

2007
West Nile
Virus
battle
looms

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Jordan Valley, Page 2A

High school seniors dip into class
fund to help woman in need

Prep softball, Page 12B

Adrian girls begin quest for
another trip to state tourney

Wednesday, April 4, 2007

Established 1865

The Owyhee Avalanche

VOLUME 23, NUMBER 14

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

Irrigation water flows

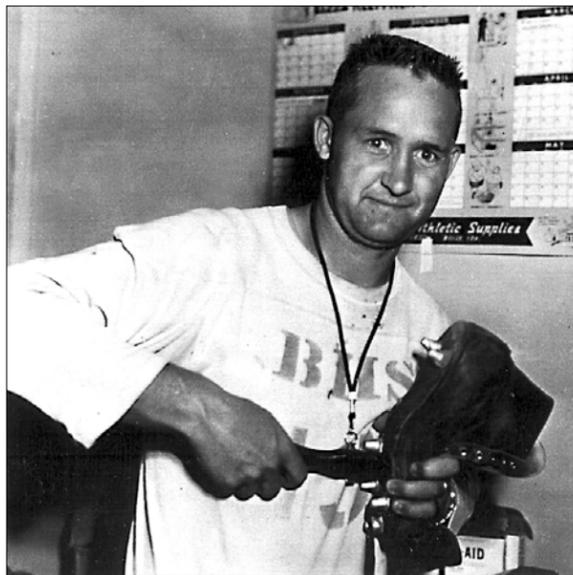
According the South Board of Control, canals were scheduled to fill Monday morning.

Officials urged caution around canals as irrigation season begins.

Ron Abramovich of the National Conservation Resources Service (NCRS), expects no shortages.

"I think with the streamflow predicted for this year, plus what's in the reservoir, they should be in good shape for agricultural uses," he said.

As of Monday, the Owyhee Reservoir was 81 percent full. When full, the reservoir is capable of holding up to two years' worth of irrigation water for the region.



Tirelessly improving Homedale

Deward Bell never was afraid to get his hands dirty and work. This photo from 1955 bears that out.

Longtime schools chief Bell dies at 83

As much as Deward Bell was the architect of the model for success with Homedale High School football, he was an even greater builder of the school district.

In many respects, Bell, who died Friday morning at the age 83, epitomized Trojan Pride.

"Deward Bell was a worker. A physical worker. Always was," former Homedale High School principal Nolan Taggart said Monday afternoon. "And if something needed done, you'd see him there doing, helping."

Taggart's relationship with the man he

calls his mentor began when Bell arrived in Homedale as a 32-year-old World War II veteran from the now-defunct Paul High School.

"He came here as a coach in 1955, and his idea was he was going to be here a couple, three years, and he spent his entire career here," Taggart said.

Bell coached all four major sports at the high school, but made a far greater impact as an administrator — first as high school principal and then as the school district's superintendent.

He served as superintendent from

— See *Bell*, page 5A

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Easter events
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Woman injured in crash



Three-car accident triggered by high winds

Poor visibility caused by dust clouds kicked up by high winds Wednesday was blamed for a series of automobile accidents on local highways, including an afternoon crash on U.S. Highway 95 north of Homedale that injured at least one woman, who is being loaded onto a backboard by emergency personnel. A Honda Civic with Owyhee County plates, a Ford Explorer and a Parma Police car all were involved in the wreck at the intersection of U.S. 95 and Upper Pleasant Road. More photos from crash, **Page 12A**

Deputies deal with tragedy

The drowning of a 13-year-old boy at C.J. Strike Reservoir last week was the latest in a string of tragic and traumatic calls answered by Owyhee County Sheriff's deputies.

Sheriff Gary Aman's small office has had to deal with five fatalities in the past month, and the sheriff said there are services available to help the deputies cope.

"If need be or if they request it, or I see a need for it we will get some counseling for them," Aman said. "It's really been a tough spring.

"The officer's health and mental health is very important."

Aman agreed that emergency service workers are human beings and tragedy affects them as significantly as any other person.

— See *Tragedy*, page 5A

— Caldwell boy, 13, dies trying to rescue stepbrother at C.J. Strike Reservoir, page 3A

JV students open hearts for Oregon woman

Seniors dip into class fund to finance trip to Arizona clinic

When Patty Ackerman called The Owyhee Avalanche last week, it was to place a 'thank you' ad for help from a group of Jordan Valley High School students.

Her voice shook as she explained that they had — without a word in advance — funded a much-needed flight for her to Arizona for an important medical procedure, one she couldn't afford otherwise.

"Breann Hipwell and Chelicy Payne got it started," Ackerman said. "What amazes me is I know when I was 18 I didn't think of anybody but myself. These kids ... they've got a head on their shoulders. I'm so proud of them."

Thanks to the teenagers' generosity, Ackerman has been able to plan a visit to the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, Ariz., to consult a specialist.

"They found out I had medical problems, and they sent me enough money for my air(plane) ticket," she said.

Ackerman doesn't yet know when she will be traveling to the clinic.

She explained that an appointment is forthcoming, and she awaits word from the famous clinic's Arizona location for an opening.

"I've had 10 operations this year," Ackerman said. "I have a fistula. It started with a gall bladder, and it keeps coming back."

Since then, repeated doctor

visits have been a physical and financial burden, she said.

Ackerman said she lived in Jordan Valley for most of her life.

She recently moved to Huntington, Ore., with her husband, Terry. While she has ties to the community, she didn't realize the younger generation living in the Idaho-Oregon-Nevada corner country held so much generosity in their hearts.

Tara Echave, a teacher at Jordan Valley High School, and Class of 2007 advisor, isn't surprised.

"Sometimes giving is better than receiving," Echave said. "They (the students) understand that concept."

Senior class president Hipwell was part of the push to help out.

"Our class has asked a lot from the community, and they have donated a lot," she said.

"We thought it was the least we could do to help her. We knew she needed the money now, so we took it out of our (class's) funding."

"We have been praying really hard for her because we want to see her beat this," Hipwell said.

Hipwell explained that Ackerman's great niece, Chelicy Payne, also a Jordan Valley High senior, made the class aware of Ackerman's situation. Without hesitation, the class voted unanimously to donate funds to Ackerman.

Hipwell said that after graduation, she plans to continue public service by pursuing a



Jordan Valley seniors dip into own fund to help woman

The Jordan Valley High School senior class includes, from left to right, Josh Terry, Tina Stanford, Bailey Kershner, Shantel Gleason, Megan Mackenzie, Sequoi Trautman, Breann Hipwell, Holly Deen, Chelicy Payne, Angela Larsen, Luisa Lowry, Michelle Elsner, Lacey Kershner and Jerry Wroten. Submitted photo by Lifetouch.

career in nursing.

Hipwell said that in mid-April, the class is sponsoring a donkey basketball fund-raiser. They hope to replenish their class's funds from the event.

Details about the game, including game time and ticket prices were not available at press time.

— JWB

'What amazes me is I know when I was 18 I didn't think of anybody but myself. These kids ... they've got a head on their shoulders. I'm so proud of them.'

— Patty Ackerman
Huntington, Ore., resident

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New fire station nears reality

The Murphy-Reynolds-Wilson Fire District's newest station in Givens is near completion, fire commission chair Doug Norman said last week.

Norman said the Givens station still needs overhead doors and a cement floor installed, but construction is otherwise finished. It's the district's fourth station.

"We're short of money, so we're not finished," Norman said. "It'll be ready for use shortly."

The Givens station is located on Idaho highway 78. It has two large bays facing the highway and a third on the side of the building. Although the doors are completed for the front bays, they haven't been hung yet.

Norman said the mechanisms to raise and lower the doors haven't been purchased. Tim Nettleton, another member of the district, said hand winches will be installed to operate the doors.

Nettleton said the doors are worth about \$1,500 to \$2,000 each.

"We're particularly proud of the doors," Nettleton said. "We built those ourselves."

The station, which Norman said measures about 46 feet wide and 42 feet deep, will be used to house five trucks for the district.

The Givens station has been financed through the district's tax levy. Nettleton said \$18,000 of the \$32,000 total cost for the new station has been paid. The rest of the money will come out of the Fiscal Year 2007 budget.

The construction on Idaho 78 is the second major capital improvement project for the district in the past two years. The Reynolds station was upgraded



New Givens station takes shape

The latest location for the Murphy-Reynolds-Wilson Fire District is almost finished on Idaho highway 78 in Givens.

at a cost of \$27,000 out of the FY 2006 budget. Norman said the Reynolds facility was expanded from one to three bays.

"I think we're doing real good on a small budget," he said.

The Givens station essentially will be Norman's home base in terms of his role as a volunteer in the district. Norman lives in the Marsing Skypark, and has been storing fire equipment in his hangar. He has served 6 1/2 years on the fire department.

The land on which the Givens location sits was deeded to the fire district by Owyhee County. The road district used to store gravel on the site, Nettleton said.

Both Norman and Nettleton pointed out how much work the fire district has accomplished with wise management of the tax revenue.

"The levy has been raising about \$32,000 a year, and we can

operate on a little less," Nettleton said. "And we have between \$13,000 and \$15,000 that we can divert to capital expenses."

The capital expense fund helps pay for building improvements as well as the purchase of equipment and what Nettleton called "rolling stock," or fire vehicles.

The district also uses grants to purchase equipment. Last summer, a 1990 Ford fire truck was bought from the Bureau of Land Management with a grant from that federal agency. Norman said although the truck has been purchased, the district has yet to receive the \$8,500 grant to replenish the budget.

