



**Marsing wins  
Homecoming  
In Sports**

**Rescue, Page 12A**

Mother praises county crews  
for rescue of son and friends

**Pilot lost in tragedy, Page 3A**

Man killed in Reno Air Races had  
strong ties to Homedale airfield

**Wednesday, September 19, 2007**

**Established 1865**

# The Owyhee Avalanche

**VOLUME 24, NUMBER 38**

**HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO**

**SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS**



## Wednesday fire damages Auto Body by Alan workshop

*Above:* Smoke billows out from the workroom of the Auto Body by Alan shop as firefighters from the Homedale Fire Department attempt to douse the blaze. *Below:* Shop owner Alan Bahem stands with his daughter, Alysha, and watches as firefighters work to control the fire.

## City, King's talking land lease again

The City of Homedale and a Burley-based department store chain may be close on a lease for a portion of idle city-owned land.

Mayor Paul Fink reported during Wednesday's first city council meeting of the month that he and City Councilman Tim Downing had met earlier in the day with King's Department Store owner Tom King and an attorney for the regional store chain to discuss lease details.

Fink said that he expected King to file this week a letter of intent to lease a 2½-acre slice of the city's

7-acre parcel south of the airport.

After Wednesday's meeting, Fink said the terms originally floated when King first showed interest in the land could hold true in any agreement submitted for city council approval.

King's would lease the 2½ acres at 2.5 cents per square foot per year for 50 years. That comes out to an annual lease payment of \$2,722.50 and a total lease amount of \$136,125.

The city already has spent

— See *Lease*, page 4A



## Fire destroys area auto body shop

A fire broke out in Alan Bahem's auto body shop on Graveyard Point Road on Wednesday morning.

The Homedale Fire Department dispatched all of its vehicles — two pumpers, two tenders and a command unit — and 16 firemen to battle the blaze. No one was injured in the fire, which started in the main workroom of the four-room corrugated metal workshop. The fire was isolated to that room, and crews extinguished it in about 45 minutes, according to fire chief Scott Salutregui.

Salutregui said that the cause of the fire is unknown at this time and that the fire department is not planning an investigation.

"The insurance company will probably investigate the cause, but we are not investigating at this time," Salutregui said.

Bahem, owner of Auto Body by Alan, said he had not heard anything regarding the fire's cause from his insurance company as of Monday.

— See *Fire*, page 5A

## OHV group wants Flint Creek, Bachman re-opened

### County to hold public hearing

An off-highway vehicle user group's request to open portions of two county roads gets a public hearing before the board of commissioners Monday night.

The Owyhee Country Ridge Runner Club, which according to the Idaho State Snowmobile Association Web site is based in Boise, has petitioned the county commissioners to open parts of Flint Creek Road and Bachman

Grade Road.

The public hearing is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday inside the Owyhee County Historical Museum's McKeeth Hall at 17085 Basey St., in Murphy.

Both roads are closed to ATV and motorcycle traffic, and commission chair Dick Freund has said that they should stay that way.

"If you open these roads to everybody and anybody, I believe you're going to have people

— See *OHV*, page 4A

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# PD ready to enforce garbage law

## Eidemiller warns non-conforming containers won't be tolerated

Homedale residents have been put on notice: Make sure your garbage is properly stored in cans for pickup each Tuesday.

Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller informed the city council during Wednesday's meeting that his officers are preparing to crack down on garbage that is improperly set out for pickup by the city's garbage contractor, Westowns Disposal.

"It's a city ordinance," Eidemiller said. "It is required that you have suitable containers for garbage."

Ordinance No. 233, passed by the city council and signed by Mayor George Murray on Aug. 11, 1982, went into effect on Dec. 1 of that year and made participation in a garbage collection program mandatory.

The ordinance set up all provisions of garbage collection, from billing to the proper storage of refuse.

Containers are supposed to be watertight cans with handles and "close-fitting" lids that have a capacity of between 10 and 32 gallons. The cans are required to be, able to keep rodents and flies out, and can weigh no more than

75 pounds when filled.

The ordinance also requires that the lids remain on the cans at all times, except to fill or empty the containers.

The ordinance also allows Westowns crews to refrain from picking up any containers that don't conform to the law.

But the ordinance hasn't been enforced, and the city has received complaints from Westowns about any manner of non-conforming containers, including simple plastic shopping bags chucked over a back fence into the alleyway where collections are made.

Eidemiller said on a recent patrol he noticed several instances of non-compliance.

"We're not talking 10 or 11," he said. "It was in every alley."

The chief said dogs get into unsecured containers and compound the problem by dragging garbage all over the alleys.

City councilman Tim Downing raised the question of mandatory garbage totes, to which councilman Steve Schultz said he had heard "mixed opinion."

"The first step is even a \$7 Wal-Mart can, if that's all they can afford," Eidemiller said.

Eidemiller said that the city law hasn't been enforced and is "one of those ordinances that slid on the backburner."

But, he warns, a crackdown is coming.

"We'll give people ample opportunity to get suitable containers, but eventually we'll have to draw a line in the sand and issue citations," Eidemiller said.

### Sewer update

City public works supervisor Larry Bauer reported that the sewer expansion project being built by Eastern Oregon Construction has passed another milestone.

Bauer said the sewer line work has been finished, but video inspection revealed three "sags" in the new pipe that had to be fixed.

He said he expected the mechanical phase of the project to begin soon. Eastern Oregon also has been contracted to build a lift station to service the new line that stretches east under U.S. Highway 95 and then south to hook up with a line from a local RV park.

Another part of the expansion will connect existing homes on Colorado Avenue to the city sewer system.

"So far, I've been really pleased," Bauer told the council. "It's gone well."

### Water project

Bauer also said that the city is getting closer to a point to ask for bids on updating the municipal water system.

Bauer, Mayor Paul Fink and city engineer Fred Ostler recently met with representatives from the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, Bauer said.

He said that DEQ is concerned that a water quality study hasn't been conducted, but he was hopeful that the state agency would accept historical data on the city's water quality rather than order a new water study, which could cost Homedale \$50,000.

### Church permit approved

Council members unanimously approved the conditional use permit for the Homedale Christian Church to expand its facility. The city Planning and Zoning Commission had recommended the council OK the CUP.

The council didn't act upon a second recommendation by the P&Z to approve a request from Homedale Plaza Partners to vacate an alley near the development firm's proposed retail site on the site of the former Homedale Auto Recyclers.

— JPB

# Marsing moves to deter vandals

The Marsing City Council voted on Wednesday to provide Owyhee County's Triad chapter with a vehicle and a cell phone so members of the group can monitor City Park and report suspicious activity.

The council also discussed installing surveillance cameras at the park and asked the city attorney to prepare an amendment to the city's parks ordinance that would close the city's parks at dark.

The action was in response to a recent rash of vandalism throughout the city, including cases that have touched City Park.

Mayor Don Osterhoudt told the council that the city has a vehicle that is not currently being used and that Triad involvement would be voluntary, so all the city would have to pay for would be gas, a cell phone and additional cell phone minutes, as needed.

Osterhoudt said that Triad patrols already had cut down on littering at the Jump Creek Canyon parking lot, and patrols around the park might yield similar results.

Owyhee County Sheriff's Deputy Gary Olson said that Triad members would not be armed, nor would they approach anyone. The patrols would act as another set of eyes for the sheriff's office.

"It would definitely be a deterrent," Olson said of Triad's presence.

Olson added that the biggest deterrent to park vandals is cold weather.

"Most of the vandalism is being done by people on foot, and people on foot don't like cold weather," Olson said.

The council voted to apply for funds through the Department of Homeland Security for a video camera to monitor the city's water facilities. Members discussed installing similar equipment at the park, but took no action.

The council asked City Attorney Stephanie Bonney to write an ordinance amendment regarding the park's official closing so that violators could be cited rather than just being asked to leave.

Triad is a national senior citizens' organization, formed in 1988 through the joint effort of members of AARP, the National Sheriff's Association, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police. The group's activities center around community policing and the safety and security of seniors.

— RTH

# Chamber tees off golf tournament today at River Bend

The Homedale Chamber of Commerce reported last week that there still were openings for its fund-raising golf tournament, which is set for today at River Bend Golf Course in Wilder.

Chamber president Gavin Parker said during Thursday's monthly luncheon at Owyhee Lanes and Restaurant that — at

that time — there was room for seven more teams.

