

Schedule of Easter events Page 2A Homedale tabs Nampa woman as new city attorney

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Former Trojan ready to continue football career

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Wednesday, April 12, 2006

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The Ownhee Avalanche

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HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

S. Board drains its legal fees budget

As the battle over whether the South Board of Control manager should be re-appointed or not continues, attorney fees for legal advice continues to rise, sending the budget into the red. Now the board has decided to let the Bureau of Reclamation make the decision the board just can't seem to agree on.

During last week's monthly meeting, the board approved bills for the month, which included a payment of \$16,264.38 for the South board attorney Bruce Smith. The amount, for a two-month period, put the board over its allotted \$20,000 for fiscal-year legal fees by more than \$2,500, and the budget has seven months remaining.

South Board of Control is funded by irrigation taxes from the Ridgeview and Gem irrigation districts. Now officials say they may have to tap into irrigation savings to complete the budget year.

In March, the Gem Irrigation District approved hiring another attorney for that district alone. The vote was 3-2 with Chairman Steve Nash and board member Dan Felty voting against the new hire. At the time, it was stated that some of the members felt another attorney needed to be hired to protect Gem Irrigation District.

During that meeting, the South Board of Control, which consists of all Gem Irrigation District members and Ridgeview district chairman Rod Price, also approved hiring an investigator to "look into the actions of the board during executive session." Both new hire fees will be paid out of the legal budget.

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Owyhee hit with flooding again



Succor Creek floods

Homedale farmer Norm Mason drives his Ford pickup through floodwaters from Succor Creek on Wednesday. As water levels continued to rise around Owyhee County, several fields in the Homedale area were partially under water, keeping farmers from spring planting and cultivating work. More on flooding throughout the county, **Page 5A**

More roads threatened as rainfall continues

Widespread flooding could be seen in most of Owyhee County last week as normally dry creeks overflowed their banks and left a wake of mud, debris and damaged fields.

April started with nearly two weeks of rain in the valley and snow in the higher elevations, leaving creeks already swelled with no place to go but over their banks. Several roads closed because of high water last week by high water had been reopened by Monday.

More than 2 inches of rain was recorded last week throughout the county, and the National Weather Service issued flood watches and warnings throughout the week.

Thompson Road, where the road caved during a flood on Dec. 31 and Jan. 1, was closed again because of high water and the threat of a newly replaced culvert

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City releases details of Sevieri water agreement

An agreement between the owners of a Homedale mobile home park and city officials was released last week, ending a drawn-out battle over who is responsible for billing, payments and water meters in Sunset Village Mobile Home Park.

After months of accusing park owners Bob and Jane Sevieri of not

paying their utility bills, retaining money from individual mobile homeowners and park tenants and denying city workers access to park property, the City of Homedale did an about-face late last month by announcing a new agreement with the owners of the park on Main Street.

The City Council approved the new agreement on March 31.

Under the new agreement, the city will pay the Sevieris a total of \$19,000 — \$9,000 from the city and \$10,000 paid by Idaho Counties Risk Management Program (ICRMP), the city's insurance carrier. Homedale will cease billing

the individual tenants of the park and begin billing the Sevieris for municipal utilities.

The Sevieris will be allowed to keep the meters they purchased under the agreement with the previous administration and will

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Easter activities planned in Owyhee

Traditional Easter holiday activities are planned throughout Owyhee County this weekend and will have the Easter Bunny hopping from one end of the county to the other.

Churches will hold Easter services on Sunday morning, but community organizations plan to hold Easter egg hunts on Saturday.

Marsing

The annual Lizard Butte Sunrise service is planned for Sunday morning at Lizard Butte just outside of Marsing.

The 69th annual sunrise service will be held at 6:45 a.m. at the

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butte parking lot off of Highway 55. The long-standing tradition will consist of a short walk from the parking area to the area where the service is held.

A breath taking view of the sunrise as Angels appear at the cross and a bugler proclaims both a rising sun and The Risen Son of God will highlight the service. The service will include a scripture reading, special music, group singing and a short sermonette.

For those attending, remember that April mornings in Idaho and especially the open-air setting of Lizard Butte can be very cool and breezy. Therefore, dress warmly and bring along blankets to sit on and wrap around you.

A Good Friday Fellowship will be held at the Lizard Butte Baptist Church on Friday at 7 p.m. The church, located at 116 4th Ave. West in Marsing will feature Chaplin Art Moore from the Idaho Air National Guard as its guest speaker. Special music, snacks and a fellowship will follow. Children from the church will provide gospel songs.

For more information, contact Cookie Brown at 880-6528.

The annual Easter breakfast and egg hunt sponsored by the Marsing Lion's will be held on Saturday, beginning with a breakfast at the Phipps Watson Community Center at 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Breakfast will cost \$4 for adults and \$2.75 for children 11 and under.

The Easter egg hunt will begin at 10 a.m. for children through the fourth grade. Marsing merchants donate prizes and the Easter Bunny will make a special appearance.

The event will be held at the Marsing football field or in the gym if the weather does not permit an outdoor hunt.

For more information contact Chris Salove at 896-6099 or 896-4162.

Homedale

The Homedale Chamber of Commerce will host the egg hunt this year at Sundance Park on Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. The hunt will be for children 10 and under and divisions will be divided into four groups.

Children 0-2, 3-4, 5-7 and 8-10 will have a chance at an assortment of candy filled eggs and special eggs for an Easter basket. The Easter Bunny will make an appearance and prizes will be given.

Grand View

The Grand View Lions Club will host its Easter egg hunt on Saturday at the Grand View City Park beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Toddlers through sixth grade can attend and the Easter Bunny will be on hand to deliver candy filled eggs.

The Lion's Club has donated the eggs. For more information contact Dixie at 834-2350 or 834-2217.

Bruneau

The Bruneau Canyon 4-H club will host a community Easter egg hunt on Saturday, at 10 a.m. at the Bruneau Elementary School.

Everyone is invited to attend, and the egg hunt is for pre-school to sixth graders. The club does not provide baskets, so children will need to bring their own. There will be over 1,000 eggs for the kids to find, as well as two prize eggs for each age group.

The winners of the hunt will have their photo and names submitted to the paper with the next Bruneau Canyon update. Three additional clubs are helping with the hunt this year.

The Bruneau Sage Riders and Ghost Riders 4-H clubs and the Bruneau Boosters have joined in the effort.

The Bruneau American Legion Auxiliary purchased half of the eggs for the event.

For more information call Ariel Turner at (208)-845-2154.

Jordan Valley

The Jordan Valley FFA will be hosting its annual Easter Egg Hunt for children ages preschool through fourth grade on Saturday at 10 a.m.

The festivities will be held at Jordan Valley High School. There will be two age groups: preschool through kindergarten and first through fourth grade.

A boy and girl basket will be given for each age group.



Kathy Edwards

Homedale hires new city attorney

Homedale City Council recently approved the hiring of a new attorney following the resignation of former attorney Chris Nye.

Kathy Edwards of Nampa officially started the job on April

Edwards has a private practice in Nampa and specializes in family law.

Edwards is a Canyon County native and said she enjoys the small-town atmosphere and traditional ways of life. She said she looks forward to working with the people of Homedale and Homedale's administration.



Commission continues meeting on coroner's budget questions

Owyhee County Commissioners met in executive session again Monday to discuss the coroner's budget.

County prosecuting attorney Matthew Faulks, who also was in the meeting, said it was a continuation of an April 3 session.

Faulks was unable to release any further information.

The executive session as called after documents showed the county paid coroner Harvey Grimme for mileage and reimbursed him for fuel. Grimme has also charged the county for repairs to his own vehicle, which he uses for his position. But the charges are being paid to his personal business, Marsing Auto and Towing.



