

# NEWSRelease

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Vale District Office

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## **November features workshops and special programs at National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center**

Baker City, Oregon - - - The National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center is sponsoring a variety of special workshops and programs to help visitors make the transition to winter time and indoor activities. Shorter hours of 9:00 to 4:00 daily and lower fees are in effect through winter.

Interpreter David Jason presents his new program “Albert Fenner – Supplier to the Compleat Miner” on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. This living history presentation covers the economics and technology of early day mines in eastern Oregon through the eyes of a merchant bringing hardware and dry goods to the instant settlements that sprang up around each new gold strike in the 1860s.

Saturday, November 15, Pete Piazza of Prairie City will bring his collection of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century military equipment, uniforms, and historic firearms for a special one day display. On Friday the 21<sup>st</sup>, “Tall Tales,” a campfire style interpretive program, will be presented indoors at the Blue Mountain Wagon Encampment exhibit stage. John Woodard, David Jason, and Alyssa Peterson share music and stories as might have been told around a wagon train campfire in the 1850s, from 9:30 to 11:00 am.

Two craft workshops are offered in November. On the 9<sup>th</sup>, a class to make 19<sup>th</sup> century style fabric flower decorations will result in participants having classic Victorian style poinsettia flowers for holiday decorations. This workshop includes a small Victorian style tea with the registration fee of \$15, and requires pre-registration by calling 541-523-1843. On Sunday November 16, a drop-in workshop suitable for all ages will focus on bird feeders to help feathered friends through the winter. There is no supply fee or registration required for this class from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm.

The annual Wagons Ho! Film Festival held each year on the day after Thanksgiving brings classic Hollywood film interpretations of the western migration story to the Leo Adler Theater. This year’s lineup starts at 9:30 am with the children’s film “An American Tail: Fievel Goes West”, followed by “Bend of the River” starring Jimmy Stewart at noon, and “Canyon Passage” with Dana Andrews at 2:00 pm. Trail Tenders will offer a \$5.00 lunch of bratwurst, chips and a drink.

Saturday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, geologist Howard Brooks presents a slide program on the mining history of eastern Oregon, followed by a book signing for his recent publication “A Pictorial History of Gold Mining in the Blue Mountains of Eastern Oregon”. November 11, Veteran’s Day, is a free fee day. The photo exhibit “Strength in Perspective: Eastern Oregon & the Blue Mountains” will still be available to view through mid-month.

The National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, operated by the Bureau of Land Management, is located 5 miles east of Baker City, Oregon on Highway 86. Take Exit 302 from I-84. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Admission for adults is \$5. Seniors are \$3.50. Children 15 and under are free. Federal passes are accepted. Visit [www.blm.gov/or/oregontrail/](http://www.blm.gov/or/oregontrail/) for more information about the Center, or call 541-523-1843 for updates on programs and events.

