



An in-depth look at the fair  
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**Schools, Page 4A**

County schools plan registration for upcoming year

**Fish and Game news, Page 13A**

Big Game rulebook outlines regulations for blinds of BLM land

**Wednesday, August 8, 2007**

**Established 1865**

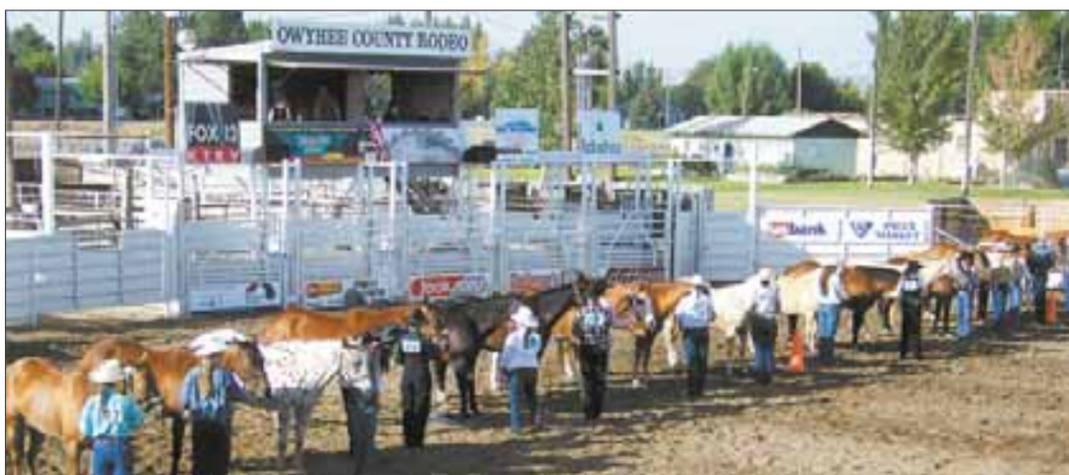
# The Owyhee Avalanche

**VOLUME 24, NUMBER 32**

**HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO**

**SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS**

## 2007 Owyhee County Fair begins



### 4-H competitors kick off fair with horse showmanship

Senior showmanship contestants form a line at the south end of the arena after the completion of individual judging Monday. The showmanship competition was the first event to take place at this year's fair.

## Fun stacked up for fair

Music, livestock, rodeo ready to thrill again at Homedale fairgrounds

The theme of the 2007 Owyhee County Fair is "Fun — any way you stack it." And with the explosion of animal exhibits and a truckload of entertainment, the things to see at this year's fair are

stacked to the rafters. The big draw is four nights of rodeo, but the Owyhee County Rodeo could have its biggest draw Saturday night when the best competitors from the first

three shows return for a televised championship short-go.

The rodeo kicks off at 8 tonight with shows at the same time Thursday and Friday. Saturday's short-go begins at 7 p.m. to accommodate KTRV Fox 12's schedule.

— See *Fair*, page 5A

## Homedale lawyer named county magistrate judge

Third District commission tabs Grober to succeed Ryan in Murphy

Homedale resident Dan C. Grober will pack up his private practice by the end of the month to assume duties as Owyhee County's newest magistrate.

The Third District Court announced Grober's appointment Monday. He beat out 15 other applicants to succeed Thomas J. Ryan, who was appointed to the District Court earlier this year.

"I am honored and I do intend to devote myself fully to the duties of the magistrate judge," Grober said Monday morning.

It's unknown when Grober will be sworn in as magistrate, but his first day on the job is slated for Sept. 4.

Grober and the other finalists interviewed before the Third District Magistrates Commission in Murphy on Friday. Grober said his interview took about 45 minutes.

District Administrative Judge Gregory M. Culet announced Grober's selection Monday morning.

County prosecuting attorney Matthew Faulks also was among the

— See *Judge*, page 5A



Dan C. Grober

## Utah boy dies in Bruneau accidental shooting

Sheriff calls death 'horrible tragedy'

A 17-year-old handling a loaded gun accidentally shot his step-uncle to death in Bruneau on Monday night.

The two boys were looking at the gun in a bedroom just after 10 p.m. when the gun went off.

Henry Smith, 15, of Utah was pronounced dead at the scene after being shot in the head.

Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman said that neither of the youths involved had a criminal record of any kind, and he said the incident appeared to be "a horrible tragedy."

The accident is still under investigation.



### Rodeo begins four-night run today

Bull riding will be one of the highlights this week as the annual Owyhee County Rodeo runs its course at the county fairgrounds in Homedale. The action begins at 8 p.m. today through Friday with a championship short go scheduled to be televised live Saturday beginning at 7 p.m. Photo by WT Bruce Photography

## Inside

Local earns Bronze Star  
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# Homedale council approves budget

The Homedale City Council had praise for the recreation board during Wednesday's public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2008 budget.

The council approved the budget as it was written at the end of a sparsely attended public hearing. The appropriation ordinance will be voted on tonight during the council's first regular meeting of the month. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. at City Hall.

The limited discussion on the budget was reserved for discussing uniform allocations for the Homedale Police Department, complimenting the rec board on the job it has done this summer with the Sundance Park concessions and clarifying Mayor Paul Fink's annual expense account.

The projected revenue for Sundance concessions in the next year is \$10,000, which is down from the \$15,000 expectation published in the FY 2007 budget.

The concession stand has brought in \$11,000 so far this year, and that drew praise from the council.

"They did do a god job down there this year," Fink said. "It's just not a money-making place."

Councilman Bill Page opened the meeting by asking about the \$300 item in the police budget for uniforms, and — with Officers Andy Hoagland and Mike McFetridge in attendance — Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller explained that each uniform runs about \$100 (\$50 to \$60 for pants and \$40 for a shirt).

Fink also brought up the mayor's expense account based on an inquiry Page apparently made the day before the public hearing.

Fink explained that his \$2,500

account is justified because he goes to an "awful lot" of meetings that he feels are required of the mayor.

As an example, Fink said he ate three meals in the span of a 26-hour trip to Snohomish, Wash., to pick up the benches now used in the courtroom/council chambers.

"I did not charge the city one red dime," Fink said of the trip, which covered 1,100 miles. "I saved the city a tremendous amount of money by going up there. It was my own truck, and I charged only gas."

After the meeting, Fink said he has made several trips for the city throughout the Treasure Valley and also attended the Association of Idaho Cities meeting in Coeur d'Alene.

Page was apologetic for any perceived conflict.

"I have no problem, Mayor, with you eating a decent meal when you're on a trip for the City of Homedale," Page said. "I apologize if the question offended."

After the budget hearing, the city council entered into an executive session pursuant to Idaho Code 67-2345(b), which covers the discussion of a personnel matter. The council emerged from the meeting after nearly two hours. No action was taken.

In addition to considering approval of the appropriations ordinance, the council has a full plate at tonight's meeting.

The biggest item on the agenda is discussion of business licenses within the city. The issue originally was tackled in November when city Planning and Zoning administrator Sylvia Bahem mailed out business registration forms to some firms in town. No action was taken at that time.

— JPB

# PD: 'Cleanup' letter a fake

Homedale officials say there is no such thing as a 'checkup' for abatement ordinance compliance

The Homedale Police Department is warning residents about a bogus "Homedale Check-up" letter circulating in the mail.

The Homedale Post Office brought the poorly written letter — rife with misspelled words — to the city's attention late last week.

"We don't know what the intent was," Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller said. "It's very plain to see from the letter that it wasn't written by City Hall."

Eidemiller said at the very least the culprit has committed a forgery by faking a letter from the city. Federal postal regulations also may have been violated. The chief said the forgery charge is a misdemeanor.

"It looks like it may have been written by a recycler," Eidemiller speculated. "I appreciate the intent of the letter because right now a city ordinance cleanup, but the method with which it was done is wrong."

The letter tells of an annual cleaning checkup in the middle of August during which an "inspector" is supposed to visit homes in the community. City clerk Alice Pegram said there is no such checkup event.

The letter, which is printed on fake Homedale City Hall letterhead, warns "There will be a fine upon (sic) the residents of Homedale, if for seen a mess of the property owners. This is a notice, therefore, residents of Homedale be aware that such mess can not be seen towards the image of Homedale, Idaho."

Pegram said that the city's form calling attention to abatement ordinance violations looks

## HOMEDALE POLICE DEPT.

Idaho



City of Homedale  
Paul J. Fink, Mayor  
email: city@homedale.idaho.gov  
Fax: 208-337-5904

P. O. Box 757  
31 W. Wyoming  
Homedale, Idaho 83628  
Phone: 208-337-4641

### ORDINANCE VIOLATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Property: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing: \_\_\_\_\_

City/ST/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Homedale Property Owner/Resident:

Please be advised that the following check-marked items have been brought to our attention for the above property owned or rented by you and located in the City of Homedale. For your information and review we have attached a copy of the Homedale Ordinance.