From page 1

South Board has \$20,000 set aside for legal fees, but because of many additional meetings concerning re-appointing the manager — which is currently Rex Barrie — and water litigation, the fees already have exceeded that amount.

"The irrigation districts have savings accounts that are monies in the state investment pool," South Board secretary-treasurer Connie Chadez said Friday. "We can pull from there. That is not a problem, so they can amend this budget item and do that."

In January, the district was billed about \$12,000 for work the board requested is done. In February, the board was charged more than \$4,000 by the attorney. Chadez said the work was requested during executive sessions.

"That is what it costs," Chadez said. "We are dealing with a lawsuit with an environmental group who has sued the irrigation districts and the Bureau of Reclamation, so (Smith) has been working on that as well."

The Gem Irrigation District does not have a legal line item in its budget because it is covered by the South Board attorney. Chadez said she has not received a bill from the Gem attorney Bryce Ferris nor has she received an estimate of costs. She said a bill for \$686 has been submitted for the investigator and paid by South Board of Control.

"The investigator will be paid by the South Board," Chadez said. "Gem Irrigation will pay for the new attorney out of its savings. South Board retains Bruce and he takes care of problems in Gem and in Ridgeview.

"It's not a problem to pay for it; it's just not budgeted. They don't want Bruce's opinion, so they have hired their own. If we go over budget on a line item, that doesn't mean the assessment will be raised. It depends on the end of the year. We may not spend as much on something else and we will be OK, but we won't know until the end of the year. It is not good, but we do have money in savings to pay for stuff.'

Smith is retained for \$1,000 per month for 11 hours of work.

Smith said the board did approve allowing the Bureau of Reclamation to decide "the personnel issue." He said because it is a personnel issue, he could not discuss any aspect of the decision.

"The contract has a provision in it that says the districts can basically, if they can't work things out, they can go to the bureau," Smith said. "The contract provides for the bureau approval of the manager. So that motion dealt with going to the bureau for help."

Smith said the bureau's decision would be final, not a recommendation for the board to consider.

"The contract between the districts and the Bureau of Reclamation set up the South Board of Control," Smith said. "The districts function through the South Board of Control. If the districts feel they need some input or some help, they can go to the bureau. They have an issue they need some resolution for. Because of the interest in the two districts. they have followed that procedure. It reflects the fact that the Bureau actually approves the manager. That is the way the contract is set up.'

Smith said he was not sure of the process that would be used to decide the manager issue, and he did not know how long or what steps the bureau would take.

-CAB

$\sqrt{\text{Water}}$

provide the city with a complete tenant list each month.

Homedale agreed that it did not consistently bill the mobile homeowners from October 2005 to March 2006, and officials will not assess any late fees or penalties because of the late payments. Homeowners have until September to bring the billing up to date.

"All the agreement does is rescind the earlier agreement," Jim Davis, attorney for the city provided by ICRMP said recently. "In my view the original memorandum of agreement may not have been legal. What it is called is 'Void Ab Initino.' It didn't happen. In my view, that agreement was never valid. The

litigation is being dismissed, and we have an agreement."

A joint press release issued by Homedale and the Sevieris said that the city acknowledged all the previous allegations — including a charge that the park owners owed more than \$3,000 in past-due utility fees - never happened and that a new agreement regarding water service for the mobile home park was in place.

On March 31, the Homedale City Council gathered with the mayor in an empty courtroom to approve a "new" agreement and general press release over the issue. Both were unanimously approved. The council also approved a payment to the Sevieris in the amount of \$9,000. This, per the agreement, is less than half of what the city has

agreed to pay the Sevieris.

The agreement settled litigation the Sevieris filed against the city last year alleging myriad complaints ranging from breach of contract to violations of the Civil Rights Act. The complaint asked for compensatory damages of more than \$25,000 and emotional distress in the amount of \$500,000.

The dismissal ends a monthslong battle between the Sevieris and Homedale during which the city had openly discussed, in public meetings, the situation with the mobile home park owners. On two occasions, the council contemplated shutting off water to the trailer court because of the non-payment of utilities, but the action was never carried out

— CAB

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School board election filing deadline nears

To file for a candidacy in the upcoming school board election, candidates must turn in declarations by Friday at 5 p.m.

Elections will be held in the Homedale, Marsing, Bruneau-Grand View and Pleasant Valley school districts on May 18. Polls for each election will be open from noon to 8 p.m.

Declarations can be filed at the respective school district offices. Write-in candidates have until May 3 to file.

In Homedale, an election will be held for zone 2, which is

currently occupied by Allen Hays. It is a three-year term and the zone encompasses the west portion of the Homedale district.

In Marsing, the Zone 1 seat currently held by trustee Joe Usabel is up for election. The position carries a three-year term. Only electors from Zone 1 are eligible to vote, and a map of the zone can be obtained from the school district office at 257 8th Ave. West.

Patrons in Zone 1 of the Bruneau-Grand View School District will elect a school board trustee on May 16. The zone is in the Bruneau area. Stacy Buckingham is currently in the position. He was appointed to replace Russ Turner.

In Pleasant Valley, the Zone 2 seat will be on the May 16 ballot. Joan Hebison currently holds the seat after being appointed.

Cleanup crew

Members of the Owyhee Silver Spurs 4-H Club pose after a job well done. The group cleaned the grounds and trimmed shrubs around the Owyhee County University of Idaho Extension office in Marsing on April 7.

The Ownhee Avalanche

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Owyhee Silver Spurs 4-H news

The Owyhee Silver Spurs 4-H Club has been very busy.

On April 7, the club's first general fund-raiser was held as well as cleaning the grounds and trimming shrubs at the County Extension Office.

The next scheduled fund-raiser

will be on June 10, with a open horse play day to be held at Kent's arena. For more information on the play day, call Ginger Loucks at (208) 896-5416.

The club's last scheduled meeting was April 4th, at the county extension office. The main

agenda was demonstrations.

That same night the sheep 4-Hers traveled to Nampa to attended a special feed seminar put on by Land O' Lake Feeds.

Sheep club members next field trip is scheduled for April 22nd, at Caldwell R & E Center,

topic Market Lamb, Nutrition and Feeding, Sheep Health and Management, Wool and General Sheep Knowledge.

The next scheduled general club meeting is scheduled for May 11th, which will focus on demonstrations.



Owyhee County flooding

Reclamation says Owyhee River to get more reservoir water

As many residents below Owyhee Dam watch water levels continue to rise and flood low lying areas, the Joint Board again was forced to increase release levels from the dam Friday.

The Bureau of Reclamation issued a warning of increased flows below Owyhee Dam, saying the flood control releases are necessary because of extremely high inflows into Owyhee Reservoir.

The irrigation board decided to increase the release to 12,500 cubic feet per second (cfs) Friday night. The board is authorized to make water releases from the Owyhee Reservoir of up to 14,000 cfs.

Floodwaters from the Owyhee River continue to inundate farmland and threaten nearby homes.

Water managers are releasing more water into the Owyhee River because the reservoir is now 96 percent full because of this season's heavy precipitation.

Residents are bracing themselves for the extra water that was released from the Owyhee Dam in an effort to relieve the reservoir above, which is nearly full. Fields have been flooded for several days, and the water is creeping closer to homes.

Sandbags were being filled Saturday night in anticipation of additional flooding.

Additional water was let loose March 28 when the reservoir level topped 80 percent of capacity. That's enough to reach the spillway, or the so-called "glory hole."

Typically, just 2,300 cubic feet of water per second is released from Owyhee Reservoir. Right now, 11,000 cfs is going downstream.

The basin covers more than 11,000 square miles of land in Owyhee County, Malheur County in Oregon and Humboldt and Elko counties in Nevada, with all the water draining into the Owyhee River. In recent years — except for 2004 and 2005 — drought conditions left the watershed dry, so much of the snowmelt went right into the ground, leaving little water to come into Owyhee Reservoir.

