

Huskies one win from State **Page 1B** **Owyhee County, Below**

State Tax Commission investigates assessor's office

Special report, Page 12A-13A

County looks ahead to another season of West Nile Virus

Wednesday, February 21, 2007

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

Established 1865

The Ownhee Avalanche

VOLUME 23, NUMBER 8

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

Inside

Obituaries page 6A

School menus page 6A

Sports pages 1B-8B, 16B

Looking Back page 9B

Commentary pages 10B-11B

Legal notices pages 12B-13B

Classifieds pages 14B-15B



Homedale

Legion post

Sgt. Ross A. Clevenger laid to rest

Above: A motorist pays respects to the passing funeral procession of Sgt. Ross A. Clevenger on Idaho highway 55 on Saturday. *Below:* A U.S. flag flies from a vehicle parked in the crowded Marsing High School gymnasium parking lot. Clevenger's obituary, **Page 6A**

Fallen soldier honored

Hundreds attend Clevenger memorial service in Marsing

It seemed as if the entire city of Marsing turned out to pay final respects to U.S. Army Sgt. Ross A. Clevenger on Saturday afternoon.

Clevenger, a 2003 Marsing High School graduate, was laid to rest last weekend, nine days after a roadside bomb in Iraq's Anbar province killed him and two other members of the Gowen Field-based 321st Engineering Battalion. Hundreds filed into the high school gymnasium in the town of more than 800 to attend Clevenger's memorial service. Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter and regional and national representatives of the Army spoke at the ceremony.

Outside, dozens of motorcycles adorned with flags of the United States and various U.S. military units — the Patriot Guard stood watch at the perimeter of the gymnasium's overflowing parking lot.



headaches continue Page 11A The high school gym's reader board broadcast a message for the Clevenger family, including a digital portrait of a soldier holding

— See Soldier, page 5A

State: Property devalued by assessor's office

Official says assessments far below market value create inequitable levy rates

Assessments set by the Owyhee County Assessor's Office don't properly reflect market value, state records show, and a consultant from the State Tax Commis-

sion is working with the county to remedy the problem.

Kathlynn Ireland, a consulting appraiser with the state, revealed last week that the assessment-tomarket value ratio studies submitted by county assessor Brett Endicott for the past two lien years have failed to meet state standards in several property categories. Ideally, the tax commission looks for assessment ratios between 90 or 110 percent of market value. The goal is to assure that property owners are being taxed fairly and uniformly. Of the substandard ratios in the original January 2006 study, the 37.22

— See Assessor, page 2A

From page 1

$\sqrt{Assessor}$: Investigator says newcomers may have been assessed higher

Property assessment/value by the numbers

Each January, county assessors are required by state law to submit studies comparing the average assessment of properties in various categories to the market value of those properties.

The State Tax Commission from the 2006 tax year, the report then grades the reports based on an acceptable criteria of between 90 percent and 110 percent of market value. Below is the original report

submitted after state review and the final report of the remaining outstanding category after review by the county Board of Equalization.

Ratio study submitted to tax commission by assessor's office

Property category	Number of sales	Mean/median Ratio	Average Assessment	Average sales price	Pass/fail
12	8	76.78%	\$644,212	\$857,094	Fail
18	10	37.22%	\$159,624	\$542,900	Fail
12/34	16	69.96%	\$1,480,888	\$2,220,500	Fail
15	29	77.41%	\$1,771,000	\$2,424,828	Fail
15/37	6	52.80%	\$759,593	\$1,393,254	Fail
20/41	27	73.49%	\$1,311,769	\$1,848,711	Fail
12/48	6	60.87%	\$427,294	\$704,963	Fail
20/48	6	43.83%	\$168,223	\$438,000	Fail
21/42	7	73.25%	\$256,311	\$482,514	Pass

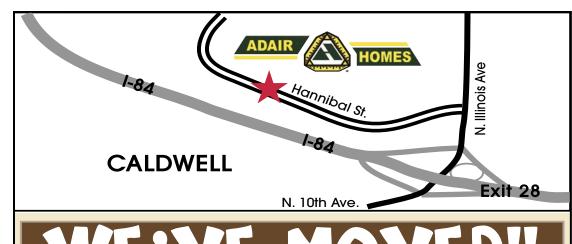
Assessor's follow-up ratio study after tax commission review

Property category	Number of sales	Mean/median Ratio	Average Assessment	Average sales price	Trend
12 & 18	13	87.50%	\$365,013	\$492,240	0.63
12/34	25	82.52%	\$3,081,037	\$3,828,198	0.36
15	13	99.80%	\$483,214	\$566,628	0.38
15/37	13	85.37%	\$1,912,920	\$2,439,754	0.22
20/41	35	100.01%	\$2,665,837	\$2,764,561	0.32
12/46 & 20/46	7	110.90%	\$322,287	\$239,411	0.01
12/48	12	71.42%	\$1,014,051	\$1,414,515	0.18
15/48	5	90.93%	\$539,130	\$606,500	0.05
20/48	5	77.86%	\$361,495	\$470,547	0.12
21/42	7	73.25%	\$256,311	\$482,514	0.03

Post-county board of equalization study

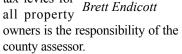
Property category	Number of sales	Mean/median Ratio	Average Assessment	Average sales price	Trend
12/48	11	93.58%	\$1,172,568	\$1,339,515	0.27

Property category key: 12 & 18 — Rural residential tracts and other lands; 12/34 — Improved rural residential tract; 15 — Rural residential subdivision land; 37 — Improved rural residential subdivision; 20/41 — Improved urban residential lot/acre; 12/48 — Declared manufactured home on rural residential tract; 15/3720/48 — Declared manufactured home on urban residential lot/acre; 21/42 — Improved commercial lot/acre; 12/46 — Manufactured home on rural residentia tract; 2



percent ratio in the unimproved rural land classification was the worst.

Ireland said that maintaining uniform and equitable tax levies for



"This indicates whether people are having their property valued fairly or not or if there is bias (in the process)," Ireland said.

Ireland said the 2006 ratio report compiled by Endicott showed a devaluation of assessed value in relation to market value.

She said that the phenomenon was unique to the county.

"The first ratio study showed that Owyhee County was a deflationary market, the only one in 44 counties that was that way," she said.

Endicott's report for the 2006 lien year failed in all but one of nine property categories listed by the county. Although the 2007 ratio study shows improvement, the county still lags in compliance in eight of 13 property categories.

State law requires county assessors to submit ratio studies for review each January. If state analysts determine that there are compliance issues, the county has until July to bring the offending categories in line.

When Endicott resubmitted his 2006 ratio report per state policy, only one category - manufactured homes on a rural residential lot — remained below state standards.

According to Ireland, the county board of equalization reconciled the category by resetting the value of properties through the analysis of market trends, a practice known as "trending."

In the extreme case that a category still is out of compliance, the state Board of Equalization will hire independent consultants to "trend" the category at 100 percent of market value. The consultants are paid with sales tax revenues garnished from the non-compliant county, Ireland said. Though the Owyhee County situation didn't get that far, Ireland admitted she had difficulty obtaining all the necessary data to confirm the county's compliance. Although all the information at the assessor's office pertinent

to Ireland's study is of public record, Ireland said she had to make an open records request to obtain all sales verification forms to help determine market value.

Now, Ireland is working with the county's appraisers to re-value the county. She said that's the extent of the cooperation from the assessor's office.

"It's very acrimonious right now," she said. "There's not a lot of communication with the assessor.3

Ireland said an imbalance in ratios creates inequitable levy rates and can force some property owners to pay much more in taxes than their property should bring. She said it can be a particularly sticky situation when dealing with taxing districts that envelope multiple counties. Owyhee County has several such districts that overlap with neighboring counties, including the Marsing and Homedale school district and Lizard Butte Library District with Canyon, the Melba School District with Canyon and Ada, the Bruneau-Grand View District with Elmore and the Three Creek District with Twin Falls County. The Glenns Ferry and Castleford school districts draw students primarily from Twin Falls County, but part of those districts' boundaries also lie in Owyhee.

Overlapping fire and ambulance districts include Homedale and Marsing with Canyon and Grand View with Elmore.

Ireland said that while she continues to help the county correct its ratio, she is conducting an ongoing investigation into how long the devaluation trend may have been going on.

"I'm looking for bias and when the values started to become inequitable," Ireland said.

She said she's also looking for abuses in agricultural exemptions, and added that ratio studies have shown the possibility that property owned by newcomers to the county is being assessed at a higher rate.

Ireland has worked for the State

Come visit us in our new offices at 411 Hannibal St., Caldwell. We're right on the freeway, between Exit 27 & 28. Take Exit 28, head toward Birds of Prey Harley-Davidson, turn in front of Harley-Davidson onto Kimball, and curve around onto Hannibal St. We are 2 blocks down on the right. Look for the sign!

WE NOW BUILD IN EASTERN OREGONI

From Jordan Valley to Ontario, we are your affordable choice in site built homes.

If your Country Dream is to have it all-the land, the new home, the room to roam—let us show you the affordable path

• 2"x6" exterior walls rated at R-23 • \$45,000 average equity at move-in! • Starting around \$50 sq. ft. 100% financing, O.A.C.



Practical Homes for Practical People! www.adairhomes.com

411 Hannibal St. - Caldwell, ID (208)459-8274

Tax Commission for $2\frac{1}{2}$ years, and she covers District III, which includes Owyhee, Canyon, Payette, Washington and Gem counties.

"My goal is to get the county back on track," Ireland said. "I'm looking for uniformity and equability among the property owners in the county and making things finally fair."

— JPB

'My goal is to get the county back on track. I'm looking for uniformity ... and making things finally fair.'

- Kathlynn Ireland

Idaho State Tax Commission consulting appraiser

Homedale City may pass up federal funding for water, sewer

Fink holds off signing loan papers upon discovery of state-backed option

With the paperwork for federal the land to be improved by the bonds ready to be signed to kick off its sewer and water system improvements, the City of Homedale may have found a more agreeable way to get the needed funding.

