



Fair wrap-up
B Section

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Homedale re-visits idea
of business registration

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South Board directors finally
agree to replace counsel

Wednesday, August 15, 2007

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The Owyhee Avalanche

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HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

2007 Owyhee County Fair wraps up



Boom, boom: Out go the rodeo lights

A fireball and electric sparks light up the night as power lines from a utility pole near the Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo Arena announcer's booth arc during the opening performance of the rodeo Wednesday night. The fire singed the power pole and delayed the first long go of the year until the wee hours of the morning. Another electrical outage hit the fairgrounds Thursday night. Photo by Loucendy Ball. **More photos from the fair and rodeo, Pages 10A-11A**



Coming next week: Full results from Saturday's parade will appear in the Aug. 22 edition of The Owyhee Avalanche.

Fair staples fail to disappoint crowds

With a new fair secretary and a new rodeo format, the Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo survived some trying moments last week to notch another successful run in Homedale.

- Fair board, Fish and Game clash over anti-poaching exhibit, **Page 5A**
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- Nine pages of photos, results, **B section**

Marsing copes with outbreak of vandalism

City locks bathrooms at park,
institutes key deposit

Vandals have taken aim at Marsing, and the city and Owyhee County Sheriff's Office have begun a campaign to stop the damage.

Vandals have caused more than \$4,000 damage to Marsing city facilities in the past six months. The City Council approved a resolution at its Aug. 8 meeting designed to reduce vandalism at City Park because the park's restrooms have been primary targets for the vandals.

Mayor Don Osterhoudt released a statement Thursday outlining the city's plan to limit access to the park's restroom facilities at night.

"The city council reluctantly voted to go to these extreme measures to try to control the vandalism at the park," Osterhoudt said. "Our goal is not to punish those who legitimately use the park. Our goal is to take care of

— See **Vandalism**, page 5A



Vandals strike at Marsing Hardware

Vandals broke a front window of Marsing Hardware on Wednesday. The Marsing City Council passed a resolution aimed at reducing vandalism in City Park in a meeting that night.

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this week
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Homedale mayor rekindles business registration issue

The Homedale City Council focused on businesses in the community — both current and planned — during its first regular meeting of the month Wednesday.

Rekindling a debate that first stirred in November, Mayor Paul Fink opened a discussion about business registration on a night when the council approved the appropriation ordinance for the fiscal year 2008 budget.

The business registration issue blossomed late last year when Planning and Zoning administrator Sylvia Bahem mailed out requests for the town’s business owners to fill out a form and return it with a \$50 fee.

At the time, Fink took responsibility for the mailings, even though the city doesn’t have any ordinance allowing for such a fee to be charged in the name of regulating businesses.

“I think we tried last time, but went about it the wrong way,” Fink said during last week’s meeting.

Fink said that he brought the issue back to life because he has received complaints from some business owners about “little businesses cropping up.”

“I’d like to see something that they just can’t set up on the street, but that they must at least get a vendor’s license,” Fink said.

Fink said businesses that fit the profile that spurred this latest attempt include the Mr. Taco Mexican food trailer on the corner of East Idaho Avenue and East 1st Street North and the Sweet

Spot ice cream truck that Mark Jolley operates in the driveway of his Allied Sign shop near the east entrance to town on Idaho Avenue.

“We want to make sure that they meet all the insurance qualifications,” Fink said.

While the owners of the Mr. Taco eatery weren’t available for comment, Jolley said last week that he has all the proper documentation to run his business, including a sales tax number and health department clearance. Jolley set up his truck at the Owyhee County Fair last week.

Both Fink and Bahem said last week that no new letters have been mailed.

“I haven’t done anything to contact them because we don’t have anything on the books to make them comply,” Fink said.

Dave Downum was the only councilman to explicitly suggest an ordinance was needed to proceed with the business registration plan. He said that ordinances for both businesses and vendors would be ideal.

“They take up parking spaces other businesses need,” councilman Bill Page said of vendors.

“We could give vendors a temporary permit, but they can’t be permanent fixtures,” Fink said.

Homedale Chamber of Commerce president Gavin Parker echoed Downum’s concerns when contacted about the prospect of a business registration form. He brought the issue up at Thursday’s monthly luncheon.

“We discussed that there is no ordinance, and the city has no leg to stand on as far as enforcement,” Parker said.

Parker said Fink asked him to

put the issue on the Chamber’s meeting agenda, but he also said that the mayor didn’t supply any further information nor did he take Parker up on the invitation to sit in on the meeting.

But Parker said Fink has the right idea this time around.

“He’s going about it the right way,” Parker said. “He’s asking for our input and support of it and (input in) designing the licensing process.”

“Whether there would be a fee charged, that is debatable.”

Fink reiterated that he was unclear how the revenue from a fee would be used, and he said during the council meeting that the businesses should see some benefit if a fee is collected.

“The business license (issue) has come up since the ’80s, and my question is if we charge for a license what will that do for the businesses?” Fink asked. “Do we have to charge anything?”

Fink said any ordinance is at least two months away.

Westowns Disposal wants to build transfer station

The council approved a waiver of the 100-foot setback, paving the way for Westowns Disposal to get approval from the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality to build a enclosed transfer station for the city’s garbage on land near the Homedale Airport.

The land is only 20 feet away from city-owned property, which created the need for the waiver.

Fink said Westowns owner Bill Pastoor has plans to build what amounts to a covered pit to store garbage on a short-term basis to eliminate the fuel-wasting practice of half-empty trucks traveling to a dump.

— JPB

Marsing budget, pay raise approved

In its monthly meeting on Aug. 8, the Marsing City Council held a public hearing on the city’s fiscal year 2008 budget and proposed new salaries for the mayor and city council members.

After a public hearing, during which no public comment was received, the council approved ordinances appropriating the \$4.8 million annual budget and establishing the new salaries effective Jan. 1, 2008.

The budget increases \$164,570 overall from last year. The differences are mainly the establishment of a new position for a full-time, city-employed water technician, the salary changes for city officials, and variations in revenue and spending with regard to the city’s water, sewer and sanitation systems.

The city has finished Phase 1 of a new water storage and delivery project, which entailed the drilling of a new well.

According to Mayor Donald Osterhoudt, the city is roughly three months behind schedule on the second phase of the project, which includes the creation of new water storage and treatment facilities and the addition of a booster pump to bring water flow rates up to required levels. The mayor said that the delay has had no effect on the bond passed by voters in 2005 that will finance the project. The third phase of the project involves upgrades to the city’s water transmission and distribution system.

The budget includes an additional commitment by the city of \$150,000 toward anticipated increased costs of the project because of increased prices of materials and other costs. The city’s share was matched by a \$211,000 commitment by the U.S.

Department of Agriculture Rural Development.

The original estimated cost of the project was \$2.7 million. The current estimate, including anticipated cost increases, is \$3.2 million.

The city water technician position is to replace a position that is currently part-time. The salary budget for the job is 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. 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 salaries of the mayor and city council members will increase next year for the first time in at least six years, Osterhoudt said. The current salary for the mayor is \$200 per month and \$67.50 per meeting attended in an official capacity. In 2008, the salary will go to a flat \$500 per month. City council members currently are paid \$75 per month and \$37.50 per meeting. Their salaries will go to a flat \$150 per month.

In other business, the council approved a motion to authorize up to \$2,500 for the remodel of the old city jailhouse at City Park so that the building can be used as a storage area for city files.

Also OK’d was a \$6,726.50 payment of the Water Improvement Project’s Draw No. 4 to Sage Community Resources, a research agency assisting the city in the facilitation of grant money for the water project.

— RTH

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South Board of Control fires Smith, hires new attorney

Directors settle on lawyer with extensive irrigation district experience

According to minutes of July board meetings, The South Board of Control interviewed two attorneys in July with an eye toward replacing Bruce Smith, eventually terminating Smith's contract and hiring Albert P. Barker of Barker, Rosholt, & Simpson LLP.