Since last fall, rains have recharged the ground, leaving soils saturated to the point where any additional precipitation produces significant runoff. For example, during the New Year's Day weekend, warmer temperatures produced flows into the Owyhee Reservoir of more than 21,000 cfs.

At least one county road, near Adrian, Ore., is closed because of high water. Overstreet Road, from Oregon Highway 201 to Owyhee River Road, is closed to traffic because of water over the road at the Owyhee River. Traffic must now travel through Owyhee Junction to get to Owyhee Reservoir from the south.

Sandbags and sand were available free-of-charge at the Owyhee Junction for residents along the Owyhee River, as flows reached more than 10,000 cfs — or flood stage — below the dam.

On Thursday, Rome reported 18,793 cfs, which would add 36,586 acre-feet to the reservoir in a 24-hour period.

On Monday, Rome inflow was recorded at 16,745 cfs with the reservoir at 96 percent of full. The reservoir held 684,614 acrefeet of water and 11,176 cfs was being released from the dam.

The Bureau of Reclamation report showed that on Thursday, Owyhee had received 0.82 of an inch in 24 hours and recorded four days of rain in April

Current rainfall had equaled 1.63 inches, which is 190 percent of for the month.

— CAB



Highway 95 flooding

U.S. Highway 95 at Jordan Creek flooded Thursday as snow rapidly melted and rain continually fell in the area. Photo by Rex Barrie

Jordan Valley residents cope with rising waters

by Shantel Gleason, JVHS

Drivers traveling through Jordan Valley recently have been forced to slow down on U.S. Highway 95 heading toward Nevada because Jordan Creek has been running over the road in a few places.

The Jordan Valley precipitation measurement station at South Mountain has received 37.5 inches of rain so far this year and picked up nearly 2 inches of rain between April 4 and Monday.

This is believed to be the most rain the Jordan Valley area has received since the late 1950s.

Jordan Valley has had so much rain in the past few weeks and the snow has started to come off surrounding mountains really fast so as a result, there is standing water in every meadow and low spot around Jordan Valley. A person would find very few places where the ditches and creeks are able to hold the water within its banks.

There are a lot of people who live by Jordan Creek, which runs through Jordan Valley, and a ton of sandbags are lining it.

However — as evidenced by



High water

Severe flooding is shown at the Jordan Valley residence of John and Trisha Warn on April 6. The Warns used pumps to keep the water from reaching their furnace located under their home. Although Jordan Creek is located about 50 feet behind their home, the Warns said no water entered their house. Photo by Tara Echave

area toward South Mountain - not everyone has enough sandbags to be able to go around they can't turn their cows out yet their place.

Sure, the ranchers will tell you that they are griping about it now but that they will appreciate it this summer. But right now they have to move their cows around

several flooded ranches in the because their calves are drowning, they are having to buy more hay because the mud is so bad that onto their summer range and they are getting their biggest tractors stuck every day.

> As for the traveling on the flooded roads, use caution and slow down.

$\sqrt{\text{Flooding}}$

on Jump Creek washing out.

A bridge on Sage Road at Succor Creek was closed for a short time as the creek threatened to flow over the bridge on Wednesday afternoon. Several acres of land on Succor Creek and Jump Creek were under water as ranchers stood by and watched.

"It is not unusual," Norm Mason said as he watched his hay fields fill with water Wednesday.

"It doesn't help right now, but it isn't really that unusual. We will just have to get our first cutting, and try to corrugate after it dries out."

More than 23,000 acre-feet of water entered the Owyhee Reservoir at Rome, Ore., during several peak hours last week, bringing the reservoir from 82 percent of full on April 3 to more than 96 percent of full Monday.

Heavy rains combined with warm temperatures and huge

snowpack runoff has kept officials watching the creeks and rivers. Succor Creek flooded several homes, but damage has been estimated at minimal.

"We have kept a close eye on it," Homedale Public Services supervisor Larry Bauer said last week. "It isn't something we haven't seen before. Succor Creek floods when we have high-snow years and a lot of rain. But that doesn't make it any easier."

Irrigation and emergency service personnel hoped once spring water runoff began it would be a gradual process. But while some of the runoff has been slow, there have been significant spurts of heavy water flows after periods of rain.

Also, a larger portion of the snowpack remains locked inside high mountain passes and ridges in Idaho and Oregon.

The concern now for many irrigation officials revolves around the fact temperatures could warm quickly, sparking major melt-off.

Flood stage on the Lower Owyhee River is 10,000 cubic feet per second (cfs), but with the changes in the channel and overgrowth during the dry years, the river is already out of its banks and spreading over low-lying

This week, today is expected to be partly cloudy with a slight chance of rain and a high of 66 degrees. Rain is expected throughout the Easter weekend.

— CAB

School menus

April 13 - 19

Homedale Elementary

April 13: Chicken or beef nuggets, broccoli, cinnamon roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

April 14: Pizza or popcorn chicken, salad, cookie, fruit & veggie

April 17: No school.

April 18: Chicken tenders or country-fried beef steak, potatoes/gravy, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

April 19: Crispito or toasted cheese sandwich, churro, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Homedale Middle

April 13: Chicken tenders or CF beef steak, potatoes/gravy, roll, fruit bar, milk.

April 14: Lasagna or hot pocket, French bread, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

April 17: No school.

April 18: Rice bowl w/chicken or egg roll, veggies, fruit bar, fortune cookie, milk.

April 19: Burrito or fish patty, corn, fruit & veggie bar, turnover, milk.

Homedale High

April 13: Chicken patty or hamburger/bun, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, dessert, milk.

April 14: Chicken taco or French dip sandwich, corn, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

April 17: No school.

April 18: Chicken nuggets or egg roll, rice, green beans, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

April 19: Idaho haystack or burrito, fruit & veggie bar, cinnamon roll, milk.

Marsing

April 13: Beef nuggets, potatoes, veggie, milk, chicken patty/bun, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.

April 14: Hotdog, fruit, veggie, milk, sub sandwiches, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.

April 17: No school.

April 18: Chicken nuggets, fruit, milk, tostada delight, salad bar 4th-12th, cinnamon twists.

April 19: Mac & cheese, fruit, veggie, milk, burrito w/fixings, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.

Bruneau

April 13: Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, fruit, milk.

April 14: Tuna/bun, fries, fruit, cookie, milk.

April 17: Mac& cheese, deviled eggs, green beans, muffin, fruit, milk.

April 18: Waffles, scrambled eggs, little smokies, strawberries,

April 19: Chili & crackers, coleslaw, applesauce, cinnamon rolls, milk.

Read all about it The Ownhee Avalanche 337-4681

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Anniversary

Shanleys to celebrate 40th wedding anniversary

Rick and Mildreta (Nash) Shanley of Homedale will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary on Friday, April 14, 2006, at the American Legion Community Hall in Marsing.

The Shanleys children will host the dinner and dance event. Their children include Kurt and Nicole of Homedale, Nicholas of Boise and Kyle of Homedale.

The Shanleys are the proud grandparents of four grandchildren: Erika, 15; Brett, 12; Sydnee, 7; and Trent, 3.

With the exception of a year in Seattle and a year in Boise, the couple has spent their entire married life in the Homedale

The Shanleys own and operate RST Inc., a long-haul trucking company they founded in 1974.



Mildreta and Rick Shanley Photo by Gregg Garrett

Calendar

Thursday

Owyhee Garden Club meeting, 1 p.m., University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office, 238 8th Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-5474 or (208) 896-4104

Friday

Free movie screening of "The Passion of The Christ," 7 p.m., Mountain View Church of the Nazarene, 26515 Ustick Road, Wilder. (208) 337-3151

Saturday

Historic Homedale slide show, 2 p.m., Homedale Presbytertian Church, 320 N. 6th St. W.

