



Trojans lose;
Raiders win
In Sports

Homedale, Page 3A

City public works supervisor points
out heavy summer water usage

Agriculture, Page 10A

Legislators set to visit Homedale
plant for Ag Tour 2007

Wednesday, August 29, 2007

Established 1865

The Owyhee Avalanche

VOLUME 24, NUMBER 35

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS



Marsing school building sparks emergency council meeting

The Marsing school district has requested a special city council meeting to discuss plumbing requirements for a new portable building with two classrooms in place behind the Marsing Middle School last week.

City, school district at odds

A communication breakdown between the City of Marsing and the Marsing Joint School District that raised collar temperatures in the area, and may have delayed the opening of a new modular building at Marsing Middle School, has culminated with

the school district requesting an emergency meeting of the city council.

A special meeting is scheduled for 7 tonight at Marsing City Hall to discuss the issue.

On Friday, Marsing schools superintendent Harold Shockley

expressed frustration with the fact that the district had not received any communication from the city after delivering on Aug. 16 a request for clarification of possible issues with the building's installation.

— See *District*, page 5A

Nuke proposal drives county P&Z budget up

The multibillion-dollar nuclear power plant proposed for Grand View has been advertised as an economic boon.

But Owyhee County Clerk Charlotte Sherburn revealed last week that at least for the short-term, the Idaho Energy Complex will cost the county Planning and

Zoning Department hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The P&Z budget will balloon more than 325 percent in fiscal year 2008, according to the tentative budget on which county commissioners will hold a public

— See *Budget*, page 5A

Attorney: Judge says Freund's relatives can keep county jobs

Andersen expects final ruling on prosecutor's nepotism petition soon

The attorney representing Owyhee County Board of Commissioners chair Dick Freund in a nepotism case brought by the county prosecutor says he ex-

pects a final ruling in the "very near future."

Clayton Andersen, a Coeur

— See *County*, page 4A

Avalanche, government offices close for Monday holiday

The Owyhee Avalanche office will be closed Monday in observance of Labor Day.

Deadlines for display advertising and legal notices for the Sept. 6 edition of the Avalanche will

be noon Friday. The classified advertising deadline will be 5 p.m. Friday

The Avalanche office will reopen at 8 a.m. Tuesday, and the newspaper will be delivered on

its normal day, Wednesday.

All schools, city and county government buildings and banks will be closed Monday in observance of Labor Day. All will be open normal hours beginning

Tuesday.

The Owyhee County Board of Commissioners will hold their weekly meeting Tuesday morning, and the agenda includes the annual budget public hearing.

Paul's Market in Homedale and Snake River Mart in Marsing will be open regular hours Monday.

The Homedale Senior Citizens Center also will be closed Monday, but will reopen Tuesday.

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for new year
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Young lawyer Metcalf in love with Homedale opportunity

Attorney makes move from Boise firm to assume Grober's practice

As Dan Grober leaves his Homedale law practice for the bench, an eager, young lawyer is ready to take his place.

Russell G. Metcalf, a 31-year-old Utah native, began work in Grober's East Wyoming Avenue office Tuesday.

He will assume full control of the practice when Grober becomes Owyhee County magistrate next Tuesday. The phone number for the practice will remain 337-4945.

Grober, who will be sworn in as the county's newest judge during a private ceremony before his first day on the bench, believes Metcalf will be a great fit for the community.

"I think he certainly is," Grober said. "And I think he'll do a fine job with the practice, and I think he and his family will be a great addition to the community."

Metcalf earned his law degree from the University of Nebraska after undergraduate studies at Weber State in Ogden, Utah.

He and his wife, Cynthia, live

outside Kuna in Ada County with their 6-year-old daughter, Aubrey, and 3-year-old son, Wyatt. Cynthia is expecting the couple's third child — a girl — in a matter of weeks.

"We're hoping that we can take what Dan has started and that we can grow it and make it a solid, ongoing practice in the community that can offer a full range of legal services," Russell Metcalf said.

The 31-year-old Metcalf has been in practice for three years with the Boise firm of Moffatt Thomas Barrett Rock & Fields Chartered. During his time with the firm, he says he has handled civil litigation, insurance matters, malpractice cases and employment law.

He also has worked a lot of commercial transactional deals, such as lease agreements, incorporations and limited liability corporations.

Grober said Metcalf was one of three attorneys with whom he had contact when he began work

to transfer his practice.

"I think one benefit from him being here (is) he intends, in addition to the areas of law in which I have practiced, to do domestic work and divorce and that sort of thing," Grober said.

Metcalf said he and his wife plan to move to Homedale as soon as they can sell their house in Ada County.

Metcalf's wife has family in Carey, and he said they both were attracted to returning to a small town.

"Both of our hearts have always kind of wanted to be in a small town and do our own thing and be in a small community, and this is a perfect opportunity for us," he said.

Metcalf added that the time was right to make the move from the big city.

"I can't say there was any one thing that drew us to Homedale, but the practice that Dan set up and the type of community it was," he said.

"My wife and I are just very excited to be a part of the community out there, and we feel like this opportunity is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our family."

— JPB



Bench awaits new magistrate

The judge nameplate in the magistrate courtroom inside Homedale City Hall already has been changed to reflect the pending arrival of Dan Grober, who will be sworn in Tuesday in Murphy.

Grober ready for new challenge on other side

Homedale resident Dan Grober will be sworn in as Owyhee County's newest magistrate Tuesday in a private ceremony.

Grober's public swearing-in ceremony will take place Sept. 21 at the Owyhee County Courthouse in Murphy.

The longtime Homedale attorney has been preparing for his new role by informing his clients that Russell G. Metcalf will assume his practice as well as taking part in a mentoring program for new judges.

Grober has been observing court proceedings as part of the mentor program.

The Idaho Supreme Court appointed Judge Thomas J. Ryan

— the county's previous full-time magistrate — as Grober's mentor.

But Grober didn't need such transitional chores to understand the impact of the turn in his career.

"I just mentioned to my wife (Merrilyn) this morning that probably today (Thursday) I have a matter over in Canyon County that will probably be the last matter I'll ever handle in court as an attorney,"

Grober said.

"And that's not necessarily sad, but it caused me to reflect on the years I've been doing this and how much I've enjoyed it."

— JPB



Dan Grober

'My wife and I are just very excited to be a part of the community out there, and we feel like this opportunity is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our family.'

— Russell G. Metcalf
New attorney in Homedale

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Help is Just Around the Corner

Meter readers use new gadget

Homedale's public works department nearly has completed a conversion of municipal water meters that will save the city in labor costs.

Now Public Works Supervisor Larry Bauer would like to see city residents conserve in another way — their water usage.

Bauer said last week that the city has about 300 more electronic meter readers to install before all water meters in Homedale are converted to a more efficient system — both in the time it takes the read and the amount of usage, especially during the winter months.

The electronic meters installed by the city give off pulses allowing personnel to read water usage with a handheld unit and a wand that resembles a metal detector.

"It gives us more of an opportunity to read 12 months out of the year," Bauer said. "It gives us an option to get away from estimates."

Bauer said that water usage is estimated during the winter months when conditions can make it impossible to remove the heavy meter lids. In most cases across the city, workers don't have to remove the lids at all.

The entire overhaul will cost the city about \$81,000 (each meter costs about \$90, and there are 900 meters in Homedale).

"The savings comes in labor," Bauer said. "It used to be three men for three entire 8-hour days to read the meters, and billing was one or two working days for (City Hall personnel)."

Now, Bauer says, it takes the three-man crew a total of 12 hours to do the readings, and billing takes about two hours.

There is a docking station in City Hall in which each meter reader is attached, and the information is downloaded into a computer billing program,



New technology saves time, money

Homedale city worker Scott Mahler checks a water meter with a electronic reader. The device, which has been installed in the majority of municipal meters, allows city staff to read usage without removing the meter lid.

which automatically does any adjustments, Bauer said.

Even with the new system in place, City Hall gets complaints about high bills. But Bauer said that has more to do with increased usage than any billing mistakes.

He said that residents used 10.8 million gallons of water in July and, as of last week, were on pace to use between 9 and 10 million in August.

As the temperature goes up, so does water usage, with residents

using 1.5 million gallons more in May than they did in April, Bauer reported.

He said that Homedale's bills are competitive with similar communities such as Marsing, Parma and Wilder.

"The council and mayor have been very proactive in the last four or five years in adjusting the rates to keep them as low as possible," he said.

— JPB

Marsing Chamber picks theme for its inaugural festival

The Marsing Chamber of Commerce has named its baby. The inaugural harvest festival planned for Oct. 20 has been christened the "Pumpkin Harvest Fest."

