

HHS
girls
just
miss
upset
In
Sports



New eras begin in Homedale, Marsing, 2A

MLK Day, Page 3A

Homedale eighth-grader
to speak at Boise civil rights rally

Caring community, Page 10A

Marsing Disaster Auction begins
push toward 47th edition

Wednesday, January 16, 2008

Established 1865

The Owyhee Avalanche

VOLUME 25, NUMBER 3

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

Head-on collision kills one



Fatal crash on U.S. Highway 95

The tangled wreckage of a pickup sits east of U.S. Highway 95, while a semi is off the highway's west shoulder. The two trucks collided head-on Monday. An emblem off the semi wound up several feet from the impact. The pickup's driver, Todd Ranstrom, 45, of Caldwell, was killed in the crash. *Story, Page 3A*



Landowners step up for public hearing

Proposed changes
stir property
rights concerns

Private property rights and the county's desire to control the cost of growth clashed Wednesday during an Owyhee County Planning and Zoning Committee hearing attended by an overflow crowd in Murphy.

The hearing was the third of four scheduled, and it was to cover all proposed changes to the county's zoning and subdivision ordinances. But a series of impassioned presentations from landowners pushed the discussion — See *Hearing, page 5A*



Speaking out

Homedale-area resident Terry Andrade was one of about a dozen people to address the P&Z commission Wednesday.

Woman arrested in crime spree

Authorities have arrested another suspect in the December crime spree that centered around Owyhee County but stretched throughout the Treasure Valley.

The Owyhee County issued a \$200,000 arrest warrant for 19-year-old Amanda Nichole Ravellette and alerted the media Thursday. By Friday evening, she was apprehended in Meridian.

Owyhee County Sheriff's Sgt. Jim Bish said Ravellette was wanted on felony charges of grand theft, burglaries and robbery.

— See *Spree, page 5A*



Amanda
Ravellette

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clears school
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New eras begin in city governments

Marsing



New Marsing council gets down to business

The 2008 Marsing City Council met for the first time Wednesday. Seated at the City Hall conference table, counter-clockwise from right, are councilpersons Soila Contreras and Stella Bush, city attorney Stephanie Bonney, mayor Keith Green, city clerk Janice Bicandi, and councilpersons Marie Herman and Tony Purtell.

City gets infrastructure grant

Keith Green was sworn in as mayor of Marsing on Wednesday, while Stella Bush and Marie Herman took the oath of office to become newest members of the Marsing City Council.

Mayor Green and the council got some good news right away, as city engineer Amy Woodruff reported that Marsing has received a \$432,000 State and Tribal Assistance Grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to help pay for the drinking water system reconstruction project. The grant was in the omnibus-spending bill signed by President Bush last month.

Woodruff also told the council that the city is eligible to apply for a grant through the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. Marsing had applied for the grant for fiscal year 2008, and was ranked 10th in a DEQ priority list. Woodruff said so far, DEQ has only funded a grant to Murtaugh. Because just one city has received a grant, DEQ invited Marsing to reapply for funding.

The council voted to make another application for the \$35,000 matching-funds grant. If received, the grant would be applied to the cost of evaluating and planning Marsing's sewer improvement project.

Woodruff left the council

meeting early to meet with the Marsing Rural Fire District Commission. The engineer was seeking a waiver of the requirement that Marsing's water system have in place redundant pumping capacity such that the system can maintain its water-flow capacity to meet peak hour demand or maximum day demand plus equalization storage while the largest pump is out of service. Marsing's water system would be unable to meet that requirement under the current design. A new pump would need to be added to the system, with the cost of the new pump, estimated at close to \$100,000, coming out of the budget for water distribution system piping.

Woodruff said that other cities in the area, including Caldwell, Eagle, Kuna and Nampa, had received waivers of the requirement. The commission initially declined the city's waiver request in December. No final decision from the commission was announced at Wednesday's meeting.

Before leaving the meeting, Woodruff told the council that the distribution system construction contract would be sent out for bidding according to three schedules, graduated according to available funding due to the fact

that the exact amount available for the distribution system is still up in the air.

Also at the meeting, Marsing resident Marlene Moore addressed the council regarding the lack of recreation opportunities for the city's youth.

"We moved to Marsing because it's a nice town, the people are really friendly, and they have a terrific school system," Moore said. "But unless the kids are involved in team sports, there is nothing else for the kids to do here. We have concerns that there's a lot of students that hang out in the park, there have been kids that have vandalized things, but the majority of them are just really bored. They don't have anything to do. If Marsing wants to see its youth develop into the future leaders of Marsing, they need to invest in our youth."

Green agreed that Marsing's youth need something to do, but said that a skate park would only appeal to a small fraction of the city's young people. Moore said that the skate park was just one idea, and that she was at the meeting to start a thought process to come up with some idea to provide opportunities for Marsing's youth.

— RTH

Homedale

New mayor retains major staff members

Big crowd turns out for 12-minute council meeting

Several folks turned out Wednesday night as two new councilmen and a new mayor joined the Homedale City Council.

Harold Wilson succeeded Paul Fink as mayor, while Eino Hendrickson and Aaron Tines assumed seats previously held by Bill Page and Steve Schultz on the city council.

City Clerk Alice Pegram administered the oath of office to Wilson, Hendrickson and Tines after the previous administration wrapped up business by approving December bills and the minutes from the Dec. 12 regular meeting.

After adjourning his portion of the meeting for the purpose of changing over the administrations, Fink received a plaque of appreciation from council president Dave Downum. Downum also presented similar awards to Page and Schultz, who returned to the council for the ceremony. Schultz resigned in the fall after moving to Canyon County.

Page lost a write-in bid to continue on the council in November's election.

A five-term mayor, Fink said little before handing the gavel over to Wilson. There was no parting words from Fink, Page or Schultz.

Wilson acknowledged the unusually large crowd that showed up for the first meeting of his administration.

"I appreciate your coming here, and we'll see how things go," Wilson said.

son said.

The new council retained Downum as the panel's president. He was nominated by fellow hold-over Tim Downing, and the vote was unanimous.

Wilson also asked and received from the council confirmation on the retention of Chief of Police Jeff Eidemiller, city attorney Michael Duggan, Pegram as clerk and Larry Bauer as public works supervisor.

In the only other business conducted during a 12-minute meeting, Bauer reported that plans are close to award the water improvement project bid to Nampa-based Sommer Construction.

Bauer also said that Stevens & Sons of Boise was close to starting a work on a test well near Riverside Park.