During South Board's regular meeting in July, director Tim Leavitt made a motion to hire Barker as attorney for the South Board. Steve Nash seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Nash expressed reluctance in terminating Smith's representation in Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals litigation concerning salmon restoration in the Upper Snake and Columbia rivers, citing the attorney's familiarity with the litigation, which was brought by American Rivers and other conservation groups against two federal agencies.

The South Board held a special meeting on July 18 during which director Elmon Thompson moved that the services of Smith, of the firm Moore, Smith, Buxton & Turke, Chtd., be terminated immediately. Leavitt seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The board had voted in a May 1 meeting on the termination of Smith, apparently deciding by a 3-2 vote to terminate, but chairman Dan Felty, who had abstained in the original vote, changed his

On Page 16A
Read the latest water report from Owyhee Reservoir and local reporting stations.

vote to nay on June 5 before the previous meeting's minutes were approved, and thus created a 3-3 deadlock.

The directors later learned that a super majority was required to terminate Smith's services.

South Board apparently began searching for Smith's replacement before the July 18 meeting.

The board interviewed Barker in a special meeting on July 2. Barker told the board that his firm has offices in Boise and Twin Falls, and that he is the attorney for Boise Project, Riverside Irrigation District, and Wilder Irrigation District. Barker's experience includes work on hydro, canal drop projects, water rights and district easements. Barker also stated that he is in close communication with Idaho Water Users Association executive director Norm Semanko. Barker said that his fees would be \$160 per hour.

Another candidate, Chas. F. McDevitt of the Boise law firm McDevitt & Miller, LLP, was interviewed during a special

meeting on July 5. McDevitt currently represents the Black Canyon and New York irrigation districts, and his rate is \$200 per hour. McDevitt informed the board that its meeting schedule was in conflict with the Black Canyon district, so South Board would have to change its schedule in order for him to attend meetings. McDevitt told the board that the districts he represents are going along with the IWUA in regard to the American Rivers litigation, and because neither Black Canyon nor New York is directly involved, he has not had much involvement with the case.

The legal representation of South Board has been mired in controversy for several months. In an April 11 meeting, the Gem Irrigation District Board had voted 3-2 to withhold payment for Smith's services as South Board attorney, but according to secretary Connie Chadez, South Board auditor Jared Zyger stated that the Gem Board was legally required to pay.

Gem Board chairman Leavitt had consulted with attorney S. Bryce Farris of the Boise firm Ringert Clark, Chartered Lawyers on numerous board issues, and the board had paid the fees for the consultations.

In a special meeting of the Gem Board on July 18, Steve Nash moved that the board terminate its association with Farris. Dale Chrz seconded, and the motion was unanimously passed.

— RTH

SB sets retention period for meeting recordings

New counsel: Keeping tapes inhibits directors for fear of legal reprisal

The South Board of Control's board of directors passed a resolution Aug. 7 establishing a standard timeframe to retain tape recordings of board meetings. The board decided to retain meeting recordings for a period of 30 days after meeting minutes have been approved.

The latest action follows a resolution passed at the board's July 5 regular meeting stating that meeting minutes would be compiled from the secretary's notes, with the tapes being used only for backup. At that meeting, directors Tim Leavitt and John Lax suggested that tapes be kept for one year.

The subject arose at the Aug. 7 meeting with a question to new South Board counsel Albert P. Barker as to what the board's requirements are in regard to recording meetings and retention of the recordings.

Barker explained that the board is not required to record meetings. But, he said, if recordings are made, the board had two basic options. The tapes could either be used as meeting minutes and kept forever, or used as reference material when minutes are compiled, in which case the retention period would be at the discretion of the board.

Barker said that while some people feel that recordings are a valuable method for retaining the public record, his personal feeling about the permanent retention of audio tapes is that the practice

inhibits frank discussions and provides more ammunition to those who might want to sue the board.

"The more detail people can get into what you are doing," Barker said, "the more likely it can be used against you."

Leavitt, who put the retention period motion before the board, said that the tapes were necessary to keep the minutes accurate.

"There have been times where the minutes were wrong," he said.

The board discussed destroying recordings once meeting minutes are approved. Regular South Board meeting attendee Rick Echevarria, who personally records the meetings, argued that because patrons are not given access to meeting minutes until after they are approved, the recordings should be kept as reference material for a time after the minutes are approved in order to resolve questions or disputes.

Barker explained that meeting minutes are not a verbatim recording of the meetings, but a recording of decisions made at the meetings. The verification benefit of keeping meeting tapes is marginal, the attorney said.

— RTH

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Commissioners approve QRU rig for Murphy-Reynolds-Wilson firm

Fire district plans benefit barbecue, concert for new emergency services

The Murphy-Reynolds-Wilson Fire District is conducting a community barbecue and concert to celebrate the purchase of the district's new quick response unit and to raise funds for the continuing costs of operating the unit.

The festivities take place from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Sept. 8 at Givens Hot Springs.

The Owyhee County Commissioners recently approved \$80,000 for the purchase of the QRU vehicle and other expenses. The vehicle is a new Ford F-350 specifically designed for use as an emergency medical response

unit. The truck cost \$60,000, with the remaining funds going toward equipment for the truck and training for district personnel, including a crew of emergency medical technicians.

The vehicle, which is to be delivered around the first of November, will fill a gap in the county's coverage of emergencies, a fire district official said.

Currently, Marsing Ambulance is the closest emergency medical unit available to respond to calls in the MRW district. According to MRW Fire Chief Jim Mackenzie, the new unit will dramatically improve emergency response

times in the district. The QRU is to be a fully equipped emergency rescue unit. Six to eight people from the district are to be trained in emergency medical procedures between now and mid-December at a cost of \$1,200 per person.

Mackenzie said that the benefit party includes enough food to feed the first 500 attendees, a live and silent auction, a raffle and music by Pinto Bennett. The concert is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m.

"The food is free, everything else is on donation," Mackenzie said. "Bring your own chairs, and come and have a good time with us."

— RTH

Commissioners ask Otter for drought disaster declaration

The Owyhee County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution at its Aug. 6 meeting calling on Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter to issue a declaration of disaster caused by drought for the county.

Commissioner Harold Tolmie made a motion for the adoption of the resolution, Commissioner Jerry Hoagland seconded, and the motion was unanimously passed.

The resolution was made after the Owyhee Cattlemen's Association and the Owyhee County Farm Service Agency Committee asked the commissioners to petition the governor for a disaster declaration.

The request is based on economic impacts caused by unusually dry conditions since the fall. The effects cited in the resolution include loss of rangelands, depleted irrigation and stock water supplies, a shortage of local hay because of the lack of water, and economic losses incurred by ranchers forced to purchase feed and haul stock water.

The resolution states that economic loss is already occurring in Owyhee County, and losses will increase.

The board of commissioners has not yet received a response from the governor's office on the resolution.



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The Owyhee Avalanche

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Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo

F&G exhibit hooked over misunderstanding

Local F&G officer asked to leave fairgrounds after dispute centered on content of anti-poaching trailer

An attempt to educate the public about the prevalence of animal poaching has turned into an incident involving a state agency, the governor's office and the Owyhee County Fair Board.

Early last week, fair board chair David Rutan asked Craig Mickelson, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game's conservation officer for the Homedale/Marsing area, to tow the agency's Citizens Against Poaching trailer off the fairgrounds property.

The incident, which occurred on Aug. 7, has touched several different governmental bodies.

"I've gotten phone calls, the director has gotten phone calls, the governor's office is getting phone calls," Fish and Game deputy director Virgil Moore said.

Rutan said the problem arose when it was discovered one of the exhibits in the trailer utilized an elk rack that was part of a 1996 poaching case involving a prominent Owyhee County family.

"We didn't feel good about bringing up family names in a negative way because they're still involved with the fair," Rutan said.

Moore said that the trailer has been "well-received" in other settings in which children would see the exhibits.

Rutan and fair coordinator Kelly Haun both said that no details of the exhibit — other than it was educational — were provided when Mickelson filed the commercial vendor's application two months ago.