Norman and the rest of the fire district commissioners meet on the second Tuesday of each month. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. at the Owyhee County Courthouse in Murphy.

— JPB

Caldwell boy drowns in chilly C.J. Strike waters

Teenager jumped in to save his younger sibling

A 13-year-old Caldwell boy died last week when he tried to save his younger stepbrother, who had fallen into C.J. Strike Reservoir.

According to a press release issued by Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman, Eric Allen, a 13-year-old Caldwell boy, drowned Wednesday while attempting to save his brother, 6-year-old Tristan Anderson, who fell into the choppy, cold water while riding his bicycle.

The Owyhee County Sheriff's Office responded to the Cove Recreation Site at C.J. Strike Reservoir at approximately 5 p.m. for a report of a drowning.

Tristan was pulled from the water by an uncle, who heard the boys' cries for help. The uncle revived Tristan then attempted to reach Eric, but was unable to save him.

The Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office was the closest available agency with divers, Undersheriff Ed Gudgell responded with a diver.

Rescuers called off their efforts on Wednesday because of darkness, high winds and lack of underwater visibility. They resumed the search Thursday.

Eric's body was recovered in 18 feet of water approximately 15 feet from the dock at 10:23 a.m. on Thursday, Aman said. Cause of death is listed as freshwater drowning.

Grand View Ambulance transported Tristan, who suffered complications from hypothermia and possible pneumonia, to an Elmore County hospital. He was released Thursday.

The two boys and other relatives were spending spring break camping and fishing at the reservoir. The family is from the Caldwell area.

Aman thanked the Elmore County Sheriff's Office, Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office and others who assisted with the search and recovery.

Members of the Grand View Fire and Ambulance provided assistance with equipment and manpower.



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Panel presents GV council with open container draft

Long-awaited ordinance proposal scheduled for first reading next week

The City of Grand View has started down the road toward resolution of some of the long-standing challenges that it has faced.

City clerk Lani Race reported last week that council members have received a draft of the ordinance that will replace the open-container law that the city repealed in 2005.

The open container committee chaired by councilman William "Bill" Lawrence and including councilman Rodger Dillard and residents Opal Ward and Kathy Knight presented a draft of the ordinance during March's meeting, Race said.

Further details from March's city council meeting weren't available. Grand View releases council minutes only after the council approves them in the subsequent

monthly meeting.

According to the minutes from the council's February meeting, members were in favor of the draft overall, but wanted some changes. Race wouldn't detail what changes were made to the ordinance before it was submitted during the March meeting.

The ordinance will have its first reading during the Grand View council's next meeting April 11. Race said another reading is scheduled during the May 9 meeting, and that a public hearing could be held in May.

The goal is to have the new ordinance in place before the July 13-15 Grand View Days celebration, Race said.

The city council has been trying to

hammer out an open-container ordinance since October 2005, when the original Ordinance 20 was repealed. The original law, passed 25 years ago this month, prohibited possession of open containers of beer or liquor within 300 feet of an establishment that sells those products.

Council members were close to passing a new ordinance in June. The action was tabled during a June 14 meeting, and the committee chaired by Lawrence was created.

At this point, the only prohibition of open containers of alcohol within the city limits is the Idaho Code outlawing possession within 300 feet of a church or a school.

Grand View Mayor Paul Spang previously stated that any ordinance considered by the city will be submitted to Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman for review. The sheriff's office provides law enforcement for Grand View, but the municipality has conducted preliminary investigations into creating its

own police force.

Water, sewer spots filled

The town's water and sewer board is back to full strength after Ward and fellow residents Marie Hipwell and Dale Gray were sworn in during the February council meeting. Spang, who also is a member of the water and sewer board, administered the oath.

Ward, Hipwell and Gray join Spang and Lawrence on the five-person panel.

The water and sewer board operates separately from the city council, Race said, although the council administers the budget and has the final word on the board's decisions.

Race said Grand View is considering consolidation of the water and sewer board with the rest of the city government, however.

— JPB

Correction

The Shoo-Fly Livestock 4-H club incorrectly reported the date of their next meeting in last week's Avalanche. The club will meet at 3 p.m. April 15 at the Homedale Senior Citizens Center.

VFW, Legion ready flags for vets' graves

Two area military veterans organizations are joining forces to give their brethren buried in Wilder a fitting salute.

Merrill Tallman, a Marsing resident who is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 11065 in Wilder, said last week that he and Homedale American Legion Post 32 adjutant James Gammett are looking for the names of veterans interred at both the Wilder and Fargo cemeteries.

"Our plan is to set up with the celebration of the new veterans memorial (at the cemetery) around Memorial Day and hand out flags to anyone who says they have a veteran buried there," Tallman said.

But, much like Marsing American Legion Post 128 did at the Marsing-Homedale Cemetery, the VFW and Homedale American Legion want to map out the location of veterans' graves in the two

cemeteries, so future visitors can find the sites on their own.

"We feel that maybe by the time Memorial Day is over, we'll have a complete map," Tallman said.

He added that the veterans plan to use the map to place flags at each gravesite every Memorial Day.

"We don't know where they're at," Tallman said of the veterans buried in the two Wilder-area cemeteries.

The Homedale American

Legion and Wilder VFW are asking anyone with knowledge of veterans who may have been laid to rest in the two cemeteries to come forward and help identify locations for the master map.

The Wilder VFW draws membership from Homedale, Marsing, Wilder and Greenleaf.

For more information or to report the location of a veteran's grave, call Tallman at 896-4004 or Gammett at 337-3686.

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Land secured for Bruneau nuclear plant

The Owyhee County landowner who had agreed to sell land to a company wanting to build a nuclear power plant near Bruneau has agreed to become a partner in the venture.

Virginia-based Alternate Energy Holdings Inc. (AEHI) announced Monday that an agreement had been reached with James C. Hilliard to place the proposed 1,600-megawatt Idaho Energy Complex on a portion of the 4,000 acres owned by the Idaho businessman.

"We could not be more pleased and honored to have an Idaho native, successful businessman and entrepreneur like Jim Hilliard partnering with us in the Idaho Energy Complex" said AEHI president and CEO Don Gillispie. "He will be invaluable in advising the company on business and financial matters as we go forward in this venture."

The project has yet to face scrutiny from local, state and federal agencies. Gillispie hopes to bring a proposal to Owyhee

County officials this spring. According to the company's press release, Gillispie and other AEHI representatives have interacted with federal officials since their December announcement, and they plan meetings with state and local officials and other stakeholders.

"This won't be easy, but nothing significant is ever done easily," Hilliard said. "The Idaho Energy Complex will represent Idaho's commitment to energy diversity and security in the 21st century — much as our home-grown hydropower network represents the first generation of energy investment."

Company officials said heat generated as a byproduct of the reactor will be used to produce ethanol and methane made from local agricultural sources.

AEHI originally had intended to purchase the land from Hilliard, but after further discussions, Hilliard has become a major investor in the project by offering his land. Gillispie has said the plant would create

about 500 full-time jobs, thousands during construction and hundreds more through subsidiary spending.

"I look forward to working with Alternate Energy Holdings on the Idaho Energy Complex. This will bring jobs and economic security to all of Southwest Idaho," Hilliard said. "Farming communities and urban centers will benefit from continued access to reliable, inexpensive power, and farmers will have another market for their crops and ag waste."

Hilliard, raised in Nampa, has lived all over the United States and owned a number of business enterprises, including banks, ice rinks, commercial real estate, farms, auto dealerships and radio and television stations. He was a senior vice president with John Blair and Co., an advertising sales corporation that did more than \$1 billion dollars a year in business that was publicly traded but has since been sold. Hilliard was president of the Indiana Pacers

NBA team for one season in the mid-1970s and currently owns radio stations in New Mexico, Dallas and Florida, where he currently lives.

"I know something about opportunity, and I think the Idaho Energy Complex is the biggest, most exciting thing to come to Idaho since the announcement of a couple of high-tech companies in the '70s," Hilliard said.

The company asserted in a press release that a recent government report urges Idaho to develop more energy sources.

The January 2007 Idaho Energy Plan from the Legislative Interim Council on Energy, Environment and Technology states Idaho is vulnerable to the economic effects of emissions regulation on coal power and relicensing of the state's hydroelectric plants. The report notes Idaho imports 80 percent of its power from fossil fuels and more than \$3 billion that Idahoans spend on energy each year leaves the state.

From page 1

✓ Tragedy: Sheriff keeps eye on psychological toll suffered by deputies

He said he has an "open door" policy that allows personnel in his office to come to him if needed.

There is no official employee counseling program to help staff deal with the stress of traumatic emergency calls, but at the close-

knit agency, Aman keeps an eye on his deputies when they experience a string of tragic events.

Last week, sheriff's deputies responded to the Cove Recreation Site at C.J. Strike Reservoir for a reported drowning of a 13-

year-old boy — the fourth tragic, traumatic call in the past month.

In March, the agency also responded to the carbon monoxide deaths of a Boise man and his 15-year-old daughter in a cabin on War Eagle Mountain.

Less than a week before the drowning at C.J. Strike, deputies responded to burning death of a 19-year old Nampa woman after a firey vehicle crash on Idaho highway 78 east of Marsing, and the death of a 66-year old

Bruneau man, resulting from an ATV accident.

"We're doing OK. It's just that we've had our share (of traumatic calls) in the past few months," Aman said.

— JWB

✓ Bell: Longtime superintendent set example for generation of educators

1962 until his retirement in 1986. During those 25 years, Bell was more than a suit.