Homedale Senior Citizens Center Saturday night dance. All ages welcome. 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. \$3. 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

Monday

Homedale Senior Citizens Center foot clinic. 10 a.m. 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

Tuesday

Lizard Butte Library fun run clinic, 6:30 p.m., Lizard Butte Library, 105 Owyhee Plaza on Main Street, Marsing. (208) 896-4690 or lizardbuttelibrary@yahoo.

Wednesday, April 19

What's Hot at the Library speaker series, noon, Bruneau Valley Library, 372073 Ruth St., Bruneau. RSVP by Monday at (208) 845-2131 or (208) 845-2345

Friday, April 21

Headed South from the Great White North or Get Out of Toronto Pronto! Adrian High School Drama Club presentation, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m., Adrian High School gymnasium. (541) 372-2335.

Saturday, April 22

Headed South from the Great White North or Get Out of Toronto Pronto! Adrian High School Drama Club presentation, 7 p.m., Adrian High School gymnasium. (541) 372-2335.

Tuesday, April 25

Homedale Senior Citizens Center annual Appreciation Luncheon. noon. 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

Submit information to The Owyhee Avalanche by noon Fridays. Drop off: 19 E. Idaho Ave., Homedale; Mail: P.O. Box 97, Homedale, ID 83628; Fax: (208) 337-4867; E-mail: jbrowneditor@cableone.net or cherylbeeson@cableone.net.

Bruneau library series continues

The Bruneau Valley Library's "What's Hot at the Library" speaker series welcomes Murphy resident Mary O'Malley for this month's program.

The lunch program will be held at noon next Wednesday at the Bruneau Valley Library at 32073 Ruth St., in Bruneau.

O'Malley will speak on the Joyce/Nettleton family histories as well as the Owyhee County Historical Museum's family history project.

A free lunch will be served at noon, before O'Malley's presentation.

Anyone planning to attend the program must notify library director Clara Morris at (208) 845-2131 or (208) 845-2345 by Monday.

In the event of a large attendance, the program will be moved to the Bruneau Community Church and a notice will be posted at the library.

Adrian Drama to present play

The Adrian High School Drama Club will give three presentations of the play Headed South from the Great White North or Get Out of Toronto Pronto on April 21 and April 22.

The club, which boasts a cast of 30, will have two performances at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. on April 21. The April 22 show starts at 7 p.m. All three performances will be held in the high school gymnasium.

Tickets are \$5 for adult admission to one show or \$8 for two shows. Kindergarten to fifth-grade students can get into one show for \$3 or two shows

Buy tickets at the Adrian High School office or at the door the night of the production.

For more information, call (541) 372-2335.

Death monice

ERNESTO CUELLAR, 1

year old of Homedale, passed away Monday morning at a local hospital. Services are under the direction of Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Caldwell.





208-461-7019

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Aaron Tines Morticians Assistant resident, Homedale Chamber of Commerce Please feel free to call us or stop in.

Your finances

Horrible accident carries silver lining

Dear Dave,

I used to work in a steel mill, and a few months ago I had an accident and lost two of my fingers. I was awarded a one-time settlement of \$500,000, and I've since moved on and gotten another good job. We've got our eye on a house that appraised for \$50,000, but the seller is willing to take \$38,000. We've also got three kids and about \$12,000 in credit card debt. What's the smartest thing to do with the settlement money?

— Kevin

Dear Kevin,

I'm really sorry you had to suffer an injury like that. It sounds like you've got a good head on your shoulders, though, so here's the plan — ready?

First, cut a check for \$12,000 today and pay off those debts. Then, if you guys are sure it's the house you want, go ahead and buy it with cash. Do you see what just happened here? With \$50,000 you became debt-free and you own your own home. How cool is that?

Next, you need to think about retirement. Fully fund a couple of Roth IRAs for you and your wife for the rest of your lives. Also, max out three Educational Savings Accounts (ESA) for each of your kids. This will take about \$25,000 over the next two years. Don't forget about an emergency fund, either! Life happens, and you need to be prepared. Take \$15,000 and set it aside in a money market account, and DO NOT touch this money except in the event of a true emergency.

Here's the fun part, Kevin. You've been through a lot, my man, so take \$10,000 of the money and just blow it. Spoil yourself and your family and have some fun. You deserve this after everything that's happened to you.

At this point you're left with \$400,000. Find a good mutual fund broker, one with the heart of a teacher, and invest this money across four types of mutual funds — growth, growth and income, aggressive growth and international. If you do this, Kevin, you'll retire a very wealthy man. By the time you're 65 to 70 you'll have about \$47 million dollars on your hands! You'll have changed your family tree for generations to come, and you'll be able to give like you've never given before.

This horrible accident can be turned into a blessing — one that can make a huge positive impact on your community AND turn you and your wife into Old Man and Old Lady Moneybags!

— Dave

Dear Dave,

I've started my own business, and the grand opening is Saturday. I've done everything so far on a cash-only basis, and my husband has been a huge help along the



way. I'm wondering if it would be a good idea to officially make him a partner in the business.

— Beverly

Dear Beverly,

I'm really proud of the way you've done this without going into debt AND the fact that you two have been working together to make it happen. Now you have a great situation where you own the business instead of the business owning you.

But no, I wouldn't make him my partner in this deal. A partnership is probably one of the worst forms of business ownership, especially if the partner is your spouse. It doesn't accomplish anything, and if things go wrong you're both standing there liable. If you're in the type of business where you have some liability and you're afraid someone might try to come after your personal stuff I'd look into a Sub S Corporation.

– Dave

Dear Dave,

We financed our home on a 30-year mortgage because we couldn't afford the payments on a 15-year note. Even with this, we're having trouble saving any money, paying our other debts and keeping up the house payment. Should we move and sell the house?

— Larry

Dear Larry,

If you couldn't afford the house on a 15-year mortgage, then you couldn't afford the house.

If you can't get out of debt because your house payment is so big it's strangling you, you're what's called "house poor." This usually happens when your house payment is more than 30-35 percent of your take-home pay. (Your mortgage payment shouldn't be more than 25 percent of that figure).

But of all the things I tell me people to sell or get rid of, the house is almost always the last. Having to give up your home is very draining — financially, spiritually and emotionally. Hold onto your home as long as you can.

Let's try living on a really tight budget for the next six months. Give every dollar a name and spend everything on paper before the start of the month. You may have to cut out cable television and put vacations on hold for a while, too. Then, take a really close look and see if you're getting out of debt and into savings. If not, then you may have to look at putting that house on the market.

Senior news

Marsing Senior Center

April 13: Ham, potatoes, au gratin, peas & carrots, green salad, soup, dessert.

April 17: Spaghetti w/meat sauce, green beans, salad, soup, dessert.

April 18: Oven fried chicken, scalloped potatoes, green beans, carrot salad, dessert.

April 19: Liver & onions or hamburger gravy over biscuits, salad, soup, dessert.

Homedale Senior Center

April 12: Sausage & biscuit, country gravy, rice, broccoli,

April 13: Baked ham, yams, green beans, roll, milk.

April 18: Pork chow mein, fried rice, oriental vegetables, milk.

April 19: BBQ beef on bun, oven fries, tossed salad, milk.

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HOMEDALE CLINIC

108 E. Idaho Homedale, ID 83628 Phone: 337-3189 **HOURS** 8:30 AM-5:00 PM Chip Roser, M.D.

Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri. Tue. 8:30 AM-9:00 PM Dick Ernest, FNP Janine Franco, PA

Local artist's painting causes surprising chain of events

A local artist had no idea when she donated a painting of the Grand Teton Mountains to a local fund-raiser that the painting would become a family heirloom through a touching chain of events.