"I didn't feel like they were up-front when they were asking for space," Rutan said.

Rutan said he discussed the issue with as many fair board members as he could reach by phone and received their blessing to ask Mickelson to leave. He said the decision came only after he felt the parties had reached an impasse.

Rutan, a longtime fair board member in his first year as chairman, said the Fish and Game officers offered first to cover up the offending items then to remove the placards naming the guilty parties then, finally, to pull the exhibit out of the trailer altogether.

While Moore confirmed that conservation officer Charlie Justus suggested removal of the elk

and the placard, but he said the offer was made simultaneously not piecemeal.

Rutan said he was able to contact all but one of his five fair board counterparts before making the decision.

Moore spoke for the department because, he said, the CAP trailer's appearance was an "agency activity."

He said that this was the first time that agency representatives have been asked to remove the CAP trailer, and that the exhibit is a fixture at fairs and schools across the state.

"It was designed to educate and increase awareness relative to the impact and cost associated with illegal activities in hunting and fish-

ing," Moore said. "The displays have been highly successful."

Rutan said the fair board wasn't condoning poaching with its action, but merely protecting family members of those who were convicted of the crime more than a decade ago.

He added that the board would consider bringing back Fish and Game for next year's fair if representatives met with the fair board ahead of time to outline what the agency's exhibit would be.

"What I desire we do is we learn from this experience on how to be effective in small communities with our CAP trailer and that we take this and we're actively discussing how to maintain our effectiveness in our education and awareness efforts," Moore said.

"If the way the display was interpreted by some of the folks there inhibited our ability to get our message out then we need to look at how to better do that."

— JPB



David Rutan



Craig Mickelson

Homedale Chamber welcomes new secretary at luncheon

The Homedale Chamber of Commerce pulled off a busy monthly meeting at last week's luncheon.

In addition to hearing a presentation from Idaho Rural Partnership executive director Dale Dixon on the changing business climate in rural parts

of the state, the town's business owners also appointed a new secretary and finalized plans for a fund-raising golf tournament.

Chamber president Gavin Parker announced that the Chamber officially installed Robin Aberasturi of Alliance Title as the group's secretary during

Thursday's lunch at the Owyhee Lanes Restaurant.

Aberasturi, who has been assisting with secretary duties for a while, replaces Tami Steinmetz. Steinmetz relinquished the position because of work commitments that keep her out of the Homedale area more often.

"(Vice-president/treasurer Brad Dines) and I made an executive decision to appoint Robin Aberasturi as secretary," Parker said. "She had been helping Tami anyway."

"It's a natural fit, and everyone is excited to see Robin get the recognition as secretary."

Parker also said the Chamber's nine-hole golf scramble will have a 3 p.m. shotgun start on Wednesday, Sept. 19.

The entry fee for the tourney at River Bend Golf Club is \$35 per person and includes greens fees, cart rental and a barbecue. Teams will consist of four golfers each.

From page 1

✓ Vandalism: Battle against damage impedes park equipment purchase

vandalism, and this is the best idea we have come up with to deal with it."

The restrooms are to be fitted with deadbolt locks. The facilities will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays, and from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on weekends. Anyone wishing to use the restrooms at other times will be required to obtain a key from City Hall in exchange for a refundable \$50 deposit. The deposit is to be used to cover the cost of changing the locks in the event that the key is lost or not promptly returned.

In the past six months, the city has had to replace the roof of the old jailhouse, repair plumbing and fire damage in the restrooms, replace broken sprinkler heads and repair picnic tables at the park.

Vandalism to restroom plumbing at the city's Island Park also forced the closure of permanent facilities there, Osterhoudt said.

According to the mayor's statement, the city has been unable to purchase any new park equipment in the past three years because the city's park fund has had "excessive vandalism costs, which preclude new purchases."

The Owyhee County Sheriff's Office responded to five incidents of vandalism or "malicious injury" to property in Marsing between Aug. 6 and Thursday, including two reports of damage at the park, two reports of damaged vehicles and a broken window at Marsing Hardware.

The shattered storefront window

at Marsing Hardware was the fourth broken pane in the past 14 months at the Main Street business.

"We do have a vandalism problem in Marsing," Sheriff Gary Aman said.

According to Aman, while catching vandals in the act is difficult, his deputies have some leads on the recent incidents and are investigating the cases.

The city's new policy reflects a desire to balance public access and increased park security.

"We have to stop this problem and have attempted to do so in a manner that insures all Marsing citizens can use the parks," Osterhoudt said in the statement.

— RTH



Marsing park a frequent target of vandals

Fire damage to the picnic table in the foreground is one example of vandalism at City Park. The roof of the old jailhouse, left, had to be replaced after it was damaged, while repeated vandalism to the park's restrooms, right, resulted in the Marsing City Council's decision to lock the facilities at night.

Keep up with happenings in city government with *The Owyhee Avalanche*



Homedale Class of 1957 reunites

The Homedale High School Class of 1957 held its 50-year reunion last month in town. Approximately 33 people attended a banquet held July 21 at the Owyhee Lanes Restaurant and a picnic held July 22 in City Park. Attending the festivities at the park:

Bottom row, left to right, Gae Walker Gibbons, Shirley Walker Hill, Colleen Tolmie Bahem, Charlotte Dunn Tuttle, Mary Jean Riese Davis, Sharon Williams Carson, Bill Carson

Second row, left to right: Ted Neef, Dwaine Hibbs, Charlie Malher, Betty Lincoln Cassidy, Betty Eoff Aitchison, Keith Stansell, Jim Parker, Betty York Allen, Terry Marchek Richcreek, Margaret Uria Ensley, Delia Brown Starman

Back row, left to right: David Watson, Fred Faulks, Ron Vance, Dawaine Pickrel, Bill Atkins, Pat Thompson, John Lane, Chuck Dunn, Junior Uranga, Phillip Geertson.

Also attending: Sharon Tipton Colin, Darlene Davis Williams, Joan Runger Woods.

Senior menus

Homedale center

Aug 16: Country fried steak w/ gravy, mashed potatoes, broccoli, roll, drink.

Aug 21: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, California blend vegetables, roll, drink.

Aug 22: Hot turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes/gravy, salad, drink.

Marsing center

Aug 16: Ham, scalloped potatoes, broccoli, applesauce, pea salad, soup, dessert, drink.

Aug 20: Breakfast to order.

Aug 21: Cabbage rolls, rice, mandarin oranges, jello, salad, salad w/tomatoes, muffins.

Aug 22: Breakfast to order. Lunch: Chicken supreme, winter blend vegetables, tossed salad, dessert, drink.

School menus

Homedale Elementary

Aug. 20: Hamburger or fish sandwich, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.

Aug. 21: Chicken tenders or country-fried beef steak, mashed potatoes/gravy, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Aug. 22: Crispito or toasted cheese sandwich, taco salad, fruit & veggie bar, churro, milk.

Homedale Middle

Aug. 20: Hamburger or hot dog, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.

Aug. 21: Chicken or beef nuggets, broccoli, fruit & veggie bar, cinnamon roll, milk.

Aug. 22: Enchilada or chicken & noodles, corn, fruit & veggie bar, turnover, milk.

Homedale High

Aug. 20: Pizza, chicken bacon melt, or chef's salad, fruit & veggie bar, strawberry shortcake, milk.

Aug. 21: Beef nuggets or chicken fritters, mashed potatoes/gravy, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Aug. 22: Lasagna, burrito or pizza hot pocket, French bread, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Engagement

Housley, Dowdell to marry in Provo, Utah ceremony

Caldwell resident Michael John Housley, who attended Homedale schools, and Kaila Dowdell of Provo, Utah, will marry Saturday, Aug. 18, 2007, in Provo.

After attending school in Homedale, the prospective groom graduated from Vallivue High School in 2001.

Housley served a mission for the LDS Church to the Ohio Cleveland Mission and plans to attend Brigham Young University to study Pre-dentistry.