Taggart said Bell often helped the school maintenance crew complete projects in the summer.

"Almost every day, he'd be in his office in the morning. Then he'd go home for lunch and come back in his Levis and work with the work crew," said Taggart, who often spent his summers as a maintenance worker.

Taggart said Bell helped build fences for the district — not a big stretch for a man who came from a ranching family. He also helped build the original bleachers for the football stadium that later would bear his name.

Bell's literal hands-on approach to running the school district wasn't out of some sense of ultra-frugality, but Taggart said his shrewdness and intelligence shone through anyway.

"Financially, he was just so savvy, and he didn't have to have an attorney come in and talk to him about school law," Taggart said in explaining Bell's nickname as the Wizard of Homedale Finances. "He knew school law. He was just very bright."

Bell also knew personnel and students.

"Deward was my high school teacher and coach, and he was the finest teacher I ever had in high school," Taggart said. "He taught American Government, and he was very knowledgeable and he

expected a lot."

The lessons would continue after Taggart returned to Homedale with his teaching degree.

"Deward was my mentor as far as I'm concerned," said Taggart, who was a sophomore when Bell showed up to coach football, basketball, baseball and track and field at Homedale. "As I thought about teaching and treating people (with respect) and getting along, he was the guy I looked to, and he was just a fine example."

On the athletic field, Bell turned a perennial football also-ran into a squad that won championships four of the last six years he held the clipboard. Ironically, his final season would be one of only two losing seasons for the Trojans over the next two-plus decades.

Bell guided the boys basketball team to at least three state tournaments, including a second-place finish in the 1959-60 tourney. Homedale won 26 consecutive games, losing only its opener and the Class AA state final.

"I always thought he was a really good teacher and an excellent coach," Taggart said. "He's the guy that started the winning tradition."

Bell also began a tradition of picking quality personnel. Taggart said it was Bell who set him on his path to become principal at both the junior high school and high school in Homedale. And he was a fair boss, Taggart said.

"In my estimation, he was

absolutely, totally honest," Taggart said. "And integrity was a big thing, and you knew exactly how you stood with him."

And, perhaps the best mark for any teacher, Bell was there for the children, and all he asked was dedication in the classroom and

participation in school activities. Taggart said Bell would go as far as making sure a shy kid had a date for Homecoming, if there was a chance that boy would stay home from that important event.

"He was keen on the kids when he was a teacher and coach,"

Taggart said.

"And I don't think there was another teacher that was more demanding than him, and that's not always the case that the head coach is the strongest teacher in the school."

— JPB

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Obituaries

Deward Bell

A gentle giant, known as a loving husband, dad, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother and uncle to his family, as "The Wizard of Homedale (Finances)", patriotic soldier, educator, avid football fan and successful coach, Bishop and friend to others, completed his earthly journey in the early morning hours on Friday, March 30, 2007, at the local care center in Homedale. He was surrounded by many of those he loves.

Viewings will be held at the Homedale LDS Church on West Idaho Avenue, on Wednesday, April 4, from 5-7:00 p.m. and Thursday, April 5, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Funeral services and a celebration of Deward's life will be Thursday, April 5 at 1:00 p.m., also at the LDS Chapel. Interment will be held at the Marsing-Homedale Cemetery. Services are under the direction of Bell Funeral Home, Boise www.bell-funeral.com.

Deward X. Bell was born on October 5, 1923, at Albion, Idaho, to Jennie and Albert Bell. He was the sixth of eight children, including 4 brothers and three sisters.

Deward was educated in Albion, graduating from Albion High in 1942, where he lettered 4 years in football and served as senior captain. Thereafter he attended 1 semester of college at Southern Idaho College of Education also known as Albion Normal Teacher Training School before receiving an invitation from Uncle Sam to serve his country in the United



States Army.

Our country was at war. In addition to his stateside duty, Deward served 26 months overseas, 11 of which were on the front lines. He was with the 206th Engineer Combat Battalion, serving with the First and Third Armies. He was awarded the European African Middle Eastern Service Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal and Victory Medal.

Deward was Honorably Discharged and returned home in 1946 to continue his education at Southern Idaho College to complete his undergraduate degree, lettering 4 years in football and serving as captain his senior year. He was selected as All-Conference Quarterback.

Deward married his eternal companion and sweetheart, Leah Mae Owens, in Burley, Idaho, on June 6, 1947. Their marriage

was solemnized in the Idaho Falls LDS Temple on June 1, 1960.

Upon his graduation from college he began his lifelong dedication to the education of youth, teaching and coaching at Paul High School in Paul, Idaho, from 1950 to 1955, where he taught social studies and P.E. and served as head coach for football, basketball, baseball and track. Daughters Sheryl, JoAnn and Patti joined the family during this time.

In 1955 he came to Homedale to teach Social Studies and P.E. at the local high school. He was also head coach for football, basketball, track and baseball. After three years he left the classroom to assume the duties of principal, continuing his job as head coach of four sports. During this time daughter number four, Pam, was born.

Deward earned his Master's Degree from the College of Idaho in 1961. He took over as the superintendent of schools for the Homedale School District in 1962 where he served the community until his retirement in 1986.

Deward lived a life full of many adventures and has been recognized for his many accomplishments. He was an avid hunter, fisherman, snowmobiler, ATV rider, lifelong athletic referee, and official captain of the Bell Party Barge on which he spent many hours cruising Cascade Lake with friends and family. With the hard work of Leah, his entire family and numerous

friends, he built the vacation mecca of Crown Point, complete with horseshoe pits, mini lodge, totem poles and an 18-hole miniature golf course. This year-round destination resort provided an unlimited number of hours of fun and relaxation to Deward's family and friends.

Deward was a born and bred rancher, maintaining his small acreage and livestock herd while fulfilling his professional duties. Not many seasons passed at the family home when there wasn't a garden growing, stubborn cows needing training, calves to be branded, horses to be ridden, hay hauled, or irrigating done. During his growing up years, he worked diligently on the family ranch, doing his daily chores and spending summers herding sheep in the south hills.

Awards Deward has received include: Masonic Lodge Certificate of Service to the Public Schools, Outstanding Service & Leadership to Western Idaho Conference, Service to the Canyon-Owyhee School Service Agency, President's Award from Idaho Coaches Association, Lifetime Sports Pass from the Idaho High School Activities Association (IHSAA), Lifetime Membership to the Third District Coaches Association, IHSAA Hall of Fame, Service to the Third District Commissioner's Advisory Board, and State of Idaho Service Award Certificate of Recognition.

Deward was a lifelong member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, serving in numerous callings, including Bishop and temple worker. He was also a member of the Homedale Kiwanis Club.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother and sister-in-law Floyd and Leone Bell, sisters and brothers-in-law Chloe and Charles Warr, Melba Egbert and Kay Darrington, and a granddaughter Jeness Morris.

Survivors include his beloved wife Leah, brothers Leslie, Leo (Merla), and Dale (Lila), sister Althora (Sophie) Darrington, brother-in-law Oscar Egbert, sister-in-law Lena Jenkins, daughters Sheryl Bell, JoAnn (Tom) Morris, Patti (Stan) Zatica, and Pam (Joe) Favinger all of Homedale; numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Deward Bell Memorial Scholarship, c/o Homedale High School, 203 East Idaho Avenue, Homedale, ID 83628.

The family would like to express their heartfelt appreciation to the entire staff at the Owyhee Health & Rehab Center in Homedale for their compassionate care to Deward during his stay, and to Deward's nephew Michael and Sara Bell of Bell Funeral Home in Boise for providing such comforting and meaningful funeral arrangements.

Death notice

MARY JO LOVELAND, 70, of Medford, Ore., passed away Nov. 13, 2006. Funeral services will be held Friday, April 6, 2007 at 11 a.m. at Canyon Hill Cemetery, Caldwell.

Have a news tip?

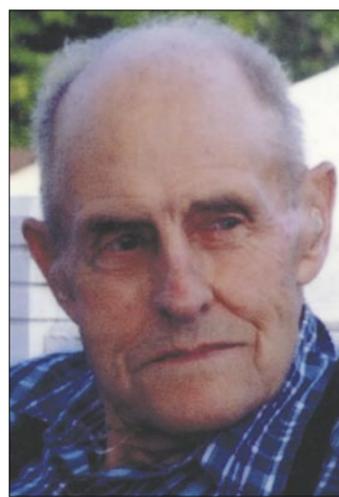
Call us!

337-4681

Edwin Stansell, 91, of Homedale, died and went to be with Jesus on March 29, 2007, at the Owyhee Health and Rehabilitation Center in Homedale.

Albert Edwin Stansell was born to A.M. and Golda (Camden) Stansell in Idaho Falls on December 8, 1915. Edwin attended grade school in Idaho Falls and graduated from Ammon High School near Idaho Falls in 1933. After high school Edwin attended Diesel Mechanic School in Portland, OR.

He married Vera Evans, a teacher who was boarding with the Stansell family, in 1938. In 1940, they and their young son, Keith, with Edwin's parents and his two youngest siblings, Jack and Velda,



moved to Homedale, where Edwin and Jack farmed for over 40 years. Members of the Stansell, George, Parr, Glanzman, and Si-

mon families had been acquainted in Idaho Falls and helped each other find farms or employment in Homedale.

Vera died in 1965, and Edwin married Dorothy Westby in 1967. Edwin and Dorothy observed their 40th wedding anniversary on January 26.

