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out on State  
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three people to hospital**

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**Wednesday, October 25, 2006**

**Established 1865**

# The Owyhee Avalanche

**VOLUME 22, NUMBER 43**

**HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO**

**SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS**

## Marsing pair accused of stalking schools boss

Owyhee County Prosecuting Attorney Matthew Faulks filed stalking charges against a Marsing couple who allegedly have been harassing Marsing Schools Superintendent Harold Shockley for more than a year.

Faulks confirmed last week that Shockley had filed a criminal complaint against Robert and Genie Atkins.

Shockley said he reported a series of incidents, including following, unauthorized photographs and general harassment, such as name-calling and unwanted contact with the Atkins, to the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office. The sheriff's office forwarded the report to Faulks.

Shockley said last week that the ordeal began after the Marsing  
— to page 5A



### Homedale students hit the mall

Seven-year-old Yeisen Hurtado, left, listens to Homedale High School senior David Liddell as they shop for clothing for Yeisen at JC Penney's in Boise on Friday. Yeisen was one of 85 Homedale Elementary students who got a shopping spree in Boise. For more on the excursion, see **Page 8A**

## Workers file grievance over county hiring

Association disputes hiring practice and starting pay of building inspector

A grievance hearing at Monday's board of commissioners meeting regarding the newly created Owyhee County building inspector position has been continued for two weeks.

Aron Streibel, the president of the Owyhee County Employees Association, said the commissioners decided during an executive session to reconvene on the grievance in two weeks on the advice of their attorney.

Streibel said he and the other association representatives were told by commissioners that the

hearing would be taken up on Nov. 6. No testimony was heard Monday.

The employees association received the hearing after filing a grievance on Oct. 13 disputing the circumstances under which Arlyn J. Tietz became a full-time employee of the county.

Aron Streibel, a county sheriff's deputy and president of

— to page 5A

— More about the Owyhee County Employees Association  
5A



## Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday

Daylight Savings Time ends early Sunday morning.

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour for Mountain Standard Time.

## Homedale, Marsing to celebrate Halloween

Children in Homedale and Marsing will have the chance to celebrate Halloween safely Tuesday.

The City of Homedale will present its third annual Safe-N-Sane Halloween Celebration between 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. throughout downtown.

Children 12 years old and younger may trick-or-treat safely at any Homedale business that displays an orange "Safe-N-Sane"

jack-o'-lantern.

Homedale businesses interested in participating can pick up orange Safe-N-Sane jack o' lanterns at Homedale City Hall.

A list of businesses signed up to take part in the program can be found on Page 4A of this week's edition of The Owyhee Avalanche.

A costume contest will be held for trick-or-treaters at Homedale City Hall. The winner will receive

a plaque, and his or her photo will be posted at City Hall and published in The Owyhee Avalanche.

Homedale officials ask that parents park at either end of the city and walk to the downtown core area due to limited parking.

For safety, Homedale police

— to page 4A

— List of participating Homedale businesses  
4A



### Trick or treat

Businesses displaying this Jack-o'-lantern in the window will participate in the annual Homedale Safe-N-Sane Halloween on Tuesday.

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# Homedale Ag students contribute to community while learning

Students from Lori Harrison's Intro to Agricultural Mechanics class at Homedale High School wielded shovels last week as they worked to install underground sprinklers at the new Subway restaurant on East Idaho Avenue in Homedale.

The students were paid for their efforts with new learning experience and graded for their performance during the project.

Subway co-owner Pilar Wheeler said the students came to her and co-owner Virginia Landa and offered to help.

"They asked if we wanted them to do it," Wheeler said.

Wheeler said the students have done a great job on the work she provided.

"They're doing it; they're doing a great job," she said.

Harrison said there are many benefits that come from student projects such as the one at Subway.

"Any time you can give students real-life, hands-on experience in a field it is a good thing," Harrison said.

Harrison added that giving students a taste of the working world may help them decide what field they later chose to pursue, or not to pursue, depending on the situation. Harrison said that working on projects outside the classroom adds more real-world relevancy in some cases.

"In the working world, we don't fill out bubble-sheets," Harrison said, referring to the computer forms that sometimes accompany tests in high school. "I always try to find projects around town that are on a larger scale than we can do in class."

Harrison said that her students



## Homedale High School students help in community

Students from Lori Harrison's Intro to Agricultural Mechanics class explore the finer points of sprinkler installation last week at the new Subway restaurant in Homedale. Later, Harrison plans to have her landscaping class install turf and plant decorative vegetation around the store.

have put their landscaping skills to use at the Homedale City Park and in helping with landscaping duties on school district property. Her welding and fabrication classes have manufactured patio furniture and sold it during fund-raising events.

Harrison said that her class is willing to take on additional projects, provided the property owner provides all materials. Harrison added that there are other restrictions.

"It has to be applicable to what we are doing (in class) at the time. It also has to be within walking distance of the school," Harrison said.

— JWB

# Marsing man arrested for DUI after injury crash

A Marsing man was jailed for aggravated driving under the influence last weekend after a three-car crash left one male hospitalized.

According to Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman, sheriff's deputies, Marsing Ambulance, Homedale Ambulance and Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center LifeFlight air-ambu-



Ronald McDonnell

lance responded to reports of a three-vehicle crash at approximately 7:45 p.m. Saturday near Marsing High School on Idaho highway 78. The crash was not related to any Marsing High School function, and no students were involved.

Ronald McDonnell, 71, was arrested for aggravated DUI after allegedly causing the accident in which his 1992 Jeep Cherokee collided with a 1996 Mazda driven by Ricardo Meza and a Ford Ranger driven by Monica Torres.

A male subject in his late 20s from Marsing sustained injuries so severe he was transported by air-ambulance to St. Al's, where he remains hospitalized. His name has not been released at this time. Two other people were transported to West Valley Medical Center in Caldwell. Their conditions are not known.

McDonnell was arraigned on charges of aggravated driving under influence Monday. His bond was set at \$10,000. McDonnell was released on bond Monday afternoon.

He is scheduled to appear for a preliminary hearing on Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m.

— JWB



## Good sign for new business

Brian Finley from Boise company Idaho Electric Signs guides the lighted "Subway" sign into place on the East Idaho Avenue side of the new sandwich shop during a light rain Thursday. Finley's co-worker, Kurtis Monpas, moved the sign toward the building with a crane.

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**Dave Says**

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What's a Roth IRA?  
Is a credit card for my kid a good idea?

**Dave's got the answers to financial riddles each week in the**

**The Owyhee Avalanche**



# Grand View still examining open container law

The City of Grand View continues to explore its options on several fronts, including the regulation of open containers of alcohol and how to form a city police force.

A committee chaired by city councilman Bill Lawrence still is investigating what type of language Grand View should develop to replace Ordinance 20, which governed open containers in public. The original ordinance was stricken from city code by the city council last year.

Lawrence reported during Grand View's September council meeting that the committee has produced a rough draft of a new ordinance.

But committee members now are reviewing similar ordinances on the books in Marsing and Homedale, Grand View City Clerk Lani Race said.

Race said work on a new ordinance is ongoing. The committee meets about once a month, she said.

Grand View continues to probe how to start its own police force, although Race said the endeavor is purely informational and the municipality has no intention of breaking ties with the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office.

City councilman Rodger Dillard told his colleagues recently that he has received information on available grants to assist in setting up a police department. He consulted with Idaho State Police grants manager Shellee Daniels, who said she referred him to Lt. Doug Graves, the Idaho Peace Officers Standards and Training deputy director.

Daniels said she discussed the type of grants that are available to established police departments, such as Justice Assistance Grants for law enforcement issues and drug enforcement grants. She said that ISP doesn't handle any startup grants for new departments.

"The information I provided was basically what funding we administer," she said. "Starting a

police department is well outside the scope for what we fund."

Graves said he is unaware of many startup grants for law enforcement agencies. He said his suggestion to Dillard was meeting with the sheriff to see what can be done.

County deputies patrol the area in and around the Grand View city limits, and Race said Wednesday that the addition of two more deputies to Sheriff Gary Aman's budget for Fiscal Year 2007 will allow the agency to add another deputy to the region.

Grand View, unlike Marsing, doesn't have a formal contract with the county to provide law enforcement.

Race said last week that a contract between the city and the county was drafted in 1979, but it never has been enacted because only then-mayor Ben Johnson signed it. There were no signatures from county commissioners on the document, Race said.

In another development out of Grand View, city public works superintendent Bob Servis reported during the council's September meeting that recent vandalism at Centennial Park could cost the city more than \$2,200 to repair.

Servis said that vandalism to the public rest rooms in the park as well as the destruction of several stop signs, speed limit signs and sign posts as well as picnic tables and trees had been discovered during the summer. More damage was reported at the cemetery.

According to city council meeting minutes from Sept. 13, Servis reported the vandalism to the county sheriff's office in Murphy on June 29 and then contacted the Grand View area deputy on June 30. Servis told council members that no action had been taken by the sheriff's office in the six weeks since he reported the damage.