The City Council voted unanimously to hold off on accepting money from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Agency in favor of exploring a program backed by the Idaho state government.

"We could be able to get the same money with less headaches," Mayor Paul Fink said at Wednesday's council meeting. "This is an opportunity we should further into."

The council unanimously decided to hold off on accepting the bonds from the federal government and take time to explore funding opportunities from the Idaho Municipal Bond Bank. The council is scheduled to meet again Thursday.

If the city's loan application is approved, funding would arrive from the bond bank in three to six weeks, according to information about the bank posted on the Idaho State Treasurer's Web site.

Even a further delay of 90 to 180 days seems to be palatable to the city fathers if it means fewer requirements, as would be the case with federal money.

Fink said the strings attached to USDA RDA loans came as a surprise as the process progressed.

"There's a lot of red tape we didn't realize when we started that, and (RDA representative) Dave Flesher didn't mention that," the mayor said.

According to Fink, if any of

federal loan was situated in a flood plain, development would be prohibited in that area for the life of the bond. The proposed motel/ restaurant complex at the corner of U.S. Highway 95 and East Idaho Avenue and mere yards from the Snake River could be considered in a flood plain, although Fink said during last week's meeting that no part of Owyhee County is officially mapped in a flood plain.

Fink also said it would cost the city more money to comply to the demands of the USDA program.

Homedale's leaders only learned about the municipal bond bank in the past few weeks, and more information was gained after a conference call with leaders in Cascade's city government. Fink said Cascade obtained a loan from the Idaho Municipal Bond Bank after the stringent requirements to receive federal infrastructure funding became clear.

Councilman Steve Schultz agreed that the USDA money would require the city to put undue financial pressure on its residents.

"One thing that bothered me about the RDA is they were worried because our citizens weren't paying enough in water and sewer rates," Schultz said. "They were also doing that in Cascade, where it would be detrimental to the city (to raise rates)."

Fink said another attractive feature of the state bond bank avenue is the simplicity of the application process.

"No other strings were attached," city public works supervisor Larry Bauer said. "The city only has to show solvency and that we can pay the note."

More city government news, Page 9A

 Homedale council amends city parking ordinance to place two-hour limits on parts of East Idaho Avenue and East Owyhee Avenue.

• City of Homedale to get new computer server after failure of old systems leads to potential loss of six years of police records.

• Marsing to apply for federal wastewater grant.

Homedale still owes about \$150,000 on its last water bond that was passed in 1979, but Fink said the city government has enough cash on hand to retire that bond to satisfy any debt-load obligations required by the bond bank application process.

In other infrastructure-related business from last week's council meeting, the council followed Fink's suggestion and decided against reconstruction of water lines under 4th Street near the proposed Santa Fe subdivision.

"We need money in the bank to pay the (1979) bond," Fink said.

Citing estimates from Lurre Construction and Eastern Oregon Construction, Fink indicated the project could cost as much as \$55,000.

Fink suggested the city fold the project into the work already planned as part of the water bond.

Bauer said holding off on the upgrade of the water line would have minimal impact on fire suppression capabilities in the new subdivision.

"I don't think it's going to put any lives in danger if we don't do it right away," Fink said.

— JPB

HN DEERE SPRING FILT buy 12 or more John Deere filters, receive 12% off our everyday low prices Through February 28, 2007 Stock **Up Now** and SAVE!

Top quality filters at spectacular savings!

Stop in today and take advantage of these special savings. Pick up filters for all your farm





Former Owyhee lawman Prescott dies at 86

One-time sheriff's office chief deputy also served as Marsing police chief

Former Marsing Police Chief Nampa at the age of 86. John Prescott died Wednesday in

Prescott also served as chief

deputy for the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office and Canyon County Sheriff during a 40-year career in law enforcement.

Prescott ended a four-year term as Canyon County Sheriff when he retired from law enforcement in 1985.

Prescott came to Opaline in 1941 when his family moved to Owyhee County from Nebraska. Prescott's memorial service was held Monday morning at the Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center.

Afterward, he was buried with military honors at Marsing-Homedale Cemetery.



SUPERM	ARKET PRICE	SIZE SUPERMA	RKET PRICE	SIZE SUPERM	ARKET PRICE	SIZE SUPERMAI	RKET PRICE	
5/65HR-14	38.95	215/60HR-15	52.01	255/50VR-17	128.13	255/40VR-17	114.12	
5/65HR-14	41.86	205/60HR-16	58.81	205/45VR-16	84.21	215/40ZR-18	117.87	
5/65HR-14	45.98	215/60HR-16	59.17	205/45VR-17	87.27	225/40ZR-18	118.34	
5/65HR-14	50.01	225/60HR-16	58.19	215/45VR-17	93.27	235/40ZR-18	127.17	
5/65HR-15	46.62	195/55VR-15	60.17	225/45VR-17	97.22	245/40ZR-18	139.61	
5/65HR-15	46.92	205/55VR-15	63.12	235/45VR-17	100.73	215/35ZR-18	119.43	
5/65HR-15	51.76	205/55VR-16	70.29	245/45VR-17	106.73	225/35ZR-18	131.13	
5/65HR-15	56.44	225/55VR-16	71.24	245/45ZR-18	144.85	255/35ZR-18	173.31	
5/60HR-13	34.99	195/50VR-15	57.06	205/40VR-16	67.16	265/35ZR-18	193.04	
5/60HR-13	34.99	205/50VR-15	61.05	215/40ZR-16	79.19	225/35ZR-19	190.91	
5/60HR-14	41.13	195/50VR-16	63.87	205/40VR-17	76.20	235/35ZR-19XL	206.36	
5/60HR-14	45.55	205/50VR-16	70.33	215/40VR-17	90,49	245/35ZR-19	209.23	
5/60HR-14	48.56	225/50VR-16	73.62	235/40VR-17	99.58	245/35ZR-20	157.04	
5/60HR-15	46,90	205/50ZR-17	98.69	245/40VR-17	97.35	255/35ZR-20	158.62	
5/60HR-15	51.66							

for details

Health forces Marsing High principal to resign

Stella served eight years in position

Citing health problems, Chuck Stella stepped down as principal at Marsing High School last week.

Marsing Schools superintendent Harold Shockley said despite a severe infection, Stella delivered his resignation in person at the school board's monthly meeting

Feb. 13. He could have merely tendered his resignation in a letter.

"Chuck doesn't know how to do anything halfway," Shockley said. "He came out (to the meeting) to resign and expressed appreciation of the support of the staff, the community and the kids that he's had."

Stella had one year left on a two-year contract with the district.

"He told me before (that his) intent was two and probably three more years," Shockley said. "Physically he can't do it."

Stella, principal at Marsing's secondary school for the past eight years, had knee replacement surgery after twisting his knee in mid-September, Shockley said.

It has been discovered that an infection quickly has spread in the wake of the installation of an artificial knee. "He was on medication that wiped out his immune system, and the infection went rampant," Shockley said, adding that Stella is home recovering now.

The school district has posted the Marsing High School principal job and is seeking applicants.

"We can fill (the position) anytime after March 16, but we've said the position will remain open until filled," Shockley said. "If we don't have the actual candidates we need, we can extend (the hiring period)."

In the interim, Shockley and high school guidance counselor John Cossel are splitting the duties formerly carried out by Stella.

"We felt like it was probably the best decision for our kids and our staff, and that's what's important," Shockley said.

— JPB

From page 1





Solemn sights in Marsing

Left: Motorcycle officers and a Idaho State Police trooper escort the hearse carrying the body of Sgt. Ross A. Clevenger across the Snake River bridge and into Canyon County, the first leg of a trip to Caldwell's Hillcrest Memorial Gardens for burial Saturday. Above: A line of motorcycles — part of the Patriot Guard — flies numerous U.S. flags while parked on the perimeter of the Marsing High School gymnasium parking lot. Clevenger's memorial was held inside the arena.

$\sqrt{\text{Soldier:}}$ Motorists line roadway to pay respects to Marsing graduate

an honorary salute.

Clevenger, 21, grew up in Melba inside the Marsing School District. His mother, Abby Bradshaw, still lives in Melba, and the fallen Owyhee County soldier was fondly remembered by teachers at Marsing High School. The soldier's father, Loren, resides in Washington state.

After the ceremony, Clevenger's flag-draped coffin was placed in a hearse for the trip through Marsing, over the Snake River and down Idaho highway 55 to his final resting place at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Caldwell.

Three motorcycle officers and

an Idaho State Police trooper escorted the funeral procession. As is customary, drivers in vehicles passing in the opposite direction pulled to the side of the roadway out of respect. But this display was more poignant than others. Many vehicles were pulled to the side of Main Street just inside Marsing several minutes before the long line of mourners passed.

At the top of the hill, where Idaho 55 turns north at its intersection with Marsing Road, a lone motorcyclist, his bike's front fender adorned with an American flag, waited more than 30 minutes for an opportunity to salute the passing motorcade. By the time the procession had reached him, many other motorists had pulled to the side of the road and exited their vehicles to also salute — hands over their hearts — as the hearse and other vehicles passed.

The tributes continued as the hearse carrying Clevenger's casket proceeded toward the cemetery. At Hoskins Road, where Idaho 55 turns to the east, a man stood on the side of the road waving a large American flag long after the procession had driven past.

At the cemetery, Clevenger's

graveside services included full military honors. A grateful nation posthumously presented the soldier with the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. Both his mother and father were presented with folded U.S. flags.

Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman said that 23 deputies and members of the county posse were dispatched for traffic control and — if needed — to keep watch over any war protests. No protesters materialized, but with vehicles lining the streets around the gymnasium, the added law enforcement presence helped traffic at the intersection of Idaho 55 and Idaho 78 in downtown Marsing flow easily.

Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller, TRIAD member Erv Gifford and a Canyon County Sheriff's Office community outreach officer also were on hand for traffic control.

Separate funeral services were planned for Clevenger's fallen comrades. On Tuesday, Sgt. Jim Holtom, 21, was honored at the Idaho State Veteran's Cemetery in Boise. Pfc. Raymond M. Werner, 22, will be laid to rest there Friday morning.