As might be expected, the theme for the festival parade is "Pumpkin Harvest." Marsing High School has signed up to have a float in the parade and to have its band march. Festival organizers said the Marsing American Legion Post 128 and the Marsing 1st LDS Ward Young Women's Group also are signed up to participate. The parade begins at 11 a.m.

Anyone interested in being a part of the parade is invited to participate.

The Chamber has lined up

Joe Sevy's band to provide live entertainment for the afternoon activities at City Park. The park is scheduled to host pumpkin carving, games, a homemade pie contest, a pie-eating contest, and vendor booths featuring fruits, vegetables, and arts and crafts.

Chamber reps say Symms Fruit Ranch has signed on to have a produce booth, and other vendors are encouraged to sign up.

The Chamber is suggesting that businesses take part in the festivities by displaying pumpkins the week of the event.

For more information or to register to participate, contact Melissa or Cathy Streibel at (208) 896-7001 or Jim White at (208) 896-4999.

Homedale Chamber tees up golf tourney

At 3 p.m. on Sept. 19, at River Bend Golf Course, the inaugural Homedale Chamber of Commerce Golf Scramble will get under way with a shotgun start. The nine-hole tournament is accepting entries for four-man teams, as well as hole sponsorships and donations of raffle prizes and awards.

The tournament entry fee is \$35 per person, and includes golf, cart, two raffle tickets and a barbecue after the tournament. Tickets for the barbecue only, estimated to begin at 5:30 p.m., are available for \$7.50.

Hole sponsorships include a

sign at the designated hole, and cost \$50 for Chamber members and \$75 for non-members. The latter fee includes 2007 Chamber membership dues. The Chamber will recognize all businesses participating in the tournament.

For more information, contact Maleta Henry at 337-3254, Sheila Matteson at 337-4693, or Robin Aberasturi at 337-5585.

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

Facing drug felony, Marsing man pleads guilty to misdemeanor

A Marsing man has entered a guilty plea to misdemeanor drug possession after being charged with a felony manufacturing charge in March.

Thomas James Patanjo, 19, was arrested on March 9 and accused of manufacture of a controlled substance when Owyhee County Sheriff's deputies found marijuana plants and equipment used in the cultivation of the drug.

Patanjo entered the guilty plea on the reduced charge in Third Dis-

trict Court before Judge Gregory M. Culet on Aug. 10 in Murphy.

Patanjo was scheduled to end his 16-day work release sentence Sunday a detention officer at the Owyhee County Jail said. Under the terms of his sentencing, Patanjo was released 45 minutes before he was to start work each day.

The sentence also included a

\$500 fine, \$300 of which was suspended, and court costs of \$82.50.

He was placed on 24 months' probation and had 160 of his 180-day jail sentence suspended.

He also received credit for four days of incarceration, which he served before posting a \$10,000 bond on March 12.



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Promoting Independence, Freedom & Security

Homedale council approves tipping station

The Homedale City Council has endorsed unanimously a proposal to build a private transfer station for the town's garbage contractor.

The council voted 4-0 at its meeting Thursday to support Westowns Disposal owner Bill Pastoor's efforts to build a temporary storage facility on his company's property near the Homedale Airport.

Pastoor needed the city to waive its setback rule because the property on which he wants to build the tipping station is only

20 feet from municipal land. Rules call for a 100-foot setback.

The waiver clears the way for Pastoor to receive final approval from the state Department of Environmental Quality in his quest to construct a steel building in which his trucks could dump garbage. The garbage would be stored temporarily on large "roll-off" trucks, allowing Westowns to make fewer trips to the dump and save on diesel fuel.

Pastoor said the new building would

have a recessed "tipping" floor to reduce the chance of wind kicking up any of the stored garbage.

As Pastoor showed council members drawings of the proposed building, Mayor Paul Fink asked for assurances that the building would be painted to blend in with existing buildings near the Westowns property.

Pastoor said the station also would be used to sort metals from the garbage.

Also Thursday night, the council

approved the final plat for the 12-lot Westwood residential subdivision planned for Railroad Avenue behind Dairyland Seed Co.

A bill from sewer expansion project contractor Eastern Oregon Construction in the amount of \$205,198 was approved to be paid, and city public works supervisor Larry Bauer reported that the project was nearing completion.

— JPB

From page 1

✓ County: Commissioner willing to follow code and state any conflicts

d'Alene-based lawyer and former Owyhee County prosecuting attorney, said District Judge Gordon W. Petrie agreed that neither Freund's wife, Lynda, nor their daughter, Tiffany Walker, would have to resign their positions with the county because of the commissioner's election to office.

Andersen and current county prosecutor Matthew Faulks made their arguments in front of Petrie on Aug. 2.

Andersen was retained to represent Freund and his family after Faulks petitioned the court for a declaratory judgment on Freund's fitness to serve on the board of commissioners.

Faulks questioned if there was a conflict of interest for Freund

because commissioners approve the budget, through which the salaries of all county employees are paid. Lynda Freund is Faulks' assistant, and Walker works in the sheriff's office.

"Judge Petrie's comments on Aug. 2 upheld that Tiffany Walker and Lynda Freund would be retained as employees, that the county had the authority to pay them and no one had to resign based on Dick's election," Andersen said.



Matthew Faulks

Andersen said.

Dick Freund was elected to the District 3 county commission seat in November. He is scheduled to cast his first annual budget vote Tuesday.

"As a simple solution to the conflict of interest, Dick has said he would state the conflict and not vote on matters involving his wife or his daughter," Andersen said.

Under Idaho Code 59-704(4), Freund is required to disclose the nature of any potential conflict of interest before acting on the matter that could create the conflict.

"Our position all along is we don't think there was a necessity for litigation," Andersen said. "The law already covered what you were supposed to do, and that's

declare that there's a conflict and don't vote on that line item."

Andersen, who left the county prosecutor's office in 1987, said Petrie asked he and Faulks to submit their positions on what the declaratory judgment should say. The deadline to submit those arguments was Aug. 15, and Andersen said he expected Petrie's decision was imminent.

Andersen said the Idaho Legislature has passed and amended laws to address possible conflicts



Dick Freund

of interest involving public officials and family members.

"The Legislature, to cure any problems that did exist, amended the statute in 1992 to make sure it was crystal clear if you were a relative of a public servant you could continue to be an employee after the relative's election," Andersen said. "Essentially there are three statutes that deal with the issue."

Andersen questioned why the petition, which was filed by Faulks on June 19, was ever brought to the courts.

"There's a number of ways I think it could have been handled other than litigation," Andersen said.

— JPB



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Legal notices Friday noon the week prior to publication	Inserts Friday noon the week prior to publication

Letters to the editor

Friday noon the week prior to publication
(Limit 300 words, signed, with day phone number.)

New building won't fix Marsing school space crunch

Once water and sewer issues are ironed out with the city, the new modular building at Marsing Middle School will help ease the overcrowding situation by providing additional classroom space.

The two classrooms in the building are not intended to solve the problem at the middle school, however, and Marsing School District Superintendent Dr. Harold Shockley said that there is a distinct possibility that more temporary buildings will be needed before the district can come up with a permanent solution.

The new building actually was purchased by the Canyon-Owyhee School Service Agency to address space issues with the

Bruneau-GV bond results

Results from Tuesday's general obligation bond election in the Bruneau-Grand View School District will be available this morning online at www.owyheepublishing.com.

COSSA intensive special education program that is hosted by Marsing Middle School.

The COSSA program includes students from Homedale, Marsing, Notus, Parma and Wilder. According to Shockley, the first

classroom in the modular building is dedicated to the COSSA middle school special education program, and the second classroom likely will house elementary special education facilities.

Shockley said that the elementary school and the high school still have some space available, "but we are pretty well maxed-out at the middle school."

"I'm sure we'll add additional modulars before we can afford to build," Shockley said.

Shockley said that the district's current bond fund situation prevents new construction. Specific numbers were not available, Shockley said, because changes in the assessed values of property in the district would require him to

do some research in order to provide accurate figures.

Although he would not speculate on how many more temporary buildings might be installed, Shockley did say that in order to accommodate the water and sewer requirements of the new buildings, additional meters may need to be added along with a manhole to access the new pipes for the buildings.

That is assuming, of course, that any new water or sewer services are allowed on the school property by the city. According to the city, the modular building now in place will be hooked up to the last available meter on the property.

That puts the school in a quan-

dary: There is no money to build a new building, and no water or sewer available to increase space at the current site.

With expansion plans caught between a rock and a hard place, the space squeeze looks to get even tighter.

