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for State
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Nuclear developer pays county \$50K, 4A

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Melba High student accepted
for educational trip to Washington

Homedale graduate Ensley poised
to take a run at national title

Wednesday, February 20, 2008

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The Owyhee Avalanche

VOLUME 23, NUMBER 8

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

Water project starts

**First task:
Trench
Wyoming**

John Keller of Sommer Construction operates a track hoe on West Wyoming Avenue on Wednesday during the first day of the Homedale water system rehabilitation project. The project will include valves throughout the system to make repairs less intrusive as well as upgraded fire hydrants. For more on Homedale public works news, see Page 12A



HPD officer announces sheriff's bid

A former sheriff's deputy now employed by the county's only police department announced last week that he will seek the job as Owyhee County Sheriff.

Homedale Police Cpl. Perry Grant, who formerly patrolled the Homedale-Marsing area for the sheriff's office, told The Owyhee Avalanche on Wednesday that he is launching a bid to unseat his former boss, incumbent Gary Aman, as county sheriff.

Grant, 32, also made an appearance at Thursday's Homedale Chamber of Commerce monthly luncheon to announce his bid.

Aman announced on Feb. 11 that he would seek a fourth term as the county's top lawman. At the time, it was believed that Deputy Darryl Crandall also would seek the position after Homedale Chamber president Gavin Parker announced Crandall would address last week's luncheon as a "candidate for Owyhee County Sheriff." But Grant said on Wednesday that reports by the Avalanche that his former colleague would run were incorrect. Numerous calls to Crandall



Perry Grant

County's Lincoln Day banquet today

Crapo, Craig, Sali
expected to attend
in Marsing

The majority of Idaho's congressional delegation is expected to attend today's Owyhee County Lincoln Day Banquet in Marsing.

The banquet starts at noon at the Sandbar Restaurant. The cost is \$15.

Owyhee County Republican Committee chair Frances Field said that Sens. Mike Crapo and Larry Craig and Rep. Bill Sali will be at the luncheon along with state constitutional officers

— See *Banquet*, page 5A

— See *Sheriff*, page 5A

Merchant's quick action results in burglary arrests



Kenneth Young



Tory Marshall

ION employee gets suspicious minutes after residential break-in reported

Two men and a juvenile were apprehended quickly last week after they allegedly stole a coin collection then tried to use the currency to buy gasoline and merchandise at a local truck stop.

According to the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office, Kenneth Arthur Young, 19, of Marsing,

Tory Jonathan Marshall, 18, of Nampa, and a 17-year-old boy from the Jump Creek area allegedly burglarized a home in Marsing on Feb. 12, making off with a pair of 12-gauge shotguns, a .308 rifle, a .22 rifle, a .25 caliber pistol, ammunition, a digital camcorder, a Rolex watch, and "an extensive coin

collection."

The three then allegedly used more than 40 stolen \$1 coins to pay for gasoline and other merchandise at the ION truck stop outside Marsing that afternoon.

Incredible timing played a huge role in the apprehension of the suspects, according

to authorities. The burglary victim called the sheriff's office to report that his house had been broken into at 5:51 p.m. At 5:53 p.m., the Sheriff's Office received a call from the ION, reporting that a group of young people had purchased

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Forum addresses advancement of Homedale students

Homedale School District administrators will answer questions about a proposed student promotion policy during a parent/community forum at 6:30 p.m. Thursday.

Principals from the district's three schools will be on hand to address the impact of the Pathways to Promotion concept for students on their respective campuses.

The forum will take place at Homedale Middle School, 3437 Johnstone Road.

"Since the hiring of our superintendent (Tim Rosandick), the bar for student achievement in this district has been raised," Homedale Middle School principal Luci Asumendi-Mereness said. "District-wide we are implementing SIOP (Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol), an instructional model that teachers are utilizing in their classrooms, and it is changing the way we deliver instruction and the student's role in the process."

Parents and patrons of the district received notice of the forum in a mailed packet that also included documents that outlined the expectations for students who are to be promoted to the next grade level.

The proposed plan was devised through the work of a committee that included school district superintendent Tim Rosandick, high school principal Mike Williams, middle school principal Asumendi-Mereness, elementary school principal Yvonne Ihli and district curriculum director Glenda Eubanks.