After Bauer gave his public works report, Wilson asked the audience if there were any questions, a different twist on what folks had seen in the previous administration.

Before closing his first meeting, Wilson announced that there would be an inaugural ball at the Txoko Ona Basque Center on North Main Street on Saturday night.

The ball, which is open to the public, will begin at 7 p.m., and will include no-host beer and wine. The planning committee will provide hors d'oeuvres.

Donations will be asked for admission, with proceeds benefiting Homedale Youth Sports. That organization has planned to ask for permission to run Sundance Park for the city, and is hoping to put all rec sports under one banner in town.

— JPB

MORE PHOTOS FROM FIRST MEETINGS, 8A



Councilmen, mayor assume roles

Homedale City Clerk Alice Pegram administers the oath of office to new councilmen Eino Hendrickson, left, and Aaron Tines, center, and Mayor Harold Wilson during Wednesday's first regular meeting of the new year.

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Caldwell man killed in U.S. 95 crash Monday

A pickup collided head-on with a tractor-trailer on U.S. Highway 95 near Marsing on Monday afternoon, killing the pickup's driver, identified by Idaho State Police as Todd Ranstrom, 45, of Caldwell.

According to ISP, the crash occurred when Ranstrom's Ford pickup, which was northbound on U.S. 95, crossed the center line in the path of a semi driven by Jonathan Abrahms, 64, of Sarasota, Fla.

Ranstrom was pronounced dead at the scene. He was not believed to have been wearing a seatbelt. Alcohol is not suspected to have been a factor in the

accident.

Abrahms suffered minor injuries in the crash. Neither vehicle carried any passengers.

The accident occurred about two miles south of the junction with Idaho highway 55, near Marsing. U.S. 95 was closed in both directions for more than four hours after personnel from the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office, Homedale Police, Idaho State Police, Marsing Ambulance, and Marsing Fire responded to the scene.

The accident was still being investigated by the Idaho State Police at press time.

— RTH

Wreck aftermath
Personnel examine a semi damaged in a head-on collision Monday.



Homedale man dies in wreck in Canyon

Canyon County Coroner Vicki DeGeus-Morris confirmed that a Homedale man was killed in a two-car accident Wednesday.

Salvador Contreras, 42, of Homedale died after witnesses say he ran a stop sign and his blue passenger car was struck by an oncoming pickup at about 2:45 p.m. Wednesday at the intersection of Homedale Road and Pride Lane. The impact of the

crash sent Contreras' vehicle into a power pole.

The occupants of the pickup, 37-year-old Abelino Sanchez of Boise, and Salvador Jose Loera, 26, of Nampa, were not hurt.

Although the crash occurred a day after heavy snow fell across the Treasure Valley, the Canyon County Sheriff's Office said the accident was not weather-related.

HHS senior nearly aces ACT

Assisting a fellow senior helped a Homedale High School student to post one of the highest possible scores on a college entrance exam.

Mandy Brasher, the daughter of Craig and Rhonda Brasher, scored 35 points on her second attempt on the American College Testing (ACT) exam. The highest possible score on the test is 36.

Mandy had taken the exam once before, but was spurred toward her plan to take it again while helping classmate Shravan Sringanesh prepare for the ACT.

"I really was planning on taking it again to see if I could get a 35, but that helped me a lot to go over it again," she said.

The 17-year-old National Honor Society member scored a 34 during her first time with the ACT in June.

The exam has four sections — English, Math, Reading and Science. She chose the writing enhancement of the exam, too, which required her to write an essay in 30 minutes.

After taking the exam again Dec. 8 at The College of the Idaho in Caldwell, Mandy wasn't completely confident she had improved on her original score.

"When I finished, I actually thought I did worse than the first time," Mandy said.

She logged on to the ACT Web site and found she had scored in the top 1 percent of everyone who had taken the exam.

"I was really surprised I had 35," she said. "I was scared to look."

"I was happy because coming from a town like Homedale and doing that was a nice thing."

The national average composite score is 21.2, while Idaho's average composite score is 21.4.

Community registers high on Mandy's priority list — when she finds the time between studying, playing basketball or volleyball for the high school squad or working on her father's ranch between Marsing and Homedale.

"Sometimes I don't sleep, and then whenever I can sleep, I sleep all day," she said.

When the schools were closed for the snow day Wednesday, Mandy admits she slept all day.

She says her father helps her with the chores on the ranch whenever her extra-curricular activities take up too much time.

Serving with the Homedale FFA chapter is another extra-cur-



Mandy Brasher

ricular activity for Mandy. And she also drives her 13-year-old sister, Rachel, to class at Homedale Middle School each day.

She also participated in Girls State at Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa last summer.

"Mandy obviously is a bright young lady," Homedale High School principal Mike Williams said, "but she is also very obviously involved in activities at the school and has a great attitude."

As could be expected, Mandy carries a 4.0 grade-point average at Homedale High. She credits her teachers — Melanie Lathrop and Mark Thatcher — for guidance with English, Math and Science.

Mandy's hard work has put her on a path to join her sister Faith at The College of Idaho. Faith is a sophomore and on the dean's list at the Caldwell private college.

"I've applied at a few places, but I think I'll try The College of Idaho because they have a Heritage Scholarship that's a full-ride," Mandy said.

Heritage Scholarships are available for students who carry a 4.0 GPA through high school and score 34 or higher on the ACT.

Mandy said she isn't sure what her college major will be, but she is thinking of a pre-med focus.

— JPB

Eighth-grader to speak at MLK rally

A Homedale Middle School student will be a featured speaker Monday as part of Boise State University's observance of Martin Luther King Day.

Deena Emry, daughter of Lori and Stuart Emry, won the middle school division statewide contest after writing an essay on the

theme "Whose America?" — the theme for this year's celebration.

A rally will take place at about 11:15 a.m. Monday at the Anne Frank Human Rights Memorial, after a after a march from the BSU Student Union Building. As part of a host of guest speakers, Emry will read her winning entry

at the rally.

An eighth-grader and an Honor Roll student at HMS, Emry also won a cash prize for her winning entry. She carried a 4.0 grade-point average for the second quarter.

— **Next week:** HMS' honor roll for the second quarter.

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Read county news in the Avalanche

MRW Fire responds to blaze days after receiving grant for tankers

The MRW volunteer department was the lead agency in a three-agency battle against a massive

Much like the situation the Homedale Fire Department ran into recently, firefighters from MRW, Marsing and Melba had to wait for water reinforcements as the Sunday morning blaze gutted

Farm equipment, such as tractors, inside the shop was a total loss, and there was extensive damage to the farmworkers' residence. No injuries were reported; the family that lives in

Mackenzie said that the money would be used to buy a new water tender to help phase out the two older tankers MRW rolls out on nearly every call.

