

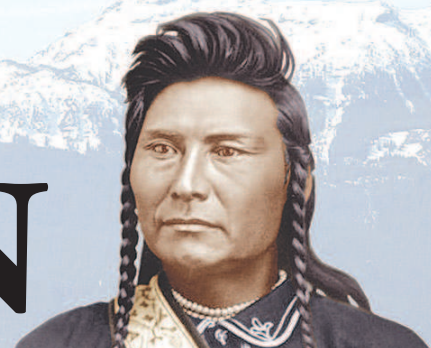
Daylight Saving Time ends on **Sunday at 2 a.m.** when clocks are turned backward one hour to **1 a.m.**



# DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME RETURNS

Set your clock back one hour Saturday night.

# WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN



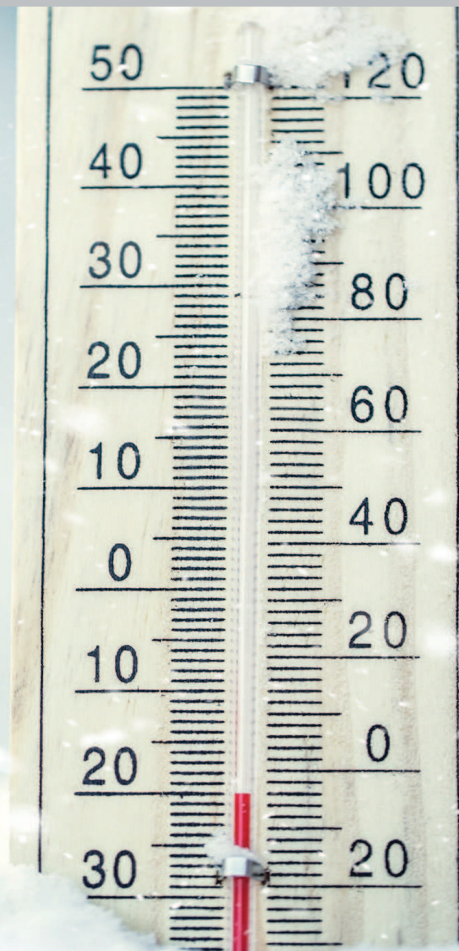
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# GET READY HERE COMES WINTER



## Weatherization is key to surviving the cold and the cost

By Kathleen Ellyn  
Wallowa County Chieftain

The Old Farmer's Almanac predicts another snowy winter with periods of warm weather and that could mean a repeat of some of the issues Wallowa County residents faced last year.

Residents are advised to keep a trickle of water running in sinks at all times during freezing weather. Most cities will cut residents a break on water usage during winter months to compensate. As winter approaches, look for an "average forgiveness notification" in your water bill.

"I imagine we'll still help actual little old ladies, but the guy who just repeatedly ignores advice and then expects us to do the work for free ... there's going to have to be consequences."

Travis Goebel  
Public Works Director

City residents are also advised to take warnings seriously as cities will be limiting their unofficial "public works charity" of digging up frozen lines.

"I imagine we'll still help actual little old ladies, but the guy who just

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### HELP IS WAITING

Community Connection can help you apply for the following programs. Call 541-426-3840 to schedule an appointment and determine eligibility.

**Low Income Energy Assistance Program**  
Energy bill payment assistance and free weatherization supplies for low-income renters or owners including basic home tightening products such as pipe wrapping, caulking, duct sealing, weather-stripping, energy efficient light bulbs and more.

Priorities will be given to seniors, disabled, veterans and families with young children. You may be placed on a waiting list.

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## County commissioners put Talbott Ranch on the block

Property was foreclosed in 2012

The long-running saga of the Talbott Ranch in Imnaha reached the end of a chapter Oct. 23, when county commissioners voted unanimously to list the property at auction. The 2,024 acres on Little Sheep Creek will carry a minimum bid of \$910,800.

The ranch was seized for nonpayment of taxes and foreclosed on in April 2012. It was operated by David Ray Talbott at the time. Citing "public safety," the commissioners did not put the property up for auction immediately, stating that threats were made both veiled and directly about what might happen if anyone attempted to take possession of the land.