Edwin served on the Board of Directors of the Gem Irrigation District South Board of Control for 28 years (1952-79). He was Chairman of the Board for many of those years. He was proud of the fact that as Chairman, he was able to build consensus and was never required to cast a tie-breaking vote. Edwin also served on the Board of Directors of the Western Idaho Potato

Growers Association, the Homedale City Council, and for more than 30 years as Treasurer of the Homedale Friends Community Church.

Edwin is survived by his wife Dorothy, his sisters Velda Finn and Rita Watkin, his children Keith, Ron (Carolyn), Larry (Tonja), Maxine (Tim Jenkins), and his daughter-in-law Sandy. Also, his stepchildren include Lauren Westby, Gloria (Ron) Chell, Dean (Mary Beth) and Dale (Trude) Westby, Kathy (Duane) Williams and Linda (Michael) LeClair. Together, Edwin and Dorothy have 27 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

Edwin was preceded in death by his first wife Vera, son Glen, brother Jack, sister Margaret, and parents.

Viewing was 4:00-8:00 pm on Tuesday, April 3, at Flahiff Funeral Chapel in Homedale. The Memorial Service will be at the Homedale Friends Church at 2:30 pm on Wednesday, April 4. Graveside service to follow at Marsing-Homedale Cemetery. Memorials may be given to the Homedale Friends Church Building Fund.

Edwin Stansell



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7:00 pm
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GOOD FRIDAY

Lizard Butte Baptist Church
Located behind the Fire Station off Main Street in Marsing

Contact Cookie Brown for information 880-6528

Your finances

Don't fall for myth of building credit by accruing debt

Dear Dave,

In an attempt to improve my credit I recently bought a new car, which I financed at 17.9 percent for 72 months. If I make the minimum payment of \$468 a month, I'll end up paying about \$13,000 in interest alone. Is there a formula I can use to avoid paying all this interest?

— Marcus

Dear Marcus,

Yes, there is a formula that will keep you from paying all that interest. Sell the stinking car!

Your credit is lousy because you haven't paid your bills. And you haven't paid your bills because you bought a bunch of stuff you couldn't afford—like this new car at \$468 a month.

Listen, you can save nearly \$5,000 in just 10 months if you take those car payments and put them in a cookie jar. That will get you a great little used vehicle that won't be an anchor around your neck for the next six years.

You fell for the big lie, my man. The one that says you can improve your credit by going into debt!

— Dave

Dear Dave,

I opened my own business about six months ago, and it's not growing at all. I'm a single mom, we receive no child support and my parents are helping us with all the bills. My biggest concern is the house. I bought it five years ago, and when I opened my business I did it with money from a home equity loan. What can I do?

— Gina

Dear Gina,

The house is not the problem. You borrowed money to open a business, and that was no-no number one. You also have no savings—which is no-no number two—and now the business isn't making a profit.

You need to close the shop and go find some work. The money you make at another job will determine whether or not you can stay in your home.

If you've got a mortgage, home equity loan and business debts hanging over your head,



by Dave Ramsey

the chances of this are slim. You probably need to consider moving into a small, inexpensive apartment for a while.

If you do this, get your debts paid off and your finances back in order, you might be able to purchase a house again in a few years. I know the idea of giving up your home is hurtful, but when you get cancer you have to cut deep enough to get it all. Gina, what you've got right now is financial cancer.

And if you don't fix it now it will eat you alive!

— Dave

Dear Dave,

My husband and I filed bankruptcy last month. We now have a date scheduled for a 341 Meeting. What exactly is this, and should we be worried?

— Arlene

Dear Arlene,

A 341 Meeting is basically a meeting with creditors. You'll go into a room with your lawyer and the bankruptcy trustee, and the creditors will ask you lots of questions about your bankruptcy filing in an open forum.

In 98 percent of the consumer cases filed, the creditors don't do a thing. The trustee may ask a couple of questions, but there won't be any big surprises. It's not like being grilled on the witness stand, and there won't be any trick questions.

It will be really boring, though, and probably take up most of the day.

— 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. For more financial advice, visit the Web site or call (888) 22-PEACE.

Calendar

Today

Homedale Ministerial Association Holy Week Luncheon, noon to 1 p.m., freewill, Homedale Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 16613 Garnet Road. (208) 337-3301

Melba Cottage Library book club meeting, 7 p.m., Melba Cottage Library, 109 Charlotte Drive, Melba. (208) 495-1063

DivorceCare recovery support 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 Ministerial Association Holy Week Luncheon, noon to 1 p.m., freewill, Homedale Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 16613 Garnet Road. (208) 337-3301

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), 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

Homedale Ministerial

Association Holy Week Luncheon, noon to 1 p.m., freewill, Homedale Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 16613 Garnet Road. (208) 337-3301

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

Resurrection Celebration tent meeting, 6 p.m., 2109 Thompson Road, Homedale. (208) 337-3516

Saturday

Homedale Chamber of Commerce Easter egg hunt, 10 a.m., Sundance Park

Grand View Lions Club Easter egg hunt, 11 a.m., toddlers to sixth-graders, City Park

Resurrection Celebration tent meeting, 6 p.m., 2109 Thompson Road, Homedale. (208) 337-3516

Marsing Lions Bingo season finale, 6:45 p.m. early bird, 7 p.m. regular start, Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center, 126 2nd St. N., Marsing. (208) 896-4815

Sunday

Lizard Butte Easter Sunrise Service, 7 a.m., Lizard Butte off Idaho highway 55 near Marsing

Resurrection Celebration tent meeting, 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., 2109 Thompson Road, Homedale. (208) 337-3516

Snake River Valley Fellowship

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

Monday

Homedale School District Board of Trustees monthly meeting, 7 p.m., district office board room, 116 E. Owyhee Ave.

Melba School District Board of Trustees monthly meeting, 4 p.m., district office board room, 600 Broadway Ave.

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

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.

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) 337-4681.

Resurrection Celebration!



Country Style Tent Meeting presented by: Cowboy Crusade Ministries

EVERYONE WELCOME!

April 6, 6:00 pm • April 7, 6:00 pm • April 8, 9:30 am & 2:00 pm



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Praise & Worship Team
Glendale, California



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Evangelist, Pastor, Cattleman, Rancher, Packer
Jackpot, Nevada



Robert & Judy Aja
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Notus, Idaho



Keith & Debbie Brown
Evangelist, Pastor, Singer/Songwriter, Radio
Host, Rancher, Cutting Horse Trainer
Homedale, Idaho

Location: 2109 Thompson Road, Homedale, Idaho

From Homedale, take 95 south to Y Road. Stay straight, continue on Y Road to Thompson Road, turn Right. Continue on Thompson (approx. 2 miles) to the end of the road. Look for yellow two story house and the tent on the left hand side of the road.

For more information, contact Keith & Debbie Brown - 337-3516
www.cowboycrusadeministries.org • bakeith@hughes.net

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St. Luke 24 — The story of Easter

1 Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.

3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments:

5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?

6 He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee,

7 Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of

sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.

8 And they remembered his words,

9 And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest.

10 It was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told these things unto the apostles.

11 And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not.

12 Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass.

13 And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emma'us, which was

Area Easter events



Lizard Butte marks 70th anniversary

The 70th annual Lizard Butte Sunrise Service for Easter Sunday will be held at 7 a.m. Sunday on Lizard Butte. For more information call 454-9001.

Other Easter activities planned this weekend include:

- The Marsing Lions Club Easter breakfast from 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on Saturday at the Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center, 126 N. 2nd St. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$2.75 for children 11 years old and younger.
- The Marsing Lions will hold its annual Easter egg hunt at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Marsing High School football field.
- The Homedale Chamber of Commerce will hold its Easter egg hunt at 10 a.m. Saturday at Sundance Park
- The Grand View Lions Club's Easter egg hunt will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday at Grand View City Park.
- The Jordan Valley High School FFA chapter's Easter egg hunt for children 12-and-younger will be held at 9 a.m.

from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs.

14 And they talked together of all these things which had happened.

15 And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them.

16 But their eyes were holden that they should not know him.

17 And he said unto them, What manner of communication are these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad?

18 And the one of them, whose name was Cle'opas, answering said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days?

19 And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people:

20 And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him.

21 But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, to day is the third day since these things

were done.

22 Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre;

23 And when they found not his body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive.

24 And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found it even so as the women had said: but him they saw not.

25 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:

26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?

27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

28 And they drew night unto the village, whither they went: and he made as though he would have gone further.

29 But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them.

30 And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread,

and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them.

31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.

32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

33 And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them,

34 Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon.

35 And they told what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread.

36 And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

37 But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit.

38 And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts?

39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself, handle me, and see; for a spirit hath no flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

40 And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet.

41 And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat?

42 And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb.

43 And he took it, and did eat before them.

44 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

50 And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them.

51 And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.

52 And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy:

53 And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.



LaDon's Corner

Diamonds Have No Mercy! "The Taylor-Burton Diamond"

It is said *"...a compatibility is established between the jewel and its wearer"* which was certainly the case of when Elizabeth Taylor used to flaunt the famous Taylor-Burton Diamond in public. In fact, it is also said *"...diamonds have no mercy... They will show up the wearer if they can."* ("The Sandcastle" by Iris Murdoch.)

Well, just as there was no other female actress likened to Elizabeth Taylor in her day, there is still no other diamond quite like the 69.42-carat that she loved to exhibit, nor of the financial sacrifice of a husband wanting a big diamond for his wife.

That beautiful gem had been cut from a rough stone weighing 240.80 carats found in the Premier Mine in 1966 and it was subsequently bought by Harry Winston.

