

## CLOCK

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 though. We were resurrecting this little thing. It felt a little like Indiana Jones — it was covered in mud and dirt and I had to clean it out.”  
 Jarski said multiple people had different parts of the clock and tracking them down was a challenge.  
 Betty Lantz, whose ancestor was one of the original employees of the optometry store, was in possession of one of the pieces of the clock.  
 “It means a lot to us (that the clock is being restored),” Lantz said.  
 She said the original clock had to be wound daily to keep its time.

“A lot of times the clock wouldn’t be wound,” she said laughing. “Hopefully now it will run by electricity.”  
 In fact, that is one of the few upgrades the clock received. Although it will be electric, Orthmann and Jarski wanted to keep the bulk of the original clock intact.  
 Jarski said the project to restore the clock falls under the city’s streetscape project, which is geared toward revitalizing the downtown area of La Grande.  
 “We want to create an atmosphere that is welcoming to people and businesses,” she said of the streetscape project. “The more you can do to revitalize the downtown area, the

more people want to hang out there. This clock is one of the historic icons on Adams Avenue. It’s been downtown since 1928. To have it back and restored so that it functions again makes it a significant piece of our heritage in La Grande.”  
 The city has been making strides to better the downtown area with Urban Renewal dollars. Jarski and other city staff have been heading up projects to restore the old buildings.  
 “There’s a strong attachment to this iconic structure,” Jarski said. “We wanted to bring it back to life.”  
 Orthmann, who spent countless hours trying to restore the pieces of the clock to closely resemble the

original, understood the pressure of the project.  
 “I went downtown to look at the clock (base) and it was in terrible disrepair,” Orthmann said. “Then someone brought it to my attention there was an actual clock that used to be on top of it. Then the clock (face) showed up at my shop one day and I was told it had been under a tree at a farm (since the 1970s).”  
 Orthmann had some of the pieces to the clock in his shop for years and was eager as the restoration project gained momentum. Unfortunately, progress slowed to the point where Orthmann said he was skeptical it would ever be finished — that is, un-

til the project was brought up again by the city.  
 Now Orthmann is looking at putting the finishing touches on the clock.  
 “It’s been a huge honor to be a part of this for sure,” he said. “This town is near and dear to me. I’m part of this community and being able to give back to it is huge.”  
 Lantz said people in the community have often questioned what happened to the clock. Soon they’ll be able to see it again.  
 At 11:15 a.m. on Oct. 25, the city will hold a ceremony celebrating the clock’s reinstallation, and the community is invited to attend.

## PCA

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 tive grant, effective through September 2020, provided the funds essential to forming the PCA position — one the university and SFTS had discussed collaborating on for years.  
 “This was a great opportunity for us to rekindle our relationship and work with SFTS on a more personal level to help victims of crime get assistance,” Dunne-Cascio said. “The whole objective is to get students, faculty and staff to report and seek (help). It creates another avenue for individuals interested in reporting (who maybe) don’t want to have an investigation but want it to be known or need help.”  
 Unlike the university, which is required under federal law and university policy to investigate all reports of interpersonal violence brought to their attention (for example, sexual harassment and assault, stalking, and dating and domestic violence), the PCA is a confidential resource not required to divulge information unless explicitly given permission by the victim through a written release. The PCA is essentially an extension of SFTS — providing EOU students, faculty and staff with the Shelter’s same resources, with the addition of specialty training required for Title IX and the on-campus aspect of the service in dealing with students.  
 “Our hope is that the convenience (of having an on-campus resource will) encourage reporting, because we’re concerned about the victim’s safety and

well-being — how can we help them emotionally, physically, mentally,” Dunne-Cascio said. “The important thing is to help them through the process.”  
 The university and SFTS are able to assist with essentially “whatever it is the victim is needing,” said Dunne-Cascio, including no contact or sexual assault protective orders; counseling; academic support such as altering class schedules and notifying faculty of a student’s extended absence; changing housing location(s) and assisting with moving; providing sexual assault forensic exams and emergency contraception free of charge; and, if the victim decides to report the abuse to law enforcement, providing assistance and advocacy in that process.  
 “If they do choose to do something, I help them through the process and guide them through whatever it is they want to do,” Musrasrik said of her role. “Other colleges and universities in the state are already (implementing similar services), and there’s definitely a need for it (here) as well.”  
 More than 90 percent of sexual assault victims on college campuses don’t report their assault and only five percent of men and 21 percent of women reported receiving victim services, according to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center.  
 “A lot of times victims don’t come forward because they don’t want an investigation,” Musrasrik said. “They can request confidentiality but it’s not (always) guaranteed.”  
 With the addition of a PCA,