Talbott went to prison May 2017 on charges of felon in possession of a fire-

"Looking back, historically from 2003 to the current time, there hasn't been an effort to rectify debts against the property."

Todd Nash  
County Commissioner

arm and tampering with physical evidence. He received 36 months. His earliest release date was listed as June 2018.

The commissioners have now been approached about the possibility of the family purchasing the property back

in a private arrangement — prompting the commissioners to vote to dispose of the land.

The commissioners were advised that there will likely be a legal action against the county if it moves forward with plans to auction, according to Commissioner Susan Roberts, but the commissioners have also come under criticism for delaying the decision.

"Looking back, historically from 2003 to the current time, there hasn't been an effort to rectify debts against the property," said Commissioner Todd Nash. "At the time of foreclosure, the state had liens of \$200,000 against the properties ... as well as other creditors."

For that reason he felt it was time to move forward with the auction.

After some discussion the commissioners voted unanimously to begin the process of listing the property for auction.

## PUMPKIN PASSION



Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain

Kids taking part in the Building Healthy Families "Hike It Baby" program — Tesia Weston, 4, and Brant West, 1, both of Enterprise — met at Joseph City Park on Wednesday to hunt and decorate pumpkins in advance of Halloween. Hike It Baby events are open to anyone and are posted on the "Hike It Baby" Wallowa County Facebook page. Past hikes for infants, toddlers and kindergarteners have included campgrounds in Lostine, hiking the Iwetemlaykin Park or walking paths at the south end of the lake.

## OK Theatre fundraiser nets double original goal

By Steve Tool  
Wallowa County Chieftain

If last Friday's OK Theatre Centennial Kickoff event at the Lostine Tavern was a harbinger of things to come, the theater should see prosperous times for the foreseeable future.

In one night, the Oct. 27 event raised nearly \$20,000 toward a \$56,000 match of a \$100,000 grant awarded by the state to the Greater Enterprise Main Street Consortium for the purpose of renovating the theater and Main Street as well.

Revelers filled the venerable tavern with dozens of participants dressed in pre-Prohibition attire to

commemorate the theatre's 1919 opening. Vali's Alpine Restaurant served multitudes of hors d'oeuvres and a new Terminal Gravity beer, OK IPA, brewed especially for the theater, was poured. Later, auctioneer John Top sold specific theater repairs to the highest bidder.

OK Theatre owner Darrell Brann said the turnout was impressive considering the short notice. He also said that he deviated from the original plan for the evening because people were having such a good time, and he didn't want to spoil the mood.

One of the biggest hits was the OK IPA, which

symbolized the cooperation between various entities and the theater. Kevin Highlander, a TG brewer, talked about TG's support of the theater and their excitement about the opportunity to partner, which Brann appreciated.

"It was an awesome partnership to work with Terminal Gravity," Brann said. "Part of the kickoff is announcing these partnerships and to make sure the theater is connected to every group because as much as the theater is ours, it belongs to everybody in a way."

Diane Daggett, who is

See OK, Page A7

## Hawkins takes the helm of Wallowa project

By Kathleen Ellyn  
Wallowa County Chieftain

Mary Hawkins has a lot on her plate these days. She is office manager for the Wallowa Band Nez Perce Trail Interpretive Center.

She has additionally volunteered to take leadership of the Wallowa Hometown Project to keep momentum after former city council member and project organizer Garrett Lowe stepped down due to health reasons.

"There is no formal structure to the Wallowa Hometown Project," Hawkins said. "There were some good ideas there that it seemed like shouldn't be dropped, better signage ... some of our historic buildings, down-



Hawkins

town corridor, walking down toward the new footbridge, the possibility of getting the depot from Evans moved down there.

People are interested, there's just not really a leader. I could take on parts of that."

Hawkins said the Wallowa Hometown Project needs volunteers.

Wallowa Hometown Project development process is citizen-driven, the city is not formally involved until projects are brought to the council for approval.

Public meetings have  
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