

Santa has been visiting county for decades

OUT OF THE PAST

Compiled by Cheryl Jenkins

Items of interest from the pages of The Chieftain from this week in years past.

100 YEARS AGO DEC. 21, 1916

Farmers from the north end bringing in grain report parts of the long grade above the East Oregon camp very sidling and full of chuck holes which are dangerous with even the best of driving. The grade is not steep but neglect and the heavy traffic have put it in bad condition at all seasons of the year.

The Enterprise community Christmas tree celebration will be held December 24, in the street at the corner of Main and River streets. The program will be attractive with vocal choruses and instrumental music. Candy, oranges and nuts for 650 children have been ordered, and will be distributed to them free.

Never before in the history of Enterprise has holiday shopping been as active and interesting as this year. There are more stores to sell, and they have brighter displays, with greater variety and there are more people to buy.

The four towns of the valley are now connected in one circuit by the Enterprise Electric Co. which thus has completed the actual unification of the electric plants of the county.

School notes: The lunch room is now well organized. The freshmen girls do the cooking and serving and are giving satisfaction. About 20 lunches are served each day. A "penny" lunch is served at the grade school.

The passenger train ran off the tracks as it was leaving Joseph Saturday afternoon, and did not get away until after 8 pm.

70 YEARS AGO DEC. 19, 1946

A huge section of the Prairie creek districts will be plant-

ed to peas next year according to reports. A Umatilla canning company, with a plant at Elgin, is reported to already have an estimated 3500 acres of land in this area purchased, leased, or under contract for the raising of green peas for canning.

For the first time since the opening of the second world war the electrically lighted star is seen on the hill north of the hospital. This star, 16 feet across, is set up on poles about ten feet high, and is plainly visible at the east end of Main street. It is the Christmas gift of the Pacific Power & Light Co. to the community.

Rev. & Mrs. Howard E. Pierce of Wallowa have been notified that their son, Pfc. Harold Pierce, will call them from Berlin on Christmas day. The call is scheduled to come in here at 1:00 am Christmas.

Enterpriser advertisement: If its slippers she wants - the most casual wedgies to glamorous satin mules are on our shelves. \$3.29 to \$6.95.

Joseph has begun to take on a holiday atmosphere to make ready for Santa's appearance. The business houses are all prettily decorated and Tuesday the large tree was put up on Main street by the Pacific Power & Light Co. and will be lighted.

50 YEARS AGO DEC. 22, 1966

Photo caption: About 125 children swarmed around Santa Claus when he arrived in the fire truck at Wallowa last Saturday afternoon. Santa had a busy time handing out treats and admonishing the children to be on their good behavior. St. Nick, who looked a little like Jack Coleman, some of the youngsters thought, is shown holding Ginger Goebel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Goebel.

With Bob Keyser leading the Cougar offense and Rocky Wilson and Scott McCrae leading the defense, Wallowa High School returned from St. Francis December 10th with a 61-46 victory.

The Tuesday Afternoon Friends brought not only a program to the residents of the



Chieftain archives

Does anybody know when or where this was taken? Contact the Chieftain at 541-426-4543 and let us know.

Nursing Home Dec. 20, but also gaily wrapped presents for each of the 18 men and 14 women there.

A strange blue light glowed over the Wallowa mountains last Friday evening and created a considerable amount of excitement. A number of people witnessed the phenomena and generally reported seeing about the same thing, although the location of the light ranged from Hurricane creek to Wallowa Lake.

Santa Claus demonstrated his speed and dexterity last Saturday when he showed up at Wallowa at 1:30 and passed out treats for 15 or 20 minutes, and then, 15 minutes later appeared in front of the Vista theater in Enterprise to greet several hundred youngsters pouring out of the free movie. Volunteer firemen helped Santa distribute 550 bags of candy. Santa will visit downtown Joseph this coming Saturday afternoon.

25 YEARS AGO DEC. 19, 1991

Photo caption: Wallowa Lions John Neemann, Kevin Shumway, John Duckworth and Bob Lewis carry the new

men's Association during the organization's annual convention in Portland.

Photo caption: Local HELP, Inc. manager Carmen Prince accepts donations from Joseph High School student body president Samantha Roberts totaling \$350, a month's rent at the Joseph Community Center for the senior citizen meal site program.

A zone change that could pave the way for a subdivision of expensive homes along the terminal moraine of Wallowa Lake was approved last week by the Wallowa County Court. The court decided to approve the development despite the unanimous opposition of the Wallowa County Planning Commission. Opposition was also voiced by nine state agencies, the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee, and over 140 individuals.

Photo caption: EHS student Sonja Simmons focuses in on Justin, 5, and Chelsey Moncrief, 3, on Santa's lap during the Cloverleaf bazaar December 7, while fellow year book student Aaron Sackett looks on. They were among young photographers taking photos of children with Santa to raise money for the EHS year book.

THE SCENE



Thursday, Dec. 22
• Student Art Show 7 p.m. at Joseph Center

Saturday, Dec. 24
• Lower Valley Farmers' Market, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wallowa

Friday, Dec. 30
• "Final Friday" Open Mic Night, 7 p.m. at Stockman's Lounge

Friday, Jan. 6
• Open mic, 7 p.m. at Terminal Gravity

Thursday, Jan. 12
• Big Read Kickoff, 7 p.m. Fishtrap, Enterprise

Friday, Jan. 13
• Bart Budwig and Marshal McLean, 7 p.m. at Terminal Gravity

Saturday, Jan. 14
• Wallowa County Gamblers Snowmobile Club Annual Poker Run, Salt Creek Summit

Please submit Entertainment Calendar event information to editor@wallowa.com

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