It all started when Margie Isaguirre from Homedale Realty purchased photo note cards from a close friend, Faye Jones. Margie found several of the photographs intriguing and wanted to put the photos on canvas.

"When I sold some of my photo note cards to Margie several months ago, I had no idea the chain of events that followed would lead to one of the greatest and surprising gifts I have ever received in my life," Faye said.

One of the photos contained a picture of the Grand Tetons in Wyoming, and another was a picture of a large bull elk that Faye and her husband, Dean, had taken in Yellowstone National Park shortly before his death. Margie planned to reproduce the photographs in a painting for her husband, Rufo.

She reproduced the photographs on canvas, which included the Tetons in the background, a stream of water at mid-canvas and a "perfect" likeness of the elk in the lower right foreground.

"There was a touch of pink drawn in the morning sky,



Surprise decoration

When Aimee Dines, left, won the bidding for an oil painting by Margie Isaguirre, right, she knew it was inspired by a photo that belonged to her grandmother Faye Jones, center. Jones' family pulled off something of an ambush makeover when they hung the painting in her house while she was dining with Dines and her family in Marsing one night.

reflected in the water," Faye said.
"She added three female elk on
the far side of the stream, along
with many evergreen trees and
other flora of the area."

As Margie progressed, she would take the painting into Faye's Beauty Shop for suggestions or a critique.

"I shared my exuberance of the magic of seeing our photographs reproduced in oil with my daughters and granddaughters," Faye said.

But Margie would not part with the painting as she planned to give it to her husband for his birthday.

When the painting was completed, Margie entered it in the annual art exhibit during Homedale's International Smorgasbord in February. She won grand champion in the adult division with the artwork.

"I had promised to donate an oil painting to the sixth annual Txoko Ona Basque dance and auction, but the one I was working on just didn't come out like I wanted it to," Margie said.

At her husband's urging, Margie donated Rufo's birthday present

to replace the one she wanted to donate.

"My granddaughter, Aimee, and her husband, Mark Dines, attended the Basque dance when Aimee saw the painting and heard the auctioneer explain it had won grand champion at the smorgasbord," Faye said.

Aimee realized the painting was the one her grandmother had been raving about. She and Mark won the bidding for the picture.

"That is when Aimee made devious plans for presenting it to me," Faye said.

The couple invited Faye to dinner in Marsing. As they dined, other family members went to work to place the print in Faye's home.

"She had secretly arranged with Jana, my daughter, and my grandson, Jarrod, to hang the painting while we were gone," Faye said.

"When we got home, we chatted, and Aimee said something about a horse picture I had hanging on the wall. I looked in the direction of the picture, but to my surprise, Margie's painting hung there instead. Now it is a family heirloom. My husband's and my photographs will forever be brought together in that painting. It is one of the greatest gifts I have ever received."

— САВ



More property tax relief available through assessor

The Idaho State Tax Commission has announced another program to help lessen the impact of property tax on homeowners, and it's available to qualified homeowners through the Owyhee County assessor's office.

The deadline to apply is Monday.

The Property Tax Deferral program is open to homeowners who also are entitled to receive socalled "circuit breaker" property tax relief.

Through the deferral program, qualified homeowners can postpone payment of property

Many Republican state, national

and county political candidates

will gather in Pleasant Valley on

April 29 for a Meet the Candidates

p.m. at the Pleasant Valley School.

7½ miles east of Jordan Valley.

A potluck dinner begins at 6:30

Coordinators said the forum

Find out

What's happening Read Calendar each week

in the Avalanche

public forum.

Republicans gather in

Pleasant Valley for forum

taxes owed on a home and up to 1 acre of land after circuit breaker benefits are applied. The deferred taxes and interest at a rate of 6 percent per year must be repaid eventually, and also come due when the property is sold or changes hands in some other manner.

For more information on program guidelines and filing procedures, call the Owyhee County assessor's office at (208) 495-2817. Further information also is available through the Tax Commission office at (208) 334-

would be a time to hear the

candidates' views, ask questions

Event coordinators said

Friday that most of Owyhee

County's candidates, several First

Congressional District candidates

and many others have confirmed

and just get acquainted.

they will be on hand.



Norma Walker

for historic markers

A Homedale native will present a slide show on historic Homedale at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Homedale Presbyterian Church at 320 N. 6th

Norma Walker, a Homedale historian, will present the show in an effort to raise funds for the procurement of plaques to mark sites of the old Homedale ferry on the Snake River.

Donations will be accepted.

Slide show to raise funds

St. W.

Read all about it in the Avalanche!



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April 20 • 11 AM IHOP

7959 W. Emerald Avenue Boise, ID 83704

> **April 25 • 11 AM Perkins**

909 Specht Avenue Caldwell, ID 83605

There is no obligation to enroll. A sales representative will be present with information and applications. For accommodations of persons with special needs at sales meetings, call the number listed at left.

Senator discusses Initiative with governor Workshop

Crapo expects agreement on Kempthorne for Cabinet post

Sen. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) met with Idaho Gov. Dirk Kempthorne on Capitol Hill last week as Kempthorne seeks confirmation as President Bush's nominee for Interior Secretary.

The half-hour meeting covered a range of topics, including the Collaboration for the Recovery of the Endangered Species Act (CRESA) — Crapo's recently introduced legislation to strengthen the Endangered Species Act (ESA) — and the possibility of legislation dealing with the Owyhee Initiative.

Crapo also voiced optimism that Kempthorne will receive confirmation from the Senate.

"The governor, having served in the U.S. Senate, is so well-liked and respected by his former colleagues on both sides of the aisle that I expect his nomination will be trouble-free and proceed swiftly," Crapo said.

"The only problems that may arise would be through political battles that don't have anything to do with Dirk himself. If some issue of the day appears at the same time

as his confirmation, the two could be linked simply because they are happening at the same time."

"The whole Initiative Work Group is pleased that Sen. Crapo put the Initiative to the fore in his talk with Gov. Kempthorne," Owyhee Initiative chairman Fred Grant said. "We will need the support of Interior to get the bill passed, and to get the bill implemented effectively. This talk shows that Sen. Crapo still puts priority on the Initiative, and that has to please the citizens of Owyhee County.

"The work group has the same priority, and we are working each day to get the bill language 'just right' so that it brings the agreement alive."

Brenda Richards and Inez Jaca, county ranchers and members of the work group, agreed that having the governor's support is important to the success of the collaborative effort.

"Obviously an endorsement would be nice, and I am confident he will give it to us," Jaca said. "It won't hurt for Dirk to be in



Crapo, Kempthorne discuss county issues

U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) and Idaho Gov. Dirk Kempthorne sit down in the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., to discuss several topics, including the Owyhee Initiaitve and Crapo's CRESA legislation. Kempthorne has been nominated by President Bush to become the next Secretary of the Interior. Submitted photo

the Interior. All of the support, the better."

Richards said she feels having the governor's support is an important aspect of the initiative, especially if he becomes Secretary of the Interior.

"I don't think it is critical, but I think it will help," Richards said Monday. "We have support from Kathleen Clark (Bureau of Land Management director). She has come out and supported it openly. It will definitely benefit us with him being the head of the Department of Interior. It certainly won't hurt us."

Kempthorne has supported collaborative efforts from locally driven concepts. Richards said having Kempthorne in Washington is a bonus to the Initiative.

Kempthorne's confirmation hearings are expected to begin May 4. Crapo noted he has a number of issues he is "looking forward to working with Secretary Kempthorne on," and many of them were discussed in their faceto-face meeting.

Crapo said his recently introduced bill to offer reforms on the ESA mirrors ideas Kempthorne introduced while serving in the Senate. Crapo noted Kempthorne as Secretary of the Interior would be a strong partner in the Owyhee Initiative legislation aimed at preserving land use and economic well being in Owyhee County.