— JPB

# M-R-W fire district to build another station

**\$30,000 building will be district's fourth outpost**

The Murphy-Reynolds-Wilson Fire District soon will have another fire station in its fold.

At a recent meeting, the Owyhee County Commissioners voted to waive the building permit fee for the M-R-W district's next fire station, which will be located near Givens Hot Springs.

County Clerk Charlotte Sherburn said it's customary for commissioners to waive building permit fees for taxing districts such as fire districts.

Tiffany Hipwell of Murphy, the secretary of the M-R-W fire district, said the entity will spend \$30,000 of existing funds to build the Givens Station, which will be located at 11606 Hwy. 78 near Givens Hot Springs.

"The station's main purpose is to keep equipment out of the weather, so the idea is to keep it as simple and affordable as possible," Hipwell wrote in an e-mail to The Owyhee Avalanche.

Hipwell said the structure will be on the highway across from the tipping station.

The Givens location will be the fourth fire station in the 250-square-mile M-R-W district. Other locations include Murphy, Reynolds Creek and Wilson.

Hipwell said the contract to build the Givens station was awarded to Don Frank Construction. She added construction should begin in the coming weeks.

The building will be 46 feet by 40 feet and include four equipment bays.

Hipwell said the building will allow "very generous" volunteer firefighters who own hangars at nearby Sunrise Skypark to once again use their buildings to store their planes. Currently some of the hangars are used to store fire district trucks and equipment.

The Murphy-Reynolds-Wilson Fire District has been in operation since Feb. 25, 1985. It currently has 15 active volunteers.

"The district was officially created ... by the Owyhee County Commissioners, but it ultimately owes its existence to the continued hard work and dedicavtion of Tom Benson and Tim Nettleton," Hipwell said.

Benson (Reynolds Creek), Doug Norman (Wilson-Givens) and Doug Hipwell (Murphy) serve as fire commissioners. Jim Mackenzie recently was installed as the district's new fire chief.

— JPB

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in the  
**Classifieds!**

## TOM GANNON STATE SENATE DISTRICT 23

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To the voters in Owyhee County,

Five years ago the State went through a legislative re-districting process based on the 2000 census. The results created a new district 23 consisting of Owyhee County and rural Twin Falls County. The citizens of Owyhee County were, with justification, upset over the imbalance (2 to 1) in voters in the two counties, and concerned about representation in the state legislature. As it turned out, Frances Field from Grandview was re-elected to the house and I was elected to the senate. With my wife Jeanne growing up in Bruneau and all of my in-laws living in Owyhee County there was little doubt that Owyhee County has been well represented.

In the election on November 7th the Republican ticket includes myself, Bert Brackett from Owyhee County and Jim Patrick, a third generation farmer from Filer. I can say with complete confidence, our Republican ticket will provide the citizens of Owyhee County a strong voice in protecting our rural way of life.

For the past four years Jeanne and I have had the privilege of representing District 23 in the State Senate. While I was the one elected, I want to tell you that Jeanne has played a major role in the process. Those of you who know Jeanne can appreciate the role she has taken in tempering my style. I can't imagine taking on this position without someone you can lean on (37 years of marriage), vent to and keep the household in tact while moving almost weekly between Buhl and Boise.

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in the  
**Classifieds!**

**Correction**

Photos appearing in the Oct. 18 edition of The Owyhee Avalanche were incorrectly identified. The photos were from the Oct. 7 Sinker Creek fire near Murphy.

**Homedale businesses taking  
part in third annual  
Safe-N-Sane Halloween**

- Owyhee Family Dental—111 S. Main St.
- Vance Dairy Construction—201 W. Idaho Ave.
- Pick Up The Pace—2 W. Owyhee Ave.
- Family Video—111 S. Main St.
- AutoZone—Corner of Main Street and Wyoming Avenue
- Paul’s Market—20 E. Wyoming Ave.
- Homedale Mini Mall—120 E. Idaho Ave.
- Owyhee County Probation—102 W. Idaho Ave.
- Matteson’s—3 S. Main St.
- Frugal Living—114 W. Idaho Ave.
- Frosty Palace—32 E. Idaho Ave.
- U.S. Bank—112 S. Main St.
- NAPA Owyhee Auto—4 E. Idaho Ave.
- Farmer’s Inn—18 W. Idaho Ave.
- Owyhee Health and Rehab—108 W. Owyhee Ave.
- Reel Time Video—20 E. Idaho Ave.
- Owyhee Lanes—18 W. 1<sup>st</sup> St.
- Assembly of God Church—15 W. Montana Ave.
- Homedale Chiropractor—111 S. Main St.
- Frontier Communications—17 N. Main St.
- Gem Irrigation—118 S. 1<sup>st</sup> St.
- Bowen & Parker—19 E. Wyoming Ave.
- Alliance Title—7 W. Colorado Ave.
- Owyhee Avalanche—19 E. Idaho Ave.

√ **Celebrate**

will have additional patrol officers in the area to ensure compliance with all parking, traffic and pedestrian laws.

For additional information contact the Homedale City Hall at 337-4641.

In Marsing, the Lizard Butte Library will be open for trick-or-treaters from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Halloween. Youngsters will get a treat for their mind as well as their taste buds.

The library will be giving out books and cookies.

Library staff encourages tours of the library during the festivities to learn about the different services offered.

The Lizard Butte Library is located at 429 Main Street, suite 105. For more information, contact Janna or Andrea at the library at 896-4690.

Find out  
*What’s happening*  
Read Calendar each week  
in the Avalanche



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Read all about it  
in  
**The Owyhee Avalanche**  
337-4681

# Association gives county employees a voice

The Owyhee County Employees Association was formed to create a dialogue between workers and elected officials, but association president Aron Streibel said the group didn't want a major move like a grievance hearing to be its first action.

"It wasn't intended as a form of mutiny," Streibel said of the association's formation. "A good majority of the employees felt disjointed from the elected officials. We felt that we had no voice in anything that went on."

The association was formed in February after organizers sent out a mailer to the county's employees to gauge the popularity

of the idea. Streibel said at least half of the group voiced support for the concept. County Clerk Charlotte Sherburn said Monday that the county currently employs 87 people.

Now the association has 10 members that regularly attend meetings, Streibel said, adding that "probably at least 20 or 30" other employees support the association but don't attend meetings on a regular basis.

Streibel, who has been an Owyhee County Sheriff's deputy for 2½ years, is the president of a board that includes vice-president Travis Woodbury, another deputy, secretary/treasurer Dorla

Stoneman, the court clerk in Murphy, and board members Larry McDaniels, the county's District 1 road supervisor, and Diane Kukla, who works in the assessor's office.

Streibel said that there are some misconceptions about why the association was formed.

"I know in certain cases there continues to be a misunderstanding," the Marsing area resident said. "In talking to people, some people just don't understand and think there may be a hidden agenda."

"Others don't want to be seen as trouble-causers."

Streibel finds himself as the point man for the association,

but the deputy who patrols the Homedale-Marsing area says what drew him to law enforcement also is the reason he has taken a lead in the organization.

"I don't like to see other people taken advantage of," he said. "I strongly believe that everybody needs to be treated fairly."

"In fact, that's part of the reason why I work for the sheriff's office because that's part of who I am. And when I see people treated unfairly, I don't stand for it."

County employees can join the association voluntarily. Streibel stresses that although dues is accepted from members, it's not a union.

And it wasn't formed as an antagonistic organization, Streibel said.

"The push to start this was to create a line of communication between the employees and the elected officials because we felt quite disjointed from them," Streibel said.

The association, which is open only to people holding non-elected positions for the county, has more purpose than assuring workers are treated fairly. The group held a candidates forum prior to the primary election in May, and Streibel said a holiday party for employees is in the works.

— JPB

From page 1

## ✓ Grievance

the employees association, said Thursday that the employees organization filed the grievance because commissioners hired Tietz for the newly created position without opening the job to other employees within the county.

"The issue, I feel, is it's very unfair to every other employee in the county that the position was never posted as an open position," Streibel said.

Results from Monday's grievance hearing weren't available at press time. Furthermore, county officials wouldn't comment on the situation because Monday's hearing as well as the Oct. 16 preliminary hearing on the grievance were both held in executive session during the commissioners' meeting. County Clerk Charlotte Sherburn did confirm that the hearing dealt with the employees association's grievance over the hiring of

Tietz.

Another aspect of the hiring at issue for the employees association is Tietz's \$50,000 salary, which Streibel says is substantially higher than what the county's pay scale allows.

Tietz, whose services previously were contracted before a full-time position was created in the county's Fiscal Year 2007 budget, is set to earn \$50,000 this year.

According to the county's "Kinds and Levels" chart showing equity of positions, the "building official" is set at Level 11. The person in that position would make as much as the road and bridge supervisor, the planning and zoning coordinator, the county's chief probation officer and a sheriff's sergeant. The only appointed position higher on that scale is the chief deputy sheriff, which is listed as a Level 12.