The groom's parents are Greg and Jan Roesberry of Caldwell and Matt and Madeline Housley of San Ramon, Calif.

The bride-to-be is a 2005 graduate of Timpview High School in Provo.

Her parents are Doug Dowdell of Pleasant Grove, Utah, and Miriam and Ned Campbell of Springville, Utah.

She will be attending BYU to study Sociology.

The couple will honeymoon in San Diego and make their home in Provo.



Michael Housley and Kaila Dowdell

An open house will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 1, 2007, at the Holderness residence, 12474 W. Ginger Creek Drive, Boise.

Wedding

Hailey Reed, Perry Grant wed in Marsing ceremony

Hailey Reed and Perry Grant were married in a double-ring ceremony on July 28, 2007, at the Marsing Church of the Nazarene.

A reception followed at the Marsing Community Center.

The bride is the daughter of Daryl and Coleen Reed. She is a graduate of Homedale High School.

The groom is the son of Robert and Debby Grant, and he graduated from Homedale High School, too.

The bride's attendants for the ceremony included maid of honor Jamie Reed and bridesmaids Sara Reed, Sumr Badiola and Angie Grant.

The groomsmen were Vinnie Cariaga, Trinity Huskey, Austin Heady and James Dayton.



Hailey Reed and Perry Grant

Perry's daughter, Alexandria, served as flower girl, his son, Slade, was the ring bearer.

The newlyweds honeymooned in Las Vegas.

Have a news tip?

Call us!

337-4681

Death notice

ARTHUR L. "ART" BALTZOR, 77, a native of Jordan Valley who lived in Nampa, died Saturday, Aug. 4, 2007. A celebration of life was held Wednesday, Aug. 8, at the First United Presbyterian Church in Nampa. Interment took place at Kohlerlawn Cemetery in Nampa.



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Call the Avalanche for information

Your finances

Late start won't hamper couple's investing potential

Dear Dave,
I'd like for my husband and I to begin investing. We have nothing saved right now, and our household income is just \$25,000. We'll have our house paid off later this year, but even though we're both just 40 he says it's too late in life to start investing. How can I convince him?

— Margaret

Dear Margaret,
Too late? What does he want to do, dig a hole in the backyard and wait for the end? Let's do some figuring.
Right now, fully funded Roth IRAs would be \$4,000 each, or \$8,000 a year combined. You'd have to tighten your belts on your income until the house is paid off, but if you start now you can end up with more than a million dollars by the time you're both 70. Does that sound too late to you?

I think your guy has fallen for the tired old line that the working man can't get ahead. But we just proved that with a little work and little saving he can.
You guys can retire wealthy, Margaret. Don't give up!

— Dave

Dear Dave,
I'm starting a business and have a question about compensating my sales people. What type of plan do you think is best? Is a full commission model better or would a base salary with a commission bonus structure work?

— Rob

Dear Rob,
I have a bunch of folks here at my company who do sales and marketing for me. Depending on what they are selling and what the lead-time is, I put them on a "Survival for All" plan.
These folks have a base compensation, or draw, that's small. I make sure they have enough to get by each month,



but if they want to make any real money they have to get out there and make something happen.
In my case, it's a non-refundable draw because I don't borrow or loan money. Its non-refundable meaning that if they crash and burn and after 90 days haven't made a dime, then I eat that amount. This makes me hire more carefully to make sure I get quality folks working with me. This is my favorite way to pay employees. I would even put the receptionist on straight commission if I could figure out a way to make that work!
I had a salary job once for about three weeks, and it drove me nuts. I have to be able to set my own limits as to how much I make. In your new business, you may have to deal with someone who would panic in a straight commission setting, and that may affect performance. Some people can't perform unless they are relaxed, so the base-plus-commission structure gives them a bit of security.
There are other options, but you have to pick the one that you are comfortable with. Just make sure it helps create an atmosphere in which your people can excel!

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

Today
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
Marsing Chamber of Commerce monthly meeting, 7 p.m., Essence of Life, 107 Main St., Marsing. (208) 896-7001

Thursday
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
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
Owyhee Conservation District board meeting, 8 p.m., 19 Reich St., Marsing. (208) 896-4544
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
Children's Center Open House, 7 p.m., Mountain View Church of the Nazarene, 26515 Ustick Road, Wilder. (208) 337-3151

Monday
Marsing Lions Club monthly meeting, 8 p.m., Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center, 126 2nd St. N., Marsing. (208) 896-4204

Tuesday
Exercise class, 11 a.m., free, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020
El-Ada Community Action Partnership commodity distribution, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., El-Ada Owyhee office, 15 W. Colorado Ave. Homedale. (208) 337-4812

Pure Word recovery meeting, 7 p.m. Snake River Valley Fellowship, 16613 Garnet Road, Wilder. Homedale. (208) 475-3733
AA meeting, 8 p.m., Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave.

Wednesday, Aug. 22
DivorceCare recovery support group, 7 p.m., Mountain View Church of the Nazarene, 26515 Ustick Road, Wilder. (208) 337-3151

Thursday, Aug. 23
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
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, Aug. 24
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

Tuesday, Aug. 28
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
AA meeting, 8 p.m., Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave.

Wednesday, Aug. 29
DivorceCare recovery support group, 7 p.m., Mountain View Church of the Nazarene, 26515 Ustick Road, Wilder. (208) 337-3151

Thursday, Aug. 30
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
TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), 5:30 p.m. weigh-in, 7 p.m. meeting, First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St., Homedale. (208) 482-6893
AA meeting, 8 p.m., Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave.

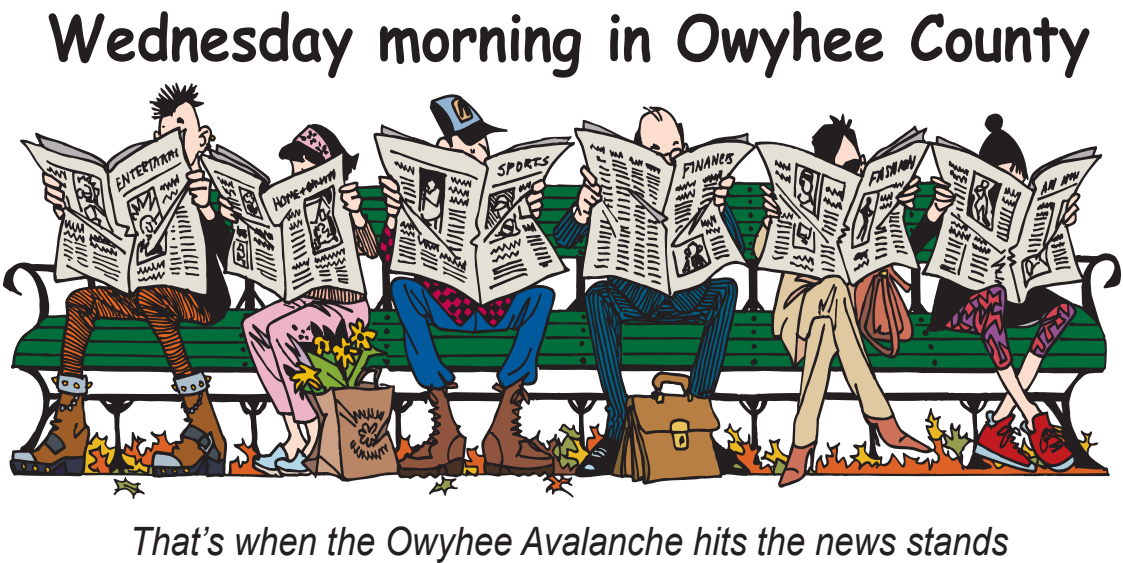
Friday, Aug. 31
Celebrate Recovery 12-step program, 6 p.m., Mountain View Church of the Nazarene, 26515 Ustick Road, Wilder. (208) 337-3520 or (208) 337-3151

Submit information on upcoming fund-raisers, reunions or community events to The Owyhee Avalanche by noon Fridays for inclusion in the calendar.