### What is Title IX?

Title IX is a federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any educational program or activity that receives federal funding. This includes most schools, including private institutions and grades K-12. Title IX addresses sexual harassment, sexual violence, or any gender-based discrimination that may deny a person access to educational benefits and opportunities.”

—www.endrapeoncampus.org

however, both organizations hope the potential negative impacts of reporting will be lower, encouraging more victims to seek the help and resources they may need.  
 “Some (students) might be away from home for the first time, may not have friends or family available to them, or might be in an environment that’s unsafe for them,” said Mindy Mowery, executive director at Shelter From the Storm. “By providing this, I think it says a lot about EOU — that they take their students’ safety concerns very seriously and want what’s best for their campus.”  
 The Privileged Campus Advocate office is located in Zabel 113 and is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. For more information, call 541-962-3381.

## LGCC

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 looking to get more money because we’re losing \$60,000 to \$70,000 per year while we ship it domestically.”  
 The rate change would be approximately 30 cents, which Larvik noted could be covered by three recycled pop bottles per month.  
 Larvik said the increase would just cover the loss.  
 After the city council meeting, the Urban Renewal Agency convened to discuss renewing its Buxton contract.  
 Buxton, a customer analytics company based in Fort Worth, Texas, is under a three-year contract with the URA to provide information on businesses that are a good fit for La Grande. The city is entering its third year of the contract in 2019.  
 The company gathers information about the community and can provide analytics to the city to assist in economic development. The contract gives 20 viable business leads to the city every year.  
 The city requested, however, to wait on its last list of 20 names until 2020 so the city can find land for the additional businesses.  
 At a recent work session, URA member Nicole Howard said \$50,000 a year for 20 business names is very hard to justify. There are also confidentiality agreements attached to those names so URA members are not allowed to know what specifically is on the list.  
 On Wednesday night, Howard reiterated her concerns about the money.  
 She said she doesn’t think it’s worth the cost.  
 URA member Gary Lillard said the URA and the city have tried to do it themselves in the past and it didn’t work. He supported renewing the contract because he feels it has been successful.  
 The URA voted 6-1, with Howard being the lone nay vote, to renew the contract.

## WALLOWA

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 Joseph School District has in kindergarten through eighth grade. The district has 76 students in grades nine to 12.  
 Homan said the enrollment increase is mostly due to more people moving into the community.  
 “We have a lot of new families and new young faces,” he said. “We are excited to have them.”  
 The Wallowa School District is reporting a 4 percent enrollment increase. The school district has 181 students, eight more than in 2017-18, said first-year Superintendent Jay Hummel. The district’s 2018-19 budget was built by the previous superintendent, Bret Uptmor, on the assumption the school district would have 173 students, Hummel said. He said Uptmor, now the superintendent of the Grant School District in Grant County, built spending plans with caution.  
 “He budgeted conservatively,” said Hummel, a veteran educator who came to Wallowa from Emmett, Idaho.  
 The enrollment increase is good news for Wallowa, since schools districts receive about \$7,000 from the state per student.  
 “(The enrollment increase) will definitely bolster our budget,” Hummel said.  
 Enrollment in the Enterprise School District is up 2 percent from 2017-18. Enterprise now has 427 students, 11 more than the previous school year.  
 Enterprise has 214 students in elementary school, 63 in grades seven and eight, and 150 in grades nine to 12. This year, enrollment at Enterprise’s high school is up 17 students.  
 The enrollment increase was not expected, said Enterprise School District Superintendent Erika Pinkerton.  
 “It was huge surprise,” she said. “This is encouraging.”  
 The superintendent credits the increase to economic activity drawing more families to Enterprise, such as the opening of a calling service run by the state and a new wellness center.  
 Enrollment remained unchanged in the Troy School District, which has two students. This year, the district has a fifth-grader and sixth-grader. In 2017-18, the district had a kindergartner and a first-grader. The change in students is due to families moving in and out of Troy over the summer, said Fred Byers, the Troy School District’s teacher.  
 Troy, which can serve students in kindergarten through eighth grade, is 50 miles northwest of Enterprise.