According to the county's 2006-07 budget worksheet, the veteran sergeants in the sheriff's office are set to make less than \$40,000 in the next year.

Streibel said Tietz's salary is higher than those of many veterans of the county payroll.

"He gets paid more than pretty much any other employee, including employees who have devoted 20-plus years to the county," Streibel said. "He gets paid more than the sheriff, even, and in my estimation, the person who's working as building inspector doesn't have near the responsibility, liability nor stress that the person in the capacity of sheriff will have."

"Not only that, but the sheriff (Gary Aman) has worked for the county for more than 20 years."

As an elected official, Aman is ineligible for employees association membership, and Streibel said his boss is very clear that he has no ties with the employees association.

"He's an elected official, and he represents the citizens of the county and he has stayed completely clear of both the association and the issue at hand with the grievance," Streibel

said.

Tietz began his new job on Oct. 2, and Streibel said the employees association's membership began considering a grievance about a week later. He said at last count, 20 county employees had signed the grievance.

Streibel said it is his understanding that commissioners asked Tietz what it would take for him to work full-time for the county, "so he basically named his price."

At the time the job appeared in the new budget, Sherburn told The Owyhee Avalanche that Tietz was hired as a full-time building inspector to save the county money on contract services.

Streibel said while he understands the county's rationale of hiring Tietz to save money, the employees association is just trying to bring fairness to the process.

"If you're going to hire somebody, why don't we make it a fair hiring practice that all the other employees have been expected to abide by?" Streibel asked.

An equitable meting out of policy among all county departments also is a goal, he said.

"Our hope for a fair resolution is that (commissioners) stick to a standard hiring practice," Streibel said. "If they want to allow all employees to negotiate their salary, then that's fine."

"If they expect certain departments to stick to the pay scale, then all departments should stick to the pay scale."

Streibel said his understanding is that the grievance process ends when the commissioners give their ruling on Monday's hearing.

"Employee-wise within the county system that's probably as far as we can take it," the Marsing area resident said.

But he didn't rule out further prosecution of the issue.

"Depending on what goes on (Monday), we may or may not have to consult with an attorney to see what other options there are," Streibel said.

— JPB

## ✓ Stalking

school board passed an emergency school levy in September 2004.

"We raised their taxes, and they didn't like it," Shockley said.

Shockley said the Atkins are critical of the fact he was issued a take-home vehicle by the school district. But the use of the 2002 Chevrolet Trailblazer is allowed in Shockley's contract, which was approved by the Marsing School Board.

Former school board chairman Joe Usabel said that the school district has provided a vehicle to the previous four school superintendents for business and personal use.

Shockley said he stopped using the vehicle July 1 of this year on the advice of his accountant, who said that using the vehicle was not to his financial advantage because of tax regulations.

Shockley said that from

October 2005 through May 2006, he has documented at least six occasions on which the Atkins have followed him, made gestures at him and even confronted him unexpectedly at a Wal-Mart store in Canyon County. On that occasion, Shockley returned from shopping inside the store and found the Atkinses waiting at his vehicle. Shockley said the couple called him a series of names, including "slime bag" as he approached his vehicle.

Shockley said on another occasion, as he was driving to school employee John Ineck's residence on official business, the Atkins passed him on the roadway, made an abrupt U-turn, then followed him to Ineck's house, at which point, Genie Atkins took photographs of Shockley at Ineck's house.

Shockley said the situation is further complicated by the fact the Atkinses live near him, and his normal route to and from work

takes him directly in front of the Atkins residence.

Genie Atkins told The Owyhee Avalanche that she and her husband, Robert, received a summons from the Owyhee County prosecutor dated Oct. 4, requiring them to appear in court for arraignment on Oct. 30 in reference this case.

Genie Atkins contends that Shockley "blatantly abused" his district-owned vehicle and "used up as much gas as he could use" by driving more than 2,000 miles per month.

Atkins admitted to the Avalanche that she and her husband monitored Shockley's use of the vehicle and took pictures of him on multiple occasions.

In regards to the incident at the Wal-Mart in Caldwell, Atkins said that it occurred on May 6 of this year. She said that she and her husband never intentionally followed Shockley to the Wal-Mart, but rather went there to buy

lighter fluid. But Atkins did say that they monitored Shockley's activities on that day and noted him leaving his residence at 7 a.m.

Atkins said at approximately 10 a.m. on May 6, she and her husband saw the Trailblazer in the parking lot of the Wal-Mart, and that she recognized the vehicle as being Shockley's take-home vehicle because she had memorized the license plate. Atkins said she and her husband then saw Shockley walk from the Wal-Mart carrying flowers and a shopping bag.

"He (Shockley) had flowers and a shopping bag in his hand," Atkins said. "My husband called him a dirt bag."

Atkins said that the entire situation could be categorized as a plot by Shockley to misuse public funds.

"He has so many benefits; it is incredible," Atkins said.

Atkins said she and her husband

have never attempted to address the issue with the Marsing School Board at any time.

"We didn't feel they would do anything," Atkins said.

Atkins went on to state that she and Robert attempted to address the situation informally at one time with then-school board chairman Usabel, but felt they were treated "indignant" and never pursued the issue further.

Usabel told the Avalanche that he recalled the conversation with the Atkinses, which stemmed from a chance meeting at a repair shop in Marsing.

"They talked about his wages," Usabel said. "I told them to call down to the school district office to get on the school board meeting agenda and provided them with a number to call."

Usabel said the Atkinses never attempted to address the situation with the school board.

— JWB



# School menus

## Homedale Elementary

Oct. 26: Enchilada or corn dog, scalloped potatoes, brownie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.  
Oct. 27: Pizza or peanut butter/jelly sandwich, salad, cookie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.  
Oct. 30: Burrito or French dip sandwich, green beans, cookie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.  
Oct. 31: Nachos & cheese or baked potato/toppings, cinnamon bread stick, fruit & veggie bar, milk.  
Nov. 1: No school K-4 Only.

## Homedale Middle

Oct. 26: Nachos or baked potato, rice krispie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.  
Oct. 27: Chicken tenders or CF beef steak, potatoes/gravy, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.  
Oct. 30: Hamburger or hot dog, fries, cookies, fruit & veggie bar, milk.  
Oct. 31: Rice bowl w/chicken or egg rolls, veggies, cookie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.  
Nov. 1: Burrito or fish patty, corn, apple crisp, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

## Homedale High

Oct. 26: Chicken patty/bun or sandwich & soup, potato wedges, dessert, fruit & veggie bar, milk.  
Oct. 27: Crispito or rib-b-que/bun, corn, taco salad, fruit & veggie bar, milk.  
Oct. 30: Pizza, popcorn chicken or chef’s salad, fruit & veggie bar, milk.  
Oct. 31: Fried beef steak or chicken filet, potatoes/gravy, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.  
Nov. 1: Spaghetti or burrito, French bread, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

## Bruneau

Oct. 26: Roast turkey, potatoes/gravy, peas, roll/butter, fruited pudding, milk.  
Oct. 27: No school.  
Oct. 30: No school.  
Oct. 31: Weiner wraps, potato wedges, veggie, fruit, milk, maple bar.  
Nov. 01: Tuna sandwich, tots, veggie, fruit, milk, cookie.

# Senior menus

## Homedale Senior Center

Oct. 26: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes/gravy, broccoli & cauliflower, roll, milk.  
Oct. 31: Roast pork, mashed potatoes/gravy, peas & carrots, roll, milk.

## Rimrock Senior Center

*Served at 6 p.m. Tuesday and noon Thursday*  
Oct. 26: Beef fingers, au gratin potatoes, green beans, roll, milk,

fruit pudding dessert.  
Oct. 31: Sloppy Joes, cottage cheese, cauliflower, pineapple, jello.

## Marsing Senior Center

Oct. 26: Roast pork, rice pilaf, peas & carrots, salad, soup, dessert, drink.  
Oct. 30: Tamale pie, corn, carrot salad, pineapple, soup, dessert, drink.  
Oct. 31: BBQ ribs, potatoes, green beans, coleslaw, soup, pumpkin pie, drink.

# Obituary

## Kooper Andrew Todd

Infant son of Nicole Bowling and Jason Todd of Homedale, ID was born on October 19, 2006 at Mercy Medical Center, Nampa, ID.  
Graveside services for Kooper were held on October 24, 2006 at the Marsing-Homedale Cemetery.  
Even though Kooper was with us a very short time, we will all love and miss him very much.  
Kooper is survived by his mother and father, maternal grandparents, Todd and Corine Jones of Homedale; fraternal grandparents

Bernadene Fowler and Charles Maloney of Klamath Falls, OR; maternal great-grandmother, Lois Nylander of Homedale; fraternal great-grandparents Alvin and Nancy Fowler of Klamath Falls. Uncles and aunts Alvin and Mariah Todd of Greenleaf; Ethan and Brett Jones of Nampa; Lilian Todd and Kyle Fowler of Klamath Falls, OR and numerous great uncles, aunts and cousins. Kooper was preceded in death by his grandfather, Delmar Todd and great-grandfather James Nylander.