As a resident of the City of Homedale you must comply with all Ordinances. In an effort to keep our city clean, we are checking our streets and alleys periodically and are asking all residences to restore and maintain their property per Homedale Ordinances. Please correct and conform to the following check-marked Ordinance Violation(s) within ten (10) days of the receipt of this notice to prevent further action upon you.

#### Ordinance No. 329, No. 331 (Nuisance)

- Section 4-A Harmful or Injurious Condition
- Section 4-B-1 Fire Hazard
- Section 4-B-2 Health Hazard
- Section 4-B-3 Unauthorized Storage
- Section 4-B-4 Discarded Furniture/Appliances/Household Items
- Section 4-B-5 Weeds, Grass, Debris, Garbage
- Section 4-B-6 Trees (hanging over in Public Right of Way or alley)
- Other- Violation of Easements (City of Homedale/Idaho Power/Frontier)

#### Ordinance No. 318 (Vehicle)

- Section 3-A Inoperative Vehicle/Vessel/Trailer
- Section 3-B Unauthorized Vehicle/Vessel/Trailer
- Section 3-C Unregistered Vehicle/Vessel/Trailer
- Section 5 Public Right of Way
- Other Unlicensed Canines

### The real thing

This is an official ordinance violation notice from the Homedale Police Department. Police chief Jeff Eidemiller said his department is investigating a bogus letter from City Hall regarding "Homedale Check-Up" that began circulating last week.

nothing like the letter turned in to the Homedale postmaster by a woman who had received it in the mail.

Eidemiller also outlined the process by which the police department notifies residents that they may be in violation of the city's abatement ordinance.

Once notified by the police, the violator has 10 days to comply with the written notice, which details what violations have occurred.

Homedale Police monitors the situation for 10 days to ensure cleanup has taken place.

If there is no abatement of the situation, a misdemeanor citation is issued and the accused must appear before a judge.

"The police department, mayor and city council are all tolerant people," Eidemiller said. "We'll give them every chance to (comply)."

Eidemiller said that his department has received about 20 complaints of weed and trash buildup in the past two weeks. Among the materials that can be considered a nuisance are overgrown weeds, trash, old vehicles and old vehicle parts, stacked tires and trailers filled with garbage.

The chief said that the city has been known to clean up problem areas, but that is a costly proposition for the property owner.

— JPB

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## Idaho Avenue paint touchup



### Company completes street project

Stephanie Henry, a 1997 graduate of Homedale High School, keeps an eye on the parking space line being sprayed along the south side of East Idaho Avenue near City Park. Henry was part of a crew from Pavement Markings Northwest, Inc., that painted crosswalks and parking designations along the recently chip-sealed Idaho Avenue early last week.

## Marsing budget on agenda tonight

A public hearing is scheduled during the Marsing City Council meeting at City Hall at 7 tonight that includes on its agenda the approval of the city's Fiscal Year 2008 budget. The items on the agenda have already been distributed to each member of the City Council for study.

According to the meeting agenda, the approval of the FY 2008 budget, including passage of the appropriation ordinance that authorizes the \$4.8 million budget, and the approval of an ordinance that authorizes pay increases for City of Marsing employees, will be enacted by one motion unless a special request is made to place the items on the regular meeting agenda.

The FY 2008 budget reflects an increase of \$164,570 from the FY 2007 budget, with the differences primarily showing the establishment of a new full-time city-employed water technician and variations in revenue and spending in regard to the city's water, sewer and sanitation systems.

Mayor Don Osterhoudt said the city water technician position is to replace a position that is currently part-time. The salary

budgeted for the position is set to increase from \$6,500 to \$25,000 per year. Included in the increased salary is a proposed condition of employment that the new employee be licensed or certified in public works or will become so once hired into the position. Osterhoudt said that it is also hoped that the employee eventually would be licensed or certified in wastewater treatment so that the city would have a fully qualified person on staff to manage the city's new water system.

The city's water and sewer funds each will increase by nearly \$100,000 as the second phase of the municipal water filtration system is expected to be completed some time in 2008.

The project includes plans to filter water before it enters the city storage tank. The system would then differentiate between drinking water and non-drinking water uses. Drinking water being filtered a second time while water used for fire suppression or other non-drinking water purposes would bypass the second filtration.

— RTH

## Homedale graduate Dixon to attend Chamber lunch

Idaho Rural Partnership director will address changes spurred by growth

*"You can take the boy out of the country, but you can't take the country out of the boy."*

The above adage certainly applies to Dale Dixon. But, rather than a slight, in Dixon's case the characterization points to his vision for the rural areas of his native state.

A 1989 graduate of Homedale High School, Dixon has served as executive director of the Idaho Rural Partnership (IRP) for more than three years. In that capacity, he travels throughout the state helping rural communities secure grants and other assistance to make progressive moves to stem negative effects of the explosive growth throughout Idaho.

Dixon, a former weekend news anchor at KTVB Channel 7, left his job as the City of Nampa's first public information officer one simple reason:



Dale Dixon

"Growing up in Idaho, seeing some of the challenges my family is facing as they try to maintain a family farm in the midst of a 30 percent growth rate, and having the opportunity to work directly with the decision-makers" to find solutions.

Dixon said IRP helps the state's smaller towns move forward by doing something called a community review through which experts make recommendations to the town fathers on how they can expand through low-interest loans, grants and technical assistance.

Some of the towns helped by IRP include Payette, Kuna, Rexburg and Soda Springs.

But the humble country boy in Dixon crops up whenever IRP is portrayed as the catalyst.

"I get real nervous when the Idaho Rural Partnership gets the credit," he said.

"It's the process of all the partners working together to get things done. We're just happy to be the conduit to help facilitate it."

The 36-year-old Dixon, who grew up in Greenleaf where his father and brother still run the family farm, is the featured speaker for the Homedale Chamber of Commerce's monthly luncheon at noon Thursday at the Owyhee Lanes Restaurant.

Dixon said his talk will be similar to the one he gave at the Owyhee Cattlemen's Association summer meeting last month in Silver City. He spoke of the changes brought on by growth in the rural areas and encouraged the ranchers to turn those changes to their advantage.

"I'll spend some more time talking about what we're seeing for small businessmen and entrepreneurs who have set up shop in Homedale," Dixon said.

Dixon attended Homedale High School in his junior and senior years after transferring from Greenleaf Friends Academy.

— JPB

## Hearing on county P&Z fees set

The Owyhee County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing Monday to examine a proposed Planning and Zoning Department fee schedule.

The public hearing, scheduled for 10 a.m. inside the Owyhee County Courthouse in Murphy, will deal with fee increases aimed at covering the rising costs of numerous CUP hearings.

Planning and Zoning administrator Mary Huff said that the administrative costs of permit hearings — including mailings, legal notices, staff

reports, preparation work for the hearings and the fee for the hearing officer — have become substantial because of the explosion of permit requests and hearings.

The average public hearing for a CUP seeking residential use of a parcel zoned otherwise costs the county about \$2,000, she said.

"The bulk of what we hear are low-density residential developments that want to be placed in agricultural zones, and you need a CUP for that, according to the county comprehensive plan," Huff said.

Other fees that will be discussed include CUPs for commercial, industrial and feedlot use and rezoning requests as well as a schedule for fees on decisions that the board of county commissioners is required to make.

In most cases the P&Z commission makes planning decisions, but the county commissioners get involved when there is an appeal or a road name change or an ordinance amendment.

— JPB

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**Correction**

An article appearing in the Aug. edition of The Owyhee Avalanche incorrectly outlined the DeRuyter Dairy expansion conditional use permit application process. The county Planning and Zoning Commission has the final say in granting the permit. There will be no public hearing before the county Board of Commissioners.

**P&Z accepts nuke plant permit application**

**Door opens for lengthy public review, which will coincide with NRC process**

The Owyhee County Planning and Zoning Department confirmed last week that it has accepted the conditional use permit application of a company seeking to build a nuclear power plant in the Bruneau/Grand View area.

County Planning and Zoning administrator Mary Huff said that the conditional use permit application submitted by Idaho Energy Complex now is available for public review at her office in Murphy.

Anyone interested in examining the application must fill out a request to examine public records. Members of the public can examine the document in the planning and zoning department office or they can request a copy of the application.

Huff said copies of the application are available for 25 cents per copied page.

A CD of the document also is available, but a county disclaimer letter says that realty deeds

available in the hard copy of the application aren't included in the CD version.

Huff said that although the application turned in by IEC has been accepted as complete, there could be supplemental information submitted later.

IEC wants to build a 1,600-megawatt nuclear power plant on 1,000 acres of farmland near C.J. Strike Reservoir.

No public hearings have been scheduled on the conditional use permit, but IEC chief executive officer Don Gillispie agreed to waive the 125-day review period for the CUP and allow the county

process to run concurrently with the three-year federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission license application review process.

The CUP application fee has been deferred for the IEC request because the county doesn't have an appropriate fee schedule for such a large-scale project.

