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50 cents plus tax

CLEARWATER TRIBUNE

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Section

Over 2,700 customers lose power

A power outage hit the Orofino area at approximately 2:15 p.m. Jan. 19, knocking out power to a total of 1,991 Avista customers, according to Brandi Smith, Avista spokesperson. The cause was weather-related, reportedly damage to a substation. A total of 750 Clearwater Power customers were also affected by separate power outages, according to Bob Pierce with Clearwater Power.

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of last week heavy snowfall pummeled Clearwater County. On Thursday, it poured rain, making the fallen snow even heavier.

Power surges had occurred in Orofino on Wednesday, Jan. 18, between 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. Surges were also reported Thursday morning.

By 10 p.m. Thursday the majority of Avista customers' power had been restored, and by 6 a.m. Friday power had been restored to the remainder, according to Smith.

Clearwater Power

Clearwater Power customers' outages occurred when a tree loaded with snow toppled last Thursday and landed on a power line. Last Friday a vehicle plowed into a power line in the Freeman Creek/Cavendish area.

Outages lasted as little as eight minutes and as long as 24 hours, and occurred in different areas Thursday through Sunday, including Dent Acres and Lower Wells Bench Road.

Skids put on Clearwater County redistricting

By Alannah Allbrett

The proposed redistricting court challenge by eight of the 10 northern Idaho counties has taken a back seat to what's going on in Twin Falls County according to Clearwater County Commission Chairman, Don Ebert.

The Idaho Supreme Court has upheld an appeal by Twin Falls County. Ebert said, "I believe the court will send it back to the redistricting panel. It makes our challenge moot; the proposed plan was thrown out before our challenge of it came before the Supreme Court."

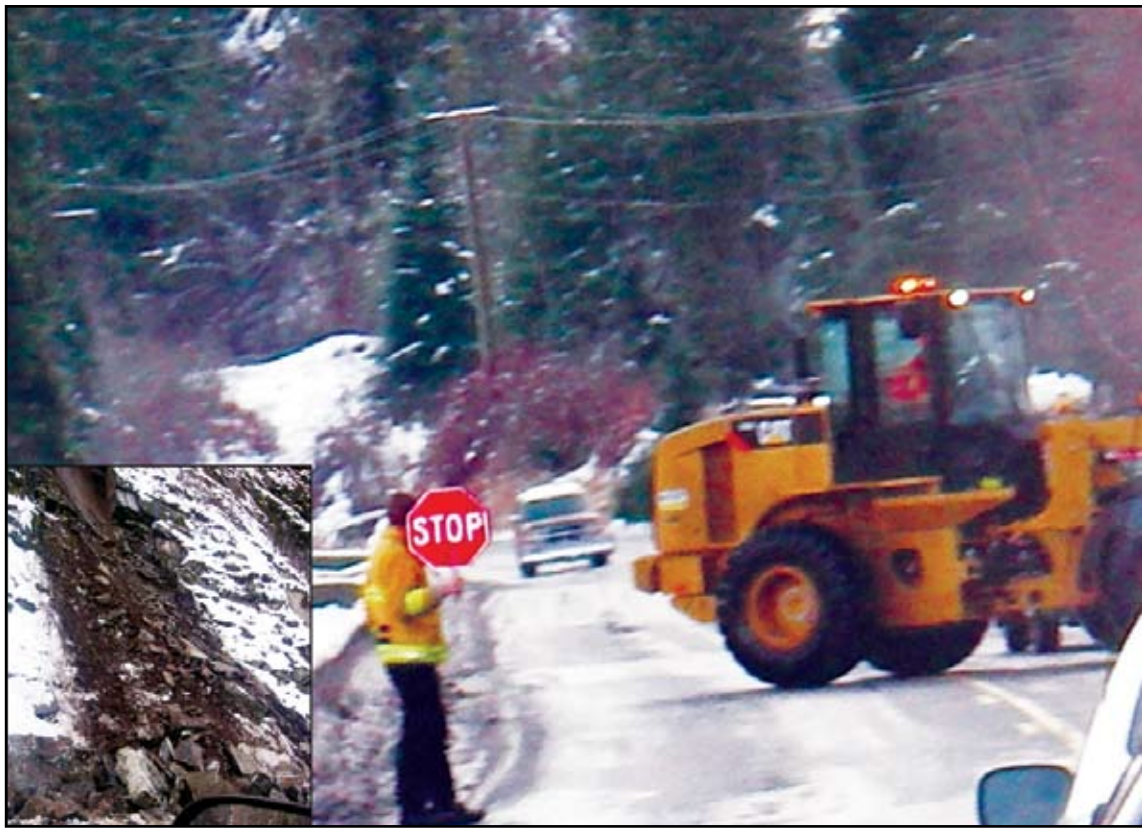
When asked if this is good for Clearwater County, Ebert said, "Yes and no, depending on the next plan they come up with."

