



Track season in full swing In Sports

Marsing adopts proactive adult shop ordinance

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Homedale, Marsing begin new hoops coach searches

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Wednesday, April 19, 2006

Established 1865

The Owyhee Avalanche

VOLUME 22, NUMBER 16

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

Flooding continues to batter SC Road

County trying to
work with FEMA;
Owyhee River
expected to rise

Spring runoff, wet weather and warming temperatures have caused severe damage to many areas of Owyhee County over the last four months, and is expected to cause more before the snow in the higher elevations is gone.

Water levels on the Owyhee River are expected to rise to flood levels again this week with the onset of warming temperatures and more precipitation. In the meantime, more damage is being done to an already devastated Silver City Road, which is causing more headaches for county officials.

Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman reported last week that mud slides and additional damage has been done to the Silver City Road in the wake of a New Year's flood in January. He said he has continued to meet with officials from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Homeland Security in an attempt to get the road open as soon as possible.

Malheur County Emergency Services officials said river levels in that county are expected to rise again because of expected rain showers, which will bring more flooding to that area. Idaho officials are again warning of high stream levels and local flooding with temperatures expected to rise later this week and because of rain during the weekend.

— to page 5A



Children enjoy Easter surprises

Hunter Burrell, 2, finds an Easter egg during the annual Homedale Chamber of Commerce Easter Hunt at Sundance Park on Saturday. Several hundred children gathered for the event, which featured prizes and a visit from the Easter Bunny himself. For more coverage of the Easter fun in both Homedale and Marsing, see **Page 3A**.

— Jordan Valley's FFA chapter also sponsored an Easter egg hunt on Saturday, **Page 15A**

County addresses coroner spending; makes new policy

Commissioners won't require
Grimme to pay back any money

The Owyhee County Commission has cleared County Coroner Harvey Grimme of any wrongdoing after questions arose about spending of public funds for vehicle maintenance, fuel reimbursements and wages.

In a statement released last week, the commission said that the board does not find misapplication of county funds to costs and expenditures, which should not have been incurred or made by the coroner.

Furthermore, the commissioners said Grimme would not have to pay back any of the money for expenditures before the

decision.

"The board finds after reviewing expenditures, that the county did not lose money, and that the coroner has personally assumed the costs of many services and equipment and supplies which the county should have paid, saving the county money," the commissioners said in the statement.

"So, there shall be no recovery action and the coroner shall follow the policies specified herein as well as all other county policies."

— to page 4A

Many residents balk at Homedale's chicken ban

Citizen proposes task force
to round up offending fowl

Several Homedale residents who attended last week's City Council meeting objected to the recently passed chicken ordinance enacted by city fathers late last month. One resident went so far as to offer establishing a chicken-banishing group to be used so other residents may be able to keep their fowl.

The ordinance amended an original animal control ordinance that only allowed poultry within the city if the animals were penned and kept clean. But Homedale Mayor Paul Fink said because some fowl owners were not following the city law, all poultry

would be banished from the city limits.

"I realize everyone is going to make light of this, but it really is an issue," Fink told those who objected during the meeting Wednesday night. "We have to do something because some of the complaints we have been getting are real and important."

Resident Samuel Page told council members that his son, Jonathan, has chickens for 4-H projects and he objected to getting rid of the birds because they are contained and have been taken

— to page 5A



New construction ongoing on Idaho Avenue

Construction continues on a new Family Dollar Store that will be located on Idaho Avenue. Several new businesses to be located throughout Homedale are in the planning stages as well as the building of more than 300 new homes. City officials predict that Homedale could double in size in the next five to 10 years.

Homedale council plans for growth

Sewer bond amount lowered to save costs

Homedale Mayor Paul Fink says growth is coming to the city, and he expects nearly 400 new homes and many new businesses to arrive during the next five to 10 years.

The City Council approved adding 364 new homes to the city’s utility services during a council meeting last week. But Fink said even if voters reject the water and sewer bond on May 23, Homedale’s system will be able to handle the added homes.

During the meeting Wednesday, the council approved adding to the city’s water and sewer system a proposed subdivision of 55 new homes that will be located on Ustick Road. Council members also approved an expansion on U.S. Highway 95 and Industrial Road for 265 proposed homes and 44 possible new homes in town near City Hall.

The city is asking voters to approve during a May election combined bonds valued at nearly \$4 million to upgrade deteriorating water and sewer lines and add new lines for expected growth. Fink said because of projected businesses and new homes, and with the fees where they are at

this time, the city will not see any increases on their utility service bills to pay for the bond.

But during the meeting Wednesday, the council agreed to lower the amount of the sewer bond by about \$300,000 from \$2.1 million to \$1.7 million because current revenue would not cover the increased amount.

Voters will be asked to pass \$2,265,000 for installation and construction of improvements to the domestic water system and \$1,700,000 for improvements to the sewer system.

“The revenue is good enough for the bond to cover it,” Fink said. “But after further review of the sewer fees, we have had to adjust that amount to keep from raising the fees on the taxpayers. I, and the council, have been against doing that from the beginning. This will be a good start and should put us where we want to be.”

Homedale’s city engineer, Fred Ostler from Sunrise Engineering said the city’s sewer lagoons are at about 50 percent of capacity, so adding the new homes should not be a problem.

“The lagoons can handle about another 800 new homes if (they) needed to,” Ostler said. “What the new homes will do is bring in enough money for the city to put aside for new lagoons if it needs to in the extended future.”

“The 265 new homes are very tentative,” City Services Superintendent Larry Bauer said.

“Water and sewer fees are non-tax-based, called enterprising funds,” Ostler said. “They operate independently and whether the homes are in the city limits or not, they will pay to the water and sewer funds.”

Several new businesses are already in the works in the city, including a new Basque Center, a Subway Restaurant, a Family Dollar Store and an AutoZone auto parts store.

The city also approved leasing a section of newly acquired land to Dave Holton, owner of Jump Creek Lumber. A new aircraft business also hopes to build at the airport in the near future, officials said.

“New jobs will open, our tax base will increase, and the additions will be very beneficial for the city,” Fink said. “It will obviously help to pass this bond and residents won’t see any increase, so there really is no reason not to pass it.”

Fink said the city plans to drill a new well regardless if the bond passes or not. He said the budgets are now well above projected amounts, and the city can drill a new well either way.

— CAB

Marsing sets rules for adult business

The Marsing City Council passed an ordinance last week that addresses definitions, purposes of, and prohibitions for sexually oriented businesses within the city’s limits.

The ordinance, A-156, addresses zoning regulations for the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the city.

According to ordinance language, the new city law isn’t aimed at suppressing the First Amendment right to free speech but protecting property values, neighborhoods and residents from the “adverse secondary effects” sexually oriented businesses may have in the immediate neighborhood where they might be located. According to its wording, the ordinance does not attempt to infringe upon a person’s right to patronize a sexually oriented business.

“It has been determined, and reflected in the land-use studies of various U.S. cities, that businesses which have as their primary purpose the selling, renting or showing of sexually explicit materials have negative secondary impacts upon surrounding businesses and residences,” Marsing Mayor Don Osterhoudt said. “The experience in other U.S. cities is that the location of a sexually oriented business significantly increases the incidence of crimes, especially sex offenses, including rape, indecent exposure, lewd and lascivious behavior, and child molestation.”

The regulations allow sexually oriented businesses to exist within the city in “dispersed” locations rather than in concentrated in any one area. There also are separation requirements between the business and residences, churches, parks and schools.