According to a diagram provided by Asumendi-Mereness, there are two "pathways to promotion" in the proposed plan.

The main path to graduating

to the next grade level would be students receiving two failing grades or less per year in core subjects including Language Arts, Math, Reading, Science and Social Studies.

The "alternate" path to promotion for students who fail two or more classes in a year is meeting two of the following three requirements: finish the year with a 2.0 grade-point average or higher, including all classes from all four quarters; earn proficient scores on all three spring Idaho Scholastic Aptitude Tests (ISATs) in Language, Math and Reading; and miss no more than 12 days during the school year.

Asumendi-Mereness' handout also provided five tips to students for a successful school year:

- Stay organized using agendas and binders.
- Develop a habit of working hard and manage time wisely.
- Continually think and ask questions that will help in understanding an assignment.
- Communicate with teachers and parents about classes.
- Take advantage of the extra resources available to students.

"As the middle school teacher in this building for 10 years, I had a pretty good idea that the colleagues I worked with were as frustrated as I was about the lack of student effort and achievement," Asumendi-Mereness said. "As a middle school principal, knowing how important this issue was, it was time to quite complaining and be proactive in creating some benchmarks for academic performance for those students who were not performing well because of a lack of effort."

"We have a duty to send students to each grade level better prepared and performing well academically."

More information is available by calling the school offices at HMS (337-5780), Homedale Elementary (337-4033) or Homedale High School (337-4613).

— JPB

Marsing focused on infrastructure

The Marsing City Council heard at its meeting Wednesday that the current water system improvement project is 90 percent complete, with a goal of full completion by the end of the month.

City engineer Amy Woodruff said that the distribution system project is on hold, pending a photogrammetric mapping of the city. Woodruff said that the photogrammetry, a survey conducted by aerial photography, was the best use of the city's surveying funds, because several separate areas of the city are covered by the distribution project. The maps are scheduled to be completed in about four weeks.

Also at the meeting, the council evaluated the qualifications of four engineering firms who responded to Marsing's request for qualifications for working on upcoming wastewater treatment facility upgrades.

The firms were evaluated on their understanding of Marsing's wastewater treatment system, their plans to accomplish the needed upgrades, their familiarity with the Snake River, and their knowledge of issues faced by wastewater treatment systems operating near the Snake. The ability to make necessary improvements to Marsing's system while not affecting the Snake River in any way is a top-level concern, city

officials said.

"They are kicking cities off the river," Marsing mayor Keith Green said. "They've got to come up with a different kind of sewer system, one that will not put water back into the Snake River."

J-U-B Engineers, Inc., rated highest, with an average score of 72.67 out of a possible 100. Farmer Engineering was second, with an average score of 70.5.

At Woodruff's suggestion, the council decided that the next step is to put together a finely detailed scope of work document, so that the city can hold the company that is ultimately awarded a contract close to the city's vision of the project.

"Reading through the bids, none of the four were coming up with anything new," Green said. "They just wanted to expand the system that we have or update the pond systems. I don't think that's going to work very well. We've got to do something different to get us out of the Snake River."

The council decided to negotiate directly with J-U-B, rather than sending the work out for bids among the two finalists, with the thought that a negotiation process will produce a contract more closely fitting the city's needs in the treatment system project.

City superintendent Danny Martin reported that the drilling of the city's latest well was complete.

The well is 292 feet deep, and the installation of six- and eight-inch screens is also complete. Post-drilling sterilization was to be completed on Monday, pumping tests were scheduled to begin the same day, and a full battery of sampling was scheduled to follow the sterilization and pumping tests.

The council voted to retain city ownership of a strip of land adjacent to the building sought by Owyhee County to house county offices in Marsing. The Owyhee Conservation District currently owns the building at 19 Reich St..

Brett Endicott, the county assessor, approached the city regarding the possibility of Marsing ceding the land to the county. The city-owned land, which is used as a parking area for the building, has a sewer line running under it, and could also be used to provide access if the plot of land behind the OCD building is developed.

The council appointed Raymond Gaviola and Michelle Jacobi to fill vacancies on the Marsing Planning and Zoning Commission, and voted to approve Denise Finley's request on behalf of Marsing City Recreation for a \$1,000 donation to cover the cost of liability insurance for the agency's 2008 recreation programs.