Clearwater County Commissioners met Jan. 23, with legal advisor Clayne Tyler, to review the issue. Ebert said, "We intend to have all possible input into the form of the new plan going forward. We're going to do the best we can to represent our county in the best way possible," said Ebert.

Under the proposed restructuring of Idaho's political divisions, Lewis and Nez Perce counties would form a single district, as would Latah and Benewah counties. Clearwater, Idaho, the eastern portions of Kootenai, and Shoshone counties would be joined together geographically, stretching the district from Riggins to just outside of Coeur d'Alene. According to Ebert, this is too much ground to cover.

Under the current structure, District 8 includes Lewis County, Idaho, Clearwater, and Valley counties.

Clearwater and Lewis Counties, along with six other counties (Bonner, Boundary, Benewah, Idaho, Kootenai, and Shoshone) previously joined the fight against the proposed restructuring.



A rock slide at MP 49 on US Hwy 12 (five miles from the Orofino bridge, toward Greer) around noon Jan. 20 left one lane of the highway closed for an hour to allow the Idaho Transportation Dept. to clean rocks off the highway. Clearwater County Sheriff Chris Goetz said there were no injuries or damages sustained, but had a vehicle been passing by at the time of the slide, "it could have been bad." Sheriff Goetz explained that a large slab of the cliff came down and broke on the highway, and that the slide was solid rock and no mud. A loader was used to remove the large rocks from the highway. Photos by Charlie Pottenger

Pierce Winter Festival brings the fun, spills and entertainment



Diane Gerot, Studio 205, welcomes "Passport to Pierce" guests with hot cider.

Pierce celebrates the late arrival of winter at the Pierce Winter Festival, Feb. 3-4 with lots of fun, spills and live entertainment. Three-man teams, sponsored by local (including Orofino and Lewiston) businesses compete in the Ice Man Relay. Ice Man involves snow shoeing, sledding and the final participant jumps into icy Orofino Creek. The winning team takes home a traveling trophy. Call the Gerots at 208-464-1057 to join a team.

The wild and highly entertaining Bar Stool Races take place behind The Outback. This year there will be only one "Open Class" - anything goes as long as it is mounted on skis. Last year's unusual entries included an antique doctor's exam table, a love seat, a shopping cart, and a toilet seat. Cost for each entry is \$10. Teams need to have one pusher and at least one rider. Helmets are required. Call 208-464-2171 for more information.

Snow sculptures

Anyone wanting to do a snow sculpture on Main Street can register their creation at A Blue Moose before 3:30 p.m. Judging will take place at 4 p.m. Two \$25 prizes will be given to best

sculpture in each of the two categories: 1) painted sculpture 2) non-painted, snow and ice only.

Hay rides

Rockin Apple Ranch will once again be giving tractor pulled hayrides around town from noon to 2:30 p.m. Faith Lutheran Church and Mountain View Baptist Church team up to provide crafts and games for kids of all ages from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Pierce Community Center.

Passports

Be sure to visit A Blue Moose and pick up your "Passport to Pierce." Get your passport stamped as you visit participating merchants and Festival events. Completed passports can be turned in for a chance to win a gift basket, presented during the Saturday evening entertainment.

Breakfast

The Lions Club will be serving a hearty breakfast from 7-11 a.m. on Saturday. New Life Fellowship Church will sell concessions for lunch and Alpha Omicron Sorority will have haystacks and chili for sale Saturday evening at the Community Center during the live concert performed by "Country Roads," a trio from Orofino.

Live music

The Vug and the Timber Inn will both feature live music. "W. Allen Hall" will play at The Vug on Friday and "DEM" at the Timber Inn on Saturday night.

At the Rex

January 27 - 30, 2012



Friday - Monday 6:30 p.m. ONLY
Visit us on the Web! www.rextheater.us

Seven-day weather forecast

WEDNESDAY-Showers likely. Cloudy, with a high near 49 and a low around 35. Southwest wind between 5 and 8 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%.

THURSDAY-Showers likely. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 45 and a low around 29. South southwest wind around 6 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%.

FRIDAY-Partly sunny, with a high near 39 and a low around 26. Patchy freezing fog after 10 p.m.

SATURDAY-Patchy freezing fog before 10 a.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 41 and a low of 32.

SUNDAY-A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 43 and a low around 32.

MONDAY-A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 41 and a low around 32.

TUESDAY-A chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 41.

This weather forecast is provided by the National Weather Service in Missoula, MT.