According to Homedale superintendent Tim Rosandick, Homedale does not share Marsing's space crunch. All of the schools in the Homedale district are comfortably housing the current numbers of students. In fact, preliminary numbers show that enrollment is down by 12 students over last year, so overcrowding is not an issue at this time.

— RTH

From page 1

✓ District: Superintendent says portable won't be last one in Marsing

"If we had been able to move with that building the way we had hoped, we would have kids in that building right now," Shockley said.

In an Aug. 24 letter to Mayor Donald Osterhoudt, Shockley requested an emergency council meeting "to discuss issues pertaining to the installation of the modular classroom that the school district is installing to house special education students attending Marsing Middle School."

At issue is the connection of water and sewer lines to the new building. The communication flap came about after Shockley attempted to get clarification from the city as to the council's decision regarding the school district's proposal to hook up the building.

The chain of communication began on Aug. 1, when Shockley submitted a letter to the Marsing Planning and Zoning Commission requesting authorization to install a modular classroom behind the middle school gymnasium. The school district's plan was to connect the two-classroom portable unit to the gym's power, water, and sewer lines.

The Marsing City Council acted on the proposal at its Aug. 8 meeting. The council determined that hooking up the new building to water and sewer for the gym was not in compliance with city code. A city ordinance prohibits multiple buildings to be connected to a single meter. The council further determined that an unused meter, originally used for restrooms at the school's ball fields, could be used for the new classrooms.

Osterhoudt informed Shockley in a letter dated Aug. 9 that the modular building could use the meter at the ballpark restrooms. The letter also informed the school district that the city was not going to charge the district the \$6,600 hookup fee that a new installation would have entailed, and that future modular additions would be looked at separately.

On Aug. 15, Shockley replied with a letter thanking the city for waiving the hookup fees, and asking for verification as to the nature of the attachment of water and sewer to the building.

The letter stated, in part: "Although your letter and the stated action of the City Council don't reflect the language of our

intent stated in my letter to the Marsing Planning and Zoning (Commission), I am assuming the City Council took action to approve/support our intent pertaining to the hookups. The purpose of this letter is to ensure the intent and action of the City Council supports the intended action of the District."

On Aug. 20, the first day of school in Marsing, Shockley delivered a letter to the mayor explaining that on Aug. 16 the district had received "verbal information" that the district could not connect the modular as proposed. Shockley requested a written explanation as to why the district's proposal was unacceptable. The letter asked for the pertinent code requirements and stressed that time was an important factor because of the critical need to get the classroom operational for students.

On Friday, Shockley wrote another letter to the mayor, outlining the correspondence between the city and the district to that point. The letter mentioned that the mayor's office had requested the district's fax number from Shockley last Wednesday in order to fax the district a letter

from the mayor, but that no fax had been received. The letter also stated that the district had received no official response from the city since the request for clarification on Aug. 15.

The letter also explained that the delay in getting the modular operational "is impacting special education services to middle school students from Homedale, Wilder, Parma, Notus, and Marsing." Marsing Middle School houses special education students from those districts under an agreement with Canyon-Owyhee School Services Agency.

Osterhoudt explained that his office reviewed its fax logs Friday and determined that the Aug. 22 fax of a clarification letter to the school district had failed, but no one in the office had noticed. The mayor said that he had apologized to Shockley for the misunderstanding, and that the issue had been added to the agenda of tonight's city council's meeting.

Shockley said that the district would appeal for a variance to the ordinance blocking the modular building's installation as proposed. Hooking the new building to the ballfield meter would be

significantly more expensive, Shockley said. The ballfield lines will require installation of a booster pump, while tapping into the gym would not, because the gym lines already have a booster pump.

Digging the lines from the ballfields' meter to the modular presents another problem.

"We don't know where they are, but there are two fiber-optic lines, two Idaho Power lines, and two water irrigation lines out there," Shockley said.

Shockley declined to put a price tag on the building project or estimate the cost of extending water lines from the ballfield meter.

If the council and school district come to an agreement tonight on the plumbing for the new building, more issues loom on the horizon.

At its meeting on Aug. 8, the council determined that there is one available meter at the school complex, and that the new building could use that meter. According to Shockley, however, the modular is not the last one the district will need to relieve the overcrowding at the middle school.

— RTH

✓ Budget: Commissioners to hold public hearing in Murphy on Tuesday

hearing Tuesday in Murphy.

Sherburn said about \$300,000 has been built into the P&Z budget to offset any expenses related to the IEC conditional use permit application. The owner of the \$3.5 billion, 1,600-megawatt nuclear power plant has deferred the cost of the application, allowing the county to figure out the exact cost of the process. The application process also will run concurrently with IEC's license application process with the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The county clerk said the large amount of money in the P&Z budget — which skyrocketed from \$109,000 in 2007 to \$466,000 for 2008 — represents a P&Z estimate of what it will cost to pore over reports and other documentation from IEC.

"They're not sure what the nuclear plant conditional use permit is going to cost them for review and the experts it's going to take," Sherburn said of P&Z staff.

The figure is anticipated revenue because IEC will be expected

to pay for the studies and experts, P&Z administrator Mary Huff has said in the past.

"Planning and Zoning is a little different (than other county departments)," Sherburn said. "It's a county service, but it's for people who want changes in their property, and it shouldn't cost the taxpayers money."

While the P&Z budget accounts for the biggest chunk of a nearly \$1 million increase in the county budget (12 percent over the \$7.8 million budget in 2007), other

budget line items are on the increase for 2008.

- Sherburn said the county's medical insurance took a 10 percent jump over last year.

- The clerk's office budget is increasing by more than \$60,000 to \$415,358 because of an increase in the hours for Homedale magistrate court clerk Jan Fink and a \$10,000 plan to find more space for record storage in Murphy.

- The Road and Bridge budget will increase \$500,000, but \$330,000 of that is a payment

from the Federal Emergency Management Agency as reimbursement for the county's work on Silver City Road after the New Year's flooding in 2006. Equipment and fuel costs also account for about \$170,000 of the budget, Sherburn said.

- A countywide primary election in May 2008 and the transfer of the voting machine maintenance contract from the state to the counties will push the Elections line, too.

— JPB

Obituaries

Ellen Miller Wiley Corta

Ellen Miller Wiley Corta entered into rest at Nampa, Idaho at 3:43 a.m. Saturday, August 18, 2007. Her visitation was on Tuesday, August 21st at Dakan Funeral Chapel, Caldwell from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Funeral services were on Wednesday, August 22, at 11:00 a.m. at the Methodist Church in Jordan Valley, Oregon. Burial was at Jordan Valley Cemetery with dinner following at St. Bernard's Parish Hall at 12:30.

Ellen was born in Hebron, Nebraska on January 26, 1914 to Ancel and Maude Thurston Miller. She had four brothers, Everett, Wayne, Loren and Harley, all of whom preceded her in death. She was also preceded by her parents, her son, David A. Wiley and her husband of 50 years, Mitchell "Mike" Corta.

Her ancestors were pioneers and frontiersmen, beginning with her first Thurston ancestor in this country in 1637. She was descended from Capt. Miles Standish, who was a passenger on the "Mayflower." Ellen's parents were pioneers in the Jordan Valley Irrigation District



from 1917 on, and helped build that irrigation system with her father's four head of Percheron horses. The family lived on the Antelope for seven years in tents and took up land at Arock in 1922. The children attended school at Danner and Arock and stayed on the ranch. Ellen became the Postmaster in Arock in September 1944 and remained there for 30 years, after which she got a college degree and taught fourth grade in Marsing, Idaho for seven years.

In later years she and Mike enjoyed taking their 5th wheel to the Oregon Coast or to Quartzite,

Arizona. They made many friends wherever they went but always loved their home at Arock.

She enjoyed her church, the First Southern Baptist Church, and had many devoted friends in Sunday School who continued to visit her in her assisted living home.

She is survived by her daughter, Barbara W. Surette (Leonard); her son's four children, Casandra Crowell (George) of Caldwell, Shelly Vegwert (Mark) of Sun Valley, Ted Wiley (Gail) of Caldwell, and Boyd Wiley (Lisa) of Puyallup, Washington; nine great-grandchildren; her nephew, Daniel W. Miller of Prescott, AR; and her sister-in-law Marjorie Miller, also of Prescott. Her daughter-in-law, Dee Anne Richardson (George) survives and was devoted in her illness. Her husband's sisters, Eugene Acordagoitia and Carmen Jesinko; and sister-in-law, Begonia Corta also survive her.

Donations may be made to the First Southern Baptist Church, 912 W. Linden Street, Caldwell, ID 83605 or to any charity of your choice.

