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in downtown Homedale

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can have well water tested

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Wednesday, November 1, 2006

Established 1865

The Owyhee Avalanche

VOLUME 22, NUMBER 44

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

Flying 44: Deadly milepost



Mangled milepost marks deadly stretch of road

"We named it the 'Flying 44' about 15 years ago, because people would miss the turn and just go flying," Owyhee County Sheriff Sgt. Jim Bish said last week of the dangerous stretch of Idaho highway 51 that used to be marked by this downed mile marker. A tire track can be seen behind the green sign.

Officials search for solutions on dangerous Idaho 51 curve

"We named it the 'Flying 44' about 15 years ago, because people would miss the turn and just go flying," Owyhee County Sheriff Sgt. Jim Bish said last week of the dangerous stretch of Idaho highway 51 that winds between Bruneau and the Nevada border.

The Flying 44 is the name sheriff's deputies and emergency medical services personnel have

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- Emergency crews have a long way to travel for response
- Obeying safety rules is best prevention

given to a particularly deadly stretch of Idaho 51, near milepost 44. The desolate area 44 miles

from the Nevada border is at least 30 minutes from the nearest emergency first-responder in Bruneau.

At least a half-dozen people have been killed at or near mile marker 44 in the past four years and five more have been injured, where a sharp downhill corner appears after miles of straight,

— to page 14A

Homedale parking changes discussed

Council mulls 2-hour limit near City Park

Homedale city councilmen considered putting a time limit on parking near City Park during their meeting last week.

No action was taken at Thursday's meeting, but the consensus of officials seemed to be that a 2-hour time limit along East Idaho Avenue and Second Street near the park would be ideal as businesses begin to get going at the unnamed strip mall across Second Street from the park.

"Right now during daytime, during school, there is no place to

park," city public works supervisor Larry Bauer said during the discussion.

There are time limits on parking only in the block of Main Street north of Idaho Avenue and two blocks of Idaho Avenue west of Main Street, but Bauer said the ordinance passed in 1991 isn't enforced. The business that spurred the action — Two Boys Market — is no longer in operation.

Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller said strict enforcement of parking violations, which carry a fine of \$2, would cost the city too much in logistics and manpower to make it feasible.

— to page 5A

Owyhee County voters go to polls Tuesday

Although the races for Owyhee County elected offices were all but decided during May's primary election, county voters still have the opportunity to affect state and federal races during Tuesday's general election.

Polling places will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. throughout Owyhee County.

"This year on the ballot there are two propositions, two proposed amendments to the Idaho Constitution and one advisory vote, as well as state

and local candidates," Owyhee County Clerk Charlotte Sherburn said.

Although none of the candidates are opposed, county voters still will vote for two Owyhee County Commission seats and county positions for clerk of the court, treasurer, assessor and coroner. Voters still have the option to enter write-in candidates.

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— A list of Owyhee County polling places, 5A

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New city
clerk
on job
page 2A

New city clerk eager to get to work for people of Homedale

Pegram likes chance to work close to family

Alice Pegram, Homedale’s new city clerk, is right where she wants to be.

“I love Homedale,” she said. “The people here are very supportive.

“It’s a very nice community. I’m so proud to be city clerk.”

Even though the city council hasn’t officially appointed Pegram to the position, her first day on the job was Oct. 23. She replaces Susan Mansisidor, who left the post after more than three years in preparation for a family move to Nampa.

Pegram, who lives between Wilder and Homedale, said she applied for the job to be closer to her family.

“I wanted to be closer to home,” Pegram said. “My grandkids are growing up here.”

Both her daughters — Kacey and Nikki — graduated from Homedale High School and she has grandchildren in the area. One grandson, Dominic Christiansen, is an honor student at Homedale Middle School.

Pegram was born in Caldwell and lived in the Fort Worth area of Texas for a time. She has been back in Idaho for 13 years, most recently working in the office at V-1 Propane in Caldwell.

Pegram said there is more to working in Homedale than being near her family, though.

“Homedale is just a fabulous community,” she said. “It’s a wonderful place to raise a family.”

After her first week on the job, Pegram raved about the folks



New city clerk jumps right in
Alice Pegram sits behind her desk during her first week on the job as Homedale’s new city clerk. Her first week also was a payroll week.

‘It’s a very nice community. I’m so proud to be city clerk. ’
— Alice Pegram
New Homedale city clerk

with whom she works, including Marsha Hays and Michelle Gibbens at City Hall as well as public works supervisor Larry Bauer and Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller.

“After a week here, they just have a wonderful team here,” Pegram said. “They truly do.”

But with her compliments came a glint of Pegram’s sense of humor.

“Larry, Jeff, everyone has been super,” she said. “But maybe they’ve been nice because it was my first payroll, too.”

Pegram has a background in

bookkeeping, accounting and office management. Before returning to Idaho, she served as manager for bingo halls in Texas. Bingo is big in Texas, she said. She also worked at Western Equipment Caterpillar in the Boise area.

Pegram said she’s excited about the job, even though it may be stressful at times because of the growth Homedale is experiencing.

“I like people and keeping busy, and the growth will help keep me busy,” she said.

— JPB

Clerk still awaits formal council appointment

Alice Pegram took over as Homedale city clerk on Oct. 23, but the city council has yet to appoint as required by state law.

Idaho Code states that Mayor Paul Fink may appoint a city clerk with the “consent” of the city council. An executive session was held at last week’s city council meeting. Although the subject of the session was unknown, the council never took a vote to appoint Pegram.

Pegram told The Owyhee Avalanche that she is bonded through the city, which gets its insurance coverage through the Idaho Cities Risk Management Program (ICRMP).

“Our insurance coverage replaces bonds,” ICRMP loss control coordinator Jim McNall said. “Our policy states that this

coverage would replace any bonds required by statute.”

McNall said ICRMP’s policy covers elected, appointed and employed city officials and volunteers. Contract workers, however, are not covered by ICRMP insurance.

Pegram is a full-time employee of the city and, therefore, is covered by the insurance policy.

McNall told the Avalanche on Monday that it’s not ideal that a city clerk serve without the formality of being appointed, but it does occur in instances in which municipalities are looking for a permanent replacement.

“But they shouldn’t go too long as far as going through the process (of appointment),” he said.

— JPB

Homedale residents’ irrigation rates to rise

Water fee going up 4 percent; hearing to probe need for maintenance hike

Homedale irrigation water rates are going up again, but the city council has set a Nov. 20 public hearing to examine what the increase will be.

The 6 p.m. public hearing will take place at Homedale City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming Ave.

According to deputy city clerk Marsha Hays, the Gem Irrigation District has raised by 4 percent the price Homedale will pay for water in the 2006-07 billing year. That increase will be passed on to consumers, meaning that the per-acre charges for the next year will rise from \$39.12 an acre of

property to \$40.64 an acre.

Although public hearings are only necessary when rates are raised more than 5 percent, Hays said the council called the public hearing to investigate whether maintenance charges will rise. If maintenance charges are increased from their current \$73.50 annual charge, that could push the entire rate hike over the 5 percent threshold.

Hays said last week that it’s unknown at this point if there will be any increase in maintenance charges, which are levied by the city, not the irrigation district.

Irrigation bills are mailed out in the first part of December. The first half of the annual payment is due by Dec. 20, and the remainder of the bill is due by June 20.

The Nov. 20 meeting’s agenda also includes:

- A hearing on the application for special use permit from Munster’s Ink tattoo shop filed by owners Michael and Karoline Munster. The shop is located at 20 W. Idaho Ave.

- A request by Paul’s Market founder Paul Zatica to vacate the public right-of-way of the alley to the west of the grocery store chain’s Homedale location on East Wyoming Avenue.

The Homedale Planning and Zoning Commission already has recommended approval for both applications.

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Classifieds!

Snail slows boat dock dredging

A microscopic cold-water snail has put a road block in plans to improve the area around Riverside Park in Homedale.

City public works supervisor Larry Bauer told The Owyhee Avalanche last week that an attempt to dredge part of the Snake River and make the Riverside Park boat dock usable again has been derailed by the possible presence of the endangered Idaho springsnail.

"The boat docks are non-usable. They're silted in," Bauer said.

The silt buildup has brought the riverbed only inches from the handicap-accessible dock, making it impossible for boats to cruise into the inlet so disabled boaters can board. Bauer also said the silt has affected the adjacent boat launch area to a lesser degree.

Bauer said he had received confirmation that the Owyhee County Waterways Committee would pay for the dredging of the area, and that equipment from the Owyhee Project South Board of Control was secured for the work.

But South Board would dip the build-up out only if the proper permits were obtained from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, according to Bauer.

That's when the attempt to remove the mud got muddier.

"The problem is that we have an endangered snail in the river," said Greg Martinez, an environmental resource specialist with the Army Corps of Engineers office in Boise. "There is no evidence to suggest that the snail is not in that dredging area."

Bauer said that the city could obtain a permit if it paid for an environmental analysis of the area to ensure that the snail isn't present.

Ironically, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) reported in late September that its five-year review of the Idaho springsnail found that Endangered Species Act protection wasn't warranted. Studies have shown that the snail is actually the same species as the Harney Lake springsnail in Oregon, the Jackson Lake springsnail in Wyoming and



River boat dock silted in

Silt has clogged the Homedale dock at Riverside Park, making it impossible for boaters to use the handicap-accessible structure when on the Snake River.

the Columbia springsnail found in Oregon and Washington.

A public comment period on the proposed de-listing of the Idaho springsnail closes Nov. 27, but a final determination probably won't come until next year.

Martinez said that the Idaho springsnail could be de-listed by the time Homedale completes the process of getting a permit. In addition to the survey for the snail's presence, the city would have to send an application to the Army Corps of Engineers and write an environmental document for the USFWS. After that, there is a 135-day window for comments.

Faced with the difficulty of dredging the area, Homedale Mayor Paul Fink enlisted the help of Rep. C.L. "Butch" Otter's Idaho office. Lane Joliffe, an Otter field representative, visited Homedale on Wednesday to get the low-down on the situation.

