

**FOR THE RECORD**

**SEPT. 7**

8:55 a.m. – Theft reported from rural Enterprise.  
 9:19 a.m. – Public assist via phone, Wallowa.  
 10:37 a.m. – Public assist via phone from N.Y.  
 10:56 a.m. – Disturbance in Wallowa.  
 1:03 p.m. – Reported lines down in Imnaha area starting a fire.  
 2:22 p.m. – 911 for public assist with a flat tire and no spare; no idea where they are.  
 4:02 p.m. – 911 report of blown transformer in Wallowa.  
 6:43 p.m. – 911 report of lost hiker in Eagle Cap Wilderness near Bonneville Mountain; located and was fine.

**SEPT. 8**

8:54 a.m. – Suspicious vehicle in rural Enterprise.  
 9:54 a.m. – Report of an injured deer in Wallowa. Referred to Oregon State Police.  
 10:17 a.m. – Public assist in Enterprise.  
 11:24 a.m. – Report of a noninjury traffic crash in Enterprise.  
 1:05 p.m. – Suspicious vehicle in rural Joseph.  
 1:16 p.m. – Suspicious person in Enterprise.  
 1:29 p.m. – Deceased deer on Hurricane Creek Road.  
 1:45 p.m. – Theft report in Enterprise.  
 5:35 p.m. – Found property in Enterprise.  
 10:46 p.m. – Welfare request in Joseph.

**SEPT. 9**

8:49 a.m. – Theft reported in Enterprise.  
 9:42 a.m. – Report of a crime in Joseph.  
 9:49 a.m. – Forest patrol in rural Imnaha/Joseph.  
 9:55 a.m. – Report of an injured bear in rural Imnaha. Referred to Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife.  
 11:10 a.m. – Abandoned vehicle in Enterprise.  
 11:46 a.m. – 911 call reporting suspicious activity.

1 p.m. – Search and rescue in Wenaha Wilderness area.

3:09 p.m. – 911 call reporting a traffic crash in rural Enterprise.

5:32 p.m. – Wallowa County Sheriff's Office arrested Gerritt James Johnson, 27, of Enterprise, on a Wallowa County statewide felony warrant for probation violation; original charge of delivery of methamphetamine, and three Umatilla County Circuit Court warrants for failure to appear on an original charge of unlawful possession of methamphetamine – felony, probation violation on original charge of fraudulent use of a credit card and theft III and failure to appear on original charge of unlawful possession of methamphetamine.  
 6:18 p.m. – 911 call reporting a fire in the Eagle Cap Wilderness.  
 7:11 p.m. – Speeding complaint in Enterprise.  
 7:19 p.m. – Report of illegal burning in rural Wallowa County.  
 7:50 p.m. – Motorist assist in rural Joseph.  
 8:07 p.m. – Report of a vehicle struck deer in rural Joseph.  
 8:17 p.m. – 911 call reporting a disturbance in Enterprise.  
 9:06 p.m. – Speeding complaint in Joseph.  
 10:12 p.m. – Barking dog complaint in Enterprise.

**SEPT. 10**

4:51 p.m. – Welfare check requested in rural Enterprise.  
 6:52 p.m. – Welfare check requested in Enterprise.  
 7:08 p.m. – 911 report airplane crash at Enterprise City Airport.  
 10 p.m. – Motorist assist in rural Enterprise.

**SEPT. 11**

9:56 a.m. – 911 call reporting a dog bite in Joseph.  
 10:52 a.m. – Civil dispute in Wallowa.  
 2:24 p.m. – Report of hit-and-run vehicle damage at Wallowa Lake.  
 3:31 p.m. – Civil dispute in Enterprise.  
 5:03 p.m. – Report of injured deer in rural Joseph.

5:45 p.m. – Civil issue reported in Wallowa.

9:17 p.m. – Report of possible animal neglect in rural Enterprise.