— CA

Workshop musings

Wilder resident Jim Watkins sent The Owyhee Avalanche some definitions for some of the more popular shop tools. Maybe you have similar tools laying around.

— Ed.

- 1. DRILL PRESS: A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and flings your beer across the room, splattering it against that freshly painted part you were drying.
- 2. WIRE WHEEL: Cleans paint off bolts and then throws them somewhere under the workbench with the speed of light. Also removes fingerprint whorls and hard-earned guitar calluses in about the time it takes you to say, "Ouch...."
- 3. ELECTRIC HAND DRILL: Normally used for spinning pop rivets in their holes until you die of old age.
- 4. PLIERS: Used to round off bolt heads.
- 5. HACKSAW: One of a family of cutting tools built on the Ouija board principle. It transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion, and the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal your future becomes.
- 6. VISE-GRIPS: Used to round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.
- 7. OXYACETYLENE TORCH: Used almost entirely for lighting various flammable objects in your shop on fire. Also handy for igniting the grease inside a wheel hub you're trying to get the bearing brace out of.

Lizard Butte Baptist Church

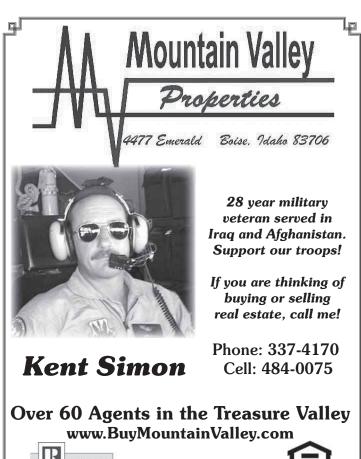
Invites You to our Annual

Good Friday Celebration April 14, 2006

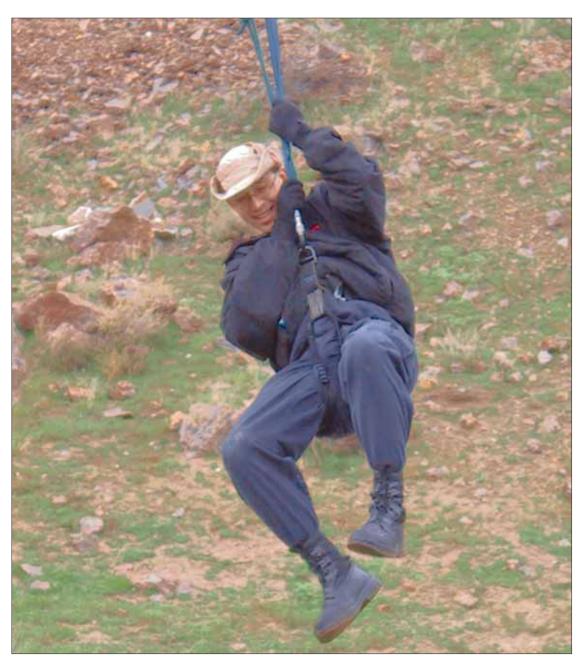
Easter Morning Breakfast 7:30 am 'til done

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Law enforcement endures desert conditions during annual SWAT Challenge at Hemingway



SWAT competitors

Above: Homedale Police Department's Ian Takashige hangs on to a zip line during the SWAT challenge held last week at Hemingway Butte in Owyhee County. Nearly 100 members of Southwest Idaho law enforcement agencies turned out for the competition. The Owyhee County team finished ninth. **Below:** Owyhee County Sheriff's Deputy Perry Grant hangs from a makeshift rope bridge during the second phase of the challenge.

Nearly 100 law enforcement members from around Southwest Idaho gathered near Hemingway Butte last week to brave the elements during the local version of the SWAT Challenge.

Coordinators of the event said several stations were set up in the Owyhee Desert, requiring law enforcement personnel to rappel, navigate a zip-line, run a 7½-mile course and test their skills in target shooting, sniper shooting, trap and use a bow and arrow.

Teams from the Idaho Department of Corrections, Idaho Nuclear Laboratory, Ada County, Canyon County, Boise, Caldwell, Nampa and the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office battled to see who would be the best of the best. "We get together to hone our skills and really to just have a good time learning from each other," Owyhee County Sheriff's Deputy Perry Grant said.

"It is a tough course and you need to be up for the worst if you are going to make it. It is all in fun."

This year's Owyhee County team included Sheriff's Posse member Gary Peer, Nampa Police Department Lt. Craig Kingsbury, Grant, Owyhee County Sheriff's Deputies Travis Woodbury and Kenny Hoagland, Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller and Homedale Police Officer Ian Takashige.

Grant said 10 teams competed. The local team placed ninth.

— САВ









Community support helps JV seniors enjoy Hawaii trip

by Hayley Johnson, JVHS

If you went to Jordan Valley High School at all last week, you would have found it empty of seniors. No one locked us up in a closet either; we were on senior trip! This year, the senior class of 2006 managed to raise enough money to travel to the beautiful Hawaiian island of Oahu (something not every senior from another school can brag about).

My class has been raising money since our freshman year of high school for this trip. This year especially, the community has been really great in helping us pull in funds.

We have had everything from raffles and bake sales to cow plops and dinners. All of this was to achieve our goal of taking our senior trip in Hawaii; a goal we can all proudly say that was reached.

Nine out of the 10 seniors and three chaperones left the high school parking lot at 3 a.m. on April 3.

The seniors were: Michelle Baltzor, Frank Beckwith, Lauren Cuvelier, Beth Dowell, Hayley Johnson, Paul McKay, Dinah Powers, Cassia Trautman and Emil Scown. Chaperones included: Andreé Scown and Ray and Nancy Tuttle. We reached the Boise airport at about 6 a.m. and left for Salt Lake City at 8 a.m. From Salt Lake City, we departed for Honolulu and reached it six hours later.

From the airport, we went to our hotel, the lovely Queen Kapiolani. After dumping our bags, we spent the rest of the evening body surfing in the ocean and walking the beach.

On April 4, our group took a bus to Pearl Harbor. At Pearl Harbor,

we visited the USS Arizona Memorial and even toured the USS Bowfinn submarine. Later that night, we took a shuttle to back to Waikiki and the International Market. Shopping left us all tired and ready to eat at a Chinese restaurant at which we had reservations.

Last Wednesday, we spent all day at the Polynesian Cultural Center. There we learned about the various cultures that make up the Polynesian islands and ate at the luau. Afterward, there was a finale show with dancers representing every culture, which was extremely fun to

On Thursday, we went to Haunama Bay for some snorkeling and swimming. That same night, we went to the main shopping strip where we were free to shop in the different stores or the International Market.

Friday morning, we were free to swim, shop or just relax at the beach. Later that afternoon was a visit and shopping trip to Chinatown. Afterward, the class had one last dinner together at Red Lobster, then shuttled back to Honolulu and flew back

This trip was better than any of us could have imagined. Although it had rained for 40 days in a row in Oahu prior to our trip, the weather was gorgeous while we were there.

None of us got too sunburned (thanks to all the sunscreen our parents made us lug). Most everyone got to try something new: whether it was snorkeling, flying, sushi, lobster, the hula, or all of the above.

We'd like to give a huge thankyou to everyone who supported us: our school, community, family and friends. We will



Hawaii scrapbook

Above: The Jordan Valley High School seniors pose for a photo outside their hotel on their last day in Hawaii. Front row, from left to right: chaperone Ray Tuttle, chaperone Nancy Tuttle, Cassia Trautman, Beth Dowell, Emil Scown, Paul McKay, chaperone Andree Scown, Michelle Baltzor and Frank Beckwith. Back row, from left to right: Hayley Johnson, Lauren Cuvelier, Dinah Powers. Below: Jordan Valley seniors, from left to right, Cassia Trautman, Lauren Cuvelier, Hayley Johnson, Beth Dowell, Michelle Baltzor, and Dinah Powers surround "Baz," whom they found quite entertaining at the Polynesian Cultural Center. Submitted photos

have these memories for the rest of our lives.