In Loving Memory of
Tony Wilson
September 22, 1980 - July 12, 2007



We would like to extend our heart felt appreciation to our friends family and community for the outpour of support, love, flowers, food, prayers and cards since the loss of our son Tony. Words can not express how this kindness has touched us.
Love,
Jeff, Sandy & Jenn Wilson
&
Bree Brandt



Chamber plans Harvest Festival for Marsing

The Marsing Chamber of Commerce is planning a Harvest Festival for Oct. 20. Details were hammered out at the Chamber's July meeting. The group next meets at 7 tonight at Essence of Life in Marsing. According to chamber member Melissa Streibel, the inaugural celebration is scheduled to last from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. The planned festivities include a parade, a variety of activities and entertainment, lunch, dinner and a dance. All parties interested in participating are encouraged to contact Streibel at (208) 896-7001 or Jim White at (208) 896-4999.



Scene of U.S. Highway 95 rollover

Top: Rescue personnel prepare a stretcher for Cecil Himes, 63, of Carson City, Nev., after his truck rolled on U.S. Highway 95 on Aug. 6. *Above:* Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller looks into the cab of Himes' righted vehicle.

JV student on Franciscan U. Dean's List

Sean Cunningham, the son of Jordan Valley residents Ron and Nancy Cunningham, has earned a spot on the Dean's List at Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio. Cunningham is a freshman Business major at the Ohio school.

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Nevada man hurt in U.S. 95 rollover

Cecil Himes, 63, of Carson City, Nev. was injured when the pickup and trailer he was driving rolled, closing U.S. Highway 95 between Jump Creek and Cemetery Road for approximately 1½ hours on Aug. 6.

Debris from the accident and numerous items from Himes' trailer were strewn over both lanes of the highway.

Himes was transported by Homedale Ambulance to West Valley Medical Center in Caldwell. No further information on Himes' injuries or his condition were

available. No other vehicles were involved in the accident.

According to the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office, Himes was traveling north on U.S. 95 when he drifted to the shoulder of the roadway. Himes over-corrected to the opposite shoulder, then over-corrected again, at which point the vehicle rolled onto its side. Himes was trapped in the truck and was extricated by rescue personnel.

The accident is still under investigation. No citations have been issued at this time.

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Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo

Coordinator gets through first fair

It may not have been the smoothest of rides, but for Kelly Haun the reward of last week's Owyhee County Fair was seeing hard work pay off.

"I was a 4-H junkie when I was a kid," the first-year fair coordinator said. "I worked 360 days so I could have five days at the county fair.

"And I've left this fair feeling pretty much the same way. It was worth all the hard work. It was a great experience with great people that leaves you feeling good about life in general when you get done with a week like that. Despite the early challenges and what-not I was very, very pleased with how things went and I was very glad to be a part of it."

The early challenges were numerous:

- The fair got off to a rocky start with a dispute between Idaho Department of Fish and Game personnel and the Fair Board over the appropriateness of an anti-poaching display.

"I think we handled it well, considering what we had to work with and how it caught us so off guard," Haun said.

"If anything it showed me how important it was for David Rutan and the rest of the fair board to maintain this family event."

- Two separate power outages derailed the first two nights of the Owyhee County Rodeo and pushed slack performances into the wee hours of the next morning.

"We just have some older components, and they can't deliver the electricity that Idaho Power has supplied to the fairgrounds," Haun said.

Even with the electricity problems, Haun said she was pleased to see the rodeo make the

impact that it did this year with a new format and a television contract.

"It certainly didn't hurt the attendance for our fair, that's for sure," she said of the publicity generated by the rodeo.

- The struggle continued to find enough space for the exploding numbers of animal exhibits. With the Livestock Barn expansion on hold, fair organizers converted the old Shooting Gallery building into a small animal barn where poultry and rabbits were housed.

"The off-season might be a little busier," Haun said. "We're going to try as hard as we can to get this barn expansion project completed."

Haun also said that the barn expansion isn't the only aspect that needs attention before the 2008 fair rolls around.

The power outages were caused by Mother Nature both nights — a bird's nest catching fire on power lines Wednesday and a summer storm packing high winds knocking out electricity to parts of Homedale on Thursday.

"Idaho Power did come through and had a planned power outage on Thursday morning to make some more-permanent, time-consuming repairs from the Wednesday night problem," Haun said.

But Haun said the ordeal also pointed out that the fairgrounds is in need of some TLC long before the mad dash to fair time each year.

"One would be our electrical system," she said. "The service is good, but the existing components are just ancient. We also have some plumbing issues that need to be addressed."

Haun said another livestock-

— See *Fair*, page 10A



Hypnotist gives mesmerizing performance

Hypnotist Greg Hassakis, right, gestures to the crowd Thursday night while keeping a group of audience members under a trance on the Tumbleweed Theatre stage.

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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. 83650

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

Through Saturday
at the Caldwell Night Rodeo

Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo



Making do in the dark

A worker at the paint-on tattoo booth on the midway at the Owyhee County Fair works by flashlight Thursday night after a summer storm knocked out power to part of the fairgrounds.

✓ Fair: More improvements planned for livestock area

From Page 9A
related upgrade being discussed by the fair board is installing another wash rack closer to the relocated Beef Barn for exhibitors.

While the quarters may have been cramped the success of the livestock exhibitors — both in shows and at the annual Junior

Livestock Sale — bolstered Haun for another season.

“It just makes any job worthwhile when you see all these kids with all their smiling faces and how proud they are of themselves,” she said.

— JPB



Treats and a chat at the fair

Members of the Idaho National Guard chat with fairgoers while setting up their exhibit early last week at the Owyhee County Fair.

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2:00 pm: Muffin Eating Contest! Winner receives a free muffin a day for a month!!
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Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo

Rodeo results electric, despite power surges

Entries skyrocket with bigger purse, championship format

The 2007 Owyhee County Rodeo had a 50 percent increase in participation over last year and thrilled crowds with lights-out competition, an impromptu Wednesday night light show, and power outages on Wednesday and Thursday nights.

Well, maybe the crowds weren't thrilled with the darkness on the first two nights, but a rodeo official says the turnout was very good nonetheless.

"It was by far the biggest we've ever had," rodeo secretary Ilene Canning said. "It was the biggest Wednesday we've ever had before the outage, and a lot of people stayed because we had to rodeo."

"That's rodeo. Things happen. There were still die-hard fans in the stands when the lights came on both mornings."

KTRV Fox Channel 12, which televised the Saturday night short-go finals, took no chances with the power situation.

"They had enough generators to light up the whole arena," Canning said.

Canning said the format change, with the top eight qualifiers in each event from the first three days going into a championship round on Saturday, was a hit with both fans and competitors.

"The cowboys loved the concept of having the opportunity to come back for the short-go," she said.

The first-ever live telecast of the rodeo was also a success, according to Canning.

KTRV had a schedule that allowed just 10 minutes per event, with two minutes between events

for commercials. Some events ran over and other events came up short, but in the end, the timing for the event was just about perfect.

"It was incredible. It was a trial under fire, but it worked just great," Canning said. "We got the rodeo done with 30 seconds to spare."

Last year's rodeo had nearly 400 entries while the field for this year's event was 605, with 417 competitors signed up for the Idaho Cowboys Association events and 188 registered for the local show.

According to Russ Jones, spokesman for Idaho Power, the power outages on Wednesday and Thursday nights were the third and fourth in the Homedale area in the past 10 days.

A thunderstorm blew through the area on Thursday night, and winds from that storm downed power lines and caused a transformer elsewhere in Homedale to overload. Approximately 1,000 customers were without power from approximately 8:30 p.m. to 10:15 p.m.

It was the fireworks on Wednesday night, however, that most of the Thursday morning fair talk was centered on.

According to Jones, a bird's nest among a group of power switches near the arena's press box caught fire. The fire caused a cascade of sparks from the switches and spread to the power pole.