MRW applied for the FEMA grant in April. The agency is the only firefighting unit in Owyhee County to receive such a grant for the 2007 fiscal year.

Mackenzie said the acquisition of new tankers is another phase of his campaign to update MRW's vehicles. Next on the list will be pumpers or engines, he said.


“Since I’ve taken over this department, we’re just trying to replace old equipment as we go,” said the second-year chief. “We figured tankers were a good place to start because they are our oldest vehicles.”

— JPB

The Owyhee Avalanche

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U.S.P.S. NO. 416-340
Copyright 2007—ISSN #8750-6823


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Published each week in Homedale, Idaho by Owyhee Avalanche, Inc. Entered as Periodical, paid at the Post Office at Homedale, ID under the Act of March 3, 1879. POSTMASTER: send address changes to THE OWYHEE AVALANCHE, P.O. 97, Homedale, ID 83628.

Annual Subscription Rates:

Owyhee County.....	\$31.80
Canyon, Ada, Malheur counties	37.10
Elsewhere in Idaho.....	42.40
Elsewhere (outside Idaho).....	40.00

Deadlines

Classifieds	Display advertising
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School evacuated after phone threat
Marsing Middle School was cleared of staff and students before classes began on Jan. 8 after an anonymous caller phoned in a bomb threat.

Bomb scare suspect located

Owyhee County Sheriff’s personnel have identified a student as the person allegedly responsible for a bomb threat at Marsing Middle School last week.

The unnamed suspect was uncovered through recordings of a 911 call made into Owyhee County dispatch at 7:19 a.m. on Jan. 8. The student was located Thursday.

According to Marsing School District superintendent Harold Shockley, a caller using a non-active cell phone and identifying himself with a fictitious name

called 911 claiming to have overheard students talking about the fact that they had placed a bomb in the middle school.

Gates to the school’s parking area were locked and entry was barred to the school for roughly 90 minutes while sheriff’s personnel searched the building with the aid of a bomb-sniffing dog. Middle school staff and students already at the school waited in the elementary school gym and cafeteria.

After a thorough search of the middle school turned up nothing, the all-clear was given

at approximately 8:50, Shockley said.

Shockley said that the training and drills district employees and students go through paid off as established safety procedures were efficiently carried out.

“Overall, things went really well,” Shockley said.

“The kids and staff performed well. They did an excellent job. Paul Webster talked to the kids to get across to them that we take it seriously, but safety is the top priority.”

— RTH

Murder suspect sentenced in county car chase case

A Nampa man who has been charged in Canyon County with the Dec. 8 murder of 26-year-old Mario Gonzalez and the shooting of teenagers Adrianna Garza and Anjelica Martinez, was sentenced in Murphy on Friday on a felony charge of eluding a police officer.

Manuel Avila, 20, was sentenced to two years fixed plus three years indeterminate to the Idaho Department of Corrections. Avila was charged with eluding a police officer after he led Homedale Police and Owyhee County

Sheriff’s personnel on a chase reaching speeds of up to 110 mph between Homedale and Marsing on Oct. 25.

The chase ended when Avila crashed his car into a truck on Main Street in Marsing.

After his Oct. 25 arrest, Avila

was held in the Owyhee County Jail on a \$250,000 bond. At his arraignment on Nov. 9, Avila pled guilty to a felony charge of eluding a police officer in exchange for dismissal of misdemeanor charges related to the chase. According to court records, Avila’s defense

attorney requested and was granted a stipulation that his client be released on his own recognizance as part of the plea agreement.

Avila recently entered a not guilty plea to the murder charge he faces in Canyon County.

From page 1

✓ Spree: Woman arrested day after county issues wanted notice to media

Another agency also sought Ravellette on a felony probation violation.

Authorities believe Ravellette is connected to several in Owyhee County, including burglaries, car thefts and a home invasion in the Givens area during which an elderly woman was handcuffed to her bed for several hours.

Bish said that authorities had been searching for Ravellette since December.

Joshua Larrea, 20, of Wilder and 18-year-old Anthony Bernal of Nampa were arrested four weeks ago when authorities first broke the case that included car thefts and burglaries in Owyhee, Canyon, Elmore and Ada counties.

Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman said that two car thefts and seven burglaries

occurred in Owyhee County.

Bish also said more arrests have been made in the ring.

“There have been subsequent arrests made in Nampa and Canyon County on related crimes in their jurisdictions,” he said.

“With all the departments in Treasure Valley, we’ve got right at 100 crimes,” Aman said. “If we could get the prosecutors

to charge on every crime on every person, we would have probably 30 people all over the valley, whether that’s cashing a stolen check, or something else.

“They are actually stealing checkbooks, and selling the checks, per check, to other people to forge. There’s actually a market for it.”

— JPB and RTH

✓ Hearing: Comment period still open; additional hearing a possibility

up against the final hearing on the agenda and probably will force another public hearing before P&Z commissioners can take the comments under advisement.

The common denominator from the dozen speakers who gave testimony — the preservation of property rights in a county that fiercely defends that freedom. Most speakers also upheld their admiration for the P&Z board members for the volunteer work they do to ensure orderly growth in the county.

“We hold great pride in this county on our private property, and I’m not about to put down what the P&Z (members) volunteer their time for — my father-in-law sat on this thankless commission,” Oreana-area rancher Christine Collett said.

“But I also do not want this county or this board or that board or anybody else in this county to dictate what I do with my private property. If I want to be build a house for my son on my farm or my ranch, I’m going to do that. Not with your permission because it’s my private property.”

Another Owyhee County tradition — many generations of one

family running agricultural operations — also is threatened by P&Z restrictions, Collett said. She said the cost of a conditional use permit (\$2,008) and the restrictions on residential density (one house per 40 acres) is making it difficult for her family to afford to build a house to convince her son, Bryce, to stay in the family business.

About 35 people either sat in the hearing room or stood in a line that stretched down the hallway in the small county annex building that houses P&Z’s office.

Livestock producers and other business owners were joined by real estate professionals to voice their opinion.

The commission made it through only a fraction of the proposed changes to the zoning ordinance, with most discussion centering on an amendment to Section 04-03-A regarding agricultural zoning that set a minimum lot size of 160 acres.

