the police department. “That passage there really gives me a lot of pause because I think it could easily be interpreted by another council or future people that might say that the council is willing to defund the police if they enforce laws that the council at the time disagrees with,” Spriet said. Multiple city residents who attended Tuesday’s meeting encouraged councilors to approve the resolution, including Tom Hughes.

“I strongly support the resolution,” Hughes said. “I feel if we don’t stand at a local level and start to put measures into place now, I’m very concerned that some of the same people who have so easily given up and continually give up their freedoms because they were afraid of a virus with a 99 plus percent survival rate will easily give up their Second Amendment rights as well.” Hughes said he believes the only thing keeping the “liberal left from destroying America” is the right to keep and bear arms, giving people the ability to defend against what he described as a tyrannical, corrupt government. David McGuire also supported the resolution, saying he believes law-abiding citizens have paid the price while criminals victimize innocent people. “I think we should have something that protects us,” McGuire said. Marvin Sundean voiced his

support for the resolution, saying there are three primary reasons the Second Amendment exists. “The third most important was for hunting, the second most important was for self protection, the primary reason, the number one reason, was so that we could protect ourselves from a tyrannical government,” Sundean said. “The events over the last year have caused me great concern.” In other business Tuesday, the council:

- approved the audit report presented by Rob Gaslin of Gaslin Accounting.
- approved a change order adding \$150,000 to the \$5.7 million contract with Gyllenberg Construction for building the city’s new wastewater lagoon. The cause for the request, according to a report to councilors from Public Works Director Michelle Owen, is a series of February storms in the Gulf Coast region that closed petrochemical plants and led to an increase in the cost of vinyl that will be used to line the lagoon.
- learned from Owen that she will talk to the Public Works Advisory Committee and bring more information to the council next month regarding a request from a resident to pave a section of Indiana Avenue.

## Baker City Resolution 3885

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF BAKER CITY, BAKER COUNTY, OREGON DECLARING BAKER CITY, OREGON TO BE A SECOND AMENDMENT SANCTUARY CITY

WHEREAS, the Right of the People to Keep and Bear Arms is guaranteed as an Individual Right under the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution and under the Constitution of the State of Oregon, Article 1, Section 27 and;

WHEREAS, the Right of the People to Keep and Bear Arms for defense of Life, Liberty and Property is regarded as an Inalienable Right by the People of Baker City, Oregon, and;

WHEREAS, the Baker City Council, has been elected to represent the People of Baker City, Oregon and being duly sworn by their Oath of Office to uphold the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Oregon and;

WHEREAS, the citizens of Baker City are opposed to any legislation considered by the Oregon State Legislature or the United States Congress that would infringe upon the right to keep and bear arms and would ban the possession and use of any firearms, magazines, ammunition or accessories now employed by individual citizens of Baker City, for defense of life, liberty and property or would require firearms owner’s ID card or tax the possession of the firearms or ammunition within Baker City Oregon.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Baker City Council hereby declares Baker City to be a Second Amendment Sanctuary City; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Baker City Council does hereby oppose the enactment of any legislation that would infringe upon the rights of the People to keep and bear arms and consider such laws to be unconstitutional and beyond lawful legislative authority; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the People of Baker City affirm support of the Baker City Police Department, and additionally, specifically to exercise sound discretion to not enforce against any citizen any unconstitutional laws; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Baker City Council will not appropriate any funds for any enforcement of unconstitutional laws against the People of Baker City, Oregon.

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## RAIN

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Even with Tuesday’s rainstorm, May’s total so far is just 0.57 of an inch, well below the monthly average of 1.43 inches.

With little chance of rain the rest of the month, May almost certainly will end up drier than average. Baker City hasn’t had a month with above-average precipitation since October 2019.

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