— JPB

The Ownhee Avalanche

School menus

Homedale Elementary

Feb. 22: Lasagna or mini corn dogs, corn, apple turnover, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 23: Fish nuggets or turkey sandwich, tots, cookie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 26: Sloppy Jo or hot dog, fries, chocolate pudding, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 27: Ham & bean soup or tuna sandwich, peas, cookie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 28: Chili or beef taco pie, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Homedale Middle

Feb. 22: Spaghetti or chicken bacon melt, bread stick, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 23: Pizza or popcorn chicken, salad, cookie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 26: Chicken patty or rib-b-que, cookie, tots, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 27: Taco burger or wiener wrap, green beans, animal crackers, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 28: Beef or chicken taco, corn, fruit roll up, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Homedale High

Feb. 22: Chicken patty or sandwich & soup, potato wedges, dessert, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 23: Crispito or rib-b-que/bun, corn, taco salad, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 26: Pizza, popcorn chicken or chef's salad, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 27: Beef stk or chicken filet, mashed potatoes/gravy, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 28: Spaghetti or burrito, French bread, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Marsing

Feb. 22: Spaghetti, salad, fruit, milk, sandwiches, salad bar 4th-12th, garlic bread.

Feb. 23: Hot dog, veggie, fruit, milk, sub sandwich, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.

Feb. 26: Chicken nuggets, fruit, milk, tostadas, salad bar 4th-12th, cinnamon twist.

Feb. 27: Shepherds pie, veggie, fruited jello, milk, sandwiches, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.

Feb. 28: Corn dog, chocolate pudding, fruit, milk, Chinese egg roll w/rice, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.

Bruneau

Feb. 22: Chicken wrap, fried rice, stir fry veggie, fruit milk.

Feb. 23: Macaroni & cheese, deviled eggs, green beans, roll/butter, milk.

Feb. 26: Taco soup, cornbread, tossed salad, pudding, fruit, milk.

Feb. 27: Lasagna, salad/croutons, French bread, peaches, milk. Feb. 28: Roast beef sandwich, potato wedges, veggie, fruit, cookie,

milk.

Obituaries

Sgt. Ross Aaron Clevenger

Sgt. Ross Aaron Clevenger, 21, was killed February 8, 2007 while serving in Iraq with the 321st Engineering Battalion.

Born April 11, 1985 in Nampa, Idaho, Ross grew up in the Treasure Valley and graduated from Marsing High School in 2003. He joined the Army Reserves during high school and after basic training enrolled in Boise State University. He earned his CNA certificate in 2005 and was continuing his education. He was called to active duty in early 2006 and deployed to Iraq in September.

Ross will be remembered for the genuine love of his family, his positive attitude, and his goofy grin which always brightened the room. One of Ross' passions was snowboarding; he had a season pass to Bogus Basin every year since graduating high school. While Ross was on leave from Iraq in January 2007 he spent a week at Tamarack snowboarding with family and friends. During



high school he discovered his love of writing and continued to do so in his spare time. Ross also loved to watch movies and play video games and his movie/ video collection was one of his prized possessions. Ross spent weekends fishing, hiking and skateboarding with his siblings.

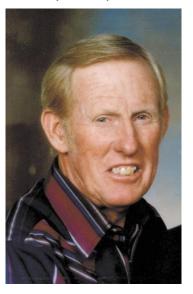
Ross was preceded in death by his brother Blake. Ross is survived by his mother Abby (Reese) Bradshaw of Marsing, ID, his father Loren (Nancy) Clevenger of Kennewick, WA, his siblings David (Debbie), Paul (Diana), Debbie (Mike), Melissa (Rick), Brent (Summer), Brett (Christine), Jenny (Dax), Angie (Chris), Kara (Wade), Matt, Ben (Lisa), Julie (Tim), Brandon (Shanda), Charli, Robert, and Morgan. He is also survived by his loving fiancée, Staff Sgt. Brandie Brown, still serving in Iraq.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 P.M. Saturday, February 17, 2007, in the Marsing High School Gymnasium, 800 Main Street, Marsing, Idaho. Interment followed in the Hillcrest Memorial Gardens, Caldwell, Idaho. In lieu of flowers, contribution may be made at any branch of U.S. Bank to educational scholarships for children of military families. Local arrangements are being provided by Zeyer Funeral Chapel, 83 North Midland Blvd. Nampa.

Abraham (Abe) Lee Morris

Abraham (Abe) Lee Morris, 78, of Marsing, ID, passed away at home on Wednesday, February 14, 2007. He was born to Marshall & Susie Morris in Cleo Springs, OK, on October 16, 1928 as the 5th of 11 children. Abe was a member of the Followers of Christ Church. He lived most of his life in Oklahoma but spent the most memorable part of his childhood in LaVeta, CO and entertained his family with stories of his life there. Abe graduated from Enid High School in 1945.

Abe married his sweetheart, Joy Morris of Ames, OK, on March 24, 1952 when she was just 16. Their marriage remained loving and strong through the 55 years of their life together. Abe entered the Army in April 1952 and was stationed at Fort Sill, OK, Camp Pickett, VA, Fort Sam Houston, TX and then in Munich, Germany. Joy was with him much of the time and traveled to meet him in Germany. They had great memories of their time and travels there. They returned to the US in 1954, spent a short time in Killeen, TX and then established their home in Enid, OK where they raised their family of 8 children. In 1980, after several of their children married and moved



to Idaho, Abe & Joy packed up their remaining family and moved to Marsing, ID where they still resided at the time of his death.

Abe spent his life in the construction industry building custom homes and later as a builder and construction manager for a restaurant chain, Sirloin Stockade. He built across the US for several years before owning his own restaurants in Amarillo, TX & Oregon City, OR. Abe loved the outdoors, especially camping, backpacking, and trout fishing above Creede, CO with his family. Family was the most

important thing in Abe's life. He loved his family with all of his heart and was always there for them.

Abe is survived by his wife, Joy; four daughters and sons-inlaw: Beverley & Fred Berends, Sarah & Kenny Sevy and Melissa & Chad Barker, all of Marsing, and Barbara & Tommy Herron of Meridian; one son and daughterin-law: Marshall & Criss Morris of Marsing; two daughters-inlaw: Leticia Morris of Marsing and Nina Eells of Caldwell; 38 grandchildren & 12 spouses; and 26 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by two brothers: Gilbert & Vic Morris, of Enid, OK, one sister: MaryAnn Benson of Caldwell and numerous nieces, nephews, & friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two half-brothers, two brothers, three sisters, a daughter Deena, two sons: Jamie & Mike, a granddaughter, two grandsons

We invite you to spend an hour with us...

...to sing a few hymns, ...to consider Jesus' humble life & ministry ...to forget our cares long enough to consider God's purpose for life.

PUBLIC BIBLE MEETINGS Given freely

WEDNESDAYS - 7:30 P.M.

Kelly Vance Residence 208-337-4557 Homedale, Idaho

Read all about it in the Avalanche!

& a great-granddaughter.

Abe was a very loving husband, dad, grandpa, great grandpa, brother, and uncle who was truly loved and will be greatly missed by all.

Friends called at Dakan Funeral Chapel in Caldwell from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Graveside services were held at Peaceful Valley Cemetery, Monday, February 19, 2007 at 11 a.m. Condolences may be sent to the family at www. dakanfuneralchapel.com.

For FAST results...

try the

Classifieds!



Your finances Emergency funds: They're not just for grownups anymore

Dear Dave,

My daughter is 17, in high school and has a car and a parttime job. Should a teenager have an emergency fund? If so, how much money should they set aside?

- Darlene

Dear Darlene,

Three to six months of expenses is what I recommend for adults, and that's generally a good rule of thumb for teenagers, too. But she won't need as big an emergency fund as a married couple with kids if her expenses consist solely of her car and her social life.

I'd suggest saving up about three months worth of what it takes to operate the car — gas, maintenance and insurance. Those are her financial needs right now.

Dear Dave,

My brother and I recently received an inheritance after our mom died. He's never been very good with money, so I was proud of him when he used his portion to pay off his debts. But then he went out and financed a \$23,000 van that I know he still can't afford. I'm afraid he's falling right back into the same old money problems, but I don't know how to talk to him about it.

— Diana

Dear Diana,

Over the years I've learned that you can't make people listen to you. Even with what I do for a living I don't throw my opinion around unless someone asks.

I think you're smart for realizing there are some boundaries here. But there's no reason you can't create a situation where he can ask your opinion. You might begin with talking about some of the mistakes you've made in connect with you and feel more comfortable opening up about his own situation. Once he realizes you haven't repeated the same



mistakes and have a better life for it, he might just ask how you did it. Then, the door is open!

But you can't become preachy every time someone does something dumb. That will only hurt their feelings and cause them to tune you out completely.

— Dave

Dear Dave,

My wife and I both agree that we need to get a will, but we don't know where to start. Can you help?

— John

— Dave Dear John,

First, find a good estate attorney who does wills. In your situation, I'd suggest a mirror image will.

All this type of will does is switch the names on the documents. Otherwise, they're identical. If you die, your wife gets everything, and if you die, she gets it all. If something really awful happens and you both die at the same time, then everything is dispersed according to what you both want.

A mirror image will usually doesn't cost as much as having two separate wills drawn up, either. Or for an inexpensive will, check out www.uslegalforms. com.

— Dave

- Dave Ramsey is the bestselling author of The Total Money Makeover. You can find tools to help with finances or previous columns at Davesays. org. For more financial advice, visit the Web site or call (888) 22-PEACE. Have a question the past. This could help him for Dave? Send correspondence to syndication@daveramsey. com or write Dave \$ays, 1749 Mallory Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027

JV area residents land on U of I Dean's List

Two Jordan Valley area Sciences. residents have been placed on the University of Idaho Dean's List for the 2006 fall semester.

The Ownhee Avalanche

Shane Smith of South Mountain earned a spot while attending the College of Agricultural and Life

Frank Beckwith of Jordan Valley landed on the Dean's List through his work in the College of Engineering.