Another public hearing regarding IEC is scheduled before the Planning and Zoning Commission on Aug. 22. Idaho Energy Complex officials want to build a meteorological tower and a cellular phone tower in the vicinity of the proposed power plant.

— JPB

**The Owyhee Avalanche**  
 P.O. BOX 97 • HOMEDALE, ID 83628  
 PHONE 208 / 337-4681 • FAX 208 / 337-4867  
 E-mail: [owyheeavalanche@cableone.net](mailto:owyheeavalanche@cableone.net)  
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JOE E. AMAN, publisher  
 JON P. BROWN, managing editor  
[jbrowneditor@cableone.net](mailto:jbrowneditor@cableone.net)  
 ROB HEDDEN, reporter  
 E-mail: [rhedden@cableone.net](mailto:rhedden@cableone.net)  
 JENNIFER STUTHEIT, office  
 ROBERT AMAN, composition

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Member

**Area schools ready for registration**

Area school districts are holding registration for the upcoming school year in the next few weeks, depending on the district.

Registration in the Marsing Joint School District is today and Thursday at the students' respective schools.

Registration for Marsing Elementary School is from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days.

Registration for the middle school is from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. both days.

Registration for Marsing High School is split by grade, with

registration for juniors and seniors from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Aug. 8 and registration for freshmen and sophomores at the same times on Aug. 9.

The Homedale Joint School District has its main registration scheduled for Monday.

Students entering kindergarten through fourth grade can register at Homedale Elementary School from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Students entering grades 5-8 register at Homedale Middle School during the same time.

At Homedale High School,

seniors register from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m., juniors from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., sophomores from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and freshmen from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Class changes and registration for new high school students are scheduled for Tuesday through Aug. 16 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Parents of children who will be attending kindergarten in the Bruneau/Grand View Joint School District are requested to contact either Bruneau or Grand View elementary schools so that the respective schools can get an

accurate count of kindergarten students for the upcoming year.

Any student who is new to any of the above school districts should bring a certified copy of his or her birth certificate and immunization records at the time of registration.

New students to the Homedale district must provide proof of residence and have a parent or guardian sign a Residency Certification Form.

Registration for students in all grades in the Adrian School District is Aug. 16.

**High winds disrupt power in and around Homedale**

A brief but intense thunderstorm swept through the Homedale area between 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, bringing rain and wind gusts of up to 60 mph.

According to Idaho Power spokesman Russ Jones, the wind is believed to have caused a power outage to 1,110 customers in Homedale and neighboring areas north of the Snake River.

Jones speculated the power outage was caused when wind-blown tree branches made contact with Idaho Power substation equipment.

The outage occurred at 5:34 p.m. and Jones said power was restored at 7:26 p.m.

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## From page 1

### √ Judge: Taking care of law clients is priority before move to the bench

applicants for the job.

Grober, who turns 59 the day before he dons the judge's robe, will preside over magistrate proceedings in the Owyhee County Courthouse in Murphy most of the time. Court is held in Homedale on the first and third Wednesday of every month.

Grober has been in private practice in Homedale for 11 years. From 1989 to 1996, he served as

assistant bar counsel for the Idaho State Bar Association. Before beginning his law career, Grober worked as a journalist, criminal investigator and a high school English teacher.

He received his law degree from the University of Idaho. He also obtained a graduate degree at Boise State University after his undergraduate work at Eastern Illinois University.

Before moving on to the next phase of his career, Grober said he has an obligation to his current clients.

"It's still just sort of a shocking thing," he said of the appointment. "Part of that is how much I have to accomplish in the next 30 days to get the practice wound down.

"I'm still obligated to help my clients find other counsel. I just can't walk out."

Once he is on the bench, Grober has some ideas to continue the work started by Ryan.

"As I explained to the magistrate commission, I think there are a number of what I call 'problem-solving' courts that Judge Ryan worked very hard to get established, and I have some ideas with respect to some of those courts."

Grober said he sees a need for a truancy court in the county in

addition to the previously established drug court.

"I would like to be able to devote some of my time to establish some of these courts because I think that will better serve a number of people and help reduce the number of cases clogging up the traditional court system," he said.

— JPB



#### Horse club events kick off Owyhee County Fair

*Above: Mackay Hall, left, describes his past year's activity with the Owyhee Silver Spurs horse club to judge Gina Showalter on Saturday. Left: Chantel Meyers of the Oreana Rednecks horse club leads her horse, Bud, through his paces in front of the judge in the 4-H Senior Showmanship competition in the Owyhee County Fair arena on Monday.*

### √ Fair: Plenty of entertainment options await fair-goers again this year

The rodeo arena also will be the site for a Ranch Horse project exhibition at 8 a.m. today and the horse and mule driving competition at 9 a.m. Friday.

Other highlights of the fair include musical entertainment nightly in the Tumbleweed Theatre today through Saturday.

The entertainment begins at 6 each night and includes something for everyone.

The Fiddling Loucks Kids from Marsing start off tonight's entertainment, followed by the Studio Synergy Cloggers, hypnotist Greg Hassakis and the classic rock/rhythm and blues band Silver Bak.

Hassakis will be the mainstay at the fair this year. He appears at 8 each night through Friday and holds two Saturday shows at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Other Tumbleweed Theatre headliners include the popular Buckhorn Mountain Boys bluegrass band at 9:30 p.m. Thursday,

the Howlin' Coyotes for a Western dance at 10 p.m. Friday, and the Sunset Riders for a country dance at 10 p.m. Saturday.

Each morning through Saturday, the Homedale Senior Citizens Center will put on its annual Buckaroo Breakfast. The meal will be served from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. daily in the center's parking lot on West Idaho Avenue. There also will be a raffle.

The Armory Exhibit Hall is open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. The hall, which is filled with open class exhibits and 4-H Family and Consumer Sciences and miscellaneous displays, is closed until 2 p.m. today. Interviews and judging begin at 8 a.m., and exhibitors can enter flowers, leafy vegetables and sugar beets in the open class competition between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. today.

The animal shows begin today in the Livestock Barn.

Goats, llamas and dairy will

be shown beginning at 1:30 p.m. today.

A rabbit and poultry show is scheduled for 1 p.m. today at the Tumbleweed Theatre.

On Thursday inside the Livestock Barn, a beef show will be held at 8 a.m., and the sheep show is scheduled for 4 p.m.

Friday's animal show schedule at the Livestock Barn includes an 8 a.m. swine show and a 4 p.m. 4-H and FFA livestock judging contest.

At 7 p.m. Friday inside the Livestock Barn, the WSI-sponsored roping contest will take place. Divisions include ages 9 and younger, 10-15 and 15 and older.

The annual Owyhee County Junior Livestock Sale and Buyer's Lunch will dominate the Livestock Barn beginning at noon Saturday. The traditional animal costume contest follows the sale.

At 11 a.m., before the livestock sale, junior exhibitors will take

part in the round robin competition inside the Livestock Barn.

Saturday's other big attraction is the annual parade through downtown Homedale. Longtime Owyhee County Rodeo Board member Wendell Hyer will serve as grand marshal for the parade.

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. at Deward Bell Stadium and Riverside Park. Judging takes place at 9 a.m., with the parade starting its trek west down Idaho Avenue at 10 a.m.

Several booths will be open inside the Commercial Building. Anyone wishing to donate to the second annual Owyhee County 4-H Food Drive can drop off non-perishable items at the El-Ada Community Action Partnership booth in the Commercial Building.

Other events on the fairgrounds this year include:

- Entries for A Bountiful Harvest Contest will be taken from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the Armory Exhibit Hall. Homedale Drug will

award a \$25 prize.

- The annual Veggie People Making Contest at 11 a.m. Thursday near the Tumbleweed Theatre. Fair organizers supply the vegetables, and the age groups include 8 and younger, 9-14 and 15 and older.

- A pie-baking contest at 11 a.m. Friday at the Tumbleweed Theatre. Top prize is a \$25 award from Tolmie's Ace Hardware and Appliance, and the top three entries receive White Satin sugar.

- The 4-H Style Revue and awards ceremony beginning at 6 p.m. Friday at the Tumbleweed Theatre.

- A pedal tractor pull for children at 2 p.m. Friday at the Tumbleweed Theatre. The pull is open to children ages 5-11, and Campbell Tractor Co., is sponsoring the prizes.

- The annual Owyhee County Fair & Rodeo Drill Team Competition takes place at noon Saturday inside the Rodeo Arena.

**Read Owyhee news in the Avalanche**

# Obituary

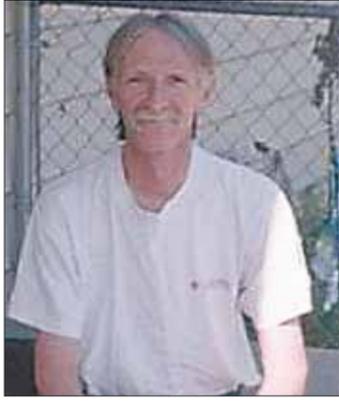
## Steven Virgil Holton

Steven Virgil Holton, 51 of Marsing, passed away on Wednesday, August 1, 2007 at a Nampa care center from cancer of the kidneys. A memorial service will be held August 12 at 3:00 p.m. at the Marsing American Legion Community Center. Funeral arrangements are being provided by Zeyer Funeral Chapel, 83 North Midland Blvd., Nampa.