Businesses cannot be located within 2,500 feet of public schools, daycares or playgrounds, or within 1,500 feet of any boys’ or girls’ club, youth organizations, public building, public park or school bus stop. The shops cannot be located within 1,500 feet of a bar, tavern or a residential-use zone.

“We need to address the possibility,” City Clerk Janice Bicandi said. “It is just a precaution ordinance at this time.”

— CAB

Homedale OKs increased fees for water-sewer hookup

The Homedale City Council approved increasing water and sewer hookup fees during a public hearing last week. The new fees will be leveled on new homes and businesses brought into the city limits.

Passed unanimously, the fee hike, will go into effect May 3.

Residential water hookup fees will rise from \$700 to \$1,250. Commercial hookup will cost \$1,500. Residential sewer hookup fees will increase from \$1,000 to \$1,500, while hooking up commercial property to the sewer system will cost \$2,000.

“We have had hookup fees, but they have been entirely inadequate,” Homedale Mayor Paul Fink said. “We surveyed our sister cities and base our increase on that information. The fee schedule is in the ballpark of what it takes to maintain our system.”

“I feel like that we are not in-line with surrounding cities, and I don’t think the increase will discourage anyone from moving into town. I think it is still below what other cities are charging.”

Fink said new residential and business developments are in the planning stages within the city limits. He said new businesses and new residents should buy into the system rather than placing the burden to maintain the system on current residents.

“I don’t think the people coming in are buying into the program,” Fink told the council.

— CAB

HHS band, choir place well at District III music festival

Members of the Homedale High School Band and Choir performed in the District Three Music Festival last week and placed high in the rankings.

The choir achieved a score of “excellent” in each of the four categories, including sight-reading, which instructor Todd Thompson said is the toughest part of choir.

“This year’s choir has really

pulled together and worked hard to get where they are,” Thompson said.

“They deserve a huge pat on the back for their tenacity and commitment.”

Thompson said the band also did a fantastic job, but, the Homedale contingent had to leave the band festival to get to the choir festival before the band’s scores were available.

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Marsing, Homedale children celebrate Easter



Bunny visit
A youngster visits with the Easter Bunny during the Homedale Chamber of Commerce Easter Egg hunt held Saturday at Sundance Park.



Easter egg hunts abound in Marsing, Homedale

Above: JT Chadez, a 20-month-old from Caldwell, has a chat with the Easter Bunny during the Marsing Easter egg hunt Saturday on the high school football field. Children from several different age groups scoured the grass for the coveted eggs. The speedy and efficient hunters finished their job in about 20 minutes.

Right: Cy Aman finds an Easter egg during the annual Homedale Chamber of Commerce Easter egg hunt Saturday at Sundance Park. Plastic eggs were filled with candy and some with a prize slip that entitled some lucky hunters to a basket filled with candy for donated prize.



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From page 1

✓ Coroner

The statement also outlines four policies that will be added to the county’s personnel manual under coroner’s procedures.

The policies specify that mileage allowances are intended to and will be used as the only county expenditure to cover vehicle maintenance and repair costs on private vehicles. Grimme had submitted repair costs for his vehicle to the county for reimbursement in addition to seeking compensation for mileage and fuel.

“Any request for exception must be based on specific facts and presented in writing to the Board of Commissioner in advance of expenditures,”

the commissioners said in the release. “The Personnel Manual does not include this policy, but the revised Manual shall include it.”

County Prosecuting Attorney Matthew Faulks said the county will no longer pay maintenance on personal vehicles used for county work because maintenance comes out of money paid in mileage.

“Employee compensation must be based on a pay scale approved in advance by the Board of Commissioners,” according to Item 2 of the new procedures released by the commission. “That scale can be based upon an hourly, on-call, per-call, or time period, weekly, monthly, quarterly, annually, but must be approved in advance by the Board.”

“The question that was raised out of some of the expenses that were questioned was how much was being paid to an individual or individuals, and this sets forth something specific in the personnel manual,” Faulks said. “It somewhat addresses federal law, but this is the commissioners making note that whenever we have compensation, we want it done by a pay scale we know about.”

Faulks said the coroner is paid by a set salary per year.

The deputy coroners have been paid an hourly wage, but over the years, those wages have differed. The expenditure detail from 2004-05 shows that Deputy Coroner Caruso J. Bongiovi was paid \$780 for six hours in a death investigation, or \$130 per hour. In the report from 2005-06, Deputy Coroner Aaron Tines was paid \$35 per hour.

“It might be an hourly rate that is appropriate for the job, for the position, for the personnel,” Faulks said.

“It might be an amount for being on-call or on a per-call basis. Anyone of those could be a reasonable way to compensate some certain work. It could be a combination of those that is appropriate.”

Procedure No. 3 says: “before employment, as employee or by contract, even for a brief period, of a person which contains even

the perception of conflict of interest must be approved by the Board of Commissioners in advance of expenditure.”

“I think what the commissioners are saying there and what they intend there is reviewing employment status and situations for conflict of interest or something that might fall under nepotism,” Faulks said. “A wife, blood relative, relative by marriage and, yes, your own business. Conflicts can pull in those as well. That is more the employment status that is being addressed there, but it could include any conflicts of hiring work.”

According to expenditure reports, much of the work on Grimme’s vehicle was done by his own business in Marsing, and he sought reimbursement.

Faulks said he found items in the past that indicated persons paid from the coroner’s office performed work from the office could have been a conflict. He said the board ultimately approved all of the payments.

“Claims submitted must specifically separate and identify each cost and expenditure,” states item No. 4 of the newly adopted procedures.

“From the board’s findings here and based on past experience, they have come to the conclusion that any of the expenditures are reasonable,” Faulks said.

“The state code provides for payment of some of these things with the approval of the overseeing authority (the commissioners).”

The commissioners said claims submitted by the coroner since 2002 were reviewed by the prosecuting attorney and had been submitted to the board for approval before being paid. The commissioners gave that approval on the claims.

“While the claims show that statement of or reiteration of the policies is necessary from the coroner, no cause is found to seek recovery of expenditures,” the commissioners said. “While the process followed by the coroner must be changed, the board does not find misapplication of county funds to costs and expenditures which should not have been incurred or made by the coroner.”

Faulks said the four issues may not be “expressly” identified in Idaho code nor does it specifically limit the county to the individual items.

“They have created an exception (as in item No. 1) that other expenditures may be approved and should be in advance,” Faulks said. “The risk on that is if they are not approved in advance, then they might not be paid.”

— CAB


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From page 1

✓ Flooding

Of most concern is the Owyhee River where big flows into the reservoir were predicted.

While inflows had dropped below 9,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) Thursday, they began increasing Friday afternoon and were back above 11,000 cfs. Saturday morning.

However, storage in the Owyhee Reservoir did get down near the Owyhee Irrigation District's goal of 670,000 acre feet.

The Owyhee Irrigation District baseline storage goal was designed to create more space to help control any major runoff. Discharge from the reservoir remained above 10,000 cfs.

According to a news release from the Vale Bureau of Land Management, the road to Birch Creek Ranch near Jordan Valley is currently impassable. The site is a popular pick up destination for floaters on the Owyhee River who are advised to check with their shuttle operator or the Vale District Office before making plans to go into the area.

Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne declared another statewide disaster emergency because of flooding Friday in the Boise and Gooding area.

Heavy spring rains and runoff have already saturated Treasure Valley waterways and melting snowpack means Idaho residents may be at risk for several more weeks.

