

JV Big Loop rodeo results In Sports

Homedale, Page 2A

Boat dock situation gets attention of U.S. senators' staff members

Teachers retire, Page 10A-11A

Marsing Elementary instructors have seen much change

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

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The Ownhee Avalanche

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HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

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Two Trojans win state track titles
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Graduation day nears for Marsing, Homedale **Page 3A**

Splintered Board clouds big picture

Ex-S. Board head: Infighting draws focus away from environmentalist threat

According to outgoing South Board of Control (SBOC) manager Rex Barrie, environmental opposition and cooperation among the Board of Directors are two key

issues facing the SBOC and water users in the area.

Barrie resigned as SBOC manager on May 11. He was replaced by interim water manager

Ron Kiester, who served as watermaster for approximately 23 years. A search for a new manager is ongoing, but whoever that is will

— See **Board**, page **5**A

This fish is a fighter



Breshears Fishing Day a success again

Marsing Elementary School second-grader Hylke Van Es was one of hundreds of children who showed up for the annual LeRoy Breshears Fishing Day on Saturday at the Marsing Island Park pond. Although the pond was stocked with trout for the event, some children — like Hylke — hooked on to some less-attractive species. See more photos from the event on Page 17A.

Contractor seeks to block sewer award

Attorney for Lurre files court papers Monday to stop EOC from getting project

A construction company owned by a former Homedale resident was expected to seek an injunction in district court Monday in an attempt to stop the awarding of the city's sewer extension project to a rival contractor.

Boise-based attorney Kim Trout, who represents Lurre Construction of Caldwell, confirmed Monday morning that he was going to seek a temporary restraining order to prevent the City of Homedale from following through with its plans to award the project to Eastern Oregon Construction of Ontario, Ore.

Lurre Construction, owned by former Homedale resident John Badiola, was denied when it protested the city's original decision at a special city council meeting Wednesday.

"We're going to ask the court for a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction on Eastern Oregon Construction and the city entering into its contract," Trout said.

Trout said Monday morning that if a district judge granted the restraining order, Homedale officials

— See **Sewer**, page **4**A

Memorial Day holiday nears

Most deadlines for The Owyhee Avalanche will remain unchanged for its May 30 edition despite the Memorial Day holiday. However, the classified ad deadline will be 5 p.m. Friday.

Letters to the editor and display advertising still must be received

by noon Friday.

The Avalanche's office will be closed Monday for Memorial Day, as will all government buildings and banks.

Paul's Market in Homedale and Snake River Mart in Marsing will remain open Monday.

Veterans plan events

Local veterans organizations are poised to mark Memorial Day on Monday with several traditional ceremonies.

According to adjutant James Gammett, the Homedale American Legion Post 32 has planned four wreath-laying ceremonies at various locations in the area around Homedale, Marsing and Wilder.

The solemn events begin at 9 a.m. with a wreath-laying at the war memorial at the Wilder Cemetery.

— See **Events**, page **5**A

Pace quickens for Homedale boat dock dredging

Feds to waive environmental study, but city still must obtain three permits

The Homedale boat dock, socked in by silt that can't be removed because of the possible presence of the tiny cold-water Idaho springsnail, may be on the fast track ... as snails go.

Last week, officials from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Army Corps of Engineers, and the Boise offices of Sens. Mike Crapo and Larry Craig met with Homedale officials at the Snake River boat dock to discuss options that would enable the city to bypass some of the government red tape involved in removing silt at the dock.

The boat dock has been out of commission for two years because of the possible presence of the Idaho springsnail, which has been tabbed for removal from the Endangered Species List later this year.

"We heard from the (Homedale) mayor (Paul Fink) the other day," Craig natural resources field coordinator Dustin Miller said. "He said they're going to get the process going again. We're going to do what we can to get this process expedited, keeping the pressure on the federal government and the state to make sure the permits through the different agencies that are involved are expedited.

"This looks like it would be a great facility if it wasn't for all this mud."

Part of that fast track involves the elimination of an expensive environmental study that the city would have been required to commission in order to obtain permits to dredge the boat dock. Last fall, city officials learned they would have to prove the snail was not living in the area before dredging, even though there is no proof the snail exists in the area.

Now that step will be bypassed through cooperation with federal and state agencies.

Even so, the many hoops the city will be forced to jump caused Homedale Mayor Paul Fink to make the unavoidable comparison to the snail that is bogging the process.

"We understand your process," Fink told Fish and Wildlife biologist Mark Robertson. "But it seems like the process is working at a snail's pace, and maybe we got caught in the mud. I'd like to see this move at a little faster pace ... maybe at a mouse's crawl."

At the meeting, Layne Bangerter, Crapo's director of natural resources and environment, asked U.S. Army Corps of Engineers environmental resource specialist Greg Martinez and Robertson for a definitive timetable on when the dock will be usable.

While neither official could give an exact date, Martinez said the Army Corps could issue a permit to dredge the dock as little four weeks after the city submits an application.

But Martinez said that two state permits — one from the Department of Water Resources and one from the Department of Lands — are also required.

"Until they issue those, you (city) can't go anywhere," Martinez said, adding that the Water Resources permit alone has a 20-day public notice period.

Robertson said Fish & Wildlife has put the Homedale boat dock near the top of its list.

"We're trying to prioritize this in our office at this point in time," he said. "I'm not going to be able to give you a day or a week or anything. We're going to try and move this as quickly as we can. We know it's an issue for everybody."

Robertson said that the lengthy permit process is necessary to protect Homedale from possible serious legal ramifications if a dredging project was found to have damaged an endangered snail's habitat.

"That could open them (the city) up to a third-party lawsuit," Robertson said, adding that the dollar amount on that could be a virtual blank check to an environmental group willing to take the city to court. "There are some people out there that are very concerned about the snail, and they would be happy to catch someone doing something that's not legal.

"We want to make sure that the work the city is doing is going to be adequately covered, so there is no legal risk to the city. We can go through the process and ultimately make it so that no one can jump on any of us here and say that we did something wrong. We will have gone through all the steps to do it right."

— JWB

— More Homedale news, page **13A**





Authorities address controversy

Top: U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologist Mark Robertson holds two snails. The one to the right of the coin is possibly an example of the Idaho springsnail. Robertson said further tests are necessary to tell if this is actually an endangered variety.

Above: Left to right, Greg Martinez with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Homedale Public Works supervisor Larry Bauer, city Mayor Paul Fink and Robertson discuss ways to fast-track the federal permit process that would allow dreding of the silt from the Homedale boat dock.





Keep track of government with the Avalanche

Marsing, Homedale | Van Wassenhove re-elected to school board seniors graduate later this week

continue this week with seniors from Homedale and Marsing ready to receive their diplomas.

Students from the Marsing and Homedale school districts who attended Centerpoint High School in Caldwell are up first, with a 5 p.m. commencement today inside the auditorium at Caldwell High School.

The Marsing High School graduates receive their diplomas at 7 p.m. Thursday inside the high school gymnasium on Main

Guest speaker for the Marsing commencement is former principal Charles V. Stella, who

High school graduations retired earlier this year because of health problems.

Homedale will hold its graduation at 2 p.m. Saturday inside the school gym.

Homedale's graduation also will pay tribute to the school's Class of 1937, which is in town to celebrate its 70th class reunion.

Longtime Homedale High School teacher Mike Greeley will be the guest speaker for the graduation ceremony.

Two area high schools already had commencement exercises.

Jordan Valley High School held its graduation ceremony Tuesday, while Rimrock seniors walked the line Sunday.



Dana Bramlette







Homedale, Marsing students set to graduate from Centerpoint High

students from Marsing and Kyle Dycus, Seth Stansell and Homedale will graduate at 5 p.m. Rusty Lumpkin.

Six Centerpoint High School to receive their diplomas include

Incumbent David VanWassenhove easily won the Marsing School District's Zone 2 school board election, which was held May 15.

VanWassenhove defeated challenger Leslie Danner, 25-10. The Marsing school board election was the only race in western Owyhee County.

With only incumbents announc-



David VanWassenhove

ing candidacy in Homedale, Bruneau/ Grand View, Pleasant Valley districts, no elections were held. The other election, affecting only a miniscule part of Owyhee

County, was in the Glenns Ferrv district.

VanWassenhove will serve a three-year term. He has served a total of 12 years on the Marsing School Board and currently holds the position of board president.

"Trying to figure out what the Legislature does with school funding," Van Wassenhove said in identifying a key challenge facing the Marsing school system in the coming three years.

"We try to do the best we can with what we get for funding; make our education for the kids the best we can."

VanWassenhove expressed his appreciation to supporters and pledged to do his best during his new term.

VanWassenhove said it was nearly impossible to know what percentage of Zone 2 registered voters the 35 ballots cast represents because county officials do not breakdown the makeup of the patrons according to trustee

When a potential voter arrived at the polls last week, his or her physical address was verified on a map by election personnel to ensure the patron was voting in the correct zone.

VanWassenhove, who with his wife Sharon have raised three children in the Marsing School District, figures the time commitment is a factor in the lack of interest from patrons to run for



Only 35 show up at Marsing polls

A Marsing School District patron, left, prepares to vote in the May 15 election as two election volunteers check her residential status.

dedicated. It's not just going to board meetings. There are other obligations," VanWassenhove said. "We have negotiations, meetings and trainings. There's a lot of involvement with being a good board member."

VanWassenhove, a farmer in the Marsing area, said part of the choice to volunteer his time, is from the excellent education received by his three children, one of which, Amy, a 2002 Marsing High graduate, graduated from the University of Idaho this month.

Another Van Wassenhove child, newlywed Nate, has made a career as part of the support crew for a national NHRA drag racing team.

"I like the volunteering of my time in that fashion, and I care about the education of the children within the district, how the money is spent. It is just an interest, for some reason, I have," David VanWassenhove said.

"This school was very good for all three of my kids. They all graduated top of their class and went on to become successful adults. I like to see that continue on for all the kids in Marsing."

— JWB

Raffle for HMS student sold out

All available tickets for a shotgun raffle to benefit Homedale Middle School seventh-grader Jorge Hernandez have been sold, organizers announced last week.

The drawing for the Beretta 12-gauge shotgun will be held Thursday, and Hernandez is scheduled to call the winner.

A car wash was held Saturday for Hernandez, who has been battling a pacreatic cyst.