Steve was born January 27, 1956 in Caldwell, Idaho, to Virgil Clayton and Penny Stenvall Holton. He attended Middleton Schools and was working towards a GED when he was diagnosed with cancer. He married Karla Steinhaus in 1979. They had three children together, and later divorced.

Steve worked many different jobs throughout the years with Union Pacific Railroad, Hoff's Forest Product, Circle J, J.C. Watson and Holton Homes. In his last years, he enjoyed helping his daughter Kelly at her daycare and was known to the children as "Grumpy Steve."

Survivors include Steve's children, Kelly (Jason) Ineck, Marsing, Jason (Jessica) Holton, Salem, Oregon, and Kori Holton of Marsing. He is also survived by four grandsons: Joseph, Justin and Jonathan Ineck of Marsing, Idaho, Caleb Meyers, of Missouri, and two granddaughters, Gabriela



and Hailey Holton of Salem, Oregon, sister, Linda DeWitt of Indian Valley, Idaho, half brother, Clayton Holton of Payette, Idaho, and niece Shelley Winters, Stacey Winters and Gabe Winters. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Gary and Robert Holton and numerous aunts and uncles.

A special thanks to Cindy, Bruce and Dawn and the staff at Mercy Home Health and Hospice, and to the staff at Trinity Mission Health and Rehabilitation of Holly for their kind and caring attention to Steve during his illness.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests that donations be made to the Marsing Ambulance District, P.O. Box 132, Marsing Idaho, 83639, or to the Marsing American Legion Community Center, P.O. Box 606, Marsing, Idaho 83639.

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

## Death notice

LEWIS STANLEY, 77, of Homedale died on July 28, 2007.

## Life's milestones

The Owyhee Avalanche welcomes any news of engagements, weddings and births or announcements of significant birthdays or anniversaries. Photos are accepted, too. Announcements must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week before publication.

There are numerous ways to get your information to the Avalanche:

**Mail** — P.O. Box 97, Homedale, ID 83628

**Fax** — (208) 337-4867

**E-mail** — jbrowneditor@cableone.net

**Drop off** — 19 E. Idaho Ave., Homedale

Call (208) 337-4681 for more information on guidelines, including e-mailed photos.

**The Owyhee Avalanche**

Read all about it  
in the Avalanche!

## Homedale band to hold tryouts at summer camp

The Homedale school band and color guard program is looking for recruits for the upcoming school year.

Tryouts for the 10 open positions in the two squads will be held during a tryout at the program's first band camp. Tryouts are open to seventh- through 12<sup>th</sup>-graders.

The band camp will be held daily from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. beginning Monday on the football field at Deward Bell Stadium. The camp runs through Aug. 16. Students registered in the band program are eligible to participate in the band camp.

Band director Karla Kachelmier prepared for the band camp by attending the Boise State University Calvacade Camp last month. Kachelmier took part in director workshops and clinics, while sophomores Katie Holloway and Preston Stevenson took part in other workshops. Holloway enrolled in the drum major camp, and Stevenson participated in the percussion camp.

The band camp will include experts on percussion and color guards. Spencer Martin, a graduate student at BSU and former director of the University of Idaho Marching Band, will help with percussion. Madison

Middle School band director David Barton will visit from Rexburg to lend his expertise with color guards.

"We expect a fun season with several community performances and a few outside performances in Ontario and Eagle," Kachelmier said.

Kachelmier, who is beginning her second year as the Homedale School District music director, instituted a color guard late in the school year.

She said that between 55 and 65 students are expected to participate in the band and color guard this year.

The explosion of interest has left the program facing a shortage of uniforms.

"We currently have 50 or fewer uniforms, many of which will need alterations," Kachelmier said. "If anyone has some sewing skills they would like to share with the band, please contact me ASAP."

Kachelmier also said the music department always welcomes financial contributions and there still is a shortage of instruments. All donations are tax-deductible.

For information on helping out the music program, call Kachelmier at (509) 780-3747.

## Owyhee Conservation District board reschedules its meeting

The Owyhee Conservation District board meeting scheduled for Thursday has been postponed one week because of the Owyhee County Fair. The meeting now is

scheduled for 8 p.m. Aug. 16 at 19 Reich St. in Marsing.

For more information, contact the Owyhee Conservation District at (208) 896-4544.

## Senior menus

### Homedale Senior Center

Aug 9: Closed for the Buckaroo Breakfast! Breakfast served from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Aug 14: BBQ chicken, scalloped potatoes, green beans, roll, drink.

Aug 15: Tuna salad, cottage cheese, lettuce & tomatoes, roll, drink.

### Marsing Senior Center

Aug 9: Chicken divine, broccoli, veggie tray, fruit salad, soup, dessert, drink.

Aug 13: Breakfast to order.

Aug 14: Swiss steak, green beans, potatoes, carrot salad, soup, dessert, drink.

Aug 15: Breakfast to order. Lunch: BBQ chicken, potato salad, baked beans, deviled eggs, pears, soup, dessert, drink.



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## Birth

### Anna Elizabeth Hi'ilei Bauer

Former Homedale resident Dusty Bauer and his wife, Emily, who now reside in Holualoa, Hawaii, are parents of a baby daughter, who was born July 29, 2007.

Anna Elizabeth Hi'ilei Bauer weighed 6 pounds, 4 ounces and was 20 inches long at birth.

Paternal grandparents are Larry and Becky Bauer of Homedale. Great grandparents are Phyllis Bauer of Homedale and Harold and Elizabeth Liddell of Nampa.

Maternal grandparents are Jon and Deb Folkerts of Haviland, Kan. Great grandparents are Robert and Merna Folkerts of Wasilla, Alaska, and Irene Lane of Richfield, Minn.

## Garrett finishes Navy training

Cody Garrett graduated from U.S. Naval Recruit Training, Great Lakes, Ill., on July 20, 2007.

Garrett is currently stationed at Naval Amphibious Base (NAB) Coronado Island, just across the bay from San Diego. Coronado Island is the Navy's West Coast focal point for special and expeditionary warfare training and operations. Garrett will continue his specialized training in Naval Amphibious and Special Forces.

The 2003 Homedale High School graduate is the son of Gregg and Randee Garrett.



Cody Garrett

## Reyes finishes Air Guard basic

Johnny R. Reyes, son-in-law of Homedale resident Mic Phillips, graduated from the Air National Guard Academy of Military Science at McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base, Knoxville, Tenn., and has been commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Air National Guard.

The six-week, in-resident course prepares the candidate for initial assignment as a commissioned officer. He will be a pilot assigned to the 124th Wing in Boise.

He is the son of John P. Reyes of Boise, and Lydia G. Gonzales of Idaho Falls.

Johnny Reyes earned a bachelor's degree in 2006 from Boise State University.

**Your finances**

**Room with friends to save, sacrifice family's freedom**

**Dear Dave,**

Our yearly income is \$45,000, we have a \$75,000 mortgage with no other debt and an 8-month-old baby. We've been given a chance to move in with friends and rent the upstairs portion of the house. We'd share the kitchen, and it would help us save about \$1,000 a month. Do you think it's better to stay and build up equity in our house or move and save money?

— Jennifer

**Dear Jennifer,**

One thousand dollars a month is \$12,000 a year. That means your place would have to appreciate 10 percent a year, and most homes don't do that.

I understand wanting to save money, but there's more at stake here. You need to consider that you'll be giving up a lot in lifestyle. Essentially, you'd be moving from your own home into someone else's bedroom. You'll be contending with other people's likes and dislikes on an hourly basis, and think about this: do you really want your child going through toddlerhood in someone else's home? Talk about stress!

You guys make enough to pay down the house and keep it in good shape. And chances are your home is going up in value. The only question is how much.

When you take this into account — plus the quality of life issues for you and your family — I'd rather see you get serious about a budget, find as many places as possible to cut your spending and stay in your own home.

— Dave

**Dear Dave,**

About five years ago, I started my own furniture building and restoration business. Things are going pretty good now, and I was wondering how to go about setting up health insurance for myself and the family.

— Pete

**Dear Pete,**

In your situation, I'd suggest a Medical Savings Account or MSA.

With an MSA you have a standard medical policy with a huge deductible — maybe as much as \$5,000 — and a very low premium. It enables you to fund a savings account that grows tax-deferred, and the money can



be used for medical care with no penalties, no taxes and you can keep what's left if you don't use it all. Plus, it saves you a ton on premiums.

Get with a good insurance broker who sells for several companies to help you set this up today!

— Dave

**Dear Dave,**

I'm a new landlord and I'm wondering, in the event of a lawsuit, what is the best way to protect my personal assets?