"Above average snow pack in Idaho's mountains, above average spring precipitation and a rise in temperatures has created an imminent threat," Kempthorne said in a release Friday.

As for the Silver City Road, work should begin very soon, Aman said as the county plans to hire a consulting engineer firm. He said the firm would be paid for by FEMA.

"They will have 10-14 days to

inspect the site, write up a bid and get something going," Aman said. "It has to be published for 14 days, but after that, we will start work immediately."

Aman said, if all goes well, the road could be opened as soon as mid June. But if the bid is not accepted, the road could still remain closed until this fall.

"I realize it has caused a lot of grief for a lot of people, including us," Aman said. "We have to keep the road closed to keep people safe and to keep Silver City safe. If it stretches out past mid June, we will probably go in and build a makeshift trail for four wheelers, or four-wheel drives to allow homeowners and emergency crews up there. But the more we do that and once construction starts, we will have to keep people out. It could set construction back if people are going back and forth."

Aman said with the additional damage, the county is looking at more money to repair the damages. He said the estimate is now at over \$1 million.

"Everyone is working on this endlessly," Aman said.

"It is a top priority for us. Either the county will open it to certain vehicles, but we will get it open for needed things. Even if it was open right now, you couldn't get in because the snow is still too deep."

Aman said he is optimistic about the work that is planned. He said the area has been declared a categorically excluded project, which means environmental issues do not need to be addressed.

"They don't have to worry about snails, fish, plants, it can be done without hundreds of permits," Aman said. "No environmental assessment or environmental statement has to be done. Those can take many months to do, so this is good news."

— CAB



Silver City Road receives more damage

Scotch Bob Creek continues to flow over the Silver City Road last week, causing additional damage to the area already devastated by January flooding. High run-off is hitting the area as the area snowpack begins to melt. Mud slides also have struck the road, which is still in need of repairs from damage suffered in the original New Year's flooding. Photo by Larry McDaniel



Mud slides present new challenge

Mud, rocks and debris have been sliding onto the Silver City Road, compounding the damage that had been caused from flooding at the beginning of the year. Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman and county officials have continued to meet with officials from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Homeland Security in an attempt to get the road open as soon as possible. Photo by Larry McDaniel

✓ Ban

care of. He volunteered to go around the city and remove the birds that are not taken care of if the city would agree to review the ordinance.

"The poultry rule is like shooting cannons at things," Page said. "I understand the ordinance problem, but I think you could have gotten a hold of some of the 4-H groups and organized a solution. We don't need the police department chasing chickens when we have gang and drug problems.

"I feel what you should have done is allow — and I would be willing myself — to allow groups to form committees to take care of them. If they are at-large, let's

eliminate them. I would be willing to spearhead a group to control the problem."

Fink told Page and the audience that the city has thousands of chickens running loose, and the city has to do something to curb the problem. He said the birds are a safety issue and a nuisance.

"Well, let us do something with them instead of having everybody controlled," Page said.

"If everyone had the chickens contained, you never would have had a problem," Fink retorted.

Resident Janet McCornack said her grandchildren keep chickens at her home for 4-H projects, too. She said she would be one who would not be getting rid of her birds.

"Everyone in the room knows that laws are not made for the

If they are at-large, let's eliminate them. I would be willing to spearhead a group to control the problem. '

— Samuel Page
Homedale resident

people who obey them," Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller said. "Homedale has had a containment law that has been on the books for quite some time.

"We asked the people to contain their chickens, keep their chickens,

and coop their chickens. We have gotten to the point in our efforts of trying to alleviate the nuisances of the people who are trying to obey the law. Now we have everyone saying, 'It's not my chicken.' "

"Maybe we can form a group to assist the city and the police department," Page said. "You could call them up, tell us where they are and we could grab them up."

Eidemiller said the only people who had the authority to enforce the city ordinance, is the police department.

The city's attorney agreed that the city would be responsible for some liability if they allowed Page or others to "police" the birds.

"I am accorded protections based on my job," Eidemiller

said. "That is personal property. The only way we can corral this problem is to address the problem as a whole."

"Cowboy up and get over it," McCornack said.

"Chickens crow, and dogs bark. This is Homedale. People can live with chickens. I am just saying before we get rid of everyone's poultry, I say address the farrow chickens first."

Eidemiller said the issue had been addressed in the previous ordinance, but the ordinance had not been abided by.

Fink said the new ordinance would remain and residents in violation would be cited.

The ordinance states that violators would be fined \$50 per offense.

— CAB

Obituaries

Ernesto ‘Ernie Baby’ Cuellar



Ernesto “Ernie Baby” Cuellar was born April 24, 2005. He took his first steps in a journey to join the angels up in heaven on April 10, 2006. Funeral services were held at 1:00 PM Monday, April 17, 2006 at Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Caldwell. Interment followed at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens, Caldwell

Even though his time with us was short, he will be greatly missed and will be remembered as a loving little boy who would give us all big smiles when we called his name. He loved playing with big brother and loved to dance to Grandpa’s special song. He will be missed and never forgotten.

He is survived by his parents Daisy Acala and Freddy Cuellar

III and his big brother Alberto E. Cuellar of Homedale; paternal grandparents Martha Gonzalez of Marsing; Fred and Belinda Cuellar Jr. of Homedale; maternal grandmother Angelica Morales of Caldwell; his great grandparents; Gloria Pulido of Marsing; Fred and Oralia Cuellar Sr of Marsing; and Maria and Salvador Morales of Homedale; 8 aunts, 6 uncles, numerous cousins, great aunts and uncles. He was preceded in death by his uncle Alberto Cuellar.

We love you, Ernie Baby and we’ll all miss you deeply.

Friends called from 5:00 to 8:00 PM Sunday, April 16, 2006 at Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Caldwell.

Engagements

Young, Pascoe set April 29 wedding date in Caldwell

Tricia Shuey Young of Caldwell and Jim Pascoe of Jordan Valley plan to wed Saturday, April 29, 2006, in Caldwell. A reception will follow.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Bob and Carolyn Shuey of Caldwell. She graduated from Caldwell High School and attended Boise State University. She’s employed by Continental Investors Services, Inc.

The groom-elect is the son of Nick and Ramona Pascoe of Jordan Valley. He is a graduate of Jordan Valley High School and Treasure Valley Community College. He is employed by N.A. Degerstrom.



Tricia Shuey Young and Jim Pascoe

Orpha ‘Pinky’ Cossel

Orpha “Pinky” Cossel, 75, passed away on Monday, April 3, 2006 in Reno, NV. Pinky was born on June 12, 1930 in Richmond, CA to Homer and Wilma Newell. She lived in California until 1964, she then moved to the Nampa, ID area. Pinky married Ted Cossel of Jump Creek in March of 1969.

She was involved in the local, state and national Cattlewomen Organization, the Idaho Beef Council and the Idaho Cattleman’s Association. Pinky was a 4-H leader and on the Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo Committee. She was an elder in the First Presbyterian Church of Homedale,

ID. Pinky became a professional Mary Kay consultant with many clients and friends. She received many awards within the Mary Kay company. She was also a member of the Humboldt General Hospital Auxiliary, “The Pink Ladies”, of Winnemucca, NV. Pinky moved to Winnemucca after the death of her husband Ted in 1993 to be near her daughter Kelly and her grandchildren.

