



## Laramie Stars Return to Laramie, July 12-14, 2019

In celebration of the TV show “Laramie” 60th anniversary, the Laramie Area Visitor Center is hosting several cast members this summer as well as organizing a slew of other Wild West events.

Robert Fuller, Bobby Crawford and Dennis Holmes are slated to attend the “Laramie” Reunion, an event honoring the 1960s TV series and its full cast, including John Smith, Hoagy Carmichael and Spring Byington, Stuart Randall and Eddie Waller.

“We’re trying to channel the fans enthusiasm into the historical importance of Albany County’s role in the American expansion West,” Laramie Area Visitor Center Assistant Director Mike Gray said. “The Vee-Bar will be an excellent visitor destination. It closely resembles the Sherman Ranch, which in the show, was a stage stop on the Overland Trail. Visitors will be able relive some of the Wild West through branding and wrangling events, hay rides and other western-themed activities.”

Set in the 1870s, “Laramie” follows Slim Sherman and his 14-year-old brother, Andy, who struggle to manage their ranch after their father is killed.

Local historian and “Images of America: Laramie” co-author Charlie Petersen said Laramie was the perfect location for Sherman brothers’ adventure.

“When an outsider thinks of Laramie, he or she usually thinks of the Wild West desperadoes, gunfights and cowboys, all larger than life, rushing to the rescue of a fair maiden in distress and always arriving just in the nick of time,” Petersen said. “The ‘Western Myth’ has become a part of Laramie’s lore, and it helps us to identify the community as what it is today. As long as Laramie survives as a community, that myth will be alive and well.”

The series was fictional, but Albany County’s history played a prominent role in the script. One example is the episode “Handful of Fire” (December 5, 1961), Colonel John Barrington, played by George Macready, and presumably modeled on John Chivington of the Sand Creek massacre in 1864 in Colorado, escapes while facing a court martial at Fort Laramie for his role in the later 1890 Wounded Knee Massacre in South Dakota.

For a full list of events, including a day dedicated to ceremonial wedding renewals “Marry Me in Laramie” at the Laramie Plains Museum, Laramie Jubilee Days Parade, Photo Ops with the Stars at the University of Wyoming Conference Center and more, visit [www.visitlaramie.org/laramie60th](http://www.visitlaramie.org/laramie60th).

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