Our biggest thank you goes out to our class advisor, Sheryl Douglass. Without her, none of this would have happened. She gave up much of her own time planning this trip, seeing us off, and greeting us when we got back. WE LOVE YOU, MS. D!







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JV student wins Oregon ag essay title

Two Jordan Valley High School seniors recently placed in the top three of their division of the statewide Oregon Ag in the Classroom essay-writing contest. Frank Beckwith won first place in the state Oregon Ag in the Classroom essay contest for the 12th Grade level with his essay on the topic of Farmers face

four-legged burdensome beasts. Beckwith received \$100 and a "Got Milk" sweatshirt from the Dairymen association.

Another Jordan Valley senior,

Hayley Johnson, received third place with an essay on the topic Technology: the Heartbeat of Agriculture.

Beckwith's essay follows:

An Agricultural Burden

by Frank Beckwith

Farmers face many kinds of trouble when it comes to successfully producing and growing a crop of plants. Drought presents but one problem they may face, a problem many acknowledge and know about. Another challenge facing farmers lies in keeping the fields properly fertilized and sprayed with certain chemicals to prevent diseases. However, they also face the problem regarding roaming wildlife, particularly that of ground squirrels, deer, and beavers, ravaging and damaging crops. While many maintain such animals bring color and life to the environment, I am here to say they're creating havoc for farmers across Oregon.

Beginning with ground squirrels, who cause considerable amount of damage in Oregon crops by consuming large portions of fields and smothering much more by creating mounds on top of it. The most common types in Oregon are the Belding and Columbian Ground Squirrels, both awakening from hibernation around the same time. Damage consists of crops being devastated by ground squirrels consuming the feed, putting the cattle in sole competition with these rodents

and resulting in substantial losses for ranchers. It's shown that 123 ground squirrels are able to consume 1790 pounds of alfalfa feed. Their burrows often cause water loss and rules out the use of flood irrigation. They can even cause leaks in earth stock dams and levees, weakening them and increasing the chance they should wash away. Finally, on hilly terrain, ground squirrel burrows weaken the soil, increasing erosion in those areas.

Next is the ongoing problem facing deer. Deer have been known to roam through crops, gardens, and orchards, picking and eating what they like and causing serious economic losses for farmers. For these sly animals, it isn't always easy to tell whether they are at fault for damage done to crops as they are nocturnal in nature. But with examination of fields, one is able to determine deer may in large part be responsible for the damage done. Damage isn't solely based on the mass consumption of crops alone. Deer also destroy ornamental plants, shrubs and trees of considerable value in orchards and gardens. Yearling tree seedlings are often killed when a passing deer strips the stem or even eating the entire tree itself.

Lastly, beavers present yet another dilemma in agriculture

as their dams can lead to losses in the future. Beavers, as everyone well knows, set dams in rivers which leads to flooding of the property surrounding it. This may include fields, crops and even house damage should the flood be close to an urban zone or simply rural houses. Millions of dollars are spent just in restoring the damage inflicted by these rodents and state laws now regulate beaver populations. For the most part, beavers make farmers and ranchers weary, as a potential flood may cost them an entire fields worth of grass and hay effectively minimizing productivity and income.

However, despite the animals destruction, many people would lobby to raise and support these creatures. In fact, in November of 2000, a measure was proposed in Oregon banning the use of traps and certain poisons meant to trap wildlife. Proponents of the measure stated the use of such traps and devices put the public in serious risk of becoming trapped themselves and was inhumane to the animals the traps were meant to catch. The arguments declared the traps inflicted serious pain to the animals often causing them to chew their own leg off than sit trapped in place for days on end. Opposition clearly stated the measure would restrict wildlife management severely allowing proliferation of vermin throughout the state allowing yet more damage to crops and orchards to ensue. More protests were made divulging traps today were environmentally sound and carefully planned out to cause as little harm as possible. As one may observe, there was plenty of debate on the subject.

Agriculture of any kind will have its challenges to go along with it. Farmers must cope with losses caused by windstorms, drought, insects, and erosion just to name a few. But a vast majority of farmers and ranchers must deal with the onslaught of wildlife damage consisting of burrowing rodents such as ground squirrels and beavers, or field consuming animals like the deer. Your problems may even include all three of these wildlife disasters. While proponents claim they bring benefit to the ecosystem they live in, there is only one statement I must convey. Damage caused by these creatures are inflicting serious financial losses on those victims, the farmers. That said, it is our sole interest that these animals are regulated and brought under control by any means possible.

Bruneau Canyon 4-H news

The Bruneau Canyon 4-H Club held its March meeting at the Bruneau Valley Library on March 27

Topics discussed included the highly successful Bruneau park cleanup and the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt, which takes place at 10 a.m. Saturday at Bruneau Elementary School.

Other topics from the meeting included: the April 22 sheep workshop in Caldwell; the May 1 pig weigh-ins; and upcoming demonstrations.

For more information about the club or any of its activities, contact Ariel Turner at (208) 845-2154 or club leaders Dave and Celia Tindall at (208) 845-2828.

Church to screen 'Passion of The Christ'

Mountain View Church of the Nazarene in Wilder will present a free screening of the Mel Gibson movie "The Passion of The Christ" on Friday.

The showing will be held at 7 p.m. at the church, which is located at 26515 Ustick Road on the corner of Batt and Ustick roads.

For more information, call (208) 337-3151.

Prec

Weather

	11		1100.
Apr 04	68	42	.55
Apr 05	53	40	.44
Apr 06	50	38	.11
Apr 07	61	27	
Apr 08	no	read	
Apr 09	no	read	
Apr 10	65	27	



When you have your baby at West Valley Medical Center, you'll be cared for by some of the most highly skilled OB nurses and physicians in the Treasure Valley. And you'll stay in the same room from labor through delivery and recovery. All of our OB nurses are ACLS- and NRP-trained with additional OB/GYN training.

And we're proud to announce that West Valley Medical Center will be the first hospital in Idaho to premiere a nationwide program in April, called **Boot Camp For New Dads**, to give our expectant fathers the training and confidence to care for their newborn. It's all part of our commitment to the needs of you and your family; just what you'd expect from Caldwell's community hospital.

Register for Parenting and Childbirth Classes

- Childbirth Preparation Cost, \$40; one-day class or four-part evening series
- Breastfeeding Cost, \$10; free class to participants that attended childbirth class
- Boot Camp For New Dads Cost, \$10; one-day class for expectant fathers
- **To pre-register** for these classes, call West Valley Medical Center at 455-3881. **To take a personal tour** of the Labor & Delivery Women's Unit, call Women's Wellness

Services at 455-3760.