# Calendar

## Thursday

Homedale City Council meeting, 6 p.m., City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming St. (208) 337-4641  
AA meeting, 8 p.m., Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave.

## Friday

Recovery Celebrate 12-step program, 6 p.m., Mountain View Church of the Nazarene, 26515 Ustick Road, Wilder. (208) 337-3520 or (208) 337-3151

## Sunday

DivorceCare recovery support group, 9:30 a.m., Mountain View Church of the Nazarene, 26515 Ustick Road, Wilder. (208) 337-3151  
Calvary Chapel Home Fellowship Bible study, 10 a.m., 532 W. California Ave., Homedale. (208) 475-3733  
A Study in Heaven, 10 a.m., Marsing Church of the Nazarene, 12 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. W. (208) 896-4184  
Marsing Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints open house, 6 p.m., 215 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.

## Tuesday, Oct. 31

Exercise class, 11 a.m., free, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020  
Safe-N-Sane Halloween Celebration, 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., downtown Homedale. (208) 337-4641  
Storytime for first- through third-graders, 4:20 p.m., Lizard Butte Public Library, Owyhee Plaza, 105 Main Street, Marsing.

(208) 896-4690  
Pure Word recovery meeting, 7 p.m. (208) 880-8962  
AA meeting, 8 p.m., Homedale Senior Citizens Center

## Thursday, Nov. 2

AA meeting, 8 p.m., Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave.

## Friday, Nov. 3

Recovery Celebrate 12-step program, 6 p.m., Mountain View Church of the Nazarene, 26515 Ustick Road, Wilder. (208) 337-3520 or (208) 337-3151

## Sunday, Nov. 5

Calvary Chapel Home Fellowship Bible study, 10 a.m., 532 W. California Ave., Homedale. (208) 475-3733  
DivorceCare recovery support group, 9:30 a.m., Mountain View Church of the Nazarene, 26515 Ustick Road, Wilder. (208) 337-3151  
A Study in Heaven, 10 a.m., Marsing Church of the Nazarene, 12 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. W. (208) 896-4184

*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 jbrowneditor@cableone.net. For more information on submissions, call (208) 337-4861.*

## Curtis marks 90<sup>th</sup> birthday

Anna Mary Curtis will be honored at an open house hosted by her family, in celebration of her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 29, 2006, at the Homedale Senior Citizens Center.  
The center is located at 224 W. Idaho Ave.  
Friends and family members are invited to attend. No gifts please, but cards are welcomed.



Anna Mary Curtis

## Marsing LDS Church to hold open house

The Marsing Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints invites the community to an open house.  
The open house will be held beginning at 6 p.m. Sunday  
From 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., there will be an opening and welcoming, and the open house will take place from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
The church is located at 215 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., at the corner of Motzko Street and West 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, in Marsing.

## Marsing church plans concert

The Marsing Church of the Nazarene will host local musician Linnie Doyle at a concert at 6 p.m. Sunday.  
The church is located at 12 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue West in Marsing.  
Doyle, who gave her first concert at the Marsing Church of the Nazarene in May 2003, has performed throughout the Pacific Northwest. Doyle has been a featured artist for the past two years at Marsing’s Old Fashioned Festival. She is the host of the annual Christmas concert held each November for the Boise Rescue Mission.

Doyle began her singing career as a member of the Melodies of Joy Trio, who performed in the Treasure Valle in past years.  
For more information, call 896-4184.



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# Your finances

## Borrowing against retirement unwise on many levels

Dear Dave,  
I have a loan against my retirement account. The interest rate is about 5 percent. I can either pay it off or I can add to my Roth account. Which do you think would be the most beneficial?  
— Roberta

Dear Roberta,  
I believe in Roth IRAs and advise people to invest in them, but you should never borrow money to invest in one. In essence, that's exactly what you've done if you don't pay off this loan.  
Here's another reason why you shouldn't borrow on a 401(k). If you do, and then quit or get fired, the loan is called and becomes due in full. And if you don't repay the money — refund what you took out, in other words — within 60 days of leaving the company it's considered an early withdrawal by the IRS. They'll hit you with every kind of tax and penalty imaginable and take about half of your money.  
Pay it off, Roberta!

— Dave

Dear Dave,  
One of my customers in the restaurant business owes me \$9,000 for equipment purchases. I just got a notice in the mail that they're in the process of filing Chapter 11 bankruptcy. There's no lien on the equipment I sold them, but they gave me three post-dated checks that bounced. Can't you go to jail for that kind of thing?  
— Kurt

Dear Kurt,  
There IS a criminal side to this situation, but don't threaten or even contact them. They're now under the protection of federal law, and there's an injunction preventing you from trying to collect this debt by any means other than the court system.  
I'd advise contacting an attorney to find out if you can get preferential treatment in the settlement because of the bounced checks. It may not happen, but it's worth the lawyer's fee to find out.  
In a bankruptcy, the court and attorneys get paid first. After that comes payroll for the employees and then preferred creditors. If you can work your way to the front of this line because of all the bounced checks, you've got a better chance of getting your money.  
But here's the bad news, Kurt.



Chances are you won't see a dime if you can't get to the front of the line. About 96 percent of Chapter 11 bankruptcies fail, and most of the time they're used as a stall tactic.  
If they do make it out of Chapter 11, they will submit a plan to the court laying out how they will pay creditors. This plan can propose that unsecured creditors get pennies on the dollar. If the court approves the plan, you could get little or nothing and they can emerge from bankruptcy and still be in business.

— Dave

Dear Dave,  
I was wondering if there's anything in the Bible that says you shouldn't pause tithing when you're in financial distress. I want to continue giving to our church, but how can you give when you have nothing? We stopped a few weeks ago, and even though we had more money in our pockets, things didn't seem to get any better.

— Steven

Dear Steven,  
The Bible doesn't mention anything about a pause in tithing. But the tithe is a scriptural mandate that was set in place for our own good. God doesn't need our money. The act of giving makes us better people because it forces us to put others first.  
You said that things seemed to get even worse when you "paused" tithing. The Bible says that if you do not rob Him of your tithing He will rebuke your devourers and protect you.  
Jesus didn't beat people up for not tithing, and I'm not going to either. But there's a lesson to be learned from continuing to give even when it hurts!

— Dave

— Dave Ramsey is the best-selling author of *The Total Money Makeover*. You can find tools to help with finances or previous columns at [Davesays.org](http://Davesays.org). Have a question for Dave? Send correspondence to [syndication@daveramsey.com](mailto:syndication@daveramsey.com) or write *Dave Says*, 1749 Mallory Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027

## JV students ride for Mackenzie again

The Jordan Valley High School Class of 2007 will present the second annual Michelle McKay Mackenzie Run, Walk and Ride at 4 p.m. on Nov. 3.  
The event began last year to honor the memory of the Mackenzie, a Jordan Valley resident who died of breast cancer on Nov. 3, 1995. Megan Mackenzie, a senior at Jordan Valley and Michelle's daughter, organized the riding event in 2005.  
Thirty riders braved the cold weather and threat of rain last year to raise \$1,000. The money last year was donated, in total, to a local woman who was fighting a battle against cancer without the benefit of medical insurance, according to Jordan Valley High

School teacher Tara Echave.  
There is a \$10 donation to enter the event, and participants will receive a breast cancer awareness bracelet and a T-shirt. All proceeds will go to either a breast cancer patient in need or toward research of the disease. "Phantom" riders are allowed, too, in which folks who don't want to participate in the ride can make donations. All phantom riders will receive an event T-shirt.  
Participants can either run or walk the 4-mile course, or they can ride a bicycle, 4-wheeler, drive a car, push a stroller or use any type of transportation. Horses also were ridden along the route last year.  
The route will begin at the high school and travel past the

cemetery where Michelle is buried. The layout continues around Pharmacy Hill and ends back at the high school.  
For more information, call Echave at (541) 586-2275 or the high school at (541) 586-2213.

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Read all about it  
in the Avalanche!



# Homedale students storm Penney's for shopping

Homedale Elementary students got the run of the joint Friday at JC Penney's at Boise Towne Square.

Eighty-five children braved snarled traffic during their bus ride to the mall then took advantage of a shopping spree sponsored by charity Operation Helping Hands.

This was the first time in the history of the annual event that all the participants came from one school district. In the past, needy children throughout the Treasure Valley took part in the shopping.

The morning frenzy through the children's clothing department was designed to bring needed items to the children. Each child enjoyed a \$100 shopping spree with the help of their own personal assistant. Volunteers from Penney's, American Image Marketing (AIM) of Nampa and Homedale High School were enlisted to help the students shop.

"It's always so great to be able to give to some charity or someone without any expectation of getting

something back," said Dennis Itami, a former Nampa farmer who is co-owner of AIM, a multi-level company that markets whole food health and nutrition products.

Itami and his wife, Kay, stopped off for the event on their way home to New Zealand after helping Hurricane Katrina refugees in New Orleans. He said this is the 10th year that AIM has been involved in Operating Blessing.