Lillian Lequerica



Lillian Lequerica, age 81, died peacefully at her home in Arock, Oregon on August 25, 2007 surrounded by her family.

Vigil Rosary will be recited on Thursday, August 30th at 7:00 p.m., and the mass of Christian burial will be celebrated on Friday, August 31st at 11:00 a.m., both at Saint Bernards Catholic Church in Jordan Valley, Oregon. Services under the direction of Flahiff Funeral Chapel and Crematory.

Lillian was born in McDermitt, Nevada on November 13, 1925 to John Zatica of Izpaster, Bizkaia and Delfina Coscorrosa of Paradise Valley, Nevada. She was raised in Oregon Canyon where she attended grade school, and later graduated from Jordan Valley High School in 1943. On June 19 of the same year, she married John Lequerica in Winnemucca, Nevada. Their first years of marriage were spent at their sheep camp near Jordan Valley where her over sixty years of cooking for an always full table of Basque herders, cattle ranchers, and family began. During that time, in 1946, she gave birth to their first child, Tim.

In 1947, John and Lillian, along with John's brother, Rufus, bought a ranch in Arock, Oregon, and in 1949, their second child, Jonelle, was born. It was on this ranch, the Lequerica Brothers' Ranch, that Lillian spent the remainder of her always active life, taking care of the ranch hands, tending to family and friends, and inviting in anyone who just stopped by for a cup of coffee, cinnamon roll, and a visit.

Lillian is preceded in death by her husband, John Lequerica,

and her parents, John and Delfina Zatica. She is survived by her children, Tim Lequerica and Jonelle (Herb) Krakau; step-children, Gerald (Rayetta) Lequerica and Eleanor Wood; sisters, Emily Miller and Chickie (Jose) Gastanaga; sisters-in-law, Josephine Arritola, Connie Stitzel, and Luella Lequerica; special family who lived on the ranch, Tony and Mary Lequerica and Donato and Maria Obieta; grandchildren, Troy and C.J. (Sheila) Lequerica and John and Delfina Krakau; great-grandchildren, Lily and Joe Bob Lequerica and the many others to whom she was Amuma, Marcia, Raime, Shaun, Tara, Laz, Darin, Joni, Darby, Brianne, Rochelle, Nick, Cali, Cale, Alena, Keri, Timmy, Tayler, Meg, J.J., Shelly, Randy, Trenton, Ryan, Jenna and the numerous nieces, nephews, and friends that knew her as "Aunt Lil."

Memorials may be made to the Holy Family/Saint Bernards Catholic Church (PO Box 186 Jordan Valley, OR 97910) or to the Jordan Valley Ambulance (PO Box 345 Jordan Valley, OR 97910).

Obituary policy

Obituaries can be submitted to The Owyhee Avalanche in the following ways:

E-mail
owyheeavalanche@cable one.net
Fax
(208) 337-4867
Mail
P.O. Box 97, Homedale, ID 83628

No obituaries are accepted over the telephone.

Rates are \$3.50 per column inch and \$5 per photo.

There is no cost for a death notice.

All submissions are verified through the funeral home handling the services.

For more information, call (208) 337-4681.

The Owyhee Avalanche

K. Roy Johnston

K. Roy Johnston, 48, of Oreana, passed away on Saturday, August 18, 2007, at his home in Oreana. Roy was born December 25, 1958, in Nampa, Idaho, to J. Sheral and Lois D. (Smith) Johnston. He attended school in Melba and Grandview, graduating from Rimrock High School in 1977. Roy was a fine mechanic and farmer, but he especially enjoyed logging, which he was engaged in for about 12 years. At the time of his death, he was employed at Box Springs Ranch in Oreana.

Roy was a "hands-on" person with great creativity. He constructed unique and beautiful items from twisted wire or welded steel and enjoyed solving puzzles and mechanical items. Although he lived in and loved the desert areas around Oreana, his favorite places were in the high timber. He spent many pleasant hours exploring them on his motorcycle or in his jeep.

He is survived by his mother, Lois Johnston of Marsing, Idaho; brother Jim (Kathy) Johnston



of Jordan Valley, Oregon; sister Babs (Kelly) Morris of Caldwell, Idaho; and very special friend Susan Fugate of Oreana: four nephews, James, Shawn, Lee, and Dylan. He was preceded in death by his father and baby sister.

A Memorial Service was held at 11:00 AM on Friday, August 24, 2007 at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church in Oreana, ID. Memorials may be made to Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church. Arrangements have been entrusted to Alsip & Persons Funeral Chapel, 404 10th Ave. S., Nampa, ID 83651 466-3545.

Death notice

JOSEPH D. BURRIL, 58, formerly of Rockville, Ore., died Aug. 19, 2007. A service will be held at 10 a.m., Sept. 3, at the home of Garnet and Bob Green in Kuna.

Senior menu

Homedale Senior Center

Sept. 4: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes/gravy, broccoli, roll, drink.

Sept. 5: Beef burritos, refried beans, rice, drink.



Aaron Tines

Morticians Assistant

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Your finances

Extended vehicle warranty is a waste of money

Dear Dave,

I bought an extended warranty online for my 2000 pickup truck. I compared a lot of warranties, and I found one company that promised coverage similar to the original factory warranty. I had to have my air conditioning repaired, and the shop charged me \$1,550. This warranty company really stepped up and covered me. Now, I've got a friend who has an older car and is looking at an extended warranty. I recommended this company to him, but would like to give him some key things to shop out on these warranties. What do you recommend?

— Jerry

Dear Jerry,

My recommendation is that he not buy one, and I wish you hadn't, either. Extended warranties are not a good deal!

Extended warranties are insurance, and insurance is made up of four components: commissions, overhead expenses, the statistical probability of the event occurring and profit. When you buy an extended warranty, you're covering commissions, overhead and profit. Only about 13 percent of what you're paying for an extended warranty goes toward actual repair costs.

If you set the amount of most extended warranties aside, you could cover the average repair costs on your vehicle yourself. Extended warranties are extremely profitable for those selling them and a terrible deal for those buying them.

Fifteen hundred dollars for an air conditioning repair on a 2000 pickup is a rip off. Self-insure with an emergency fund, and choose your repair people better!

— Dave

Dear Dave,

I have a rental property, but a few months ago I got laid off and I'm behind on the payments. I found a job recently, but it doesn't provide enough income to cover the mortgage on this property. A friend has offered to buy it for what's owed, but I'm not sure that's the best thing. I owe \$80,000 and it's worth around \$160,000.

— Tony

Dear Tony,

You're on the right track with selling the property. I wouldn't jump at your friend's offer, but I would take a drastic cut in value and sell it.

Let's face it, Tony. You're broke and you're trying to play real estate investor. That's not a good plan. Cut the \$160,000 price tag



down to about \$110,000 so you can move it fast and see some equity in the deal, but sell this thing today!

That way you'll have some cash in your hands, and you can start your financial life fresh again.

— Dave

Dear Dave,

I live in New York, and even though I follow your advice and live on a budget it's really hard to save up for a down payment on a house because property is so expensive here. My family in South Carolina advised me to buy cheaper property down there, fix it up and flip it to get the money I need. Does this sound like a good plan to you?

— Adrian

Dear Adrian,

I wouldn't do it. Fixing and flipping properties is a very hands-on business, and trying to do it from another state would be a nightmare!

When you take on this kind of work, you need to oversee what's happening every step of the way. You're also working out the details, and keeping an eye on the crew to make sure they're doing things right. Besides, you can't just walk up to a house, buy it and expect to get a great deal.

Professionals who flip houses for a living often look at 100 or more properties to buy just one. It's not an easy way to make money, and it's definitely not something to consider doing from a distance.

Just keep on working the budget and save as much as you can, Adrian. You might even consider getting a part-time job for a while to bring in some extra cash. But waiting a while and saving up is a lot smarter plan than fixing and flipping houses on the other end of the country!

— Dave

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

Calendar

Today

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

Homedale NFL Flag Football registration, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., Homedale Elementary School, 420 W. Washington Avenue. (208) 337-6108

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

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

Tuesday

Owyhee County annual

budget public hearing, 10 a.m., Owyhee County Courthouse, Murphy

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

Story time for first- through third-graders, 4:20 p.m., Lizard Butte Public Library, Owyhee Plaza, 105 Main Street, Marsing. (208) 896-4690

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

Ridgeview Irrigation District monthly board meeting, 7 p.m., 118 S. 1st Street W., Homedale

Gem Irrigation District monthly board meeting, 7:15 p.m., 118 S. 1st Street W., Homedale

South Board of Control monthly board meeting, 7:30 p.m., 118 S. 1st Street W., Homedale

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

Thursday, Sept. 6

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.