— Carrie

**Dear Carrie,**

I'd go with a liability umbrella policy of about \$2 million. This picks up where your liability leaves off on your car, homeowner's and rental property fire and extended coverage policies. It's not very expensive, either, and should only cost about \$250 to \$300 a year.

If you start to build a substantial portfolio of investment real estate — such as houses — you might want to begin putting every four or five properties you buy into a separate corporate entity. I'd advise an LLC, which is a kind of cross between a sole-proprietorship and a corporation. Plus, it has some of the best characteristics of both business types.

Each LLC is a separate company with its own checking account. If you do all the paperwork properly and an LLC entity owns a property where someone falls and sues you, then they can only sue for the assets of that company!

— Dave

— Dave Ramsey is the best-selling author of *The Total Money Makeover*. You can find tools to help with finances or previous columns at [Davesays.org](http://Davesays.org). For more financial advice, visit the Web site or call (888) 22-PEACE. Have a question for Dave? Send correspondence to [syndication@daveramsey.com](mailto:syndication@daveramsey.com) or write *Dave Says*, 1749 Mallory Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027

**Calendar**

**Today**

Buckaroo Breakfast and raffle, \$5 to eat, 7 a.m. to 10 a.m., Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

Owyhee County Fair, Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo grounds, Homedale

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

Marsing City Council meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall, 425 Main St. (208) 896-4122

Grand View City Council meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall, 425 Boise Ave. (208) 834-2700, Monday through Wednesday

Owyhee Watershed Council meeting, 7 p.m., University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office, 238 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. W., Marsing. (541) 372-5782

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

Owyhee County Rodeo, 8 p.m., Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo grounds, Homedale

**Thursday, Aug. 9**

Buckaroo Breakfast and raffle, \$5 to eat, 7 a.m. to 10 a.m., Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

Owyhee County Fair, Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo grounds, Homedale

El-Ada Community Action Partnership commodity distribution, 11 a.m. to noon, Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (208) 337-4812

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

Summer reading activity day, 11 a.m., Melba Cottage Library, 109 Charlotte Drive. (208) 495-1063

Owyhee Garden Club meeting, 1 p.m., University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office, 238 8<sup>th</sup>

Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-5474 or (208) 896-4104

Homedale Chamber of Commerce luncheon, noon, Owyhee Lanes Restaurant, 18 W. 1<sup>st</sup> St. (208) 337-3252

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), 5:30 p.m. weigh-in, 7 p.m. meeting, First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Homedale. (208) 482-6893

Owyhee County Fair Board meeting, 8 p.m., county fairgrounds, Homedale. (208) 337-4575

Owyhee County Rodeo, 8 p.m., Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo grounds, Homedale

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

**Friday, Aug. 10**

Buckaroo Breakfast and raffle, \$5 to eat, 7 a.m. to 10 a.m., Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

Owyhee County Fair, Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo grounds, Homedale

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

Owyhee County Rodeo, 8 p.m., Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo grounds, Homedale

**Saturday, Aug. 11**

Buckaroo Breakfast and raffle, \$5 to eat, 7 a.m. to 10 a.m., Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

Owyhee County Fair, gates open at 8 a.m., Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo grounds, Homedale

Owyhee County Rodeo, 7 p.m., Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo grounds, Homedale

**Monday, Aug. 13**

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

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

**Tuesday, Aug. 14**

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

Summer reading program, 3 p.m., Lizard Butte Public Library, Owyhee Plaza, 105 Main Street, Marsing. (208) 896-4690

Pure Word recovery meeting, 7 p.m. Snake River Valley Fellowship, 16613 Garnet Road, Wilder. Homedale. (208) 475-3733

Marsing School District Board of Trustees monthly meeting, 8 p.m., district office board room, 209 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. W.

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

**Wednesday, Aug. 15**

El-Ada Community Action Partnership commodity distribution, 11 a.m. to noon, Marsing Senior Center, 218 Main St., Marsing. (208) 337-4812

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

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 [jbrownditor@cablone.net](mailto:jbrownditor@cablone.net). For more information on submissions, call (208) 337-4681.

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**Homedale grad earns commendation**

The Bronze Star and certificate awarded to Navy Capt. Richard D. Fritzley, a Homedale High School graduate, after his service in Iraq.

**Navy vet earns Bronze Star**

**Homedale grad oversaw Iraq oil infrastructure reconstruction**

A Homedale High School graduate recently received the Bronze Star for his role in reconstructing the Iraqi oil infrastructure.

Capt. Richard D. Fritzley, a 30-year Navy veteran, received the Bronze Star on May 30. He ended a 10-month deployment during Operation Iraqi Freedom on June 15.

According to the narrative accompanying Fritzley's Bronze Star: "(Fritzley) distinguished himself by exceptionally meritorious service to the United States."

As sector chief of the Oil Infrastructure Reconstruction Program based in Baghdad, Fritzley was cited for negotiating projects with the State Department to ensure that the final \$80 million of Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Funds were obligated.

As sector lead for the reconstruction program under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fritzley directed a 48-person management office as well as two contractors will a combined workforce of 2,000.

"Using out-front leadership, he made numerous trips outside the wire to the Ministry of Oil in Baghdad and project sites in all regions of Iraq," the narrative says.

Among the areas Fritzley visited in the volatile regions of central and southern Iraq were Kirkuk, Basra, Tikrit, Um Qasr,

Bayji and offshore terminals in the Persian Gulf.

The Bronze Star narrative credits Fritzley with establishing "effective working relationships" with key deputy ministers and director generals in the Iraqi Ministry of Oil, contractors, reconstruction management office leadership and staff, staff for Iraq and the multi-national coalition and Iraq ground commanders.

Fritzley is the son of longtime Homedale residents Herb and Sandra Fritzley. The 30-year veteran of the Navy and Naval Reserve received his commission at the University of Idaho while serving in the ROTC program and completing work on his Civil Engineering bachelor's degree. He also has a Master's from the University of Indiana.

Fritzley is married and has three daughters. He returned from his deployment and is awaiting reassignment, according to his father.

Under Fritzley's leadership, the Oil Sector pulled off work on 260 contracts valued at \$600 million.

Fritzley oversaw the completion of the program, including:

- Rehabilitation of the Al Basrah Oil Terminal, which accounts for 95 percent of Iraq's income. The narrative pointed out a 96-hour shutdown that was completed "flawlessly" and 36 hours

ahead of schedule.

- The increase of daily crude oil production capacity 20 percent from 2.5 million barrels per day to 3 million barrels per day.

- The increase of daily dry gas production capacity 33 percent from 600 million standard cubic feet to 800 million standard cubic feet.

- The increase of daily production of liquid petroleum gas (LPG) by 150 percent from 1,200 metric tons to 3,000 metric tons.

The narrative also said that the restoration of the oil and gas infrastructure in which Fritzley played such a vital part provides the revenue the Iraqi government needs to continue reconstruction. The LPG production provides cooking fuel to help improve the quality of life and further stabilize Iraq, the narrative stated.

In addition to the reconstruction efforts, Fritzley oversaw the transfer of four Forward Operating Bases (FOBs) in the Oil Sector to other coalition forces, allies or operating companies of the Iraqi Ministry of Oil.

"In pursuit of most of these accomplishments, Capt. Fritzley did not hesitate to expose himself to significant risk of injury by hostile action as he conducted frequent movements outside the wire," the narrative concluded.

"Capt. Fritzley's actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself ..."

**One family, two boys in Iraq**

**Brother-in-law, brother both serving in conflict**

Steve and Tonia Atkins of Homedale may pay a little more attention than most to news from Iraq. That is understandable; they each have a brother serving there.

Cpl. Leroy (Roy) F. Atkins is a Marine stationed at Camp Fallujah while U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Skipper Green is deployed at Forward Operating Base McHenry.

Atkins, who will turn 21 on Aug. 16, is a 2004 graduate of Homedale High School. He was a wrestler while in high school and worked at Campbell Tractor. His father, Steven L. Atkins, also lives in Homedale.



Roy Atkins

Roy Atkins joined the Marines on July 25, 2004. He was assigned to Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division. His first duty assignment was at the Naval Submarine Base in Kings Bay, Ga., a primary east coast outpost for nuclear submarines. His unit maintained security over the base's cache of nuclear weapons.

This spring, Atkins was transferred to Camp Pendleton, Calif., in preparation for deployment to Iraq. While at

Camp Pendleton, he received specialized training, including military operations in urban terrain with role players of Iraqi descent to simulate the environment surrounding Camp Fallujah.

Atkins shipped out for a seven-month rotation in Iraq on July 17.

Green, 26, is a 1999 graduate of Adrian High School in Oregon. His parents, Tom and Sandy Green, live in the Ridgeview area.

Green also joined the military right out of high school. Assigned to the 91st Military Police Detachment "Enforcers" of the 519th Military Police Battalion "Vipers," 1st Combat Support Brigade out of Fort Polk, La., he is a K-9 specialist. His partner, Llaw, is an ordnance-sniffing dog.