"It's a very special event for our staff," Dennis Itami said.

The first stop for each child Friday was the portrait studio at Penney's for a photograph, then it was off to the store to shop for all types of clothing.

Rick Coffman, AIM's director of corporate communications and vice president of member services, said lunch was served after the morning shopping spree, and bicycles were given away later in the event. The AIM Companies also provided a surprise gift pack. Coffman's wife, Marcie, and sister-in-law, Jan Bianchi, are



### Savvy shopper

**Above:** A Homedale Elementary School student eyes a new outfit as a volunteer helps him shop during Friday's special outing at JC Penney's in the Boise Towne Square mall. Each student was given a \$100 shopping card from the store and spent it with the help of volunteers from Homedale High School, Penney's and Nampa-based American Image Marketing. **Below:** Children and volunteers prepare to shop.



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teachers at Homedale Elementary. Randee Garrett, a counselor at the Homedale school, also helped out Friday in Boise.

The eligibility of participants for the program was examined by counselors and teachers at the elementary school.

Students from Homedale High School's new TMD (Teens Making a Difference) Club also served as chaperones through the store. Seniors David Liddell and Anthony Bingham were among five club members helping out.

Rick Coffman said the event, which was co-sponsored by Riverside, Calif.-based Lotshaw



Helping Hands, had been sponsored by the Idaho Migrant Council in the past. "(Charles and Linda Lotshaw) and AIM have been sponsoring shopping sprees in the valley for

the past few years," Coffman wrote in an e-mail. "This is the first time a school district was selected to participate."

— JPB



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Sunday, October 29, 2006  
6:00 - 6:30 opening and welcome  
6:30 - 8:00 open house

201 3rd Ave.  
Corner of Motzko and 3rd Streets  
Marsing, Idaho



# HMS Academic Bowl fights fierce battle in Ontario



**‘A force to be reckoned with’**

Team Advisor Barbie Vander Boegh poses with her current Homedale Middle School Academic Bowl Team before their competition in Ontario last week. Vander Boegh said this team has a great deal of potential, and while it is mostly composed of new sixth-graders, by the time the students reach eighth grade — and their last year in Academic Bowl — they will be “a force to be reckoned with.”

## Monthly contests test students’ classroom prowess

Last week, 17 of Homedale Middle School’s most ferocious competitors assembled to do battle in Ontario, Ore.

The battlefield was not a football field, basketball court or baseball diamond, but rather, a new arena called Academic Bowl. The season opener was Wednesday in Oregon.

Academic Bowl is a team academic competition in which team members are tasked with questions on various academic topics, such as science, history, geography or literature. Unlike other team sports, the “season” for Academic Bowl lasts nearly the entire year. Homedale’s team will compete once a month for the remainder of the school year.

Seventh-grader Dominic Christiansen is a veteran competitor. This is his second year in the competition.

Before boarding a bus for Ontario last week, Dominic admitted he was “kinda nervous” about the competition, but he said Academic Bowl helps him in school.

Dominic said his favorite part of the competition is a round in which he gets to answer questions posed to he and teammates in an untimed competition. He said this part of the competition is less stressful than other portions, such as the “Lightning Round” where teams must hit a buzzer on a table.

Speed is a big part of the competition, in addition to correctness. If the team answers incorrectly, they stand to lose points, adding to the amount of stress the team feels. Dominic said his strength is in the sciences, but his least favorite section is in history.

Team advisor Barbie Vander Boegh said she has a great team this year and everyone has worked hard.

After the opening competition Wednesday, Vander Boegh said that the team placed a very respectable fourth place. Even though the team didn’t place first, Vander Boegh is encouraged by the raw material she sees in her current team.

“We have a new squad, mostly,” VanderBoegh said. “The bulk of our team is sixth-graders.

“In a few years, our sixth graders will be eighth-graders, and they will be a force to be reckoned with.”

The team will compete next in November at Payette. The team plays host to the February competition in Homedale.

— JWB

### How would you fare?

The Homedale Middle School Academic Bowl Team faced tough questions at last week’s competition in Ontario, Ore. Here are some sample questions the team faced:

- 1) What is the official language of Austria?
- 2) A diameter of a circle separates the circles into two congruent arcs. What are these arcs called?
- 3) Which term designates “the public square or marketplace” of an ancient Roman city?
- 4) What is the difference when the square of 17 is subtracted from the square of 18?
- 5) Name the mountain range that stopped the Donner Party.
- 6) What is the largest moon in our solar system?
- 7) What type of rock (3 main categories) is obsidian?

#### Answers:

- 1) German.
- 2) Semicircles.
- 3) Forum.
- 4) 35 (not negative 35).
- 5) Sierra Nevada.
- 6) Ganymede.
- 7) Igneous.

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The students are prescreened; speak English, and looking forward to learning about our culture while teaching you about their culture and country. They have medical insurance and their own spending money to cover such things as clothing, school supplies, and entertainment. Host families are not paid but may be able to claim a \$50.00 per month charitable contribution on their income tax.

All that these students require is a bed, meals and a caring family to share their 5 - 12 month stay with in our beautiful country.

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# Rehab Authority gets new physical therapist

Rehab Authority has a new physical therapist in its Homedale office.

Dr. Nichol Maytubby comes from the Tacoma, Wash., area to work in Rehab Authority's Owyhee County location.

Maytubby, the oldest of three children, was raised in Bakersfield, Calif. Maytubby finished her undergraduate degree in athletic training at Grand Canyon University in Phoenix and obtained her Doctorate of Physical Therapy (DPT) at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma. Maytubby is also a certified athletic trainer.

"I like the small-town atmosphere," Maytubby said.

She said it was somewhat of a "culture shock" coming from Tacoma to Wilder, where she lived briefly before moving to the Nampa area.

"I had friends in the (Homedale) area and the company (Rehab Authority) had an opening here," she said.

Maytubby said she always has enjoyed helping people and has been fascinated by the structure of the human body and how it works together to create motion. She enjoys spending time in the outdoors in her leisure time. When Nichol is not in the clinic treating patients, she is likely to be participating in outdoor activities, such as hiking, or playing sports, such as volleyball and softball.

Rehab Authority is currently located at 106 W. Idaho Avenue in Homedale, but it will be moving shortly to the 100 block of East Idaho Avenue.

Rehab Authority's Homedale office can be reached at (208) 337-3254.



## New Homedale physical therapist

Dr. Nichol Maytubby of Nampa received her Doctorate in Physical Therapy from the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Wash., in May 20006. She is practicing at Rehab Authority in Homedale. Maytubby is also a certified athletic trainer.

# Marsing Elementary plans Red Ribbon Week

Marsing Elementary School began a week of drug awareness education and prevention Tuesday as part of Red Ribbon Week.

According to Marsing Elementary School's federal program secretary Chris Hall, the program is "Our way of getting the message out about drug abuse."

Students will take part activities this week, including "wear red day" today, and Thursday's balloon launching.

The balloon launching entails students placing the Marsing Elementary School name and class contact information inside red balloons and releasing them into the air

Hall said last year a hunter in North Idaho — more than 250 miles away — found one of the students' balloons and contacted the students.

Red Ribbon Week was founded in 1988 by the National Family Partnership. Since that time, it has reached millions of children in the United States.

# Homedale library plans book sale

The Homedale Public Library will hold its annual Fall Book Sale this year from noon to 8 p.m. Friday and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at the Homedale Senior Citizens Center at 224 W. Idaho Ave. in Homedale.

Used books will sell for 50 cents per pound. For example, a stack of four average-sized paperback novels would sell for about \$1.

The sale is a fund-raiser for the library. The money will be used to purchase new books.

For more information, call the Homedale Public Library from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at (208) 337-4228.

To be healthy, political systems like biological systems require diversity. One party rule didn't work in the former Soviet Union and it is not working in Idaho.

**FOR A HEALTHY GOVERNMENT, VOTE**

**Bill Chisholm**

District 23 Senate

paid for by Chisholm For Senate Comm., P.O. Box 21, Filer, Idaho 83328. Rich Carlson, treas.

## Weather

	H	L	Prec.
Oct 17	57	37	.01
Oct 18	64	32	
Oct 19	no	read	
Oct 20	60	37	.05
Oct 21	no	read	
Oct 22	no	read	
Oct 23	64	22	



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# Piled high: It's sugar beet season again



## Sugar beets begin their annual journey

Two trucks carrying sugar beets from Owyhee and Canyon county-area farms are parked near the huge pile at the receiving station at the corner of East Idaho Avenue and U.S. Highway 95 in Homedale. The harvest began on Oct. 13, and station manager Howard Binford expects trucks to keep rolling into the Amalgamated Sugar Co. storage site through the early part of next month.

Another crop of sugar beets is steadily making its way into the Amalgamated Sugar Co.'s receiving station in Homedale.

The station takes up the southwest corner of East Idaho Avenue and U.S. Highway 95 at the main entrance to town. The large pile of sugar beets isn't hard to miss.