“We’re just asking a question and trying to get some information,” Joliffe said last week. “We’re trying to see if we can’t get some answers back to (Homedale officials).”

Joliffe agreed with Martinez's assessment that the Idaho springsnail could be off the endangered list by the time Homedale finishes jumping through the required hoops, if it opts to do so.

The proposed dredging of the boat dock area isn't the only Riverside Park project on the

Owyhee County Waterways
Committee's agenda.

Work is under way on replacing the three picnic table shelters that line the riverbank in the Homedale park. Troy Todd and Tyler Adams of Indian Creek Sports in Kuna were in the process of completing installation of the new covers late last week. Todd said his company tore down the old, sky-blue wooden shelters two weeks ago. Work was scheduled to continue this week, and Todd said he also will help refurbish the picnic tables.

The new roofs, which were put in place with the assistance of a crane from Parma's S R Crane, will be supported by metal columns. The previous picnic shelters were held up with wooden posts.

Todd, who said he also will help the waterways committee repair worn-out planks in the Homedale boat dock, also said he is scheduled to replace the picnic shelters along the river in Marsing next year.

— JPB



New shelters going up

Above: Troy Todd of Kuna-based Indian Creek Sports uses a nail-gun to secure the roof of the second of three Riverside Park picnic shelters he is rebuilding in Homedale. **Below:** Co-worker Tyler Adams, left, stands by as Todd helps guide a roof frame into place last week.



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Homedale PD arrests masked suspect

Homedale Police officers were among members of several law enforcement agencies involved in a high-speed pursuit Oct. 21 that ended in the arrest of a masked Homedale man on multiple felony counts.

Ricardo Mercado, 18, was arrested for felony fleeing and eluding officers, aggravated assault, obstructing and delaying officers and an outstanding probation violation warrant.

The pursuit, which began in Homedale just after midnight, also involved personnel from Parma Police, Nampa Police and the sheriff's offices from Canyon and Malheur counties.

"It was a pretty tense situation that turned into almost a shooting standoff," Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller said in his report at the Homedale City Council's bi-monthly meeting Thursday.

"Luckily, we were able to take him into custody without anybody getting hurt."

According to Homedale Police Cpl. Ian Takashige, the incident began near the intersection of Riverfront Drive and South 2nd Street East in Homedale. Patrol Officer Mike McFetridge attempted to initiate a traffic stop on a tan Nissan passenger car with the assistance of two Wilder officers. McFetridge recognized the vehicle as matching the description of a suspect vehicle wanted in connection with a vehicle vandalism that occurred

on North 2nd Street West on an earlier date.

The suspect fled from the officers, driving through Homedale, then west-bound on Idaho highway 19. Takashige said the vehicle's speed reached 85-90 mph as Mercado attempted to elude officers. The pursuit entered Oregon and then returned to Idaho, near Adrian.

The car was finally stopped on Idaho 18, about 1 mile west of Parma, with the use of road spikes.

"The vehicle continued to drive on all four flat tires for another 200 feet before stopping. As he passed the Parma officer, he said he had a gun," Takashige said.

Takashige said after the vehicle stopped, the suspect — who was wearing a ski-type mask and gloves — refused to leave the car. Officers were eventually able to negotiate with the suspect to get him to step from the vehicle, using cigarettes as a bargaining tool. Because of Mercado's statements about having a weapon, officers used extreme caution in dealing with Mercado.

"At one point we actually had him 'proned' out. It looked like we were going to get him into custody, then he began to move towards an occupied house," Takashige said.



Ricardo Mercado

Takashige said that when the presumed-armed suspect began to move toward an occupied residence, officers had to intervene.

"Due to significant risk to the public, officers and the suspect, a Canyon County deputy deployed less-lethal 'beanbag' (shotgun) rounds," Takashige said. He said that the deputy deployed a total of three beanbag shotgun rounds at the suspect. The first two rounds were ineffective.

After the third beanbag round, Takashige was able to take Mercado into custody with a Taser stun device and the assistance of a Nampa Police canine unit.

Only after Mercado was in custody, and officers removed the mask he was wearing, did they recognize him as a wanted subject.

Mercado — minus his mask — is in the Owyhee County Jail on a \$25,000 bond. Eidemiller said last week that his department may seek reimbursement for costs associated with the pursuit if he is eventually sentenced on the alleged charges.

"We didn't ask the kid to run. We didn't ask him to resist, so I don't necessarily feel that it's necessary for the taxpayers in Homedale and/or Canyon County to have to burden the cost of his actions," Eidemiller said last week.

Eidemiller said the group of law enforcement personnel involved in the pursuit and apprehension "did an outstanding job."

— JWB

Grand openings



Subway lunchtime rush

Subway sandwich restaurant customers faced long lines at lunchtime last week at the new Homedale franchise on East Idaho Avenue. The new restaurant will be open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday.



Women's fitness center open in Homedale

Curves, a fitness center for women, opened its doors in Homedale on Monday at 132 E. Idaho Ave., inside the new strip mall at the corner of 2nd Street and East Idaho Avenue. The location, one of more than 8,000 franchises in five countries, offers a 30-minute workout for women. For more information about the Homedale Curves, call 337-4450.



TOM GANNON STATE SENATE DISTRICT 23

The other night Jeanne and I were talking about the political scene in Idaho (this happens quite often) and we were reflecting on our legislative experience, the campaign for re-election and lamenting over the 30 second spots that misrepresent key issues. We came to the conclusion that, no matter its flaws, our system works. We know that if you don't support your constituents, no amount of money will get you re-elected. I am proud to say, when asked the question "why are you running for re-election", that I have been encouraged to do so by you, the constituents of District 23.

Having served in the State Senate for four years, I have a deep appreciation of the importance experience plays in the legislative process. Without experienced legislators, the lobbyists and lifetime bureaucrats would rule the roost.

I appreciate the support you have given me in the past and once again I ask for your vote on November 7th.

Paid for the Tom Gannon Election Fund, Dexter Rogers treasurer.

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Gem Irrigation holds election Tuesday

Two seats are open; polls open at noon in Marsing, Homedale

Voters in the Gem Irrigation District will deal with more than the general election Tuesday as two board of director seats are on the ballot. Tim Volk is challenging incumbent Steve Nash in District

4, while incumbent Tim Leavitt faces Jim Davenport in District 5. The polls are open from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the South Board of Control office, 19 W. 1st St., Homedale, and the American Legion Phipps-Watson

Community Center, 126 2nd St. N., in Marsing. Each director will serve a three-year term. District 4 encompasses an area bordered on the north and east by Patch Canal, to the west by the Idaho-Oregon state line and to the south by Graveyard Point Road. The District 5 boundaries

include Graveyard Point Road to the north, A Canal to the east and South Canal to the south and west. Although the boundaries of each director’s seat are specific, anyone in the Gem Irrigation District can vote for both seats. Rod Price is running unopposed in the Ridgeview District board of directors election.

Irrigation boards set meetings
Irrigation boards will hold monthly meetings Wednesday at the South Board of Control office, 118 S. 1st Street W. in Homedale. The Ridgeview Irrigation District meeting begins at 1 p.m. The Gem Irrigation District meeting starts at 1:15 p.m. The South Board of Control meeting starts at 1:30 p.m.

From page 1

✓ Parking

“I just want to make sure that I’m going to do what’s best for the city, but right now it’s not equitable because the city will lose money,” Eidemiller told the council. But the chief stressed that before any action could be taken on the new issue that the city should take a look at the statutes governing parking penalties to ensure that it would be cost-effective. He also urged the council to examine parking throughout downtown before taking action. “I’d just as soon address all of it at one time as opposed to we change the ordinance a little bit now and a couple of months down the road have to change it again because someone else wants that same thing,” Eidemiller said. The parking spaces around City Park are gobbled up by Homedale High School students, who tie up the spots all day long. High school principal Mike Williams said that most of the cars parked on the east side of Second Street come

from his students and teenagers take the bus to attend Centerpoint High School. “The district may need to change the pick-up and drop-off point for the Centerpoint students,” he said. But Williams pointed out that parking always is at a premium on campus for students. He said School Resource Officer Michelle Babcock implemented a permit program to control students parking in designated areas as part of the overall school safety program. Williams said only about a dozen students and school staff members would be affected by the loss of unlimited parking on Idaho Avenue and Second Street. Bauer also said that parking in front of St. Hubert’s Catholic Church on Owyhee Avenue also is crowded because of school parking, but the council focused on the two sides of City Park. It was suggested that the time limit could be waived for special events, and that hot dog vendor Tom Murray would be able to continue his business in the usual



Precious parking spaces

Homedale City Council members discussed the possibility of putting a time limit on parking on East Idaho Avenue and Second Street around City Park. The discussion during Thursday’s meeting was spurred by the arrival of the new strip mall to the west of the park. spot. While the discussion was spurred by the pending arrival of customers for the strip mall, Eidemiller said it was more of an issue of traffic flow and student safety. “It’s only a matter of time before one (of the students) is going to get hit,” Eidemiller said. “For my part and the school’s part and the safety part, the easiest way to do (protect against that) is to eliminate that issue.” Eidemiller said problem of litter in the park already has forced the closure of City Park to students during school hours. That policy is in effect until January, when a trial run will be implemented at the start of the second semester. “The City Park is off limits to students during school hours due to trash and student behavior,” Williams said. — JPB

✓ Election

Other decisions to be made Tuesday include who will serve as the next Idaho governor, who will replace Rep. C.L. “Butch” Otter as the state’s District 1 representative in Congress, and who will fill District 23 Senate and House of Representatives seats in the Idaho Legislature. Also on the ballot is the retention of Owyhee County Magistrate Judge Thomas J. Ryan. Measures on the ballot include Proposition 1, which if passed would add a penny to the state sales tax to fund local public schools, and Proposition 2, which would amend Idaho Code to further limit the use of eminent domain. Democrat Larry Grant and Republican Bill Sali lead the ballot for Idaho’s District I representative in Congress. They are vying to replace Otter, who is running against Democrat Jerry Brady for governor. Current governor Jim Risch is the Republican candidate for lieutenant governor, and he’s

Page 9B
Last batch of letters to the editor endorsing candidates.

running against two other men, including Democrat Larry LaRocco, a former congressman for Idaho. Other state legislative offices on the ballot include state Senator from District 23, which features Democrat Bill Chisholm running against Republican Tom Gannon. Jim Patrick is the GOP candidate for District 23A representative against Democrat Peter Rickards, while Republican Bert Brackett is running unopposed for the District 23B seat. Other state government offices up for grabs include controller, treasurer, attorney general and superintendent of public instruction. Voters also will cast a ballot on the issue of an Idaho constitutional amendment defining legal marriage as being only between a man and a woman.