The tournament will be played in a scramble format with two teams on each of the nine holes.

The tourney will have a 3 p.m. shotgun start today, and a barbecue catered by Owyhee Lanes and Restaurant will follow at the golf course around 5:30 p.m.

The entry fee for the golf tourney is \$35 per person or \$140 per team. The price includes a cart, greens fees, a gift bag and the barbecue.

Tickets for the barbecue only are available for \$7.50.

Tournament registration will be taken at 2 p.m., and Parker said a putting contest could be held at

2:30 p.m.

The Chamber also is seeking sponsorships for each hole. At the time of last week's luncheon, there were four of 19 sponsorships left. The price to sponsor a hole is \$50 for Chamber members or \$75 for a non-member business. Parker said the \$75 fee includes a one-year Chamber membership.

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# Dead air racer flew out of Homedale

Fellow Homedale Airport businessman remembers Valley Air Service owner

A pilot well known in the Homedale aviation community was remembered as an extraordinary man Friday, just hours after his death in a Nevada air race.

Gary Hubler, a 51-year-old pilot who operated Valley Air Service, Inc., in Caldwell and Homedale, died after a midair collision Friday morning during the 44<sup>th</sup> annual Reno National Air Races.

“He was such a good guy,” Aerocolor, Inc., owner John Rogers said. “He loved everybody, and he was very nice toward people he didn’t even know.”

“He was just an extraordinary man.”

Rogers, who has been a pilot for 20 years, has based his airplane maintenance, repair and painting business at the Homedale airport for the past decade.

He said he has been a Hubler family friend for 15 years.

Hubler died while competing for his sixth consecutive Formula 1 national championship at Reno-Stead Field. Rogers had served on his race crew for about six years, but couldn’t make the trip this year because of other commitments.

He received news at about 12:30 p.m. Friday that his friend had died in a two-plane collision.

“I was extremely shocked, of course,” Rogers said. “It’s a very hurtful thing.”

Hubler’s family owns the Caldwell-based Valley Air Service, Inc., for which he served as a crop duster when he wasn’t carving his niche as one of the top Formula 1 racers in the nation.

The Valley Air Service Homedale hangar holds a prominent location in the extreme southwest corner of the airport property along U.S. Highway 95.

His brother, Bruce, lives in Wilder.

Hubler holds the Reno course record for fastest qualifying speed — 260.145 mph — and the fastest race speed at 257.049. The qualifying record was set in 2003. He set the race speed record — which also stands as the overall Formula 1 mark — a year and two days ago at the Reno races.

His top speed this year was 259 mph during a heat race Thursday.

“He’s probably the best pilot



## Pilot killed in Reno Air Races crash had Homedale ties

Caldwell-based pilot Gary Hubler, right, was the owner and operator of a crop-dusting business called Valley Air Service. The company had a hangar at the Homedale Airport, left. Hubler photo from Mariah95.com Web site

I’ve ever known,” Rogers said. “It takes a very skilled person to pilot those planes.”

Rogers said Hubler spent about three months of the year flying out of the Homedale airport for his agricultural spraying business. He usually closed shop by September — about the end of the crop dusting season — and turned his focus to the Reno races.

“Gary was extremely well-known,” Rogers said. “Everybody knew him in the airplane industry around here.”

“He’s been an air racing pilot for quite a few years.”

Hubler had competed in Reno

since 1984, and he had flown “Mariah 95,” a modified Cassutt III M airplane designed specifically for pylon racing — the type of competition seen in Reno — since 1990.

According to media reports, Hubler was killed when his single-seat plane crashed after he clipped an aircraft flown by Jason Somes of Simi Valley, Calif. While Somes was able to land safely and escaped with non-life-threatening injuries after the collision near Pylon 1 on the Reno course, Hubler’s aircraft slammed into the ground near Pylon 2 apparently killing him instantly. The

debris slightly injured two pylon judges on the ground.

Hubler’s death was the 18<sup>th</sup> fatality in the 44-year history of the famous races. A biplane pilot from California, Steve Dari, and a jet pilot from Wyoming, Brad Morehouse, died within three days of each other earlier in the week.

“About four years ago, I lost another friend who was racing (in Reno),” Rogers said. “It does happen.”

“But if Gary was here right now ... He was so excited about it every year. He just absolutely loved it.”

— JPB

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# Fire, cemetery district boards seek candidates

Filing deadline is Sept. 28 for both Homedale fire, Bruneau cemetery boards

The candidacy filing deadline for upcoming elections for the board of directors in two taxing districts is looming Sept. 28. The two entities set for elections in November are the Homedale Rural Fire Protection District and the Bruneau Cemetery District. The filing deadline for the Homedale fire district is noon

Sept. 28. Declaration papers for candidates for Sub-District No.1 and Sub-District No. 3 are available at the district office at 19 E. Wyoming Ave., in Homedale, or at the Owyhee County clerk's office in Murphy. Write-in candidacy declarations are due by 5 p.m. on Oct. 12, 25

days before the Nov. 6 election. Three commissionerships will be on the November ballot for the Bruneau Cemetery District, and the deadline to nominate a candidate also is Sept. 28. Secretary David Jones must receive nomination papers signed by between five and 10 qualified district electors by 5 p.m. Sept.

28. The election will be held at Jones' residence beginning at 8 a.m. on Nov. 6. Any qualified electors living within the district may be nominated for one of the three seats. One seat carries a one-year term, while another is for two years and a third is a three-year tenure.

## From page 1

### ✓ OHV: Freund says roads lead to trails on private land

wanting to make loops, and you have to go through private property to do it," Freund said. The county's former chief deputy sheriff, Freund said reopening the two roads would create enforcement issues because both roads dead-end into trails leading to private property. He said that while responsible 4-wheeler groups stop and ask permission of private property owners before proceeding beyond the end of the county roads, not all riders are as ethical. Freund said there could be damaged gates, cut locks and other enforcement issues. "I foresee big issues that way, and I don't think we'd be able to afford to hire the people to enforce it," the first-term commissioner said. Freund also said if people want to ride on the private land beyond the roads, the solution is simple and doesn't require a change

in the county ordinance, which triggered this public hearing. "Why create more problems for ourselves and the ranchers when the issue can be solved with a phone call and you ask the property owner, 'Can we ride through your property from here to there on this date?'" Freund asked. The Owyhee Ridge Runner Club wants the county to lift restrictions on Flint Creek Road from the intersection with Pleasant Valley Road to the intersection with Bachman Grade Road. The club also has requested that Bachman Grade Road be open from its intersection with Toy Pass to the south end of Bachman Grade Road. A message left for the president of the off-road club, listed as Darren Watson of Boise on the snowmobile association Web site, was not returned. — JPB

### ✓ Lease: Total revenue would be \$136,125

\$3,500 out of its contingency fund to move dirt and level the property recently. Homedale also has tiled the irrigation ditch that runs parallel to Airport Way on the northern edge of the parcel. "Everything is a long ways from a done deal," Fink said. "We're just starting to negotiate." Fink admitted that one of King's demands is that the city pick up the tab for improving access to the land from U.S. Highway 95. Downing balked at the idea of the city financing any alteration in the access. "The developers are getting the land cheap," he said, suggesting that King's could better afford any upgrades than the city. Councilman Steve Schultz concurred. "We're bringing water and sewer to the site, and that's something the developer usually does," he said. Fink also said he has consulted Meridian-based engineering firm Keller Associates on the situation.

The mayor said Keller reps have told him that the responsibility for access lies with the developer. The mayor said the dirt leveling also was part of preparing the corner of the property for any possible access improvement. After early discussions with the Idaho Transportation Department about U.S. 95 access, no other meetings have been scheduled. He also has brought Keller on board in an effort to secure a \$100,000 ITD grant for street and curbing. But he said any money from that grant would be used for development throughout town, not just at the 7-acre site. Fink said King also has asked for a four-year option of the remaining five acres of land. The mayor said King's would serve as primary developer for other businesses on the parcel. "The council will have a say-

so," Fink said. "If someone wants to come in here in the future, we'll get a hold of Tom and let him sit in on the meeting." But the mayor wants to ensure the balance of the parcel won't sit idle as King decides what he wants to do with it. "The lease contract sent by the city (says) he would have something to present in a year to the council on the remaining five acres," Fink said during the council's Aug. 8 meeting. Fink isn't concerned about the fate of the land, which has sat idle since the city originally tried to lease it out in 2005, if the King's deal doesn't materialize. "If nobody wants to do anything, it could still go back to the airport," Fink said. "We have a lot of people who want hangars out there." — JPB



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### Letters to the editor

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



## From page 1

### ✓ **Fire:** No estimate on damage; nearly complete Model A burns in blaze

The original speculation was that the fire had started in the northeast corner of the workroom.