Station manager Howard Binford said that the Homedale “beet dump” opened Oct. 13, and he expects trucks to haul in beets from Owyhee and Canyon county farmers until the latter stages of the first week of November.

“We receive them, run them over the piler and clean them up a little bit,” Binford said. “Then at some point (Amalgamated trucks will) take them to Nampa.”

Binford, who said he is working his 10<sup>th</sup> season for Almagamated, estimates the Homedale receiving

station will take in nearly 21,000 tons of sugar beets before the harvest is complete.

Binford said the station gets about 1,400 truckloads per season. Binford said that as farmers have bought bigger trucks, the average truckload has increased over the years from 13 tons to 15 tons. The daily average is about 140 to 170 trucks, and Binford said the station has seen as many as 226 truckloads in one day.

The process includes dumping a truckload of beets over a cleaning screen before they are sent on a journey up a conveyor belt (or piler) to the top of the growing stash.

Foreman Ruben Jimenez is in charge of the piler, Binford said.

"He builds a really nice looking pile," Binford said. "I brag on him every chance I get."

— JPB

# Homedale Auto Recyclers building takes a tumble

Steve Thomas Construction continued to clear a large lot near the Homedale bridge over the Snake River last week.

The company brought down the empty Homedale Auto Recyclers building at the corner of Idaho Avenue and North 4<sup>th</sup> Street East. Earlier in the month, dust rose from the remnants of an old house standing adjacent to the old wrecking yard as construction

foreman Mike Wood destroyed it with a few well-placed swipes from the bucket of an excavator.

The buildings are being removed to make way for new construction, changing the outlook of Homedale permanently, with a proposed Best Western motel and a restaurant to be located at the entrance to town.

— JWB



## New Homedale physical therapist

**Right:** The remnants of the old Homedale Auto Recyclers building on East Idaho Avenue sit in ruins after a crew from Steve Thomas Construction began demolition last week. By Monday, the structure had been obliterated.



*Mount Royal Ranch*      Events for October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Team Penning: 7pm	4	5 Team Roping Practice: 7pm	6	7 Play Day: Register Sam
8	9	10 Team Penning: 7pm	11	12 Team Roping Practice: 7pm	13	14
15	16	17 Team Penning: 7pm	18	19 Team Roping Practice: 7pm	20	21 Play Day: Register Sam
22	23	24 Team Penning: 7pm	25	26 Team Roping Practice: 7pm	27 Haunted Trail & BBQ	28 Haunted Trail, BBQ & Bonfire
29 Haunted Trail	30	31	1	2 Team Roping Practice: 7pm	3	4 Play Day: Register Sam
5	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open riding in the arena \$2 per hour per person Mon-Fri, call for availability</li> <li>• Rent the arena for your group: \$50 for 2 hours, call for availability</li> <li>• Horse Rental, Riding Lessons, Trail Rides, Cattle Drives, Group Hay Rides, are avail</li> <li>• Ask about renting cabins or the axlebo for your event!</li> </ul>				

Haunted Trail: \$5 per person, under 3 free • Horse Rental avail • BBQ Fri/Sat \$5.00 per person

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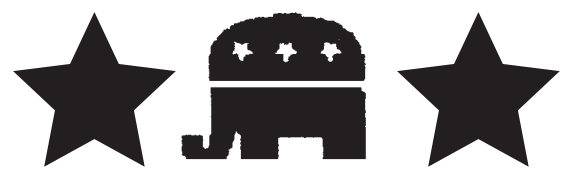
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for State Representative Dist. 23A



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- **Believes strongly in Property and Water Rights for a stable society.**
- **Overtaxation and regulation will create an imbalance in local economies.**



## Vote

# Jim Patrick

Tuesday, November 7

Jim is a fifth generation Idaho resident. As a farmer for over 30 years, Jim is a long-time Republican who has dedicated his life to making his community a better place to live.

Paid by Paul Smith, Treas.



# Most area high schools offer college credits

Students can receive BSU, NNU, TVCC credit in courses ranging from biology to psychology

Homedale High School seniors can receive college credit for attending high school English, Agricultural and Biology classes. Homedale began offering dual credit classes this fall, giving students the opportunity to earn college and high school credits simultaneously.

“We were actually approved for credit last spring, but this fall is really the first we’ve offered the program,” Homedale School District curriculum coordinator Glenda Eubanks said.

“As soon as a student is approved for the program, they are considered part-time college students.”

High school students at Jordan Valley and Adrian offer college-credit courses in Agricultural studies. Those credits apply to Ontario, Ore.’s Treasure Valley Community College. Vocational college credits have been offered at Marsing and Homedale through the Canyon-Owyhee School Service Agency for some time.

According to Eubanks, teachers instructing dual-credit academic courses at Homedale are considered adjunct faculty at their respective colleges.

Students enrolled in the program can get access to resources such as college libraries and, in the case of students enrolled in the English classes at BSU, access to the BSU Writing Center, which offers 24-hour writing assistance.

Homedale High School Advanced Biology teacher Tracey Cook said the program is financially advantageous to students, who can take college credits at a much lower cost than waiting for graduation before

taking required college courses.

“The advantage to it (biology) is that it costs about \$200 for students to take three class credits and one lab credit, for a total of four credits,” Cook said.

Eubanks said that the cost for the same course at a college such as Boise State University would be \$800 to \$900. At a private college, it could be as much as \$3,000. Eubanks said there are at least eight students taking advantage of the college biology credits right now, and potentially up to 13 that may elect to take part in the program.

“This is the equivalent of a 200-level class at NNU,” Cook said. Cook added that NNU evaluated the advanced biology course and concluded it was actually at a college sophomore level, rather than freshman level.

Homedale Principal Mike Williams said colleges are able to offer the credits at a reduced cost because the college’s overhead is virtually eliminated. The high school provides the instructor, the books and the facility for the instruction.

Williams said that to provide further financial relief, NNU allows students to pay for the cost of the class throughout the year, rather than all at once.

“As a parent of a college student, this is a good program. You could potentially come out with English and Science credits and eventually (have) Math general requirements met,” Williams said.

Williams said that eventually the school would like to expand the offerings to include Physical Education, Keyboarding, Physics, Chemistry, Algebra 3 and



## College classes at Homedale High

Alysha Bahem, Mandy Brasher and Laura Amend receive instruction from Homedale Advanced Biology Teacher, Tracey Cook (center). The three students have the option of receiving college credit for their efforts in Advanced Biology, as part of a program designed to allow high schoolers a chance to get a jump start on college core requirements.

Trigonometry.

The Homedale program is not limited to English and Biology. Students also can receive college credits for agriculture classes. According to Agriculture teacher Lori Harrison, the program may be a first step towards a college education.

“The bonus of it is that college is such a daunting force financially,” Harrison said. “This helps to stretch out the bill over six years instead of four.”

Eubanks agreed and added that the program might motivate students unsure if they’ll go to college to pursue post-secondary education.

“There is a chance we are going to ‘hook’ a student into post-high school credit that wouldn’t be otherwise,” Eubanks said.

Homedale instructor Melinda Lathrop teaches Senior Honors

English, which is eligible for credit through BSU. Students can receive credit for English 101 and possibly English 102 — classes required of all BSU students — before graduating from high school. Lathrop said she has at least seven seniors taking advantage of the program this year.

Lathrop said her class plans to take a field trip to the BSU campus in the near future to let students experience college life first-hand.

While the academic college-credit courses are new, Homedale and Marsing have long offered students the opportunity to receive college credit for technical fields such as welding, auto and diesel mechanics, and medical assistant courses.

Counselor John Cossel said Marsing High School is in the process of developing a concurrent credit program for academic courses, but one of the obstacles is the requirement that teachers hold a Master’s degree to be eligible to instruct the classes. Cossel

said several Marsing teachers are working toward that level, which will pave the way for the concurrent-credit program.

Homedale’s Lathrop and Cook both hold Master’s degrees.

At Adrian High School, students have long had an opportunity to get a taste of college academic programs while still in secondary school. Guidance counselor Joan Gordon said Adrian has offered concurrent credit with Treasure Valley Community College for entry-level Psychology through the assistance of Mathematics teacher, Dr. Tim Schrock, who holds a doctorate in psychology. Gordon said plans are in the works to offer a college-level English course.

At Jordan Valley High School, Agricultural Science and Technology (AST) courses are eligible for credit through TVCC. AST instructor Adam Ineck said that Jordan Valley students are potentially capable of earning 17 college AST credits from TVCC at no cost to the students.

— JWB

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# Panel urges approval of sage-grouse plans

A steering committee has recommended that the Idaho Department of Fish and Game approve funding for sage-grouse conservation projects in Owyhee County.

Three projects proposed by the county's sage-grouse Local Working Group (LWG) now go before Fish and Game Director Steve Huffaker for final review and decision.

Outlines for nearly \$80,000 in grants were reviewed last week during a meeting of the State Sage-grouse Steering Committee organized by Fish and Game. Local Working Groups from throughout the state were represented.