Sherburn said many residents received an informational Idaho Voters pamphlet in the mail from the Secretary of State’s office, but the same information also is available on the Internet at www.idahovotes.gov. Residents 18 years or older who have lived in Owyhee County for 30 days are eligible to vote. You may register on Election Day by showing your identification at your respective polling place. Pleasant Valley, Three Creek and Riddle are mail-in precincts, but residents in those areas can register at the Owyhee County Courthouse in Murphy and vote at the same time, Sherburn said. Each county polling place also will have a ballot-marking device available for voters who may have a disability. Sherburn stresses voters should ask a poll worker for assistance if they are unsure of how to use the device. For more information on the election, including polling places, call (208) 495-2421, (208) 495-2806 or 337-5522 in the Homedale/Marsing area.

Where to vote

The locations of the polling places for each precinct in Owyhee County as set by the county board of commissioners, including address, are:

- North Homedale — Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave.
- South Homedale — Homedale City Hall/Magistrate Court building, 31 W. Wyoming Ave.
- North Marsing — Phipps-Watson American Legion Community Center, 126 W. 2nd St. N.
- South Marsing — University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office, 238 8th Ave. W.
- Wilson — Murphy-Reynolds-Wilson Firehouse, 10427 Johnston Lane (off Idaho highway 78)
- Murphy — Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78
- Oreana — Oreana Community Hall, 18092 Oreana Loop Road
- Grand View — Eastern Owyhee County Library, 520 Boise Ave.
- Bruneau — American Legion Hall, 29776 Davis Road

Pleasant Valley, Riddle and Three Creek have been designated as mail ballot precincts, and registered voters should have received their ballots in the mail sometime after Oct. 9. Mail-in ballots must be filled out and received in the county clerk’s office by 8 p.m. Tuesday. In-person absentee ballot voting takes place at the Owyhee County Courthouse in Murphy. Voter registration will be available at any polling place on Election Day.

Obituaries

Bernice Maher Birmingham

Bernice Maher Birmingham, 93, of Marsing, great granddaughter of Matthew and Mary Joyce, Owyhee County Pioneers, died October 28, 2006, at a Nampa Care center. A Funeral Mass was celebrated at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, October 31, 2006, at Our Lady of The Valley Catholic Church, Caldwell. Interments followed at Marsing-Homedale Cemetery under the direction of Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Caldwell.

She was born February 5, 1913 along with her twin brother Bernard at Lone Tree, Idaho, near Jordan Valley, Oregon, to Frank Maher and Alice Swisher Maher.

Her father died when she was 5 years old, Bernice's mother with the help of her father Frank Swisher moved the small family to Caldwell, along the Boise River. At the age of 9, Bernice's mother died. She and her younger sister Jackie went to Jordan Valley to live with their aunt and uncle Jack Swisher and Carrie Swisher, her older sister and twin brother also went to live with aunts and uncles.

In Jordan Valley she met and married Richard Birmingham on August 13, 1931. To this union 3 children were born. They lived in Flint, Jordan Valley, Homedale, Caldwell, and Marsing.

She loved her Marsing home and friends as well as her Silver City house. She was a mother and homemaker first, but also did odd jobs such as taking in sewing and working for Robinson Fruit Ranch.

Bernice and Richard were well known rock hounds, building beautiful rock tables and wishing wells.

She is survived by her two daughters, Dolores (Nick) Ihli of Murphy, Barbara Brown of McCall, and a daughter-in-law Dolores Birmingham of Opaline. Her grandchildren, Patrick



Ihli, Teresa Ihli Mayes. Gerri Ihli Black, Trina Birmingham Aman, Jack Birmingham, Dan Birmingham, Angela Brown Lowe, Cyndee Brown, Bryan Brown, Robin Brown Peterson. Her great grandchildren Jennifer Ihli, Brandon Ihli, Lindsay Ihli, Katie McAuley, Justin Aman, Kayla Aman, Kayla Aman, Daniel Birmingham, Nick Birmingham, Brittany Birmingham, Josh Birmingham, Alex Lowe, Bryan Lowe, Andrew Brown, and Ashley Brown, and a great great granddaughter Hailey McAuley.

She was preceded in death by her husband Richard Birmingham, her son Dick Birmingham and her sisters Angela Maher and Jackie Haines and her twin brother Bernard Maher.

The family would like to thank Sun Bridge Retirement and Care Center for her wonderful care and a special thanks to her cousin Rita Deary for her many visits and to a special nurse Cheryl.

Memorials may be made to the Owyhee County Historical Society, P.O. box 67, Murphy, Idaho, or to Our Lady of Tears Catholic Church, Silver City, Idaho, P.O. Box 6110, Boise, Idaho, 83707, or your favorite Charity.

David James Phelps

David James Phelps, 91, died peacefully at his home in Homedale on Wednesday, October 25th, 2006. A memorial service was held on Saturday, October 28th at the Homedale Presbyterian Church. Dave has been a kind and loving husband and father, and most importantly, a wonderful grandfather to his beloved Jessie.

He was born August 10th, 1915 in Colorado Springs, Colorado, one of three children of James Alby Phelps and Katherine Ruth Bandhauer. During Dave's early years, his family lived in a log cabin near Burns, Colorado, where he and his sisters, Dorothy and Catherine, attended a one-room school. In 1923, a farm depression forced the family to relinquish their land and work their way to Santa Monica, California, where his father learned the tile business from a long-time friend. In 1925, the family moved to Santa Barbara.

Dave graduated from high school in Santa Barbara, and began his career as a mechanic at Douglas Aircraft. During WWII, he volunteered to work in east Africa and north Ireland repairing planes for the Allied forces, and he was in Africa



at the time Rommell marched through. He was inducted into the Army air force in 1946. During his time in Africa, Dave traveled up the Nile in Egypt, and told exciting stories of the Valley of the Queens and of climbing the great pyramids. He returned to America with many interesting African artifacts and photos of African friends.

In 1948, Dave married Judith Preston Thom in Mesa, Arizona, where he and his father had begun

farming citrus. In March of 1952, the family moved to Homedale where he subsequently bought a farm near Graveyard Point. There, he and Judy raised two daughters, Catherine and Virginia. He and Judy shared a life-long love of music, and a favorite pastime was dancing to Big Band era songs.

In the 1950s, he was one of the founding fathers of the Homedale Presbyterian Church, and he loved to sing in the choir. Dave also served six years as an Owyhee County Commissioner and was an active member of the Farm Bureau.

He and Judy liked to hike and camp in the Owyhees after he retired from farming. He was an amateur photographer, an avid rock hound, and a member of the Gem State Writers Guild. He was a fabulous story-teller, and he will always be remembered by his daughters and granddaughter, Jessica, for his bed-time stories about exciting animal character adventures which would leave their hearts racing long after the lights went out.

David's ashes will be buried in the family cemetery on the old Phelps family homestead in the mountains near Deckers, Colorado.

Charles F. DeGeus

Charles F. DeGeus, 75, of Wilder, died Wednesday, October 25, 2006 at home. Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM Saturday, October 28, 2006 at the Mt. View Church of the Nazarene, 26515 Ustick Rd, Homedale, ID. Interment followed at the Wilder Cemetery.

Charles was born September 3, 1931 in Wentworth, South Dakota a son of Klaas and Arlie M. Wiedman, DeGeus. As a young boy the family moved to Idaho and he went to central cove elementary grades 1-8th. He then went and graduated from Homedale High School. He attended Lewis and Clark State College for one semester and was a member of the Idaho National Guard for six years. During his service he met



his wife of 54 years, Krena Fowke. They were married on May 20, 1952. He worked for JR Simplot

Company as foreman in the food processing for 10 years. He was a life long farmer and for hobbies he enjoyed fishing, camping and watching sports on TV.

He is survived by his wife, Krena M. DeGeus, a son Fred DeGeus, a daughter and son-in-law Faith and Gary Olsen, grandchildren: Jennifer (Tarry) Meligan, Shauna (Kevin) Beebe, LuKrena (Leroy) Schoonover, Ed (Jessica) DeGeus, Melissa (Matt) McBride and Lora DeGeus, and ten great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother, one sister and one son.

In Lieu of flowers, Memorials may be given to the Homedale Fire Dept., PO Box 608, Homedale, ID 83628.

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Weather

	H	L	Prec.
Oct 24	64	23	
Oct 25	66	25	
Oct 26	57	23	
Oct 27	61	22	
Oct 28	no	read	
Oct 29	no	read	
Oct 30	65	20	

The Owyhee Avalanche
Owyhee County's best source for local news!!

Your finances Grads saddled with student loans should rent, not buy

Dear Dave,

I just got my masters degree, and I'm about to take my first job as a teacher. I've got about \$30,000 in debt from graduate school loans and other things, and will be making \$25,000 a year to start. Would it be better for me to just rent for a while, or can I go ahead and buy a home? I'm also curious about my credit report. My mom made me an authorized user on her credit card, and now she's having trouble making the payments. Will this affect my credit rating, too?

— Megan

Dear Megan,

As part of a long-term game plan, it's better to own than to rent. But you should buy a home only if you're debt-free and have your emergency fund of three to six months of expenses in place.

You don't need to buy something you can't afford while you're broke. I want you to own a nice home at some point, Megan, but if you do this while you're \$30,000 in debt and making \$25,000 a year Murphy is going to move into your spare bedroom! Everything that can go wrong WILL go wrong.

As for the credit issue, you are NOT liable, and it shouldn't show up on your credit bureau report if you're only an authorized user on the card. There's a huge difference between being authorized to use a credit card and having liability for the card.