Phil Gillette, manager of the sporting goods department at Ace Hardware in La Grande, stands in front of guns for sale at the store.

after concluding commissioners shouldn’t take a political stance.  
 In June, Wisdom began collecting signatures to get the preservation ordinance on the November ballot. He successfully turned in more than 1,400 signatures, exceeding the necessary 632 signatures. Wisdom said when gun-control advocates began collecting signatures for IP 43, it pushed him toward action.  
 “We decided we had to get on the ball and do something about this because (IP 43 supporters) were really pushing,” Wisdom said. “We needed to step up and do something (because IP 43 would) really affect businesses right here in Union County.”  
 Eventually, the Portland petitioners withdrew their efforts to get IP 43 on the November ballot and said they would refocus on trying to get it on the 2020 ballot.  
 That hasn’t halted the momentum of the drive for Second Amendment Preservation Ordinances across the state, though.  
 “Why stop when they stop?” Gillette said. “Let’s just go ahead and nip it in the bud so there’s not even a thought of it after the fact.”  
 Taylor claimed he could guarantee the preservation measures will pass in eight of the 10 counties in November, saying the measures are only facing pushback in Lincoln and Linn counties, which are more left-leaning.  
 The Observer attempted to gather comments in opposition to the bill in the community, but none of the parties reached were confident enough in their knowledge of the bill to talk about it.

### Measure 32-96

**TITLE:** Expands definition of firearms and limits enforcement of firearms laws.

**QUESTION:** Should Union County expand constitutional definition of firearms and prohibit enforcement of laws that regulate their manufacture, sale, and possession?

**SUMMARY:** Approval of this measure would mandate that in Union County, the Oregon and United States Constitutional definitions of firearms be interpreted as including ammunition and firearms accessories. Approval of this measure would also make unconstitutional in Union County any law or regulation that restricts a person from possessing firearms, ammunition, and firearms accessories, and require the Union County Sheriff to review federal, state, and local laws affecting firearms, firearms accessories, and/or ammunition and determine whether they violate the United States and Oregon Constitutions as defined by this measure. Approval of this measure would prohibit Union County government from enforcing any law restricting the right of people to possess firearms, firearms accessories, and/or ammunition and would subject people or corporations who violate this measure to a fine of up to \$2,000 for an individual and \$4,000 for a corporation.

—Union County Clerk’s Office

## GUN

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 quirement of a background check for firearm transfers between private parties to existing law. County ordinances would supercede state laws and allow counties not to enforce the firearms safety act. Taylor said he and other activists were worried the expanded law would be the beginning of a statewide database of firearms tracking how many guns an individual owns.  
 “We were opposed to that because we don’t want gun registration,” Taylor said. “We don’t think the government needs to know how many guns people own. It’s really none of their business.”  
 Taylor now runs a Political Action Committee named the Committee to Preserve the Second Amendment, which donates money to local efforts to pass Second Amendment Preservation Ordinances.

In May 2018, a group of Portland faith leaders began collecting signatures for Initiative Petition 43 that would ban sales of some types of weapons and high-capacity magazines in Oregon. This galvanized a number of Second Amendment activists across the state.  
 Phil Gillette, manager of the sporting goods department at Ace Hardware in La Grande, said the law would have severely limited the type of guns he would have been able to sell.  
 “It would have effected a wide variety of businesses,” Gillette said. “We are known in Northeast Oregon to be the hub of the outdoor center. Something like that passes, guess what? You’re going to see businesses close. Pretty simple.”  
 Ken Wisdom, chief petitioner for Union County’s Second Amendment Preservation Ordinance, said a group of local activists originally brought the ordinance to the Union County Commissioners in April, who decided against endorsing it



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