P&Z commission chair Connie Brandau told rancher Terry Andrade that the minimum lot size has been suggested so folks who want to build a home on their land won’t have to go through the costly conditional use permit

process — if their parcel is at least 160 acres.

Still, Andrade said the restrictions imposed by zoning regulations prevents landowners from developing their land as they see fit for their economic situations.

“That helps, but it doesn’t solve all the problems,” he said. “When you infringe stringently on those rights and affect someone’s personal economic status as a government, as a commission, then I think that is moving one step too far in the role of what it is you play.”

Andrade took exception with the ordinance’s all-encompassing description of “viable” agricultural land, pointing out that there is some land in the ag zone that cannot be farmed and could be more valuable if a different use was allowed.

Andrade suggested that the P&Z commission consult the comprehensive plan and gather public input to create specific categories for agricultural land in the county.

Other proposed amendments, such as the list of prohibited land uses in an agricultural zone, and amendments to ordinance sec-

tions dealing with multi-use and residential zones, never saw the light of day last week.

Hearing officer Fred Grant asked the board to consider additional hearings, perhaps in different parts of the county. Written public comment still is being accepted on the amendments, and P&Z administrator Mary Huff said that at least one more hearing probably will be scheduled because not all the amendments were covered Wednesday.

Only one person, former county commissioner and Marsing business owner Chris Salove, spoke on the subdivision changes, saying that the dividing line between a “major” and a “minor” subdivision (10 homes) was an outdated number given the explosive growth that probably is coming to Owyhee County.

“It reflects back to what the county was 10 or 20 year ago,” Salove said.

The Planning and Zoning Commission also heard testimony on proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance as it applies to the Silver City Historic District.

The commissioners will hold a public hearing next Wednesday

on Falcon Butte Farms’ appeal of its CUP denial to spread dairy waste on fields near Marsing. The Board of County Commissioners remanded the appeal to the P&Z board after Falcon Butte’s lawyers appealed on the grounds that new evidence had come to light.

Part of Wednesday’s public hearing on the zoning ordinances dealt with the appeal process when a CUP is denied.

Former P&Z commissioner Sid Irwin said that county officials must determine who will decide whether new evidence is relevant to a CUP case or whether or not the P&Z commissioners asked the right questions to uncover the evidence during the original hearing.

The county P&Z commission is comprised for Brandau, Joe Weatherby, Clay Atkins, Dan Landa and Martin Jaca. Jaca was appointed to a three-year term by the county commissioners at their Dec. 24 meeting. He replaces John Uriquidi.

Brandau was reappointed to a three-year term at the same meeting, and Landa was given a one-year term.

— JPB

School menus

Homedale Elementary

Jan. 16: Chicken patty or rib-b-que sandwich, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, cake, milk.
Jan. 17: Enchilada or corn dog, scalloped potatoes, fruit & veggie bar, brownie, milk.
Jan. 18: Cheese pizza or PB&J, salad, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.
Jan. 21: No school.
Jan. 22: Nachos or baked potato, fruit & veggie bar, cinnamon breadstick, milk.
Jan. 23: Orange chicken or egg roll, rice pilaf, veggie, fruit & veggie bar, fortune cookie, milk.

Homedale Middle

Jan. 16: Crispito or toasted cheese sandwich, taco salad, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
Jan. 17: Nachos or baked potato, fruit & veggie bar, rice krispie treat, milk.
Jan. 18: Chicken tenders or cf beef steak, mashed potatoes/gravy, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
Jan. 21: No school.
Jan. 22: Chicken nuggets or egg roll, rice, veggie, fruit & veggie bar, fortune cookie, milk.
Jan. 23: Burrito or fish sandwich, corn, fruit & veggie bar, apple crisp, milk.

Homedale High

Jan. 16: Idaho haystack, burrito, pizza hot pocket, fruit & veggie bar, cinnamon roll, milk.
Jan. 17: Chicken patty sandwich & soup, popcorn chicken, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.
Jan. 18: Beef taco, toasted cheese sandwich, soup, corn, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
Jan. 21: No school.
Jan. 22: CF beef steak, chicken filet, mashed potatoes/gravy, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
Jan. 23: Spaghetti, burrito, pizza hot pocket, French bread, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Marsing

Jan. 16: Texas fries, fruit, milk, chicken patty/bun, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.
Jan. 17: Corn dog, veggie, fruit, milk, egg roll, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.
Jan. 18: Nachos, corn, fruit crisp, milk, sandwiches, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.
Jan. 21: Cheese burger, fruit, veggie, milk, tostada, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.
Jan. 22: Chicken nuggets, chocolate pudding, veggie, milk, soup & sandwiches, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.
Jan. 23: Red Baron Pizza, pineapple, salad, milk, sandwiches, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.

Bruneau

Jan. 16: Ham, scalloped potatoes, veggie, roll/butter, fruit, milk.
Jan. 17: Nacho's, salad/croutons, corn, apple bread, milk.
Jan. 18: Cheese yum, beef vegetable soup, crackers, fruit cup, cookie, milk.
Jan. 21: No school.
Jan. 22: Haystacks, corn, bread sticks, pears, milk.
Jan. 23: Chicken Caesar wrap, fried rice, veggie, fruit, milk.

HHS graduates land on C of I Dean's List

Two recent Homedale High School graduates have earned spots on the 2007 fall semester Dean's List at The College of Idaho in Caldwell:
Faith A. Brasher, a 2006 Homedale graduate and a sophomore at C of I, and freshman Joshua T. Myers, a 2007 Homedale grad, were honored.



Faith Brasher



Joshua Myers

The college recognized 158 students on the list, which is reserved for those who have completed nine or more graded credits and achieved a grade-point of 3.75 or higher in the fall semester.

Jeffries makes President's list at SW Okla. St.

Homedale's Luke Robert Jeffries has earned a spot on the President's Honor Roll at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weathford, Okla.
A Homedale High School graduate, Jeffries is one of 425 students to earn the distinction for the fall semester.
All President's Honor Roll students have earned all A's in 12 or more hours during the semester.