Here's the plan — find a cheap place to live, get out of debt, save up some cash and stay away from credit cards!

— Dave

Dear Dave,

My wife and I are newlyweds, no kids, and we just purchased a one-bedroom condo. We've almost got our emergency fund in place, and the only debt we have is the mortgage on the condo. Once we fully fund our emergency fund should we work toward paying off our home or begin investing?

— Jamie

Dear Jamie,

Begin investing! You guys are in a fantastic position here. If



you play it smart, you'll be very wealthy by the time you're ready to retire.

Once your emergency fund is in place and there's no debt except the house, you're at Baby Step Four — invest 15 percent of your household income in Roth IRAs and mutual funds.

When you've got the ball rolling toward investments, THEN you can attack the mortgage.

— Dave

Dear Dave,

I have a small freelance business doing planning and zoning work, and I'm going to make about \$45,000 this year. However, I'm confused about whether to file as an S-Corp or an LLC. Which would you suggest?

— Matt

Dear Matt,

Neither.

Even though you've started out well, the truth is that you're not making enough yet to see any real advantages to incorporating. Plus, it doesn't sound like you're in a very litigious line of work.

There are only two good reasons to incorporate. One, if you have substantial assets you want to protect. The other would be if you feel someone in your line of work would be an attractive target for lawsuits. It doesn't sound to me like you have lots of worries on either side right now.

When you start making \$300,000 a year or have a handful of employees, incorporation status may work for you. But for now, I'd keep it simple.

— 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. Have a question for Dave? Send correspondence to syndication@daveramsey.com or write *Dave Says*, 1749 Mallory Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027

Family, friends mark Lucille Butler's 90th

An open house will be held Sunday in Wilder to celebrate the 90th birthday of Lucille Irene Butler.

The open house will be held from 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Golden Gate



Lucille Butler

Baptist Church annex on Second Street.

The family asks that guests bring no gifts, please.

The celebration will be hosted by her children and their spouses, Loyce Butler, the widow of Lucille's late son, Larry; Mike and Rebecca Butler; Bonnie and Danny Cagle; and Fred and Carol Butler. Lucille also has 16 grandchildren, 24 great grandchildren and two great great

grandchildren.

Lucille was born Nov. 4, 1916, in Phillipsburg, Kan. She moved to Wilder in 1937 with her family. On Nov. 4, 1937, she married her childhood sweetheart, Orville Butler. They were married for 56 years and farmed in the Wilder area.

Lucille is a member of the Golden Gate Baptist Church, the Friendly Sewing Club and the Rebekah Lodge.

Family plans 80th birthday for Opal Cossel

An 80th birthday celebration for former Marsing resident Opal Cossel will be held Sunday in Marsing.

The celebration will be held at the Marsing American Legion Watson-Phipps Community Center, 126 2nd St. N.

The event is scheduled from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Friends and family are invited.

No gifts are requested, but cards are welcomed.

For more information, contact John Cossel at 896-4265 or 896-4112, ext. 295.

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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

**Homedale: South Board Water Office
19 West 1st Street**

**Marsing: American Legion Hall
Phipps Watson Community Center 126 2nd St. North**

Read all about it
in
The Owyhee Avalanche
337-4681

Calendar

Thursday

Exercise class, 11 a.m., free, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020
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

Saturday

Homedale Senior Citizens Center monthly fund-raiser breakfast, 8 a.m., \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for children younger than 10. Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

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 2nd Ave. W. (208) 896-4184

Monday

Homedale Senior Citizens Center luncheon
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality nitrate information open house, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Rimrock Jr.-Sr. High School, Idaho highway 78, Bruneau

Tuesday

Election Day
Let's Talk About It discussion program, Lewis and Clark Expedition: Sign-Talker, free, 7 p.m., Eastern Owyhee County Public Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2785
Pure Word recovery meeting, 7 p.m. (208) 880-8962

Wednesday, Nov. 8

Homedale City Council meeting, 6 p.m., City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming St. (208) 337-4641
Marsing City Council meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall, 425 Main St. (208) 896-4122
Grand View City Council meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall, 425 Boise Ave. (208) 834-2700, Monday through Wednesday

Thursday, Nov. 9

Exercise class, 11 a.m., free, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

Owyhee Garden Club meeting, 1 p.m., University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office, 238 8th Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-5474 or (208) 896-4104
AA meeting, 8 p.m., Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave.

Saturday, Nov. 11

Homedale High School Band spaghetti feed fund-raiser, \$5 per person or \$20 for a family of four or more, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-4613

Sunday, Nov. 12

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 2nd 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. For more information on submissions, call (208) 337-4861.

School menus

Homedale Elementary

Nov. 2: No school K-4 only.
Nov. 3: No school.
Nov. 6: Sloppy Jo or hot dog, fries, chocolate pudding, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
Nov. 7: Ham & bean soup or tuna sandwich, peas, cookie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
Nov. 8: Chili or beef taco pie, roll, veggie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Homedale Middle

Nov. 2: Spaghetti or chicken pot pie, bread stick, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
Nov. 3: No school.
Nov. 6: Chicken patty or rib-b-que, tots, cookie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
Nov. 7: Taco burger or wiener wrap, green beans, animal crackers, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
Nov. 8: Beef or chicken taco, corn, fruit roll-up, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Homedale High

Nov. 2: Chicken patty or hamburger, potato wedges, dessert, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
Nov. 3: No school.
Nov. 6: Pizza, quesadilla or chef's salad, dessert, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
Nov. 7: Wiener wrap or chicken tenders, scalloped potatoes, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
Nov. 8: Enchilada, hot pocket or baked potato/toppings, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Bruneau

Nov. 2: Chili, coleslaw, applesauce, cinnamon roll, milk.
Nov. 3: Corn dog, fries, veggie, fruit, brownie, milk.
Nov. 6: Chicken wrap, cornbread, veggie, fruit, milk.
Nov. 7: Deviled egg, macaroni & cheese, green beans, muffins, fruit, milk.
Nov. 8: Nachos/salsa, tossed salad, corn, fruit, cinnamon stick, milk.

Senior menus

Homedale center

Nov. 1: Hot dog on bun, chili con carne, tossed salad, milk.
Nov. 2: Liver & onions, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, milk.
Nov. 6: Baked fish, baked potatoes, carrots, roll, milk.
Nov. 8: Sausage & biscuits, oven fried potatoes, carrots, milk.

soup, dessert, drink.
Nov. 2: Chicken, potatoes, green beans, salad, carrot soup, corn bread, pineapple cake.
Nov. 6: Meatloaf, mixed vegetables, potatoes, coleslaw, soup, dessert, drink.
Nov. 7: Chicken & noodles, potatoes, peas/carrots, salad, tomato soup, dessert, drink.
Nov. 8: Roast beef, potatoes/gravy, mixed vegetables, salad, pears, soup, dessert, drink.

Marsing center

Nov. 1: Stew, biscuits, salad,

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**DAVENPORT
South Board
of Control
Director
Division 5**



**Jim bought a farm in Owyhee County in 1983.
He farmed and had a dairy.**

**In 1986, he went to work for the South Board of Control,
riding ditch. He took care of the water users on
the A canal. He quit riding ditch in 1995.**

**Jim was a South Board of Control director 2001 - 2003.
He presently owns Idaho Sporting Clays**

**VOTE NOV. 7TH
JIM DAVENPORT**

Vote Tuesday, November 7, from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

HOMEDALE PRECINCT:

SOUTH BOARD WATER OFFICE

**MARSING PRECINCT: AMERICAN LEGION HALL
COMMUNITY CENTER**

PAID FOR BY Jim Davenport

Honor roll

Homedale Middle School

Eighth grade
4.00 grade-point average — Jarod Armenta; Megan Barraza; Caitlyn Johnson; Alexandra McRae; Elizabeth Silva; Jonathan Stacey; Kirsi Thatcher; Taylor Watkins

3.50 and above — Amber Brinkerhoff (Romriell), 3.86; Colin Lootens, 3.86; Gil Lootens, 3.86; Kiley Potter, 3.86; Taylor Thomas, 3.86; Alicia Aguilera, 3.83; Sydney Cornwall, 3.83; Maria Escutia, 3.83; Jessica Westergard, 3.83; Jessica Craft, 3.71; Jessica Ann Henry, 3.71; Norma Bautista, 3.67; Sarah Maggard, 3.67; Elizabeth Albor, 3.57; Stephen Lauson, 3.57; Makenzie Tiegs, 3.57; Aiesha Zenor, 3.57; Tanner Lair, 3.50; Jordan Meligan, 3.50; Summer Phelps, 3.50

3.49 to 3.00 — Jonathan Gonzalez, 3.43; Tyler Thelie, 3.43; Marissa Ensley, 3.33; Brook Fry, 3.33; Sagan Condon, 3.29; Shawnee Davis, 3.29; Nিকেle Mainarick, 3.29; Miranda Rodriguez, 3.29; Konner Bahem, 3.17; Bianca Villarreal, 3.17; Llesenia Calderon, 3.14; Ada Demshar, 3.14; Nathan Perry, 3.00; Noemi Salazar, 3.00

Seventh grade
4.00 grade-point average — Anthony Adams; Justine Calzacorta; Raven Kelly; Lane Matteson; Aubrey Nash; Phaedra Stevenson

3.50 and above — Deena Emry, 3.86; Ashley Leslie, 3.86; Angel Salazar Jr., 3.86; Brenda Vega, 3.86; Dominic Christiansen, 3.83; Kylie Farwell, 3.83; Kylie Kushlan, 3.83; Kyle Purdom, 3.83; Katie Price, 3.80; Jessica Broadbent, 3.71; Trey Corta, 3.71;

Ashley Downum, 3.71; Zachary Mereness, 3.71; April Strohmaan-Norris, 3.71; Veronica D’Alessio, 3.67; Cristina Gonzalez, 3.67; Cody Lynde, 3.67; Laurien Mavey, 3.67; Brett Ryska, 3.67; Casey Christoffersen, 3.57; Kate Eaton, 3.57; Zachary Lowder, 3.50; Austin Trevino, 3.50