Pinky is survived by her daughter, Kelly; step-son, Tim; grandchildren, Cameron, Quinn, and Jared Carrica, & Luke and Cody Cossel; 2 great-grandchildren; sister-in-law, Opal Cossel; and several nieces and

nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ted; step-son, Tom; her parents, and her brother, Jim.

Pinky was a special lady and will be missed by all who knew her.

A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, April 21, 2006 at 2:00pm at the First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th West, Homedale, ID. Donations may be made in Pinky’s name to the First Presbyterian Church in Homedale, ID.

“Live for the day...make somebody laugh. Tell someone you love them for tomorrow comes too fast”

Cooper, Collard announce plans to wed later this month in Wilder

Wilder residents Candice Cooper and Cody Collard plan to marry Saturday, April 29, 2006, at the Mountain View Church of the Nazarene in Wilder.

A Homedale High School graduate, the bride-to-be is the daughter of Bob and Tierney Cooper of Wilder. She is employed at CTI Foods in Wilder.

The groom-elect is the son of Everett and Sandra Collard of Wilder. He graduated from Homedale Christian School and also works at CTI Foods.

The couple plans to honeymoon in Las Vegas then will make their home in Homedale.



Cody Collard and Candice Cooper

Anniversary

Fred, Lodice Grant to mark 50th anniversary

Fred and Lodice Grant are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 21, 2006, at Sacred Heart Church. Friends and family are welcome.

The celebration will be hosted by their grandchildren, Jett, Kady, Alexander and Samantha Grant.

The Grants were married April 20, 1956, in Nampa. They have

two children, Andrew (Staci) Grant of Nampa and Jon Grant of Boise.

Fred Grant is a 1961 graduate of Chicago University Law School. He is a natural resource counsel to Owyhee County and public policy director for Stewards of the Range and a litigation counsel. Lodice (Brown) Grant retired from the Diocese of Boise as a payroll administrator.

Today
Three-lesson class for time pinched cooks, Owyhee County Extension Office, Marsing, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. \$10, includes materials. (208) 896-4104

Thursday
Grand View-Bruneau School Board meeting, 7 p.m., Grand View Elementary School, 205 First Street, Grand View

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

Thursday, April 27
Guarding Against Identity Theft, presented by Marsha Lockard, Owyhee County Extension educator, 3 p.m., Grand View Public Library. (208) 896-4104

Saturday, April 29
Owyhee County Horse Judging at the Bruneau Rodeo Arena, 10 a.m. registration; 11

a.m. judging. \$5 judging fee, \$5 for lunch.

Three-lesson class for time pinched cooks, Owyhee County Extension Office, Marsing, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. \$10 which includes materials. (208) 896-4104

Submit information on upcoming fund-raisers, reunions or community events to The Owyhee Avalanche by noon Fridays for inclusion in the calendar. Drop off press releases at the Avalanche office at 19 E. Idaho Ave., Homedale, mail them to P.O. Box 97, Homedale, ID 83628, fax them to (208) 337-4867 or e-mail them to either jbrowneditor@cableone.net or cherylbeeson@cableone.net. For more information on submissions, call (208) 337-4861.



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Your finances

Have bail-out plan if house doesn't sell before you buy

Dear Dave,
My husband and I have bought a house. The closing date is soon, but we haven't sold our current home yet. We really thought we'd have found a buyer by now, and we're a little nervous. What can we do?
— Ruby

Dear Ruby,
You've got good reason to be nervous. Never buy a new house without making the deal contingent upon the sale of your current home. You've turned yourself into a desperate seller because you made some bad decisions and put yourself in a desperate situation. I'd back away from this deal if there's any way to do it, still be honorable and not break your word to the other people involved. If you're locked in, you might try explaining the situation and see if you can delay the closing, or restructure the contract to make it contingent upon the sale of your current home. If the other party is agreeable to either of these ideas, then you need to drop the price on your house today and get it sold! I've got a feeling you'll have to pay some stupid tax to fix this thing — and that might mean losing some cash and making some other tough choices.
— Dave

Dear Dave,
I work hard to provide for my family, and think I've done a pretty good job in this area. I've made enough to take care of my wife and kids if I should die, and we have a nice lifestyle. But I was reading the Bible the other day, and now I'm wondering if all this — along with retirement concerns — can put a person in a situation where they're unknowingly being choked by the cares of life. Am I being obsessive, and how can I tell when enough is enough?
— Steve via e-mail

Dear Steve,
This is an excellent question. How do you balance success without it becoming an obsession? The fact that you'd ask this shows you're committed to maintaining that balance in your life. Many of us wonder and worry about balancing the needs and wants of this world with an eternal viewpoint. I had the longing for stuff beaten out of me many years ago when I went broke. Since that time, I've learned that it's more important to BE than to HAVE, although much of the world will try to convince you that you must HAVE in order to BE. Honestly, Steve, I don't have a lot of pretense about all the good things that have happened to me



and my family since that time. It's not because we're better or smarter or any of that stuff. We're just doing common-sense stuff and working really hard. But maybe the biggest thing is the realization that stuff we have isn't really ours — it belongs to God. I'm just a manager that God has hired to take care of this particular pile of stuff. Remember, too, that God loves his kids and He wants us to have good things. I've come to believe that if you can emotionally and spiritually release the whole concept of ownership, that God will bless you and maybe even give you more stuff to manage.
— Dave

Dear Dave,
My husband and I disagree over how much information to share with the children about personal family finances. When is an appropriate age to discuss these things with them, and how much information is too much?
— Kimberly

Dear Kimberly,
Once they reach a certain age it's healthy for kids to realize that living in the world costs money. The key is to find small things — teachable moments — that are age-appropriate. In our house, the kids were allowed to help fill out the check register and watch the process of paying bills when they were 10-years-old. Sometimes you can't explain things to a child by just talking. But if they write out a big number and see \$200 going out the door to pay the electric bill, a light goes off in their heads, and they're like "Wow, that's a lot of money!" Sit down with your husband, and find out why he feels the way he does. If it's personal insecurity, then you need to talk with him and help him work through this issue. If he has a valid reason, like he's afraid it may hurt the child in some way, that's a different story. Five-year-old shoulders weren't designed to carry the burden or intimate details of foreclosure on a home. Knowing how to handle money is a life skill, and parents should teach kids about finances and the importance of handling money properly at an early age. Turning kids loose in the world with no other skill than playing Nintendo is not a good plan — it's child abuse.
— Dave

Senior news

Marsing Senior Center
April 20: Roast pork, potatoes, gravy, green salad, soup, dessert.
April 24: Chicken pot pie (chicken, potatoes, peas), broccoli, salad, soup, dessert.
April 25: Fish, meatloaf, potatoes, oriental vegetables, coleslaw, soup, dessert.
April 26: Sweet & sour pork, rice, mixed veggies, pea salad, soup, dessert.
April 27: Salisbury steak, potatoes, Mexican vegetables, green salad, soup, dessert.

Homedale Senior Center
April 20: Beef stroganoff w/ noodles and carrots, roll, milk.
April 25: Turkey, mashed potatoes/gravy, peas & carrots, roll, milk.
April 26: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes, broccoli, roll, milk.
April 27: Chicken parmesan (breaded chicken breast & mozzarella cheese), spaghetti, roll, salad, milk.

Legion plans cemetery work on Saturday

Members of the American Legion Post 128 and the auxiliary will be holding a workday at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Homedale-Marsing Cemetery. The American Legion will be conducting an inventory of the many veteran gravesites to ensure that all veterans will be honored with flags during the Memorial Day holiday. The group is seeking volunteer help. For more information call 896-5474.