Honor roll Jordan Valley

A list of current honor roll students from Jordan Valley High School and Jordan Valley Middle School for the 2007-08 school year:

Emma Johnson, Koehl Trautman
12th grade — Trent Richardson

First semester High honors

Seventh grade — Kierstyn McEwen, Tyrell Warn
Eighth grade — Meagan Fillmore, Haley Hebison, Jordan Matteri
10th grade — Anne-Marie Eiguren, Bryce Kershner, Brandon Mackenzie, Sonny Mackenzie, Mattie Wroten
11th grade — Kayla Cuvelier, Catie Kershner, Nickie Naegle, Alek Quintero, Cole Scown
12th grade — Athena Beckwith, Elisa Eiguren, Annie Mackenzie, Jessie White

Honors

Seventh grade — Nathan Elsner, Tom Nelson
Ninth grade — Taylor Lucas, Shelly Payne, Garrett Williams
10th grade — Katrina Moran, Michelle Telleria
11th grade — Zac Fillmore, Emma Johnson, Koehl Trautman
12th grade — Tim Eiguren, Trent Richardson

Homedale senior earns animal judging scholarship



Kortney Bahem

A Homedale High School senior has earned a full-ride scholarship to Casper Community College in Wyoming to study livestock and horse judging.
Kortney Bahem, the daughter of Kenny and Sylvia Bahem, worked toward the scholarship through her experiences with the Homedale FFA chapter, according to Lori Harrison, the school's FFA advisor.
Harrison said Bahem also earned knowledge through a summer FFA judging camp that included staff from colleges in Oregon, Washington and Wyoming.

Senior menus

Marsing center

Jan. 16: Salisbury steak, potatoes & gravy, winter blend vegetables, cabbage salad, soup, dessert, beverage.
Jan. 17: Oven friend chicken, potatoes, gravy, beets, salad, soup, dessert, beverage.
Jan. 21: Breakfast to order.
Jan. 22: Chili, tossed salad, soup,

corn bread, dessert, beverage.
Jan. 23: Chicken & dumplings, yams, applesauce, green salad, dessert, beverage.

Homedale center

Jan. 14-16: No meals
Jan. 19: Baked ham, green beans, yams, roll, beverage.
Jan. 20: Salisbury steak, mashed

potatoes, gravy, California blend vegetables, roll, beverage.
Jan. 21: Stuffed manicotti shells, salad, bread, beverage.

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Your finances

Teach financial responsibility from a young age

Dear Dave,

I've started trying to teach my 6-year-old about money, but it's so hard to watch him hurt when he has messed up and can't have what he wants. Do you think I should step in and fix things or let him learn the hard way?

— Paula

Dear Paula,

No good parent wants to hurt their child or see them sad. But reality can be a pretty good teacher when it comes to learning how the world works. Sometimes, a good financial hangover when you're young will teach you a lifelong lesson.

As a parent, you've got to look for teachable moments. First, give him a chance to earn some money. That means WORK — no allowances. There's a ton of value and self-esteem to be found in accomplishing a given task.

Once you pay him for the work he does, then you have another perfect chance for those teachable moments. Now, you can teach him about giving, saving and spending and show him how to do these things properly.

It's always hard on parents when they see their kids are unhappy. But sometimes you have to love them enough to let them make mistakes while they're still under your protection!

— Dave

Dear Dave,

My wife and I just relocated for my new job. Right now we're renting an apartment, and we should make about \$15,000 on the sale of our old house. Should we use the money from the sale of our house to pay off all our debt, or go ahead and use it as a down payment on a new home now?

— Brian

Dear Brian,

Traditionally, lots of people would tell you to use the money now to help save up for a down payment. The problem is that I'm not traditional at all.

I love real estate, and I want you guys to own your own home again. But even more than that, I want to see you two get out of debt and STAY out of debt!

I know this wouldn't be a popular plan with some folks, but if you've got no debt — along with a decent, inexpensive place to hang your hat for a couple of years — you'll be able to save money like crazy for a fat down payment. It will also give you time to become familiar with the area and find a place you both really like.

When you lose the debt, Brian,



you gain control of your largest wealth-building tool — your income. And that's when the fun begins!

— Dave

Dear Dave,

We recently had our first child, and I'd like to set up an ESA (Educational Savings Account) for him. My only concern is what would happen to the money in the account if he got scholarships? Could we still access the money, and what could we do with it at that point?

— Eric

Dear Eric,

Not many scholarships pay all of the expenses associated with going to college. Many won't pay for your housing, food or books. But the ESA can be used for all of these things.

If your son were to get a full-blown, full-ride scholarship while you've got money stashed away in an ESA, you'd have a couple of options. One is that you can just pull the money out, but if you did this you'd get hit with some huge tax penalties.

A better option might be to transfer the ESA to a sibling. If you guys end up having another child down the road you could transfer it to them. If not, it could even go to another family member.

ESAs, also known as Education IRAs, allow up to \$2,000 per year in after-tax contributions for children 18 and younger. Distributions are tax-free as long as they are used for higher education expenses. They're also very portable and can be moved from one investment to another.

— Dave

— Dave Ramsey is the best-selling author of *The Total Money Makeover*. He also is the host *The Dave Ramsey Show* that airs at 6 p.m. daily on the Fox Business Channel. 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

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

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

Thursday

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

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

Senior College Night, 6:30 p.m., Homedale High School cafeteria. (208) 337-4613

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

Friday

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

Monday

Marsing Lions Club monthly meeting, 7:30 p.m., Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center, 126 2nd St. N., Marsing. (208) 896-4204

Tuesday

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

Eastern Owyhee County Library "Let's Talk About It" series, "We Are What We Eat — Chocolat" discussion, 3 p.m., free, Eastern Owyhee County Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2785

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

Pure Word recovery meeting, 7 p.m. Snake River Valley Fellowship, call for location. (208) 475-3733

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

Thursday, Jan. 24

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

Malheur County Cattlemen's Association annual winter

meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lions Den, Jordan Valley, Ore. (541) 881-1417

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

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New eras begin in city governments

Homedale



The new administration (from left): Council president Dave Downum, Councilman Aaron Tines, Mayor Harold Wilson, Councilman Tim Downing and Councilman Eino Hendrickson



Appreciation of service (from left): Outgoing Councilman Bill Page waves after accepting a plaque; Downum presents Mayor Paul Fink with his plaque of appreciation; Steve Schultz resigned at the end of October, but returned to pick up his plaque of appreciation.

Marsing



Not just yet: Outgoing mayor, Don Osterhoudt, watches from the wings as councilpersons Marie Herman and Stella Bush and Mayor Keith Green are sworn in.

Class photo: Osterhoudt poses with those who served on the council with him, from left: Ed Pfeifer, Paula Enrico, Rob Howarth, Soila Contreras and Tony Purtell.



Ready to lead: Green prepares to open the first city council meeting of his four-year term.

Snow Day

Owyhee County coped relatively quietly with a snowstorm that closed schools

A storm that dropped a load of snow in the area on Jan. 8 coated roads with a sheet of ice, causing several minor accidents that day and the next, and prompting school officials throughout the area to cancel classes because of the slippery driving conditions.