Green's unit was sent to FOB McHenry on Nov. 16, 2006, on a 15-month deployment. Green's wife Ryan and 3-month-old daughter Faith live at Fort Polk.

"They are about 45 miles apart over there," Steve Atkins said of his brother and brother-in-law. "Just far enough apart that they will probably never see each other."

Both Atkins and Green are scheduled to return from Iraq in February 2008.

— RTH



**Adrian graduate serves and protects**

U.S. Army Staff Sgt. and K-9 specialist Skipper Green poses his partner, Llaw, an ordnance-sniffing dog. Green is the son of Tom and Sandy Green of the Ridgeview area.



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**Scene of rollover crash on Idaho 78**

*Left: Skid marks show where a Chevrolet Cavalier driven by Carolina Garcia, 17, of Caldwell left the roadway after a tire blew out. Above: The vehicle rolled or flipped approximately four times, ejecting two passengers, before coming to rest approximately 100 feet off the road.*

**Head Start enrollment taken today**

From 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. today, the WICAP Head Start program of Marsing and Wilder will accept enrollment applications for the 2007-08 school year.

Children must be 3 or 4 years old before Sept. 1, 2007.

Head Start is a pre-school child development and family involvement program that provides children with nutritious meals, individualized learning, transportation in certain areas, socialization experiences, health services, social services, and special services for children with disabilities.

To apply, families must provide proof of their household gross annual income, birth record and immunization record for evaluation at 305 Avenue A in Wilder.

Enrollment priority is given to families whose income meets the established Federal Poverty Income Guidelines and to children who are 4 years of age. Acceptable verification of income includes W-2's, 1040 tax forms, wage stubs, statement from employer, or a statement from Health and Welfare.

This federally funded program does not discriminate against families on the basis of race, color, physical or mental abilities or religious beliefs.

To schedule an appointment or for more information, call 896-6041 for Marsing or 482-7223 for Homedale and Wilder or the administration office at (800) 870-2427.

**Four injured in Idaho 78 crash west of Murphy**

Four people were injured in a single-car accident on Idaho highway 78 on July 30. The violent crash took place two miles west of Murphy at 4 p.m.

According to the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office, Carolina Garcia, 17, of Caldwell was driving a Chevrolet Cavalier

eastbound and lost control of the vehicle after a front tire blew out. The car spun off the roadway and rolled or flipped approximately four times.

June Brown, 36, of Nampa and Carolina Garcia, 54, of Caldwell were ejected from the vehicle and were transported to Saint

Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise by Air St. Luke's and Life Flight.

The younger Carolina Garcia and her twin sister, Corrina Garcia, remained in the vehicle after the accident and were transported to Mercy Medical Center in Nampa by Marsing Ambulance.

No further updates on the condition of the passengers were available at press time.

Deputies stopped the flow of traffic as the injured were treated and the scene investigated.

Citations are pending in the case, according to Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman.

**State appeals decision tied to county murder**

Idaho Attorney General Lawrence Wasden has asked the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn a Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruling regarding Maxwell Hoffman, who was convicted of a 1987 murder in Owyhee County.

The Ninth Circuit ordered that Hoffman be released or offered a plea agreement that he rejected more than 18 years ago.

The court said that Hoffman's defense attorney's advice to reject a plea that would have eliminated the death penalty was based on

incomplete research on the part of the attorney and also ignored the risks associated with imposition of the death penalty if the deal was rejected.

Hoffman was convicted of first degree murder and commission of a felony by use of a deadly weapon for the Sept. 19, 1987 murder of Denise Williams, which he carried out with the assistance of accomplices. Williams had cooperated with police in an investigation of Hoffman's accomplices' drug trafficking activities.

A Canyon County jury found Hoffman guilty on March 16, 1989, and he was sentenced to death by lethal injection three months later.

U.S. District Judge B. Lynn Winmill denied Hoffman's petition for a writ of habeas corpus and lifted a stay of execution

in December 1998. Hoffman appealed the decision, and in July 2006 the Ninth Circuit reversed Winmill.

A panel of 11 Ninth Circuit judges subsequently denied the state's request to reconsider on March 6, but seven judges dissented.

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## Water report

The Bureau of Reclamation Web site showed that, as of Monday afternoon, Owyhee Reservoir was 39 percent full and that 232 cubic feet per second of water was being released into the Owyhee River at Nyssa, Ore. The reservoir held 279,073 acre-feet of water.

The following statistics were gathered from the National Resources Conservation Service Web site at 2 p.m. Monday:

Date	Reynolds Creek			
	Year to Date Precipitation	Temperatures		Avg.
		Max.	Min.	
07/31	13.3	83	64	74
08/01	13.3	85	62	75
08/02	13.3	88	67	78
08/03	13.3	84	70	77
08/04	13.1	85	64	76
08/05	13.1	84	63	73
08/06	13.2	81	58	66

Date	South Mountain			
	Year to Date Precipitation	Temperatures		Avg.
		Max.	Min.	
07/31	28.6	86	66	73
08/01	28.6	87	63	73
08/02	28.6	90	65	75
08/03	28.6	81	66	72
08/04	28.7	84	57	70
08/05	28.7	80	62	70
08/06	28.7	73	59	64

Date	Mud Flat			
	Year to Date Precipitation	Temperatures		Avg.
		Max.	Min.	
07/31	11.9	90	66	76
08/01	11.9	91	64	76
08/02	11.9	92	63	77
08/03	11.9	84	58	71
08/04	11.8	90	58	71
08/05	11.8	88	56	72
08/06	11.8	80	53	68

## Weather

	H	L	Prec.
July 31	98	57	.00
Aug. 1	98	55	.00
Aug. 2	104	58	.00
Aug. 3	93	58	.00
Aug. 4	no readings taken		
Aug. 5	no readings taken		
Aug. 6	100	52	trace

# Homedale native solves a mystery at her book signing

Like a character from a novel she might have written, Jacquie Rogers saved an important detail about herself until the last chapter of the story. Rogers, a Homedale native now living in the Seattle area, was at Paul's Market in Homedale Friday signing copies of her books.

It was not until the signing event that Rogers revealed that people in this area would know her as Jacquie Walker. She is the daughter of Jack and Greta (pronounced "Greetta") Walker, and her family lived in the Graveyard Point area.

Rogers also said that she is the cousin of Owyhee County Sheriff Sgt. Jim Bish. "Our mothers are sisters," Rogers said.

Rogers and her book-signing partner, Judith Laik, both members of the Greater Seattle chapter of the Romance Writers of America, cleared up another mystery at the event by offering a concise definition of the romance genre.

"Romance can be anything," Laik said, "but the primary characteristic is a central focus on development of a committed relationship. The movies 'Romancing the Stone' and 'Terminator' are both classic romance genre because they end with committed relationships."

Rogers also said that the romance genre often is misrepresented by those who haven't turned a page.

"A lot of people think bodice-ripper," the Homedale High School graduate said, "but most people who say that haven't read one. I write more westerns than most, probably because I'm from here."



### Homedale grad signs books at Paul's

Jacquie Rogers, left, and fellow author Judith Laik talk with Paul's manager Kevin Tycz at the opening of a book-signing event on Friday. Rogers is from Homedale, and has used Owyhee County locales in her writing.

Rogers' books on display at Paul's were fantasy stories featuring "faeries," and the books were of the romance genre.

Owyhee County appears in at least two of the faery stories in the book "Faery Special Romances." The story "Faery Hot Date" is set in Homedale in 1968, and mentions Paul's Market and Paul's chorizo. Marsing is the model for the non-existent 1885 Idaho town of Dirtwater in the story "Duchess and the Dirtwater Faery." Rogers was quick to point out that the name Dirtwater was chosen for the story's wordplay title and is in no way a reflection on Marsing.

Rogers' daughter and coordinator of the book signing, Mercedes Rice, said that the Friday signing and another event at Hastings in Boise were very successful. "They were both amazing," Rice said.

Amy Ault and Wanda Ferguson each won gift baskets in a drawing

held in conjunction with the event.

Royalties from the sales of "Faery Special Romances" go to the Children's Tumor Foundation, an organization dedicated to ending the disorder neurofibromatosis (NF) through research.

Rice, who has NF, said that the name describes several genetic neurological disorders that cause benign tumors that can grow anywhere in or on the body. Rice said that NF is more common than muscular dystrophy and cystic fibrosis combined. NF can be inherited through a dominant gene or, as in Rice's case, developed through spontaneous mutation in the sperm or egg cell.

For more information about Jacquie Rogers and her writing, visit her Web site at [www.jacquierogers.com](http://www.jacquierogers.com). For more information about NF, visit the Web site [www.ctf.org](http://www.ctf.org).

— RTH

## Owyhee County breeders cited for top Angus bulls

Three Owyhee County livestock producers have been cited in the 2007 Fall Sire Evaluation Report published by the American Angus Association in St. Joseph, Mo.