Rimrock student picked for Air Force seminar

Rimrock Junior-Senior High School student William Leigh Martin has been selected to attend the United States Air Force Academy's Summer Seminar program this year. Martin, 17, is the son of Debbi and Allen "Buffalo" Martin of Grand View.



Leigh Martin

When selecting candidates for the summer program, the Air Force Academy, which is located near Colorado Springs, Colo., looks at a student's academic achievement, athletic abilities, leadership skills and desire to pursue a career in the Air Force. A junior at Rimrock, Martin is president of the school's FFA chapter and he is the treasurer for

the district FFA. Martin carries a 4.0 grade-point average at Rimrock and competes for the track and field team. He played basketball in the past. He also was a member of the school's scholastic team that competed at the District III tournament earlier this year in Boise.

Martin has been on the honor roll since fourth grade, and has had perfect attendance since that time. The Air Force Academy's Summer Seminar gives high school students a chance to experience the environment of the academy, and the schedule includes academic workshops and some military and physical training scenarios.

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School menus

April 20-26

Homedale Elementary

April 20: Spaghetti or hot pocket, French bread, green beans, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
April 21: Hot ham/cheese or cold turkey sandwich, yogurt, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
April 24: Early release. Beef wiener wrap or chicken pot pie, mac & cheese, green beans, rice krispie treat, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
April 25: Beef or chicken taco w/cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, corn, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
April 26: Chicken patty or rib-b-que/bun, potato wedges, applesauce cake, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Homedale Middle

April 20: Pizza or popcorn chicken, salad, fruit bar, cookie, milk.
April 21: Nachos or baked potato, fruit & veggie bar, rice krispie treat, milk.
April 24: Early release. Chicken patty or rib-b-que, tots, fruit bar, cookie, milk.
April 25: Sloppy Joe or wiener wrap, green beans, fruit bar, animal crackers, milk.
April 26: Beef or chicken taco, corn, fruit bar, fruit roll-up, milk.

Homedale High

April 20: Chicken patty/bun or sandwich & soup, potato wedges,

fruit & veggie bar, dessert, milk.
April 21: Crispito or rib-b-que/bun, corn, taco salad, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
April 24: Early release. Pizza, popcorn chicken or chef’s salad, fruit & veggie bar, dessert, milk.
April 25: Country fried beef stk or chicken filet, mashed potato/gravy, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
April 26: Spaghetti or burrito, French bread, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Marsing

April 20: Nachos, corn, fruit crisp, milk, chicken patty/bun, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.
April 21: Pazoli or beef stew, corn chips, fruit, milk, hamburger, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.
April 24: Tostada, veggies, fruit, backed potato & chili bar, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.
April 25: Ham & cheese, veggies, chocolate pudding, milk, chicken nuggets, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.
April 26: Pizza, salad, fruit & cookie, milk, soup & sandwiches, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.

Bruneau

April 20: Hamburger & gravy, mashed potatoes, veggie, roll/butter, fruit, milk.
April 21: Pepperoni pizza, salad, corn, pineapple, milk.
April 24: Cook’s choice.
April 25: Corn dog, potato wedges, veggie, fruit, chocolate cake, milk.
April 26: Nachos/salsa, salad, corn, bread sticks, fruit, milk.

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Three Creek

by Lola Blossom


Jared Brackett is a newly appointed vice chairman of the Beef Council. Since 1997, he and his brother, Marc, have run a cow and calf operation on the Browns Bench and Antelope Ranches west of the Salmon Dam. Since 2000, they are also farming and raising cattle near Metropolis, Nev. Jared was raised in Three Creek. He graduated from Texas A&M with a Batchelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Economics in 1997.
Allyson Swan, our little Three Creek cowgirl, is headed for Baltimore, Md., for the National Competition for Miss USA. She was Miss Rodeo Idaho for 2005 and recently crowned Miss Idaho USA.
She is the daughter of the late George Swan and Rebecca Swan Prescott.
Her stepfather is Shane Prescott, a cutting horse trainer. Allyson has spent the past year in Las Vegas, Nev.
The Miss USA pageant is scheduled to be broadcast by NBC on Friday.
Allyson’s brother, Hutch, and his wife, Trudy, have a new baby boy, born April 6, 2006, at the Magic Valley Regional hospital. He weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces and has been named George. He has two little sisters, Charley and Libby.
The granddaughter of one of Three Creek’s oldest settlers has passed away. Pearl Walters Gillespi, 96, of Hermiston, Ore., and Vale, Ore., passed away April 3, 2006, in Boise Care Center. Pearl was born Oct. 12, 1909 in Boise, the second child of Fred and Christie Mahoney Walters.

She was brought back to Three Creek, where she lived until she was 16. Her father bought the Agency Ranch at Juntura, Ore., in the late 1920s and trailed their cattle from Three Creek to Juntura.
Pearl’s grandparents, William Henry and Martha Morgan Walters, came to Three Creek about 1890 in a covered wagon from Austin, Nev. Pearl’s maternal grandfather, George Mahoney, built several of the first two-story houses in the country and also the schoolhouse in 1914. The two-story houses stood out in splendor among the sod-roofed log houses of the other ranchers.
My cousin, Wanda Marie Emery Hance, passed away April 1, 2006, at Magic Valley Regional after a long battle with cancer. She was next to the last child born in Three Creek country. She came two months premature on Oct. 29, 1931 in the cold old house on the homestead of her grandparents, Jerry and Lina Emery. The same house I was born in.
Wanda was the daughter of Ted and Lola Ireland Emery. She was helped into the world by her dad and two neighbor ladies, Opal Dunn and Chloe Fausett.
She married the love of her life, Glen Hance, on April 3, 1949. They have resided in Twin Falls for years.
Wanda is survived by husband Glen, children Sheryl (Jerry) Olson of Meridian, Debi (Scot) Moon of Hansen, Glenda (Robin) Hite of Jerome and Rick (Vickie) Hance of Glenns Ferry, brother Alvin (Barbara) Boyd of Twin Falls and sister Rosie (Ben) Koch of Stockton, Calif.

Read all about it
in the Avalanche!



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Since the publication of registered sex offenders in Owyhee County, two additional offenders have been added to the state's registry.

This list is published for the protection of the public.

The complete list is available at:

http://www.isp.state.id.us/identification/sex_offender/index.html



Randy Dunham

Date of birth:
Oct. 6, 1964
Address:
47424 Summercamp Road
Rogerson, ID 83302
Conviction:
Lewd and lascivious act with a child 14-15.



Alan Richard Roscoe

Date of birth:
Oct. 10, 1947
Address:
3947 Pioneer Parkway Rd.
Homedale, ID 83628
Conviction:
Rape with force, threat, and rape, victim unconscious of natural act.

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COSSA nursing students sweep top 3 at State

Marsing student off to national competition in Kansas City, Mo.

Several students from the Canyon-Owyhee School Service Agency (COSSA) program fared well earlier this month at the SkillsUSA Idaho State Leadership and Skills Conference.

Students from the COSSA nursing assistance class were among the more than 600 high school and college students, 50 advisors and 200 contest committee members and judges from around the state who participated in the event.

The local program includes students from Homedale, Marsing, Parma, Notus and Caldwell and the team took the first three spots in the nursing assistance competition.

Samantha Brown of Marsing, Michelle Uria of Homedale and Chris Allred from Notus took first, second and third, respectively.

