

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Historic Medicine Show to be presented at Trail Center

BAKER CITY, Ore. – Living history interpreter Mike Follin brings a re-created traveling frontier medicine show to the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center August 16-19. Presentations of “Dr. Balthasar” are scheduled daily at 10:30 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. in the Leo Adler Theater located inside the Center.

Mike Follin works with the Ohio Historical Society in Cincinnati, and created the character of a 19th century frontier patent medicine salesman to help modern Americans understand this part of frontier history and early day health care.

The Dr. Balthasar character uses the rapid fire patter and entertaining techniques that attracted early American country folk to attend a sales talk and purchase mostly useless tonics. Follin opens and closes his forty minute programs with modern viewpoints and facts about this early industry and frontier life, but when he assumes his character, audiences find themselves transported back in time, and often become part of the good doctor’s sales spiel.

The Trail Center is located five miles east of Baker City, Oregon on State Highway 86. Take Exit 302 from I-84. The Trail Center is currently open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Admission for adults is \$8.00; for seniors it’s \$4.50; children 15 and under are admitted for free. Federal passes are accepted. Call (541) 523-1843 for updates on programs and events. For more information about the Trail Center visit:

www.oregontrail.blm.gov

- BLM -

About the BLM: The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM’s multiple-use mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2012, activities on public lands generated \$4.6 billion in revenue, much of which was shared with the States where the activities occurred. In addition, public lands contributed more than \$112 billion to the U.S. economy and helped support more than 500,000 jobs.

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