But did you know that the stone's first owner after Harry Winston wasn't actually Elizabeth Taylor? In 1967 Winston had sold the tear shaped diamond to Mrs. Harriet Annenberg Ames, who was the sister of Walter Annenberg, the American ambassador in London during the Richard Nixon administration. Two years later, she sent the diamond to Parke-Bernet Galleries in New York to be auctioned On October 23rd, 1969 the bidding started, with the understanding that the buyer could name it, and with Richard Burton making bids from a bar in England.

As well as Richard Burton, Harry Winston (who wanted the diamond back) had also been an under-bidder at this famous sale. But Burton was determined to prevail. So, speaking from a pay phone sandwiched between the lounge bar and the saloon, Burton negotiated for the gem while continually dropping coins into the phone. Patrons quietly sipping their drinks would have heard the actor's loud tones exclaiming, **"I don't care how much it is; go and buy it."** And in the end the stone's new owner Robert Kenmore agreed to sell it him, but only on the condition that Cartier was able to display what was now to be named **The Taylor-Burton Diamond.**

Without question Richard Burton's purchase of this gem was a huge financial sacrifice, and as such awed the entire world. In fact I still recall the headlines in the news. It was and remains a public exhibit of his love for the beautiful actress and, in the eyes of many, was a sacrifice to either be judged and/or envied. That same judgment (or envy) of diamond rings worn by women still exists today because the diamond ring not only symbolizes enduring love, it also represents a man's sacrifice for his loved one.

If you wish to see some very beautiful diamonds then come to my store or visit me on the web at <http://www.Ladonsfinejewelry.com>.

LaDon Reames, owner of LaDon's Fine Jewelry in the WinCo/ShopKo Center has been a Nampa jeweler for thirty-three years. She is a certified diamontologist and gemologist. She can be reached at

208-461-0677

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Volunteers sought in this year's WNV battles

Newly appointed liaison obtains traps to identify mosquito habitat

The Owyhee County Board of Commissioners, along with Dr. John Noak of Homedale, are not waiting for mosquitoes infected with West Nile Virus (WNV) to come to them in 2007. They are taking the fight to the varmints early on.

Noak said the first wave of mosquitoes is expected near May 10.

Noak, who recently was appointed as the county WNV liaison and will serve as chairman of a county committee to direct the WNV program, is looking for handful of volunteer mosquito trappers to help in the effort. Interested volunteers should contact Noak at (208) 337-3233.

"My job is to act as liaison between the county other state agencies and the health district," Noak said. "The idea is that I will be a single point where all the information flows to. My job will be to draw up plans-of-action and present them to the commissioners."

Noak hasn't wasted any time in getting things rolling. Last week, he obtained traps to capture mosquitoes in breeding areas to see which areas harbor WNV.

Without mosquito abatement districts, the county first must identify breeding grounds before mounting a spraying effort.

"Some of the stuff is already in motion," Noak said. "The first thing we're doing is picking up a half-dozen mosquito traps, which sounds odd, but it allows us to pinpoint where the

greatest concentration of infected mosquitoes would be.

"Then, we're looking for volunteers to help place those (traps). I'll be arranging for some training on how to operate them," Noak said.

The doctor said the county needs about 12 volunteers — or two per device — to help place the traps.

"We're looking at the places that are most likely mosquito-breeding areas," Noak said.

Once breeding grounds have been found, the traps will be moved periodically to detect infected mosquitoes over a wider area.

"We're going to start by placing two near Homedale, two near Marsing, one near Murphy and one near Grand View. That will be our starting point. Depending on where we are discovering infected mosquitoes, that will bear on where we will be moving them around to," Noak said.

The traps, which are filled with dry ice, use carbon dioxide to attract mosquitoes. The attractant gas is released as the dry ice decomposes.

Because all mammals release carbon dioxide through breathing, the mosquitoes think the release of carbon dioxide is from an animal, which attracts the critters in for a closer look, at which point a small fan sucks the flying bug into a mesh trap. The trap also has a small light source to enhance the appeal.

The mesh trap portion containing

the mosquitoes is removed and frozen, then the specimens are evaluated for signs of WNV. Noak said the traps ideally will be hung approximately 20 feet in the air.

Noak said he is not paid for his position with the county and hopes to use volunteer help throughout the operation.

"Our feeling is that if we go with volunteers, all the way through on this, that will allow us to apply close to 100 percent of any money we raise or get from the state to larvacide or adulticide later on," he said. "Then, there are some costs involved in tracking things and feeding the traps. Our goal is to have as close to 100 percent of the money go to actual supplies as possible."

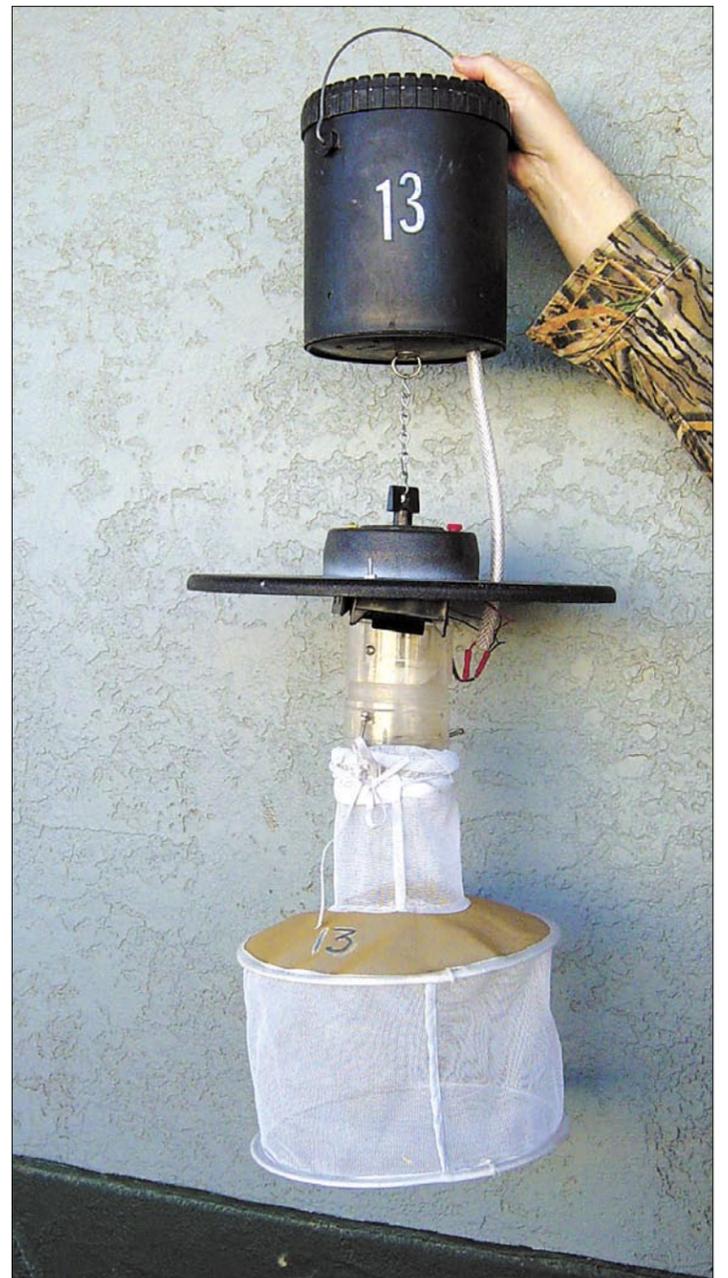
Noak, who is a medical doctor, has been practicing in the Homedale area for the past seven years; however, he said he has been practicing medicine for more than 20 years.

Noak said in February 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, which can cause paralysis.

In February, commissioners heard a three-pronged plan of attack for the 2007 WNV season from Noak, which included:

- Education about preventive measures.
- Identification of mosquito breeding grounds.
- Spraying early to kill mosquito larva, before they can spread the disease.

— JWB



County secures traps to track mosquitoes

Mosquito traps, such as the one shown, will be placed at strategic locations throughout Owyhee County. The devices use carbon dioxide from dry ice and a small light to lure mosquitoes, then a small fan sucks the bugs into the mesh portion at the bottom.

New law could help county curb the spread of West Nile

While the Owyhee County Board of Commissioners is gearing up for another season of West Nile Virus (WNV), the governor has signed legislation to make the battle easier.

Idaho State Rep. Bert Brackett says the bill will give officials tools to address WNV problem.

"We had a real problem last summer, so I think the need was there and people recognized it and we responded. So, we actually got something done this year," said Brackett, who lives in Three Creek.

The commissioners were scheduled to consider early options to prevent the spread of WNV in 2007 at its Monday meeting. Results of that meeting were not available at press time.

On March 26, Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter signed into law House Bill 178, which revises requirements for mosquito abatement districts and enables counties to fight WNV-carrying mosquitoes in a more streamlined fashion.

HB 178 is designed to:

- Amend and add to existing law to revise provisions and procedures relating to the formation of abatement districts

- Revise powers and duties of abatement districts

- Provide for the declaration of public health and welfare pests

- Provide for disasters

- Provide for the operation of abatement districts by counties.

The Idaho House of Representatives passed HB 178 unanimously, 65-0, early last month. The state Senate sent the bill to the governor's desk with a 35-0 vote.

"The new bill is in place, and I think it is a really good step forward. We've got the problem, and some of the problems we ran into were pretty evident last year," Brackett said. "I think it gives us more tools to address the problem."