The trio were awarded their respective medals during

a ceremony held April 8 at Albertson College of Idaho in Caldwell.

Contests at the state conference included leadership events such as public speaking, job interviewing, entrepreneurial skills and related math.

Skill events were a major part of the contests as well and included auto service technology, carpentry, cabinet making, collision repair, computer maintenance, computer programming, culinary arts, diesel equipment, drafting, electronics, first aid, interest working, nurse assisting, robotics, TV/video production, Web design and welding.

The skill contests required students to demonstrate their skills with hands-on performances.

The winners of the competition have qualified for a chance at the national championship, which will be held June 18-24 in Kansas City, Mo.



COSSA sweeps SkillsUSA

COSSA students, from left to right, Michelle Uria, Samantha Brown and Chris Allred display their medals from the SkillsUSA Idaho State Leadership Conference for Nursing Assistance. The award ceremony took place on April 8 at Albertson College of Idaho in Caldwell.

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H1350_H1302MK0625 (03/06)

Sheriff warns of rise in spring drinking parties

Deputies cite Owyhee teens for underage consumption

Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman said with the onset of spring, teenagers in the area begin to drink in Owyhee County’s backcountry. Aman said if underage drinking parties happen, those involved will be caught.

Earlier this month, seven teens were cited for drinking under the legal age at a party near Poison Creek.

Cited for minor-in-consumption offenses were Homedale residents Humberto Obregon, 19, and Lawrence Wass, 18, and Timothy West, 18, of Marsing and Janece Peterson, 18, of Nampa, and four 17-year-old youths — two from Wilder and two from Marsing.

Aman said when officers arrived at the scene, many of the teens attempted to elude them by running from the area.

“Seems every spring we run into the problem,” Aman said. “Some of them think they won’t be caught, but they have to remember, just because you can’t

see an officer, doesn’t mean you are not being watched.”

Idaho State Police Crime Statistics from 2003 show that 40 adults and four juveniles were cited for driving under the influence and 40 adults and 25 minors were cited for liquor law violations.

In 2004, 31 adults and four juveniles were cited for driving under the influence, while 48 adults and 34 juveniles were cited for liquor law violations.

“It raises nearly every year,” Aman said of the crime rate. “To us, it means more kids are drinking and we are catching more illegal drinkers.”

Aman said residents in the county could also help by reporting suspicious activity by calling the sheriff’s office.

He said a lot of the parties discovered, are reported to authorities by people who live in the area.

— CAB



Church to dedicate its new building

The Homedale Friends Community Church will hold a dedication service Sunday for its new complex on U.S. Highway 95. There still are some projects to be completed on the buildings, but church officials said it’s time to celebrate the new look.

Homedale Friends Church plans open house Sunday

After 92 years of existence, a move from the original building and several additions, the Homedale Friends Community Church congregation will celebrate new facilities with a dedication service Sunday.

The new church complex is located between Homedale and Wilder on U.S. Highway 95.

The public is invited to the dedication event, which includes an open house from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The schedule will include Sunday school at 9:30 a.m., a

dedication service at 10:45 a.m., a barbecue dinner at noon, open house from 2 to 4 p.m., and the Treasure Valley Area Rally of Friends Churches at 6 p.m.

The guest speaker for the dedication service and rally will be Colin Saxton, former pastor at Friends Community Church from 1992 to 1995 and current superintendent of Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends Church, which is a consortium of the Friends churches in Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

The community is invited to all the day’s events, but especially to the open house in the afternoon.

The first phase of construction on the new church grounds is finished. That project included completion of the outside, sanctuary, fellowship hall and some classrooms on the interior.

Work remains on the kitchen, nursery, offices, other classrooms, basement, parking lot and landscape. But church officials said even with much work is still ahead, it is time to celebrate.



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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.

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- 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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Bruneau schools offer Child Find

The Bruneau-Grand View Joint School District, in cooperation with parents and non-public school agencies, engages in Child Find services throughout the school year.

Child Find activities are conducted to create public awareness of special education programs, to advise the public of the rights of students, and to alert residents of the need for identifying and serving children with disabilities from age 3 through the semester in which they turn 21.

For children 3 to 21 years of age who may have individual needs that result from disabilities or developmental delays, and who are not enrolled in a school program, contact Penny Hines, special education administrator at (208) 834-2775 or the school district office at (208) 834-2253.

These children may have difficulty walking, talking, hearing or learning or may display behaviors that appear different from other children their age.

Elementary school secretary honored for excellence



Gibbens earns Award of Excellence
Pam Gibbens, the secretary at Homedale Elementary School, accepts the Homedale School District's Award of Excellence from trustee Kurt Shanley. Submitted photo

Pam Gibbens, secretary for the Homedale Elementary School, was honored with an Award of Excellence during a recent district school board meeting.

Gibbens began working for the district in 1999, coming from Marsing School District where she was the elementary school secretary. She was honored for her “positive” demeanor, her “selfless” contributions and her efficiency.

“Pam contributes daily to the positive climate at Homedale Elementary School,” principal Scott Freeby said. “She serves her school and the Homedale community selflessly, giving many hours of her own time to the job.”

Freeby said Pam carries out her multitude of secretarial duties in an effective and efficient manner, but always has time for a kind word and a cheerful smile for everyone who comes to the office — students, staff, parents and members of the community.

“Mrs. Gibbens is the nerve center of our school,” Freeby said. “She is the one that students, parents and staff members call on when they need an answer, able assistance and even a sympathetic ear. Her organization and hard work keep things running smoothly, with the appearance of very little effort.”

Freeby said he could best describe Gibbens as “the glue that holds the school together, the perfect liaison between school and families.

“Pam knows almost every student and family by name, and she is well-liked and respected in the Homedale community,” Freeby said. “Mrs. Gibbens, or ‘Radar’, as I like to call her (after the company clerk character in the long-running TV sit-com M*A*S*H*), has the uncanny ability to be able to anticipate the needs of nearly 65 adults that work at the school, and with an exceptional common-sense grasp

of situations she has the ability to resolve issues quickly.”

Faculty members agree that Gibbens is always willing to help students solve their problems.

“She will always take the time to provide a listening ear for children,” Freeby said. “The concern and compassion that she has for Homedale’s children is truly an expression of her dedication to them. Notes, cards and pictures proudly displayed on her office cabinet doors, demonstrate the way the Homedale Elementary students feel about ‘Mrs. Pam.’

“Mother Teresa once said, ‘We can do no great things, only small things with great love.’ Pam does hundreds of small things each day with great care and compassion. There is no job too big or too small for her to tackle. Pam truly does make a difference, and her ongoing contributions on a daily basis make her a worthy candidate to receive this month’s ‘Award of Excellence.’”

Owyhee school board elections may not be necessary next month

Elections for board of trustee positions in all four Owyhee County school districts may not be necessary next month, as only one person has filed to run for any of the seats on the ballot.

But officials in the school districts — Homedale, Marsing, Pleasant Valley and Bruneau-Grand View — have until May 2 to determine if an election is necessary or not as write-in candidates have until then to file.

The elections, if necessary, will take place on May 16 in all districts.

In Homedale, zone 2 is up for election, which is now occupied by Alan Hays. Hays did not file for another term, but Tim Quintana has filed and will be elected if no write-in candidates file.

In Marsing, Joe Usabel could retain his seat in zone 1 if no additional candidates file.