Two linemen were at the rodeo and were able to respond immediately, cutting down response time dramatically.



Bird's nest ignites, sings rodeo's smooth sailing

Above: Idaho Power says this power pole just outside the arena and feet from the announcer's booth was scorched when a bird's nest among the power lines caught fire during the rodeo's first performance Wednesday. **Below:** An Idaho Power crew was on scene early Thursday to ensure the show continued that night.

The outage occurred at 9:20 p.m. and lasted around two hours.

Jones was unable to give a more accurate estimate of the duration of the outage because the outage affected only the fairgrounds and a service call did not go through Idaho Power dispatch center.

The slack portion of the rodeo's first two nights did not finish until after 2 a.m., but Canning said that, overall, the rodeo was a great success.

"It was excellent, despite the outages," Canning said. "It worked just awesome, and next year it'll be even better."

— RTH



Power pole fireworks close for comfort

Workers from Idaho Power repair a power line that ignited near the Rodeo Arena's announcer's booth Wednesday night, knocking out electricity and forcing officials to stretch the first slack session into the early hours of Thursday.

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County readies to rebound from fires

Kempthorne visits Three Creek School to listen to ranchers, officials

County officials met with Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne on Thursday in a location just a mile from the devastation of the Murphy Complex Fire.

Kempthorne spent the day touring fire-ravaged areas in the state he once led as governor.

“It was good that he was there,” Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman said. “He got to see from the air and on the ground the impact to the citizens and the county.”

A rare public meeting is scheduled from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. today at the KMVT community room in Twin Falls to discuss Bureau of Land Management rehabilitation plans as well as financial assistance plans available for affected private landowners. For more information, call Heather Tiel of the BLM’s Twin Falls District office at (208) 736-2352.

Kempthorne’s 90-minute afternoon visit to the Three Creek School and surrounding area was one of two stops he made in Idaho on Thursday. But for ranchers and officials such as Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman and board of county commissioners chair Dick Freund it was the most important.

“Commissioner Freund got to visit with him in regards to restoration and the science that goes into that,” Aman said. “I got to talk to him about the financial

impact to the county of all the fires.

“You never have enough time, but a lot of the other ranchers got to talk to him about the impact and restoration. So I think it was a good meeting. I think it was time well-spent.”

Aman said Kempthorne’s style in the meeting was atypical for a person in a political position.

“We just sat around in a big circle and just talked,” Aman said.

“This was an actually sit down and openly discuss different options. It was a really good talk.”

Kempthorne also met with an official from Twin Falls County, fire crew members and affected ranchers.

It was the cattlemen’s opportunity to reiterate the important role they can play in fire suppression when a large blaze such as the Murphy Complex breaks out. The sheriff said ranchers can help pinpoint where fuel loads are to prevent the spread of wildfires, among other helpful actions.

“There are ranchers that are adamant of what they’re talking about. They know the country, they know the ranch,” Aman said. “BLM realizes they need to be talking to the ranchers and the people who live off the land. They can help them tremendously in firefighting.

And, the sheriff believes, the



Recovery still smoky for ranchers

A settlement in the Murphy Hot Springs area of Owyhee County is shrouded by smoke during the early stages of the Murphy Complex fire last month. Photo by Jan Aman

locals affected by the fires got their points across.

“I think between the county and the ranchers, the Bureau of Land Management and the Department of the Interior are well aware that this isn’t a normal fire and we’re not in a normal fire cycle and we want good solid scientific answers,” he said. “We want people to be able to use the land and enjoy the land in a responsible way.”

While Aman and Freund visited with Kempthorne, other federal agencies continued to help ranchers recover from forage lost to fire that gobbled up 650,000 acres in Idaho and Nevada. County Natural Resources Committee director

Jim Desmond said 500,000 acres in Owyhee burned.

“I haven’t seen it to this degree since I’ve been working for the county,” said Desmond, who started in the assessor’s office in 1997 and was hired as a consultant to run the natural resources committee in 2001.

Drought conditions also have hampered producers’ options to obtain feed.

- The Farm Service Agency has approved emergency grazing and haying of lands locked down by the Conservation Reserve Program.

- Through Wednesday, ranchers with burned pastureland can enroll

in a Natural Resource Conservation Service Environmental Quality Incentives Program that will pay producers \$11 for each acre of burned land that they rest for one year. The payment is to be applied to purchasing livestock feed, renting additional pasture, repairing damaged fences and livestock watering facilities and other activities to maintain the health of livestock.

Desmond said another avenue is for a non-profit organization to raise money to help the ranchers, but cattlemen are still investigating the income tax ramifications of that option.

— JPB

New Homedale Elementary chief no stranger to county

Ihli arrives from Caldwell; parents graduated from Marsing High

Yvonne Ihli may never have attended Owyhee County schools, but she’s still right at home as the new principal at Homedale Elementary.

“I started working toward administration about a year ago, and I did look at smaller communities,” she said. “And Homedale’s people just have a real good name for themselves within the elementary school community.”

Even before applying to become Scott Freeby’s successor at the Homedale campus on West Washington Avenue, Ihli had a familiarity with the county: She has owned a home in Silver City for 14 years. Her uncle, Nick Ihli, was the longtime county clerk and recorder in the 1950s and 1960s, and he ran for the District 3 county commission seat won by Dick Freund last year.

Her parents, Dorothy and the late Charles Ihli, both graduated

from Marsing High School.

“It was encouraging just because when we get local people in here, they’ve got reasons to stick around,” Homedale School District superintendent Tim Rosandick said. “They’ve got family here, or they’ve got property.

“She has property in Silver City. She finds that to be her sanctuary.”

It’s only fitting that Yvonne Ihli starts a new challenge in a place like Owyhee. She has been out on the educational frontier for most of her career.

She taught kindergarten and first grade for 10 years in Juneau, Alaska, before she settled in for her most recent gig — a 10-year stint at Sacajawea Elementary in the Caldwell School District.

She also taught first- and sixth-graders during a six-year stay in Middleton and got her start at St. Peter’s Catholic School in Ontario, Ore.

In fact, Ihli has taught nearly every elementary grade since she began her career in 1979.

“The thing that attracted me toward her is she taught at many different levels,” Rosandick said. “She’ll be able to relate well with teaching staff at almost every single grade level at Homedale Elementary School.”

Ihli began getting familiar with her new school in early July, and the first day of school comes Monday.

“The most important part is just to get to know my staff and look at what they’ve been doing and try to complement that and help them with the good things they already have going,” she said of her summer work.

Ihli said the hard work and foundation already put in place by her teachers and staff will be a great help with her transition into the role as the school’s chief executive.

“It’s just huge for me to be able to walk into the building with the kind of things in place that Homedale Elementary has in place,” she said.

“That will be a challenge, too, to keep that up and keep that

running and help them make the changes they do want to make.”

One thing that won’t change is Homedale Elementary’s status as a Reading First school, and Rosandick said that a big feather in Ihli’s cap during the district’s candidate search was the fact she had served as the reading coach as part of Sacajawea’s Reading First program for her final four years at that school.

The Reading First program allows schools to improve students’ reading proficiency with the help of federal grants.

Homedale Elementary uses the Open Court program of the Reading First curriculum, and Rosandick said that’s the same concept utilized at Sacajawea.

“I knew some of those people (at Homedale) from attending meetings with them,” Ihli said. “I like what they’re doing.”

Ihli said now it will be her job to gain similar respect in her new surroundings.

“I have to build the respect and the trust and the confidence of the staff and students in this building,” she said.

— JPB



Yvonne Ihli

Students back to school this week

School begins Monday for students in Homedale Joint School District, Marsing Joint School District, Adrian School District and Jordan Valley School District. The first day of school at Rimrock Junior/Senior High School is Tuesday, while school begins at Bruneau and Grand View Elementary Schools on Aug. 27.

In Homedale, new high school student registration and registration for students making class changes can be done today and Thursday between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Registration for Adrian schools is Thursday.

