



# WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN



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## NEW YEAR BRINGS NEW LAWS



Steve Tool/Chieftain  
At a Dec. 22 Hurricane Creek Grange Hall luncheon, former Wallowa County resident Tyler Hays tells a group of Wallowa County residents of a plan to open a manufacturing facility in Joseph that could employ as many as 25 people over the next five years.

### Hays talks jobs plan

By Steve Tool  
Wallowa County Chieftain

Five years and 25 jobs. That's what former Wallowa County resident Tyler Hays plans to add to the county's economy and how long he expects it to take.

Hays intends to construct an industrial facility in Joseph that houses a brewery, along with furniture and ceramic production shops. He made the announcement to about 40 attendees of a Dec. 22 luncheon at the Hurricane Creek Grange Hall.

Hays, who grew up at the head of Wallowa Lake, is a renowned east coast designer with his own furniture and art company, BDDW. He employs more than 100 people. He also owns the M. Crow & Co. store in Lostine, which employs several Wallowa County residents.

Hays said that although he now resides chiefly on the East Coast, he has never forgotten his ties to the Wallowa Valley and visits the area as often as possible. And seeing how sawmill closures damaged the county's economy, he said he wanted to try to bring new jobs into the area.

Hays said that he expects to have people working by the fall 2017. But he cautioned against thinking his workforce would explode immediately.

See HAYS, Page A10

New laws took effect in Oregon on Jan. 1, including increased fines for poaching, criminal penalties for impersonating military personnel to intimidate someone else, a widened definition of soliciting prostitution and the banning of sky lanterns.

### RELEASING SKY LANTERNS, IMPERSONATING THE MAYOR NOW CRIMES IN OREGON

POACHING PENALTIES  
WILL GO UP  
SIGNIFICANTLY

By Jade McDowell  
EO Media Group

The 2016 legislative session was a short one, but Oregon lawmakers had enough time to approve a handful of new laws that went into effect Jan. 1. Some — like a law authorizing the governing body of Tillamook County to establish wetlands — apply to a very narrow segment of the state's population. But others will affect all Oregonians.

As always, not knowing about a new law is not a valid legal defense if you get

caught breaking it.

#### Criminal impersonation

Sending intimidating emails to your neighbor while pretending to be the city planner is now a crime.

Senate Bill 1567 makes it illegal to impersonate a public servant, veteran or member of the Armed Forces with the intent to cause another person injury.

The new law applies even in cases where the specific job title or government department used by the impostor does not actually exist.

Oregon's previous identity theft law was interpreted by the courts to only apply to impersonations that involved financial fraud, leaving prosecutors unable charge those who did so only to intimidate or embarrass.

See LAWS, Page A10

## Budwig studio offers laid-back vibe

By Steve Tool  
Wallowa County Chieftain

While many Wallowa County music aficionados may know Bart Budwig as a fine alt-country musician often appearing on center stage, one of his passions is working behind the scene.

Budwig, who attended the Conservatory of Recording Arts and Sciences in Arizona in the mid-2000s, has always enjoyed the process of music recording.

After much experimentation in northeastern Idaho, where he resided as a musician and sideman, Budwig picked up stakes and moved to Enterprise. He made the OK Theatre



Steve Tool/Chieftain  
The many faces of Bart Budwig: Local musician, recording engineer and producer Bart Budwig poses next to his TEAC reel-to-reel recorder in his OK Theatre apartment.

his home base, residing in an apartment at the rear and recording in the theatre proper.

Budwig invested in a reel-to-reel recorder as well as a digital ensemble, first recording

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Bart Budwig

and producing two albums of his own.

As time passed, he built a solid reputation as a musician as well as a sound engineer. Musicians started coming to Budwig's yet-unnamed studio in the back of the OK Theatre, often using its stage as a convenient recording area.

Budwig is currently recording Lewiston singer/songwriter Nevada Sowle's (pronounced Soul) album "The Great American." In keeping with his laid-

back persona and retro taste, the album was recorded live on the stage with only sound baffles around the drum kit.

Unlike some producer/engineers, Budwig doesn't tinker digitally with every note, or like to record tracks in isolation booths

"I prefer to record live," he said. "It's more fun. I've just found that you have to have fun with music to be productive."

See BUDWIG, Page A10



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