3.49 to 3.00 — Amanda Cook, 3.43; Destinie (DD) Gardner, 3.43; Bodie Hyer, 3.43; Nahum Bermudez, 3.33; Rachel Gonzalez, 3.33; Carissa Gardner, 3.17; Rachael Brasher, 3.14; Janett Hurtado, 3.14; Holly Gallagher, 3.00; Rabecka Gay, 3.00; Rosie King, 3.00; Bryce Osborn, 3.00; Wendy Prado, 3.00

Sixth grade
4.00 grade-point average — Emilee Hann; Reed Maggard; Mikel Mavey; Gabrielle Nash; Veronica Sanchez; Karissa Webb

3.50 and above — Nicole Keller, 3.86; Ariana Rice, 3.86; Heather Romriell, 3.86; Elizabeth Albor, 3.83; Graviela Albor, 3.83; Ramon Kelly, 3.83; Mariza Fernandez, 3.71; Malina Geerston, 3.71; Stephanie Villarreal, 3.71; Debra Esparza, 3.67; Shelby Hess, 3.67; Shelby McRae, 3.67; Jacob Murray, 3.67; Rebecca Coffman, 3.57; Corbin Schamber, 3.57; Cayetano Montes, 3.50; Whitney Uria, 3.50

3.49 to 3.00 — Melissa Borja, 3.33; Hayden Krzesnik, 3.33; Jacqueline Martinez, 3.33; Brenda Uriarte, 3.33; Nadine Wright, 3.33; Mackenzie McMichael, 3.29; Miranda Miklancic, 3.29; Mikal Culver, 3.20; Alejandra Casillas, 3.17; Antonio Sturgeon, 3.17; Mickayla Taggart, 3.17; Roberto Martinez, 3.13; Perla Albor,

3.00; Samantha Christoffersen, 3.00; Dayara Gaeta, 3.00; Derek Hellman, 3.00; Sean Hood, 3.00; Christopher Romans, 3.00; Taylor Vandeventer, 3.00

Fifth grade
4.00 grade-point average — Stephanie Aguilera; Lydia Aman; Kynna Bertagnolli; Liam Condon (Wade); Katie Deal; Britt Eubanks; Tell Hyer; Shelby Lee; Esteban Lejardi; Ryan McDermott; Logan Moore; Kaylee Rupp; Kathryn Thatcher

3.50 and above — Antonia Banda, 3.83; Benjamin Cardenas, 3.83; Lizett Chavez, 3.83; Emily Conger, 3.83; Edmy Vega, 3.83; Leslie Albor, 3.67; Angel Cardenas, 3.67; Lauren Craft, 3.67; Magdalena Escutia, 3.67; Juliana Hart, 3.67; Stephanie Kennedy, 3.67; Destiny Long, 3.67; Riley Maggard-Qualls, 3.67; Cheyenne Steinmetz, 3.67; Kayla Carson, 3.50; Noah Munster, 3.50; Brenda Vega, 3.50

3.49 to 3.00 — Stephanie Hurtado, 3.40; Haley Kushlan, 3.33; Erik Martinez, 3.33; Jesse Padilla, 3.33; Eric Sanchez, 3.29; Christina Almaraz, 3.20; Whitney Mello, 3.20; Natasha Hernandez, 3.17; Emylee Obregon, 3.17; Billy Jo Smith, 3.17; Victoria Thomas, 3.17; Leandra Barley, 3.00; Joel Campos, 3.00; Maria Castro, 3.00; Shelbi Forsythe, 3.00; Talon Freelove, 3.00; Adam Hotchkiss, 3.00; Nathan Leslie, 3.00; Elias Paxton, 3.00; Raena Vigil, 3.00

Homedale students learn how choices affect their lives

A Texas-based production company spread its inspirational message to students at Homedale Middle School and Homedale Elementary School on Friday.

Kristie Heft of Motivational Productions from San Antonio didn’t pull many punches during her presentation to HMS seventh- and eighth-graders Friday morning.

Before cranking up a movie titled “Freedom Calls,” she pointed out the less-than-flattering language that she found on the bathroom walls and how that language reflected poorly on the students.

But more than a lecture or sermon, the purpose of Heft’s appearance and the screening of “Freedom Calls” was to encourage students to make wise personal choices.

“A good life can be achieved by making those good choices every day,” HMS principal Keith Field told the students after the assembly inside the school gymnasium.

Heft also made presentations to fifth- and sixth-graders Friday morning before moving to the elementary school for more assemblies.

She said that the screenings also seem to make an impact with students.

“Most schools, you’ll get a positive reaction,” Heft said of her presentation. “I was at a school this week and a senior came up to me and said he’d wished I come there

when he was a freshman because he didn’t have anyone to tell him he was making poor choices.”

“Freedom Calls” intertwined the fictional portrayal of “Josh,” a teenager who was struggling with peer pressure and whose father was serving in the military overseas, with real-life examples of youth who had coped with drug addiction and the death of their parents. Music from contemporary musical artists such as Coldplay, Velvet Revolver and James Blount gave the film the feel of a music video at times.

“It taught us a lot about good choices and had a lot of good influence,” HMS student body president Jason Meligan said.

The 13-year-old Meligan said he felt his classmates did absorb the message of the film.

“It got through because it had a good message and touched us in different ways,” he said.

Meligan said he was moved in particular by the story about a Arizona teenager who lived by herself while getting through high school with top grades after her father had died from cancer. Years earlier, she had lost her mother to the disease, too.

“The cancer story touched me because I have experience with that,” Meligan said, adding that his grandfather recently had passed away.

— JPB

Prep football playoffs delay start of Marsing Lions bingo nights

The Marsing Lions Club weekly bingo, which was set to begin Saturday, has been postponed until further notice, according to Lions Club member Chris Salove.

The fund-raiser, which runs from November to April, was scheduled to begin this week, but Salove said that the event will be on hold while the Marsing High School football team competes in the 2A state playoffs. The Huskies’ next game is Saturday on the road.

When bingo resumes, it will be held at 7 p.m. each Saturday at the American Legion Phipps-Watson Community Center at 126 2nd St. N.

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- Disaster Manager FEMA 16 yrs.
- Ranch Lands Manager 13 yrs (current)
- Self-employed Handyman/Carpenter 36 yrs (current)
- Yoga Instructor 30 yrs. (current)
- Citizen action and policy consultant 16 yrs (current)
- Charter Member and past board member Snake River Alliance/ Energy Consultant
- Former Board Member Idaho Conservation League
- Former Board Member/Energy Coordinator Idaho Rural Council
- Former chair and current member Twin Falls Count Local Emergency Planning Committee/Damage Assessment Lead
- City of Buhl Wellhead Protection Committee
- Castleford Solar for Schools Coordinator
- Idaho Energy Education Project Coordinator
- Working to Protect Idaho’s Air, Land, Water and Quality of Life 36 yrs (current)

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

Owyhee schools hold Red Ribbon Week activities

Marsing Elementary School students observed Red Ribbon Week last week, as part of a national drug-awareness campaign. During the annual event, school administrators, community members and parents work together to spread the message about the dangers of drug abuse.

Marsing Elementary students had a different theme for each day last week:

On Oct. 24, the students received red, drug-free ribbons.

Wednesday, the students' theme was "Hats off to Drugs." Students were able to wear hats indoors. Staff members also participated.

"We also had teachers and other staff members participate. There were lots of different hats that showed up: sombreros, ball caps, cowboy hats, visors and Dr. Seuss hats," Chris Hall, Marsing School District federal programs secretary wrote in an e-mail to The Owyhee Avalanche last week. "A couple of our teachers had very unique hats, a chicken and a frog."

Hall said students received stickers and pencils for wearing their ribbons, and on Wednesday, extra prizes such as footballs, calculators, water bottles and dog tags were given out.

Thursday was "Wear Red Day." Hall said 98 percent of students and staff wore red.

Thursday was also balloon release day, in which students tied drug-free slogans and class contact information to red, helium-filled balloons. An attached message asks anyone who finds the balloons to contact the school. Hall said that last year a hunter near McCall recovered one of Marsing Elementary's balloons



and contacted the students.

In Bruneau-Grand View schools, students took an active part in getting the drug-free message out. Mountain Home Police Sgt. Latreda Schultz and her drug detection dog, Maggie, gave a drug detection demonstration. Afterward, Schultz and Owyhee County Sheriff's Deputy Travis Woodbury raffled off three bicycles to Bruneau Elementary students. Patience Burrow, Andres Juarez and Chris Lootens were the lucky winners.

Grand View Elementary took part in the Red Ribbon Walk, in which 159 students walked a single, giant red ribbon throughout the town of Grand View. Afterward, they were guests at an anti-drug play performed by members of Rimrock High School's Idaho Drug Free Youth (IDFY or "I defy") organization.

The Rimrock High branch of IDFY has 99 members, according to club advisor Penny Jones. In IDFY, students take a pledge to be drug-, tobacco- and alcohol-free. They are drug tested when



Marsing students launch into Red Ribbon Week

Top: Marsing Elementary School Principal Lillian Stewart addresses students with a bullhorn prior to last Thursday's balloon launch. Balloons include each student's class contact information. Last year, a hunter near McCall found one of the student's balloons and contacted the class. Above: Students signed a pledge board placed on the wall during the week.

they enter the organization, and members agree to submit to random drug testing as part of the program.

— JWB

Alcohol usage quiz

Here is a look at an alcohol quiz card for children from National Family Partnership:

General attitude and perceptions about alcohol use

- 1) Have you ever had a drink of alcohol (more than just a few sips)? Yes/No
- 2) How old were you the first time you had a drink of alcohol (more than just a few sips)? ____ 8 and under ____ 9-10 ____ 11-13 ____ 14 and older?
- 3) How many times in the last few months have you had a drink of alcohol (more than just a few sips)? ____ 0 times ____ 1-2 times ____ 2-5 times ____ 6-9 times ____ 10 times or more.
- 4) Do you think your best friend drinks alcohol sometimes? Yes/No
- 5) If your friends found out that you drank alcohol, how do you think they would feel?
____ They would approve
____ They would disapprove but still be my friends
____ They would disapprove and stop being my friends
____ They would not care
- 6) Is it dangerous if a person has 5 or more drinks of alcohol once or twice each weekend?
____ No danger
____ Slight danger
____ Moderate danger
____ Great danger
- 7) Have you, in the past few months, seen, read or heard anything about what alcohol does to a young person's body?
____ No
____ Yes (If yes, from where?) _____

How do you feel?