Smith and Beckwith were among 2,219 U of I students to

be named to the Dean's List. To be eligible for this honor, undergraduate students must achieve a grade-point average of 3.5 or better in 12 or more graded credit hours during one semester.

Calendar

Sensibly), \$3, 5:30 p.m. weigh-in, 7 p.m. meeting, First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St., Homedale. (208) 482-6893

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

Friday

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

Saturday

Library Game Day, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

Bruneau Booster Club Auction, 5:30 p.m., Bruneau American Legion Hall. To donate: (208) 845-2552

Sunday

Snake River Valley Fellowship

Bible study, 10 a.m., 532 W. California Ave., Homedale. (208) 475-3733

Tuesday

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

Storytime at the library, 11 a.m., Melba Cottage Library, 109 Charlotte Drive. (208) 495-1063

Exploring the Internet class, free, 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Homedale High School computer lab, 203 E. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-4611

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, 224 W. Idaho Ave.





Bruneau and Beyond speaker series, lunch served, free (RSVP required), noon, Bruneau Valley Library, 32073 Ruth Street, Bruneau. (208) 845-2345 or (208)

group, 7 p.m., Mountain View Church of the Nazarene, 26515 Ustick Road, Wilder. (208) 337-3151

Thursday

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

Rhythm and Rhyme at the library, 11 a.m., Melba Cottage Library, 109 Charlotte Drive. (208) 495-1063

Homedale City Council meeting, 6 p.m., City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming St. (208) 337-4641

TOPS (Take Off Pounds

by Dave Ramsey 845-2131

DivorceCare recovery support

Death notice

ANDREW GREELEY, 82, of Jordan Valley died Sunday Feb. 18 at a Homedale care center. Services are pending with Flahiff Funeral Chapel in Homedale.

Let our readers know What's happening Get in the Calendar. Submit information on fund-raisers, dances, meetings or special events.

Call (208) 337-4681 for details

Increased water regulations and rising production costs affect us all. Our new Reinke Precision Management (RPM) control panels put the power of efficient, accurate application in your hands. Choose from three levels of control-RPM, RPM Advanced or RPM Preferred. Each features the latest precision irrigation technology in an easy-to-use interface. Powerful options include our exclusive Reinke Navigator[™] GPS guidance and remote monitoring. See your Reinke dealer today for more details. RPM puts the power in your hands.



Rain for Rent 1303 N. 20th St. • Nampa, Idaho 466-8929









Homedale Library to hold game day

The Homedale Library will sponsor a game day at the Homedale Senior Citizens Center from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. The center is located at 224 W. Idaho Ave.

The event is designed to challenge game players of all ages. A donation of \$5 is recommended, and funds will be used to finance the library activities.

Margaret Fujishin from the

The Vine Dinner House, 208 Main & Street - Marsing, Idaho - 896-5995

Featuring Carved Ham & Roast Beef, Pastries, Omlettes and More!

Juice and Coffee Included

Open Wednesday-Friday for Dinner 5 pm to 9 pm

Champagne Brunch

Homedale library said the game day is designed to raise funds for programs such as the puppet show.

"It's a fund-raiser for the library, and we're asking people to donate at the door," Fujishin said. "We're suggesting \$5 per person, but it is whatever people feel they would like to donate."

Fujishin said the list of games offered is long and includes pinochle, dominoes, and children's games such as Chutes and Ladders, Go Fish and Old Maid.

Fujishin said popcorn, punch and coffee will be provided.

The library also is scheduled to hold a puppet show. Three Little Pigs, aimed at preschool-aged children at 10:30 a.m. on Feb. 28. The puppet show will be held at the Homedale Library at 125 W. Owyhee Ave. in Homedale.

For more information on the puppet show contact Diane Williams at the Homedale Library at 337-4228.

For more information about the game day, contact Fujishin at the library.

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

Senior menu

Homedale Senior Citizens Center

Feb. 22: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, California blend vegetables, roll, milk.

Feb. 27: Roast beef, mashed potatoes/gravy, broccoli, roll, milk.

Feb. 28: Macaroni & cheese, ham steak, mixed vegetables, bread, milk.

Anniversary

Open house celebrates Bledsoe anniversary

An open house celebrating the 35th wedding anniversary of Cecil and Carmen Bledsoe will be held Saturday at the Marsing Church of the Nazarene.

The open house will be held from 2 p.m. 6 p.m. The Bledsoes are former Marsing residents.

The organizers request no gifts, but cards are welcome.

My NEW YEAR'S TRY SUGHI <u>PAY OFF CAR</u> TRAVEL OUTSIDE V.S. BETTER MANAGE DEST PERFECT GOLF SWING WE CAN HELP YOU MANAGE YOUR DEBT WITH

Let Zions Bank help with your financial resolutions by taking advantage of our Home Equity Credit Line. Consolidating your credit card and other debt has never been easier. Plus you

A LOW INTEREST HOME EQUITY CREDIT LINE.

Consumers warned of Circuit Breaker scam

Owyhee County Assessor Brett Endicott has joined the Ada County Assessor's Office to warn people of a telephone scam revolving around the Idaho Circuit Breaker program.

Endicott said last week that bogus phone solicitors, using the guise that they are an employee of the assessor's office, have contacted folks who are eligible for the property tax reduction program.

The caller says he needs information to fill out the victim's Circuit Breaker application and asks for the victim's Social

> Buy it, sell it, trade it, rent it... in the **Classifieds!**

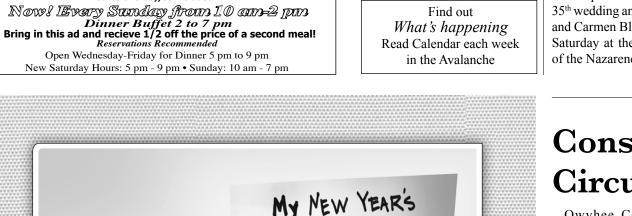
Security number and date of birth. Once the information is given, the caller says the application has been approved, so the victim doesn't need to submit an application.

Endicott said that the county assessor's office never calls property owners about the circuit breaker program, and all such calls should be treated suspiciously.

Furthermore, Endicott said his office already has sent out Circuit Breaker information to eligible residents. The details were mailed in January.

The Owyhee County Assessor's Office also will hold its annual Circuit Breaker workshops at the senior citizen centers in Homedale, Marsing and Grand View in either March or April, Endicott said. Endicott said he also makes house calls to help shut-ins with their circuit breaker applications.

For more information, call the assessor's office at (208) 495-2817.



can save on interest payments with our low introductory rate. As far as your golf swing, well, you're on your own.



To track your New Year's Resolutions and learn more, go to zionsbank.com. To sign up, visit your local Zions Bank branch or call 1-800-789-5626.



ð		22
ä		00
ŝ	*Credit approval required. APRs are variable, subject to change monthly, and based on the Prime Rate, currently 8.25% as of 1/3/07. The Prime	99
ų,	Rate is the published commercial loan rate index held by any two of the following banks: J.P. Morgan Chase and Company, Wells Fargo Bank NA and	101
ç	Bank of America, NA - if no two are alike, the median rate will apply. The maximum APR is 21%. Minimum new credit line or increase of \$25,000	100
9	and automatic payment from a Zions Account are required to obtain introductory APR. Introductory APR is based on the Prime Rate in effect on the	Æ
9	date you close your loan minus a discount that will be in effect for six billing periods after the credit line is established. Minimum credit limit of	20
2	\$100,000 and excellent credit history are required to obtain advertised APR; other plans are available. Plan subject to Early Closure Fee up to \$350	12
g	for terminating the plan within the first three years. Property insurance required. Rates and offer subject to change without notice. Other restrictions	読み
Ģ	apply, see branch for details. Must apply by 3/17/07.	53
6		69



PAGE 9A

arrive in Homedale

Signs displaying new parking restrictions on a couple Homedale streets should go up later this week after the City Council approved an amended ordinance.

Ordinance 370 puts a 2-hour limit on parking on the south side of East Idaho Avenue in front of City Park and the small parking area on the west side of City Park along 2nd Street. The same time limit will be in effect for the north side of East Owyhee Avenue between 2nd and 1st Streets.

The second and third readings of the ordinance were waived at Wednesday's City Council meeting and council members passed the new statute unanimously. City public works supervisor Larry Bauer said the signs are ready to go and will be installed soon after the ordinance becomes official with its publication in today's edition of The Owyhee Avalanche.

The action amended ordinances passed in 1956 and 1991 that put 2-hour limits on parking West Idaho Avenue between Main Street and 2nd Street West and portions of Main Street and 1st Street West.

After the meeting, Maleta Henry, who works at Rehabilitation Authority in the strip mall across from 2nd Street from City Park, expressed concern that the new parking regulations would cause students from Homedale High School to park in the lot that services the strip mall in the 100 block of East Idaho Avenue. Henry said the manager of the H&R Block franchise in the same suite of businesses shared that concern.

The council also approved an \$8,000 expenditure to buy a new computer system for City Hall. City clerk Alice Pegram and Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller both discussed a recent computer failure that could result in the loss of city data.

While Pegram said no records for utility users were lost, Eidemiller was concerned that his department may have lost six years of reports, digital recordings and photographs if data can't be retrieved after last week's hard drive crash.

Pegram said the city's computers were down for two days, and that the archaic "piggybacking" of two PCs may have led to the meltdown.

"We had two PCs acting as one server, and we lost the police side," Pegram told the council in requesting the expenditure.

Pegram said a representative from Nampa-based T&C Computers discovered that city files hadn't been backed up since the summer of 2003 and that backup tapes provided by the city's previous computer firm weren't large enough to hold everything that the city needed to backup.

She said the acquisition of a true computer server would allow her to implement storing city ordinances and meeting minutes digitally to save office space and make for easy retrieval of information. Pegram said that was one of her primary objectives when she took the job last year.

She also wants to buy a fireproof safe in which to store all the city's important documents.

"The Middleton High School fire pushes that up there," she said. "It shows that it can happen to anybody."