Lil' Darlings due a week from Friday

Your adorable Lil' Darlings need to be at the Clearwater Tribune office no later than Friday, Feb. 3 to be included in the annual Valentine's Day edition. That's just one week from this Friday!

Page 3 of this issue features a handy submission form and pricing information.

Remember, this year's Darlings will be printed in full color at no extra cost to you!

Corps invites public comments on Dworshak Nutrient Supplementation

'Next step' in environmental compliance to resume Dworshak reservoir ecosystem restoration

Ahsahka - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Walla Walla District invites the public to comment no later than Thursday, Feb. 16, on an Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the "Dworshak Reservoir Nutrient Supplementation Pilot Study." This 30-day comment period is the next step in the Corps' National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance as it plans to resume this reservoir ecosystem stewardship pilot study in 2012.

Last year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to the Corps effective Oct. 15, 2011 after its environmental review and consideration of public comments. The NPDES permit allows application of liquid fertilizer to Dworshak Reservoir as an ecosystem treatment.

The EA and draft FONSI are available for viewing at the Corps' website at www.nww.usace.army.mil and the Orofino City Hall at 217 First Street, Orofino, Idaho. Comments on the Corps Environmental Assessment must be postmarked, faxed or e-mailed to the Corps by Feb. 16, to be included as part of the public record. E-mail comments should be sent to DworshakNutrient-SupplProj@usace.army.mil.

Faxed comments should be sent to 509-527-7832. U.S. Mail comments should be mailed to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District, Environmental Compliance Section, Attn: John Leier, 201 North 3rd Avenue, Walla Walla, WA 99362-1876.

To learn more about the Corps of Engineers and its mission in the Walla Walla District, see the District website at www.nww.usace.army.mil.

USDA public meeting in Clearwater County Wednesday, Feb. 1

Richard R. Rush, State Executive Director for Idaho FSA and members of his management team have scheduled a public meeting in Clearwater County Wednesday, Feb. 1 at 2:30 p.m. at the USDA Service Center in the Forest Service Conference Room located at 12730 Highway 12, Orofino.

FSA's public meeting will be the only one held to take public comment on USDA's proposed office consolidation plan in which the Clearwater County FSA office is being considered for consolidation. Producers can also provide written comment by emailing terry.pobst-martin@id.usda.gov or sending written comment to Idaho Farm Service Agency, Attn: Terry Pobst-Martin, 9173 West Barnes Drive Suite B, Boise, ID 83709 no later than Feb. 11.

For more information, contact Idaho Farm Service Agency at 208-378-5650.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"In the depth of winter, I finally learned that there was within me an invincible summer."

- Albert Camus



Where have all our children gone?

This little lady was born in Pullman, WA. She lived in Orofino until age 10, then moved with her family to Washington and completed her education there. She graduated from Cheney and eventually moved back to Orofino, where her heart has always been.

At one time she lived in Konkolville. She won third place in a mud bog race and she loved to ride with her Uncle Dave in his big red truck.

Can you guess this week's Mystery Child?

Last week's Mystery Children were: Back row, (l to r) Jeanne (Snyder) Wilson, Dave Daniels, Penny (Wolfe) Ross and Linda (Wolfe) Hutchins; front row: Wilma (Snyder) Hartig and Tim Daniels.

Three of the six children (Linda, Dave and Tim) still reside in Weippe. Penny lives in Orofino, Jeanne now lives in Kendrick, and Wilma lives in Lewiston. Graduating with the class of '68, Jeanne and Linda attended all 12 years of school together, as did Dave and Penny, who were in the class of '69, the last to have graduated in Weippe.

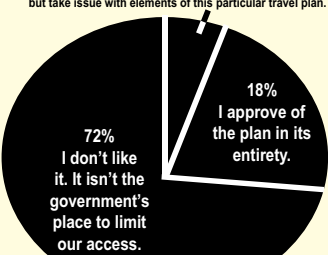
The first to call in and identify last week's Mystery Children was Karen Watts, followed by Shirley Lutes and Connie Mendenhall.

Clearwater Tribune Online Poll VOICE YOUR OPINION

Last week's poll

What do you think of the new off-road travel plan?

10% I'm not opposed to limiting public access to forest lands, but take issue with elements of this particular travel plan.



This is not a scientific poll.

Every week our online edition features a new poll, which will be posted at 5 p.m. every Tuesday. You may vote until 5 p.m. Tuesday of the following week.

This week's question: **The CVH Auxiliary card party and pie social is coming up. What's your favorite pie flavor?**

Visit our website and vote in the poll beneath the articles in the far left column, above the quote of the week.

Please vote once per poll.