"That's what they thought," Bahem said, "but once we got in there and started cleaning up, the northeast corner is not damaged at all."

Bahem added that he has no idea how or where the fire started.

Bahem had no estimate on the cost of damages from the fire, but said that all of the equipment in the workroom was destroyed.

"Metal working tools, welders, plasma torches, a frame bench, frame tools, paint guns, all my paint, you name it," Bahem said. "I seriously doubt if there's anything any good in there."

Even metal tools in the workroom are probably a loss, according to Bahem.

"The heat has probably taken the temper out or made them brittle, depending on the type of steel they're made of," he said.

The workroom's wood frame was damaged beyond repair, so the room will have to be completely rebuilt, according to Bahem. Contractors already have been on-site, and Bahem expects to receive bids for the rebuilding job this week.

A paint room and an office on either side of the workroom suffered smoke damage, and a window in the office was broken. The fact that the fire did not spread to adjacent rooms can be attributed in part to the reaction of

those on the scene before the fire department arrived, Salutregui said.

"They did the right thing by keeping the doors closed," the chief said. "The way it was left closed up, it was a lot easier to fight."

With smoke rolling out from under the building's roof, the fire department cut a hole in a metal garage-type door on the workroom's east side and sprayed water into the enclosed area for several minutes before attempting to enter. Once the doors were opened, firemen used fans to dissipate smoke from the room.

No flames were visible from outside the building until after the doors had been opened, when small flames appeared at the structure's roof for a few minutes before being doused with water from one of the pump trucks.

Also damaged in the fire was a 1929 Ford Model A owned by Joe Aman. Aman had been restoring the vehicle since March, using all original and restoration parts except for paint.

"The only thing not original was the hand-rubbed lacquer," Aman said.

Aman said that the value of the Model A was \$29,000. Not included in that figure is the 800 to 900 hours Aman estimated he had devoted to the vehicle's reconstruction. Aman said that the Model A was within 1½ weeks of being completely restored when the fire occurred.



While acknowledging that the fire could have been much worse, Bahem said that he doesn't know at this point how he is going to get his business back up and running, or how long that will take.

"I appreciate what the firefighters did, and all the support from my friends and neighbors," Bahem said. "It's meant a lot."

"It's a small community. Everybody knows everybody," Salutregui said. "You try to do the best you can to help people. That's why you're there, to help."

— RTH

### Fire consumes contents of Graveyard Point Road shop

#### Clockwise from top:

An almost completely restored Ford Model A owned by Joe Aman was badly damaged.

A rainbow generated by the spray from a Homedale Fire Department water cannon appears above, from left to right, Alan Bahem's brother Dave, Alan's daughter Alysha, shop owner Alan Bahem and bystander Mark Aman.

Flames lick out above the roof of the workshop.

Smoke climbs skyward at the Auto Body by Alan workshop before the Homedale Fire Department extinguishes the blaze.





# School menus

## Homedale Elementary

Sept. 20: Spaghetti or pizza hot pocket, French bread, green beans, fruit & veggie bar, milk.  
Sept. 21: Hot ham cheese or turkey sandwich, yogurt, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, milk.  
Sept. 24: Wiener wrap or chicken pot pie, mac & cheese, green beans, fruit & veggie bar, rice krispy treat, milk.  
Sept. 25: Beef or chicken taco, corn, fruit & veggie bar, milk.  
Sept. 26: Chicken patty or rib-b-que, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

## Homedale Middle

Sept. 20: Lasagna or pizza hot pocket, green beans, fruit & veggie bar, bread stick, milk.  
Sept. 21: Pizza or popcorn chicken, salad, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.  
Sept. 24: Chicken patty or rib-b-que, tots, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.  
Sept. 25: Fish nuggets or mini corn dogs, rice, fruit & veggie bar, brownie, milk.  
Sept. 26: Crispito or toasted cheese sandwich, taco salad, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

## Homedale High

Sept. 20: Chicken patty or hamburger, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, sherbet cup, milk.  
Sept. 21: Chicken taco or French dip sandwich, corn, fruit & veggie bar, milk.  
Sept. 24: Pizza, nachos or chef’s salad, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.  
Sept. 25: Chicken nuggets or egg roll, rice pilaf, green beans, fruit & veggie bar, milk.  
Sept. 26: Idaho haystack, burrito, pizza hot pocket, fruit & veggie bar, cinnamon roll, milk.

## Bruneau

Sept. 20: Cheese yum, chicken noodle soup, celery & peanut butter, raisins, milk.  
Sept. 21: Chicken wrap, fried rice, stir fry veggie, fortune cookie, fruit, milk.  
Sept. 24: Pizza, salad/croutons, corn, pineapple, milk.  
Sept. 25: Sub sandwich, tots, fresh veggie, brownie, oranges, milk.  
Sept. 26: Chicken & noodles, salad/croutons, roll/butter, fruit, milk.

## Marsing

Sept. 20: Hamburger, veggie, fruit, milk, hot dog or chorizo, salad bar 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, roll.  
Sept. 21: Pizza, salad, fruit, milk, sandwiches, salad bar 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, roll.  
Sept. 24: Nachos, refried beans, fruit, milk, pizza, salad bar 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, roll.  
Sept. 25: Ham & cheese yum, fruit, veggie, milk, burrito, salad bar 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, roll.  
Sept. 26: Waffles, scrambled eggs & ham, strawberries, milk, rib-b-que, salad bar 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, roll.

# THANKS

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very special to us.

- Hal & Judy Tolmie

Read all about it  
in the Avalanche!

# Obituary

## Harold Lee ‘Double H’ Hall

Harold Lee “Double H” Hall, 67, of Homedale, died Tuesday, September 11, 2007 at the VA Medical Center in Boise.  
Memorial services were held at 2:00 PM Friday, September 14, 2007 at Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Homedale.  
Harold was born December 31, 1939 at Caldwell, Idaho, a son of Ray and Flora Kennedy Hall. He was raised and educated in the Opaline-Marsing area. Harold served in the US Army from 1961 until 1967. He married Carol Tibbett in 1967, they were later divorced. He married Barbara Mahler in 1975, they were later divorced.  
Harold ranched and farmed for a few years until he went to work for J.R. Simplot Company as a mechanic and welder. He retired from J.R. Simplot after 35 years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and trap shooting. He was a life member of the NRA  
He is survived by a daughter, Sharon Hall of Homedale, stepsons Ron (Mary) Tibbett, Mike Tibbett, Scott (Heather) Mahler and



Jeremy (Barbara) Mahler all of Homedale; a stepdaughter Linda (Ed) Ackley of OR; sisters Judy (Dave) Maglecic of Nampa and Gayle (Rick) Friddle of Melba, a sister-in-law Shirley Hall of Nampa, grandchildren Nick Mercado, Charlene Mercado and Lane Tibbett, great grandchildren Will, Sierra, Brianna, Erika Mercado and Ann Marie Tibbett, several nieces and nephews and step grandchildren.  
He was preceded in death by a brother Louis Hall.

# Death notice

ARTHUR POLLOCK, 99, of Marsing, died Friday, Sept. 14, 2007, in Caldwell. Services are pending with Dakan Funeral Chapel, Caldwell.

## Homedale grad’s book nominated for award

A book written by a Homedale High School graduate has been nominated for a literary award.  
The book by Jacquie Rogers, who is now based in Seattle, is Faery Special Romances, and it has been nominated for the 2007 Night Owl Romance Award for Best Print Sci-Fi/Fantasy Romance.



Jacquie Rogers

The award winner is chosen by popular vote, and fans can vote for Rogers’ work at <http://www.nightowlromance.com/nightowlromance/>  
Once at the Web site, page down, then click on the orange



and red box on the left that is labeled N.O.R. Awards to get to the ballot page.  
Web page visitors can cast one vote per day. Voting ends Oct. 31.