ION Plaza - Marsing, Idaho 896-4040

From page 1

Sewer: Council stands pat on award, triggers Lurre's injunction move

would have 14 days to show why a preliminary injunction shouldn't be issued. The injunction would bar any further progress on the project until after a court hearing.

The outcome of Monday's actions wasn't known at press time.

The legal proceedings were set in motion when the Homedale City Council decided to stand by its original decision of awarding EOC the contract. The city recognized EOC as low bidder for the project despite errors in the company's proposal.

The city council reaffirmed its intent during a special meeting Wednesday night at City Hall.

"I'm not real happy with it," Badiola said immediately after the council's decision.

"I know the city is trying to save money, but it looks to me that they're not really following the law."

A week earlier, on May 9, council members had agreed that — despite mathematical discrepancies — EOC had submitted the lowest bid for the construction at \$857,380.

Lurre had bid \$866,166, the second-lowest amount, for the construction of a sewer lift station and sewer line along U.S. Highway 95.

Badiola spoke out against the bid award in the original meeting, and on Wednesday the Lurre company formally contested the impending contract.

"I thought I was coming here to sign the notice of award," EOC co-owner Weston Wettstein said after Wednesday's meeting. "I knew (Badiola) was protesting,

lawyer."

Lurre's attorney, Kim Gourley, contended that there was sufficient grounds to compel the city council to award the project to Lurre.

Gourley based his argument on legal precedence as well as a letter written by city engineer Fred Ostler and addressed to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Agency's local representative.

"In this situation, we filed a bid protest essentially asserting that (the project) was improperly granted to EOC," Gourley said.

Gourley contended that two unit price errors on EOC's bid application should be used to calculate a new final construction price for the company. EOC mistakenly had listed prices of

but I didn't know he'd bring a \$40,000 and \$43,000 in two unit price areas when those figures actually were total prices for the entire lineal footage of those

> Gourley said the error would drive EOC's bid into the "millions and millions of dollars."

Citing Idaho law that prohibits modification of bids after the unsealing (which occurred May 8), Gourley said there were limited options in dealing with the discrepancy. The bottom line, he said, was that EOC was "welcome" to withdraw its bid without losing any bonding funds already paid.

In a May 10 letter to USDA RDA community programs specialist David Flesher, Ostler said that - although he recommended that the city council accept the Lurre bid in light of the EOC errors — he was willing to support the council's decision and "proceed with a Notice of Award to Eastern Oregon Construction as quickly as possible."

But, citing case law from within Idaho and throughout the nation, Gourley said the city has a legal obligation to reject the EOC bid, which was unanimously accepted on May 9, and award the project to Lurre.

Fink asked for and received an executive session, in which he discussed the protest with

city council members and city attorney Michael Duggan.

After the session, the special meeting was reconvened, and Fink announced the city was sticking with its original decision.

Badiola admits he was surprised by that move.

"I was, and I think EOC... they were, too," he said. "(Wettstein and EOC co-owner Sam McMillen) looked mad when they came out (of the courtroom before the executive session) because they didn't think they were going to get (the project), and according to the law, they shouldn't."

But Wettstein insisted, despite the unit price discrepancy, that his company's bid was still valid.

"My totals are my totals on that bid," Wettstein said, adding that the bid rules put forth in the application established that written word would supersede any discrepancies in numbers.

"(Council members) weren't changing any bid totals."

Wettstein contended that the USDA RDA, using its own set of court decisions, supported Eastern Oregon as the winning bidder.

In his mind, the next step is clear.

"I think EOC is going to start work on the project real soon," Wettstein said.

— JPB







TOULION

2:30 P.M. SUNDAY

call for item list

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THE FUND

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2:00 P.M.

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\$5.00 PER PERSON

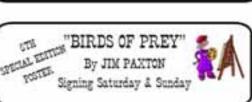
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Bob LeBow Bike Tour headed for Owyhee County

Registration is now being taken for the fifth annual Bob LeBow bike Tour. Registration materials are available online at www.trhs.org.

Organizers anticipate that anywhere from 600 to 850 cyclists will take part in rides ranging in distance from 3 to 100 miles. All rides begin in Nampa with the longer ones making stops in Marsing, Homedale and Adrian, Ore.

The LeBow ride visited Marsing last

A 62-mile route takes riders along the Snake River on Map Rock Road between Melba and Marsing.

The event is sponsored by Terry Reilly

Health Services (TRHS). Riders can pick up participation packets at TRHS administrative offices June 4-7 from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The TRHS offices are located at 211 16th Ave. N. in Nampa. Packets also can be obtained at Nampa High School on Friday, June 8 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Prior to June 1, registration fees are \$20

for the 3- and 10-mile routes and \$30 for the 35-, 6-2 and 100-miles tours. After June 1. fees will be \$25 and \$35, respectively. All children can ride for \$15. Teams of eight or more riders receive a \$5 discount for each adult signed up.

For more information, visit www.trhs. org or call (208) 318-1258.

From page I

√ **Board:** Recent Ninth Circuit ruling could have an effect in Owyhee

face a tough battle, the former manager

Barrie, who was awarded the Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner's Water Conservation Award for measures implemented while serving as SBOC manager, says solidarity is a key to maintaining water for irrigation purposes.

"The constant battle or changes we are always going to be faced with in the near, and distant, future are environmental issues," Barrie said his final week at South Board. "We (irrigators in the Upper Snake Basin) have been in a struggle here with environmentalists wanting water for salmon."

Barrie said irrigators must be active to fight the encroachment of the environmentalists.

"The Idaho and Oregon water organizations have been fighting diligently to protect that water for the farmers. I was a part of both those organizations," he said. "It's something that is not going to go away, and if the water users don't become involved to a higher level, they have the real and present danger of losing some of their irrigation water to the environmental

Among the environmental groups who oppose traditional water uses, such as farming and hydroelectric dams, Barrie cited American Rivers, the national organization with which Idaho Rivers United is affiliated, as a looming adversary to irrigation use through its role as a watchdog group against industrial, municipal and agricultural uses of various waterways.

"They (American Rivers) have a lawsuit going right now — and have had a continuing lawsuit against — the Bureau of Reclamation for the operation of the Upper Snake Projects, and the Owyhee Project is one of those," Barrie said.

In that case, U.S. District Judge James Redden's September 2006 court decision in an ongoing environmental versus industrial water use battle, could lead to the dewatering of millions of acres of irrigated adequate water supply.

'They have made it a personal agenda. They have lost focus on the good of the whole, and are focusing on the good of the few.'



— Rex Barrie

Former South Board of Control manager on the damage created by feuding directors

land in the name of salmon recovery, much as an earlier Endangered Species Act decision did to Oregon's Klamath Basin

In the Klamath Basin, a court ruling upheld that the Short-Nosed Suckerfish was being negatively impacted by irrigation use, resulting in the loss of water to approximately 200,000 acres of irrigable

Redden's decision could affect the economy and individual livelihoods in rural communities throughout southern Idaho, including the Owyhee Project.

Redden's September decision was upheld by the Ninth Circuit Court after an appeal was filed by the Bureau of Reclamation.

"One of the arguments has been that the Snake and Columbia (Rivers) are hydraulically connected, so it should be one broad, biological opinion, but the operation of the Upper Snake has always been different," Barrie said.

"The Columbia has always been for power-generation, with some diversion for irrigation, and the Upper Snake Basin, it has primarily been irrigation diversions."

Barrie said that any decision impacting the Snake River would impact up to 4 million acres, including the Owyhee

Barrie cites a need for water users to maintain solidarity in order to maintain

"They (water users) should get more involved with their irrigation project," Barrie said. "They should be asking questions, and when they read something in the paper about water issues, they should be talking to their Board members. ... They need to not just sit back on their laurels and wait for whatever comes out of it.

"That is the reality. (Water users) have to stay abreast of these issues, or they will be put out of business because they don't have any irrigation water."

Barrie agreed that while environmental groups are not lacking in solidarity, wateruser groups are not nearly as widely organized. Barrie said involved water users are made up of a "core group," including the Idaho Water Users Association, the Oregon Water Resources Congress, the Washington Water Users Association and the local irrigation district managers, board members and producers. Barrie said that without that dedicated minority, the battle would have already been lost.

"Those people that are involved, they need the support of the water users," Barrie said. "They need to play an active role or they, realistically, could see a Klamath Falls issue here right here in our area.

"They (environmental groups) literally devastated a community down there. Generations of family farms were forced out of business all because of the environmental lobby pushing for this fish."

Next manager must quiet feud

While on a large-scale basis, unity amongst all water users is an overriding necessity, Barrie said that will not be the biggest hurdle for the next manager of the

"I think the biggest challenge for whoever steps into this position will be getting the Board to work together," he said. "You have a Board that is dysfunctional; you have certain members of the Board that have lost sight of their fiduciary responsibilities.

"They have made it a personal agenda. They have lost focus on the good of the whole, and are focusing on the good of

Barrie cited a recent example from the Board's March meeting, in which three members of the Gem Irrigation District Board of Directors refused to even discuss a petition signed by 130 water users that addressed issues such as legal counsel and the manager reappointment controversy that has plagued the SBOC since early 2006.

In that meeting, Gem chair Tim Leavitt and directors Dale Chrz and Elmon Thompson rejected the idea of discussing the petition. Directors Dan Felty and Steve Nash voted to consider the petition, but were out-voted by Leavitt, Chrz and Thompson.

"You (as a Board member) have a fiduciary responsibility to the good of the whole project, not to the good of the few," Barrie said. "You have to leave your personal issues at home. You cannot bring a personal vendetta to a meeting."

Barrie said his decision to leave as manager of SBOC was wholly based around the continued controversy, and battle between different directors.

"It got to the point where, when certain members of the Board would come in here and manipulate the office through threats and intimidation, that was time for me to leave," Barrie said.

"I couldn't put up with it any longer."

√ Events: Local VFW post plans to sell Buddy poppies at Paul's on Friday

The Homedale Legion will hold a ceremony at the Snake River bridge for deceased naval veterans by dropping a wreath into the Snake River at 9:30 a.m.

A memorial ceremony will be held at the Marsing/Homedale Cemetery off U.S. Highway 95 at 10 a.m.

The final ceremony for the Homedale Legion comes at 10:30 a.m. at the war memorial in City Park on East Idaho Avenue.