The report features the latest performance information available on 6,679 sires, and is accessible at [www.angussiresearch.com](http://www.angussiresearch.com).

The county angus breeders in the latest report each own one bull that was listed and include:

- William L White of Murphy

- C & D Angus Co., of Grand View

- Colyer Cattle Co., of Bruneau

"This report provides both Angus breeders and commercial cattle producers using Angus genetics with accurate, predictable selection tools for improving their herd," said Bill Bowman, American Angus Association director of performance programs.

### CORRECTION

Of Public Comment Deadline  
In State Rules Notice

The public comment period deadline listed in the State Notice published here last week was not correct. The deadline is August 22, 2007, unless otherwise listed in that notice.

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Fish and Game

# New BLM blind rules affect pronghorn hunters

by Brian Flatter

With temperatures hovering around 100 degrees, it's hard to believe hunting season is just around the corner. If you are a dedicated pronghorn hunter who hunts on Idaho Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land, you have likely already spent some time bouncing around in the desert looking for a good water hole to set up your hunting blind.

Over the past decade, competition for water holes to set up blinds has become pretty fierce, especially during drought years. As the old saying goes, a few bad eggs reflect poorly on the rest. In the case of pronghorn hunters, a few recurring problems include: interfering with the hunts of others, abandoning blinds and trash, and relocating cattle salt blocks and watering troughs. Each example is unethical and illegal, and has caused the Bureau of Land Management to release hunting blind criteria for lands administered by the federal agency.

In a day and age where hunting videos capture successful hunts in detail and clarity like never seen before, it stands to reason that hunting pronghorn has become very popular. If you have been hunting for any length of time at all, you know what I'm talking about. The videos suggest that all you need is a watering hole, a blind, and the animals will come. Unfortunately, what most of the videos don't mention are the unsuccessful hunts or the time in the blind that may be required for a close encounter with any pronghorn, let alone the opportunity to take a mature animal. In fact, many of the hunts captured on video take place on private land and avoid the problems that have become commonplace on public lands. As hunters in Idaho, we are very fortunate. We have abundant public land and have many opportunities to pursue game without needing to draw a controlled hunt tag. Finding the right "spot" is very important and often the most difficult part of any hunt, especially during general hunts on public land. This is where the problems on BLM lands begin.

Some hunters want to experience the thrill of the hunt with little effort beyond driving to the desert on opening day. This is fine, but they should plan on conflicts with other hunters who have done their homework. On the other hand, those who invest the time in scouting and building blinds need to remember that finding a water hole and building a blind on BLM land is not the same as the century-old Idaho prior-to-appropriation doctrine that addresses water rights and states, "first in time, first in right." In order to "stake their claim," some hunters are placing their blinds very early in the year; some

**BLM pronghorn regulations**

The Bureau of Land Management has placed regulations on hunting blinds placed on public lands managed by the Idaho BLM. The rules appear on Page 10 of the 2007 IDFG Big Game Regulations.

**Construction Materials** — Portable pop-up blinds are encouraged. No permanent placement of materials is allowed and all materials must be removable. Wire mesh, which may be hazardous to wildlife or livestock, is not allowed. Damage to natural and cultural resources by actions such as digging, trenching, or other surface-disturbing activities is prohibited. Cutting of live vegetation to construct, screen or camouflage blinds is discouraged.

**Labeling** — The hunter's full name and zip code must be permanently attached, etched, engraved or painted on the blind.

**Placement dates** — Blinds may be placed no earlier than 10 days before the beginning of the hunting season for which the hunter has a valid tag and must be removed within seven days of the close of that hunting season.

**Right of use** — Blinds may be used by hunters on a first-come, first-served basis. Placement of a blind on public land does not create an exclusive right of use. The locking of blinds is not allowed. Please be respectful of other hunters' blinds.

**Wildlife or livestock developments** — Diverting water, tampering with or modifying rangeland developments such as watering troughs, reservoirs, springs, fences or related structures or water sources is prohibited. Hunters may not harass livestock or impede their access to watering sources.

Placement or use of hunting blinds beyond that described in the above criteria is a violation of federal regulations and may be subject to criminal penalty. For more information, please contact your nearest BLM office.

even choosing to use their ATVs to place their blinds in early May in areas inaccessible to full-size vehicles. Like duck blinds on the Snake River, the placement of a pronghorn blind on public land does not create an exclusive right of use.

The best route to take for all is that if other hunters are encountered, ask them where they plan to hunt and work with them to coordinate hunts if the same area is desired. I know it's not going to be easy, especially in a drought year. Like duck hunters on the Snake, pronghorn hunters need to adapt to increased use. It is a certainty that with very limited water this year, the animals and hunters will be concentrated. In just the last season alone I encountered conflicts that resulted in feuding hunters tearing down each other's blinds, hunters spraying each other's blinds with chemicals designed to repel animals, and padlocked blinds on BLM land posted as no trespassing. I have spoken with many of you who have hunted for years successfully in the same areas and have found ways to work with other hunters with no or minimal conflict. The BLM and Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) applaud your efforts. A method used by one longtime pronghorn hunter simply involves leaving a schedule of days he wishes to hunt inside his blind. He has found that

his method has worked well to share the area with others while minimizing conflicts.

Placing blinds prior to late summer often leads to abandoned or unused blinds because of the unanticipated drying up of water holes. Placing blinds early also encourages livestock to use the structures as rubbing posts, often resulting in destroyed blinds. Abandoned blinds, those still standing and not, present huge problems on BLM lands. Heavily hunted areas also can be found to contain an accumulation of broken lawn chairs, water bottles, food wrappers, and other miscellaneous garbage left by hunters. Hunters who leave their blinds and trash on BLM lands are subject to citations that include: abandoning property on public land, unlawful disposal and placing debris on public property.



**Shortsightedness often dooms blinds**

*Above: Many hunters used off-road transportation to get to a location to build their blinds. Below: Other hunters build their blinds too early in the season only to see them trampled by livestock looking for watering holes. Submitted photos*



Another problem that I have encountered is hunters moving water tanks and salt blocks intended for livestock into their hunting areas. On several occasions last season, items were removed from private land and hauled to public land with the intent of attracting pronghorn. The BLM prohibits tampering with rangeland developments on its lands, and Idaho Fish and Game prohibits baiting pronghorn with salt in any form. I am pretty confident that the private landowners would consider the removal of salt blocks from their lands as theft. These types of behaviors give all hunters a black eye.

If you purchased a 2007 pronghorn tag prior to July 20, you may have received a copy of the new BLM hunting blind criteria brochure in the mail from the IDFG.

One note I would like to add about pop-up blinds. For those

of you who chose to use blinds placed by others, I strongly suggest that you seek the owners of any commercially built pop-up blinds you encounter before attempting to hunt from them. Very few owners of "pop-up" blinds will stray far from their potentially expensive hideouts.

It's unfortunate that hunting out of blinds on BLM lands now has criteria that must be followed. The last things most hunters want are more regulations. The good news is that our hunting opportunities are still abundant, and if the above criteria are followed, it should stay that way. If you have any questions, feel free to contact your local BLM office or Idaho Department of Fish and Game regional office. See you in the desert.

— Brian Flatter is the Idaho Department of Fish and Game senior conservation officer for the Eastern Owyhee County area of Bruneau and Grand View.

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# Avalanche Sports

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2007



## Homedale grad returns from trip Down Under

Experience overshadows lack of football success in Australia

Summer vacation is supposed to be relaxing, but Homedale High School graduate Jared Brockett didn't get the memo.

Brockett spent part of his summer participating in the Down Under football tournament in Australia and followed that up with a trip to Hawaii and Yellowstone Park.

The Australian and Hawaiian legs of the summer were part of the same trip.

"The trip was amazing," he said. "It was everything that I thought it was going to be and then some."

Brockett and his fellow travelers were hit with a bit of culture shock even before their plane landed in Australia, which is experiencing winter right now.

"When we were getting ready to land, our pilot told us that the water was 20 degrees," he said. "The whole plane seemed to sigh in disappointment. Then I heard someone say that was Celsius and then the whole plane got a lot happier."

Although he was in a different hemisphere, Brockett said he found at least one thing to make him feel at home in Australia. The team, comprised of players from Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico and North Carolina, stayed at a hotel in Gold Coast, or Surfer's Paradise, about 1 hour from Brisbane.

"Our hotel was two blocks from the beach and right in the center of everything going on in the city," he said. "We were right next door to the famous Hard Rock Cafe. The whole city was one big mall and lots of restaurants."

"All the food made me very happy — they even had a McDonald's. I felt right at home."

Although he was in Australia to play a couple football games with a team of Idaho all-stars, Brockett took in the sights, too.

He said he did a lot of shopping for friends and family members, visited the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary, visited the beach "until I got cold," visited an amusement park and Q1, which is the tallest residential building in the world.

Brockett said the football action didn't go as well as he would have liked. Although leading at halftime, Brockett reported that he and his teammates started the tournament with a loss to Team Kentucky, which also included players from Texas and Ohio.

