

# Enterprise-Lewiston highway nearly finished

## OUT OF THE PAST

Compiled by Paul Wahl

**100 YEARS AGO**  
**July 12, 1917**  
 On the departure of Rev. A. J. Adams, the board of the Federated church presented him a handsome gold watch chain as parting gift. He is moving to a church in Buhl, Idaho. Rev. M. D. Reed will replace him.  
 Dr. R. M. Roberts, Osteopathic physician and surgeon, has located in Enterprise and is prepared to treat all kinds of acute and chronic disease. His office is on the upper floor of the Burnaugh Building.  
 John O'Malley of the Three Lakes district had the big toe of his right foot burst open last week when a horse stepped on it.  
**70 YEARS AGO**  
**July 10, 1947**  
 The Enterprise-Lewiston highway will not be open for through traffic until late Octo-

ber, according to estimates given by the project foreman to Enterprise Mayor M. J. Rutherford.  
 Ira Marks of Imnaha received a painful hand wound when he was thrown from a hay wagon and caught his hand in the hook of the hay fork. Chet Lewis took him to town to have his hand dressed. The doctor had to take several stitches in it.  
 Dallas Makin is the owner of a new 1 1/2-ton Dodge truck. It was erroneously reported in the Chieftain that Mr. Makin had received a new Chevrolet truck.  
**50 YEARS AGO**  
**July 11, 1957**  
 Five babies were born at Wallowa Memorial Hospital in the past week, three of them on July 4.  
 Wick Prout, peering out from behind weeks and weeks of beard, announced that a whisker roundup would be held Sunday at the rodeo grounds in Joseph.  
 The Chief Joseph Days

housing committee is begging everyone to list rooms you may have for rent during the event. Housing is being sought for a number of royal courts and posses arriving in the area and needing places to stay for a night.  
 Pacific Power and Light is busy in Joseph, installing new street lighting on Main Street. There will be nine 21,000-lumen mercury vapor lights on Main and three 4,000-lumen incandescent lights installed. Everything should be in readiness by Chief Joseph Days.  
**25 YEARS AGO**  
**July 9, 1992**  
 Enterprise City Council has hired Donovan Shaw as the new chief of police. He formerly served in North Plains and in Vale. Shaw succeeds Bob Stone, who retired after 35 years as a police officer.  
 The battle for Wallowa County judge has become a three-way affair with the entry of Dave Jackman into the race. The other candidates are Arleigh Isley and Jack Jarman.



Billed as the biggest and best tool in logging, this Caterpillar unit recently came into use in Wallowa County. This undated photo is believed to have been taken in the '50s.

Bruce Fisher of Lostine, birthday Aug. 2, was the recipient of a rare honor — he received his 75th year Mason's pin at the lodge in Wallowa.

# Harold Black retires after 19 years as county planner

Chrystal Allen will be new planning director  
 By Steve Tool  
 Wallowa County Chieftain



Long-time Wallowa County Planning Director Harold Black at his retirement party held at the Wallowa County Courthouse on July 29. Black served in the planning department for 19 years.

*"HAROLD HAS BEEN A TREASURED COLLEAGUE, AND TO SAY HE WILL BE MISSED IS AN UNDERSTATEMENT."*  
 Chrystal Allen  
 New Wallowa County Planning Director

Wallowa County Planning Director Harold Black spent his last official day in office June 30 after 19 years in the department.  
 Black, a native of Portland, became enamored with this area over years of taking vacations in the county.  
 A friend of his wife, Linda, had a vacation cabin here. At the time, he worked for the Bonneville Power Administration as the head of a short-term planning group.  
 His wife eventually found a job with Wallowa County Mental Health, now Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness.  
 The couple visited each other on alternating weekends until Black could take advantage of an early-retirement offer from the administration. He opened his own web page design business, but wanting to explore other avenues, he applied for the deputy planning director position when the county posted the position.  
 He said he was somewhat surprised when then-current planning director, Bill Oliver, selected him in the fall 1998.  
 "I didn't know anything about land use," Black said. "Everything I know I learned on the job or through classes."  
 He spent 10 years at the position before ascending to

the director's chair.  
 "I had a nice long period to learn the job," he said with a smile.  
 Black said that one of his major achievements was the implementation of the county's Goal 5 Overlay Zone.  
 It is a land use regulation package that restricts development on the Wallowa Lake Moraines to preserve their natural beauty and integrity, particularly the lake's East Moraine. The effort to create the zone was beginning when Black took over from the retiring Oliver.  
 "I was instrumental in its

implementation," Black said. "I closed it out, basically."  
 He also mentioned his role in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan, a multi-government agency and community collaborative that documents wildfire risk conditions facing a geographical area and focuses on protection of life and property as its highest objective.  
 Black said that the burden of land use regulations in Oregon presented the biggest challenge in his job. He said the regulations began with admirable goals but quickly became too complex.

"It wasn't meant that you need an attorney to represent you at land use hearings," he said.  
 He noted laws regarding farm stands as particularly egregious. Black said that many regulations are written to apply to Oregon's west-side farm stands that sell nonfarm products.  
 "We don't need that here," he said.  
 Black plans to spend more time visiting friends and family in Portland as well as increasing the time he spends on his hobby, photography. He also said he needs to spend some

time sprucing up his property.  
 "I need to increase my participation in caring for our little Lostine place," he said. "It needs a little TLC, and I haven't had the time."  
 Black said he'll miss helping people the most.  
 "I enjoy helping people get through regulations and to where they want to be," he said. "Most people can't afford an attorney or consultant. We supply a service so people can get there."  
 Black is leaving his position in what he said are the capable hands of deputy planning director Chrystal Allen, who has worked with Black for 16 years and appreciates his mentorship.  
 "Harold has been a treasured colleague, and to say he will be missed is an understatement," she said.  
 "I feel immensely blessed to have had the opportunity to work for Harold these past 16 years and will miss his steadfast guidance, encouragement and wealth of knowledge."  
 Wallowa County commissioner Susan Roberts expressed similar sentiments.  
 "When someone works for the county for a long period

of time, you get to know them pretty well," she said. "He did a good job for us, and he has a dry sense of humor that I'll miss."  
 With helpfulness still uppermost in his mind, Black said he believes it was the trait that defines his legacy.  
 "I'd like to think I've left a legacy of how you can approach this job as helpful -- not a bureaucratic mound of regulations. If you can approach this job with helpfulness, you can make it work."

# Joseph council votes funds for chamber

By Steve Tool  
 Wallowa County Chieftain  
 Who should receive the roughly \$10,000 Joseph receives from the county's hotel and motel tax? That was the question Joseph City Council wrestled with July 6.  
 The money previously has been used for grants to non-profits. Earlier this year, the council debated ending the Joseph Chamber of Commerce's cut of 32 percent.  
 Mayor Dennis Sand and council member Teresa Sajonia advocated for continuing funding for the chamber,

which goes toward staffing the visitors booth on Main Street. The booth receives more than 12,000 of Wallowa County's estimated 500,000 yearly visitors.  
 Their argument rested on the booth's viability in keeping visitors from using local businesses and city hall as information centers, as well as keeping the town tourist-friendly as the tax is generated from tourism spending.  
 Sajonia moved for the city to continue funding the chamber for the next five years.  
 The council approved, voting 4-3.

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## THE REACTIONS

Dave Morgan, Andy Gilbert and Henry Kinsley, as they were in the 60's. Join us as they perform those tunes of yesterday!

August 5th - Save the Date!