Pegram said she expects to have the new computer system in place by the first of March.

Wednesday's city council meeting also included an hourlong executive session attended by the council, Mayor Paul Fink,, Eidemiller and city attorney Michael Duggan. The topic of that meeting still was unknown at press time.

— JPB

New parking limits | Marsing council OKs application for wastewater plant federal grant

on Wednesday approved an application for a grant to aid in planning for the future of the city's wastewater system.

The proposed grant could net \$15,000 and would be used to assist the city with paying costs associated with planning of a city wastewater project.

Mayor Don Osterhoudt said Marsing does not currently intend to begin a new wastewater project, but this grant would enable the city to look at the future.

"We can do some planning, as far as anticipating growth that is coming this way and what we're going to need, what kind of facility we're going to need," Osterhoudt said.

"That's basically what the plan

The Marsing City Council is, to identify what we need to be looking at down the road, and make sure what (possible) plant we put in there is compatible with what is ongoing," Osterhoudt said.

> The grant is funded through the USDA Rural Development Agency. The existence of the grant was brought to the city's attention by Dave Flesher, a local representative for the federal agency. Flesher told the council Wednesday that Wilder in Canyon County received a similar grant in 2006.

After the Marsing applies for the grant, the city could obtain up to \$15,000 or 75 percent of the projected cost of the planning for a new wastewater system.

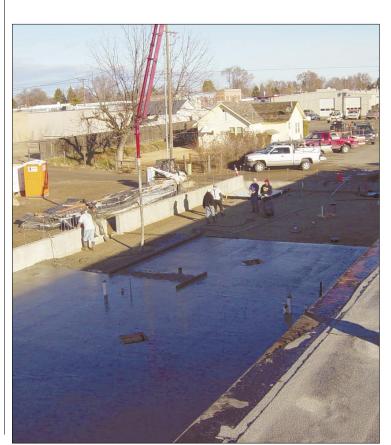
The first step, though, would

Marsing's execution of a planning study of a new wastewater treatment system, then the city would have to provide documents such as a preliminary engineering report and a Department of Environmental Quality report.

Also at its monthly meeting last week, the council held a public hearing addressing the increase in water and sewer fees charged by the city.

Only one person asked to address the council, and waited until approximately 7:30 p.m. to present council members with questions. There were no objections voiced against the proposed increases.

The council will vote on the proposed increases at a later date. — JWB



Work continues at Paul's Market

Fresh concrete reflects early morning sunlight Monday at Paul's Market in Homedale. Workers from Waltman Concrete, a Caldwell company, begin pouring the slab for the new addition to the west side of the store Monday. The project is expected to be complete this spring.





PUBLIC <u>HEARING</u>

Southwestern Idaho Cooperative Housing Authority (SICHA) has developed its agency plan in compliance with the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998.

The plan, attachments and support documents are available for review at the SICHA administrative office located at 1108 West Finch Drive, Nampa, Idaho 83651 between the public business hours of 9:30 a.m and 3:30 p.m. In Owyhee County, the plan and attachments can be examined at the El-Ada Community Center, 15 West Colorado, Homedale, Idaho. In addition, a Public Hearing will be held at the SICHA administrative office in Nampa at the address indicated above on April 11, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

The Owyhee Avalanche

Shoo-Fly Livestock 4-H news

The Shoo-Fly Livestock 4-H Club kicked off the new year with awards for service and accomplishments in 2006 and the elections for 2007 officers.

Past officers were presented with certificates in appreciation of their service in 2006. Officers for 2006 included Megan Harper, president; Josh Ryska, vicepresident; Gabby Nash, secretary; Katie Price, treasurer; Tyler Theile, sergeant-at-Arms and Aubrey Nash, reporter.

The new officers elected for 2007 are Megan Harper, president; Cory Uria, vice-president; Shelbie Criffield, secretary; Gabby Nash, treasurer; Victoria Nash, reporter and Megan Barraza, sergeant-at-arms.

Other awards given were the Work Horse Award, Kellie Barraza; Outstanding Project, Riley Maggard-Qualls; Showmanship Award, Whitney Uria; Barn Duty Superstars, Curtis Stansell and Brett Shanley; Rookie of the Year, Victoria Nash; Rookie of the Year, honorable mention, Morgan Nash; Outstanding Teen Leader, Megan Harper and Outstanding County Demonstrations, Megan Harper, Kenny Harper, Esteban Lejardi and Katie Price. County demonstration participants also received a cash award for their efforts.

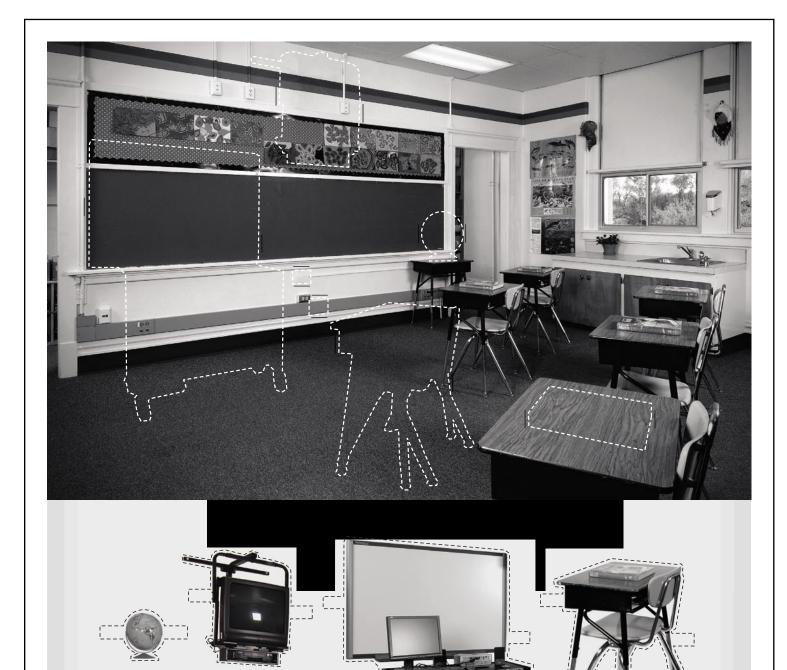
Club enrollment forms were filled out, and members and their parents signed up for the various committees responsible for service projects and club activities that will be going on throughout the year.

The meeting was adjourned and members ended the evening with a pizza party. The next meeting will be held at 5 p.m. on March 11 at the Homedale Senior Citizens Center.



Shoo-Fly 4-H elects 2007 officers

The Shoo-Fly 4-H Livestock officers for the new year are, from left to right, Shelbie Criffield, secretary, Megan Harper, president, Megan Barraza, sergeant-at-arms; Gabby Nash, treasurer, and Victoria Nash, reporter. Not pictured: Cory Uria, vice-president. Submitted photo



Moxie Java to open Friday

Homedale's Moxie Java Bistro on U.S. Highway 95 will open Friday.

After equipment setbacks, the caffeine pit-stop that originally was slated to open by the beginning of February, will officially open at the end of this week.

Owner Lori Badiola said the new business will be open from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Saturday and on Sunday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Badiola said that she plans to sell beer and wine at the bistro portion of the business, which also will serve food, including salads and other deli items.

Owyhee County Clerk Charlotte Sherburn confirmed last week that the Board of County Commissioners approved a beer and wine license for the establishment.

The business also will feature a drive-through, a patio and wireless Internet access.

– JWB

Curves begins food drive

The Homedale franchise of Curves women's fitness center is participating in the company's ninth annual food drive.

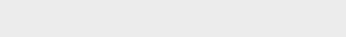
The food drive begins in March, and donations can be dropped off at the Homedale Curves, 132 E. Idaho Ave.

Last year, Curves locations collected 11 million pounds of food, which distributed to food banks worldwide.

Curves will waive its normal service fee for any new member who brings in a bag of nonperishable groceries and joins between March 1 and March 10.

Legion's annual bean feed set

Homedale American Legion Post 32 will play host to the 65th annual bean feed on March 7. The feed will take place at



WHEN YOU PLAY, YOU HELP COMPLETE THE PICTURE.

Every time you play the lottery, you help contribute to Idaho's public schools and buildings in some way. Since 1989, lottery funds have generated more than \$333 million dollars for new school equipment, building upgrades, add-ons, and much more. And thanks to you, our classrooms are safer and better equipped. So keep on playing. Every time you do, you add to the big picture. **The Idaho Lottery. Benefiting Idaho's Public Schools and Buildings.**



the Homedale American Legion Hall on Owyhee Avenue. Happy hour is at 6 p.m., with the dinner following at 7 p.m.

The dinner is free, and there will several door prizes. The door prize drawing will take place after the dinner.

Raffle tickets for the door prizes are 50 cents each or three for \$1.

Have a news tip? Call us! 337-4681

Police continue to struggle with Legion hall unruliness

Homedale Police and an Owyhee County Sheriff's deputy responded to the Homedale American Legion Hall on East Owyhee Avenue last week for a reported stabbing.

Officer Mike McFetridge from Homedale Police and Deputy Perry Grant from the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office responded to a fight in the parking lot of the establishment just after midnight on Feb. 11.

When officers arrived, they found a 25-year-old Wilder man with a minor knife wound to the right side of his torso. The victim has not been identified, and no arrests have been made.

According to McFetridge, not much is known about exactly how the victim was wounded, but it apparently involved a fight with a large group of people.

"We have no suspects, and the victim refused medical treatment," McFetridge said.

"It was a 15-year old's birthday party. There were about six people involved in the fight."

The Homedale American Legion Hall has been an ongoing headache for local law enforcement agencies. Recently, Homedale Police have been responding to the hall on a weekly basis.

"Here lately, we've been going almost every week," Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller said. "Fights, loud music, destruction of property, you name it."

In July, a man was sent to the hospital after a fight broke out during a party at the hall.

Personnel from Homedale



American Legion trouble drags on

Homedale Police officers and Owyhee County Sheriff's deputies responded to another disturbance during a party at the Homedale American Legion Hall on Feb. 11.