Is it easy to get alcohol in your neighborhood?	Yes/No
Alcohol is hard to get.	Yes/No
Is it easy to get alcohol from family?	Yes/No
Is it easy to get alcohol from your friends?	Yes/No
Do you think it's wrong for someone your age to drink beer, wine or liquor?	Yes/No



Grand View Red Ribbon

Students from Grand View schools take a stand against drug use by cooperatively carrying a large red ribbon throughout Grand View. National Red Ribbon Week was started in the late 1980s after a federal drug agent was killed in the line of duty in Mexico.



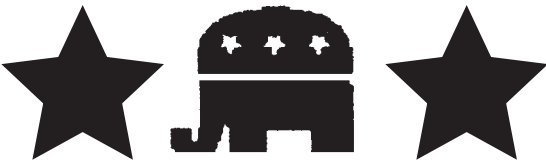
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Vote

Jim Patrick Tuesday, November 7

Jim is a fifth generation Idaho resident. As a famer 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.

Protecting the public

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 www.isp.state.id.us.



Terry Chris Mosqueda
Date of birth:
April 4, 1962
Address:
14130 Jewels Place
Melba, ID 83641
Conviction:
Lewd and lascivious acts with child under 14



Kevin Earl Abels Jr.
Date of birth:
Jan. 9, 1991
Address:
3500 Pioneer Rd.
Homedale, ID 83628
Conviction:
Lewd and lascivious conduct with minor child under 16

Kempthorne names Aman BLM advisor

Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman has been appointed to serve on a federal committee by Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne.

Kempthorne, the former Idaho governor, named Aman as a member of the Bureau of Land Management’s Boise Resource Advisory Council (RAC).


Aman’s appointment was one of 22 made by Kempthorne for the state’s four citizen-based councils.

“I have always pressed my office and staff that we work for the people and that so many times situations normally can be worked out if we just sit down and communicate,” Aman said. “I will carry this idea into the RAC appointment and work with all parties involved in the issues surrounding Owyhee and the other counties involved.”

Members of the Boise, Twin Falls, Coeur d’Alene and Idaho Falls RACs advise the BLM on public land issues in the 261 million acres managed by the agency.

“These new Resource

‘I don’t believe they have ever had a law enforcement representative before, and so many of the issues in front of the RAC somehow will relate back to law enforcement.’



— Gary Aman
Owyhee County Sheriff

Advisory Council members are to be commended for voluntarily committing their time and knowledge to the stewardship of our public lands,” Kempthorne said. “Their advice and recommendations will be a substantial contribution to this collaborative effort.”

Aman is in his third term as county sheriff, and he has taken an active role in Owyhee County land issues along the way.

“I don’t believe they have ever had a law enforcement representative before, and so

many of the issues in front of the RAC somehow will relate back to law enforcement,” the sheriff said.

Bud Cribley, the acting state director for BLM in Idaho, echoed that sentiment.

“With a variety of experience and backgrounds, the RAC members offer wide ranging viewpoints to each of our councils,” Cribley said. “This diversity gives BLM the balanced outlook necessary to manage the public lands for multiple uses.”

The BLM, which manages

more land than any other Federal agency, has 24 RACs across the West, where most BLM-managed land is located.

“The work of the Resource Advisory Councils is a prime example of how these unique partnerships strengthen our management efforts and help promote cooperative conservation,” Kempthorne noted. “Their innovation and creativity is the engine that drives citizen-based problem solving for land management issues.”

Joining Aman on the Boise RAC are: Mountain Home rancher Ted Hoffman, Gilbert L. Green of Idaho Power, Ralph K. Richardson and Idaho Department of Water Resources chief Richard R. Raymondi. Green and Raymondi both previously served on the Boise RAC.

The Twin Falls RAC appointments include: Joseph Tugaw, Deborah Dane, Henry F. Mayland, Kevin Wright, Dennis Crane and Ken Sanders.

— JPB

US Ecology deadline nears

Tuesday is the final day for organizations to submit grant requests to US Ecology Idaho.

Chad Hyslop, the company’s external affairs director, said US Ecology invites written requests from non-profit or tax-exempt organizations in Owyhee County.

Hyslop said grants will be awarded in late November or early December.

Since 1988, the Owyhee County Charitable Foundation has contributed to dozens of community improvement projects in Owyhee County. The foundation is entirely funded by US Ecology Idaho.

Projects must provide a direct benefit to county citizens.

US Ecology Idaho is a hazardous waste treatment and disposal company with facilities located 10 miles northwest of Grand View and one of Owyhee County’s largest employers, with 75 full-time employees. Applications can be mailed to: US Ecology Idaho, Owyhee County Fund, PO Box 400, Grand View, ID 83624 or faxed to (208) 834-2997.

Vote November 7th

TIM LEAVITT

Gem Irrigation - South Board of Control Director



As a current Board member, water user, with more than forty years experience in agriculture - farming, ranching and twenty years in the seed business, I am devoted to the conservation, protection and utilization of our water resources.

I am committed to serve the water users honestly, diligently and loyal to the affairs of this association. I pledge to study the business and problems with the association, and the broader considerations that affect its welfare. I further pledge to strive for continued and increased efficiency, established policies, representing all water users equally and fairly in keeping this a Members association and not letting it become a Director’s or Manager’s Club.

Vote Tuesday, November 7th
1:00 - 7:00 pm
Homedale: South Board Water Office 19 West 1st Street
Marsing: American Legion Hall Community Center

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GV-Bruneau residents can have water tested for nitrate

Grand View and Bruneau area residents will be able to have their drinking water tested for free Saturday in the second in a series of open houses addressing the high nitrate levels of well water in the area.

The open house will be held from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. inside the Rimrock Jr./Sr. High School cafeteria. The school is located on Idaho highway 78 between Bruneau and Grand View and just north of a rural road that turns toward CJ Strike Dam.

The open house is sponsored by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, the Idaho Soil Conservation Commission, Southwest District

Health and the Idaho Department of Water Resources.

Residents are encouraged to bring water samples for testing. Tap water should flow for several minutes before collecting a sample in a clean quart container. The samples will be tested for the presence of nitrates, arsenic and fluoride.

During the first hour of the open house, agency staff will be available to take the sample and provide information. A discussion and question-and-answer period will follow at 6 p.m. Residents will learn more about what can be done to address the problem of high nitrate levels.

The emphasis of the open house will be on agricultural activities

and agricultural programs. After the question-and-answer session, the public can speak with agency staff one-on-one and wait for their water testing results. Health District staff will answer questions about the results and have handouts about what the numbers mean. They will also have information about labs and procedures for future analysis.

Saturday's event is the second of three open houses planned for the Grand View-Bruneau area. The final open house is slated for Dec. 6.

Residents attended the first open house on Oct. 2 to learn more about the elevated nitrate concentrations found in several drinking water wells in the area.



Grand prize winners
Van and Nancy Johnson stand next to the Dodge pickup they won in the annual Owyhee Cattlemen's Heritage Foundation raffle. The Johnsons picked up their new vehicle at Curt & Hal Dodge in Caldwell. Submitted photo

Caldwell couple wins Cattlemen's pickup

A Caldwell couple won the 2006 Dodge pickup that was given as top prize in this year's Owyhee Cattlemen's Heritage Foundation raffle.

Van and Nancy Johnson won the pickup furnished by Northwest Dodge Dealers and Jerry Buekelman of Curt & Hal Dodge in Caldwell. The drawing was held Oct. 22 at the Idaho Reined Cow Horse Snaffle Bit Futurity at the Idaho Horse Park

in Nampa.

Honorine Pedroli of McDermitt, Nev., and Tony Joyce of Juntura, Ore., won the second and third prizes of a half-beef cut and wrapped. Chris and Bryn Johnstone of Homedale donated the beef, Greenfield Meats of Meridian cut and wrap the meat.

The flyers and tickets were donated and printed by Owyhee Publishing Co., in Homedale.

Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely, but the greater danger is that it weakens the cognitive abilities, the critical thinking of those in power.

VOTE

Bill Chisholm

District 23 Senate

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Wednesday 11/15/06	Comfort Suites, 2906 Vista Avenue – The Meeting Room 10 a.m. – Noon OR 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Monday 11/20/06	Golden Corral, 8460 W. Emerald Street 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
MERIDIAN	
Tuesday 11/21/06	Hampton Inn & Suites, 875 S. Allen Street 10 a.m. – Noon OR 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Tuesday 11/28/06	Fiesta Guadalajara 704 E. Fairview Avenue 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
NAMPA	
Wednesday 11/15/06	Golden Corral, 2122 N. Cassia Street 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Monday 11/27/06	Nampa Civic Center, 311 3rd Street South 10 a.m. – Noon OR 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
CALDWELL	
Monday 11/20/06	Golden Dragon, 211 S. 21st Avenue 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Geothermal workshop planned in Murphy

Owyhee County residents can learn more about geothermal opportunities in the area during a workshop scheduled from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday at the office of the county commissioners in Murphy.

“Owyhee County has a lot of geothermal resources that have not yet been put to use for thermal applications,” Ken Neely with the Idaho Energy Division said.

“This meeting will give small business owners an opportunity to meet with national experts to discuss geothermal power generation and direct use in the area.”

Bruce Green of the National Renewable Energy Lab will present a geothermal perspective from the U.S. Department of Energy, and Neely will discuss the county's geothermal potential.

Liz Battocletti from Alexandria, Va.-based Bob Lawrence and Associates will talk about geothermal uses for farms and ranches and developing and financing geothermal small businesses.

The meeting is sponsored by the Idaho Energy Division, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development.

