



U.S. Department of the Interior
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News Release

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Frontier Medicine Show at Oregon Trail Interpretive Center

Baker City, Ore. – Living history interpreter Mike Follin will re-create a traveling frontier medicine show at the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center August 19 through 22, 2016.

Presentations of “Dr. Balthasar’s Frontier Medicine Show” are scheduled daily at 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. in the Center’s Leo Adler Theater.

Follin is with the Ohio Historical Society in Cincinnati, Ohio, and created the character of a nineteenth century frontier patent medicine salesman to help modern Americans understand frontier history and health care.

His character, Dr. Balthasar, 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 National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center is located five miles east of Baker City, Oregon on Highway 86. Take Exit 302 from I-84. The Center is currently open from 9 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily. Admission for adults is \$8 and \$4.50 for seniors; children 15 and under are admitted for free. Federal passes are also accepted.

Call (541) 523-1843 for updates on programs and events or visit oregontrail.blm.gov.

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