In Homedale, high school principal Mike Williams said that the inclement weather procedure begins with a phone call from school district superintendent Tim Rosandick.

“I received a phone call from the superintendent at around 5:30 a.m. on Wednesday,” Williams said.

The closure phone call activates a school staff “telephone tree” to notify personnel that classes have been canceled. The Homedale district office keeps a list of radio and television stations to contact in order to get the word out to the public that school is closed.

Williams said that while teachers and staff are not required to come to work, several do come in.

Marsing High School teacher Brandy Smith said that it’s not unusual for teachers in that school district to come to catch up on work during a snow day.



Homedale businesses dig out

Above: A man works to keep the steps at Homedale Realty clear of snow as a woman prepares to scale the slippery steps. **Right:** Cathy Huckins, an employee at Paul’s Markets main office on North Main Street, shovels snow from around her car in the parking lot. She cleared walkways around the building, too.



Snow makes life fun, grueling

Counter-clockwise from above:
Kaden Binford runs away from fellow Homedale Elementary School pupil Ryan Almaraz while the two wait to be picked up from school on Jan. 8. Although Almaraz lugged a large chunk of snow, he never fired the white stuff at anyone.

Steve Atkins, right, stands at the ready with a snow shovel as Brandon DeMond tries to move an engine with a forklift in the parking lot of Owyhee Auto Supply. Earlier, DeMond needed assistance to get the forklift moving as he spun the tires on slick spots in the parking lot.

A pedestrian braves blowing snow while walking east on East Idaho Avenue in front of Frosty Palace.

GV library kicks off book discussions

The Eastern Owyhee County Library will offer food for thought with its 2008 Let's Talk About It Series, which begins next week.

"We Are What We Eat" is the theme for this year's five-part series, which will run on Tuesdays between next week and the middle of March. Each discussion will begin at 3 p.m.

The series includes:

- Tuesday — "Chocolat" by Joanne Harris, a book that was the basis for the movie of the same name. Program scholar Brenda Pettinger will lead the discussion.

- Feb. 5 — "Climbing the Mangoo Tree" by Madjur Jaffrey, led by program scholar Sue Norton

- Feb. 19 — "Language of Balkava" by Diana Abu-Jaber

- March 4 — "The Tummy Trilogy" by Calvin Trillin

- March 18 — "We Are What We Ate" by Mark Kurlinsky

Through the library, which is located at 520 Boise Ave., in Grand View, participants can obtain copies of the books on which each discussion at the Grand View library will be based.

To check out one of the pertinent books or to get more information on the series, call the library at (208) 834-2785.

"The books selected all emphasize food as an important part of our cultures, families and personal identities no matter how much we do or don't eat, the time of year, the celebration or where our ancestry originated," a press release announcing the series stated.

Library officials said each book utilized in the series is enlightening, fund to read and some even contain recipes.

The series is underwritten by US Bankcorp, the Idaho Humanities Council and the Idaho Commission for Libraries.

Schedule set for Oreana Mass

The Mass schedule for 2008 has been announced for the Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church in Oreana.

Mass will be celebrated one Saturday each month at the historic Owyhee County church.

Each mass begins at 9:30 a.m., and everyone is welcome.

The first mass will be held Jan. 26, with subsequent masses held Feb. 23, March 8, April 12, May 10, June 28, July 12, Aug. 16, Sept. 27, Oct. 11, Nov. 22 and Dec. 27.

For more information, call St. Paul's Catholic Church in Nampa at (208) 466-7031.

Grad night group plans poker fundraiser

Parents of Marsing High School's 2008 senior class are sponsoring a Poker 21 Dinner night on March 8 at the Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center.

The community center is

located at 126 N. 2nd W. St.

The event starts at 7 p.m. For a \$50 entry fee participants will receive dinner and \$50 worth of chips to play Texas Hold 'Em or Blackjack.

Players placing in the top five

of the tournament will receive prizes.

The menu includes chili, chips, cookies, brownies and all-you-can-drink pop and water.

Proceeds from the event benefit Marsing's drug-free graduation

party.

For more information or to buy a space at a table, call Mel Cook at 989-9794, Shauna Sauer at 455-2899, Jerry McIlhargey at 440-4202, or Wendy Heller 989-9949.

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Chamber board looks familiar

The same three officers who served out the balance of the year for the Homedale Chamber of Commerce were re-elected at Thursday's monthly luncheon. From left, vice-president/treasurer Brad Dines, president Gavin Parker and secretary Robin Aberasturi.

Homedale Chamber elects 2008 officers

The Homedale Chamber of Commerce voted to retain its current set of officers during Thursday's luncheon. President Gavin Parker, vice-president/treasurer Brad Dines and secretary Robin Aberasturi were re-elected to the posts they've held for most of the past year.

The election of officers was just one of many topics covered during a busy but fast-paced meeting at Owyhee Lanes and Restaurant last week.

Participants in the well-attended luncheon also heard updates on the joint Web site to be shared by the Chamber and the City of Homedale, 2008 membership and dues and the upcoming map to be produced by Caldwell-based Hometown Marketing.

Rodney Roe of Homedale Drug nominated Parker, Dines and Aberasturi for re-election.

"This is really a different place from a couple of years ago," Idaho Power representative Greg Evans said of the monthly luncheons while asking the diners in the moments before the election to give the officers a round of applause for the job they've done.

"To continue to grow this thing and make it at continuing success, we do need your help," Parker said after the election.

Parker and Dines also urged members to continue suggest guest speakers for the meetings and they encouraged member businesses to take advantage of the \$50 spotlight sponsorship through which the business would be able to promote itself at a luncheon.

Gini Carrow of Creative Web Designs told members about elements of the Web site, including information on city government and elected officials and sections to list community events and recreational opportunities.

Carrow continues to gather information for the site, which will be found at cityofhomedale.com and cityofhomedale.org. Plans include listings for city civic organizations and churches.

The Chamber of Commerce section of the Web site will give the organization's mission statement, statement of vision and business directory, among other things.

Parker also suggested a part of the Web site to list the finer points of visiting or living in Homedale, or the aspects he termed the "gems" of the community.

Other plans include information for new residents and a page of historical tidbits about the community.

Thirty-three Chamber members and guests attended the lunch.