The Homedale American Le-

gion hall will play host to a free Darrell Brown at 896-4855. breakfast beginning at 10 a.m. Monday. Gammett said the menu will include eggs, pancakes, ham, sausage and beverages. The American Legion Hall is located on East Owyhee Avenue.

Marsing American Legion Post 128 will place flags at the gravesites of known veterans in the Marsing-Homedale Cemetery beginning at 6 p.m. Friday. If anyone knows of a vet buried at the cemetery, call post commander

The Marsing American Legion Auxiliary will have a table set up at the cemetery from 9 a.m. to noon on Memorial Day where people can have questions answered or ensure that a flag will be placed on a veteran's grave. Coffee and refreshments will be served.

The local Veterans of Foreign Wars organization will be handing out American flags at the Wilder Cemetery, and a memorial ceremony will be held inside Wilder's

city park at 11:11 a.m. Monday.

Before the Memorial Day events, the VFW plans to provide Buddy Poppies for donations at the Homedale Paul's Market on East Wyoming Avenue beginning at 9 a.m. Buddy poppies are synthetic flowers made by disabled veterans, and proceeds help fund the VFW's relief fund that helps needy veterans.

The Bruneau American Legion Post 83 plans memorial services at 11 a.m. Monday. The program includes the playing of Taps, a 21gun salute and a guest singer.

Historian Tom Hall will give a speech, and Bruneau Legion member will give a patriotic speech, according to Bruneau American Legion adjutant Bill McBride.

Grand View American Legion Post 134 adjutant Robert Swenson said that his organization plans to decorate the graves of veterans at the Grand View Cemetery either Thursday or Friday.

Obituaries

Charles W. Ewing

Charles W. Ewing of Adrian, Oregon, passed away at 4:35 MST, May 15, 2007, as the result of an accident with his horse at a Nyssa, Oregon, feedlot while at work moving cattle.

Charles was born November 22, 1962 in Grangeville, Idaho to Monty and Virginia Mills Ewing of Kamiah. He graduated from Nez Perce High School in 1981. He attended the U of I for 2 years where he made lifelong friends.

He attended Treasure Valley College in Ontario, Oregon for one year. Where he majored in Range Management and noxious weeds.

Charles married Mary Ann Rogers on July 5, 1997 in Quincy,



CA and brought their love and companionship to Adrian, Oregon.

Charles is survived by his wife, Mary Ann, 6-year-old daughter, Ginger, and a step-daughter, Brooke, at home near Adrian. His parents Monty and Virginia Ewing of Grangeville, Idaho, brother Eric and wife Pauli, nephew Cody, niece Sabrina of Rathdrum, Idaho. Grandfather Roger Thomas of Moscow, Idaho, aunt Marla Schwartz and Jim of Elk River, Robert and sister-in-law, Donna, all of California, as well as many friends.

A memorial service was held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Owyhee Ward building in Nyssa, Oregon, on Monday, May 21, 2007 at 11:00

A memorial service will also be held in Nez Perce, ID. For information regarding this service, please contact Cloverdale Funeral Home, Boise, ID (208) 375-

ID, uncle James Thomas and wife Gloria of Pinehurst, Idaho, mother-in-law Mary Rogers of CA, brothers-in-law Kenneth and

Students with ties to Owyhee County have earned membership in honor societies at the University of Idaho in Moscow.

Homedale's Christine Tiddens was inducted into Psi Chi, a honor society for psychology students. To be eligible for the honorary, students must completed nine semester hours of psychology study with a B grade average and rank in the upper 35 percent of their class.

Other criteria includes demonstration of a superior scholarship in psychology, high standards of personal behavior and a two-thirds approval vote from those present at a regular chapter meeting.

The U of I chapter of the Political Science honor society Pi Sigma Alpha has welcomed two area students.

Homedale's Jason Bideganeta and Melba's Anna Schwisow both earned passage into the group by completing at least 12 credits in the political science program or at least three at the 300 level or above, with an overall grade-point average of 3.0 or higher and a GPA in Political Science of 3.3 or higher.

Eligible students also must declare Political Science either as a major or a minor.

Mildred L. Sweep

Mildred L. Sweep, 95, of Middleton, formerly of Homedale, died Wednesday, May 16, 2007 at a Middleton care facility. Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 19, 2007 at Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Caldwell. Interment followed at Canyon Hill Cemetery, Caldwell.

Mildred was born on January 12, 1912 at Huston, Idaho. She was reared and educated in Huston through the 8th grade and attended and graduated from Caldwell High School in 1931. She attended the University of Idaho for one year. She married Henry B. Sweep on March 1, 1935 at her parents' home in Huston. Mildred and Henry farmed southwest of Homedale for over 62 years.

Mildred was very active in the Homedale PTA and was instrumental in beginning a hot lunch program. She enjoyed sewing and handiwork and was well known for her angel food cakes as well as her participation at the Owyhee County Fair. She was recognized for 50 years of entries and work in the fair.

She is survived by a son Donald H. (Joyce) Sweep of Burley; a daughter Delores and (Ross) Spaulding of Caldwell; sisters Rosemarie Van Slyke of Central Cove and Alpha M. Houston of Caldwell; sistersin-law, Katie Poulos of Baker City, OR; Polly (Eldon) Ward of Horseshoe Bend; grandchildren, Monty (Sherrie) Spaulding, Melody (Ray) Bachman, Terri (David) Hogmire, Kristi (Jon) Marr, Justin (Angela) Sweep and Rena (Cheston) Wittwer and numerous great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Henry, who passed away in 1997, her parents, a sister, Dorothy Albee, and a brother, Morton Alden

The family suggests memorials to your favorite charity.

We wish to thank The Cottages of Middleton for their excellent care and kindness.

School menus

Students join honor groups

at University of Idaho

Homedale Elementary

May 24: Chicken nuggets or finger steaks, broccoli, fruit & veggie bar, cinnamon roll, milk.

May 25: Pizza or popcorn chicken, salad, fruit & veggie bar, cookie,

Homedale Middle

May 24: Cook's choice! May 25: Cook's choice!

Homedale High

May 24: Chicken patty, sandwich & soup, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.

May 25: Crispito, rib-b-que, corn, taco salad, fruit & veggie bar,

Marsing

May 24: Last day of school! Breakfast only.

Bruneau

May 24: Southwest chicken, salad, fresh veggie, bread sticks, fresh

May 25: Corn dogs, tots, fruit, cookie, milk.

Death notices

DOMINGO AGUEROS, 63, of Marsing died April 24, 2007, in a Boise hospital. A memorial will



be held Thursday, May 24, at the Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center at 126 W. 2nd St. N. Cremation directed by Zeyer Funeral Chapel,

of Emmett, died Sunday, May 20, 2007 at a Boise hospital. Arrangements pending with Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Homedale.

RICHARD (DICK) GAYLE **KIESTER**, 78, Marsing, died May

14, 2007. A memorial service was held May 19 in Wilder. Cremation under the direction of Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Caldwell.

DOROTHY C. RINUS, 102, of Homedale, died Sunday, May ROXANA L. ALLEN, 60, 20, 2007 at a Caldwell care center. The memorial service will be Friday, May 25, at 2:30 p.m., at the Friends Community Church of Homedale-Wilder, 17434 Hwy 95. Cremation was under the direction of Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Homedale.

Senior menus

Marsing Senior Center

May 24: Chicken, potatoes, beets, salad, soup, dessert, drink. May 29: Lasagna, zucchini, green salad, veggie tray, soup, dessert,

May 30: Breakfast to order 8am-12pm. Sandwich & salad dinner served until 12:30pm.

Homedale Senior Center

May 24: Baked fish, baked potato, carrots, roll, drink.

May 29: County fried steak, mashed potatoes, broccoli, roll, milk. May 30: Chicken patty/bun w/lettuce, tomato, pickled beets,



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2685 Caldwell Blvd. Nampa, Id 83687 Corner of Middleton Rd. & Caldwell Blvd.

Call Barbara: "The Lady Undertaker" & Funeral Director

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2007 The Owyhee Avalanche PAGE 7A

Your finances

Fiscal unity crucial to marital success

Dear Dave,

My boyfriend's credit is in bad shape, and we're thinking about getting married. Will his bad credit rating affect mine? My credit is in good shape right now. I have no credit cards, and my car is paid for.

— Allison

Dear Allison,

Marrying someone with a bad credit rating will not affect your score. In other words, the black marks on his credit rating don't jump across the aisle onto your report as soon as he slips the ring on your finger.

Two things will happen after you're married. One is that your credit bureau will begin to reflect the fact that he is your husband. He'll be listed as "spouse" on your report. After this, if they pull his report for any reason they'll see that half of your "team" has had some problems in the past.

Where it will really affect you the most is when the two of you decide to buy a home. It may be difficult if there are still problems with his credit report.

But the big issue here is that you seem to have differing views on money management. Make sure you go through premarital counseling together, and begin the process of sitting down together and making a monthly budget.

If you get married, money is going to be a big part of your lives for a very long time. Agreeing on your goals now will set the foundation for your dreams.

— Dave

Dear Dave,

I'm 26, married and we're debt-free except for our house. We also have our emergency fund in place and have begun investing. I have to travel a lot in my job, and we're thinking about having children soon. I know I don't want to be away so much when we have kids, so I'm thinking about opening a small business where I can set my own hours. What do you think?



Dear Ray,

Let me ask you this — if time and money weren't considerations, which one would you rather do? As an entrepreneur you are on straight commission. You have to wake up every morning, go out and kill something and drag it home. Otherwise, you and your family don't eat.

An entrepreneur is the only person who can go from sheer terror to sheer exhilaration and back every 24 hours. If you don't absolutely love what you're doing it won't last long.

I'd advise anyone to make sure that their job falls in line with their passions and the skills and talents they were born with. If you're a people person, you don't want a job where you never get to deal with people. If you hate talking on the phone, you probably don't need to explore the field of telemarketing.

Success in your career is important. But your personal happiness is just as important. If you wake up jazzed about what you are about to do that day, chances are you'll be successful - and happy. But if you wake up dreading the day and what you have to do, then I can almost guarantee that you won't be successful and you'll be miserable, too.

Spend time thinking about this and do some research and planning, too. There are lots of great, fun small business ideas out there!