# Marsing seniors earmark funding

The Owyhee County Board of Commissioners recently awarded \$4,500 to each of the county’s three senior centers as part of its fiscal year 2008 budget.

The Marsing Senior Center said last week that its portion of the county funds will be used to continue its Meals on Wheels service and maintain the bus used for trips.

In addition to its Meals on Wheels program, the Marsing Senior Center also serves meals Monday through Thursday at its Main Street location.

The meal schedule includes breakfast from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday and a lunch buffet from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

For more information on the non-profit center, call 896-4634.

Homedale Senior Citizens Center coordinator Shirley McAbee said her center will use the county’s \$4,500 stipend for general operating costs, which has been the custom each year.

—Letter to the editor: Marsing Senior Center board thanks commissioners, Page 11B

# Senior menus

## Homedale Senior Center

Sept. 20: Beef stroganoff, noodles, broccoli, roll, drink.  
Sept. 25: Spaghetti & sausage, salad, bread, drink.  
Sept. 26: Hot meatloaf sandwich, mashed potatoes/gravy, mixed vegetables, drink.  
Sept. 27: Baked fish, baked potato, carrots, roll, drink.

## Marsing Senior Center

Sept. 20: Oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, carrot salad, soup, dessert, drink.  
Sept. 24: Breakfast to order.  
Sept. 25: Taco salad w/toppings, rice, beans, corn soup, dessert, drink.  
Sept. 26: Breakfast to order or Yankee pot roast, potatoes/gravy, carrots, salad, roll, dessert, drink.  
Sept. 27: Ham, scalloped potatoes, broccoli salad, soup, dessert, drink.

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Read Calendar each week  
in the Avalanche



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# Your finances

## It's never too late for positive finances

**Dear Dave,**

I'm in my 60s and have lived paycheck to paycheck my entire life. After hearing you, I'm living on a budget, almost have my emergency fund in place and will be ready to start my debt snowball soon. My friends and family think I'm crazy. They say it's too late to make a difference. What should I tell them?

— Dale

**Dear Dale,**

You tell them that only time it's too late to start living on a budget and being smart with your money is when you're no longer breathing!

I advise everyone — from college students on up — to start saving and paying off debts so they can build wealth later. Live like no one else so that later you can live like no one else. That message goes for you, too!

Right now, you're in a position to be a huge inspiration to all your friends and a great example for your children and grandchildren. Make this happen, Dale, and you can change your family tree for generations to come.

Get that emergency fund built up, and even sell some things if you have to. Make it fun! Get excited, focused and intense about this, and I promise you'll see your financial life get better in a hurry!

— Dave

**Dear Dave,**

I filed Chapter 7 bankruptcy a while back. The other day, I saw an article in a financial magazine saying the best way to re-establish credit after a bankruptcy is to find a low-limit credit card, make small purchases, then pay it off early each month. I'd like to buy a home in a few years, so what do you think of this advice?

— Kim

**Dear Kim,**

Whoever wrote that article is crazy! It's just about the worst advice I've ever heard.

Think about it. When people file bankruptcy they do it because they got so far into debt they couldn't get out. If debt has already pushed you into bankruptcy, don't you think it means debt is something you should avoid?

Don't worry about re-establishing your credit. If you go three or four years after bankruptcy without borrowing a dime you'll add no new entries to your credit bureau report. And this will show a potential mortgage lender that you got the point the first time. It means that you've got a little wisdom and you've learned from your mistakes.

The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different



results. Getting another credit card after all you've been through would be insane.

You can't borrow your way to wealth, Kim. You need to change the behavior in order to change the results!

— Dave

**Dear Dave,**

We're almost debt-free. The only things hanging over our heads right now are our house payment and a car loan. Would it be a good idea for us to roll the car note into our home loan so that we could deduct it on our income tax? We owe \$6,100 on the car, and our household income is about \$55,000 per year.

— Sylvia

**Dear Sylvia,**

I'd rather you just pay off your debts. You guys have all your others cleaned up, so just stay focused and knock out these last two big ones.

Remember, getting out of debt takes getting mad. You've got to get a little righteous anger going on and make it a passionate, all-out priority. If you do that with \$55,000 worth of income you can make a \$6,100 car note disappear in a flash!

Besides, in this situation any tax deduction is going be pretty small. The idea of some golden tax deduction is really just a mind game lenders play to get you to use their debt versus someone else's. They say you'll be sophisticated because it's a tax deduction, but when you do the math it's barely enough to buy you a night on the town!

— Dave

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

**Today**

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

Inaugural Homedale Chamber of Commerce Golf Scramble, 3 p.m., River Bend Golf Course, 18539 Fish Road, Wilder. (208) 337-3254, (208) 337-4693 or (208) 337-5585

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 Street, 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. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Homedale. (208) 482-6893

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

**Friday**

Jordan Valley Rope and Ride, cow dog trials, 9 a.m., Jordan Valley Rodeo Grounds. (208) 337-4094

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

**Saturday**

Jordan Valley Rope and Ride, 9 a.m., Jordan Valley Rodeo Grounds.

**Sunday**

Jordan Valley Rope and Ride, 9 a.m., Jordan Valley Rodeo Grounds.

Mountain View Family Fair and Roundup, 9 a.m. registration for team and breakaway roping, 10 a.m. Cowboy Church Service,

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337-4681

# Calendar

1 p.m. roping, Owyhee County Fairgrounds, Homedale

**Monday**

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

**Tuesday**

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

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. Homedale. (208) 475-3733

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

**Wednesday**

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

**Thursday, Sept. 27**

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. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Homedale. (208) 482-6893

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

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

**Friday, Sept. 28**

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, meetings, reunions or non-profit community events to *The Owyhee Avalanche* by noon Fridays for inclusion in the calendar. Drop off press releases at the *Avalanche* office at 19 E. Idaho Ave., Homedale, mail them to P.O. Box 97, Homedale, ID 83628, fax them to (208) 337-4867 or e-mail them to [jbrowneditor@cablone.net](mailto:jbrowneditor@cablone.net). For more information on submissions, call (208) 337-4681.



## LaDon's Corner

### Sapphire: Gem of the Heavens

**Sapphire**, the celestial gemstone, has been treasured for thousands of years. In fact, the ancient Persians believed earth rested on a giant sapphire and its reflection colored the sky. Sapphire is found in all the colors of the heavens: from midnight blue to the bright blue of noon sky in the Mediterranean, golden sunrise to firey reddish-orange sunsets, and the delicate violet of twilight. But the most famous and valuable sapphires are a rich intense blue, a truly royal hue. The British Crown Jewels are full of large blue sapphires, the symbol of pure and wise rulers. Tradition even holds that Moses was given the Ten Commandments on tablets of sapphire, making it the most sacred gemstone. Because sapphires represent divine favor, they were the gemstone of choice for kings and high priests. Sapphire is also the birthstone for September, the month when the most babies are born. If you have any questions about sapphires please feel free to call me.

---

**LaDon Reames**, owner of **LaDon's Fine Jewelry** in the WinCo/ShopKo Center has been a Nampa jeweler for thirty-three years. She is a certified diamontologist and gemologist. She can be reached at **208-461-0677**  
On the web @ [www.Ladonsfinejewelry.com](http://www.Ladonsfinejewelry.com)



# Homecoming 2007



### Glimpses of a celebration

*Counterclockwise from above: Marsing High School cheerleaders Cera Jackson and Molly Rice, both seniors, stand in front of the traditional bonfire during Wednesday's Homecoming celebration. Photo by Natalia Salinas*

*In the first heat of the tug-of-war during Wednesday's Homecoming celebration, the freshmen, left, pulled off the upset, defeating the seniors.*

*From left, teacher and assistant football coach Jake Walgamott, high school principal Wade Pilloud, teacher Beth Ledington, friend of school Mikel Bell, teacher Dawn Sandmeyer and head football coach Don Heller prepare to pull in their heat of the tug-of-war. The teachers lost. Photo by Brandy Smith, Marsing High yearbook*



**Marsing Homecoming 2007 royalty**  
*Ethan Sauer poses in his crown and cape, and Stephanie Powell models her tiara after the seniors were crowned Marsing High School's Homecoming king and queen on Friday night.*

## Marsing High crowns royalty

Stephanie Powell and Ethan Sauer were named queen and king at ceremonies prior to Marsing's Homecoming football game on Friday night. Jessica Freeman and Ethan Salove were Homecoming princess and prince.