In the Pleasant Valley district, Joan Hebison, who was appointed was the only candidate to file for zone 2.

In Bruneau-Grand View School District, Stacey Buckingham did not file for another term in zone 1, but Russ Erwin has filed for the vacancy.

— CAB

Weather

	H	L	Prec.
Apr 11	60	27	
Apr 12	58	30	
Apr 13	69	30	.04
Apr 14	73	38	
Apr 15	no	read	
Apr 16	no	read	
Apr 17	74	28	.05

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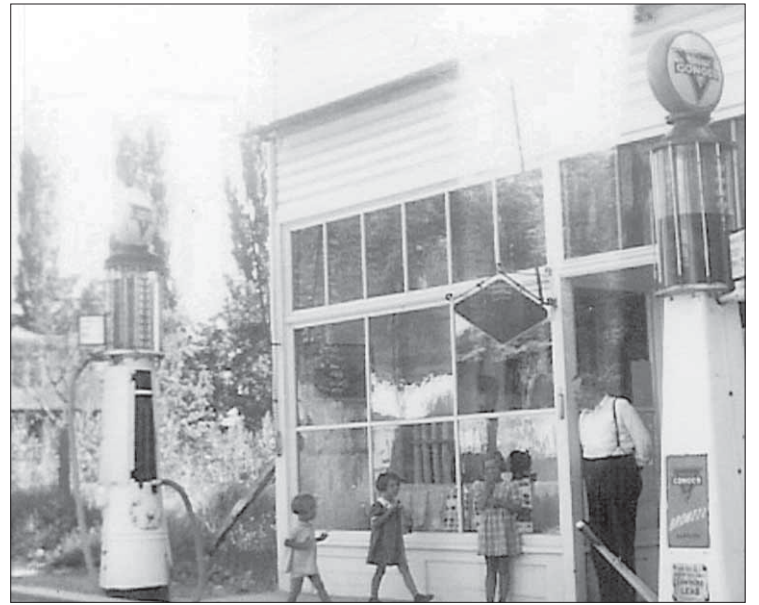
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A woman and her horse walk into a bar ...

Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller comforts an unwelcome customer in the Cowboy Up Saloon on the corner of Main Street and Idaho Avenue on Thursday afternoon as its owner, Donna Vaughn, attempts to talk the steed into leaving the bar. Officials, patrons and several veterinarians worked for nearly an hour to get the horse down the stairs of the saloon after Vaughn took the horse into the second-floor establishment.



Wanted: Bruneau's history

Pictured is G.R. Jones Store in Bruneau submitted to the Bruneau Boosters Club for a publication depicting the past of the Bruneau Valley. Betty Lou Jones Turner submitted the photograph.

Bruneau Boosters seek local photos, stories for publication

The Bruneau Boosters Club is working on a publication that will feature photos and personal anecdotes about the events, people and places of the Bruneau Valley, both past and present.

Club members are searching for stories, photos and personal remembrances for the edition, which is planned for publication before Christmas.

The 100-page, newspaper-

style publication, which will be presented in an 11-inch-by-14-inch format, is a community-wide project. Proceeds from the sale of the publication will help raise funds for future community needs.

Anyone with photos, personal remembrances or stories can contact Ginnie Roeder at (208) 845-2282 or Milly Porter at (208) 845-2117.

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Marsing schools could lose junk food machines

Marsing School District officials are planning some changes in a proposed policy to its vending machines for next year, they could be removing candy bars and sugar-enhanced goodies and adding nutritional snack bars and fruits.

The state school board passed a policy in 2004 requiring schools to establish a wellness policy that includes goals for nutrition education, physical activity, and other school-based activities to promote student wellness. Schools will be required to provide foods that will promote student health and reduce childhood obesity by the beginning of the 2006-2007 school year. That plan includes removing “junk” food from

vending machines and adding nutritional snacks.

“By the 2006-2007 school year, all schools receiving federal funding for Child Nutrition Programs will be required, at a minimum, to have a student wellness policy,” Marsing School District Superintendent Harold Shockley said recently. “The goals are to focus on nutrition education, physical activity and other school based activities that are designed to promote student wellness.”

The district has formed a school health advisory committee consisting of two teachers, one student, four parents, three have extensive background in nutrition, three principals, a community member, Natale and a food service

staff member, and the entire school board.

Nutritious and appealing foods such as fruits, vegetables, lower fat dairy foods and lower fat grain products will be offered. Food and beverages from vending machines will be changed as well as no longer allowing staff members to reward students with food for accomplishments.

Shockley said nutritional information will be given to parents and they will be encouraged to provide safe and nutritious lunches for students bringing lunch from home.

Elementary physical education will be modified to include the same amount of time for kindergarten through fifth grade.

The number of hours is stated for each grade level.

Marsing School District provides breakfast, lunch, after school snack program and a summer lunch program. Shockley said the food served by the lunch program would not need to be changed because it already follows federal guidelines.

“We plan to change the content in the machines,” Natale said. “This is not just Idaho, it is the United States.”

“The main change will be what is available for sale, not through the lunch program but what is available for sale throughout the school day,” Shockley said. “Bake sales, sporting events, after school activities and special

occasions will be exceptions. But we cannot have a special occasion every day.”

Shockley said he is not worried about the acceptance of nutritional snacks over the traditional snacks because the district already follows most of the guidelines. He said the only complaints he plans to deal with, is no more candy bars in the vending machines.

“The vending industry is huge,” Shockley said.

“This law has been coming down. They (vendors) will not walk away from that kind of profit. They are making changes to offer alternative product lines to meet the federal requirements.”

— CAB

Marsing Head Start hosts spring fling

Marsing WICAP (Western Idaho Community Action Partnership) Head Start will host its annual Spring Fling from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at Marsing City Park.

Free dental exams for children 12-years-old and younger will be provided by Jason Carter, DDS, and pre-registration for the Head Start program will be available.

Raffles will be held for several prizes, including two passes to Roaring Springs water park, two tickets to Golden Corral restaurant, a \$20 gift certificate for Essence of Life and other prizes. Raffle tickets cost \$1 each.

Other attractions include an Astro jump, cakewalk, games and crafts, food and a petting zoo.

Head Start offers preschool, nutrition, transportation, comprehensive health services, mental health services, disability services, parent participation, family partnerships and family

services. The program also provides individualized learning to children and special services for children with disabilities.

Each spring, the center hosts a Spring Fling event to recruit children ages 3-5 for community awareness and to raise funds for the next school year.

The money raised is used 100 percent by the children and their families.

In the past, proceeds have been used to buy books, clothing, educational crafts that aid in parent involvement, equipment, family education such as CPR and first aid, nutrition education and family literacy.

“We use this event to get the community involved in Head Start and to give them information about what we do here,” a WICAP spokesman said. “Other agencies also come and hand out information regarding their agencies.”

WICAP also is accepting

enrollment for the Marsing area for the 2006-07 school year.

Registration will be available at the agency’s office located at 120 3rd Ave. W., in Marsing, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. next Wednesday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on April 27.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact the center at (208) 896-6041. The center is located at 120 3rd Ave. W., in Marsing.

Families must provide proof of household gross annual income, and the child’s birth record and immunization record for evaluation during the registration.

Enrollment priority is given to families whose incomes meet the established Federal Poverty guidelines and to children who are 4 years of age. Acceptable verification of income is a W-2, 1040 tax form, wage stub, statement from employer or a statement from the department of Health and Welfare.