Police and the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office responded to the disturbance, which reportedly involved knives.

In that incident, Homedale Police Cpl. Ian Takashige said that one man suffered a slash to his arm, which required a trip to the hospital.

McFetridge was injured trying to restore order during the incident, too.

"An altercation ensued involving several individuals," Takashige said last year. "In the process of getting it all sorted out, Officer Mike McFetridge suffered minor injuries." Those injuries were later described as "cuts and scrapes."

In a Homedale City Council meeting after the July stabbing incident, Eidemiller told the council that because American Legion Post 32 rents the hall out for parties, American Legion officials should bear some of the responsibility to keep the peace.

"The best way we can handle it is if the Legion people aren't going to be down there to monitor what's going on in their building, we're going to hold the partygoers responsible," Eidemiller said in July.

Eidemiller said he and city officials are looking for a solution to the problems.

"We're currently looking at the options we can use to deal with it," Eidemiller said. "We have nuisance ordinances, but we have to address each one as an individual thing."

Eidemiller said that he and the city are looking for a comprehensive way to solve the ongoing problems, rather than simply addressing each individual problem repeatedly.

"I want to look at everything," Eidemiller said. "... and try to fix the whole thing in totality, as opposed to piecemealing it." – JWB

Snow, water report

The Bureau of Reclamation Web site showed that Owyhee Reservoir held 513,958 acre-feet of water and that 31.5 cubic feet per second was being released into the Owyhee River at Nyssa, Ore.

The following statistics were gathered from the National Resources Conservation Service Web site at 10 a.m. Monday:

Reynolds Creek Date Snow Depth Year to Date Average Temp					
		Precipitation	Max.	Min.	Avg.
02/13	0.0	6.5	36	28	31
02/14	0.0	6.5	36	25	30
02/15	0.0	6.5	38	27	31
02/16	1.0	6.9	41	30	35
02/17	0.2	6.9	44	34	38
02/18	-0.2	6.8	47	33	39
02/19	0.7	7.1	42	25	34

		South Mountain	1		
Date	Snow Depth	Year to Date	Averag	ge Temp	
		Precipitation	Max.	Min.	Avg.
02/13	23.2	14.2	40	27	31
02/14	23.1	14.2	39	25	30
02/15	23.2	14.0	39	31	36
02/16	26.2	15.1	39	31	36
02/17	27.2	16.0	40	32	36
02/18	26.1	16.0	52	33	40
02/19	28.3	16.0	42	24	33

Mud Flat					
Date	Snow Depth	Year to Date	Averag	ge Temp	
		Precipitation	Max.	Min.	Avg.
02/13	9.0	6.7	42	23	33
02/14	9.5	6.7	43	24	33
02/15	9.0	6.7	43	25	34
02/16	8.8	7.0	43	33	38
02/17	8.0	7.1	49	35	40
02/18	8.2	7.0	52	34	41
02/19	8.0	7.0	47	28	35

V	Ve	athe	r
	Н	L	Prec
Feb. 13	50	22	.00
Feb. 14	51	22	.00
Feb. 15	55	28	.03
Feb. 16	57	28	.06
Feb. 17	no	reading taken	
Feb. 18	no	reading taken	
Feb. 19	60	25	.03



We'll Make Doing **Your Taxes A Lot Less Taxing**

- Electronic filing
- Tax Planning
- Late returns/prior years
- Year-round service
- **RS** representation
- Convenient appointments
- Reasonable rates
- Computerized accounting
- Fax service

BOWEN PARKER DAY **BOISE - NAMPA - HOMEDALE** Certified Public Accountants Chartered

Mikeal D. Parker, CPA 19 E. Wyoming, Homedale 337-3271

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Owyhee County prepares for West Nile Homedale doctor urges quick jump on virus in '07

Homedale doctor John Noak hopes the Owyhee County Board of Commissioners will take steps now to prevent the spread of West Nile Virus (WNV) later this year.

According to Noak, a significant number of people will die and even more will have lifelong loss of mobility because of WNV if steps are not taken to curb the spread of the virus.

According to Idaho Department of Health and Welfare statistics, as of last month, there were 831 human cases of WNV in Idaho. Thirty-two of those cases are in Owyhee County.

While mosquito season is still months away, Noak hopes county officials and the public will take action to help curtail damage from disease-carrying mosquitoes before the warmer months.

First, Noak hopes for a mail education campaign.

"A mailing to all mailing addresses in the county in English and Spanish explaining the dangers of WNV, listing the measures that people can take to protect themselves," Noak said, outlining some of the tactics stressed in his educational literature.

"Some of the important things are, if at all possible, avoid being outside at the times of peak mosquito activity, which would be at dawn and dusk, wearing longsleeved shirts and pants, and use a mosquito repellant containing DEET," Noak said.

Noak makes no bones about his preference in a mosquito

repellant. He recommends a product called Ultrathon made by 3M. Noak said he already has spoken with Stan Zatica of Paul's Markets, who reportedly assured him that Paul's stores will have a steady supply of the product.

"Paul's will be stocked with it to the ceiling for the entire year," Noak said. "I worked with Stan Zatica last year, and he made the commitment to ensure that they will be well-stocked."

Noak also would like to see the county get an early jump on spraying mosquito breeding grounds.

"A survey of mosquito breeding grounds in the next six weeks to determine which areas contain (mosquito) larvae infected with WNV," Noak said of his second plan-of-attack.

Noak's third prong in the attack on WNV for 2007 will involve a spraying program.

"A spraying program prior to the first of May with a larvicide to decrease the number of mosquitoes hatched with WNV," Noak said.

Noak said part of the problem he intends to tackle with the commissioners' help will be the critical identification of areas where spraying will have the most impact. Noak said that his plan will look partially to the efforts of Ada and Canyon counties in 2006 for guidance.

"There's a private company that is in the business of mosquito control, and they did much of the spraying last year in Canyon and Ada County. Ed Burnett, who's head of mosquito control (in Canyon County), will take a survey of the area, both with maps and with a flyover, and pick out the spots," Noak said.

Noak knows that a major logistical hurdle in a project of this magnitude is funding. He said that he hopes to enlist the aid of volunteers to ease the taxpayer's financial burden. He also hopes to obtain state and federal funding.

Owyhee County became eligible state funding during the 2006 West Nile season once an emergency situation was declared last summer.

"If it takes a while to get funding rolling — and the commissioners approve this — we'll be looking for some volunteers, and we would train them on how to do the sampling," Noak said. "Once the commissioners approve this, then I plan to knock on every door and see if I can shake loose state money and I'll work with my contacts at the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) to get federal funding."

He also said there is a provision in the Idaho state statutes that provides for an additional tax to fight an epidemic such as WNV. Noak calls it "a one-time, small 'health tax.' "

Noak, who is a medical doctor, has been practicing in the Homedale area for the past seven years; however, he said he has been practicing medicine for more than 20 years.

Noak said he is the only full-time physician in Owyhee County, and his motivation in his fight against WNV is from the sheer number of patients he has seen suffer from the virus, and from a serious form of the disease referred to as WNV poliomyelitis. He anticipates more serious complications in 2007 than in 2006.

"It's very serious," Noak said. "West Nile is classified as a polio-like illness, and I do have some patients who as a result of being infected with West Nile last summer, now have poliomyelitis, a disease that features something called 'flaccid paralysis,' " Noak said.

Laurie Boston, public information officer with Southwest District Health (SWDH), said last week that SWDH is not currently aware of any cases of West Nile poliomyelitis in Idaho.

According to the CDC, acute flaccid paralysis is a condition that occurs in some persons infected with WNV, and involves a sudden onset of weakness in the limbs and/or breathing muscles and can cause respiratory failure.

While there is not currently a vaccine or cure for WNV, Noak said he has made progress to minimize the effects of the virus, but the steps he has employed need to be taken soon after infection.

"What I do is re-hydrate them (WNV patients) with IV fluids. I take care of the nausea with a medicine called promethazine. I give them a special type of cortisone medicine that causes fluids to stay in the vasculature and also decreases inflammation of the central nervous system," Noak said.

According the CDC Web site, it is not known how often West Nile poliomyelitis occurs. Scientists are continuing to monitor persons with this form of WNV to get a better understanding of how often, and in whom, it occurs. Research continues into the prognosis of recovery from this condition, too.

Boston, like Noak, stresses that the public should take precautions

to slow the spread of WNV. In addition to using a good mosquito repellant, containing DEET or Picaridin, Boston recommends taking steps to eliminate mosquito breeding grounds.

"Continue to take the necessary steps to rid your property of mosquito breeding areas," Boston wrote in an e-mail to The Owyhee Avalanche.

"Standing water should be drained; tall, damp weeds and grass in shaded areas kept cut; items that can hold even small amounts of standing, stagnant water should be drained, put away, or tossed, or changed every three to five days; change pet water frequently; check your sprinkling systems to see if pools of water are left standing.

"Don't forget to have good screens on windows and doors to keep mosquitoes out," Boston wrote.

Boston also said it is important to vaccinate horses and contact a veterinarian with concerns about other pets.

According to Idaho Department of Health and Welfare statistics, four horses in Owyhee County were infected with WNV in Owyhee County in 2006, with a total of 338 infected horses throughout Idaho.

West Nile virus is thought to be transmitted from birds to mosquitoes, which then transmit the virus to humans.

In 2006, high mortality rates in sage-grouse caused by WNV prompted the Idaho Department of Fish and Game to close the hunting season for the bird in Owyhee County.

For more information visit www.cdc.gov or www.westnile. idaho.gov.

— JWB



Health district: Prevention is best defense

Southwest District Health

Laurie Boston, public is one of the rare problems that (SWDH) officials stress the information officer with SWDH, can occur with West Nile infection importance of prevention early said that there is evidence of and that he is aware of only one

case within Southwest Idaho.

plus pads



Master Mechanic available for most car and light truck service and repairs.



D&D

Lube, Oil & Filter

TIRE INC.