— 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 for Dave? Send correspondence to — Ray syndication@daveramsey.com

Nuke plant meeting set for May 31

Residents of Owyhee and Elmore counties living near the 4,000 acres where a proposed 1,600-megawatt nuclear power plant could be built can attend a public meeting to find out more information Thursday, May 31, at Rimrock Junior-Senior High School, which is located at 39678 State Hwy 78.

The meeting regarding Idaho Energy Complex, a power plant

planned for construction in Owyhee County near C.J. Strike Reservoir, begins at 7 p.m.

Officials will discuss the Idaho Energy Complex and answer any questions from the audience.

Calendar

Today

Centerpoint High School graduation, includes students from Homedale and Marsing, 5 p.m., Caldwell High School auditorium, 3401 S. Indiana Ave., Caldwell

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

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

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

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

Monday

Homedale American Legion Post 32 Memorial Day wreath-laying, 9 a.m., Wilder

Homedale American Legion Post 32 Memorial Day wreathlaying, 9:30 a.m., Homedale Snake River bridge

Homedale American Legion Post 32 Memorial Day wreathlaying, 10 a.m., Marsing-Homedale Cemetery

Homedale American Legion Post 32 Memorial Day breakfast, free, 10 a.m., Homedale American Legion Hall, East Owyhee Avenue

Homedale American Legion Post 32 Memorial Day wreathlaying, 10:30 a.m., Homedale City Park

Bruneau American Legion Post 83 Memorial Day services, 11 a.m., Bruneau Cemetery

Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Day ceremony, 11:11 a.m., Wilder City Park

Tuesday

Bruneau Elementary School preschool and kindergarten registration, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Bruneau Elementary School, 28541 Bernham Ave., Bruneau. (208) 845-2492

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

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. 532 W. California Ave., Homedale. (208) 880-8962

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

Wednesday

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

Thursday, May 31

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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. Drop off press releases at the Avalanche office at 19 E. Idaho Ave., Homedale, mail them to P.O. Box 97, Homedale, ID 83628, fax them to (208) 337-4867 or e-mail them to jbrowneditor@cableone. net. For more information on submissions, call (208) 337-4681.



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THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you to many in the community for providing a wonderful dinner in Marsing, following Julie Yzaguirre's funeral on May 5th. We would like to express our appreciation to members of the American Legion,

Jump Creek Club, Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church, and many dear friends and family for their generous donations and hard work. The overwhelming support has been a great help at this time.

We are sincerely thankful for the kindness and prayers.

The families of Julie Yzaguirre, Mer Cortabitarte, Jimmy Zatica, Sola Staley and Paul Zatica

Wednesday morning in Owyhee County



That's when the Owyhee Avalanche hits the news stands

Children can receive free meals this summer

Two Owyhee County school districts have added the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Summer Feeding Program to its agenda.

The program is open to children between the ages of 1 and 18, and meals must be eaten on school campus.

The Marsing School District will offer the program beginning Tuesday. It will run weekdays through June 22.

Breakfast will be served from 7:45 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., and a

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hot lunch will be provided from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All meals will be served inside the district cafeteria.

For more information, call the district office at 896-4111, ext. 146

The Bruneau/Grand View School District will serve free breakfast and lunch on weekdays during Summer School.

Grand View Elementary will serve breakfast from 8:15 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. and lunch from noon to 12:45 p.m.

The program will run Monday through Thursday from June 11 to June 28.

Homedale Elementary School will serve free meals from 8 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. to noon June 4 to June 29.

Melba High principal retires

Melba High School principal Dick Davis will retire this year after 33 years in education.

A barbecue to celebrate his retirement will be held at noon Friday, followed by a program at 1 p.m. in the commons area at the high school.

Davis' family also will host a reception at 6 p.m. Friday at the Davis home, 8763 Lake Shore Drive in Nampa.

All are welcome at both events. Davis graduated from Boise State University and began his teaching career in Gooding in 1974. He also taught and coached at Kuna High School before moving to Melba High School in 1984. As history teacher and head football coach he began a 23-year era of service to the community and students in Melba.

His first administrative position was as Melba Middle School



Dick Davis

principal, then assistant principal at Meridian High School. In 1996, he was selected as principal of Melba High School. His efforts there resulted in a nomination as Principal of the Year for the State of Idaho in 2004.

He has received many coaching honors, including A2 District III tennis coach of the year, three-time A4 District III football coach of the year, and A-4 District III Track coach of the year.

His football team won a state championship 1991, and he was honored that year as A-4 state coach of the year.

He is a lifetime member of the Third District Coaches Association, received a Lifetime Coach's award for Region 3, and has served on the Region 3 Board of Control for 11 years.

Davis' legacy is one of service to the students and community of Melba. Supporters said his continued emphasis on character development in students, academic achievement for all learners and his example of commitment and pride is one that will long be remembered.

La Do Corner Pearls

Did you know it is written that to prove her love of Mark Anthony, Cleopatra was said to have swallowed a pearl. Well, I do not know if the tale is true. But I do know that up until about one hundred years ago pearls [the birthstone for June] were extremely rare. So rare, in fact, that the only people who had them were either wealthy or of royal nobility. Then came along man's self-taught ability to culture pearls and a whole new market war

Today, there ere are many types of pearls. For example, "natural pearls" are made by nature with no human interference and the only ones you will likely find are those that have been mounted to antique jewelry.

Then there is the "cultured pearl" that is made when a human intentionally inserts foreign tissue into a living oyster. And there are additional types of pears like "The baroque" which is irregularly-shaped, and "Freshwater" pearls, "Seed" pearls, and the famous "Biwa pearls" which were freshwater pearls from Lake Biwa, Japan up until industrial pollution halted that cultivation.

Then comes the "Blister pearl" which grows while attached to the shell, black pearls, pink pearls which are very rare, and "Mabe" pearls which are cultivated blister pearls.

But how is a pearl actually formed? The answer is that there is a lustrous substance, called "nacre" that is secreted around a bit of sand or other irritant that finds its way inside the mollusk. As layer upon layer of nacre coats the irritant, a pearl is formed.

This is a very slow process than can take up to seven or eight years for your average sized pearl which accounts for their high price as the size increases. In fact, I have personally seen individual strands of pearls valued as high as thirteen thousand dollars.

If you wish to learn more about pearls [the birth stone of June] please feel free to call me at the store. And please come visit my web site.

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

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Homedale band closes year

The school year came to a close last week for the Homedale High School band with its finale concert inside the main gymnasium.

Director Karla Kachelmier guided the band and choir through a program that included pieces from a diverse group of artists, including Tchaikovsky, Billie Holliday, Guiseppe Torelli, Frederick Loewe and the Beatles' songwriting duo of John Lennon and Paul McCartney.

The band's seniors also were recognized with gifts and roses from Kachelmier. The seniors include: Kayla Bertagnolli, clarinet; Chanda Cox, clarinet; John Howes, bass clarinet/choir; Scott Thatcher, tuba; Ashley Bailey, choir; and Jennifer Compton, choir.

Kara McRae served as accompanist during the band's performance of John Leavitt's Festival Sanctus. Jennifer Dixon sang feature soprano when the choir performed the Holliday song Stormy Weather (Keeps Rainin' All the Time).

Sabrina Howes, an alto, sang Torelli's Tu Lo Sai.

There were several guest musicians, including Bill Keele and Mark Lasnick on trumpet for Viva Grana! by Francisco Alonso. High school teacher Brenda Paxton accompanied on piano during the performance of Three Spanish Ballads by Eugene Butler.

Duane Root played upright bass, and Skip Bicknese was on percussion for Gonna Get Myself Back, an original composition by Kachelmier for which Carmen Zatica sang mezzo-soprano and Dixon supplied soprano.

The finale was the Beatles' song Let It Be sang by the choir with strings arranged by Kachelmier. The quartet included violinists Janine Schroeder and Justine Calzacorta, cellist Rebecca Schroeder and Root on contrabass.



High school band performs finale

Above: Part of the Homedale High School concert band performs a number early during its finale May 15. From left to right are Tori Reed, sophomore; Jaqueline Johnson, sophomore; Chanda Cox, senior; and Katie Holloway, freshman. Below: Director Karla Kachelmier distributes roses, hugs and tears among her seniors. Bottom: Kachelmier directs the concert band



This year's high school band included:

Chanda Cox, Kelsey Thatcher, Scott Thatcher, Tori Reed, Dustin Regis, Sabrina Howes, John Howes, Jacob McAbee, Katie Holloway, Kayla Bertagnolli, Karly Bertagnolli, Angela Echeverria, Preston Stevenson, Gage Egurrola and Ryan West.

The choir members were:

Ashley Bailey, Jennifer Compton, Jennifer Dixon, Cassie Arthur, Chelsea Troxel, Brent Burton, John Howes, Sabrina Howes, Trinity Heath, Carmen Zatica, Kelsey Thatcher and Aldin Juarez



WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2007 The Ownhee Avalanche PAGE 9A

Students show off their smarts

Payette school wins Academic **Bowl at HMS**

wasn't able to take advantage of its home-field advantage Wednesday during the 3A District III Academic Bowl inside the school's cafeteria.

McCain Middle School from Payette won the championship with Weiser and Fruitland tying for second.

"The results of the event (Wednesday) was not in our favor, unfortunately," Academic Bowl advisor Barbie Vander Boegh said.

"I have a great group of kids, but we are young, mostly sixthgraders, two seventh-graders and two eighth-graders."

Vander Boegh said the future may be bright for the HMS team. There are 15 students, and all

Homedale Middle School of them play during the fiveround competition that features questions on general trivia, mathematics, science, history, spelling and vocabulary among other subjects.

"In a couple of years they will be unstoppable," Vander Boegh

The HMS team includes eighth-graders Tyler Thile and Sagan Wade, seventh-graders Phaedra Stevenson and Anthony Anderson, and a slew of sixthgraders such as Reed Maggard, Marissa Fernandez, Karissa Webb, McKenzie McMichael, Heather Romriell, Erin Shenk, Austin Rose, Jacob Murray, Steven Hunt, Fletcher Kelly and Alex Albor.



HMS Academic Bowl team hosts district tournament

Sixth-grader Erin Shenk gets animated while discussing the answer to a question with her teammates. The Homedale Middle School team in this rotation is, from left to right, Phaedra Stevenson, Shenk, Karissa Webb, Reed Maggard and Jacob Murray.

Are you smarter than a middle-schooler?