Submit information on upcoming fund-raisers, reunions or community events to *The Owyhee Avalanche* by noon Fridays for inclusion in the calendar. For more information on submissions, call (208) 337-4681.

Weather

	H	L	Prec.
Aug. 21			no reading taken
Aug. 22	82	53	.00
Aug. 23	85	51	.00
Aug. 24	86	47	.00
Aug. 25			no reading taken
Aug. 26			no reading taken
Aug. 27	98	47	.00

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Busy summer’s night in Marsing



Colors of early evening shine through
Clouds are illuminated by the sunset and the horizon is seen in silhouette Wednesday behind the Marsing School District complex.



Air St. Luke’s open for tour
Bystanders check out the air ambulance an Air St. Luke’s crew flew to Marsing for Wednesday’s training session.



Crews get important lesson in landing
Marsing Ambulance personnel were among the emergency workers who attended a landing zone class Wednesday behind the Marsing School District complex.

Emergency personnel train with air ambulance

Marsing, sheriff, Silver City staff attend class

Life was quite busy Wednesday night on the athletic fields at Marsing High School. While the Huskies were holding an intrasquad scrimmage and a barbecue at

the football field, Marsing Ambulance was holding its monthly training session on the infield of the track and field team’s practice facility. Air St. Luke’s presented a landing zone class, which was sponsored by Marsing Ambulance, according to ambulance coordinator Betty Ackerman.

Personnel from the Owyhee County Sheriff’s Office, Marsing Fire District and Silver City Fire and Rescue also were invited to the training session, during which the St. Luke’s air ambulance landed on the track infield. Ackerman said the lessons included classroom training as well as practice with

the actual landing of an air ambulance at an accident site and the procedures of safely loading patients onto the aircraft. Ackerman said there were seven Marsing emergency medical technicians, a handful of sheriff’s office personnel and more than 10 fire crew members at the training. Silver City sent three representatives, too.

Homedale Elementary back to life



Homedale kindergarteners back in school

The schoolyards in Owyhee County were filled with children again at the beginning of last week as the 2007-08 school year began in the Homedale, Marsing and Bruneau-Grand View school districts.

Hotspring snail info meeting slated next month in Bruneau

The federal endangered status review of the Bruneau Hot Springsnail soon will be released, and a group of state and federal government representatives plan an informal town hall meeting next week to discuss the creature's status.

Nathan Fisher, the new administrator of the Governor's Office of Species Conservation, announced a informational meeting for 7 p.m. on Sept. 6 at the Bruneau American Legion Post 83 hall in an Aug. 24 letter sent to affected parties in the Grand View/Bruneau area.

He told The Owyhee Avalanche about the planned meeting Monday.

"It's an informal meeting," he said. "We're going to talk to

folks so they have an idea of the current situation of the Bruneau Hot Springsnail and some of the options we're looking at to conserve the surface water."

Fisher said that representatives from state and federal agencies will be on hand to discuss conservation options and programs.

Some of the agencies scheduled to send officials to the meeting include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the Idaho Department of Agriculture and the Idaho Soil Conservation Commission.

The USFWS review of the snail's endangered status began in July 2006. After a prolonged court battle, the snail was listed in 1993

because many of the hot springs it calls home in the Bruneau Valley have dried up.

The recession of the aquifer has been blamed on continued drought as well as groundwater pumping by area irrigators, depending on who's asked and who's doing the study.

On Monday, Fisher admitted the outlook continues to deteriorate because the geothermal aquifer still is in decline.

But conservation options that have been in practice since Congress appropriated \$1 million for the valley six years ago are still in play and could continue to be viable as part of the new Farm Bill, Fisher said.

— JPB

Panel to discuss disaster plan again today

The county's effort to prevent the far-reaching effects of natural disasters such as the Murphy Complex Fire continues with another meeting of the All Hazards Mitigation Plan committee.

The committee is set to hold its third meeting today at the Owyhee County Historical Museum.

County Emergency Management Coordinator Larry Howard said that the committee still is waiting for the return of public surveys mailed to selected county households. He said that public input is crucial in helping the committee and Northwest Management Inc. draft a plan, which is required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

According to Tera King from Northwest Management Inc., the company hired to oversee the draft plan, Owyhee County won't be eligible to receive FEMA disaster assistance without an approved mitigation plan.

The county currently is eligible for federal assistance for the Murphy Complex Fire aftermath because of the 2005 completion of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan, but the All Hazards Mitigation Plan will further bring the county into compliance.

Once completed, King said, the plan must be approved by FEMA officials.

"The goal is to have the documents completed and approved by all necessary parties by January," King said. "So far, we are right on schedule."

But the plan is in its infancy.

King recently outlined a seven-step process. Owyhee County is on Step 1 — collection of data, public surveys and public meetings.

King said the first round of public meetings have been scheduled for Sept. 11-13, but exact locations haven't been solidified.

In the meantime, the committee still is waiting for the return of many of the public surveys.

The questionnaires were sent to a randomly selected sample of 264 homeowners throughout the county in the last week of July, according to King. A few weeks later, only about 15 percent of those surveys had been received.

King said the purpose of the survey is two-fold:

- It allows the public to tell committee members which areas should be high priorities.

- "They are also meant to serve as a 'tickler' for homeowners," King said. "We hope that several of the questions also get people thinking about potential hazards near their home and the things they may be able to do on their own to lessen that risk."

The plan covers the gamut of factors that could lead to either natural or manmade disaster, including flood, landslide, earthquake, severe weather and terrorism/civil unrest.

"A lot of this is 'What do you do to stop a brush fire or lightning strike?'" Howard said. "Maybe we can do something to protect the infrastructure where they lost power at Murphy Hot Springs and Duck Valley."

Residents in the Murphy Hot Springs and Duck Valley Reservation areas went days without electricity in the wake of the wildfire that charred 1,000 square miles in portions of Owyhee, Twin Falls and Elko (Nev.) counties.

— JPB

U of I presents Fruit Field Day

The University of Idaho annual Fruit Field Day is scheduled for Sept. 6 at its Parma Research and Extension Center.

Debbie Titus, an employee of the Owyhee County Extension Office, said Monday that the Marsing outpost gets many phone calls inquiring about the Fruit Field Day.

Registration for the free event begins at 8:30 a.m., and the program will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Pesticide recertification credits are available, and organizers encourage a wide range of people

interested in fruit production to attend the workshop: commercial growers, small farm growers, alternative fruit growers, home gardeners, Master Gardeners, horticultural hobbyists and others.

Activities will include:

- Presentation and tasting of several types of fruits at the main office complex and discussion on application of growth bio-regulators.

- A tour of the U of I comprehensive projects on Fuji and Gala apple irrigation and rootstock selections, chemical

thinning and pesticides uses.

- A tour of alternative fruit crops such as quinces, Asian pears, permissions, Jujube and mulberries.

- A tour of table grape vineyards, peaches and nectarines and a discussion and question-and-answer session on various cultural practices of fruit crops, including planting, growth regulators, pruning, thinning, girdling, pest control and irrigation.

For more information, call (208) 722-6701, ext. 228 or Dr. Essie Fallahi at (208) 722-6701, ext. 225.



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Homedale-area seed plant on the agenda

Treasure Valley Seed Co., which is located north of Homedale on U.S. Highway 95 in Canyon County, will be part of Treasure Valley Ag Tour 2007 on Sept. 5.

Txoko Ona club to play host to legislators during Ag Tour

Members of the Idaho Legislature will visit a Homedale-area business next month as part of the three-day Treasure Valley Ag Tour.

More than 50 legislators are expected to tour Treasure Valley Seed Co., on U.S. Highway 95 north of Homedale on Wednesday afternoon. Treasure Valley Seed operations manager Don Tolmie will lead the tour of the company's main facility. Treasure Valley Seed also has a plant in Powell, Wyo.

A catered lunch at the Txoko

Ona Basque Center in Homedale will precede the seed plant tour.

Lunch is scheduled for 12:15 p.m., with the seed plant tour following at 1:45 p.m.

The entire state legislative delegation that represents Owyhee County will attend the three days of tours, including Sen. Tom Gannon (R-Buhl), Rep. Jim Patrick (R-Twin Falls) and Rep. Bert Brackett (R-Rogerson).

The Owyhee County Commissioners are scheduled to welcome the legislators during the lunch. The lunch also will include the introduction of the Canyon County Farm Family of the Year and a discussion of Idaho dairy industry issues.

After the Treasure Valley Seed Co. tour, the legislators will hear about drip irrigation systems and water conservation before heading to their next stop on the tour — visit to a mint still at Christensen Farms in Canyon County near Greenleaf.