**SEPT. 12**

6:40 a.m. – Broken-down vehicle on Highway 82, Minam grade MP 39-40. OSP was notified.  
 9:04 a.m. – Welfare check on hikers in the Wallows.  
 11:09 a.m. – Concern for smoke in the county.  
 11:29 a.m. – Arrested for probation violation: Patrick Angelo Maroney, 61, of Enterprise. Transported to the Umatilla County Jail.  
 12:08 p.m. – 911 reporting fire possibly in a burn pit in Wallowa.  
 12:11 p.m. – Report of subject burning grass along the highway in Joseph.  
 12:52 p.m. – Welfare check requested for gentleman walking down the highway.  
 2:53 p.m. – Suspicious vehicle in Enterprise.  
 2:57 p.m. – Welfare check requested in rural Wallowa.  
 2:59 p.m. – Possible stolen vehicle at Wallowa Lake.  
 4:41 p.m. – Traffic complaint in rural Enterprise.  
 4:56 p.m. – Report overdue hiker in the Eagle Cap Wilderness.  
 6:14 p.m. – Disturbance reported in Joseph.  
 6:20 p.m. – 911 assault reported in rural Enterprise.

**SEPT. 13**

10:08 a.m. – 911 reporting cow out in rural Lostine.  
 10:16 a.m. – Cow out in rural Wallowa.  
 10:35 a.m. – Welfare check in rural Wallowa.  
 12:38 p.m. – Agency assist with international Emergency Center with an SOS activation.  
 9:01 p.m. – Report of campfires at Wallowa Lake State Park.  
 9:32 p.m. – 911 disturbance reported at Wallowa Lake.

# September is National Suicide Prevention Month

Life struggles can lead to sense of hopelessness

By ANN BLOOM  
 For the Wallowa County Chieftain



Behnke

Jett

ENTERPRISE — Gay Behnke has seen the situation play out far too often as people are forced to deal with a myriad of issues during a global pandemic.

Behnke, a Lostine resident who has a masters of arts degree in counseling and is a national disaster relief counselor for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, has witnessed the coronavirus impact on one family after another.

“A typical scenario sees a man with his wife in the hospital for two months with COVID, with both losing their jobs,” she said. “They have an 8-year-old and a 6-year-old and are facing possible eviction and homelessness.”

That situation can lead to a sense of hopelessness that highlights the importance of recognizing the signs of suicide. September is National Suicide Prevention Month, which is as important as ever, according to Chantay Jett, executive director of the Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness.

“Historically speaking, there is a spike in suicides following life-altering events such as recession or pandemics,” she said.

Jett listed wars, the most recent recession and the influenza epidemic earlier in the last century as examples where there was an increase in suicides.

The statistics involving suicide are staggering. The Oregon Health Authority cites suicide as the second leading cause of death in the state for people between the ages of 10 and 24, and is the ninth leading cause of death in Oregon overall. The state's suicide rate is higher than the national average, coming in among the top-10 states in the nation for suicides.

Behnke said approxi-

mately 50% of the people she counsels present with concerns about suicide.

“Issues of concern include loss of a loved one due to COVID-19, a loved one in a hospital intensive-care unit, a loss of a job, children, potential homelessness, no money coming in for essentials like food, housing and

**“ANYONE WHO SAYS THEY PLAN TO KILL THEMSELVES SHOULD BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY, BUT TALKING TO SOMEONE ABOUT SUICIDE DOES NOT MEAN IT WILL HAPPEN.”**

— Chantay Jett, executive director of the Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness

medical bills, and the list goes on and on,” she said.

Conditions like depression, anxiety and substance problems, especially when unaddressed, increase risk for suicide, according to the National Institute on Mental Health

**SEEKING HELP**

The 24/7 crisis line number for the Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness is 541-398-1175.

Help also is available through the National Suicide Prevention Hotline which is also staffed 24/7. The number is 1-800- 273-TALK (8255).

website. Risk factors do not predict or cause a suicide or attempted suicide, but they are important things to be aware of, according to Jett.

The risk factors, which may present themselves if a person is thinking of suicide include changes in health (depression, uncontrolled pain and serious health issues), environmental stressors (rejection, divorce, and change in finances, abuse, previous attempts or family history), Jett said.

“Anyone who says they plan to kill themselves should be taken seriously, but talking to someone about suicide does not mean it will happen,” she said.

Jett said the number of calls to the Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness crisis line has nearly tripled since the start of the pandemic.

“No matter what problem in life, situation or stressor you are dealing with, there is always support available to you,” she said. “We can come to you. All you have to do is call.”

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

SEE THE EXPANDED ONLINE CALENDAR AT [EASTERNOREGONEVENTS.COM](http://EASTERNOREGONEVENTS.COM)

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 17**  
**38TH ANNUAL WALLOWA VALLEY FESTIVAL OF ARTS:** [www.wallowavalleyarts.org/arts-festival/the-art-show](http://www.wallowavalleyarts.org/arts-festival/the-art-show)  
 Although not able to gather for traditional in-person celebration, a virtual presentation of artists' websites and their works in being held through an online WVFA Silent Auction. Artwork will be hung at the Josephy Center. Bidding prices should start below \$750. Artists receive 60% of silent auction sales. This is a juried event and acceptance is based on artistic integrity. The silent auction is available at [www.josephy.org/arts-council/festival-of-the-arts](http://www.josephy.org/arts-council/festival-of-the-arts).