Here is a sampling of some of the questions Academic Bowl teams faced Wednesday during the Snake River Valley conference championship meet at Homedale Middle School. The answers are below (no peeking):

Team Round 1

- 1. If a rectangular shaped floor measures 9 feet by 13 feet, how many square yards of carpet will be needed to cover the floor?
- 2. What name is given to the almost continuous barrier of sandbars along the North Carolina coast frequently damaged by hurricanes?
- 3. Which American author of children's books, who died in 1991, was awarded a special Pulitzer prize in 1984? He wrote "The Cat in the Hat."
- 4. Give the term used in botany for the female part of the flower.

Individual Round 2:

Words beginning with the letter 'f'

- 5. Which word beginning with the letter "f" designates an extreme shortage of food?
- 6. Name this word beginning with the letter "f" that is a break in the Earth's crust along which earthquakes occur.
- 7. Name this leg bone that begins with the letter "f" that is the longest and strongest in the human body.

Individual Round 3:

Math

- 8. Solve the following proportion: 6 is to 10 as 18 is to what?
- 9. If each step in a staircase is 12 inches high, how many steps are in a staircase 15 feet high?

10. The area of a rectangular garden plot is 100 square feet. If the width of this garden is 5 feet, what is the length?

Individual Round 4:

- 11. Name the small, green chlorophyll-containing structure found in plant cells and in some microorganisms.
- 12. Name the small embryo of a plant. It usually contains some food that can be used when it starts to grow and is usually protected by a covering that must be wet before it will grow.

Individual Round 5:

Interesting Creatures

- 13. Name the term for one who looks or behaves like a corpse.
- 14. Name the monster-like butler who serves on the Addams Family television show.

Speed round

- 15. How many years is a millennium?
- 16. In a sentence diagram, what part of the sentence appears on the left side of the vertical line?
- 17. What is the term for any substance, such as alcohol, that dissolves other substances?
- 18. Between which two states does the Columbia River form a border?
- 19. How much does it now cost to mail a first-class letter with minimum postage?
- 20. What have you injured if you have hurt your proboscis?

Locals graduate from college

The following students with Owyhee County ties received their college degrees earlier this month:

Bruneau

Becky L. Hegerhorst, Bachelor of Science in Educational Interpreting, Idaho State University

Homedale

Jason Nash Bideganeta, B.S., Political Science, University of

Cody John Echevarria, M.S., Agricultural Education, University of Idaho

Richard Corey Huddleston, B.Mus., Music Education: Vocal-Instruction, University of Idaho

Miren Aintzane Lejardi, University of Idaho

Marsing

Nicasio Roman Usabel, B.S., Ag.Ed., Agriculutral Educaiton-Teaching Option, University of

Amy Lynn VanWassenhove, B.S.P.E., Sport Science, University of Idaho

Murphy

Bridget Kaye Nettleton, B.S.F.C.S., Clothing, Textiles and Design, University of Idaho

(Homedale High School)

Nicole M. Garrett, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Idaho State University

Note — The Owyhee Avalanche received no response to requests for graduate lists from Boise B.S.Ed., Secondary Education, State University, BYU-Idaho or Northwest Nazarene University.

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11. Chloroplast, 12. Seed; 13. Zombie; 14. Lurch; 15. 1,000; 16. Subject; 17. Solvent; 18. Washington Fault; 7. Femur; 8. 30; 9. 15; 10. 20 feet

1. 13 square yards; 2. The Outer Banks; 3. Theodore Seuss Geisel or Dr. Seuss; 4. Pistil; 5. Famine; 6.

Read all about it in the Avalanche!

Teachers dismiss final classes

Arrants: Adaptation key to successful career

Marsing first-grade teacher Suzanne Arrants supervises crayon cleanup in one corner of the room while — behind her back — a paper airplane takes flight. Without looking, Arrants is acutely aware of the airplane, and the flyer.

"If I see that fly one more time, young lady...," Arrants says, simultaneously confiscating the airplane and scolding the young would-be aviator.

Multi-tasking is defined by Encarta as "the simultaneous management of two or more distinct tasks by a computer."

But, for Marsing Elementary teacher Suzanne Arrants, who retires Thursday, it has meant managing up to 20 gyrating firstgraders or kindergartners in a classroom environment for the past 31 years.

"You sort of become more adept at doing it," Arrants said when asked how she manages the low-level chaos that is a firstgrade classroom. "They (students) are very busy."

For fellow teacher Karen Keys, who has taught with Arrants for the past 14 years, Arrants' awareness of student progress is one facet of her ability to multitask.

"She always knows in her head what levels her kids are at," Keys said. "She can tell you without looking at her assessments which one knows all the letters of the alphabet, or 'that one knows his numbers to ten, but not past that.' I

could never remember all that.

"It always amazes me how she can keep track, in her head, where all her childrens' skill levels are."

Arrants began teaching at Marsing Elementary in 1977, and taught kindergarten until 1986, when she began teaching first grade. She has taught that level ever since.

Her first teaching job was in 1962 in Bakersfield, Calif., teaching summer arts and crafts. She graduated from Bakersfield College with an associate degree in 1963, and from San Francisco State University in 1965. She received her teaching certificate in 1966.

Arrants taught kindergarten and first grade at Bakersfield until 1970. She has held other teaching positions in Guam and on a Navajo reservation in Kayenta, Ariz., before finally landing in Marsing in 1977. Her whole education career has been spent teaching kindergarten through third-graders.

With almost 40 years of teaching behind her, during which she has gone from using individual slates and chalk to computers, Arrants says adaptability has been her saving grace.

"There's always another way of doing it, and another way of looking at it," she said. "Things are always changing. I think I've always been a person that can adapt to changes.

"I think you've got to be able to



Rolling with changes

Suzanne Arrants will retire this spring after a total of 37 years of teaching, 31 of which has been at Marsing Elementary. "There's always another way of doing it, and another way of looking at it. Things are always changing. I think I've always been a person that can adapt to changes," Arrants said of her successful career, during which she has taught up to three generations of some Marsing families.

change with the times, especially with education."

Arrants said one of the big challenges facing teachers today is the No Child Left Behind law, signed by President Bush in 2002. The law is designed to focus on accountability and higher standards throughout the nation's

school systems, something Arrants said has made her job tougher and tested her adaptation skills.

"I think one of the biggest changes is the No Child Left Behind law. They're testing the kids right and left. Some of the testing is alright, we've adapted to it. But, they're sure doing it a lot.

"We don't have time to do some of the more creative things. You have to work hard to even work art in anymore. It seems like sometimes, you are teaching from test-to-test."

Arrants said she has taught three generations of at least one family, the Burchetts, but can recall scores of other families in which she has taught two generations' worth. With that track record, she admits that teaching reading has been her most rewarding experience through the years.

"I like teaching them to read, and seeing them want to read States and do lots of camping. and enjoy reading," Arrants said.

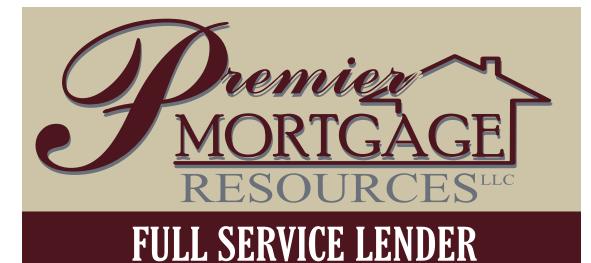
"Some of them have gone on to college and other careers. It's kind of interesting to see how they turn out as they grow up, and see kids of kids ... sometimes some of the kids look like the parents."

Like her colleague, Marsing second-grade teacher Cheryll Baber, who is also retiring this year after 19 years at Marsing Elementary, Arrants expects the full impact of retirement to set in when the new school year begins in the fall.

"It will be tough when school starts, and you're not going back to be part of it. I think I'd better try and be pretty busy then," Arrants said, quick to add that the adaptation skills she has relied on for so many years will help her adjust to retirement, as well.

Until fall, Arrants and her husband, Richard, also retired, plan to travel to the eastern United

— JWB



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Teachers dismiss final classes

Baber: New horizons in sight after 19 years

Marsing Elementary secondgrade teacher Cheryll Baber will no longer be walking the halls of Marsing Elementary, but she has other plans in the works.

A new marriage and a trip to Nova Scotia, New York and Washington, D.C., are on the agenda for this summer. Her three dogs — including her Chihuahua, Mick Jagger — also will get to occupy her time not spent with her classes of students.

Baber began teaching at Marsing Elementary School in 1989, but had four years of teaching experience before coming to Marsing. She taught elementary school in Los Angeles for two years and then another two years in Arizona. Her entire career has been spent teaching first- and second-graders.

Her last day at Marsing is Thursday, when the 2006-07 school year ends.

Baber has three children, all adults living out of the area, and one grandchild. Baber was scheduled to be married Sunday in Boise, to retired doctor Allen Salzberg. She will change her name to Salzberg at that time.

"You'll have to call me a new name on Monday," Baber told her class of second-graders, who flanked her during an interview in her classroom last week, the same classroom she has occupied for the past 19 years at Marsing Elementary. Lava rocks, class banners and quilts line the walls.

"My favorite aunt was a teacher and I saw her, and I just always wanted to copy her and be a teacher," Baber said.

Baber said that her biggest surprise upon becoming a new teacher was getting her classes to comply with her wishes.

"I thought that people did what you said when you were

the teacher ... without a big discussion" Baber said, laughing. "I did come to find that is not always the case, that you really have to work at it."

Baber said that in the two decades she has spent teaching, a troubling change of behavior is something she has taken note of during her tenure.

"I think behavior in the schools has changed somewhat," Baber said. "Things that would have been shocking in my day are common now."

Other changes are good, but Baber says increasing academic demands can be a hindrance for students for whom English is a second language.

"The No Child Left behind and the testing, which I think is good in one way, but I think we are raising the standards for some of the children so high, that if they don't speak English at home it is almost impossible," she said.

With lots of memories, Baber takes a sense of satisfaction from Marsing Elementary. Much of that satisfaction comes from her emphasis on making certain that her students can read before they leave her class at the end of the year. Baber said that at the beginning of the school year she has a few students who struggled to with the basics of written language, but who now can read.

"That's my cup of tea," Baber said of her honed abilities to teach reading to young students.

With 19 years of teaching, Baber is hard-pressed to narrow down her greatest moment as a teacher, but sums it up as a whole.