"The Ag Tour program has been specifically designed to help Idaho legislators get an in-depth understanding of both the importance of agriculture in the Treasure Valley area and the issues facing the agricultural com-

munity," tour coordinator Roger Batt said.

Other highlights of Wednesday's schedule includes a visit to the Symms Fruit Ranch in Sunny Slope at 4:15 p.m. The day begins with an 8:15 a.m. tour of the Blue Sky Bio-Diesel plant in New Plymouth. Former Owyhee County resident Rob Black is a key figure in the Blue Sky plant.

The ag tour kicks off Tuesday with the legislative party's arrival at Swan Falls Dam at 1:45 p.m. A casual reception with Nampa Mayor Tom Dale will be held at the Hampton Inn in Nampa at 6:15 p.m.

The tour ends Sept. 6 with a dairy tour, power quality demonstration and exhibition of Roundup Ready sugarbeets in Nampa, followed by a tour of the Simplot Co., potato plant and the University of Idaho Food Technology Center, both of which are in Caldwell.

"Idaho faces a number of challenges to its \$10 billion agricultural economy," Batt said. "As our population increases, society begins to understand agriculture even less.

"It is crucial that our legislators get a well-rounded picture both of the importance and contributions made to Idaho by agriculture and about the important ag-related issues now on the table and those on the horizon."



Society members travel tracks of the past
Ore cart ruts worn in granite at the Mississippi Mine site on War Eagle Mountain show evidence of activity from a more than a century ago. Photo by Mary O'Malley

OCHS group visits mine on War Eagle

by Mary O'Malley

Saturday, Aug. 18 found 55 members and guests of the Owyhee County Historical Society on a field trip to a historic mine high on War Eagle Mountain.

Don Barnhill and his wife Lucrecia gave an excellent tour of their property, which consists of 13 acres of the Mississippi Mine site, complete with old roads used by oxen- or mule-drawn ore carts, two collapsed mine tunnels, and other mining remains. Don Barnhill, who is an archaeologist by training, has done only a preliminary survey of the site but says he will do a complete evaluation in time.

Ownership records of the property show that B. Castignetta patented the Mississippi Mine in 1887, which is quite late for a mine on War Eagle. The Castignetta Half Way House, a saloon on the Oro Fino Toll Road halfway between Silver City, was nearby, but was owned by M. Castignetta, so Barnhill speculates they were related.

Assays of the ore when the mine was patented in 1887 showed silver at \$1,500 per ton of ore and gold at \$2,300 per ton (2007 dollars), which is quite rich ore, even though this mine is not on a known primary or secondary vein. The tunnels were dug and the roads developed before 1887

with little evidence of work done much after that time. The work may have been done some time before because multiple sources indicate that there was no extensive work done on the mines on War Eagle after the Bank of California suspended payments in 1875. Another difficulty was lack of wood for mine timbers. The records show the closest usable timber was 7½ miles west of the mine site.

Castignetta sold the mine to the Tamborini family in 1926, and Mrs. Tamborini died at Fresno, Calif., in 1996 at age 102. No heirs could be found, so in time, Owyhee County took the land for back taxes and sold it at auction, with Barnhill offering the highest bid.

For more information on War Eagle mines, and general information on mining in the Silver City district, read *War Eagle Mountain Field Trip* by Wilma Lewis Statham and her family. Her son Bill Statham was on this trip and contributed greatly to details of mines and mills and their operation.

The next OCHS fieldtrip will be a cleanup of the Chinese (or Pioneer) cemetery at Silver City on Sept. 8. The party will meet at 10 a.m. at the Idaho Hotel. Wear sturdy shoes or boots and gloves, and plan on a potluck lunch.

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'03 Ford Taurus SE WAS \$9,770 NOW \$8,995	'04 Pontiac Grand Am SE WAS \$12,995 NOW \$11,995	'02 Chrysler T & C AWD Limited WAS \$16,770 NOW \$14,446	'04 Kia Sorento LX 4X4 WAS \$17,995 NOW \$16,995	'06 Ford Fusion SEL WAS \$21,995 NOW \$18,995	'07 Ford Crown Victoria WAS \$22,995 NOW \$21,995	'06 Mercury Mountaineer WAS \$27,770 NOW \$25,995
'05 Kia Spectra LX WAS \$9,995 NOW \$8,995	'05 Ford Focus SE WAS \$12,995 NOW \$11,995	'03 Ford Explorer XLT WAS \$16,995 NOW \$14,863	'04Hyundai Santa Fe WAS \$17,770 NOW \$16,995	'05 Dodge Dakota Club Cab 4x4 WAS \$20,995 NOW \$19,995	'06 Ford Explorer XLT WAS \$23,995 NOW \$22,995	'05 Ford Mustang GT Coupe WAS \$26,995 NOW \$25,995
'04 Pontiac Grand Am SE WAS \$10,995 NOW \$9,995	'05 Ford Taurus SE WAS \$12,995 NOW \$11,995	'03 Ford E-350 Super Cargo Van WAS \$15,995 NOW \$14,995	'04 Ford Explorer XLT WAS \$17,995 NOW \$16,995	'05 Toyota Tundra Reg. Cab 4x2 WAS \$20,995 NOW \$19,995	'07 Ford Escape Limited 4X4 WAS \$24,995 NOW \$23,995	'06 Ford F-150 Supercab 4X4 WAS \$27,995 NOW \$26,995
'05 Ford Taurus SE WAS \$10,995 NOW \$9,995	'01 Ford Mustang Coupe WAS \$13,995 NOW \$12,995	'04 Ford Mustang Coupe WAS \$15,995 NOW \$14,995	'03 Ford Explorer XLT WAS \$18,995 NOW \$17,770	'05 Ford Explorer XLT WAS \$20,995 NOW \$19,995	'05 Ford Explorer Sport Trac WAS \$24,995 NOW \$23,995	'06 Ford Explorer Eddie Bauer WAS \$29,995 NOW \$26,995
'03 Kia Spectra WAS \$11,995 NOW \$10,770	'05 Ford Focus SE WAS \$13,995 NOW \$12,995	'02 Ford Escape XLT 4X4 WAS \$15,995 NOW \$14,995	'05 Ford Mustang Coupe WAS \$18,770 NOW \$17,995	'06 Ford Escape XLT WAS \$21,995 NOW \$19,995	'05 Ford Mustang GT Coupe WAS \$24,995 NOW \$23,995	'06 Ford Explorer Eddie Bauer WAS \$29,995 NOW \$26,995
'01 Buick Park Avenue WAS \$11,995 NOW \$10,995	'02 Ford Expedition XLT WAS \$14,995 NOW \$13,124	'02 Ford Explorer XLT WAS \$16,995 NOW \$15,995	'02 Ford Escape XLT WAS \$18,770 NOW \$17,995	'06 Ford Five Hundred SEL AWD WAS \$24,995 NOW \$20,995	'06 Ford F-150 Supercab 4X4 WAS \$25,995 NOW \$24,995	'06 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT WAS \$29,995 NOW \$28,995
'01 Volkswagen Golf GTI VR6 WAS \$13,995 NOW \$10,995	'01 Ford Escape XLS WAS \$14,995 NOW \$13,995	'03 Ford Escape XLT 4X4 WAS \$17,770 NOW \$15,995	'04 Ford F150 Regular Cab 4x2 WAS \$18,995 NOW \$17,995	'05 Ford Ranger Supercab 4X4 WAS \$21,995 NOW \$20,995	'05 Ford Sport Trac WAS \$25,995 NOW \$24,995	'06 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT WAS \$30,770 NOW \$28,995
'05 Ford Focus ZX3 WAS \$11,995 NOW \$10,995	'05 Ford Focus ZX5 WAS \$14,995 NOW \$13,995	'03 Ford Escape XLT WAS \$16,770 NOW \$15,995	'04 Ford F250 Supercab Diesel WAS \$20,770 NOW \$18,995	'05 Ford Explorer XLT WAS \$21,770 NOW \$20,995	'05 Ford Sport Trac WAS \$25,995 NOW \$24,995	'06 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT WAS \$30,770 NOW \$28,995
'04 Oldsmobile Alero WAS \$11,995 NOW \$10,995	'05 Kia Optima EX WAS \$14,995 NOW \$13,995	'03 Ford Mustang Convertible WAS \$16,995 NOW \$15,995	'05 Ford Mustang Coupe WAS \$19,995 NOW \$18,995	'06 Ford Ranger Supercab 4X4 WAS \$21,995 NOW \$20,995	'06 Ford F150 Supercab 4X4 WAS \$27,995 NOW \$25,995	'04 Ford F250 Diesel Crew King Ranch WAS \$31,995 NOW \$29,770
'05 Ford Focus S WAS \$11,995 NOW \$10,995	'07 Ford Focus SE WAS \$14,995 NOW \$13,995	'05 Nissan Sentra SE-R Spec V WAS \$17,995 NOW \$16,995	'00 BMW 323i WAS \$19,770 NOW \$18,995	'05 Chevy Trailblazer LS WAS \$21,995 NOW \$20,995	'05 Ford Mustang GT Coupe WAS \$26,995 NOW \$25,995	'04 Ford F-250 Supercab Diesel WAS \$30,770 NOW \$29,995
'06 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT WAS \$30,995 NOW \$29,995	'07 Ford Expedition EL XLT WAS \$38,995 NOW \$37,995	'06 Ford Expedition XLT WAS \$32,995 NOW \$31,995	'07 Ford Expedition EL XLT WAS \$38,995 NOW \$37,995	'06 Ford Explorer Limited WAS \$35,995 NOW \$34,995	'08 Ford F350 Diesel Supercab WAS \$46,995 NOW \$43,995	
'06 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT WAS \$31,770 NOW \$29,995	'07 Ford Expedition EL XLT WAS \$38,995 NOW \$37,995	'06 Ford F150 Supercrew Lariat WAS \$32,995 NOW \$31,995	'05 Ford F-250 Crew Cab Diesel Harley WAS \$40,995 NOW \$37,995	'04 Ford Excursion XLT 6.0L Diesel WAS \$36,995 NOW \$33,995	'07 Ford Expedition EL XLT WAS \$38,995 NOW \$37,995	
'06 Ford Expedition XLT WAS \$32,995 NOW \$30,995	'07 Ford Expedition EL XLT WAS \$38,995 NOW \$37,995	'06 Lincoln Town Car Signature LTD WAS \$34,995 NOW \$32,995	'06 Lincoln Navigator WAS \$41,995 NOW \$37,995	'04 Ford Excursion XLT 6.0L Diesel WAS \$36,995 NOW \$33,995	'07 Ford Expedition EL XLT WAS \$38,995 NOW \$37,995	