- Up to 5 qts.
- Kendall premium oil
- Napa silverline filter
- Lube chassis
- Check all fluids

ION Plaza Marsing, Idaho 896-4040

this year to curb the spread of West Nile Virus (WNV).

While SWDH's opinions about the actual verbiage of the medical complications possibly associated with WNV differ from Dr. John Noak's, the opinions as to how to prevent the spread of WNV are the same.

"Prevention is always better than treatment," said Jacque Walker, preventive health manager with SWDH and a registered nurse.

Noak claims to have identified a rare and serious form of WNV infection known as West Nile poliomyelitis. Officials from SWDH do not agree.

"We don't have anything that is associated with West Nile that could be called poliomyelitis," Walker said. "West Nile is not polio."

a condition called arboviral myelitis, which is associated with West Nile.

Dr. Charles Reed of SWDH described arboviral myelitis further, emphasizing that he is not aware of any link between WNV and polio.

"It is a West Nile infection of portions of the brain and the spinal column that may look a lot like polio, but it is not polio," Reed said.

Walker stressed that there is no such thing as West Nile poliomyelitis.

"We're contending that there is no such thing as West Nile Virus poliomyelitis," Walker said. "It is arboviral myelitis, and it is associated with West Nile."

Reed said that arboviral myelitis

"We have one case of a fellow who is currently on a respirator and it is due to the effects of infection from the West Nile Virus, but it has nothing to do with polio," Reed said. "The virus that causes West Nile is not even in the same family as those that cause polio."

Boston stated that particular case is not in Owyhee County.

"Eighty percent or more of people who have infection with WNV have little or no symptoms from it," Reed said. "So, the vast majority of people who may get infected with it are not even sick to any extent to even need anything."

— See **Prevention,** page 13A

Owyhee County prepares for West Nile Commissioner wants public input on strategy

Owyhee County Commission chair Dick Freund would like to get as much feedback from the public on West Nile Virus as possible.

"I'd like to see people write in either to the paper, write a letter to the commissioners — some way to do a survey to see if people are as concerned (about WNV) and really want to do an abatement district," Freund said. "How do we get some input from the people? Here is your opportunity," Freund said.

So far, only one person has stepped forward.

At the Feb. 12 meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, Dr. John Noak of Homedale addressed the board with his concerns about the spread of West Nile Virus throughout Owyhee County.

Noak approached the Board with a potential strategy to combat the disease in 2007.

Freund said he agreed with Noak's three objectives in fighting WNV: Education, identification of breeding grounds, and then possible spraying.

The logistics of those objectives are still up in the air. Money, or the lack thereof, is a factor.

"We don't have any plan yet," Freund said. "Dr. Noak is coming back to talk to us again to bring us more information."

Freund said that the commissioners are currently in the information-gathering stages, with regards to developing a strategy to minimize the impact of WNV in 2007.

Freund said that the public's input is welcome in the search for a way to combat mosquitoes and WNV. So far, the county has had little input, and the commissioners will continue to explore options.

"We had eight people there (at last week's meeting) with Dr. Noak," Freund said. "That's not a sampling. That's a pittance."

"I want to know whether people want to form a mosquito abatement district," Freund said. "If they do, then we'll pursue it, but if they don't want to spend their tax dollars that way that is their business."

Freund said what he hopes not to see is public complaint en mass at the end of the year, when no one has offered solutions beforehand.

"I want to know what the people want," Freund said. "The only way we are going to pass another tax (for abatement) is if people want it passed."

Freund said the commissioners will continue to use Noak as a resource.

"We're going to get more information from Dr. Noak. Commissioner (Hal) Tolmie is on the board over at the health department (Southwest District Health), and he was going to get some additional information from them (SWDH)."

While Noak's theories about WNV are not shared by all health experts, few disagree with the need to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes. Part of that entails educating the public.

"What Dr. Noak says makes good sense - to educate people as to what they need to do," Freund said. "There were some individuals there (at the Feb. 12 commissioners meeting) that were willing to provide information on how to start a mosquito abatement district, things that are desirable to abate the mosquitoes, and identify the ponds.

"They (mosquitoes) breed in stagnant water, and so those are the areas you have to locate, identify and treat with larvicide,"

Freund said.

Freund said that mosquito abatement districts are, essentially, taxing districts designed to determine who pays for each area sprayed.

"What they told us was that an abatement district is a taxing district," Freund said.

"You set up a district, like Homedale, Marsing, Grand View, Murphy or wherever," Freund said. "The people in that district are taxed, and then the money is collected and paid to control the (mosquito) larva. They use it to kill the bugs in the standing water."

Freund explained that in this system, taxpayers within each district are responsible for the cost of spraying within that area.

"It's not everybody in the county's tax dollars to kill mosquitoes in Homedale or everybody's tax dollars too kill bugs in Bruneau," Freund said. "It's a taxing district, and it is called a mosquito abatement district."

The districts must be set up then the issue goes before voters to decide.

"You have to set one up, then the people vote on it, and then they (property owners) are taxed for mosquito abatement," Freund said, adding that it takes time to get the money together to enable the county to spray once the districts are formed.

Freund said that Owyhee County is looking into the history of mosquito abatement districts in neighboring counties, such as Canyon County.

"The first couple of years over in Canyon County, they did it (sprayed) on a volunteer basis," Freund said. "They gathered volunteers and they went out and sprayed, until they had enough money to do it (through taxes)."

Freund emphasized that Owyhee County

is not specifically looking at adopting Canyon County's tactics, but simply exploring options.

"We're not 'looking' at anything," he said. "We're just looking at what they did, and what a person has to do, how to set (abatement) up."

Freund said that careful research needs to be done before the county leaps into any given plan. Freund said the goal is to find what is best for Owyhee County, and a large part of that process requires public input.

"The research needs to be done to find out what the best way to take care of the issue," Freund said, adding that the public's feelings on the issue are an important part of the process.

While agreeing with Noak's points, Freund said that Owyhee County's vast geography complicates things.

"That (Noak's strategy) is the most reasonable, but he has to understand that we have 8,000 square miles of county to do that in and it will take some time," Freund said.

"I have a lot of respect for his knowledge and abilities," Freund said of the doctor. "He's really passionate about this West Nile thing. There's a lot of people that are sick from it, and nobody paid attention to him last year."

Freund said his passion to do something began before he took office in January.

"I've felt all along we needed to do something about it as a county — before I became a commissioner," Freund said. "People have to be willing to pay for it, because the county doesn't have the money. There is no money in the budget to pay for it. There just isn't."

— JWB

$\sqrt{Prevention}$: Southwest District Health says it gave 2006 warnings

"There is another thing called West Nile Fever, which is something that looks something like what you would get with the flu," Reed said, such as muscle aches and pains, and headache and so forth.

Reed said that, rarely, a more serious form of the condition can develop.

"There is an infection involving

to contract it hasn't been studied and it's unknown what the final outcome of that strain of the disease would be.

"When you are not able to move an arm or a leg, or when you are not able to breath, that is serious stuff, but that does not occur very often at all. We are talking about 1 percent or less or people who develop infection have this type of problem," Reed said. "It has not been studied long enough to tell if whether that (symptoms) will all kind of 'go away' or leave people with some permanent problems.

have a long history of research, so there is conflicting information," Boston said.

"Vaccines are being talked about. There is nothing that is there as yet," Reed said. "We're still probably several years away from an effective vaccine that the FDA will approve of for general use."

Reed said that until a vaccine surfaces, the only treatment for WNV infection is what Reed referred to as "supportive care." "You do what you can to make

place," Reed said.

Walker said that it is imperative that the public to take WNV seriously, but feared that repeated messages can sometimes desensitize the public to the actual dangers.

"After West Nile got really strong, about August (2006), the public would call and ask why we didn't tell them about it,

WNV, the problem is, that they get what Laurie (Boston) often calls 'West Nile Fatigue.' We've told them about it so much they quit listening to us."

"There is nothing new to tell you about how to prevent this stuff," Walker said. "Avoid being outside during peak times for mosquitoes, wear DEET, cover up ... do the best you can not to get bitten."

the tissues around the brain and an infection involving the brain tissue itself. Those occur in maybe 1 or 2 percent of cases, not very many."

Reed acknowledged the existence of the rare and serious form, arboviral myelitis.

"That (myelitis) gives you all kinds of bad things," Reed said. "Including 'flaccid paralysis.'"

"They (patients) are unable to move one or more extremity, and sometimes affects the portions that enable you to breathe," Reed said, but at the same time, pointed out that cases of this severity are extremely rare.

Reed said that while this condition is a possibility, the frequency of the infection and the people most likely

... It has just not been studied."

Reed said there are no current working vaccines for WNV, but research continues. According to Reed, it could be several years before we could see a WNV vaccine.

Boston said that WNV was first identified in the United States in 1999, which, according to Boston is not a long enough period for enough reliable information to have been gathered.

"There hasn't been a long period of time that this disease has been in the United States for us to

people feel better," Reed said. While medical experts may disagree about the actual medical condition, their opinions about what is needed in the immediate future are the same.

"The mosquito abatement program various areas have are very important," Reed said. Reed said that sometimes the news media and political figures play a role in getting mosquito abatement districts formed.

"That is something the news media and bureaucrats have fought for and against, but it is an important item ... trying to get rid of the varmints in the first

Walker said. "I was doing press conferences two years ago on

— JWB



County clerk supports mail-in voting bill

Legislation circulating at Statehouse could create by-mail option for Owyhee, others by 2008

vote-by-mail system by 2008, according to Owyhee County Clerk Charlotte Sherburn.

Last week the Idaho House State Affairs Committee debated House Bill 94, which could give counties, cities and other taxing districts the option to move elections from traditional polling places to a vote-by-mail system. Election Day registration and voting still would be available at one or more polling locations throughout the county.

Critics of the system claim the system is ripe for fraud and lacks privacy.

For many, however, the benefits, including higher voter turnout and lower costs, outweigh the risks.

Sherburn said that the cost of elections could be cut roughly in half if the county went to a mailin system.

"It is going to benefit Owyhee County," Sherburn said. "We're

Idaho residents could see a hoping to have our (voting) percentages come up. Right now we're not at a very high percent."