"I think, all the nice kids, all the work they do and all the special things they do and say," she said. "They write little love letters, they draw pictures for you.



Teacher places learning on students

Cheryll Baber, who has taught second grade at Marsing Elementary for the past 19 years has a passion for teaching her students to read. "I tell them, 'you have to decide that you are going to practice whether anybody helps you or not," Baber said, in her final weeks at Marsing Elementary. She will retire at the end of the school year.

"One thing is, when you come classroom has filled for the past in in the morning, they (students) are so happy to see you."

Baber said that one thing she has stressed — even to her young students — is the necessity of selfmotivation in learning.

"I tell them, 'You have to decide that you are going to practice whether anybody helps you or not," " she said. "We've been really working. 'You're the captain of your ship. If you want to read slow and be in the low (reading level) group, don't practice, because you'll get your wish. You have to be the boss of your education."

While her summer will be filled with activity, Baber said that in the fall, the traditional time her

23 years, is when she expects the impact of her retirement to take hold.

"I've really enjoyed working

here, and I know I'll miss it," she said. "When September comes around, I'm probably going to get all sad."

— JWB







Homedale library plans puppet show

The Homedale Public Library will offer another puppet show at 10 a.m. Thursday.

The program is entitled "Moon Rock Soup," and is a variation on the story "Stone Soup" by Ann McGovern.

Eeps, an alien, runs out of gas for his spaceship and needs vegetable soup to fill it up. Using moon rock, he gets a girl to make a special soup so he can continue his journey.

For more information, call the library at 337-4228 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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

Initiative supporters visit D.C.

Diverse voices involved in more meetings

A group representing ranchers, recreationists and conservationists visited Washington, D.C., this week for further discussion with congressional officials about the Owyhee Initiative Implementation Act.

Sen. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) reintroduced the legislation into the 110th Congress earlier this year.

The group visited Washington this week to exhibit the broad local support for the proposal. Meetings were planned with Crapo, other members of the Idaho congressional delegation and several key members of Congress.

Bruneau's Cindy Bachman has spent her life as a cattle rancher in the Owyhees and has been an ardent supporter of the Initiative.

"Family ranching operations are threatened," Bachman said. "As a rancher who has run cattle in the Owyhees for many years, I am proud to say that I support this bill because it will help protect a way of life for many ranching families for years to come."

In addition to protecting family ranching operations and more 500,000 acres of some of the most remote and stunning landscape in Idaho as wilderness, the bill also will help to promote responsible motorized recreation use.

"I am an ardent supporter of the 4x4 interest in Owyhee County and the Owyhee Initiative," said Bill Taylor, former president of the Idaho 4x4 Association, "and we're here to send the message

to Congress that Idaho supports the Owyhee Initiative."

Peter Grubb, who owns a rafting and guiding business, is part of the delegation.

"My business relies on wild and untamed rivers," he said. "I want to send the message that the Owyhee Initiative is good for the rivers, good for the people, and good for business."

The necessity of broad support at its importance has been well-documented, and one environmentalist said this trip and the previous developments are encouraging.

"It is great to see people excited about the Owyhee Initiative," said Brenda Bielke of The Wilderness Society.

"The momentum this bill has is exciting, and this trip will push the Owyhee Initiative further towards becoming law."

Chamber tabs chief, sets goals

The Marsing Chamber of Commerce elected officers and listed community involvement and more exposure as its goals for 2007.

At the Chamber's Wednesday meeting, Cathy Streibel, owner of Essence of Life, was elected

president. Pat Bowen of Marsing Hardware will serve as vicepresident. Streibel said the Chamber has wasted no time in setting goals for the year.



ne year. Cathy Streibel

"This year Catny Stre

(our plans are to) reorganize and start building a broader base of membership, and take a look at developing more buying power for our advertising dollar, by coming together as the (Chamber of) Commerce," she said.

Streibel also said that members hope to create programs to benefit the community.

"We're tentatively looking at an October festival and a Christmas parade. Those are just a few things we've discussed. The nearest thing on the horizon is the Fourth of July fireworks (traditionally on July 3 in Marsing) and the Lions barbecue," Streibel said.

Also at last week's meeting, treasurer Rob Troxel gave reports of the Chamber's finances, and it was decided that the organization's executive board would review bylaws and bring any proposed changes to the general members.

A motion by director Kathy McKay to set dues at \$20 for the remainder of 2007 and \$40 for 2008 was approved. McKay and Dolores Schamp will compose a new membership application.

Other topics discussed were the importance of communicating with the Lions Club, American Legion, Marsing Schools and the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office.

Election of officers resulted in the following positions:

- President Cathy Streibel
- Vice President Pat Bowen
- Secretary Libby Neeser
- Treasurer Rob Troxel

• Directors — Kathy McKay, Jim White and Melissa Streibel

Jessica Parquer, Libby Neeser and Russel Wade will serve on the Chamber's public relations committee, and director Jim White will represent the Chamber at Marsing City Council meetings.

The Chamber's executive meeting is 7 p.m. June 13 at the Essence of Life. The next general meeting is set for 7 p.m. June 20, also at Essence of Life.

For more information on meetings or the Chamber, contact Streibel at 896-7001.

Sales & Door Prizes! Grand Essence Of Life Gym Fitness Deli Hair Nails Massage Gifts Fudge May 21-26 • 6am - 9pm 111 Main St. Marsing Id. 10/\$18.00 *TANS *TAN LOTIONS \$10.00 * FREE Eyebrow Wax with Haircut *FREE Paraffin with Nails 10-75% OFF Selected Deli Items 2 for 1 GYM PASS 25% OFF

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2007 The Ountee And anche Page 13A

P&Z appeases landowners | Homedale trustees

The Homedale Planning and Zoning Commission honored the requests of landowners recently annexed into the city limits.

At its May 14 meeting, the Homedale P&Z heard lcomments regarding the zoning of properties near the intersection of U.S. Highway 95 and Pioneer Road.

While some landowners expressed fears that they would be forced to change the way they use their property, the commissioners quickly attempted to allay fears of forced land-use changes by voting to zone properties commercial or residential, according to the wishes of the owners.

After discussion, the commission voted to allow different zoning for different properties within the affected area:

- Property owned by Ron Woods, at 3878 Pioneer Road will be zoned residential.
 - Property owned by Taryn

White at 3818 Pioneer Road will be zoned residential.

- Property owned by Cecil and Evelyn Hill on U.S. highway 95, will be zoned commercial.
- Property owned by Randy and Christina Criss at 3510 U.S. highway 95 will be zoned commercial
- Property owned by Bob Allen on U.S. highway 95 will be zoned commercial.

— JWB

Officials pleased with early Canyon County impact area

The City of Homedale took the first formal step toward solidifying its footprint in Canyon County during a meeting Wednesday night.

Mayor Paul Fink and city councilmen Dave Downum and Bill Page made the trip to meet with the Canyon County Planning and Zoning Commission.

"It went real good," Fink said of the meeting. "They gave (the city) a very good-sized impact area."

Fink said that the boundaries for Homedale's area of impact

on the Canyon side of the Snake River would be bordered on the east by Ruby Lane, on the north by Boehner Road, on the west by the river and on the south by Hoskins Road.

"It's pretty close to what we were looking for," Fink said.

Canyon County's planning and zoning commission will recommend the area of impact to the board of commissioners, Fink said.

The next step is for Homedale officials to make a presentation

before the Canyon board of commissioners.

Fink said that several subdivisions already have been platted within the impact area. He added that the area of impact would border the proposed massive Polo Cove development but not include it.

"I'm real happy," Fink said.
"Dave Downum and Bill Page were there, too, and they were very satisfied."

— JPB

Jacksons helps city add board at pool

Sea-green water pumped into the Homedale pool inside Riverside Park on Thursday. That could mean only one thing: Summer is just around the corner.

City worker Brad Hunt filled the pool and installed a new springboard in preparation for the pool's season opener, which is expected to be Tuesday.

Jacksons Food Stores, owned by former Homedale resident John Jackson, donated money to help buy the diving board.

"I swam in the summers there," Jackson said. "I was a diver in college (at Boise State University), and I learned a lot of my diving right there in that pool."

Jackson said assisting the city in buying a new diving board was just part of the company's overall philosophy.

"We've always tried to be a part of the communities we're in," he said. "We always have been a benevolent company, and being a Homedale boy, we certainly don't want to forget about our hometown."

Hunt said the pool will remain open through Labor Day.

And, as for the green water? Hunt said it's normal Homedale drinking water and the color should clear up through natural filtration in time for Tuesday's opener.

He added that the city adds a minimal amount of chlorine to the water.





Getting ready to dive into summer

City of Homedale worker Brad Hunt puts the finishing touches on the new springboard at the community pool early last week in Riverside Park. The city was filling the pool in preparation for a Tuesday opening. While the water filling the pool was sea-green in color, Hunt said that it would clear up through natural filtration before the pool opened. The diving board was purchased with help from Jacksons Food Stores.

Homedale trustees OK pay hikes for some employees

Trustees voted a 3 percent pay raise for most Homedale School District employees at their April meeting

Superintendent Tim Rosandick said last week that the move was a positive step in implementation of a policy that strives to attract and retain quality personnel in the small district.

"The fact that they raised salaries is a big factor in the ability to attract and retain highly qualified staff members," Rosandick said.

Rosandick said the 3 percent raise, which will be seen by classified (hourly) and certified (contract) employees, excluding administrators, is in line with the Idaho Legislature's recent increase in the money it provides schools that is earmarked exclusively for salaries.

But Rosandick pointed out that the school district uses discretionary funding — state monies not mandated for employee pay — to keep the local salaries 2 percent above the state's guidelines for staff pay.

"The message the school board has sent is that they value the people that work with the kids of Homedale, and they appreciate their work and they will do what they can to retain them here," Rosandick said.

"The reason we were able to do that was the Legislature stepped up."

The latest move by the school board will help in the battle to keep Homedale competitive in the market for skilled school employees, Rosandick said.

— JPB

Water report

The Bureau of Reclamation Web site showed that, as of Monday, Owyhee Reservoir was 71 percent full and that 249 cubic feet per second of water was being released into the Owyhee River at Nyssa, Ore. The reservoir held 509,936 acre-feet of water.