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County FFA chapter news



Marsing officers discuss upcoming year
The new Marsing FFA chapter officers recently gathered to talk about the upcoming year and their new advisor, Mike Martin. Submitted photo

Marsing

The Marsing FFA chapter ended last year by electing a new officer team.

For 2007-08, our new president is Marcus Miller, a senior.

Our Vice President is Amy Beagley, also a senior. Bethany Sevy is our secretary, and she is a junior. For treasurer, we have C.C. Zanardi, a senior. Our new chapter reporter is Kelsey Granden, a junior. Our historian is Josefina Jacobo, a senior. Then for sentinel is Kaya Stahle, a junior.

We also have a new advisor, Mike Martin, who taught in Walla Walla, Wash., for 29 years.

This year, our officer retreat was on Friday Aug. 17 and was held in conjunction with the Homedale officer team. We talked about how we could be better leaders and officers in FFA. After that, we planned our year while enjoying some Owyhee Mountain Pizza.

The Marsing FFA started the new school year with its Kickoff Barbecue on Tuesday.

Homedale

The FFA national convention in Indianapolis, the annual Gift of Green activity, the Boise Valley District Dairy/Foods competition in Marsing, Meat the Need and donkey basketball are highlights of the Homedale FFA chapter 2007-08 schedule released last week by advisor Lori Harrison.

The chapter's new officers will hold a meeting at 7:30 a.m. next Wednesday.

The Harvest Auction fundraiser will be held at 6 p.m. on Sept. 29.

Other highlights of the calendar include:

- Boise Valley District Dairy/Foods competition, 8 a.m., Oct. 10, Marsing
- FFA National Convention, Oct. 22-27, Indianapolis
- Job Interview and Mechanics Career Development Experience (CDE), 8 a.m., Nov. 29
- Gift of Green, 6 p.m., Dec. 21
- State Degree/Speaking, 8 a.m., Jan. 30, Columbia High School, Nampa

- Day on the Hill visit to Statehouse in Boise, 8 a.m., Feb. 4
- Homedale International Smorgasbord participation, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Feb. 9
- "Meat the Need" delivery, 3 p.m., Feb. 19
- Donkey basketball fundraiser, 6 p.m., March 10
- District officer sifting, 8 a.m., March 19, Meridian
- State Leadership Convention, April 9-12, College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls
- Officer sifting, 7 p.m., April 22
- Highway cleanup community service, 5 p.m., April 28
- Homedale FFA Ag Expo, 7:30 a.m., May 2, Owyhee County Fairgrounds
- Annual Homedale FFA chapter banquet, 7 p.m., May 5
- Livestock CDE, 8 a.m., May 14, Treasure Valley Community College, Ontario, Ore.
- Homedale FFA chapter end-of-year barbecue, noon, May 22
- State CDEs, June 2-8, University of Idaho, Moscow



Rimrock FFA fares well at fair
The Rimrock FFA Livestock judging team pulled double duty Aug. 17 at the Western Idaho Fair, competing in the Livestock and Dairy judging competitions. The squad included, from left to right, Chris Hipwell, Anna Cantrell, Ellie Cantrell, Jackie Thurman and Geoff King. Submitted photo

Rimrock

by Jackie Thurman, chapter reporter

On Aug. 17, the Rimrock FFA Livestock team went to the Western Idaho Fair in Garden City and competed in both livestock and dairy judging competitions.

Our team included Geoff King, Ellie Cantrell, Chris Hipwell, Anna

Cantrell and Jackie Thurman. No one from the dairy team could make it to the competition, so the livestock team judged both competitions.

Our team placed first in Livestock judging with three team members receiving high individual. Anna Cantrell received first high, Ellie Cantrell received

third high, and Jackie Thurman received fifth high.

In the dairy competition, our team placed third with Anna Cantrell receiving third high.

After the competition, the team looked at the booths, went on some rides, and had a great time. We are all very proud of our team.

Read all about it

in

The Owyhee Avalanche

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Fish and Game finds poached deer near Whiskey Mountain

The Idaho Fish and Game Department is seeking information into the poaching of three mule deer earlier this month in Owyhee County.

Fish and Game reports state sometime between Aug. 3 and Aug. 4, three deer were shot and left to waste within 100 yards of Chipmunk Meadows Road.

The area where two mule deer does and one buck were sho is accessible from Reynolds Creek and is in close proximity to the Whiskey Mountain area in Fish and Game big game Unit 40.

The antlers were cut off the young buck and no venison appeared to have been taken from the buck, Fish and Game reported.

On one of the does the backstrap meat and the rear quarters were taken, but the rest was left to rot.

Fish and Game is looking for anyone with information on the case or anyone who may have seen someone acting suspicious along the Chipmunk Meadows Road during this time.

Reporters may remain anonymous, and a reward may be available.

To report any leads, call Fish and Game Senior Conservation Officer Craig Mickelson at 989-9328 or the Citizen’s Against Poaching (CAP) hotline at (800) 632-5999.



Poachers kill Owyhee deer
This is one of three mule deer shot and left to waste by poachers in the Whiskey Mountain Area. Photo by Craig Mickelson, IDFG

Why Not a new kitchen. Why Not get that 18-year-old out of your new titanium refrigerator and into college. Why Not a convertible two-seater stick shift that the kids can't drive. Why Not two. Why Not a two-car garage. Why Not a backyard high performance hot tub that seats six. Why Not a stand up/sit down self propelled power mower. Why Not have a lot of cash ready and waiting for any emergency. Why Not a 24/7 home security system. Why Not a second bathroom with a steam shower. Why Not environmentally friendly toilets. Why Not Italian ceramic tiles. Why Not a Tuscan vacation. Why Not learn to parlare Italiano. Why Not opera season roof and add on a second in the kitchen. Why Not pedigree than you have. that looks like it's gone master's degree. Why Not Why Not a 60" HD Plasma Why Not discard high turn an interesting hobby a home office. Why Not buy that autographed baseball. Why Not a country club membership. Why Not a single-stack home gym. Why Not a gym membership. Why Not a personal trainer. Why Not training to tango. Why Not upping the carats on that anniversary gift. Why Not a 'bigger' wedding. Why Not a second honeymoon. Heck! Why Not a third honeymoon. Why Not a hard cedar porch swing. Why Not a lot of red cedar bird feeders. Why Not a cedar-shingled roof with solar panels. Why Not amusing the grandkids with a triple-decker swing set. Why Not anything wonderfully tech-y. Why Not a spa weekend. Why Not night school. Why Not culinary school. Why Not a 60" dual fuel range. Why Not cook up something to do with that unfinished basement. Why Not expand the deck. Why Not bring back your hairline. Why Not a sunroom. Why Not sunny Cancun. Why Not a 30-foot rig sloop. Why Not a year round beach house. Why Not mahogany hardwood floors. Why Not see one of the new Seven Wonders of the World. Why Not see three. Well, alright, Why Not all seven. Why Not? Yeah! Why Not ?