One of the issues facing Owyhee County in fighting WNV has been the lack of mosquito abatement districts.

In February, board chairman

Dick Freund said that mosquito abatement districts are, essentially, taxing districts designed to determine who pays for each area sprayed. For example, if a district exists in Marsing, property owners in that area would pay only for the spraying done in their district.

In 2006, Owyhee County accounted for 28 of the more than 800 confirmed Idaho cases of WNV in humans. It is not known if those numbers will increase in 2007, but in most areas around the country, WNV has had a two-year "peak." Late last year, it was thought that 2006 was the first of that two-year stretch in Idaho.

Last year, the county's effort to combat WNV-carrying mosquitoes was hampered by the lack of a starting point to begin spraying. By September, county commissioners had declared a disaster, but the spraying efforts were limited to school districts.

According to Idaho Department of Health and Welfare statistics, four horses in Owyhee County

were infected with WNV in 2006, with a total of 338 infected horses throughout Idaho.

Experts surmise that West Nile Virus is 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 species in Owyhee County.

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

— JWB

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Senior menus

Marsing center

April 4: Breakfast to order served from 8 a.m. to noon. Chicken dinner served 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

April 5: Roast ham, potatoes, gravy, spinach, green salad, soup, dessert, drink.

April 9: Breakfast to order served from 8 a.m. and noon. No lunch.

April 10: Chicken & noodles, peas & carrots, corn salad, soup, dessert, drink.

April 11: Breakfast to order served from 8 a.m. to noon. Hamburger or hot dog dinner served to order 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Homedale center

April 6: French dip sandwich, scalloped potatoes, California blend vegetables, drink.

April 7: Ham & beans w/corn bread, drink.

April 8: Baked fish, macaroni & cheese, carrots, roll, drink.

Engagement

Homedale grad Bruce, Every set December wedding date

Former Homedale resident Kasey Bruce and Cody Every will wed Dec. 1, 2007, in Redmond, Ore., at Eagle Crest Resort.

Kasey Bruce's parents — mother Max Haylett and stepfather Jeff Haylett, and father Bill Bruce and stepmother Jaleene Bruce — are residents of Homedale, and they are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter.

Kasey grew up in Homedale and graduated from Homedale High School in 2003. She attended Blue Mountain Community College on scholarship with the rodeo team. After receiving her associate's business degree in 2005, she moved to Redmond with Cody. She is finishing her bachelor's degree in Business Administration at Oregon State University-Cascades. She works for an advertising agency, Every Idea in Bend, Ore.

Cody Every's parents, Wendie and Charlie Every, are residents of Redmond. Cody grew up in Central Oregon. He graduated in 2002 from Redmond High School. After graduation he attended Blue Mountain Community College where he was on scholarship for the rodeo team. In 2005, Cody



Kasey Bruce and Cody Every

received a degree in Livestock Production. Cody followed in his father's footsteps, after moving back to Redmond, and started a trucking business, Cody Every Trucking, based in Redmond.

Cody and Kasey met while going to school in Pendleton, Ore., both had great success in college and college rodeo. They made two trips together to the College National Finals.

When Cody and Kasey are not working, you will find them at a rodeo or up in the mountains snowmobiling. They plan on residing in the Central Oregon area.

School menus

Homedale Elementary

April 5: Easter dinner. Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, fruit mix, cake, milk.

April 6: Hot ham cheese sandwich or turkey sandwich, yogurt, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

April 9: Weiner wrap or chicken melt w/bacon, mac & cheese, green beans, fruit & veggie bar, rice krispy bar, milk.

April 10: Beef or chicken taco, corn, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

April 11: Chicken patty or rib-b-que, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, cake, milk.

Homedale Middle

April 5: Lasagna or pizza hot pocket, green beans, fruit & veggie bar, bread stick, milk.

April 6: Pizza or popcorn chicken, salad, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.

April 9: Chicken patty or rib-b-que, tots, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.

April 10: Fish nuggets or mini corn dogs, rice, fruit & veggie bar, brownie, milk.

April 11: Crispito or toasted cheese sandwich, taco salad, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Homedale High

April 5: Chicken patty, hamburger, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

April 6: Beef taco, toasted cheese sandwich, soup, corn, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

April 9: Pizza, mini corn dogs, chef's salad, cookie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

April 10: Oven fried chicken, weiner wrap, scalloped potatoes, fruit rollup, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

April 11: Enchilada, pizza hot pocket, baked potato, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Marsing

April 5: Corn dogs, veggie, fruit, milk, chicken fajita, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.

April 6: Ham & cheese, veggie, fruit, milk, chicken patty/bun, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.

April 9: Hamburger, potato wedges, fruit, milk, soup & sandwich, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.

April 10: Spaghetti, salad, fruit, milk, asst'd sandwich, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.

April 11: Tacos, veggie, fruit, milk, pizza, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.

Bruneau

April 5: Lasagna, salad/croutons, fruit, bread sticks, milk.

April 6: Cheese pizza, veggie sticks, fresh fruit, milk.

April 9: Hamburger, potato wedges, veggie, fruit, cookie, milk.

April 10: Mexi mac, salad, bread sticks, fruited jello, milk.

April 11: Field trip, sack lunches.

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OCD announces program, plans meeting

Cost-share fund helps producers conserve

The Owyhee Conservation District (OCD) announced last week that it is accepting applications for the Water Quality Program for Agriculture (WQPA) in the Lower Succor Creek and Jump Creek watersheds.

The cost-share program, which

started in 2006, provides financial assistance to qualified producers to install Best Management Practices (BMPs) that improve water quality.

Some of the BMPs include conversion from flood irrigation to sprinkler irrigation systems and filter strips.

Cost-share funds available range from 50 percent to 85 percent of total cost, depending on the project.

The OCD said information on

the WQPA process will be mailed to producers in the affected area this month.

The application deadline is May 25.

For more information, call WQPA project manager Lance Holloway or OCD administrative assistant Gina Millard at 896-4544, ext. 102.

The Marsing-based OCD will hold its monthly meeting at 8 p.m. April 12 at its office at 12 Reich St.

County historical society seeks donations for April 14 bazaar

The Owyhee County Historical Society will hold its Spring Bazaar and Flea Market from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 14 in Murphy.

The event will be held at the Owyhee County Historical Museum, 17085 Basey Street.

There will be vendors, flea market items and food booths.

The food fare includes chicken and noodles, featuring Walter's Ferry Grange famous homemade

noodles, chili, hot dogs, cinnamon rolls, donuts and homemade pies.

Donations are welcome. All proceeds benefit the OCHS.

The next OCHS field trip is April 28 to Lawson's Emu-Z-Um in Grand View. Entry to the museum is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children. The field trip party will meet at the Emu-Z-Um at 10 a.m., and a potluck lunch will be served at the museum.

Tools, goodies on sale at Homedale senior center

Homedale Senior Citizens Center's April activities begin today with another opportunity for eligible people to sign up for property tax relief.

Registration for the Circuit Breaker program will be held from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the senior center, 224 W. Idaho Ave.

On Friday, Tap Enterprises will bring another tool sale to the senior center from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. During the same time, the senior center will hold a bake sale to benefit its Meals on Wheels program.

A shopping trip is planned for Monday. The center's van will leave at 9 a.m. For more information, call the center at 337-3020 or Mona Andrus at 337-4547.

The Homedale Library will

hold a book sale on April 13-14.

The monthly Saturday night dance will be held from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. on April 21. The dance is open to all ages, and admission is \$3 and plate of finger food.

The month ends with a return of Homedale native Betty Aitchison and Ozark Mountain Music for bluegrass music entertainment during the center's April 24 luncheon.

The lunch is served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and all ages are welcome to dine.

Lunch costs \$3 for ages 60 and older and \$5 for everyone else. The menu will include grilled chicken breast, baked potato, green beans and a beverage.

For more information on any senior center activity, call 337-3020.

Anniversaries

Family honors Homedale couple with surprise gathering

Jim and Bonnie Cade celebrated their 41st wedding anniversary with family and friends at a surprise affair held at the Homedale Presbyterian Church on March 23, 2007.

The couple's daughter, Teresa, and her husband, Wayne Lee, of Fruitland served as hosts for the event along with the Cades' granddaughter, Shawna, and her husband, Idris Shelby, of Meridian, and friend Janet McCormack of Homedale.

Jim and Bonnie were married March 29, 1966, in Sanger, Calif., by Judge Walton.



Jim and Bonnie Cade

They moved to Idaho in 1972 and have lived in Homedale for the past 12 years.

Drums to celebrate 45th anniversary

Longtime Homedale residents Dorwin and Vicki Drum will celebrate their 45th wedding anniversary on Friday, April 6, 2007.

Family and friends are preparing a private celebration to commemorate the occasion.

Dorwin is employed at SSI in Wilder, and Vicki is employed by the Canyon County Recorder's office.

They have four children, three of which still reside in the Treasure Valley.



Santa Fe construction begins

Crews began building model homes for the Santa Fe subdivision in downtown Homedale last week. The developer has said that several different floorplans will be represented once the homes are finished.