The following statistics were gathered from the National Resources Conservation Service Web site at 11 a.m. Monday:

Reynolds Creek

Date	Year to Date	Average Temp			
	Precipitation	Max.	Min.	Avg.	
05/15	11.3	62	36	50	
05/16	11.3	72	45	59	
05/17	11.3	76	51	63	
05/18	11.3	77	54	65	
05/19	11.3	73	52	62	
05/20	11.3	69	48	59	
05/21	11.5	57	42	50	

South Mountain

Date	Year to Date	Average Temp			
	Precipitation	Max.	Min.	Avg.	
05/15	26.6	64	34	50	
05/16	26.7	73	49	59	
05/17	26.7	76	56	64	
05/18	26.7	73	56	64	
05/19	26.7	73	52	62	
05/20	26.7	68	49	56	
05/21	26.7	59	41	49	

Mud Flat

Date	rear to Date	Average 1emp			
	Precipitation	Max.	Min.	Avg.	
05/15	11.1	70	32	53	
05/16	11.2	78	38	61	
05/17	11.2	82	45	65	
05/18	11.2	81	45	64	
05/19	11.2	80	45	64	
05/20	11.2	75	48	62	
05/21	11.2	65	43	53	

Weather

	Н	\mathbf{L}	Prec.
May 15	79	39	.00
May 16	90	44	.00
May 17	95	48	.00
May 18	92	53	.00
May 19	no	reading	taken
May 20	no	reading	taken
May 21	no	reading	taken

Essence of Life opens deli, gym

Marsing business unwraps latest additions to full-service pamper palace

The proprietors of Marsing's Essence of Life want their customers to have their cake and burn the calories off, too.

How else to explain a deli with rich, decadent desserts being literally steps away from a room full of exercise equipment?

The owners of Essence of Life, the salon located on Main Street in Marsing, are celebrating the realization of their grand design with a grand opening through Saturday.

The celebration began Friday with a ribbon cutting at the entrance of a new deli the menu of which will feature specialty sandwiches and salads, soups and smoothies.

Oh, and pizza, milkshakes, pastries, cakes and 20 flavors of ice cream.

But don't worry. This is a risk-reward outfit.

To the right of the deli's entrance is a set of stairs leading down to a gym filled with work-out equipment and brimming with big plans.

Cathy Streibel, one of Essence of Life's owners, said that the gym

will feature classes for yoga, Pilates and even a low-impact program called Silver Sneakers designed for people with limited mobility.

Streibel said the exercise programs should be available for gym members by September.

The gym initially will be open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday.

But those hours could change to fit the needs of the customers, according to Melissa Streibel.

"We'll adjust the hours according to demand," she said.

After two years of construction supervised by Cathy's contractor husband, Ron, Essence of Life finally looks the way the owners had intended.

You can still buy fudge. There still is a hairdresser and a nail technician and other services to pamper, including Melissa Streibel's massages.

But now Essence of Life is Marsing's one-stop shop for sweets, salads, styles, stress reduction, strenuous workouts (if you wish) and sushi.



Essence of Life has something for everyone

Above: Employees and management of Essence of Life, from left to right, Melissa Streibel, Sandy Coon, Ron Streibel, Cathy Streibel, Teresa Goostrey and Andrea Dietz, cut the ribbon marking the opening of the deli and gym addition. Below left: Melissa Streibel demonstrates the treadmill in the downstairs gym. Below right: An assortment of the goodies and sushi available in the deli.

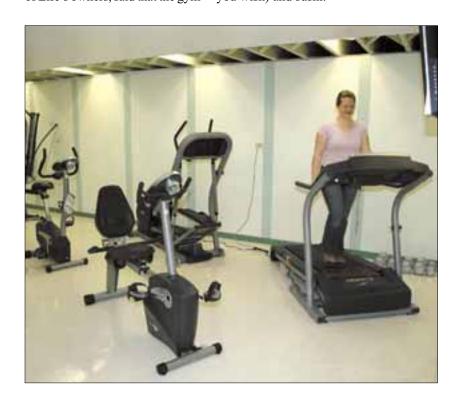
Sushi?

Yes. Ron Streibel served two years of a mission near Osaka, Japan, and brought back his knowledge of the delicacy. He is the sushi chef for the deli. While the grand opening specials will end Saturday, the businesses owners and employees still may be celebrating well into next month.

Not only is the long remodel

project complete, but the business will mark its seventh anniversary on June 5, according to Cathy Streibel.

— JPB









New signs of spirit

Above: Dwight Hoff, left, and John Stenberg of Boise-based Artsign Design put the finishing touches on the new artwork gracing a wall of the Homedale High School gymnasium. Left: Stenberg completes shadow work on the lettering, which replaces the old wooden Trojans head that was removed earlier in the school year when the gym was repainted.

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JV students make educational trek to Oregon Coast

The Jordan Valley High School Biology II class recently embarked on a journey to the Oregon coast. The participating students (all juniors and seniors) worked for many months collecting cans and raffling baked food to earn their way for this educational adventure to Newport. The purpose of this trip was a fun way to reward all of the students for their hard work and accomplishments as well as giving them hands-on education about the Oregon coast and marine life along with the lifestyles of the residents.

The students learned about science when they visited the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI) in Portland. This extensive museum has many displays, including sound, health, results of drug and alcohol use, earthquakes, tornados and much more.

While at the center, the class attended two movies that were projected in a unique theater that had surround sound and a curved screen. The first movie was about the Alps, and the second explained our star system and constellations. Also, the students toured of the USS Blueback, a retired U.S. Navy submarine housed at the museum. The students learned about the structure of the vessel and the lifestyle of those individuals who lived in the craft while serving on active duty.

Another informative place was the Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport. The students were given questions to answer based on the center's exhibits. Invasive animals and plants, water wheels, bony and cartilaginous fish, tectonic action, and other exhibits were some that the students studied while at the center. They also had the opportunity to view educational films on sharks and whales.

The also enjoyed their time at the Oregon Coast Aquarium. The aquarium recently added a section on crabs and lobsters that explained the crustaceans' lifestyle and peculiarities while displaying several types of crabs. The students witnessed seals, otters, sharks and other various fish of the sea. The aviary was another interesting exhibit, and featured several different types of birds that the students were able to watch from only a few feet away.

The Oregon Oyster Farm was a business that the students visited to learn about the art of collecting and marketing oysters. The owner spent a couple hours with the students explaining the life of oysters and how they are grown and harvested. After learning everything about oysters, nearly everyone on the tour tried some freshly cooked oyster.

Through all of the educational events, the students also had the chance to have fun. One of the favorite activities was riding dune buggy on the sand dunes in Florence. The speedy vehicles left everybody full of sand and laughter.

The class also attended an Oregon State

baseball game and tested their skating capabilities on the ice in the Portland mall. A few hours were spent shopping, and some students enjoyed swimming at the hotel in Yachats.

The students definitely noticed the change of climate in the Newport area. It was a more humid environment that had mild weather. The plants were green and lush, many being ferns and trees. The temperature usually was very comfortable. Also, the students found that there was a large population of fishermen in that area. They saw how fishermen crabbed and viewed the large nets used for catching other small organisms.

The Jordan Valley Biology II students greatly enjoyed their trip to the coast. The five days were filled with educational tours and fun events. It was definitely worth the trouble; and it is obvious that the students do not regret working so hard in order to go.

Adrian one of few schools with taxidermy class

Students learn more than just stuffing animals

by Breanna Wilde, AHS

Not many have the pleasure of seeing a wild cougar up close without the fear of being mauled, but thanks to a handful of students at Adrian High School, it's possible to get up close and personal with some of America's most beautiful wildlife.

Although one of the smallest schools in Oregon, Adrian is one of the only schools in the state that offers a Taxidermy class.

"The class was started in the 1970s by a former teacher, and it has continued since then," Science and Taxidermy instructor Pam Myers said. "I was lucky enough to it take over.

"I taught at Caldwell High School and used Taxidermy as a small unit of my Biology class. I took some of the classes at (Northwest Nazarene University and really enjoyed it."

Before Myers began working in Adrian, the school's former Taxidermy teacher contacted her and asked if she was interested in a new job, because he was planning his retirement. Myers has been teaching the skill at Adrian since 1995.

"Taxidermy is basically taking the skin and hides off harvested animals and stuffing them to look real and natural, to see the beauty of the animal in a lifelike, beautiful pose," Myers said. "Most people think of the animals as a trophy, but I see it as an art. It gives you the chance to see the animals up close, like most people can't do."

The class is open to sophomores, juniors and seniors, but some freshmen are allowed, if they have the right maturity level.

Students in this year's

Taxidermy class included Garret Scott, Carlos Mendoza, Kasey Olsen, Colton Wynn, Chris Lisle, Kyle Dondero, Levi Jones, Kyle Osborn and Naomi Wilson.

These students do not just start working with the animals, though; first they have a month of studying ecology, hunting pros and cons and rules regulations and the process and history of taxidermy.

"Then we go into the lab to begin," Myers said. "Every students starts with a bird, then they chose different projects, and eventually do work for customers."

The money the class gets from the customers goes right back into their work, buying new drills and equipment for the projects. Customers do not pay as much as they would for professional work, but they understand that the students will be the one handling their animals.

"Some of the work the students do can be considered professional. The class is all first-year students, but there are at least two students who could definitely be professionals," Myers said. "They show nice quality work, and it's really hard."

When not doing customer work, the students are in charge of finding their own animals. Some of the students are hunters or have family members who hunt. The state Fish and Game department also donates animals that have been struck by a vehicle or even poached. The Adrian program is well known by Fish and Game officials

Examples of student projects include sheep hides, deer hides, flying pheasants, perched birds, big game heads and many other animals and poses.

Some may think that a taxidermy class may not be the best subject to study, but in fact, it has it pros.

"Different students leave the class with different aspects," Myers said. "I think that they gain an appreciation for the artistic part of the process, the natural side of the animals, and their general knowledge of the subject. They leave knowing they made nice, hard work."

The Taxidermy students displayed their work at the school April 12-15 with an annual taxidermy show.

"I think they did an excellent job for first-year students," Myers said. "It was an Open House, open to the community members and everyone. We had close to 60 or 70 things shown."

Everything that was displayed at the show had never been seen before

"It's a rule, the work can only be shown once," Myers said. "We have five divisions: hides, birds, big game, antlers and an open division. There were about 15 to 20 in each division."