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Marsing FFA news

by Jason Nettleton, advisor

Parliamentary Procedure

These FFA members did an awesome job March 14 at the Boise Valley District competition. The varsity team placed third, and the freshmen placed second in each of their divisions.

Jessica Elsberry served as secretary for the senior event and received the honor of Top High Secretary. In addition, Bethany Sevy served as chairman on the freshman team and was awarded with the Top High Chairman Award.

As chapter advisor, I was very proud of these individuals for their dedication and performance at the event. They should all be proud of their accomplishments. With all of the team being younger members, they plan to come back even stronger next year. All the members studied hard, practiced hard and competed hard.

Chapter work auction

The chapter put on a great auction on March 17.

To start the evening off, the FFA offered a free barbecue dinner to all who came. A special thanks to Kurt Weets, our official auctioneer for the night. This event is an opportunity for community members to support the FFA

chapter as well as buy eight hours of work from an FFA member. This event raised more than \$1,100 for the chapter. The students will use the proceeds to attend different Career Development Events (CDEs) during the next year.

Donkey Basketball

Wahoo, Marsing FFA came home champions on March 20. Thanks to The Owyhee Avalanche for putting in a great color article about the night.

Nettleton Branding, March 30 During the rainy Spring Break, we managed to pick the only bluebird day.

Eight students showed up at about 10:30 a.m. to go right to work branding. Stopping only for lunch, the crew worked approximately 120 calves. Taking turns branding, vaccinating, castrating, ear marking, sorting and bringing them up the chute provided a great learning experience.

State Leadership Convention

Marsing brought home a handful of awards from the conference in Twin Falls on April 5-8.

Congratulations to Jessica Elsberry, Kallie Roeser, Daniel Ineck and Mary Jo Usabel for receiving the prestigious FFA

State Degree. This is the third degree that FFA members can be awarded in the organization. It requires a member to:

- 1) have maintained a Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE) for two years that has earned & invested at least \$1000,
- 2) serve as a chapter officer or committee chairman,
- 3) attend at least three events above the district level.

A big thank you also goes out to the Homedale FFA chapter for providing rides and hotel rooms for our participants.

National Chapter Award

The National Chapter Award recognizes the most effective, successful chapters in the state.

On April 8, the Marsing Chapter placed 11th out of more than 80 chapters, including those with two and three agriculture instructors. To qualify for this award, the chapter must submit a Program of Activities (POA) by Nov. 1. In addition, the chapter must conduct three community service activities, three chapter leadership activities and three student development activities.

Scrapbook CDE

The Marsing FFA reporter, Josefinia Jacobo, prepared and



Spring flowers on sale

Members of the Marsing FFA chapter work in the greenhouse last week in preparation for the annual spring flower and vegetable sale, which will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday and Friday. To order plants, call (208) 896-4111, ext. 188.

displayed this year's scrapbook for the state competition at SLC on April 7. The 40-page book received gold. The book will be displayed at our banquet.

Nomination Committee

Daniel Ineck was given the opportunity to serve on Nom Com during State Leadership Convention on April 5-8.

This committee is given the prestigious duty of nominating the state officer team for the upcoming year. Daniel, along with representatives from each of

the nine FFA districts, had to sort through 23 candidates to pick only six officers. After the experience, Daniel is seriously considering running for a state office next year at convention.

Upcoming Events

Thursday-Friday — FFA Spring Flower Sale, Marsing FFA Greenhouse, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

May 4-5 — Ag Expo/Farm Safety Day, Marsing High School

June 6-9 — State Career Development Experience, Moscow

Western music festival set this weekend in Murphy

The Owyhee County Historical Society presents the first Western Heritage Music Festival this weekend at the Owyhee County Historical Museum complex on Basey Street in Murphy.

Tickets are \$5 per person, children 12 and younger are free.

On both Saturday and Sunday, registration will be held from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. with local entertainment beginning at 10 a.m. Entertainment will be held both days with a breakfast kicking off each day's events from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.

A Dutch oven dinner will be served at 5 p.m. Saturday night.

Events planned include music workshops, band scrambles, open-mike performances, featured bands, living history activities for the whole family and original music.

Featured acts include Bona Fide, The Sunset Four, Blue Dove, Ted Hoffman and many others.

All music must be of western heritage roots.

For more information, contact Doc at (208) 495-2319.



Museum gift shop nearly done

The gift shop is nearly complete as well as several additional rooms in the new addition to the Owyhee County Historical Museum.

Cowboys and cowgirls hit the western trail

Members of the Wilson Butte 4-H club will hold their third annual cowboy trail ride and fun run Sunday, and event coordinators said and coordinators of the event said all that is left to do is "bake the cow chip cookies and make the buckaroo beans."

Registration for the fund-raiser begins at 9:30 a.m. Cowpokes can hit the trail up to 11 a.m. by riding 2 to 2½ miles around the Blackstock Ranch.

The dusty trail includes portions such as Side Winder Gulch and Easy Keepers Flat and there will be Wild West card draws along the way.

There will be three top prizes for fun run winners.

A raffle will be held, too. Some of prizes include \$100 worth of feed from Double D Feed of Melba and a quilt donated by Janet Cooney.

Horseless riders are also welcome to join and swap stories around the campfire as Cowpokes return for a lunch of buckaroo beans and country harmony by the Sevy Family Band.

A contest for best-dressed little buckaroo will be held for entrants 9 and younger.

Last year's event attracted 80 riders.

For more information, call the W.B. Trail Bosses at (208) 896-4512 or (208) 467-4250.

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Owyhee Gems 4-H news

by Kimber Bowman

The Owyhee Gems 4-H club has elected new officers for the 2006 year.

The new president is Kacie Salove, vice president is Mykaela Dines, secretary is Hayleigh Green, Sgt of arms is Sean Finley, treasurer Annie Finley, and reporter/scrapbook is Kimber Bowman.

At the meeting in March Jessica Elsberry gave a presentation on parliamentary procedure. During the meeting, the group talked about what they needed to do before getting their pigs.

Kacie gave a presentation on, "How to give baby pigs shots."

Ethan Salove also gave a presentation on, "How to make a waterier for your pigs."

Our next meeting is April 30 and the group will be planting flowers for fair.

JV Easter egg hunt thrills kids

by Athena Beckwith

The Jordan Valley FFA Easter Egg Hunt was held Saturday at Jordan Valley High School.

Young children and their parents came to partake in this enjoyable event. The kids were all signed in at their arrival to include them in a drawing for elaborate Easter baskets after the hunt.

The children were eager to locate each of the 240 eggs that the FFA members had dyed on Thursday to be hidden Saturday morning as part of a long-standing community service tradition. There were two age groups to hunt in different areas: preschool through kindergarten and first through fourth grade.

Each group of ecstatic kids awaited the FFA advisor, Adam Ineck, to yell "Go." The older children were given a short set of rules by Megan Mackenzie: "No fighting and no stealing eggs or else all of your eggs will be confiscated and you will be disqualified from the hunt."

At the signal, the toddlers were off, many being dragged by mothers who were almost as thrilled as their offspring. With determined looks on their faces and visions of deviled eggs floating through their minds, the first- through fourth-graders raced toward eggs.

In only a few minutes, the children scanned the football field with careful eyes to be sure that no eggs were left unclaimed.

When everyone was sure that all of the colorful eggs were safely tucked away, it was time for the Easter baskets drawing. There were six baskets, three for girls and three for boys. There were also four packs of candy to be awarded to two boys and two girls.

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