"We lost both by quite a bit, but we weren't sad too long because we were in Australia," he said. "We got over it."

Brockett said the weather in Hawaii was much warmer despite off-and-on rain through-

— See *Trip*, page 15A



### Brockett completes trip of a lifetime

**Above:** The view from Homedale High School graduate Jared Brockett's hotel room in Gold Coast, Australia, complete with the golden arches of a McDonald's restaurant. **Right:** Brockett hangs out with a kangaroo at the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary. Submitted photos

## Homedale soccer teams get all tied up

Rival Homedale soccer teams — Arsenal and Zaragoza — battled to a 2-2 draw in a B Division match played before nearly 100 people at Homedale Elementary School on Sunday afternoon. A third Homedale squad defeated Mountain Home 2-1 in an A Division game played earlier in the day at the same location.

Alejandro Franco and Obaldo

— See *Soccer*, page 15A



### Homedale scores against Homedale

*Arsenal's* goalkeeper, left, lies on the ground after giving up a game-tying goal in the first half of the rivalry match between Homedale's Arsenal (red) and Zaragoza (blue). The all-Homedale adult soccer game played at Homedale Elementary School ended in a 2-2 tie.

# Sports

## √ Trip: Busy summer includes visits to Australia, Hawaii and Yellowstone

From Page 14A

out his stay. "We spent a lot of time at the beach or just walking around enjoying being in Hawaii," he said. The group snorkeled at Hon-

ama Bay. "It was pretty amazing," he said. "There were tons of fish and other sea life." Brockett said there wasn't much — or any — formal train-

ing in snorkeling. "When our driver dropped us off and gave us our gear, he told us it would be difficult if it was our first time," Brockett said. "I took this to mean that someone would

be there to show us the ropes, but I was wrong. "I guess you learn quick or you float a long ways out to sea." Brockett's group also visited Pearl Harbor, including the USS

Arizona memorial. "I am really glad I was able to go on this once-in-a-lifetime trip and would like to thank everyone who helped make it possible one more time."

## Optimist football plans signups at school registration

The Marsing Lions Optimist Football and Cheerleading league will hold its final signup date during school registration at the Marsing Elementary School from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. today and Thursday. Boys and girls ages 7-12 are encouraged to sign up. Registration fee is \$55. All games will be played at the Marsing High School football field on Saturdays beginning Sept. 8. "The Marsing cheerleading

program was the largest in the Boise Optimist League. We are hoping for another large turnout to support the Marsing Lions football program," cheerleading coordinator Catriana Hardy said. Football and cheerleading practice begins at 6 p.m. Monday at the Marsing football field. A 30-minute parents meeting will begin at 6 p.m., and practice will follow. For more information, contact Ken Wilson at 880-9467 or Aaron Benion at 337-6179.

## Marsing High School plans volleyball tryouts for all teams

Marsing High School volleyball will hold tryouts for the 2007 season next week. Tryouts for the freshman, junior varsity and varsity teams will be held from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. on Monday, and from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday. Both days of tryouts will be

held at the Marsing High School gymnasium on Main Street. Athletes must have all their paperwork, including physical forms, filled out before the tryouts. For more information, call varsity coach Loma Bittick at 941-4211.

## Melba boosters ready for football

The Melba Athletic Club, "The MAC," will kick off its support of the Melba High School sports season with the opening of the football field concession stand Aug. 24. The concession stand opens at 5:30 p.m. for the season-

opening game between Melba and Homedale. The menu will include hot pork and hot beef sandwiches for \$2.75 each. There will be a meal deal option that includes the sandwich, a drink, chips and a cookie for \$4.

## √ Soccer: Free kick by goalie knots score

From Page 14A

Arias scored for Homedale in the victory over Mountain Home. The Homedale Arsenal vs. Homedale Zaragoza match was closely contested throughout. Arsenal's Jose Jalomo opened the scoring midway through the first half. Just before halftime, Alberto Dimas evened the score at 1-1. Uriel Ozuna put Arsenal back up by a goal 15 minutes into the second half, and the score remained 2-1 Arsenal until the last few minutes of the game. With time running out, Zaragoza had a free kick just outside Arsenal's goal area. Zaragoza's goalkeeper, Jesus Duran, moved up and took the kick. He buried it to close the scoring. The three Homedale teams are part of an adult league based in Canyon County.

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<p><b>Boneless Beef Chuck Roast</b></p>  <p><b>\$2.39</b> lb.</p>	<p><b>Boneless Beef Chuck Steak</b></p>  <p><b>\$2.49</b> lb.</p>	<p><b>Local Sweet Corn</b></p>  <p><b>4\$1</b> for</p>	<p><b>Large Slicing Tomatoes</b></p>  <p><b>99¢</b> lb.</p>
<p>Bar-S 3 lb. Sausage <b>\$3.69</b> lb.</p> <p>Western Family 16 oz. Cheese Cuts <b>\$3.29</b> ea.</p> <p>Deli Corn Dogs <b>49¢</b> ea.</p>	<p>Western Family 12 oz. Bacon <b>\$2.49</b> ea.</p> <p>Western Family 8 oz. Parmesan <b>\$3.39</b> ea.</p> <p>Festive Ground Turkey <b>\$1.29</b> lb.</p>	<p>8 oz. Whole Mushrooms <b>\$1.79</b> ea.</p> <p>Idaho Black Plums <b>99¢</b> lb.</p> <p>Bartlett Pears <b>99¢</b> lb.</p>	<p>1 lb. Baby Carrots <b>\$1.19</b> ea.</p> <p>Seeded Watermelon <b>24¢</b> lb.</p> <p>Cello Wrapped Lettuce <b>99¢</b> ea.</p>
<p><b>Western Family Tomato &amp; Chicken Noodle Soup</b></p>  <p><b>2\$1</b> for 10.5-10.75 oz.</p> <p>Wonder 24 oz. Buttermilk Bread <b>\$1.99</b> ea.</p>	<p><b>Western Family Cake Mixes</b></p>  <p><b>79¢</b> ea. 18.25-18.5 oz.</p> <p>15.5-16 oz. Manwich <b>\$1.49</b> ea.</p>	<p><b>Coca Cola Products</b></p>  <p><b>2\$9</b> for 12pk 12oz Cans</p> <p>2 Liter Bottle Coke Products <b>\$1.29</b> ea.</p>	<p><b>Corona Beer</b></p>  <p><b>\$13.99</b> ea. 12pk 12oz Bottles</p> <p>Western Family 128 oz. Apple Cider <b>2\$5</b></p>
<p>Western Family Sour Cream 16 oz. <b>\$1.29</b> ea.</p> <p>Darigold Cottage Cheese 1 lb. <b>\$1.89</b> ea.</p> <p>Vlasic Pickles 16-46 oz. <b>\$2.29</b> ea.</p> <p>Orville Redenbacher Microwave Popcorn 6 ct. <b>2\$6</b></p> <p>Doritos Tortilla Chips 13 oz. <b>2\$5</b></p> <p>Lay's Potato Chips 13.25-13.75 oz. <b>2\$5</b></p>	<p>Western Family Spaghetti Sauce 26 oz. <b>\$1.59</b> ea.</p> <p>Kellogg's Asst'd Cereals 15 oz. <b>\$2.59</b> ea.</p> <p>Kellogg's Pop Tarts 8 ct. <b>2\$4</b></p> <p>Kellogg's Fruit Snacks &amp; Yogos Asst'd <b>2\$4</b></p> <p>Friskie Canned Cat Food 5.5 oz. <b>39¢</b> ea.</p> <p>Purina Dog Food 37.5 lb. <b>\$18.99</b> ea.</p>	<p>Bulls Eye BBQ Sauce 18 oz. <b>\$1.79</b> ea.</p> <p>Western Family Mashed Potatoes 28 oz. <b>\$3.19</b> ea.</p> <p>Western Family Frozen Vegetables 16 oz. <b>\$1.29</b> ea.</p> <p>Banquet Pot Pies 7 oz. <b>59¢</b> ea.</p> <p>Western Family Frozen Orange Juice 12 oz. <b>\$1.69</b> ea.</p> <p>Western Family Paper Towels 6 Roll <b>\$4.59</b> ea.</p>	<p>Western Family Creamy Select Ice Cream 56 oz. <b>2\$6</b></p> <p>Western Family Economy Detergent 30 lb. Bucket <b>\$5.79</b> ea.</p> <p>Western Family Ultra Bleach 96 oz. <b>\$1.49</b> ea.</p> <p>Chinet Paper Plates 15-25 ct. <b>\$2.79</b> ea.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SRM COUPON</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Peaches</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>50¢ off</b> 1/2 Bushel</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>LIMIT 2 • PER VISIT • 8/8-8/14/07</small></p>			

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

**WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES AND CORRECT PRINTED ERRORS • PRICES EFFECTIVE 8/8/07 thru 8/14/07**