> Sherburn said that Owyhee County currently has 4,207 registered voters. In November's general election, Sherburn said that approximately 65 percent of registered voters cast ballots. Sherburn hopes using the mail-in ballot would raise that percentage.

> "We feel like to use the mail ballot will bring that percent up," Sherburn said.

Sherburn said there are already three mail-in voting precincts in Owyhee County: Three Creek, Riddle and Pleasant Valley.

Sherburn said that mail voting in those precincts is a benefit to the county because it would be an expensive proposition for the county to have physical voting including the new electronic voting machines required at all polling places — in those remote areas.

"It's quite an expense to the county to get those new voting machines out for the handicapped," Sherburn said. "We have to physically take them out."

Sherburn said that the voting machines weigh 50 pounds each and cost money to maintain. Additionally, county election workers must take them to polling locations and physically pick them up after the election, something that takes time and taxpayer money. The particular type of voting machines the county uses is mandated by the federal government and cost approximately \$6,000 each.

"Our election for this last year (2006) cost the county right at \$32,000, and that is for poll workers, as well as getting the machines out there (to the precincts)," Sherburn said.

Sherburn conceded that not everyone is in support of the system, and that the integrity of the voting process is a concern often voiced. Privacy is also a concern.

"They (opponents of mail voting) are very afraid of fraud," Sherburn said. "They are concerned that (for example) a family gets ready to vote, and they're all going to sit down and vote the same way. They're thinking it wouldn't be as private."

Sherburn said many oppose the proposal.

"There's really quite a bit of objection to it," she said. "A lot of people, a lot of the voters, miss going to their polling place and they miss visiting, and I don't blame them for that."

Proponents of the bill state that the integrity of the voting process is protected, and that voters' signatures on the mail-in ballot will be verified with registered voters' signatures on file.

"Vote by mail offers improved election integrity because each signature would be verified before the vote is counted," Idaho Association of Counties director Dan Chadwick said. "Under the current system, voters aren't even required to show ID at the polling locations, so I expect this should ease the minds of some leery about the potential fraud under this system."

Chadwick said another strength of the program is it theoretically allows voters more time to research the ballot to study the issues and the candidates before voting.

Sherburn said that for those who strictly oppose voting by mail, a traditional polling precinct could be set up.

"We would have a precinct set up here at the courthouse, and they (voters) would have to come to the courthouse," Sherburn said, adding that those waiting to register on Election Day could register at that time.

Sherburn said that Washington and Oregon already have vote-bymail systems.

— JWB

Young ropers descend on county fairgrounds for clinic



Children learn by doing

A young cowboy fires a lasso at an instructor during a roping drill at the District II Idaho Youth Horse Council working ranch horse clinic Feb. 11.

The District II Idaho Youth Horse Council attracted 70 youth to the Owyhee County Fairgrounds in Homedale recently.

The working ranch horse clinic took place Feb. 11 in Homedale.

Youth moved through five 25minutes stations throughout the afternoon. Stations included: cattle work, dummy roping on foot or horseback or branding pen roping, trail, reining and an education station on ranching in the West, including tying knots and hitches.

Owyhee County rancher Chris Johnston supplied the cattle for the event. Parents and 4-H volunteers served as instructors, while the Dust Devils 4-H Club provided concessions.

Other clinic dates in District II include: March 11 at Elmore County Fairgrounds; April 15 at a feedlot, exact location will be announced later; May 13 at the Gem County Fairgrounds in Emmett for a branding.

Youth who take part in four clinics or more become eligible to attend the cattle drive in Murphy in June and the Ranch Horse Gathering in September.

Youth ages 8 to 18 who are affiliated with a recognized youth horse organization, high school rodeo, FFA, 4-H, youth American Quarter Horse Association or youth American Paint Horse Association can attend the clinics.

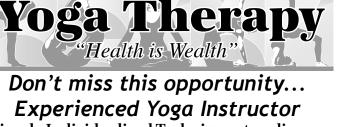
District II encompasses Owyhee, Canyon, Ada, Elmore, Adams, Gem-Boise, Payette, Washington and Valley counties.

For more information, call Dana Kolstad at the University of Idaho Ada County Extension Office at 377-2107 or e-mail him at dkolstad@uidaho.edu.

Over 10,000 locations

worldwide.





Simple Individualized Techniques to relieve... Blood Pressure, Obesity, Diabetes, Allergies, Digestive, Heart, Hormone or Respiratory Disorders, Arthritis, Cysts & Much More. Approved by the **American Heart Association** Seniors, Kids & Veterans Discount **Limited Seats Available** Call: 337-3302 or 697-1998 **Classes at the Sunnydale Motel Complex** Homedale

curves.com





Poster contest winners honored

Students from Marsing Elementary School recently placed high in the Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl Garden Club Poster contest. On the left are the fourth-grade winners. On the right are the fifth-grade winners. No photos are available for Homedale winners.

Owyhee Garden Club cites student art in poster contest

Elementary students from Marsing and Homedale elementary schools were recognized by the Owyhee Garden Club earlier this month for their environmental efforts.

Fourth- and fifth-graders from Marsing Elementary were recognized Feb. 12 in the Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl Garden Club Poster Contest. The purpose of the contest is to encourage students to demonstrate their understanding of fire prevention and basic conservation principles by drawing a poster featuring Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl.

Nearly two dozen Marsing

fourth- and fifth-graders took part in the contest, and those recognized included:

Fourth grade — 1. Cesar Ortiz; 2. Juan Ramirez; 3. Jasmine Salinas.

Fifth grade — 1. Ector Quebrado; 2. Alejandra DeLeon; 3. Jose Acuna.

According to Judith McShane, 4-H program assistant, three Marsing students placed in the poster contest at the state level with DeLeon taking first, Acuna finishing second and Quebrado taking home third place.

At Homedale Elementary, three students each from grades

kindergarten through fourth grade were honored:

Kindergarten — 1. Amy Aguilera; 2. German Albor; 3. Jose Buenrostro

First grade — 1. Steven Luis Juan; 2. Nathan Hardin; 3. Nallely Gonzalez

Second grade — 1. Gabriela Luis Juan; 2. Elaine Buenrostro; 3. Meteve Pershall

Third grade — 1. Lupe Hurtado; 2. Elizabeth Vargas; 3. Abran Arbor

Fourth grade — 1. Julissa Hurtado; 2. Fernando Hurtado; 3. Sergio Calderon

— JWB

Garden club looking for help to plant trees

The Owyhee Garden Club is seeking youth volunteers to help plant trees gifted to the club by Lakeshore Nursery.

The trees will be planted at the

Marsing Community Garden. The garden club also plans a cleanup day March 10 at the Marsing Community Garden.

Club members say either activity

would be a great community service project for youth groups. For more information, call Jan

Aman at 337-3149 or Sharon McIlveen at 896-5474.

Free computer basics class set for Homedale

The first of four free computer basics workshops offered by the Homedale School District will be held Tuesday at Homedale High School.

Computer Basics, taught by school district technology integration and support specialist Gini Carrow, will run from 3:30

Although the series of classes will be presented at no cost, Carrow said registration is required and forms can be found at the school district office at 116 E. Owyhee Ave., or at the Homedale Senior Citizens Center at 224 W. Idaho Ave. No registration will be taken over the phone.

covering topics in which they need help.

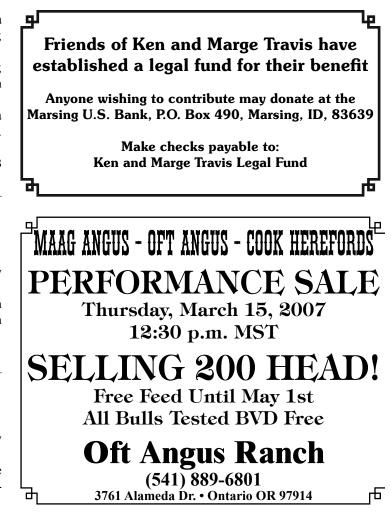
For more information on the classes, call Carrow at 337-4611.

Sweetheart serenade



Fiddlin' for Valentine's

Bowen Parker Day employee Shelley Blodgett enjoys a four-song serenade by Homedale-area members of the Idaho Junior Jammers. "Let Me Call You Sweetheart," "Tennessee Waltz" and "You Are My Sunshine" were among the selections. The musicians included, front row, from left to right, Carlie Purdom, Mckenna Calzacorta and Quincy Pendergrass. In the back row is, from left to right, Cheryl Calzacorta and Justine Calzacorta. The group played Valentine's Day fiddlegrams on Wednesday throughout the Homedale area as a fund-raiser for the Idaho Open fiddle competition, which will be held in Nampa this summer.



p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Carrow said the class will cover the basics of PCs, including the mouse, keyboard and other hardware. The class will deal with the Windows XP operating system.

Other class topics will include Exploring the Internet on Feb. 27, Keep in Touch with E-mail on March 20 and Managing files on April 17. The classes are independent of one another, so patrons can take only the ones







Beef Stew 40 oz.	\$279 ea.	& Rice & Sauce \$19 4.2-5.7 oz.	Animal Crackers & \$19 Vanilla Wafers 9-12 oz.	Granola Bars 2 \$5 10 ct.	
Western Family Pasta 22 oz.	\$ 119 ea.	Hunt's Snack Pack 4pk 3.5 oz. $\$19_{ea.}$	Wishbone Salad Dressing 2 for 4 16 oz.	Betty Crocker Fruit Snacks 2 for 3 10 ct.	
Ragu Pasta Sauce 26 oz.	\$ - 89 ea.	Western Family Lunch Bags 50 ct.	Purina Dog Chow 22 lb. \$949 ea.	Western Family Large Eggs 18 Pack	
Lay's Potato Chips 13.25-13.75 oz.	\$239 ea.	Western Family Fabric Softner Sheets 89 ¢ 40 ct.	Purina Cat Chow \$999 18 lb.	Lawry Seasoned Salt \$249 16 oz.	
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 2/21/07 thru 2/27/07					