Attendant royalty included freshmen Katelyn Blackstock and Trevor Lootens, juniors Cherie Daniel and Devon Cook, and seniors Amy Beagley, Elisa Moreno, Natalia Salinas, Amanda Staudenmier, J.T. Corta, Taylor Nielsen, Joe Taylor and Kris Young.

After various class competitions throughout Homecoming week, the junior class was declared the overall winner, and received \$200 and the Spirit trophy. The juniors won the Spirit Log and Float competitions, as well as the volleyball game along with the sophomores. The seniors were winners of the Gym Poster and Dress Up Days contests, and won the powder puff football game with the freshmen. The sophomores won the Tug-of-War.

Sauer is a senior, and is a basketball, football, and track athlete as well as a participant in the National Honor Society and the Student Council. He is the son of Shauna and Clay Sauer.

Powell is a member of the



### Homecoming court

*Sophomores Ethan Salove and Jessica Freeman pose with plaques honoring their election as Homecoming prince and princess.*

National Honor Society and the Student Council, and is the daughter of Alison McKinney and Kim and Chris Powell.

Salove is a sophomore who plays baseball, basketball and football for the Huskies, and he is

involved with FFA. He is the son of Becky and Chris Salove.

Jessica Freeman is a sophomore and a basketball, volleyball, and track athlete at Marsing High School. She is the daughter of Jane and Ed Freeman.



# Homecoming 2007



## Homedale band gets a new attitude

Second-year Homedale School District music director Karla Kachelmier has combined all musicians — from middle school through high school — in an attempt to build the numbers in the marching band. Photo by Gregg Garrett

## Tight-knit school band ready for a parade lap

Karla Kachelmier is aware that a strong marching band can be the fabric of a school. She's also aware that you can't have strong fabric without some good stitching.

The second-year music director for the Homedale School District has taken great strides to make the program's journey to prosperity as seamless as possible, and she has enlisted the help of some volunteers to achieve the goal.

"We had great help getting the uniforms ready for competition," she said. "More parents and relatives helped than I can even recall."

The handiwork — which included alterations on 39 jackets and 44 marching bibs — was required to shape a total of 50 uniforms into something more than a rag-tag assortment of 15-year-old outfits.

The band members — and their uniforms — already have made

two appearances at halftime of Homedale High School football games. But this week is the first big assignment for the musicians, as they will march in Friday afternoon's Homecoming parade through town then return to Deward Bell Stadium that night to play another halftime show.

Kachelmier was thrilled with the band's first halftime show — with drum major Katie Holloway in the lead — on Sept. 7. The musicians performed the theme from the motion picture "Batman."

Kachelmier was visibly nervous before the band took the field, but she has an understanding of what the musicians mean to the overall atmosphere at the high school.

"The part that was most fun for me was seeing the school spirit at a much higher level due to the hard work our cheerleaders have put in," she said, "and I like to think that the band adds

something to that, too."

The revamped uniforms were back on display during the performance during halftime of last week's Milk Jug Game against Parma.

Kachelmier said Julia Moore and her family handled many of the alterations, and some of those changes were extreme because the band is comprised this year of all grade levels in the district's music program.

Other volunteers helping in the effort include DeAnn Thatcher, Carol McMichael, Peggy Bertagnolli and Cheri Holloway, Kachelmier said.

"DeAnn Thatcher located a dry cleaner, and the band parents loaded up her van with the uniforms," Kachelmier said. "It may have been the first cleaning the band uniforms have had since 1992. They look brand new."

— JPB

## Trojans kick their Homecoming into overdrive today

Homecoming Week continues today at Homedale High School.

Today's activities, which include balloting for king and queen, will be capped by a pep rally at Deward Bell Stadium and class competitions.

The football stadium events begin at 6:15 p.m. today with the pep rally. At 6:30 p.m., tug of war and soccer will be contested.

The powder puff football games begin at 6:45 p.m. Admission is \$1. During halftime of each game, the boys cheerleading routine competition will be held for freshmen through seniors.

Noon today is the deadline to sign up out-of-school guests for Saturday's Homecoming dance. The dance will be held from 9 p.m. to midnight in the lunchroom.

Thursday's schedule will be highlighted by four games for the Trojans.

The girls soccer team visits Weiser, and the boys play host to Weiser at Sundance Park. Weiser also entertains the volleyball team.

The junior varsity football team plays Payette at 7 p.m. at Harmon Killebrew Field.

Friday's schedule is chock full of activities beginning at 8:10 a.m. as members from each class committee begin building their Homecoming parade floats.

Class activities will be held in the gymnasium after 10:30 a.m., including a football throw for the seniors, volleyball for the juniors, a shuttle run and field goal contest for the sophomores and a free-throw shooting contest for the freshmen.

A cheerleading class competition will be held at 1 p.m., and 45 minutes later parade lineup begins at the Owyhee County Fairgrounds.

The Homecoming parade is

scheduled to begin at 2:15 p.m. at Homedale Elementary School.

The Homecoming king and queen will be crowned after a 6:15 p.m. ceremony at Deward Bell Stadium prior to Friday's 3A Snake River Valley conference season opener against Payette.

The queen candidates this year are Amanda Andaverde, Irma Benitez and Yeraldin Juarez. In the running for king are Eric Engum, Jaime Uriarte and Micheal Wilhelm. Voting is scheduled for today.

Junior attendants are Rachelle Christoffersen and Nestor Machuca.

Sophomore attendants are Amelia McIntyre and Jake Tolmie.

The freshman attendants are Cristina Garcia and Walter Almaraz.

Each day there has been a dress-up theme at the high school. Monday was Pajamas Day and Tuesday was Men in Black Day.

The attire competition continues today with a theme for each class: Blue Jeans Day for the seniors, Polo Shirt Day for the juniors, Cross Dress Day for the sophomores and Hippie Day for the freshmen.

Thursday is Tie Day, and Friday is Red and White/Hat Day.

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# Woman sentenced in death of friend

A Boise woman was sentenced to prison Friday after pleading guilty to vehicular manslaughter in connection with an Owyhee County crash that killed her friend.

Tyra Clements was sentenced by District Judge Thomas J. Ryan in a Murphy courtroom. She will serve at least two years of a seven-year term, and her driving privileges have been suspended.

Clements entered a guilty plea to vehicular manslaughter on June 8.

She had been charged with the felony in the wake of a fiery March 24 auto accident between Givens Hot Springs and Marsing. Tests showed Clements had a blood-alcohol level of .16 at the time of the accident, which killed 19-year-old Victoria Shafner of Nampa.

According to a press release



Tyra Clements

issued by Owyhee County Prosecuting Attorney Matthew Faulks on Monday afternoon, Clements was driving a 2000 Chevy Malibu in which Shafner and Clements' 3-month-old infant were riding.

The accident occurred when the automobile struck an embankment, shot 12 feet off the ground went airborne for nearly 70 feet.

Clements got out and rescued her baby, but neither she nor witnesses could retrieve Shafner.

Shafner was the mother of one.

"The added tragedy of this drunk driving accident is that the child of Ms. Clements will lose her mother for at least two years while she is incarcerated, and that the child of Ms. Shafner will never know his mother," the release from Faulks said.

# Low turnout meetings on All-Hazards plan

No members of the public attended Thursday's public meeting for the Owyhee County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. The project's coordinator, Tera King of Northwest Management, Inc., said that public turnout was similar at the meetings in Marsing on Tuesday and Bruneau on Wednesday.

"Depending on how often a particular county is hit with some kind of disaster, we get anywhere from zero to 10 people at the public meetings," King said. "We probably average about two members of the public per meeting, but zero is not uncommon."

The meetings were held to solicit public input regarding existing and potential hazards to be documented in the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. The county is required to have such a plan in place

in order to qualify for funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the event of a disaster.

"The plan isn't necessarily dependent on public participation," King said, "but we certainly want and encourage anyone to give us their impressions, opinions, and/or ideas."

The committee of county officials, emergency workers and others, which formed in May, is attempting to document known and potential hazards throughout the county that could cause problems in the event of fire, flood, earthquake, landslide, severe weather or terrorism.

The next committee meeting is 7 p.m. Oct. 10 at the Owyhee County Historical Museum in Murphy.