—JPB



Reader board sponsors honored

Above: The major sponsors of the new reader board at Homedale High School were recognized during a halftime ceremony at the Trojans' girls basketball game against Fruitland on Jan. 8. Honored for their contributions were, from left, Tony Miyasako, Jim Duncan of the Homedale Development Co., Jeff and Kelley Hansen, chairs of the 2007 International Smorgasbord, and Kelly and Debbie Vance, who were representing Vance Dairy Construction owners Marion and Barbara Vance. Photo by Gregg Garrett

Below: The reader board shone through to thank the community's support even during the Jan. 8 snowstorm.



HHS salutes board sponsors

Homedale High School paid tribute to the major sponsors responsible for bringing the new electronic reader board to town.

The benefactors were saluted at halftime of the Trojans' girls basketball game against Fruitland on Jan. 8. On hand for recognition were Tony Miyasako, Jim Duncan of the Homedale Development Co., Jeff and Kelley Hansen, chairs of the 2007 International Smorgasbord, and Kelly and Debbie Vance, who were representing Vance Dairy Construction owners Marion and Barbara Vance. Kelly is the Vances' son and the company's operations manager.

Each of the benefactors recognized last week donated at least \$5,000 toward the reader board, which was installed during Christmas break by Caldwell's Superior Signs on the north side of East Idaho Avenue in front of the high school.

Total cost of the reader board, including building permits and electrical work, was more than \$25,000, according to high school principal Mike Williams.

Williams reported that yearly sponsorships also have been sold to Mattesons, Uria Pump and Supply and Owyhee Auto Supply/NAPA Auto Parts.

He said additional pledges toward operation of the reader board have been made and more yearly sponsorships are in the works.

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SBOC accepts grant at first '08 meeting

Dennis Turner took his place on the Gem Irrigation District Board at the district meeting on Jan. 8, replacing Dan Felty, while director Tim Leavitt presided over his first meeting as chairman of the Gem Irrigation District and South Board of Control. Elmon Thompson has taken on the role of vice chair on both the Gem and South Board panels of directors.

The highlight of the meeting was when the South Board accepted a check from the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) in the amount of \$135,586. The check is a grant to help pay for a \$630,129 project to convert 5.4 miles of canal in Oregon to

enclosed pipe and construct two sediment ponds. According to the BOR, the project will save an estimated 692 acre-feet of water annually.

The funding is through a grant program called Water 2025. The concept behind the Water 2025 Initiative is that many areas face a water supply crisis by the year 2025. The initiative focuses on ways to minimize water sup-



Dennis Turner

ply shortages in the West. The Water 2025 Challenge Grant program encourages projects that enhance water supplies through conservation, efficiency and water marketing by providing match grants to fund those projects.

Felty said that South Board's receipt of the grant is due mainly to the efforts of former water manager Rex Barrie.



Tim Leavitt



South Board of Control receives grant

The South Board of Control received a check for \$135,586 from the Bureau of Reclamation to help fund a piping project. **Seated from right are:** South Board and Gem District chairman Tim Leavitt, outgoing South Board chairman Dan Felty, Ridgeview chairman John Lax, and Ridgeview director Garold Johnston. **Standing from right are:** Gem District directors Dennis Turner, Elmon Thompson, Dale Chrz, and Steve Nash, Ridgeview director Bret Nielsen, South Board water manager Ron Kiester, and BOR West Snake River Area Manager Jerry Gregg, who presented the check to South Board.

Adrian High presents motivational event inspired by Columbine victim

The motivational story of Rachel Scott, the first person killed in the Columbine High School shooting nine years ago in Colorado, will be recounted at Adrian High School next week.

An examination of Rachel's legacy and challenge — that treating others with kindness and compassion could change the world you live in — will take place at 7 p.m. inside the high school gymnasium.

The presentation includes

video/audio footage of Rachel's life as well as the tragedy at the high school near Littleton, Colo.

A 45-minute interactive training session involving both adult and student leaders follows the video presentation.

"Entertainers, politicians, sports celebrities, educators and even two presidents of the United States have been impacted by Rachel's Challenge," according to press release announcing the

event. "However, students are the target audience, and they have proven that they will respond with positive words, attitudes and actions."

The event is open to ages 12 and older. For more information, call the high school office at (541) 372-2335.

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



Marsing Resource Center invites community to visit

Standing in the center of the busy computer room at the Marsing Resource Center are computer tech Don Carlson, coordinator Amanda Harris, center attendee Kathina Carr, and high school assistant Jordan Meadows. The MRC is holding an open house on Jan. 26 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Marsing Resource Center hosts open house next week

Amanda Harris would like the Marsing Resource Center and the community to get to know each other better. To help make that happen, Harris, the resource center's new coordinator, has scheduled an open house on Jan. 26.

"I want to get the word out that we are here, and hopefully get more community interaction," Harris said.

Dan Carlson, computer tech at the center, said that the center began as a job search resource, and has gradually added other services, including limited commodity donation, after-school programs, and computer access. Programs that might ordinarily require a time-consuming trip out of town are available via the 20 computers at the center, such as GED classes and food stamps

applications.

"We try to do anything we can to help people better themselves," Carlson said.

Harris, who joined the center in August, said that the center gets an average of 18-25 visits per day. In December, 432 people accessed the non-profit facility's services, she said.

The open house is from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Harris said that everyone is invited to visit the center, at 112 2nd St. W. in Marsing, to check out the facility, ask questions, have a snack, and maybe win a door prize.

"I just want the people in the community to know what a wonderful place this is for adults and children," Harris said. "I want to invite the community to be involved with what we do."

— RTH

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Read all about it in the Avalanche!

Correa juggles new job, old commitments

New HMS counselor stays busy with classes, soccer

As expected, David Correa has put his heart and soul into his new assignment as counselor at Homedale Middle School.

As for the workload? He probably just called on his soccer skills to keep the many tasks in the air with some fancy footwork.

When his seventh year in the Homedale School District began in the summer, he began to settle into the job of succeeding Brent Meiser as the school's counselor.

"I have always been drawn to challenges, and I have thought about directing my professional career goals toward counseling," Correa said.

"When I was presented with the opportunity to serve at Homedale Middle School as the counselor this year, I decided to take the challenge and take advantage of the learning opportunity."

The 37-year-old Correa stepped into the new position in August. He has continued to teach two Spanish classes each day at HMS, and squeezed his job as Homedale High School boys soccer coach around the first few months of his new counseling gig.

"The biggest challenge has been time management, especially finding enough time for all the work that needs to be done," Correa said. "Between coaching the soccer team this fall, teaching my Spanish classes two periods a day, attending different trainings and meetings, it is often difficult to find the time I believe is necessary to serve students and their families."