Ms. Myers elected two community members to judge the students' taxidermy work. The two decided which work was best, and medals were awarded. There also was honorable mention recognition.

Most kids coming into the class may be expecting an easy A, but Taxidermy is hard work. They do all the: dirty work, the skinning, the gutting, the works! The animals are not about trophies or boasting, it's a form of art, an ancient art that has traveled through the ages and has been brought to Adrian High School.

The students can find a new appreciation for the animals, nature, and history while taking this class, and thanks to Myers, they will leave high school with a fun and unique experience.

"This class is hard work, but these students are doing an excellent job," Myers said.



Students learn artful skill

Adrian High School student Levi Jones shows off his taxidermic artwork during a recent show at the school. Jones is one of the students taking advantage of Adrian's elective class. Submitted photo



Book details life of famous Homedale jockey

Donated copy of memoirs in high demand at library

A new book at the Homedale library details the life of Arthur Mortensen, a Homedale boy, who was named the country's leading horse racing jockey in 1925 at the age of 15.

Author Ann Mortensen McClary, daughter of the late Arthur Mortensen, recently donated a copy of her book, Growing Up On the Fast Track, to the Homedale Public Library.

Homedale Public Library Director Margaret Fujishin said that the book is available for checkout at the Homedale Library, but as of last week, the book is currently checked out and has been reserved for later checkout by several library patrons.

Mortensen was a famous American jockey in the 1920s. He earned the title of U.S. Leading Jockey in 1925, based on his record during the racing season.

According to a book summary provided by Fujishin, the 13-yearold Mortensen was recruited from Homedale in 1923 to train as a jockey in California, along with

About the book

Only 100 copies of the book Growing Up on the Fast Track, by Ann Mortensen McClary have been printed to date. It was released earlier this year.

his best friend, Goldie "Dick" Johnson. Johnson went on to become the nation's second-place jockey in 1925.

Mortensen was the uncle of Donna Haylett, who lives in Homedale, and also had many other friends and relatives in the Homedale area.

At 17, Mortensen ended his career as a jockey and returned to Homedale. He became a business owner in town. He owned Mortensen Hall, which served as a dance hall and movie theater, a Homedale café his mother operated and a gas and tire station. He also served on the city council.

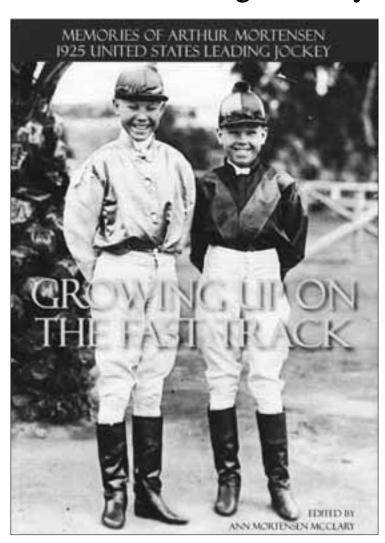
In 1939, at the age of 30, Mortensen moved to Nampa, earned a pilot's license, and began

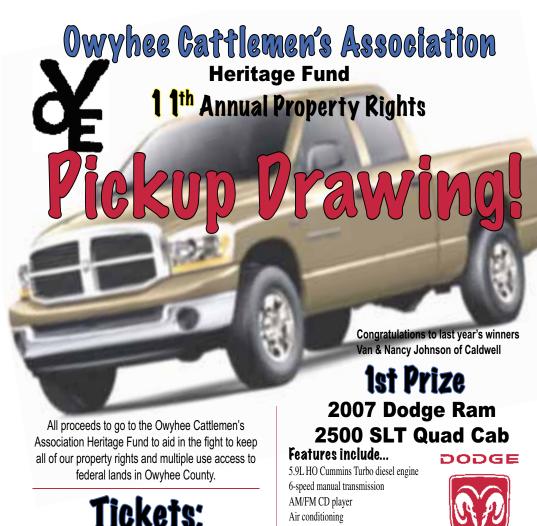
a career in aviation. In 1941, he married Margaret Briggeman, who had worked in Homedale as a pharmacist. He and Margaret operated the airports in Nampa and Idaho Falls. During World War II, the couple both worked for the government, training pilots for military service.

After the war, Arthur and Margaret purchased a drugstore in Nampa, and Margaret went back to work as a pharmacist. Later, the Mortensens moved to Parma, where they operated a drugstore, hardware store, farmed and raised a family.

In the years before Mortensen's death in October 1987, his daughter, Ann, made audio recordings detailing some of her father's racing experiences in the 1920s. The book is currently available from the author for \$40 plus shipping from Ann Mortensen McClary, 4603 SW Hudson, Seattle, WA 98116. She can also be contacted at (206) 932-4603.

— JWB





Tickets:

90000 donation each

Only 500 tickets have been printed, so each holder has a 500-to-1 chance to win!

(That's better odds than at Reno!) Tickets are available from:

Paul Nettleton - 834-2237 Chris Collett - 834-2062 Brad Huff - 495-2950 Owyhee Avalanche - 337-4681 or any Cattlemen's board member. or send check payable to OCHF and a self-addressed stamped envelope to: PICKUP DRAWING, P.O. Box 32, Murphy, ID. Long bed

Pickup sponsored by:

The Northwest Dodge Dealers

2nd & 3rd Prizes Half beef each



Grand View

Cut and Wrapped Donated by Greenfield's Custom Meats, Meridian

Prawing will be held October 21 at the Idaho Reined Cow Horse Snaffle Bit Futurity

Need not be present to win. Winner will be responsible for title, license, and registration fees, and all taxes

Homedale U.S. Bank employee wins award

Sheila Leavitt, branch manager at U.S. Bank's Homedale office, has won the company's annual Pinnacle award, one of U.S. Bank's highest retail employee achievement honors.

The Pinnacle awards program recognizes outstanding achievement and rewards employees for their tremendous performance.

"Sheila does an outstanding job, exceeding expectations on so many levels, and most importantly, leading our Homedale banking team that goes above and beyond for the customer day after day," U.S. Bank vice chairman of consumer banking

Rick Hartnack said. "She deserves tremendous congratulations for this achievement."

Leavitt was honored at the U.S. Bank Annual Pinnacle event in Scottsdale, Ariz., in March.

U.S. Bancorp (NYSE: USB), with \$221 billion in assets, is the parent company of U.S. Bank, the sixth-largest commercial bank in the United States.

The company operates 2,498 banking offices and 4,837 ATMs, and provides banking, brokerage, insurance, investment, mortgage, trust and payment services products to consumers, businesses and institutions.



Another big catch at Breshears Fishing Day

Children's fishing day draws crowd

Hundreds of children and their parents took advantage of good weather Saturday to participate in the ninth LeRoy Breshears Fishing Day at the Marsing Island Park pond.

The day is held in honor of the longtime hunters education instructor, who passed away in 1999.

Children were able to fish for specially planted trout while officials from the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff's Posse and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game patrolled the shoreline, ready at a moment's notice to provide assistance with a tangled line, a hook in need of bait or to release a fish from the line.

Caba's cooked hot dog lunches for the children, and Meadow Gold supplied ice cream.

Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center's LifeFlight helicopter crew showed off their rig briefly in the afternoon.



Good day for fishing

Mothers, fathers, sons and daughters jammed the shoreline at the Marsing Island Park pond on Saturday for the ninth LeRoy Breshears Fishing Day for children. Each child also received a free lunch and ice cream, and some used poles loaned by event organizers.



Big catch, big aircraft

Above: Marsing resident Malek Barroso, 4, shows off a stringer full of fish that he and his 10-year-old sister, Brittny, had caught during the day. Right: The St. Al's LifeFlight helicopter flies in over the Snake River to land in the park for a brief visit. The crew was called away suddenly for an emergency



A father and an officer

Fish and Game conservation officer Paul Alexander, left, helps his 12-year-old daughter, Hailey, with her fishing pole.



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Rimrock FFA meats team competes

The Rimrock FFA chapter recently participated in a meat judging competition. The team included, from left to right, Ariel Turner, Ellie Cantrell, Megan Mcling, Cole Merrick, and Brian Meyers. Submitted photo

Rimrock FFA news

On May 9, the Rimrock FFA chapter's meats team went to Gem Pack in Boise to compete in a meats competition.

The following FFA members competed: Cole Merrick, Ellie Cantrell, Brian Meyers, Alex Meyers, Ariel Turner, Allen Martin, Kurtis Thiel and Megan Mcling.

The team placed third overall in the competition. We had three members place individual high overall. Cole Merrick received 10th, Ellie Cantrell received seventh, and Brian Meyers received

The Rimrock FFA chapter was very proud of how well the team did.

With the school year winding down, the team competed in livestock judging last Wednesday in Ontario, Ore.



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Signs of local warming



Homedale Elementary stages Field Day

Children anxiously waiting for summer vacation blew off some steam last week with the annual Field Day at Homedale Elementary. Clockwise from above: T.J. Robinson-Hopson, Rian Beebe and Sarah Jones pull together in the tug-o-war. An unidentified girl has her hair go wild as she hops through a race. Isabelle DeVries concentrates as she bends down to field a ball. A group including, from left to right, Kendra Thatcher, Kaianna Hagan, Kendall Nash, Cortnee Smith, Yesenia Ortega and Mindy Padilla, try their teamwork skills out during the wheelbarrow race.







Snow pack disappearing

Cinnabar Mountain's snow pack has rescinded greatly as weather temperatures warm. This photo was taken Thursday from the Afterthought Mine. Photo by Joe Aman





Garden club spruces up fair office

Members of the Owyhee Garden Club recently continued their tradition of planting the flower beds at the county fair office in Homedale. The work was completed by, from left to right, Marie Orr, Donna Haylett, Ellen Dines and Jan Aman. Photo by Linda Redford

Club plants at fairgrounds

The Owyhee Garden Club is preparing for the Owyhee County Fair by planting the flower beds at the fair office in Homedale.

In addition to the fair office project, the garden club continues work on the community garden in

The garden is funded by a grant from US Ecology and money raised by the garden club. Garden plots are available for individuals to use for vegetables or to plant favorite flowers for display.

The club also is seeking donations for the community garden, including tomato cages, garden tools and a wheelbarrow.

For more information, call Jan Aman at 989-0885 or Sharon McIlveen at 896-5474.





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