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Marsing Elementary students to honor veterans with Nov. 10 program

Veterans will be honored next month in Marsing Elementary School's annual Veteran's Day Program. The program will be held at 1:45 p.m. on Nov. 10, in the Marsing Elementary cafeteria. The annual event draws in veterans from several different wars and is coordinated by music teacher Elizabeth Lacer with the assistance of the school's staff and students. The presentation of colors starts the event, which is followed by

music and introductions. The event is held in cooperation with the Marsing American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. For more information on the event, contact Lacer at the Marsing Elementary School. 896-4111.

State approves sage-grouse plans

Three conservation projects for sage-grouse habitat in parts of Owyhee County were approved by state officials late last week. Tom Hemker from the Idaho Department of Fish and Game reported that Steve Huffaker, state Fish and Game director, and Jim Caswell, administrator for the Governor's Office of Species Conservation, gave the final go-ahead Friday. Two projects will be undertaken by the Owyhee County Local Working Group (LWG) in the western part of the county. The third project is part of the Jarbidge LWG's efforts east of the Bruneau River. The Jarbidge includes parts of Owyhee and Twin Falls counties. The three projects were among 14 requests from throughout the state that were approved last week. One of the projects requested by the Owyhee County LWG was reseeded of the area damaged by the summer's Chubby Spain fire. The group sought \$60,000 for reseeded and weed control for

nearly 2,800 acres. The second Owyhee County LWG project that got the nod last week involves efforts to track sage-grouse through radio collars to determine the impact of this summer's severe West Nile Virus outbreak among the bird population. The project also will replenish the existing study group that was decimated by West Nile this year. The Jarbidge LWG will be given more than \$3,600 to purchase a Dixie harrow to help thin sagebrush in the Three Creek area. In its proposal, the Jarbidge LWG reported that using a Dixie harrow will improve sage-grouse habitat because in the past area ranchers had used fire to reduce sagebrush. While improving grazing conditions, burning sagebrush had an adverse effect on sage-grouse and other wildlife, according to the grant request. The program is expected to cover about 100,000 acres of private and state lands in the Jarbidge Resource Area.

Resource fair coincides with Homedale school's conferences

A community resource fair is planned today at Homedale Elementary School. It will coincide with parent-teacher conferences. The community resource fair will run from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Organizations on hand for the event will include CCOA Aging, Weatherization and Human Services; the Idaho Migrant Council; El-Ada Community Action Partnership; Treasure Valley Community College and Terry Reilly Health Services. A representative from the Idaho National Guard also will be on hand with a rock-climbing wall and anti-drug information. For more information, call Kathleen Schatz at 230-0489.

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Vote!

Gem Irrigation District

Tuesday, November 7, 2006

1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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Help us get back to the business of managing our most important asset, our Irrigation Water, and planning for the future of the Gem Irrigation District!

Let's Work Together to;

• Create a functional Board of Directors!

• Operate our district in accordance with our By-Laws!

• Promote equality for all Water Users fee's!

• Control unnecessary spending of Water Users fee's!

• Develop quality projects that benefit the entire district!

• Manage our assets and operating procedures in the most productive and beneficial manner to all Water Users!

Please Vote November 7th For Director Tim Leavitt and Tim Volk

Paid for by concerned Gem Irrigation District Water Users.

Events for November						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Haunted Trail	30	31 Halloween	1 4D Barrels Practice: 7pm	2 Team Roping Practice: 7pm	3	4 Play Day: Register 8am
5	6	7 Team Penning: 7pm	8 4D Barrels Practice: 7pm	9 Team Roping Practice: 7pm	10	11
12	13	14 Team Penning: 7pm	15 4D Barrels Practice: 7pm	16 Team Roping Practice: 7pm	17	18 Play Day: Register 8am
19	20	21 Team Penning: 7pm	Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday			
26	27	28 Team Penning: 7pm	29 4D Barrels Practice: 7pm	30 Team Roping Practice: 7pm	1	2 Play Day: Register 8am

Flying 44: Deadly milepost

First-responders face complicated problem

The deadly stretch of Idaho highway 51 near milepost 44 presents a complicated problem, according to Donna Bennett, a veteran advanced emergency medical technician with Grand View Ambulance.

“For one thing, I don’t think it is very well marked. The road is straight for miles, and then, all of a sudden, there are those curves,” said Bennett, who has worked in emergency medical services for more than 30 years.

Bennett added that drivers that are going over the speed limit cause some of the crashes.

“The road (in that section) is narrow and rough. It needs more markers,” Bennett said.

Bennett said that response time can be an issue because of the distance between the trouble spot and nearest emergency



Warning: slow or die

Bold, yellow signs marking advisory speeds, indicating a banked roadway and hazardous curves all mark the Flying 44. While signs are extremely visible, drivers often do not heed the warnings after miles of straight, open highway.

personnel.

“We’re typically 30 to 45 minutes away,” she said.

Bennett said that the Grand View Ambulance is usually the second EMS unit to respond, but

generally the first ambulance unit that is capable of transporting a patient.

“The Bruneau QRU (Quick Response Unit) is the first responding unit,” Bennett said. “They are primarily a First Responder, who can prepare a patient for transport.”

Bennett said that except in exigent circumstances, the Bruneau QRU does not transport patients.

She also said that the distance problem is compounded because the lack of traffic in the desolate area means a crash can go undetected for a long period of time before it is reported. Cell phone coverage in the area is not reliable either.

Owyhee County Sheriff’s Sgt. Jim Bish recalled at least one crash that went undetected for

an entire night before someone reported it.

Because of this, Bennett said that it has become standard practice to launch an air-ambulance, such as LifeFlight from Boise’s Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center when a report of a serious crash comes in to county dispatch.

“We’ll typically launch a helicopter to be on standby in the air,” Bennett said. Bennett said that the ground ambulance is still the first-responding unit.

Bennett said any call involving a crash in the area generates anxiety in emergency crews.

“Anytime we’re called out on Highway 51 it’s scary,” Bennett said. “It’s either real bad or nothing.”

— JWB

√ Idaho 51

desert highway. Three people have died this year alone near milepost 44.

Last week, Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman, Bish and officials from the Idaho Transportation Department met in the Owyhee desert south of Bruneau to explore options in dealing with the Flying 44.

“Speed is one of the main problems. That’s my problem,” Aman said frankly.

But, that problem is not easily solved. He only has two deputies stationed in the Bruneau area, and the vast majority of their time is spent answering calls for service an hour away.

The corners at milepost 44 are marked with yellow “advisory speed” signs of 40 mph. Most of the accidents involve vehicles traveling significantly faster than that speed.

When deputies have had manpower to give the area extra attention for enforcement, Aman said, they barely have time to finish writing one citation before another speeding vehicle roars past.

Aman said he has been in contact with command staff from the Idaho State Police, but that agency’s troopers are, likewise, stretched thin and more likely than not more than an hour away.

“I have been promised by ISP that they would have motors (motorcycles) out here a few days a month, but I haven’t seen them yet,” Aman said.

Aman said his hopes for a realignment, where state engineers essentially straighten out curves in the road, are slim.

“I already know we’re not going to get a realignment out of it,” Aman said.

Aman said that a solar-powered flashing warning sign might help alert drivers to the hazards of the curve at milepost 44.

Currently, there are three large yellow warning signs posted on the northbound side of the road immediately preceding the deadly corner, one advising a speed of 40 mph, one signifying significant bank in the roadway and one advising of sharp corners.

“That corner is so deceiving. They (drivers) get locked in and have tunnel vision, and that corner is blind,” Bish said, noting the miles and miles of straight highway that precedes the Flying 44.

Bish said he did not recall a crash that involved a southbound motorist.

Another hazard is the fact that the roadside is lined with large lava rocks, which are unforgiving if and when a motorist leaves the roadway. However, Aman pointed out that the rocks alongside the roadway do not cause crashes.

“The rocks are not causing the wrecks,” he said. “They may make the difference between a fatal and a non-fatal, but they do not cause wrecks.”

Aman also said that the “vast majority” of wrecks at the fatal 44 involve residents from out of the area.

Idaho Transportation Department spokesperson Mollie McCarty stressed that driver responsibility plays a crucial role in reducing hazards, a point echoed by Idaho State Police Capt. Steve Richardson.

Richardson stressed wearing



Deadly reminders

Small memorials of lives lost at milepost 44 dot the countryside alongside the highway near dangerous curves. Large rocks lining the roadside are contributing factors in the number of deaths in the area.

seatbelts, avoiding aggressive driving behaviors (such as speeding) and avoiding driving while impaired in any way will reduce the risk of heading off the highway or causing a potentially deadly accident.

John Murray, an engineer’s assistant with ITD, put it simply: “We can’t drive their cars for them.”

— JWB



“Speed is one of the main problems. That’s my problem.”

— Gary Aman, Owyhee County Sheriff

Flying 44: Deadly milepost

Funding limits ITD's ideal solution to flawed road



Improved signage part of equation
The Idaho Transportation Department will install higher-visibility signs, including some topped with bright orange triangles, to increase driver safety on Idaho 51 near milepost 44.

The Idaho Transportation Department knows what needs to be done to lessen the danger of a stretch of Idaho highway 51.

“What we would really like to do is a highway realignment, to realign the curves,” agency spokesperson Mollie McCarty said last week.

But rising construction costs prevent ITD from fulfilling its wish list.

“That is a project that just can’t be funded at this time,” McCarty said. “A majority of our money is spent on maintenance.”

McCarty said it’s not a situation that sits well with either ITD or the Owyhee County Sheriff’s Office.

“Neither of our agencies are happy,” she said.

McCarty said the department tries to make conditions safer for drivers using what resources are available in the best way possible.

McCarty said one of the challenges is in finding ways to catch driver’s attention, alerting

‘That is a project that just can’t be funded at this time. A majority of our money is spent on maintenance.’

— **Mollie McCarty**
ITD spokesperson

them to the changing terrain of the roadway.

“We have a long, straight stretch of highway, then curves,” McCarty said. “Some motorists are not prepared to address those corners.”

McCarty said changing the speed limit on the highway is not the only answer, and in order to do that the department must complete a “speed study,” which measures the speed of traffic in the area.

McCarty said that ITD sets limits based on the speeds that 85 percent of drivers use to travel a section of roadway.