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Oregon reveals new game bird rules

Earlier this month, the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted game bird hunting regulations for the impending season.

“Most waterfowl populations remain robust and hunters can look forward to another great season with liberal bag limits,” said Brad Bales, migratory bird program coordinator.

“Our surveys show duck breeding populations in Oregon are up 27 percent overall from last year while populations in major breeding areas of Alaska and Canada are up 14 percent.”

Most upland bird seasons operate under a five-year framework so hunters won’t see many changes this year. Though most turkey hunters are already using smaller shot, a new regulation reduces the maximum limit of shot from BB to #2 for safety reasons because the smaller shot does not travel as far.

The 2007-08 game bird regulations will be available Aug. 18 at ODFW offices and license retailers

Below is a summary of the adopted 2007-08 game bird regulations adopted. More details about game bird hunting opportunities can be found in ODFW’s annual Fall Hunting Forecast, to be available online in mid-August.

Ducks — The Commission approved another liberal 107-day duck season with a daily bag limit of seven ducks with no more than one pintail, two canvasback, three scaup, two hen mallard, and two redheads. Season dates are Oct. 13-28 and Oct. 31-Jan. 27 in Zone 1 and Oct. 6-Dec. 4 and Dec. 7-Jan. 20 for Zone 2.

Goose — Most zones continue a 100-day season with a liberal bag limit of four dark geese and four white geese. Openings are concurrent with duck openers in most areas. The bag limit for the September Canada goose season in eastern Oregon has been reduced from five to three per day to reflect declining populations of resident geese.

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rejoin

the family table

FAMILY FEATURES

Remember that picturesque Norman Rockwell portrait of a family sitting and enjoying a hot meal together? It's all but a distant memory now. In fact, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the typical American family spends over \$2000 a year on dinners in restaurants with 10 percent of those dinners eaten at fast food establishments. What's more, over 50 percent of the dinners eaten by overweight American children are consumed in front of the television. Further research has also shown that children who eat dinner with their parents have higher intakes of essential nutrients and vitamins. The same study showed that a family dinner is possible even if both parents work.

What's the solution? Turning off the TV is one and involving kids in the meal preparation may be another. Parents may find that kids take pride in a meal they helped to create. It's also a good opportunity for parents to talk to kids about the importance of having a good diet.

One way to have fun, be creative and eat healthy while cooking with kids is to incorporate herbs and spices into food preparation. From drinks, soups and salads to pastas and main dishes, herbs and spices add flavor and aroma without fat, sugar or salt. It's simple to freshen up the dishes your family already loves with the judicious use of herbs and spices — and you'll be giving them a boost of antioxidants at the same time. Instead of cream

in a tomato soup, stir in Italian parsley, basil and cilantro. Whisk a fresh herb or herb paste with olive oil and lemon juice for a tangy vinaigrette over salads — no one will miss the salt. Banish that heavy, cream-based Alfredo sauce for pasta by switching to olive oil flavored with finely chopped garlic or garlic paste, Italian parsley and basil. Add finely grated lemon grass or lemon grass paste to tea, along with a spoonful of honey, and you can omit the sugar.

While fresh herbs and spices are available only seasonally, new innovations have made it possible to enjoy them year round and make the cooking of a meal fast, easy and fun. A relatively new product on store shelves, Gourmet Garden Squeezable Herbs and Spices, comes in a variety of choices like Garlic, Basil, Chili Pepper and many more. These herbs and spices are picked fresh, chopped, blended and sealed in the easy-to-squeeze tubes so they are always in season — and there's no chopping, no mess and, most importantly, no waste. The process of producing the squeezable fresh herbs and spices gives them a shelf life of three to six months when stored in the freezer. Kids and parents can enjoy creating many meals together with these fun and easy-to-squeeze fresh herbs and spices.

herbs & spices: a healthy harvest

- Herbs and spices have a long history of medicinal use — since at least 5,000 B.C.
- Herbs and spices are among the richest sources of antioxidants. On a weight basis, they're higher than many fruits and vegetables.
- Herbs and spices can help reduce fat and sugar in the diet by adding flavor without unwanted calories.
- Herbs and spices add vibrant color and a fresh flavor to most recipes — from savory to sweet.
- Herbs and spices taste best when added to a recipe toward the end of cooking.

For more information, tips and recipes, visit www.gourmetgarden.com. Gourmet Garden products can be found in the fresh produce section of leading supermarkets and are available in 10 varieties — Basil, Cilantro, Dill, Garlic, Lemon Grass, Oregano, Italian Seasoning, Chili Pepper, Ginger and Parsley — packed in squeezable 4-ounce clear tubes.



Tomato Herb Soup

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1 large onion, diced
- 1 (28-ounce) can tomatoes
- 4 cups vegetable stock
- 1/2 ounce Gourmet Garden Squeezable Cilantro
- 1/2 ounce Gourmet Garden Squeezable Basil
- 1/2 ounce Gourmet Garden Squeezable Parsley
- Toasted croutons

1. In large saucepan, melt butter over medium heat. Add celery, onion and cilantro: cook until celery softens.
2. Add tomatoes, stock, basil and parsley: bring to boil. Simmer about 30 minutes.
3. Remove from heat, cool and puree with food processor.
4. Reheat and serve with toasted croutons.

Spaghetti Bolognese

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 1 pound ground beef
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 1 (14-ounce) can diced tomatoes
- 1 (14-ounce) jar tomato pasta sauce
- 1/2 ounce Gourmet Garden Squeezable Basil
- 1/2 ounce Gourmet Garden Squeezable Parsley
- 1 pound spaghetti, cooked
- Parmesan cheese, for topping

1. Heat olive oil and pan fry onion and ground beef until beef is browned.
2. Stir in tomato paste, tomatoes and pasta sauce. Simmer 10 minutes or until thickened.
3. Stir in basil and parsley.
4. Serve with spaghetti and sprinkling of parmesan.



Chicken and Tomato Fettuccine

- 1 lemon, juiced
- 2 tablespoons pine nuts
- 1/4 cup finely grated parmesan cheese
- 1/2 ounce Gourmet Garden Squeezable Garlic
- 1/2 ounce Gourmet Garden Squeezable Basil
- 1/2 ounce Gourmet Garden Squeezable Parsley
- 1/3 cup light olive oil
- 14 ounces chicken breasts
- 12 ounces fettuccine
- 8 ounces grape tomatoes, halved
- Parmesan cheese, for topping (optional)

1. Combine lemon juice, pine nuts, cheese, garlic, basil and parsley in food processor. Process until roughly chopped. With motor running, add olive oil and blend mixture into smooth paste.
2. Brush chicken with olive oil and season to taste. In large frying pan cook chicken about 8 minutes on each side, until brown and cooked through. Set aside to rest before slicing.
3. Meanwhile, cook fettuccine according to package directions. Drain and toss with sliced chicken, grape tomatoes and enough herb-cheese sauce to coat pasta. Serve sprinkled with parmesan, if desired.



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Cantaloupe **39¢** lb.

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Tomatoes



79¢ lb.

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Bacon **\$229** ea.

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Franks **89¢** ea.

Market Pack
Sausage **\$159** lb.

Western Family 8 oz.
Shredded Cheese **\$179** ea.

Western Family 12 oz.
Cheese Singles **\$219** ea.

New Crop
Red Potatoes **69¢** lb.

1 lb.
Baby Carrots **\$119** ea.

5 lb. Bag
Gala Apples **\$309** ea.

Local
Sweet Corn **4 for \$1**

Jumbo
Yellow Onions **39¢** lb.

Local Peaches
& Nectarines **89¢** lb.

Gatorade



89¢ ea.

32 oz.

Western Family 16 oz.
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Doritos Tortilla Chips 13 oz. 2 for \$5	Western Family Pork n Beans 30 oz. \$119 ea.	Kellogg's Cereals Asst'd 16-24 oz. \$309 ea.	Western Family Southern Hash Browns 32 oz. \$129 ea.
Western Family Sour Cream 16 oz. \$109 ea.	Western Family Baked Beans 27.5 oz. \$129 ea.	Marie Callender's Frozen Pies Asst'd \$579 ea.	Ore Ida Frozen Potatoes 20-32 oz. \$239 ea.
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