— RTH

# Former HHS student returns to play Nazarene gospel fest

## Mountain View fair and roundup set for Sunday at fairgrounds

The Mountain View Church of the Nazarene Fair and Roundup is out to prove one thing — you can go home again.

The third annual event has grown from a reunion at the church in 2005 to a roping event and reunion at a member's arena in 2006 to a gospel and bluegrass music festival, roping, reunion and Cowboy Church service planned for the Owyhee County Fairgrounds in Homedale on Sunday.

The day begins with a 10 a.m. Cowboy Church service in the rodeo arena. Team roping and breakaway roping take over the arena at 1 p.m., and the free gospel concert starts at 12:45 p.m. at the Tumbleweed Theatre.

Registration for the roping competition takes place between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m.

This year's free gospel and bluegrass music festival will feature several local acts, and brings former Homedale High School student Bob Greer back to the area where he grew up beginning 60 years ago.

Greer, who lives in Nampa now, is part of the renowned bluegrass outfit Tradition. Greer is the band director, lead vocalist and rhythm guitarist for the band that has been acclaimed by the Idaho State Bluegrass Association.

Greer moved to the Central Cove area north of Homedale with his family in 1947. His father was a preacher at several churches, including the Homedale Assembly of God and the Fargo Community Church near Wilder.

Greer formed a band while attending Homedale High School, and the group played school assemblies.

Now, he heads a six-member

band with roots deep in bluegrass and gospel.

Joining Greer in the band is Nampa fiddler Doug Jenkins; James "Rudy" Corbett of Mountain Home on banjo, flat-picking guitar, harmony vocals and some lead vocals; Nampa's Pat Massie who is considered one of the best dobro players in the Northwest, according to a press release from festival organizers; Bill Elmer of Nampa plays mandolin and sings harmony and lead; and Nampa's Dennis Goff is a veteran upright bass player.

Tradition is scheduled to go on stage at 3 p.m.

Music will be played from 12:45 p.m. until 6 p.m. Here is the schedule:

- The Loucks Kids from Marsing
- The Johnson, Holton and Rhodes Kids
- The Cooper Family
- Jordan Alley
- Missie Johnson
- John Niel
- No Other Name, featuring Missie Johnson, Betty and Janice Holton
- Tradition
- The Daybreak Trio
- The Joyful Sound Trio, a Southern gospel singing group featuring former Homedale resident Philip Batton
- Root Family Band, which includes former Homedale High School teacher Brenda Paxton, her father Duane Root, and Homedale's Calzacorta family — Cheryl and daughters Justine and McKenna, both of whom have performed with the Junior Jammers

In addition to the roping, former pastors and past and present members of the church will be on hand for a reunion.

In addition to the entertainment and roping, there will be activities for children as well as plenty of concessions. The game's and carnival activities will be sponsored by the Mountain View Church of the Nazarene Children's Center and Youth Group.

The sale of all concessions will benefit ministries of the Nazarene church, including:

- Celebrate Recovery — The profits of taco sales go toward funding a program of hope for community members needing mental, emotional and physical help
- Ladies Ministries — Selling Hawaiian drinks with proceeds benefiting Bible studies, speakers and retreat scholarships for women to help them grow closer to one another through Christ
- Missionary Extreme Argentina Trip — Ice cream, pies and cobblers for sale to raise funds to send more than 20 workers to help build lives and a self-supporting pastor training center in Argentina.

The group also will have a craft booth set up and will serve free coffee

- Men's Ministries — Barbecue sandwiches for sale, with free water and a side dish with purchases. Proceeds will help widows, disabled persons and others in need.
- The Dog Waggin' — Homedale residents Del and Marcia Bain will sell footlong hot dogs with all proceeds going to help Homedale Drive-In owner Pat Shenk pay medical bills during his recovery from a summertime motorcycle accident.

Event publicist Jo Howell also said that the group plans to set up a donation can on the fairgrounds to raise more money for Shenk.

For more information on the Family Fair and Roundup, call Mountain View Church of the Nazarene at 337-3151.

# Homedale children find hand grenade

Some children playing on West Washington Avenue in Homedale found a hand grenade on Sept. 9. The grenade was reported to Homedale police just after 8 p.m.

"It was a practice or dummy grenade that looked like someone had attempted to alter it," Homedale Police Chief Jeff

Eidemiller said.

Eidemiller said that while it appeared safe, the grenade was turned over to the Nampa Police Department's bomb squad for disposal. The Homedale Police did not take any chances with the object because it had been tampered with.

The device was painted blue,

indicating that it was a practice grenade, according to police. The core of the grenade appeared to be hollow, but the wiring at the top was apparently intact, and an unknown metal object was attached to and partially protruded from the base of the device.

Eidemiller cautioned that anyone finding a potentially explosive object should not touch it and call police immediately.

"If people find anything that looks suspicious, they should not touch it, move it, or do anything to it," Eidemiller said.

"They should stay clear of it and call the police department. Curiosity doesn't outweigh the risk."

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# Bruneau Roundup rides on



## Two-day Bruneau event thrills crowds

**Top:** Shawn Moorehead of Bruneau takes a winning ride in the saddle bronc competition. He scored a 77. Pat Tindall was crowned the event's all around cowboy. **Below:** The Bruneau Roundup has never had a queen, but this year Daffy from Grassmere stepped up and took over. Photos by WT Bruce Photography



# Mother gratified after searchers find her son

## Boise middle-schoolers 'hunker down' to wait out cold night in dunes

Three boys spent the night lost in Bruneau Dunes State Park before searchers found them on Sept. 9, according to Owyhee County Sheriff's Office dispatch logs, sheriff's Det. Jim Bish, and Pamela Myhre, mother of one of the boys.

The boys were reported missing at 8:13 p.m. on Sept. 8 and were located by county posse members Jason Ineck and Tony Malmberg at 5 a.m. the next morning. Posse members Joe Aman, Darryl Crandall, Dick Downum, Ed Olson, Bruneau Dunes State Park employees and other campers also assisted in the search, which was complicated by poor visibility on a moonless night.

Bish said he never doubted that the searchers would find the three boys from Boise.

"The area that the dunes are in is like a big bowl," he said. "We were confident that they would not leave that bowl, so it was just a matter of time before we found them. I sent a good group of guys down there."

Bish also said a search plane was lined up and ready to go on Sunday morning if needed, but the plane never left the ground because the boys were located early that morning.

The boys, identified as Colton Grainger, Daniel Vega-Myhre, and Alec Ward, are eighth-graders at Lowell Scott Middle School in Boise. The three were attending

the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Idaho Star Party, presented by the Boise Astronomical Society at Bruneau Dunes Observatory.

Daniel's mother said a misunderstanding led to the boys' getting lost.

"Shortly before sunset, we'd told them they could sand board on the big dune, thinking they were talking about the one right close to us," Myhre said. "They were referring to the huge dune across the lake."

"We realized they were missing when we reached the dune we thought they were on to tell them it was time for our picnic, and found that they weren't there."

The boys told Myhre that they hiked for hours over the dunes, and at one point linked hands while wading through chest-high water before deciding to stay in one place and wait for rescuers.

"Although they could see distant lights, they couldn't see anything at all around them. They couldn't even tell the difference between the ground, the lake, and swampy areas," she said. "They finally realized that it was

too dangerous blundering around in the dark, so they buried themselves in the sand to stay warm."

Bish said that after the sand cooled, the boys took shelter under some Russian olive trees and waited for searchers to find them.

"Somebody has taught them to stay put," he said. "The kids did a good job. They stayed together, and they didn't know (how to get out) so they got down and waited."

Daniel's mother said she has instilled that survival technique in her son for years.

"I've always told my son if he gets lost he should hunker down and stay put, because we will be looking for him," Myhre said. "They could see the searchers' flashlights in the distance, and sometimes hear their voices, but the wind was against them so the searchers couldn't hear their voices."

"It was absolutely terrifying to have them missing for so long — just every parent's nightmare," she said. "There are no words to describe our joy and relief — and gratitude — when they were found."

"My letter to the editor describes better the gratitude we feel for all of the professionals and volunteers that helped find them. The kindness of all of these good Samaritans was just humbling and overwhelming."

— RTH  
— Pamela Myhre's reader view, Page 10B



Daniel Vega-Myhre



Colton Grainger



Alec Ward

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# Building Initiative political capital

## Convincing Montanans on coordination may help Owyhee plan

When Owyhee County commissioners Dick Freund and Jerry Hoagland addressed a group of their counterparts in Montana last month, there was more than persuasion on the agenda.