Students in the Bruneau-Grand View Joint School District can register any time before the start of classes. Registration for all other districts is complete.

Another state program, the Bond Guarantee Program, could help the district obtain a lower interest rate. The pamphlet claims that participation in the state program would lower the cost of issuing the bonds by "several thousand dollars."

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Ada voters kill Melba library district

Would-be patrons in Owyhee, Canyon approve taxing zone, but majority in all 3 counties was required

Supporters of the creation of the Melba Cottage Library District were disappointed last week when would-be patrons in Ada County voted against the tri-county taxing district measure.

In an election held Aug. 7

in Owyhee, Canyon and Ada counties, an overwhelming majority of the votes cast supported the formation of the district.

However, Idaho Code requires that the measure gain a majority in

‘My feeling is that with such an overwhelming majority in the two counties, we’ll probably vote to petition again and take Ada County out (of the proposed district), and that’s unfortunate.’

— Alicia Cowger
Melba Cottage Library board co-chair

deserves access to a library,” she said.

“But if the voters don’t turn out to back that up, then we can’t do anything about that.”

Cowger said organizers knew Ada would be a tough sell. But Owyhee and Canyon patrons spoke loud and clear at the polls last week.

“Canyon and Owyhee have voted to form a library district,” she said.

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each of the three counties for passage.

Library board co-chair Alicia Cowger said supporters haven’t decided their next move yet, but that they most likely will petition for a new election in which a realigned taxing district would include only Owyhee and Canyon.

“If we do have to re-petition, we definitely have the votes to do it,” Cowger said of a second election

Cowger said a second run at the district could make it on the November ballot — if organizers quickly get petitions signed again and resubmit the request for an election to the board of commissioners in each county. Spring would be the earliest a vote could be taken if the board members miss the deadline to establish a November election.

Library supporters proposed a

joint taxing district the boundaries of which would mirror those of the Melba School District.

While Owyhee County voters approved the measure, 29-15, and Canyon County patrons followed suit with a 118-27 vote, only eight of the 20 Ada County voters to cast ballots supported the library district.

“My feeling is that with such an overwhelming majority in the two counties, we’ll probably vote to petition again and take Ada County out (of the proposed district), and that’s unfortunate,” Cowger said.

Cowger said that Ada County was included in the proposed district to ensure that all patrons of the Melba School District would have a public library.

“We knew it was going to be hard because there are not very many voters over there (in Ada), but we (included Ada) because we thought that every family, every child in the Melba School District

“It’s our feeling that we have an obligation to honor that and, if we have to, remove Ada County and go with Owyhee County and Canyon County.”

Cowger said eliminating Ada County patrons would have minimal effect on the district tax levy because that county is such a small part of the proposed district.

There are only 102 registered voters in the affected part of Ada, while Owyhee and Canyon supply the bulk of about 1,400 registered voters. The election received an overall turnout of less than 15 percent.

“The norm in this part of the counties is 200 people decide the issue for everybody,” Cowger said.

“I think we kind of take the vote for granted. Sometimes it’s hard to get people to take the time to come out and vote.”

— JPB

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08/09	11.8	84	45	67
08/10	11.8	87	58	71
08/11	11.7	83	54	67
08/12	11.7	89	52	72
08/13	11.7	88	48	70

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Aug. 7	89	52	.00
Aug. 8	93	53	.00
Aug. 9	91	52	.00
Aug. 10	96	56	.09
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Aug. 12	no reading taken		
Aug. 13	96	48	.00

For more information on either grant program, contact the Owyhee Watershed Council at (541) 372-5782, or visit the OWC office at 106 Owyhee Street, Adrian, Ore.

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As changes take place, Dr. McKay will be relocating to the Magic Valley, her home town area. "I have really loved being in Marsing. I have met some wonderful people and made lifelong friends here. I will truly miss this place and these people will always be a part of me. You will be in very good hands with Dr. Gibson, he is a delightful guy."

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A full-page background image showing a sunset over a calm body of water. The sun is a bright, glowing orb in the upper center, casting a long, shimmering reflection down the water. Two silhouetted figures are in a small boat in the lower third of the frame, fishing. The sky is filled with soft, orange-hued clouds. The overall mood is peaceful and serene.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2007

Cream rises with rodeo’s new look

Fast times in short go spell difference for ICA cowboys, cowgirls

Saturday’s Owyhee County Rodeo short go results showed that the fields were so closely matched that any of the top qualifiers could win in a single go-round.

Things were so close that even a couple of cowboys who failed to qualify in the long go pulled out short go wins.

One of the highlights was in steer wrestling, where Caleb Ray came flying off his horse almost before it was in the arena, grabbed his steer while parallel to the ground and dropped it in a time of 4.1 seconds. Ray’s run was a highlight, that is, unless you were Sterling Lambert, who recorded a 4.2 and watched Ray, the event’s final competitor, pull off the last-second heroics.

Bill Nelson in saddle bronc and Steven Hopkins in bull riding were bucked off in the long go, but got into the short go through random draws and won it all. Nelson scored a 77 on strong-kicking Vegas Lights while Hopkins carded a 76 aboard Black Lightning.

Homedale High School graduate Bryan Martinat, who tied for first

in the saddle bronc long go with Jared McFarlane with a 79, was thrown off late in his quest for a full ride in the short go.

Jeremy Sutfin, who qualified eighth in calf roping, won the short go with an 8.5, beating out sixth seed Brian Hill and fourth seed Morris Ledford, both of whom recorded 8.8s.

Another eighth seed in the short go, Amanda King, tied Italy Jo Sheehan for the barrel racing championship. Both notched hand times of 17.5 seconds after the electronic timing device wouldn’t fire up for the short go.

Seventh-place qualifiers Bobby Grenke and Randy Carson triumphed in team roping with a time of 6.0. The duo was two-tenths of a second better than Boone Seal and Jake Echevarria.

Fifth-seeded Josh Adams edged top qualifier Caleb Bayes in the bareback event, 78 to 77.

Breakaway roping followed the long go trend. No. 1 seed Jennifer Casey’s 2.41 seconds edged No. 2 Jodi Endicott’s 2.57.



Near-miss in ranch bronc

Chris Baird hangs on for a 79-point ride in the ranch style bronc event at the Owyhee County Rodeo. Baird’s score — which matched his show-best long-go effort earlier in the week — wasn’t enough to stand up to Cody Allred’s 81 in the short-go. Photo by WT Bruce Photography



High-stepping high jumper

Incoming junior Austin Emry navigates over tackling dummies during a running drill during a practice for the Homedale High School football team. He won the high jump state title in the spring.

Football season draws closer

All of Owyhee County’s high school football teams are hard at work preparing for their season openers.

Homedale and Rimrock kicked off preseason drills Aug. 6 as the squads look toward “Zero Week” matchups on Aug. 24.

Coach Don Heller lit the fuse on Marsing High School workouts Friday.

Heller said that the team’s annual intrasquad scrimmage will be held next Wednesday and will coincide with a barbecue at the Huskies’ football field.

Meanwhile, the Trojans open their first campaign under the tutelage of Rob Kassebaum on Aug. 24 with a non-conference road game against 2A Melba.

Rimrock takes part in the Dietrich Jamboree on Saturday, and the Raiders are scheduled to open the eight-man football season at home in Bruneau against Notus.



Quarterback throwing to quarterback?

Homedale freshman Kenny Esparza completes a throw to Joey Cline during passing drills. Cline saw time as varsity quarterback a year ago, while Esparza played for the middle school squad.

Sports

Owyhee fishing news

*Provided by the Idaho
Department of Fish and Game
and Oregon Department of Fish
and Wildlife*

C.J. Strike Reservoir — Dog days are here but fishing has been holding up. Avoiding the hottest time of these hot days is smart, not just because fishing should never cause sunstroke but because the fish take their siestas then. Except for the hottest part of most days, fishing has been excellent. The surface temperature down at CJ Strike is at least 74 degrees.