His boss, HMS principal Luci Asumendi-Mereness, herself in a new position this year, has no complaints. She approached him after no satisfactory applicants

came forward in the time after Meiser left for a similar position at Nampa High School.

"Mr. Correa and the middle school counselor job go hand-in-hand," Asumendi-Mereness said. "He took on this job without hesitation not fully knowing all that it includes — many duties far beyond helping kids make wise decisions."

While the middle school still lacks volunteers mentors for one-on-one attention with many students, Correa has bridged the gap by visiting children in their home settings and also teaching Project Alert drug-awareness lessons as part of HMS' after-school program on Mondays and Wednesdays, Asumendi-Mereness said.

Among other programs Correa has jumped into:

- Helping create a plan to implement GEAR UP grant money recently received by the Homedale School District.
- Assuring fifth-grade students receive Character Education classes by utilizing the curriculum and staff members to bring the virtues taught by the course to the students.
- Working with eighth-graders to create parent-approved Student Learning Plans, which will assist the students with educational goals as they transition into high school.

"Definitely the contact with children and their families is the most enjoyable aspect of this job," Correa said. "Of course, that is the reason I became an educator in the first place."

"It is a big responsibility, but it is very rewarding to me to be able to help students succeed."



Counselor loads up on responsibilities
Helping unload food for the annual Hands Around Homedale holiday food drive was just a sidelight for David Correa last month. He continues to teach and coach soccer as he builds a different type of rapport with Homedale Middle School students through the counseling office.

Correa was born in Pachuca, Hidalgo, Mexico, and moved to the United States when he was 23. He received a Bachelor's Degree from Central Washington University and has teaching endorsements for both Idaho and Washington state.

He has been married for 14 years to Angela Correa, who teaches English at the middle school and Homedale High School. The couple lives in Nampa with two daughters, 9-year-old Maya, and 7-year-old Julia, both of whom

attend Homedale Elementary School.

Even with a commute from Nampa and two children of his own, David Correa invests a ton of time into the students at HMS.

He begins the day by visiting with students before the first bell, then he has several formal appointments with students regarding parent or teacher referrals before jumping into his teaching schedule.

Correa doesn't even get an

official lunch break.

"I assist with lunch duty, and I utilize this time to interact with students in a non-academic setting and develop trust."

Correa said his role as counselor often transforms into just listening to a student. He deals with academic issues, self-esteem issues, and behavior issues in the classrooms and throughout campus. While conflict resolution is a part of the job, Correa also tries to be motivational and make sure that a student's home life is running smoothly. On rare occasions, he also facilitates contact with other agencies in the valley.

"Mr. Correa's gift of being a great listener and bilingual is such an asset to our parents and our school," Asumendi-Mereness said.

Correa has had to adapt to scheduling classes for the different grade levels (seventh- and eighth-graders have eight different classes each day, while the younger students have mostly self-contained classes) as well as sharing teachers with the high school and elementary.

"He is such a classy person, honorable, trustworthy, and a colleague that is well-respected by his peers. It is a privilege to work with Dave," Asumendi-Mereness said. "He's taught me a great deal in a short amount of time. We are lucky to have him in this current position. I am fortunate to have someone I trust and can rely on, and who is patient, and a great listener."

"He doesn't rush to judgment, but he methodically finds the information he needs, and makes a decision that is in the best interest of everyone. He is such a valuable member of our school."

— JPB

First Smorgasbord ticket sales winners named

First-week ticket sales for the International Smorgasbord, set for Feb. 9 at Homedale Elementary School, brought in more than \$1,300. The top-selling sixth-graders from Homedale Middle School were, from left, Esteban Lejardi, Pat Warren's class (\$87); Emylee Obregon, Kelly Schamber's class (\$199); Genny Barroso, David Hann's class (\$120); and Jace Turner, Lesa Folwell's class (\$139). Presenting prizes to the first-week winners were, back from left, chair Tracy Fisher and co-chair Heidi Nash. Tickets are \$28 for a family, \$7 for adults, \$5 for senior citizens, \$4 for students in first through sixth grades and \$2 for preschoolers and are available through any HMS sixth-grader.



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

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Cheese Cuts **\$3.69** ea.
Western Family 48 oz.
Fish Sticks **\$5.99** ea.
Western Family 8 oz.
Cream Cheese **\$1.39** ea.

Jennie-O 1 lb.
Ground Turkey **\$1.19** ea.
Gold-n-Plump
Cut Up Chicken **\$3.99** ea.
Deli
Burritos **39¢** ea.

Celery **\$1.09** ea.
Jalapenos **\$1.09** lb.
Braeburn Apples **99¢** lb.

Large
Avocados **\$1.39** ea.
10 lb.
Potatoes **\$2.49** ea.
8 oz. Whole
Mushrooms **\$1.99** ea.

Western Family
Coffee



\$5.99 ea.
34.5-39 oz.
Western Family 15 oz.
Beans **59¢** ea.

Western Family
Corn & Green Beans



49¢ ea.
Canned 11-15.25 oz.
Western Family 7.25 oz.
Macaroni & Cheese Dinner **3 for \$1**

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12pk 12oz Cans
2 Liter Bottle
Coke Products **\$1.29** ea.

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MGD Beer**



\$7.99 ea.
12pk 12oz Bottles
18pk 12 oz Cans
Coors Beer **\$12.99** ea.

Western Family
Orange Juice **\$4.69** ea.
128 oz.
Nabisco
Premium Saltines **\$2.39** ea.
16 oz.
Western Family
Chili **79¢** ea.
15 oz.
Western Family
Pineapple **99¢** ea.
20 oz.
Western Family
Canned Tomatoes **69¢** ea.
14.5-15 oz.
Doritos
Tortilla Chips **\$2.89** ea.
13 oz.

Western Family Tomato,
Vegetable & Apricot
Nectar Juices **\$1.59** ea.
46 oz.
Western Family
Soup **\$1.49** ea.
26 oz.
Western Family
Refried Beans **59¢** ea.
16 oz.
Betty Crocker
Cake Mixes **\$1.39** ea.
18.25 oz.
Western Family
Grape Jelly **\$1.49** ea.
32 oz.
Fritos & Cheetos
9.5-11 oz. **\$1.89** ea.

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Western Family
Economy Detergent **\$7.09** ea.
30 lb.

Western Family
Mixed Nuts **2 for \$6**
11.5 oz.
Scott
Bath Tissue **\$6.99** ea.
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Solo Cups,
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