

Help wanted: Telegraph operators needed

OUT OF THE PAST

Compiled by Hanna Brandt

100 YEARS AGO

Jan. 24, 1918

For a time, Mrs. Samuel Scott was judge of the circuit court this week. Anxious to have the case disposed of, Judge J.W. Knowles turned over to her the divorce suit between her parents, Jacob and Nettie Crawford of Imnaha, and the decree and order were entered in accord with her findings. Mrs. Scott concluded that a divorce should be entered.

A course in telegraphy is being offered at the YMCA building in La Grande by Western Union. Thousands of operators are need to fill vacancies created by young men going off to war.

Three Enterprise boys — Bruce Carlton, Ray Davis and Jack Mattoon — set out Tuesday astride an old horse for Crow Creek, Chico, Lewiston, Chicago, New York, London and other way points. They were reported missing on Tuesday evening and straggled in last night after failing to make it past Crow Creek.

70 YEARS AGO

Jan. 22, 1948

The auditorium of the Enterprise School was

crowded Wednesday night with people who came to hear Dr. Stewart Merrill speak at the PTA meeting. Dr. Merrill, in his comprehensive talk on polio, outlined the symptoms of the disease and explained the importance of early diagnosis and hospitalization of the person affected.

Frank McCully, 34, former mayor of Joseph, was selected as the First Junior Citizen of Wallowa County for 1947 by a committee representing the presidents of the Enterprise, Joseph and Wallowa commercial clubs. Vernon Long, chairman of the junior chamber selection committee, said that McCully has been outstanding in his work of advertising Wallowa County to the Northwest and has brought about cooperation between Wallowa County and the Clarkston, Lewiston and Spokane chambers of commerce.

Ray Magee, 33, was killed and Donald Estes, 26, was seriously injured around 3:30 p.m. Thursday when a light Taylorcraft plane owned and piloted by Magee crashed on the Magee farm four miles north of Enterprise. The plane struck the ground only 150 feet from the back door of the Magee residence and bounced and skidded on its nose to the corner of the garden fence, only 50 or 60 feet from the house.



Chieftain archive photo

Education has changed over the decades as this photo from a classroom indicates. No names or dates were attached to this photo. If you know the individuals pictured and which school this might have been, please respond to editor@wallowa.com.

50 YEARS AGO

Jan. 25, 1968

The eastern area advisory committee to the Intermediate Education District State Commission met in Ontario last Saturday where they discussed proposals for consolidation of the IED school boards of eastern Oregon. Representatives from Umatilla and Morrow counties indicated that they were interested in combining their two counties, but the

other eight counties — including Wallowa County — indicated, without exception, that they were not interested in consolidation. Alice McCully's fifth grade at the Enterprise School received a surprise visitor last week when Ilene Anderson's parked Jeep pickup rolled down the hill from the high school ag shop, across the lawn, across a service driveway and into the wall of McCully's classroom. As a result, there was a large

hole knocked in the side of the room and the window casing was dislodged, but only the nose of the pickup poked into the classroom.

The first candidates to come out for local and district offices in the May election have filed for places on the ballot, according to county clerk Marjorie Martin. Local offices up for grabs in the election include county commissioner, delegate to the national convention for

the Oregon Second Congressional District, county sheriff, county clerk, assessor, county treasurer, justice of the peace for Enterprise district and justice of the peace for Wallowa district.

25 YEARS AGO

Jan. 28, 1993

Private landowners may be required to plant trees along streams in an attempt to lower water temperatures and improve conditions for anadromous fish under proposed rules being considered by the Oregon Board of Forestry. The board is drafting an amendment to the state Forest Practices Act in an attempt to protect aquatic habitat, wildlife habitat and water quality.

"The Wizard of Oz" musical opens tonight on the Joseph High School cafeteria stage. Approximately 35 students in grades 5-12 are involved in the JoHi Drama Club production, directed by music and drama instructor Norma Wetzell.

After Sears' company announcement that it will be closing 113 retail stores nationwide and discontinuing its traditional "big book" catalog, the Sears, Roebuck and Co. catalog outlet in Enterprise will be closing. Steve Swift, owner of the local outlet, said that while the decision "wasn't a complete surprise," he was disappointed by the announcement.

Groundhog inspiration for February Fishtrap Fireside

A Groundhogs Day edition of Fishtrap Fireside is 7 p.m. Feb. 2 at Fishtrap House, 400 East Grant Street, Enterprise. Admission is free.

This month's featured readers are Jenner Hanni, Catherine Matthias and Zanni Schaffler. An open "mic" follows where the audience can come up to the podium and take a turn.

Hanni is a computer engineer and U.S. Marine veteran who thought he wanted to write creative nonfiction until someone at Summer Fishtrap's Outpost told him about prose poems. He moved to Wallowa County this past Labor Day to try to recover his health and sanity after seven years in Portland's tech scene.

When not working or writing, he's looking for foxes at the Iwetemlaykin State Heritage Site, imagining what it's like to be the mountains and catching up on years of missed reading.



Hanni



Matthias



Schaffler

Matthias was an outdoor child — biking, swimming, endless afternoons of tag, hide-and-seek and touch football. Her book reading occurred at night, snuggled in bed, the light on past midnight.

Her love of picture books became deep and enduring in her early 20s when she taught in a preschool. Four of her picture books and two of her middle grade nonfiction books were published by Children's Press in 2004.

Schaffler is a writer who grew up in Portland and has lived in Enterprise for a dozen

years. She resides with her husband, Frank, their cats, Blondie and Humphrey, and other various people who visit them a lot. She works at Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness as a Peer Support Specialist.

Schaffler has historically written poetry, but is currently trying to write a novel about a sad girl. In the everyday, she has recently developed an interest in cooking, which came from nowhere.

The community is encouraged to attend, enjoy light refreshments and hear new work by their friends and neighbors. February's Fireside is sponsored by Stewart Jones Designs and firewood donated by JayZee Lumber.

Chamber awards banquet is Sunday

Wallowa County Chamber of Commerce recognizes exceptional community service by naming Leaders of the Year at the annual Citizens Awards Banquet. This year the Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise will be packed with civic-minded citizens who show up to enjoy the socializing and honor the recipients 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28.

The categories for awards are Business Leader, Employee of the Year, Leader in the Arts, Leader of Education, Natural Resources, Timber and Ag Leader, Leader in Nonprofits/Events and Unsung Hero.

None of the nominees do what they do for the applause and so getting them to the banquet often involves misleading them a bit about why they'll be there. That's fun for the audience, and often exceptionally moving. Last year, 2016 Unsung Hero Award winner Ralph Swinehart of Enterprise thought he had come to witness nominator Rick Bombaci get an award.

Past recipients have included Maria Weer of Lostine as the Nonprofit Leader for her work as both executive director of Building Healthy Families and lead teacher for the Alternative Education

Program; Jim Russell of 1917 Lumber Company of Joseph for Leader in Business; and Beth Gibans of Backyard Gardens for her work in establishing the Wallowa County Community Farmers Market in Joseph and pioneering the offering of Community Supported Agriculture shares.

Raffle baskets, games, table prizes, centerpiece drawings and tradeshow tables will be featured.

Heirloom Catering will provide this year's dinner. Erica Pinkerton and Andy Crow will emcee. The Brann Family will provide live music.

DEATH NOTICES

Mary Lou Nuss

Mary Lou Nuss passed away at Avamere Rehabilitation of Hillsboro Dec. 17, 2017. She was the sister of Irv Nuss Jr. of Enterprise. Services will be held in June.

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