James B. Desmond, the director of the Owyhee County Natural Resources Committee (NRC), said the recommendation was handed down after Wednesday's meeting. Desmond added he doesn't know when to expect a decision from Huffaker. But if last year's process is any indication, the LWG can expect funding by late winter or early spring next year.

If approved, the grants would finance sage-grouse habitat improvement through three endeavors:

- Reseeding the area damaged by this summer's Chubby Spain wildfire.
- Protect and increase brood-rearing habitat for the species by controlling whitetop and medusahead, two invasive plant species that choke beneficial for survival in sage-grouse habitat.
- A radio telemetry and blood-sampling program to continue the study of sage-grouse survival and mortality in the county.

These are the major projects for the LWG, a subcommittee of the county NRC. The grant requests went to the state steering committee after the Owyhee County Commission gave its approval during an Oct. 2 meeting.

Desmond said he's unaware of any other projects being considered by the LWG. But he added that projects that cost less than \$5,000 don't have to face the same scrutiny as the three projects that are now in the funding pipeline.

According to Desmond, once awarded, the funds go into the county budget. Owyhee County cuts the checks to pay contractors upon completion of the projects.

### Chubby Spain reseeded

The most expensive project on the agenda is the reseeded of the Chubby Spain area. According to a project application submitted to the state by the NRC, reseeded would cost \$60,000 with another \$14,200 of in-kind expenditures from other parties.

"While the dollar amount requested is relatively high, the habitat in question is equally important and merits the expenditure," according to the endorsement clause in the application.

The application claims that the project will cover more than 6,000 acres, 2,174 of which are privately owned. More than \$51,000 is earmarked for seed application on the private acreage.

The project will include annual surveys each spring from 2007 through 2009 to examine seedling density and check the re-seeded

areas for noxious weed species.

The reseeded mix will include mountain big sagebrush, bluebunch wheatgrass, Sandberg bluegrass, Idaho fescue, Lewis flax and western yarrow, and the mix will be proportionate to the Bureau of Land Management's rehabilitation plan.

### Radio telemetry program

Fish and Game has been studying radio-collared sage-grouse in Owyhee County for a number of years, Desmond said. The radio collars are used to examine bird habits, populations and movements in general, but the program became extremely important this year with the radical die-off of sage-grouse connected to West Nile Virus. That high mortality caused Fish and Game to close the sage-grouse hunting season in Owyhee County.

"This year's application ... is clearly tied to West Nile Virus," Desmond wrote in an e-mail to The Owyhee Avalanche. "We have evidence which leads to a conclusion of significant sage-grouse death this year due to West Nile."

West Nile was confirmed in sage-grouse populations found along the county's southern border with the Duck Valley Indian Reservation, in the Big Springs area in central Owyhee County and along the

county's border with Oregon near Jordan Valley.

The new radio collars will replace those worn by birds that perished during the West Nile outbreak and help expand the study group in Owyhee County, Desmond said. Forty birds across 500,000 acres of private, state and federal land in the county will be collared to document West Nile infections and monitor sage-grouse survival, including mortality during hunting season. Sage-grouse will be captured from leks in areas such as Big Springs, Riddle, Shoofly and Grasmere in fall of this year and spring of 2007.

Sage-grouse will be monitored by aircraft about once a month, and the program will last through 2007.

Another objective in the radio collar campaign is to identify key nesting areas and winter use areas.

Blood sampling will be added to the Fish and Game-operated studies to get more data on the West Nile mortality rate in sage-grouse.

Desmond said that studies presented to the LWG by wildlife biologist Jon Rachael of the Fish and Game Southwest Region

office in Nampa showed a 100 percent mortality rate for sage-grouse infected with West Nile. But blood sampling of leks in Wyoming showed some birds survived the disease.

The total budget of the project, including a \$7,200 grant for the radio collars, is more than \$30,000.

### Weed control project

The third plan to help sage-grouse habitat will be run in conjunction with the Jordan Valley Coordinated Weed Management Area (JVCWMA). The project will focus on the controlling of invasive whitetop and medusahead in the county. The JVCWMA already has a system of eradication in place, according to the project application.

The objective is to keep sage-brush habitat healthy by eliminating these invasive weeds through herbicides and reseeded with native forbs and grasses to increase insect populations.

The budget is \$4,900 with a matching amount of in-kind contributions through landowner weed control and Idaho State Department of Agriculture funds.

— JPB

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# Duck hunting safety means boating safety, too

by John Nagel,  
county marine deputy  
“It was a dark and stormy night!”

Well, maybe not always stormy, but usually always dark when they get started.

What I’m talking about is many sportsmen’s favorite time of the year, waterfowl season. And it began Oct. 14 with a bang, literally and figuratively. Goose and duck season runs through Jan. 26 in Area 2, which includes all of Owyhee County. Consult the Idaho Department of Fish and Game’s 2006 Waterfowl Seasons and Rules handbook for more information.

C.J. Strike Reservoir over near Grand View/Bruneau in Owyhee County was the destination for a whole bunch of local duck and goose hunters during that first day of the season. Hunters bagged a good number of birds two weekends ago, and county sheriff’s marine deputies could have bagged a whole bunch of those hunters if they had contacted them before they launched their boats in the morning.

In doing boat ramp checks of returning waterfowl hunters at mid-morning, deputies discovered that a large percentage of the hunters had gone out that morning before sunrise without the proper navigational safety lights on their boats.

Since the primary goal of law enforcement is compliance by education, the deputies used the occasion to explain to all the hunters contacted the requirements and rationale behind the use of navigation lights during hours of darkness, as well as the other required safety equipment.

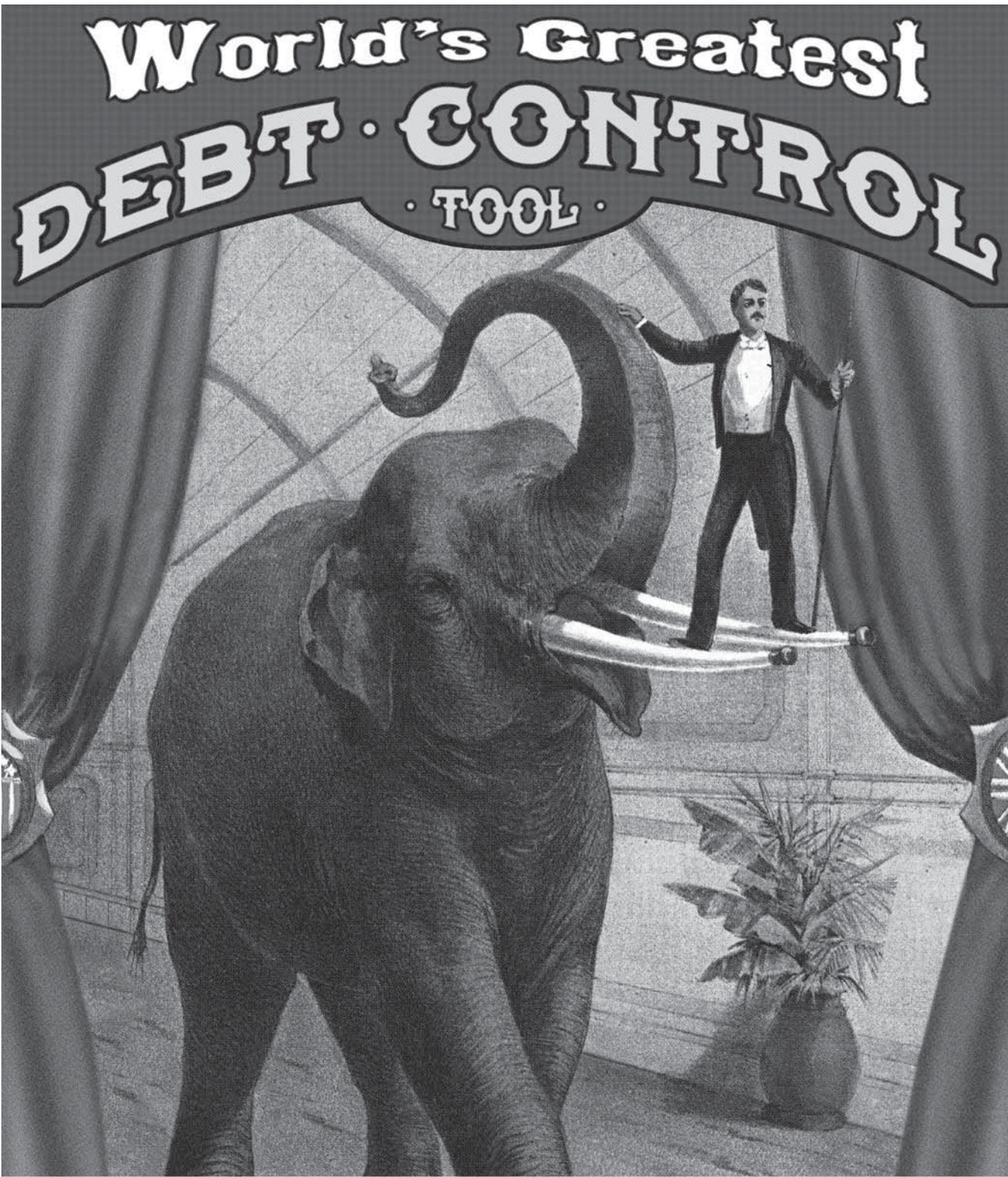
The weekend’s efforts were part of the new program being put together through a cooperative effort by the Owyhee County Sheriff’s Office and Idaho Power Co. The deputy involved was one of two new part-time officers being funded by Idaho Power through the sheriff’s office to increase safety and compliance on property owned or controlled by Idaho Power on and around C.J. Strike Reservoir.