Freund and Hoagland attended a public meeting in Thompson Falls, Mont., on Aug. 22 to pitch to the Sanders County board the advantages of a coordination agreement with federal agencies.

But more than two men offering their support for the Montana Multiple Users Association's (MMUSA) pet project, Hoagland and Freund were building support for their own plan — the Owyhee Initiative.

Owyhee Initiative chair Fred Grant had asked Hoagland and Freund to make the trip to Montana.

"Everywhere I go, I've gone to ask for help with the Initiative," Grant said.

"I've talked to our commissioners many times to try to collect these counties in the coordination process into a coalition."

Grant said the objective of building a political coalition of some 40 counties would be to give Owyhee County and the other governments more clout when it comes time to push Congress on issues that affect them all.

"If we had 40 counties to say in one voice that we support

this for grazing or that for the forest, it would have a much bigger impact than just Owyhee County addressing the issue," Grant said.

Additionally, Grant said that by cooperating with the MMUSA, Owyhee could build political capital with Sen. Jon Tester (D-Mont.) when it comes time for support for the Initiative in Congress.

"If Sanders County adopts a coordination plan, the belief is that those Montanans would get the other counties, too," Grant said. "All of a sudden we would have eight (counties) in Montana."

Grant said seven or eight counties in Oregon are working on coordination plans, too, and Modoc County in California was one of the first to seek a larger say in federal land management.

The trip to Montana, which Grant said cost Owyhee less than \$1,000, was to back the citizen action group MMUSA as it makes its case for Sanders County and seven other counties to adopt coordination plans to beef up their relationships with federal agencies such as the Bureau of Land



Dick Freund

Management and the U.S. Forest Service.

"The biggest thing we tried to get across is there is a huge difference between coordination and cooperation when dealing with federal agencies," Freund said, "and if you want to have a say in the federal land in your county, you need to be in the coordination process."

A Natural Resource Plan gives counties the strength of federal law to force the BLM or Forest Service to consider the local impact of their land development decisions.

Without such a plan in place, the agencies can ignore the mandates of legislation such as the Federal Land Policy Management Act (FLPMA) or the National Forest Management Act.

Essentially, without Natural Resource Plans to outline the economic importance of grazing, timber or maintaining open space, counties merely cooperate with the feds, and have no concrete role in the planning of federal land within their borders.

"That's the real strength of co-



Jerry Hoagland

ordination," Grant said. "(Federal agencies) have to work to make their plans consistent with your Plan."

"It puts the county in a position to be a partner at the table."

According to Grant, Sanders County is the first of eight Montana counties to begin analyzing the benefits of coordination. He said that the attempt to implement coordination is crucial for the counties because of the federal plan for forests along the Idaho-Montana border is due for revision.

Hoagland said that he and Freund made a 2-hour presentation on Aug. 22. Originally scheduled for the commission room, the meeting had to be moved to the Sanders County courtroom because of a large turnout, Hoagland said.

"They filled the benches," he said. "There is big interest in getting this plan in place."

Hoagland said Flathead County in Montana had tried the coordination plan route, but its commissioners didn't remain dedicated to the process.

"When you get in that position, it gives you more influence with federal procedures," the first-term commissioner from Wilson said.

Hoagland said the Owyhee coordination plan also is helpful with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service in dealing with issues such as the ongoing recovery efforts for the endangered Bruneau Hot springsnail.

The commissioners were scheduled to meet with the USFWS about the snail last week.

"We want to be apprised of the findings and what's happening so we can give guidance on mitigation."

"We want to work with the local residents as commissioners to make sure the tax base is not impacted so severely that it's detrimental to the county."

Freund said the spotted frog wasn't placed on the endangered list because of the coordination triggered by the county's Natural Resource Plan.

The commission chair also said the coordination agreement also will play a crucial role with efforts to help ranchers and other citizens rebound from this summer's devastating Murphy Complex Fire.

"On the latest fire with regards to rehabilitation, we've been able to sit down and discuss with the (BLM) district office and state office and planners that are working on the rehab programs to consider our rehab plans and ensure that the things that we feel are important and necessary and need to have done be taken into consideration."

— JPB

# Counties association takes up vote-by-mail again

### Modified resolution joins absentee proposal on agenda at annual convention this week

The Idaho Association of Counties began its 32<sup>nd</sup> annual conference earlier this week in Moscow with an eye toward bolstering the chances of a statewide vote-by-mail option that has been championed by Owyhee County Clerk Charlotte Sherburn.

The vote-by-mail proposal is just one element of the IAC's 2008 Legislative Priority Package. The elected officials from the state's 44 counties who are attending the conference are scheduled to discuss and set policy resolutions for the package today.

The goal is to persuade state legislators to take up several proposals when the 2008 Statehouse session begins in January.

While the vote-by-mail proposal floated by the IAC last year was for across-the-board elections, and gave counties the prerogative to switch to a mail ballot, this year's version — if passed by lawmakers — would allow cities and counties to adopt a vote-by-mail system for non-candidate elections, such as those to decide the fate of bonds and propositions or measures.

Owyhee County already has three mail precincts because of the remoteness of Three Creek, Riddle and Pleasant Valley.

Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter addressed the conference Tuesday, and state lawmakers also are scheduled to attend the convention this week at the University Inn.

Another voting proposal

being considered at this year's conference, which ends Friday, is making absentee ballot requests permanent so voters won't have to re-apply for absentee ballots every election.

Another IAC resolution up for ratification is a proposal to create a separate levy to fund prosecution of major criminal cases.

All resolutions must be approved by half of the membership present at the convention before the proposals move along to the IAC Legislation Committee and IAC lobbyists.

Association officer elections will be held today prior to the business meeting. None of Owyhee's elected officials currently serve on the board of directors.

District 2 Commissioner Jerry Hoagland, Assessor Brett Endicott and Treasurer Brenda Richards serve on the association's Public Lands Committee, which met Tuesday morning.

Hoagland and Richards are members of the Environment, Energy and Land Use Committee, which met later Tuesday morning.

Endicott is the county's rep on the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee, which also convened Tuesday morning.

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# BLM begins prescribed burns near Silver City

The Bureau of Land Management began conducting three prescribed burns in the Silver City area Tuesday.

The burns were on the agenda long before the series of wildfires struck in the Silver City area this summer, and in fact BLM personnel discussed the burns in their presentation at the Owyhee Cattlemen's Association summer meeting in late July at the Silver City Masonic Hall.

The three burns in the Owyhee Mountains include the Castlehead-Lambert, the West Antelope and the Upper Sheep.

All three burns are designed to reduce juniper, which has been encroaching on areas occupied by sagebrush, mountain shrub, aspen and bunchgrass.

In a news release announcing the burns, the BLM's Boise District

Office said the reduction of juniper will improve habitat for sage-grouse, elk, mule deer, antelope, migratory birds, amphibians and reptiles by "creating and maintaining a mosaic of different habitats across the landscape."

"The good moisture recovery currently occurring at night in the Owyhee Mountains coupled with the lack of summer moisture in the area has created ideal conditions to achieve juniper reduction through prescribed fire, Boise District fuels program coordinator Lance Okeson said.

According to the BLM, the initial "blacklining" operation to burn a

buffer along the current perimeter will take one or two days.

After blacklining, the 2,539-acre Castlehead-Lambert burn will be ignited from the air. The burn will be located about 38 miles south of Silver City.


The West Antelope is 15 miles south of Silver City and is designed to burn 718 acres. The Upper Sheep burn is 7 miles north of Silver City and the plan is to consume 104 acres.

The BLM will conduct each burn in succession with resources, except for mop-up crews, moving from one burn to the next.

The Castlehead-Lambert burn

is part of a research project called the Sagebrush Steppe Treatment Evaluation Project (SageSTEP), a program that is exploring ways to improve the health of sagebrush rangelands across the Great Basin.

The Upper Sheep burn is located in the U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Services Reynolds Creek Experimental Watershed (RCEW). The RCEW was established in 1960 to conduct long-term research in the areas of water supply, seasonal snow, soil freezing, water quality and rangeland hydrology.



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**(800) 624-0082**

### Friends CLC starts Sept. 26

Christian Life Club, or CLC, begins Wednesday at the Homedale Friends Community Church.

