

Raven Foods plant begins producing Swiss cheese

OUT OF THE PAST

Compiled by Hanna Brandt

100 YEARS AGO

Feb. 14, 1918

Three young women employed by the county — Ruth Holmes, Gertrude M. Hooper and Elba Conley — have begun to levy a fine of one cent for each cuss word uttered in the courthouse. W.S. Burleigh quickly ran up a bill of 35 cents in the policy’s first month. The total fines for January were \$1.40. All the money taken in is given to the local Red Cross. County coroner H.B. Haisten resigned in December after five years. During his tenure, Haisten kept an itemized account of all fees received and all expenses incurred and discovered he was just \$1.54 in the good for the five years in public office. The Red Cross’s masquerade ball will be held at the opera house. Many gaudy costumes have been prepared, and prizes will be given for the most striking costumes made the cheapest.

70 YEARS AGO

Feb. 12, 1948

The Raven Foods plant has turned out the first Swiss cheese to be manufactured in Wallowa County in nearly seven years. Production of this type of cheese will probably be held to a limited scale until present back orders of cheddar cheese can be filled and Swiss cheese market futures become more stable, says manager Bill Fletcher. Construction work was started this week by the Wallowa County Grain Growers on a new 150,000-bushel grain elevator on the site of the old salt warehouse between the depot and the present warehouse office in Enterprise. Construction cost is estimated at \$85,000.

The Farm-Home and Commercial Electric Co. has been moving this week into the former Green Radio-Electric headquarters vacated several months ago by the Valley Appliance Co. A grand opening will be held. On display will be a wide assortment of electrical merchandise including refrigerators and ranges, oil furnaces and stoves, washing machines, radios, hot water heaters, vacuum cleaners,



This image was taken in the fall of 1918 at Mrs. Chris Johnson’s home on a Sunday afternoon. Some of the names were on the back of the photo including Myrtle Olson, Lynn Moffit, Beulah Magill, Isabel Clawson and Jennie Crow.

ers, home lighting fixtures and home freezers.

50 YEARS AGO

The Soil Conservation Service completed the survey of snow and water content in the High Wallowa Mountains when weather cleared enough to fly to the various unsurveyed courses. Snow depth at Mirror Lake has reached the 12-foot mark, but the survey indicates that there is far less water in the mountains this year than there was last year. Flow of streams in Baker, Union and Wallowa counties in the spring and summer of 1968 will be 25 to 40 percent below

average except in Wallowa, where flows will be nearer 100 percent of the average. Water content of the mountain snowpack averages 77 percent in this northeastern Oregon area with lesser amounts on the main Grande Ronde watershed and greater amounts in the Wallowa Mountain.

Police Chief E. E. Johnson of Enterprise reported this week that children on bicycles are hampering the progress of firemen and their equipment en route to fires.

25 YEARS AGO

Showings of Spike Lee’s “Malcolm X” starring Denzel Washington begin at the OK Theatre. Ed Marston, publisher of “High Country News” in Paonia, Colo., will speak on the topic of “The Changing West” at the middle school in La Grande. The presentation follows Marston’s participation in the Winter Fishtrap writer’s conference at Wallowa Lake. The Wallowa County Chamber of Commerce presented awards to the winners in five categories of public service during its annual awards banquet last week at the Joseph Community Center. Those receiving awards included Dave Yost in education, Fairview Travel in business, Mack and Marion Birkmaier in agriculture, Cassandra Botts in timber, Jim and Vera Henderson in citizenship and Bruce Dunn, the chamber’s “unsung hero.”

The Big Read 2018

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, March 1

“What If? Disaster Preparedness: How Does Setting Contribute to Survival?” 7 p.m. at Wallowa Memorial Hospital. Free.

Thursday, March 8

Comics and Graphic Storytelling with Mike Lawrence: 7 p.m. at Enterprise High School. Free.

Thursday, March 15

“Love, Death, and Dirty Jokes: Shakespeare and the Common Man” with Morgan Green: 7 p.m. at Fishtrap House, 400 E. Grant St., Enterprise. Free.

Thursday, March 22

Star Trek Voyager: “Survival is Instinct:” 7 p.m. at Fishtrap House, 400 E. Grant St., Enterprise. Free.

Saturday, March 24

Big Read Finale: Noon at Fishtrap House, 400 E. Grant St., Enterprise. Free.

Annual ‘Big Read’ has big events schedule

Kick-off will be a potluck Feb. 22 at Grange Hall

Grab your copy of “Station Eleven” and get ready for a month of activities, part of the 2018 Big Read, sponsored by Fishtrap. Events begin with a family-friendly potluck and show featuring homegrown talent, a feast of favorite foods, and the famous Hurricane Creek Grange Hall pies 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22 at the Grange hall. Admission is free. This is the 13th consecutive year Fishtrap has hosted a Big Read or Wallowa County Reads program. In 2006, nonprofit was among the first communities in the nation to receive a National Endowment for the Arts grant for such an event with the book “Fahrenheit 451” by Ray Bradbury. Other featured books have included “The

Grapes of Wrath” by John Steinbeck, “To Kill a Mockingbird” by Harper Lee, “The Bridge of San Luis Rey” and “Our Town” by Thornton Wilder, among others. This year’s featured novel, “Station Eleven,” by Emily St. John Mandel explores “what brings communities together, what value the past holds and ultimately, what makes survival worth sustaining,” according to Mike Midlo, program manager for Fishtrap. The event will also be an opportunity to highlight the talent of Wallowa County youth who will entertain the audience with songs, acting, dance and even a student-made movie. Those attending are encouraged to share their favorite dish, from dutch oven secrets to traditional family recipes. Following the pot-

luck, local students from Wallowa to Joseph will perform. Short readings from “Station Eleven” will set the scene and introduce themes from the novel. Fishtrap will raffle off free copies of the book and companion books for younger readers. “The Big Read broadens our understanding of the world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book,” Midlo added. “Every winter, Fishtrap celebrates one great work of literature by providing events, discussions and free books to Wallowa County schools, libraries and community members.” Copies of “Station Eleven” are available at any library in Wallowa County or can be purchased at The Book Loft in downtown Enterprise.



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