Idaho Power and Owyhee County hope that the addition of these two new officers will be a valuable tool to help with the ever-increasing public recreational use in the C.J. Strike area.

As anybody who uses the lake or surrounding campgrounds or public hunting areas knows, competition for space is becoming significant. And more importantly for the administrators and law enforcement, is that with the tremendous increase currently and what is projected for the near future, public safety and fair share of the resource is extremely important.

Recent history has shown that waterfowl hunters on Strike and the Snake River have had a

— to page 15A

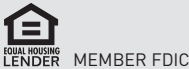


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## OSCD seeks to improve quality in watersheds

The Owyhee Soil Conservation District is offering landowners in the Jump Creek and Succor Creek watersheds a chance to improve water quality.

The district announced the Jump Creek and Lower Succor Creek Water Quality Program last week. It's a cost-share funding program that will allow landowners in those areas to improve water quality through the implementation of best management practices.

The application deadline is Nov. 30.

The project is aimed at improving water quality in those watersheds by reducing sediment, decreasing bacteria and reducing nutrients.

For more information, call the district office at (208) 896-4544 or drop by at 19 Reich St., in Marsing.

## Grand View Rural Fire District plans its annual Halloween pizza party

The Grand View Rural Fire District will hold a free pizza Halloween pizza feed at 6 p.m. on Tuesday at the Grand View American Legion Hall.

"We will serve pizza from 6 o'clock until we run out of pizza," said Terry Carothers from Grand View Rural Fire. Monday, Carothers said he had just finished ordering 150 pizzas and 750 breadsticks from Pizza Hut in Nampa for the event.

The free annual event, started 12 years ago, is funded through community donations. Carothers said that although the target population is children, everyone is invited.

For more information, contact Terry or Jackie at (208) 834-2380.

## Rimrock FFA news

*by Chelsey Lemon, reporter*

On Oct. 2, the Rimrock FFA chapter traveled to Emmett for Soils Judging. The team consisted of Ariel Turner, Leigh Martin, Shawn Servis, Geoff King and Andy Bol.

The team brought home another plaque, placing third after judged different types of soils.

The chapter's next contest is in November when they travel to Melba for Ag Mechanics.

## √ Safety

number of extremely close calls where smaller boats running without lights have nearly been run over by larger, fast-moving boats.

We hope to make all users of Idaho's waters aware of the safety requirements for boating during darkness, as well as during daylight hours.

Navigation safety lights are important, especially for waterfowl hunters, but they also need to remember their personal floatation devices.

Boating after dark carries with it a whole host of safety considerations, such as unseen obstacles in the water, wakes from larger boats and sudden changes in direction.

Any of these could throw an unsuspecting person overboard. And with the heavy clothing and footwear common to hunters, we strongly recommend that personal floatation devices be worn at all times while in the boat, and not just stored under the seat.

Thanks. Be safe out there and hope to see you on the water.

— John Nagel is a new marine deputy for the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office.



**Homedale Seniors hold quilt raffle**  
*Ramona Andrus, left, Dr. Edward Perkins and Homedale Senior Center coordinator Shirley McAbee hold the quilt Perkins won in the Homedale Senior Center's Holiday Bazaar quilt raffle. Perkins won the quilt after an Oct. 14 drawing.*

## Homedale doctor wins seniors' quilt raffle

Dr. Edward Perkins of the Homedale Chiropractic Center won a quilt given away during the Homedale Senior Center's Holiday Bazaar on Oct. 14.

Ramona Andrus made the quilt for the center.

The center sold approximately \$690 worth of raffle tickets for the quilt, according to center coordinator Shirley McAbee. The center offered tickets for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Perkins said he bought \$5 worth.

"I wasn't a big spender. Ramona talked me into \$5 worth," Perkins said.

"The proceeds go to help the center and Meals-on-Wheels," McAbee said.

The Homedale Senior Citizens Center is located at 224 W. Idaho Ave., in Homedale. For information on future programs and for center hours, call 337-3020.

## Vote November 7 for Steve Nash Gem Irrigation District Director Division 4



I am a fourth generation farmer and rancher and lifelong resident of Owyhee County. I graduated from Homedale High School in 1982 and then the University of Idaho in 1986 with 2 degrees in agriculture. I am committed to agriculture and the water that feeds it. As a current board member and chairman, I understand the issues facing our water and its users.

*Steve Nash*

## Vote Tuesday, November 7 from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm

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**(800) 624-0082**





# Snake River Mart



## Haunting Halloween Specials

Beef Loin

**T-Bone Steak**



**\$5.39** lb.

Boneless Skinless

**Chicken Breast**



**\$1.59** lb.  
Tray-Pack

1/2 Bushel

**Local Apples**



**\$6.99** ea.  
End of Season!

**Apples & Pears**



**69¢** lb.

Boneless Pork

**Sirloin Roast**



**\$1.99** lb.

Boneless Pork

**Sirloin Chops**



**\$2.19** lb.

**Salad Mix**



**99¢** ea.

**Pumpkins**



**12¢** lb.  
While They Last!

Sea Blend 1 lb.

**Imitation Crab** **\$1.29** ea.

Cook's

**Ham Steak** **\$2.99** lb.

Western Family 8 oz.

**Shredded Cheese** **\$1.69** ea.

Western Family 12 oz.

**Cheese Singles** **\$1.89** ea.

Western Family 1 oz.

**String Cheese** **5 for \$1**

Rosa's

**Deli Burritos** **39¢** ea.

10 lb.

**Potatoes** **\$1.19** ea.

Cauliflower

**\$1.19** ea.

Lettuce, head

**79¢** ea.

Avocados

**89¢** ea.

8 oz. Pack

**Mushrooms** **\$1.29** ea.

Lemons 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

**Limes** **10 for \$1**

Western Family

**Apple Juice or Cider**



**2 for \$5**  
128 oz.

Western Family 16 oz.

**Sour Cream** **\$1.09** ea.

Totino's

**Party Pizza**



**10 for \$10**

Pillsbury 18.25 oz.

**Cake Mixes** **\$1.19** ea.

**Coca Cola Products**



**\$3.99** ea.

12pk 12oz Cans

2 Liter Bottle

**Coke Products** **\$1.29** ea.

**Coors Beer**



**\$11.99** ea.

18pk 12oz Cans or Bottles

24pk 12oz Cans

**Natural Light or Ice Beer** **\$8.99** ea.

Western Family Milk

2%, 1%, Fat Free

Gallon

**\$2.49** ea.

Western Family

Butter Quarters

16 oz.

**2 for \$4**

Western Family Frozen

Whipped Topping

8 oz.

**79¢** ea.

Solo

Plastic Cups

30-50 ct.

**2 for \$5**

Lay's

Potato Chips

13.25 oz.

**\$2.39** ea.

Doritos

Tortilla Chips

13 oz.

**\$2.39** ea.

Western Family

Asst'd Soup

10.5-11.25 oz.

**79¢** ea.

Campbell's

Chunky Soup

18.6-19 oz.

**3 for \$5**

Rhodes

Rolls

Asst'd Variety

**\$3.19** ea.

Western Family Liquid

Laundry Detergent

128 oz.

**\$2.97** ea.

Angel Soft White

Bath Tissue

6-12 Roll

**\$3.99** ea.

Meow Mix

Cat Food

21.6 lb.

**\$9.99** ea.

Powerade

32 oz.

**79¢** ea.

Top Ramen

Noodles

3 oz.

**8 for \$1**

Skippy

Peanut Butter

9-18 oz.

**\$2.19** ea.

Aunt Jemima

Pancake Mix

32 oz.

**\$2.79** ea.

Aunt Jemima

Syrup

24 oz.

**\$2.79** ea.

Formula 409 &

Pinesol Cleaners

32-48 oz.

**\$2.89** ea.

Shasta Soda

3 Liter

**\$1.19** ea.

Western Family

Ice Cream

5 qt.

**\$4.99** ea.

Dinty Moore

Beef Stew

24 oz.

**\$2.19** ea.

Kellogg's

Special K Cereals

12-14 oz.

**2 for \$6**

SRM COUPON

**Halloween Candy**

**25¢ off**

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

**HOURS: Mon. - Sat. 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. - Sunday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.**  
**Marsing, Idaho**

**WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES AND CORRECT PRINTED ERRORS • PRICES EFFECTIVE 10/25/06 thru 10/31/06**