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Wednesday winds make driving an adventure

Severe winds stirred dirt from dry farm fields into dangerous clouds that obscured the vision of drivers in both Owyhee and Canyon counties Wednesday. **Above:** A motorist picks through the hazy conditions while traveling northbound on U.S. Highway 95 toward the site of a three-car accident at the highway's intersection with Upper Pleasant Road. **Below, left:** A Parma Police car received extensive damage, including a blown-out rear window, after being struck by a Ford Explorer on U.S. 95. **Below, right:** An emergency worker checks on the condition of the driver of a the third car involved in the accident, a Honda Civic. The vehicle came to rest on an embankment off the southbound shoulder of the highway, several yards from the Ford and patrol car. The driver was removed on a backboard. Messages left with the Idaho State Police in an attempt to get more information on the crash were not returned.



From way downtown ... or not

Above: Marcus Miller of the Marsing FFA team takes a shot against Homedale FFA during the donkey basketball fund-raiser held March 22 at Marsing High School. **Right:** A Homedale FFA player keeps an eye on the ball after taking a close shot. Photos by Brandy Smith, MHS yearbook

Marsing FFA news

by CC Zanardi
chapter reporter

You are all probably wondering what in the world is donkey basketball. Well, it is simply a game of basketball except you don't dribble the ball and you're riding a donkey.

These donkeys aren't exactly user-friendly either. They follow other around like they are lost. Some run like lightning, but others run like molasses.

One person from each team stands in the middle of the court and throws the ball to their teammates.

Through its donkey basketball fund-raiser March 22 inside the Marsing High School gymnasium,

the Marsing FFA chapter raised money to purchase new items. The tickets sales and concession sales also raised money that will be used to help chapter members attend the state convention later this month.

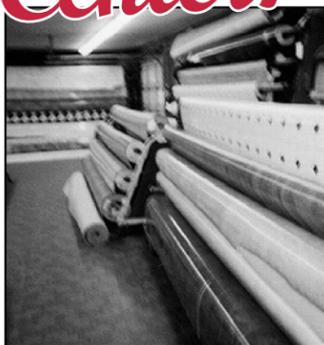
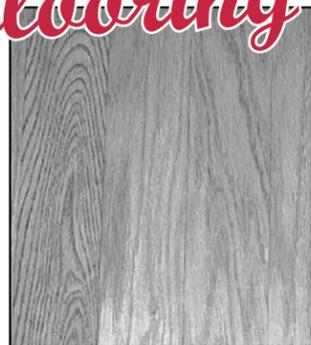
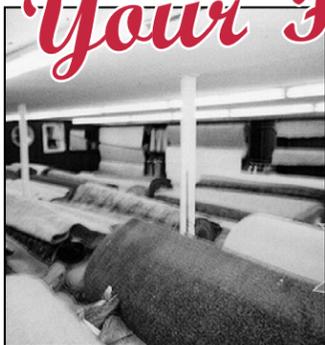
Other teams competing included Homedale FFA, and firefighters from Marsing and Melba. Homedale FFA hosted the tournament last year.

The chapter members want to thank the fans for coming out and enjoying the games.

The State FFA Leadership Conference will be held April 12-14 inside the College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Auditorium in Twin Falls.

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New BLM manager faces familiar balancing act

When asked what is unique about the Bureau of Land Management's Owyhee Field Office, newly appointed manager Mark Lane answered quickly and without reservation.

"I've discovered rather rapidly what is unique is the level of participation by individuals and groups in what goes on on public lands," he said. "This is phenomenal."

Range management, in which Lane has a strong background, and collaborative efforts between multiple land users are the new manager's focus for the months ahead in Owyhee County.

"I've been with the BLM for just about seven years, but I've actually been with the federal government since 1980," Lane said. "I started working with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Colorado."

Lane's started his career with the feds after graduating from Utah State University with a Master's Degree in Range Science. After assignments in Texas, Northern California, and again in Colorado, Lane found himself in Socorro, N.M., as assistant field manager for renewable resources with responsibilities for range, wildlife, fire, wild horses and forestry.

Used to the Owyhee way

Lane's background with the BLM is ideal for his new position in Owyhee County. In his previous assignment in New Mexico, he dealt with recreational issues almost to those Owyhee now faces.

"Here were the challenges in Socorro, New Mexico: Socorro was a small

community, with traditional uses of BLM land, ranching, hunting, those sorts of things. Of course, recreation demands grew, so we were getting a lot of people coming in from Albuquerque, through Socorro.

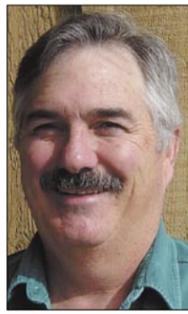
"We had to quickly adapt. The biggest challenge was trying to communicate with those traditional users on what we were trying to do with recreation, and also getting their feedback: What were the problems they were seeing with recreation, and how they were impacted."

The solution to balancing needs was, in part, finding a place for recreational users to go, which is similar to what the BLM has done at the Hemingway Butte Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Open Play area off of Upper Reynolds Creek Road.

"They set aside an area to try and concentrate the OHV use, which relieved the pressure of people just coming down, seeing BLM land and saying: 'Let's go there,'" Lane said of the Socorro solution.

Lane said he and various groups even got together when organized OHV events were being held and came to agreements with other local interest groups to mitigate problems.

"(OHV) groups volunteered to go to a permittee's cross-fence and put in an area where they could drive four-wheelers over the fence so they didn't have to open a gate to do the race. They were happy,



Mark Lane

the permittee was happy, the BLM was happy."

Familiar refrain in Owyhees

This type of collaborative effort — such as found in the Owyhee Initiative — is familiar to Lane and the BLM.

"With the Owyhee Initiative, several heads are better than one," Lane said. "Bringing all those people together and seeing if we can help come up with some solutions to the problems that the increased use brings ... to make these uses more compatible, the better off we're going to be if we can get an agreement up front."

"We're not going to eliminate the problems, but at least we'll get a lot of the arguments, the contention, up-front."

Developing a dialogue is a large part of the battle, he said.

"The biggest challenge we always face is communication," Lane said. "Either you're not communicating or not spending the time communicating in the right places. That's a big deal."

Lane said the choice to come to the Idaho as BLM field office manager was, and he chose between the Marsing office and the field office in Pocatello. Ranching is the No. 1 industry in almost every location he has been stationed.

"The BLM has a great program that is called the Leadership Academy, and I went through that back in 2003," he said. "After I completed that, I was strongly encouraged to move up in the organization to put those skills I had learned to some use that the BLM saw as beneficial."

"I was hesitant to apply for just anything,

or just go anywhere, and I waited for a couple years. When this job came open here in Idaho, I put in for it."

BLM service runs in family

Lane said his wife, Anne, also works for the BLM, and is currently working on moving to the Boise area. Their son, Jared, attends New Mexico State University, and is majoring in sports medicine. They have two dogs, two cats, a mule and a horse.

He loves to trail ride. His registered Missouri Fox Trotter mare is due to foal soon. He also competes in the shot put in the Senior Olympics.

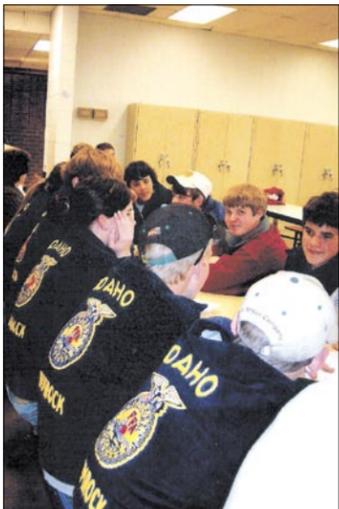
While moving to new areas of the country throughout his career, Lane developed skills that enable him to adapt quickly to new surroundings. Learning the area and meeting the people and exploring issues in a given area are challenges he intends to tackle in the coming months in Owyhee County.

Part of that adaptation is listening, making community contacts and being responsive to the needs of land users.

"It's not just what your agency thinks is an issue, but what the people, the users, of your resource think is an issue. That's every bit as important," Lane said. "And, (learning) who those people (users) are. Who's the right person to go to, who you really need to talk to."

"Who are those innovators — those 'movers and shakers' — in a community that you need to get to know, that can really help steer you in the right direction and tell you what the issues are."

— JWB



Rimrock FFA helps community, and vice-versa

Left: Members of the Rimrock FFA chapter gird themselves for servitude before the fund-raising Slave Sale on March 21. **Right:** Chapter members helped the Grand View Canal Co. with burning recently. The team included, from left to right, Ross Lemon, Allen Martin, Shawn Servis, Anna Cantrell, Chelsey Lemon, Bobby Jackson, Cole Merrick, and Connor Merrick. Submitted photo

Rimrock FFA news

by Chelsey Lemon, chapter reporter

Going Once...Going Twice... Sold! On March 21, the Rimrock FFA chapter held its annual Slave Sale.

Twenty-five members participated in this fundraiser, and the average cost per person was around \$170.

The FFA chapter raised \$5,400. This is the first time that the Rimrock FFA chapter has raised this much money.

One of the buyers commented, "Before, I was able to buy at least

three or four for \$200. Now you can only buy one for that much."

What can you say? The buyers know that the farm kids are worth the money they spend. The kids work hard, and buyers know that they will get their money's worth.

The chapter would like to thank all of the buyers who came out and helped. The money raised will allow chapter members go on trips in the future.

On March 17, eight members of the Rimrock FFA chapter helped the Grand View Canal Co., burn

the canal. The burning started at 9:30 a.m. and the crew didn't complete the task until 5 p.m.

FFA members burned from the Grand View bridge to Sheep Camp Road.

The members that attended were Ross Lemon, Allen Martin, Shawn Servis, Anna Cantrell, Chelsey Lemon, Bobby Jackson, Cole Merrick, and Connor Merrick.