CLC is a non-denominational, Bible-based after-school club for children from kindergarten through sixth grade. The club meets every Wednesday, from 3:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Transportation is provided between Homedale Elementary and the church. Children will be picked up at the school's east front entrance at 3:10 p.m., and returned to the same location by 5 p.m.

For more information, call 337-3464 or 337-4757.

### Two Homedale seniors plan unusual fundraiser

Bob Hulse and Jim Duncan, both regulars at the Homedale Senior Citizens Center, have hatched a unique plan to raise money for the center's Meals-on-Wheels program. Hulse, 67, plans to push Duncan, 84, in Duncan's wheelchair for 5 miles — from the Wilder Market to the senior center — to collect pledged donations for the program.

Hulse and Duncan call their effort "Rolling for Meals-on-Wheels." The men are planning to get rolling on Sept. 29. So far,

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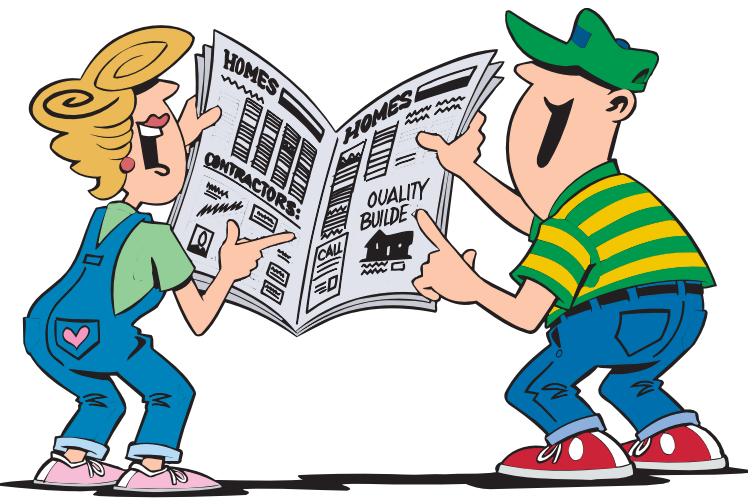
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# Snake River Mart



## Fall Harvest of Values

<div><div>Boneless Beef</div><div>Cross Rib Roast</div><div></div><div><div>\$199</div><div>lb.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Boneless Beef</div><div>Cross Rib Steak</div><div></div><div><div>\$219</div><div>lb.</div></div></div>	<div><div>1/2 Bushel</div><div>Apples</div><div></div><div><div>\$999</div><div>ea.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Large</div><div>Roma Tomatoes</div><div></div><div><div>89¢</div><div>lb.</div></div></div>
<div><div>Boneless Beef</div><div>New York Steak</div><div></div><div><div>\$599</div><div>lb.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Boneless</div><div>Pork Loin Chops</div><div></div><div><div>\$229</div><div>lb.</div></div></div>	<div><div>1 lb.</div><div>Strawberries</div><div></div><div><div>2\$5</div><div>for</div></div></div>	<div><div>Acorn, Butternut &amp; Spaghetti Squash</div><div></div><div><div>49¢</div><div>lb.</div></div></div>
<div><div>Oscar Mayer 4.5 oz.</div><div>Lunchables</div><div><div>\$129</div><div>ea.</div></div></div> <div><div>Bar-S 16 oz.</div><div>Franks</div><div><div>99¢</div><div>ea.</div></div></div> <div><div>Bar-S 16 oz.</div><div>Bologna</div><div><div>\$119</div><div>lb.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Western Family 2 lb.</div><div>Cheese</div><div><div>\$599</div><div>ea.</div></div></div> <div><div>Western Family 8 oz.</div><div>Shredded Cheese</div><div><div>2\$4</div><div>for</div></div></div> <div><div>Fast Fixin 26 oz.</div><div>Popcorn Chicken</div><div><div>\$399</div><div>ea.</div></div></div>	<div><div>1 lb.</div><div>Raspberries</div><div><div>2\$5</div><div>for</div></div></div> <div><div>Dole</div><div>Salad Kits</div><div><div>2\$5</div><div>for</div></div></div> <div><div>Jalapeno Peppers</div><div><div>99¢</div><div>lb.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Chillian</div><div>Avocados</div><div><div>\$139</div><div>ea.</div></div></div> <div><div>Baker</div><div>Potatoes</div><div><div>39¢</div><div>lb.</div></div></div> <div><div>5 lb.</div><div>Gala Apples</div><div><div>\$259</div><div>ea.</div></div></div>
<div><div>Del Monte</div><div>Vegetables</div><div></div><div><div>79¢</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>14.75 oz. Canned</div></div></div> <div><div>Quaker Chewy 10 ct.</div><div>Granola Bars</div><div><div>\$269</div><div>ea.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Cup Noodles</div><div></div><div><div>3\$1</div><div>for</div></div><div><div>2.25 oz.</div></div></div> <div><div>16 oz.</div><div>American Beauty Pasta</div><div><div>89¢</div><div>ea.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Pepsi</div><div>Products</div><div></div><div><div>3\$11</div><div>for</div></div><div><div>12pk 12oz Cans</div></div></div> <div><div>2 Liter Bottle</div><div>Pepsi Products</div><div><div>\$129</div><div>ea.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Keystone Beer</div><div></div><div><div>\$999</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>24pk 12oz Cans</div></div></div> <div><div>12pk 12oz Bottles</div><div>Corona Beer</div><div><div>\$1399</div><div>ea.</div></div></div>
<div><div>Sunny Delight</div><div>64 oz.</div><div><div>\$139</div><div>ea.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Wonder</div><div>Whole Grain Bread</div><div><div>\$199</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>20 oz.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Western Family</div><div>Frozen Potatoes</div><div><div>\$179</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>32 oz.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Obertos</div><div>Summer Sausage</div><div><div>\$599</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>16 oz.</div></div></div>
<div><div>Western Family</div><div>Sour Cream</div><div><div>\$109</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>16 oz.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Hostess Dunkie Powdered,</div><div>Chocolate or Mini</div><div><div>\$199</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>Cruller 11.25-11.75 oz.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Rhodes Frozen</div><div>Rolls &amp; Bread</div><div><div>\$359</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>Asst'd Sizes</div></div></div>	<div><div>Ziploc</div><div>1 cup Containers</div><div><div>\$259</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>6 ct.</div></div></div>
<div><div>Western Family Milk</div><div>2%-1%-Skim</div><div><div>\$349</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>Gallon</div></div></div>	<div><div>Kellogg's Cereals</div><div>Asst'd</div><div><div>\$259</div><div>ea.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Western Family</div><div>Clover Honey</div><div><div>2\$5</div><div>for</div></div><div><div>16 oz.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Western Family</div><div>Apple Cider 128 oz.</div><div><div>\$199</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>While Supplies Last!</div></div></div>
<div><div>Nesquik Chocolate-</div><div>Strawberry Powder</div><div><div>\$379</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>Mix 21.8 oz.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Quaker Instant</div><div>Hot Cereal</div><div><div>\$379</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>10 ct.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Formula 409</div><div>Trigger Spray</div><div><div>\$299</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>32 oz.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Nabisco</div><div>Wheat Thins</div><div><div>\$339</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>16 oz.</div></div></div>
<div><div>Tostitos Salsa, Creamy,</div><div>or Con Queso Dips</div><div><div>2\$5</div><div>for</div></div><div><div>15.25-15.5 oz.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Western Family Complete</div><div>Pancake Mix &amp; Syrup</div><div><div>\$259</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>w/Butter 24-56 oz.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Pinesol</div><div>Liquid Cleaner</div><div><div>\$309</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>48 oz.</div></div></div>	<div><div>SRM COUPON</div><div>FRUIT</div><div><div>50¢ off</div><div>Any</div><div>1/2 Bushel</div></div><div><div>NO LIMIT • PER VISIT • 9/12-9/18/07</div></div></div>
<div><div>Lay's Potato Chips</div><div>&amp; Tostitos Tortilla Chips</div><div><div>2\$5</div><div>for</div></div><div><div>9-13.25 oz.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Western Family</div><div>Frozen Vegetables</div><div><div>\$119</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>16 oz.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Northern Super</div><div>Absorbent Bath Tissue</div><div><div>\$699</div><div>ea.</div></div><div><div>12 &amp; 24 Roll</div></div></div>	

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