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Spring is perfect time to birdwatch on Snake

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by Clair Kofoed

Most people are familiar with Canada geese; they seem to be everywhere nowadays. These large birds with the distinctive white "chin strap" and familiar "ah-onk" call are common residents from north to south in Idaho and throughout most of America. Everybody knows the "honker." In recent years however, goose watchers have noted the presence of a different bird here in the lower Treasure Valley. Instead of wearing a coat of gray like the Canada goose, this bird has brown feathers and a whitish belly, often covered with black patches. For this reason, hunters call him "specklebelly." Officially, it's the Pacific greater white-fronted goose. Only upon close examination can the narrow white band of feathers around the base of the pink bill be seen, the feature that gives the bird

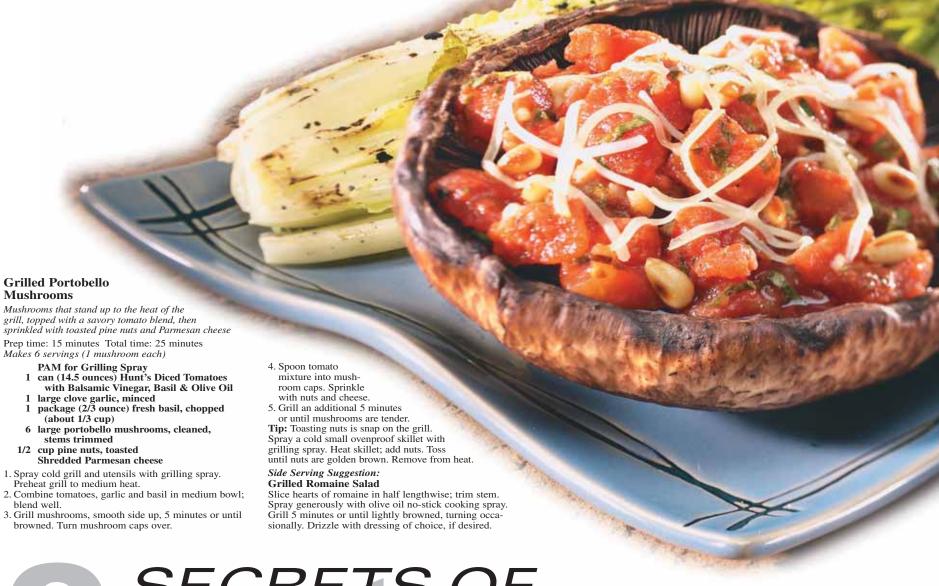
The white-fronted goose is quite a different bird from the Canada. He is about half the size and weight, and comes from a different branch of the waterfowl family. Canada geese are part of the dark or "brent" goose group. These include the brant, cackling goose, barnacle goose, and Nene goose from Hawaii. White-fronts are actually "true geese," and include the snow goose, pinkfooted goose, bean goose, and grey-lag goose in Europe. The familiar barn-yard goose is also closely related. White-fronts have a different call too. It's very highpitched, in two descending notes; "Will-witt!!"

Since around 1985, the springtime numbers of white-fronted geese seen along the lower Payette, Boise and Snake Rivers in the valley have been increasing. Traditionally in spring, the birds stopped in the Klamath Basin of Southern Oregon and Northern California on their way north from their wintering grounds in Mexico and California. They rested and fed in the extensive marshes of the basin's wildlife refuges.

By shifting their migration, the geese could be saving considerable energy in the form of fat for their 2,000-mile migration to nesting grounds on the Yukon River Delta in Alaska. Whatever the reason, the numbers of white-fronts have increased to the point that they can be seen from Farewell Bend to C. J. Strike on the Snake River from early February to mid-April. The highest concentrations are found between the lower Payette River near New Plymouth and Adrian on the Snake River.

For a nice diversion on an early spring weekend, try heading out to the Snake River, just west of Roswell. If you get there about 9 a.m. and look carefully with binoculars and listen for a while, you will undoubtedly see and hear white-fronted geese. What's more, you may even see a flight of snow geese or sandhill cranes in the bargain!

— Clair Kofoed, is a wildlife biologist with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game's Southwest Region.



SECRETS OF THE Lastly, if foods don't stick to the ready to

Perfect grill marks — those deliciously seared-in cross-hatches — give food a delectable and professional "tah-dah!" appearance. If you haven't been getting good grill marks, you've probably been fighting the "my-food-sticksto-the grill" battle. You need better strategies for better results.

clean grill grates that have been treated with a non-stick spray specially formulated for higher grilling temperatures (spray while the grill is still cold). Then you need the right tools — long-handled grill tongs and spatula — also treated with non-stick spray, so utensils don't stick to the food, either. The third secret is to use the correct grilling temperature — chicken and hamburgers over medium heat;

your grill or utensils, cleanup will be easier and you'll be ready to enjoy the thrill of the grill the next time!

For more grilling tips and recipes, go to www.pam4you.com/grilling. While you're there, enter "The Most PAM-azing Griller 2006" contest — where enthusiasts nationwide have a chance to show off their grilling prowess — by May 31 and answer the question "Why I should be crowned America's Most PAM-azing Griller 2006."



Honey Lemon Chicken

Tender grilled chicken glazed with a sweet-and-tangy blend of honey and lemon

Prep time: 10 minutes Total time: 25 minutes Makes 4 servings (1 half breast each)

PAM for Grilling Spray large boneless skinless chicken breast halves

(about 6 ounces each) teaspoon salt, divided

teaspoon ground black pepper tablespoons honey

tablespoons fresh lemon juice teaspoons chopped fresh rosemary

1. Spray outdoor grill grate and utensils with grilling spray. Preheat grill to medium heat. Sprinkle chicken evenly with 1/2 teaspoon salt and pepper. Mix honey, lemon juice, rosemary and remaining 1/4 teaspoon salt in small bowl until well blended. Remove

- 2. Grill chicken 10 minutes, turning over after 5 minutes. Brush chicken with remaining honey mixture during last 5 minutes of cooking.
- 3. Cut chicken diagonally into 1/2-inch-thick slices to serve, topped with reserved honey mixture.

Side Serving Suggestion: Warm Tomato and Cucumber Salad

Cut 4 whole tomatoes into wedges and slice an English cucumber into 1/2-inch slices. Spray generously with olive oil no-stick cooking spray for extra flavor and browning. Spray grill basket with grilling spray; place vegetables in basket. Grill until lightly browned, tossing occasionally, about 4 minutes. Season with salt and pepper, if desired. Toss with salad greens and Italian dressing.

Grilled Vegetable Pizzas

Your favorite grilled vegetables on top of a signature pizza

Prep time: 20 minutes Total time: 30 minutes *Makes 8 servings (1 slice pizza each)*

PAM for Grilling Spray medium red bell pepper

- medium yellow bell pepper medium yellow zucchini
- 1 medium green zucchini 1 small red onion, peeled, cut in half 6 large mushrooms, cleaned,
- sliced in half containers (13.8 ounces each) refrig-
- erated pizza dough, shaped into 2 rectangles, about 1/4 inch thick
- ounces fresh mozzarella cheese, sliced

1/4 cup fresh basil leaves

Coarsely ground pepper blend (optional)

- Spray grate of outdoor grill and utensils with grilling spray. Preheat grill to medium heat.

 2. Grill vegetables until browned, about
- 10 minutes. Remove from grill and slice into smaller pieces for pizza topping.
- 3. Place dough on grill until browned, about 5 minutes per side. Move to cooler part of grill to keep warm.
- 4. Spread 1/2 cup sauce on each crust. Layer with cheese, vegetables and basil. Heat on grill until cheese melts, about 2 minutes. Cut each pizza into fourths. Sprinkle with pepper blend, if desired.





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10 lb.	\$469
Potatoes	\$169 ea.
2 lb.	\$4 49
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Western Family Butter Quarters 16 oz.	\$209 ea.	Marie Callenders Fruit Pies Asst'd Varieties	\$499 ea.	Betty Crocker Cake Mixes 18-21.5 oz.	\$119 ea.	Western Family Cream Soups 10.5 oz.	79 ¢ ea.
Lay's Potato Chips 11-11.5 oz.	2 \$3	Wonder White Bread Fal Kids Sandwich, Whole Grain White Bread 20-24 o	1. \$5	Betty Crocker RTS Frosting 12-16 oz.	\$179 ea.	Stove Top Dressing 5-6.38 oz.	2 \$3
Tostitos Tortilla Chips 11-13.5 oz.	2 \$5	Dole Pineapple 20 oz.	\$119 ea.	Western Family Green Beans & Corn 11-15.25 oz.	59¢ ea.	Shasta Soda 2 Liter	89¢
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