The members were a little sunburned, tired and smoky, but they enjoyed helping the canal company get a jump start before water is released into the canal.

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Volunteers sought for C.J. Strike

The Owyhee County Sheriff's Office is seeking volunteers to assist with crime prevention, litter control and safety efforts at the C.J. Strike Recreation Area.

Volunteers will coordinate an "Adopt a Campground" program that organizers say will be similar to the Idaho Highway Department's "Adopt a Highway" program.

"We think that we can really do some good down in the C.J. Strike area with volunteers," Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman said. "It's strictly being visible, talking to people."

Volunteers will work with sworn sheriff's deputies on crime prevention and safety programs. They will be asked to monitor the area while they are at C.J. Strike and report any illegal or unsafe activities that they observe.

Aman stressed that volunteers

would not have law enforcement powers and would act as "eyes and ears" for the sheriff's office. They would be equipped with cell phones to report illegal, unsafe or suspicious activity.

Currently, there are two part-time marine deputies at C.J. Strike, as well as one fulltime deputy in the area. Aman hopes to reinforce their presence with up to 20 volunteers.

Aman said the program is modeled after a similar program implemented at Lake Lowell in Canyon County.

Aman said that volunteers would provide their own vehicles and would not wear any uniform that might identify them as law enforcement personnel. Volunteers likely would be issued an identification card.

According to a brochure provided by the sheriff's office, the agency

seeks fishermen who frequently use the reservoir, Snake River or Bruneau River; campers who frequent the C.J. Strike area; boaters who use the reservoir or connecting rivers; waterfowl or upland game hunters who hunt in the C.J. Strike area; or anyone else interested in participating in a community project who can volunteer time and effort to improve the recreation experience at C.J. Strike.

Requirements include:

- Be a frequent user of the C.J. Strike Recreation Area.
- Pass a background check.
- Be willing to volunteer time to attend a yearly meeting and assist with clean up activities.
- A willing, teamwork attitude when working with others.

For more information, contact Deputy Rick Wiley at the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office (208)495 1154.

Snow, water report

The Bureau of Reclamation Web site showed that Owyhee Reservoir was 81 percent full and that water was being released into the Owyhee River at Nyssa, Ore., at the rate of 250 cubic feet per second. The reservoir held 577,967 acre-feet of water.

The following statistics were gathered from the National Resources Conservation Service Web site at 8 a.m. Monday:

Date	Snow Depth	Reynolds Creek			
		Year to Date Precipitation	Average Temp		Avg.
			Max.	Min.	
03/27	0.0	8.8	51	27	40
03/28	0.0	8.7	34	23	28
03/29	0.0	8.9	40	23	32
03/30	0.1	8.9	50	27	39
03/31	0.2	8.9	59	32	45
04/01	0.2	8.9	51	38	45
04/02	N/A	8.9	45	31	37

Date	Snow Depth	South Mountain			
		Year to Date Precipitation	Average Temp		Avg.
			Max.	Min.	
03/27	21.3	20.8	54	31	41
03/28	24.2	21.2	33	21	27
03/29	22.9	21.3	42	23	31
03/30	21.1	21.4	50	28	39
03/31	20.1	21.3	56	36	46
04/01	18.9	21.4	52	37	44
04/02	19.0	21.6	47	31	37

Date	Snow Depth	Mud Flat			
		Year to Date Precipitation	Average Temp		Avg.
			Max.	Min.	
03/27	0.0	9.3	61	32	46
03/28	1.1	9.4	38	28	33
03/29	1.1	9.5	47	30	37
03/30	0.6	9.5	55	29	41
03/31	0.6	9.5	61	30	45
04/01	0.3	9.6	60	38	48
04/02	0.6	9.6	51	37	43

Weather

	H	L	Prec.
March 27	65	26	trace
March 28	53	33	.00
March 29	57	28	.00
March 30	69	23	.00
March 31	no reading taken		
April 01	no reading taken		
April 02	68	25	.10

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Kitfox owner wants to help Homedale take off

McBean says cleaning up airport is part of polishing town's appeal

John McBean said the decision to base Kitfox Aircraft at the Homedale airport was an easy one.

"What brought us to Homedale is that it's a smaller airport," said McBean, who owns Kitfox with his wife and business partner, Debra. "We can bring the business into Homedale and help Homedale, and at the same time, move ourselves over here and help ourselves."

McBean bought Kitfox Aircraft, then based in Caldwell, in April 2006. He set up shop in Homedale in January.

McBean hopes to bring new life to the airport, and he hopes the city will follow suit with additional improvements.

"What I hope to really inspire with Homedale, is for Homedale to understand the value of the airport," he said. "It has a lot of value that folks don't really realize. It brings a lot of tax base in, it brings a lot of pilots in."

He also said the airport is the first impression some folks get when they are crossing the Snake River on southbound U.S. Highway 95.

"It's the first thing people see when they come across the bridge. Let's clean it up and make it look real nice," he said.

"What I really want to do is really work on starting to encourage the Homedale airport to clean up, get some grass out here. Little things to promote the Homedale airport and promote Homedale as a whole."

Kitfox's airplanes are small, two-seat aircraft that are capable of taking off and landing from small, unimproved airstrips. McBean estimates there are thousands of them worldwide.

McBean said that both completed aircraft and aircraft kits are produced at his 10,000-square-foot facility.

"There are over 4,000 kits, worldwide, that have been sold," McBean said.

"The aircraft was introduced in 1984, and it is an Idaho native. It was founded, designed and built in Idaho, in Nampa. It moved to Caldwell in the early '90s, and now it's in Homedale."

Customers can buy a completed aircraft or purchase a kit and build it themselves. For now, build-it-yourself kits are the cash cow for the company, McBean said.

"Right now, kit manufacturing is the primary focus," he said. "We're delivering kits out the door every month, several of them."

McBean defines his aircraft as "experimental amateur-built." McBean said he currently has a builder-assist program where the customer comes to the facility and is shown how to build their own airplane. Kits start at around \$18,000 without an engine.

'What I hope to really inspire with Homedale, is for Homedale to understand the value of the airport.'

— John McBean
Kitfox Aircraft owner

The engine costs about another \$15,000.

Last week on the Internet auction site eBay, a used, completed Kitfox aircraft was offered for a "buy it now" price of \$32,000.

McBean said Kitfox's light experimental aircraft have grabbed attention from around the globe.

"We get customers, literally, worldwide. I have one coming in tomorrow from Austria," McBean said last week. "I have one coming in early April from Colombia. We had a customer in here yesterday from California. We've got another one coming in at the end of the week from Utah."

"We actually had a guy fly a Kitfox from Spain to Oshkosh, Wis., for the EAA (Experimental Aircraft Association) fly-in. It can be done. They've been flown all over the country. They're good airplanes."

For McBean and his wife, the choice to locate in Homedale was an easy one.

"First and foremost, my wife and I were looking at moving into Owyhee County, and Homedale has always appealed to us," McBean said. "I've always enjoyed coming into the Homedale airport. I've done a lot of flight instructing and brought students over here."

McBean said recreational pilots are drawn to the Kitfox airplane, but the aircraft is a perfect fit for Idaho in general.

"Bottom line is, the type of aircraft we sell appeals to the type of person that likes to go out and have fun in aviation. It's great to fly from Point A to Point B ... It's a good cross-country airplane, but at the same time it's really designed to be in the Idaho backcountry."

"It's a short take-off and landing (STOL) aircraft. It can also operate on floats, and the fact that we are right next to the Snake River makes it appealing, too."

McBean said the slow pace at the Homedale airport attracted him, too. Without any commercial air traffic in the area, McBean said aviators simply can enjoy the basics of flying without worrying as much about dodging a great deal of traffic in the air.



A new Kitfox is born

Above: Kitfox Aircraft employee Roy Voelker inspects the skeleton of a newborn Kitfox at the company's 10,000-square-foot facility at the Homedale airport. Businessman John McBean recently relocated Kitfox from Caldwell to Homedale. The company produces complete planes or build-it-yourself kits. About 4,000 have been sold since the company began in 1984. **Below:** The frames of other Kitfox aircraft are flanked by a pair of completed airplanes outside a hangar. **Bottom:** A Kitfox product soars over the water on a recent flight.

"It's more relaxed from a pilot's standpoint, because when you take off, and do a demonstration flight with a potential customer, it's very relaxed," he said. "You don't have the activity of a lot of airplanes that are occupying the time and making people nervous."

McBean likens the Kitfox to an ATV. He often takes it on small daytrips to unimproved backcountry airstrips, such as the one at Lake Owyhee. Homedale is a perfect launching point for these types of excursions.

"You take off out of here (Homedale), and you really don't have to climb very high; you take off out of here and fly over to the Owyhees and have a grand time," McBean said. "You're not flying over the tops of houses, because it (population) hasn't exploded yet."

The relaxed, small-town atmosphere is in McBean's blood, and so is flying.

"I grew up mostly in Sweet," McBean said. "We're buying a house in Homedale. My wife and I have been trying to move out here to Owyhee County for some time."

McBean said that he grew up around aviation, and that his dad is a retired commercial pilot. He said he began flying when he was barely big enough to see outside the aircraft. McBean is licensed to fly multi-engine aircraft and seaplanes, and is a certified flight instructor. His wife is also a licensed pilot.

For more information about Kitfox Aircraft and additional photos, visit <http://kitfoxaircraft.com/>.

— JWB





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10 lb.
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Fresh Local
Asparagus
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Boneless Beef
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Boneless Beef
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1 lb.
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