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 19**  
**VINTAGE MILITARY RIFLE MATCH:** 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Eagle Cap Shooters Range on Ant Flat Road. Rifles from the Korean War and older. \$15 entry fee. Registration at 8 a.m., event begins at 9 a.m. 541-263-2481 for info.

**WALLOWA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET:** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. 604 N. Main Street, Joseph, by Stein Distillery. Lots of vegetable, herb, and flower starts, as well as crafts and produce from our vendors.

**WALLOWOLOGY! FREE DISCOVERY WALK:** 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Meet at Wallowology Discovery Center. This week's family-friendly walk will be the Hurricane Creek/Falls Creek Trail (Easy/Moderate). Registration is required, call 509-923-1965 with a 10 person maximum group.

**WC HUMANE SOCIETY DOGWASH:** 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. In the alley behind the new Enterprise fire station. \$10 big dogs, \$5 little dogs. Shampoo & towels provided. You wash or we wash — same price. 503-621-7352 for info.

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 20**  
**OPEN RANGE DAY:** 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Eagle Cap Shooters

Range on Ant Flat Road. Range will be open to the public and staffed with volunteers. Non-members can shoot at the range for \$15. This is a great time to sight in your hunting rifle.

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 26**  
**ANNUAL .22 RIFLE RIFLE YOUTH SHOOT:** 9 a.m. Eagle Cap Shooters Range on Ant Flat Road. Two age divisions: 8 to 12 and 13 to 17. ECSA furnishes the rifles and ammo. Multiple stages and target distances out to 100 yards. No entry fee and a free lunch for those 17 & under. Prizes will be awarded. Participants must be accompanied by an adult. Registration at 9 a.m., event starts at 10 a.m.

**NRL RIFLE MATCH FOR ADULTS:** 9 a.m. Eagle Cap Shooters Range on Ant Flat Road. Bring your own .22 caliber rifle and 50 rounds of

ammo. \$20 entry fee. For info visit: <https://nrl22.org/faq>.

**ONGOING**

**WALLOWOLOGY!** Little Kid Scavenger Hunt for Iwetemlaykin State Park. Forms available on porch of Wallowology; on Wallowology's Facebook page; and at [wallowology.org](http://wallowology.org)

**A.A.** online meetings: [oregonaadistrict29.org](http://oregonaadistrict29.org)

- Building Healthy Families** 541-426-9411
- Community Connection** 541-426-3840
- Enterprise Public Library** 541-426-3906
- Fishtrap** 541-426-3623
- Hurricane Creek Grange** 541-605-8233
- Josephy Center For Arts and Culture** 541-432-0505
- Wallowa Public Library** 541-886-4265
- Wallowology** 541-263-1663

**Wallowa BUSINESS**  
 Serving 2001 entrepreneurs creating new jobs since 2001  
 Supports Free and Confidential Business Counseling and Services through Blue Mountain Community College  
**Wallowa County Small Business Development Center**  
 Small Business Advisors  
**Kristy Athens** **Lori Schaafsma**  
 To begin your free and confidential business consultation call  
**541-278-5864**  
 Wallowa Business is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit public benefit corp.

**The Meateater**  
 Fish and Game Cookbook  
 by Steven Rinella  
  
 107 E. Main St. Enterprise OR 541-426-3351  
[bookloftoregon.com](http://bookloftoregon.com) • [manager@bookloft.org](mailto:manager@bookloft.org)

**GETTING HELP FOR PROBLEM GAMBLING TAKES GUTS**  
 TAKE THE FIRST STEP AND CONTACT US  
 call 541-426-4524  
 or 1-877-MY-LIMIT (24 hour helpline)  
 It's Free - It's Confidential - It Works.  
 WALLOWA VALLEY CENTER FOR WELLNESS  
[wvcenterforwellness.org](http://wvcenterforwellness.org)

**ADVERTISE TODAY!**  
 in Wallowa County's only newspaper!  
**Wallowa County CHIEFTAIN**  
 Call Jennifer Cooney today at 541-805-9630 to place your ad