Anglers are using small spinners and deep diving minnow type lures to catch nice trout below the dam. Fish between the dam and the first bridge. The lake has not been producing trout lately.

To catch yellow perch, use a small piece of cut bait (about the size of a pea) and fish on the bottom in about 20-25 feet of water.

The perch action has slowed a bit but is still good.

Sturgeon fishing in the river below the dam has been really good between about 10 a.m. and dark. Crappie pieces/parts are still the preferred bait.

Smallmouth bass are active now. The best fish are being caught in 15-25 feet of water. If anglers

fish shallow (less than 6 feet) they will catch a pile of bass but most will be less than 11 inches long. Use crankbaits, topwater lures, or the usual plastics (dark colored grubs or tube jigs) around rock. Remember, the minimum length for bass is 12 inches.

Crappie action is hot. The only problem is that most are less than 10 inches long. All colors of jigs seem to be catching fish.

About the only anglers still complaining are the catfishermen. Action should improve at night as the days get hotter but no one seems to be doing really well on the cats anywhere in the region.

There are two bass fishing tournaments throughout the remainder of the month at C.J. Strike. Both catch-and-release tourneys will push off from the Blacksands boat ramp.

On Aug. 25, the Searchers Bass Club will sponsor a 40-person, 20-boat tournament from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Midnight Bassmasters will sponsor an Aug. 29 event running from 4 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and open to 16 people and eight boats.

Owyhee County Reservoirs
— The reservoirs are attracting few anglers but all the lakes are fishable. A verified 27-inch

cutthroat came out of one of these little waters recently. Little Blue Reservoir should be bypassed because a leak last fall caused the loss of all the cutthroat there.

The remaining stocked lakes around Riddle (Shoo Fly, Bybee and Grasmere) should be good. Anglers should be prepared to fish in stained water. Dark colors, lures or flies with flash and/or rattles should work well. An extra spare tire is always a good idea.

Marsing Pond — Personnel from Fish and Game's Nampa Hatchery will release 500 catchable-sized rainbow trout in the Island Park pond in August. The number of trout actually released may be altered by weather, water conditions, equipment problems or schedule changes. If delays occur, trout will be stocked when conditions become favorable.

Owyhee Reservoir — Yielding largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, black crappie, yellow perch and catfish. The reservoir was 39 percent full Aug. 5. The boat ramp at the state park and Leslie Gulch are out of the water. The rest of the boat ramps are in the water and operational. Angling is fair.

Check with the Bureau of Land Management's Vale District for current road closures.

Lower Owyhee River — Fish for brown trout and hatchery rainbow trout. Flows below the dam averaged about 233 cubic feet per second on Aug. 5. Angling for rainbow trout and brown trout is good. The river was stocked with rainbow trout fingerlings from the gingerbread house downstream to the concrete bridge during the last week of May. The river upstream of the power lines was stocked with large fingerlings on July 17.

Upper Owyhee River — Fish for bass and channel catfish. Discharge at the Rome gauge averaged approximately 83 cfs on Aug. 5. Angling for smallmouth and channel catfish is fair to good.

Homedale Fan Club sponsors BBQ on Friday

The Homedale Fan Club will kick off the fall's sports season at Homedale High School on Friday with its annual Red and White Night free barbecue.

The event begins at 6 p.m. at Deward Bell Stadium, and it will provide a chance for parents and supporters to meet the coaches for the fall season. There are many new faces on the Trojans teams' coaching staffs.

Membership to the fan club will be available, too.

It's \$30 to register a family and \$15 for an individual membership.

New Homedale football coach Rob Kassebaum will hold a parents meeting after the barbecue, which is expected to end at about 7:30 p.m.



LaDon's Corner

Lost Wax Casting

Customers sometimes ask me how large earrings made of gold can hang from a woman's earlobe without stretching the skin due to the natural weight of gold. Well, the answer is a process called ***"Lost Wax Casting"*** permits for gold jewelry to be manufactured with centers that are hollow – you know, like a straw is hollow. Moreover, the gold itself can be cast extremely thin.

This wax mold (called a pattern) is first weighed so the amount of metal required to fill the mold (gold, silver, etc.) can be determined. Then the mold is attached to a base, and a flask is fit over the base. So once the mold is in the flask, a kind of plaster that looks like pan cake batter, called an “investment” is mixed up and put in a vacuum to get all the air bubbles out of it to reduce *porosity*, and then poured into the flask. It is then left to dry and harden.

Once the “investment” is dried, the base and flask are removed. Now the piece is put into an oven to burn out the wax. Next a centrifuge is used to force the melted metal into the investment mold. Finally, the piece is cleaned and polished.

The advantage of this process is that very beautiful jewelry (charms, earrings, and rings) can be made with very small amounts of gold. The disadvantage of this process, especially with rings, is the rings often times collapse when heated by a gold smith's torch making resizing next to impossible.

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 diamondologist and gemologist. She can be reached at

208-461-0677

On the web @ www.Ladonsfinejewelry.com

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Boneless Pork Sirloin Chops  \$1.99 lb.	Boneless Beef Rump Roast  \$1.99 lb.	10 lb. Russett Potatoes  \$1.79 ea.	Extra Large Roma Tomatoes  99¢ lb.
Bar-S 3 lb. 16 oz. Sliced Ham \$2.99 ea. Oscar Mayer 12 oz. Bologna \$1.09 ea. Redi Serv Chicken Patties 4 for \$6	Western Family 16 oz. Franks 59¢ ea. Boneless Pork Sirloin Roast \$1.89 lb. John Morrell 14 oz. Little Smokies \$2.39 ea.	Red or Green Seedless Grapes \$1.29 lb. Local Sweet Corn 4 for \$1 1 lb. Baby Carrots \$1.19 ea.	Mayer Farms - Local Watermelon 19¢ lb. Jumbo Yellow Onions 49¢ lb. Cello Wrapped Lettuce 99¢ ea.
Western Family Cereal  \$2.39 ea. 17.3-24 oz. Wonder 24 oz. Buttermilk Bread \$1.99 ea.	Betty Crocker Cake Mixes  \$1.39 ea. 18.25 oz. 36 oz. Hunt's Ketchup \$1.89 ea.	Pepsi Products  3 \$11 for 12pk 12oz Cans 2 Liter Bottle Pepsi Products \$1.29 ea.	Coors Beer  \$12.99 ea. 18pk 12oz Cans or Bottles 12pk 12oz Cans Busch Regular or Light \$5.99 ea.
Western Family Large Eggs 18 ct. \$2.09 ea. Western Family Real Margarine Quarters 16 oz. 69¢ ea. Betty Crocker Fruit Snacks Asst'd 10-12 ct. \$1.99 ea. Nature Valley Granola Bars 10 ct. \$2.49 ea. Lay's Potato Chips 12.5-13.5 oz. 2 for \$5 Tostitos Tortilla Chips 13.5 oz. 2 for \$5	Ocean Spray Cranberry Juices 64 oz. \$3.09 ea. Ragu Spaghetti Sauce 26 oz. \$1.99 ea. Wesson Oil 48 oz. \$2.79 ea. Western Family Cooking Spray 6 oz. \$1.69 ea. Western Family Canned Dog Food 13.2 oz. 10 for \$4 Lay's Dips or Tostitos Salsa & ConQueso 2 for \$5	Western Family Spring Water 24pk .5 liter Bottles 2 for \$7 Homestyle Bakes 30.9-35.6 oz. \$3.69 ea. Michelina's-Yu Sing-Budget Gourmet Entrees Asst'd Varieties \$1.19 ea. Eggo Frozen Waffles 10 ct. \$1.79 ea. Dole Frozen Juices 12 oz. 89¢ ea. Western Family Petal Soft Bath Tissue 24 Pack \$5.99 ea.	Milwaukee's Best Beer 30pk 12oz Cans \$11.99 ea. Pop Secret Microwave Popcorn 3 Pack \$1.59 ea. Windex Wipes 25 ct. \$2.99 ea. Windex Spray 32.5 oz. \$3.29 ea.

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