

Flora store fire put out with snowball volley

OUT OF THE PAST

Compiled by Hanna Brandt

100 YEARS AGO Feb. 22, 1918

The annual report of the Enterprise Public Library board reflects the growth of the institution and shows it needs even more equipment than it currently has. It is likely that the board will ask the people of the community to supplement the income received from taxes and help the library add many new books for which there is urgent demand. There are 1,896 volumes on the library's shelves.

The town of Flora was quite suddenly called from supper table visits recently when telephones gave the call that the G.C. Clarke store was afire on the roof near the chimney. As two of the wells in that part of town had exhausted their supply of water, snowballs were the next option, which did effective work.

A further decrease in the number of sheep in Wallowa County has been recorded

during the year, as shown in the annual reports prepared for the woolen trade in eastern cities. The total is now about 65,000, while a year ago it was 80,000. Ten years ago, the county had more than 200,000 sheep.

70 YEARS AGO Feb. 19, 1948

A report from the unemployment office in La Grande for Union and Wallowa counties lists 450 persons unemployed in January in the two counties. Forty-five new job openings were posted in January and only three were left unfilled by the end of the month.

With the closing date for filing for party nominations for various offices in the May primary election, there appears to be little prospect for competition. Two of the present county officials, Nora Anderson, county treasurer, and Marjorie Martin, county clerk, have signified their intention to seek re-election. All of the other officials have still not committed themselves or have declined to run.

The first of the new Enter-

prise High School band uniforms arrived last week. The uniform consists of a bright red coat trimmed with black, black trouser with red double stripe down the side of the leg and black west point style hat with a large red plume.

50 YEARS AGO Feb. 22, 1968

A dance is planned at the Imnaha Grange. Music will be by Leonard Murrill, Fred Bornstedt and Gifford Botts, and supper will be served around midnight.

Richard Paul (Rick) Roper, 16, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul (Shorty) Roper of Lostine, was taken to the Wallowa Memorial Hospital on Tuesday night when he lost control of the car he was driving on the curve at the junction of Hwy. 82 and the cemetery road northwest of Lostine. Roper received multiple cuts and bruises and a deep gash in his side, but apparently no fractures.

The motion picture adaptation of Shakepeare's play, "The Taming of the Shrew," will begin a three-day showing tomorrow night at the Vista

Theater in Enterprise. The film stars Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor.

25 YEARS AGO Feb. 25, 1993

A lack of an adequate supply of sawdust forced the permanent closure of Great Western Pellet Mill in Enterprise this week, according to owner Glenn Anderson. Approximately 600-800 tons of pellets were produced a month by Great Western and marketed in five states.

The Wallowa-Whitman National Forest is formulating plans to bring a cultural resource celebration to Wallowa County next spring, according to Bruce Kaufman, public information officer for the agency. Billed as "Windows on the Past," the traveling show focuses on presenting Pacific Northwest history and prehistory.

Sharing a common goal to build a stable nursing population in eastern Oregon, Northeast Oregon Area Health Education Center has made a four-year commitment to assist in the delivery of an innovative nursing program to three rural communities, including Enterprise.



Chieftain File Photo

This young man has a whopper of a steelhead in his hands. Do you know who he is? We believe the photo was taken in the mid-80s, judging from where it was found in the archives.

Single mom from Lewiston wins Live Your Dream Award

By Paul Wahl

Wallowa County Chieftain

Keturah Johns of Lewiston hasn't had an easy life.

Her parents died when she was very young. She spent several years addicted to drugs. Her son, Layton, was born with Hirschprung's disease, a condition of the large intestine (colon) that causes difficulty passing stool.

Her life was brightened considerably last week when the Soroptimist International of Wallowa County presented her with its Live Your Dream Award.

The \$2,000 grant is given annually to a woman who is head of household pursuing a college degree. It also comes with a hefty gift certificate for use in the club's thrift store in downtown Enterprise.

Normally the award goes to a Wallowa County resident; however, this year no one residing in the county applied, according to Carolyn Gilbert, a spokesman for the nonprofit, volunteer service organization.

The club learned of Johns' application through the Soroptimist's hierarchy. Impressed with her application, they made the selection, which was announced Feb. 8 at a luncheon at Wallowa Memorial Hospital Cafeteria.

Keturah and Layton traveled to Enterprise to receive the award.

"My past does not define me," Johns told the club gathering. "I am so fortunate to be here today."

Because of Layton's myriad health issues, the two have



Paul Wahl/Chieftain

Keturah Johns and her son, Layton, receive the Soroptimist International of Wallowa County Live Your Dream Award from Gail Johnson during ceremonies held Feb. 8 in Enterprise.

'My past does not define me. I am so fortunate to be here today.'

— Keturah Johns

spent a good deal of time in hospitals. Impressed with the dedication of the staff that surrounded them, she decided to pursue a degree in nursing.

She attends the Walla Walla Community College School of Nursing in Clarkston, Wash. She is active in her church.

Although given little chance of surviving hours after birth, Layton has grown to be a typical 2-year-old, active and mischievous, Johns said. He has only recently begun eating solid food and is enjoying the experience immensely.

Johns said the Soroptimist money would go toward a variety of bills a single mother encounters monthly, including daycare. This was the first scholarship she has received for higher education.

Johns will also have a shot at another Soroptimist grant in regional competition in April. That check could range from \$1,000 to \$5,000, according to club president Beth Hough.

"We are so thrilled to have found Keturah and Layton," Hough said. "She is an incredibly strong woman."

Grange plans box social fundraiser

If you've ever seen the play or the movie "Oklahoma!" you probably know what a box social is. If you're under 50, you may not have a clue.

Residents of Wallowa County will have an opportunity to experience an old-fashioned box social fundraiser at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, at Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise. Proceeds will go to the Wallowa County 4-H program.

Traditionally, the ladies would prepare a meal for two and package it in a decorated box or basket; then, the men

would bid on the boxed meal without knowledge of its contents or the person who prepared it. Then the meal would be shared between the box chef and the buyer.

The Grange and 4-H leaders decided to modify the traditional format by having men or women prepare the meal, and to have the option of sharing the meal or not. Bidding will be open to all as well.

Box meals should be made for two adults with two or three side dishes. Food items should be packaged to stay at a safe

temperature for two and a half hours.

Families feeding more than two will bid on the number of boxes needed. For those people with specific dietary needs, the Grange will have a variety of meal options ready to prepare custom meal requests. A dessert auction will follow the main meal.

Judges will award prizes for the best box decorations — prettiest, most unique, judge's favorite, best 4-H theme and best Grange theme. Entertainment is planned during the meal.

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