“We have to make the speed

limit realistic, or it can lead to other issues,” she said.

McCarty said tailgating motorists and attempts to pass at inappropriate times are often the result of speed limits set unrealistically low.

Kevin Sablan, a traffic engineer with ITD, said the stretch of Idaho 51 near milepost 44 presents a complex dilemma.

“It’s a challenge. We have an exchange of needs all over,” Sablan said.

After observing the area first-hand, Sablan and ITD engineer’s assistant John Murray suggested placing large reflective signs in the area to alert drivers of the

dangerous curves.

Sablan said speed limits are only part of the solution and that they must be pertinent to be meaningful to drivers.

Sablan told The Owyhee Avalanche that Idaho 51 originally was constructed on its winding path because it follows the natural topography of the land and that the road was built years ago, using the layout of what used to be a wagon trail.

McCarty said that ITD’s role in the situation is limited and that highway safety hinges on many factors: mainly, engineering, enforcement and personal responsibility.

“There are so many components that come together. Engineering is one; working with the public to look at their own choices, to look at their behavior such as wearing seatbelts, speed, conditions and not driving while impaired. Enforcement is the third.”

— JWB

BSU releases book on early Owyhee mining towns

Boise State University’s Albertsons Library has just published the earliest records of marriages, confirmations, baptisms and burials in historic Silver City.

“Early Records of the Episcopal Church in Southwestern Idaho, 1867-1916,” transcribed by Patricia Dewey Jones, contains records kept by Episcopal clergymen who visited Silver City and DeLamar, high in the Owyhee Mountains, when they were booming mining towns.

“These are important records for historians and genealogists,” said Alan Virta, head of Special Collections in Albertsons Library.

The book, priced at \$10, is available now at the Owyhee County Historical Museum in Murphy.

The state of Idaho did not keep records of births and deaths until 1911, so church registers are often the only vital records in existence from before that date. The records reveal parents’ names and birthdates of baptized children, and the names of parents of the brides and grooms. The burial records often contain sad and poignant stories: a young man killed in a snow slide, children

falling victim to scarlet fever, and a young woman dying in childbirth, followed to the grave by her motherless child a few months later.

The Episcopal Church was one of the first denominations to be active in Idaho, sending missionaries to most of the important mining towns early in Idaho’s territorial history. They built a church in Silver City in 1898, but the closure of the mines and the town’s dwindling population led them to sell the church in the 1920s. The building is now Our Lady of Tears Roman Catholic Church, a landmark on a knoll high above the town.

The Episcopal Diocese of Idaho donated the historic church registers to the Boise State library in 1989. Jones, a history student at Boise State, transcribed and indexed them as an internship project in the library’s Special Collections department.

The 66-page paperback book is available from the BSU Bookstore and also can be purchased via the Internet at boisestatebooks.com or by calling the bookstore at (208) 426-2665 (426-BOOK).

PETER RICKARDS

PROTECTING IDAHO FAMILIES

State Representative 23A

My top priorities will be...

- 1) First Class Education for our Children.
- 2) Creating a clean energy base for Idaho's future power needs.
- 3) The "Incentive for Improvement Initiative"
Let's cut waste, NOT raise taxes!
- 4) Stop more Bomb Testing in Nevada, AIMED AT IDAHO with wind direction!
- 5) Protecting family farmers & ranchers

Peter

Citizens may contact me at 734-3338 or email me at nifty1@cableone.net
Donations can be directed to treasurer Carol Sperry at Rickards For Representative, PO Box 5022, Twin Falls, Idaho, 83303

For news articles on Dr. Rickards' efforts to help ALL downwinders, please visit www.deseretnews.com, click "archives", search for: Peter Rickards, under "view style" select "relevant paragraph", then click "go". Four articles should appear

Dear Owyhee County Families,

I have been asked by many ranchers and farmers what I would do in the Legislature to protect the agricultural community. I believe my platform details specific ideas that will prove more helpful than the present Legislators, even the one's with direct agriculture experience.

For example, we need to follow the lead of the conservative North Dakota Legislature, who became the seventh state to legalize industrial hemp for their farmers. Canada already has 50,000 acres working for them.

When I was out campaigning at the Owyhee county fair, one lady rancher responded, "I LOVE my hemp rope! I use it for everything. It's GREAT material!" Exactly, so why are we importing it, instead of growing it?

It's used for linens that feel better and last longer than cotton. It's a low water crop that North Dakota's Agriculture Commissioner says, "thrives without pesticides or herbicides, reinvigorates the soil, and matures in less than 4 months." It increases your production as a rotation crop, and ruins illegal marijuana crops.

Please read his wonderful testimony at <http://www.agdepartment.com/Testimony/Testimony2005/IndustrialHempJune2005.pdf>

Industrial hemp used to be North Dakota's number one crop. Let's follow North Dakota "back to the future" before this growing market is filled by other states or countries.

Let's bring industrial hemp manufacturing jobs to Idaho, like dairies brought cheese factory jobs.

Senior water rights rule. We need aquifer recharge. We need to put our manure to work generating electricity. I want to update our human sewage treatment plants to high tech methane recapture, and add the dairy manure to that. Working together will save money and help everyone

My dad is a veterinarian. I was raised working with odors, cleaning cages from age three on. Please don't mistake me as a whiny city person. I respect the importance of protecting family farmers and ranchers. I pledge allegiance to the flag, not any political party. I would appreciate your consideration of my candidacy.

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Back to Baking

<div>Boneless Beef Rib Eye Steak</div> <div>\$5.99 lb.</div>	<div>Boneless Beef Chuck Roast</div> <div>\$2.29 lb.</div>	<div>Salad Mix</div> <div>99¢ ea.</div>	<div>5 lb. Bag Red Potatoes</div> <div>\$1.89 ea.</div>
<div>Pork Loin Quarter Loin Chops</div> <div>\$1.49 lb.</div>	<div>Pork Loin Center Chops</div> <div>\$1.99 lb.</div>	<div>Florida Grapefruit</div> <div>79¢ lb.</div>	<div>Apples & Pears</div> <div>79¢ lb.</div>
<div>Ball Park 16 oz. Franks</div> <div>\$1.79 ea.</div> <div>Western Family 2 lb. Medium Cheese</div> <div>\$4.49 ea.</div> <div>Western Family 48 oz. Fish Sticks</div> <div>\$5.99 ea.</div>	<div>Sunland 3 lb. Corn Dog</div> <div>\$3.29 ea.</div> <div>Western Family 12 oz. Thin Lunch Meat</div> <div>2 for \$5</div> <div>Market Pack Cheddar Cheese</div> <div>\$2.49 lb.</div>	<div>Cucumbers</div> <div>3 for \$1</div> <div>Avocados</div> <div>99¢ ea.</div> <div>1 lb. Baby Carrots</div> <div>99¢ ea.</div>	<div>12 oz. Cranberries</div> <div>\$1.99 ea.</div> <div>Tomatoes</div> <div>99¢ lb.</div> <div>Lemons 4¹/₂ Limes</div> <div>10 for \$1</div>
<div>Western Family Chocolate Chips</div> <div>4 for \$5 11.5-12 oz.</div> <div>Western Family Milk, Half Gallon</div> <div>\$1.29 ea.</div>	<div>Western Family Powdered Sugar</div> <div>\$1.29 ea. 32 oz.</div> <div>Western Family 48 oz. Vegetable Oil</div> <div>\$2.39 ea.</div>	<div>Pepsi Products</div> <div>3 for \$10 12pk 12oz Cans</div> <div>2 Liter Bottle Pepsi Products</div> <div>\$1.29 ea.</div>	<div>Keystone Beer</div> <div>\$9.99 ea. 24pk 12oz Cans</div> <div>12pk 12oz Cans MGD & Miller Lite</div> <div>\$7.99 ea.</div>
<div>Western Family Flour</div> <div>\$4.99 ea. 25 lb.</div>	<div>Western Family Light Amber Walnuts</div> <div>\$3.99 ea. 16 oz.</div>	<div>Nalley Chili</div> <div>\$1.19 ea. 15 oz.</div>	<div>Budweiser Beer</div> <div>\$12.99 ea. 18pk 12oz Cans</div>
<div>Betty Crocker Cake Mixes</div> <div>4 for \$5 18-19.5 oz.</div>	<div>Western Family Light Corn Syrup</div> <div>\$1.39 ea. 32 oz.</div>	<div>Rice-A-Roni & Pasta Roni</div> <div>5 for \$5 4.3-7.2 oz.</div>	<div>Crystal Geyser Water</div> <div>\$4.99 ea. 24pk .5 Liter Bottles</div>
<div>Tostitos Tortilla Chips</div> <div>2 for \$6 11-13.5 oz.</div>	<div>Tostitos Salsa & Con Queso</div> <div>2 for \$5 15.25-16 oz.</div>	<div>Prego Pasta Sauce</div> <div>3 for \$5 26 oz.</div>	<div>Shasta Soda 6 Pack Cans</div> <div>4 for \$5</div>
<div>Purina Dog Chow</div> <div>\$9.99 ea. 22 lb.</div>	<div>Campbell's Select Soups</div> <div>3 for \$5 19 oz.</div>	<div>Marie Callendar's Frozen Entrees</div> <div>2 for \$6 14-16 oz.</div>	<div>Western Family Advantage Pack Paper Towels</div> <div>\$3.99 ea. 6pk</div>
<div>Fritos & Cheetos 8.5-9.75 oz.</div> <div>2 for \$4</div>	<div>Western Family Bagged Cereal</div> <div>\$2.89 ea. 32 oz.</div>	<div>Marie Callendar's Pot Pies</div> <div>2 for \$5 16-16.5 oz.</div>	<div>SRM COUPON</div> <div>Crystal Geyser Water</div> <div>24pk Case 75¢ off</div>
<div>Lay's Potato Chips</div> <div>2 for \$5 13.25-16 oz.</div>	<div>Western Family Frozen Vegetables</div> <div>69¢ ea. 16 oz.</div>	<div>Gold n Soft Margarine</div> <div>89¢ ea. 16 oz.</div>	

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

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