— RTH

Man faces jail after DUI plea

A 46-year-old man from the Melba area faces up to a year in jail and a \$2,000 fine after pleading guilty to an excessive DUI charge in a Murphy courtroom on Feb. 11.

Jeffrey Rand Benson was arrested in the early morning hours of Jan. 12 in the parking lot of a Marsing bar. Owyhee County Prosecuting Attorney Matthew Faulks said Benson's blood alcohol level was .26, or more than three times the legal limit of .08.

Benson's sentencing is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on March 31. He faces a mandatory 10-day jail sentence with the possibility of up to 365 days as well as a fine as much as \$2,000.

"Under the sentencing criteria,

driving privileges are to be suspended for a mandatory one-year period with no restricted driving privileges available," Faulks wrote in an e-mail.

Benson originally was charged with felony DUI after sheriff's Deputy Aron Streibel found Benson in a parked car outside the Pour House. The engine was racing, Faulks said.

"Benson had apparently passed out with his foot on the accelerator while the vehicle was not in gear," Faulks said.

Despite phone calls to the pros-



Jeffrey R. Benson

ecutor's office and the Owyhee County courts, The Owyhee Avalanche could not confirm whether the charge to which Benson pled guilty was a misdemeanor or a felony.

Several other cases scheduled to be heard last week were continued, according to the prosecutor's office, including a hearing for Woodrow Rabey, who was arrested for DUI on Jan. 31 after he was found passed out in a vehicle in a ditch near Grand View.

Other hearings continued from Feb. 11 include those of burglary suspects Andrew Collingwood, George Hance, Michael Glaspie and Mario Moreno.

No rescheduling information was available for any of the cases.

— JPB

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Study will strengthen chances for more money

Sundance lease on hold; land auction may require Canyon hearing

Homedale will be poised to go after more infrastructure grants once a transportation study is completed by Professional Engineering Consultants, Ltd. PEC, Ltd., co-owner Roger Sorenson on Wednesday outlined how his company will implement the \$50,000 Local Rural Highway Investment Plan grant received by Homedale from the Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC).

“The main purpose for the grant is to develop a plan to identify and prioritize transportation and safety needs and use that to go for additional funding for projects,” Sorenson told the council.

Sorenson said the next step in the process is to form a steering committee. He suggested the committee be comprised of Mayor Harold Wilson and council members as well as representatives from the Homedale School District, highway districts, the Chamber of Commerce, Homedale Police Department and members of the community.

Sorenson said the steering committee would “help give us input from the city as a whole to make sure that we’re covering a good representation to identify needs of the city.”

Sorenson said that the city also could use data from studies already completed by LHTAC to further pinpoint needs.

The data will be put into a report for the city’s use, he said. Sorenson said the needs don’t have to be from a specific sector in town; potential projects identified from the study could come from the commercial or residential sectors.

He also said that crash data and traffic counts will be used in mapping out the study, and that could point out deficiencies in sidewalks and street lighting. Those two areas have long been a concern of city administrations.

Finally, the study could point out areas where street surface rehabilitation could be needed.

Meanwhile, city attorney Michael Duggan asked for more time to analyze the existing ordinance governing the city’s sidewalks, curbs and gutters.

City poised to sell land

There may have to be a formal process in Canyon County if the city is to sell nearly five acres of land adjacent to a municipal well on Ustick Road.

Three of four city councilmen voted to begin the process of putting the 4.4 acres of land up for public auction.

Councilman Eino Hendrickson abstained from the vote.

“I’m not for it or against it,” Hendrickson said.

Hendrickson said he believes that given the current state of the

real estate market, this wouldn’t be the best time to sell the land.

“I’d also like to know where the money would go,” Hendrickson said. “I’d like to see it go to fix the pool.”

Mayor Harold Wilson has called the land “a weed patch,” and he said Wednesday that the parcel is a “detriment to the city.”

Councilman Tim Downing agreed with Wilson’s assessment before the vote.

“It’s a nuisance and hard to maintain,” Downing said. “My feeling is we should proceed to sell it.”

Homedale Planning and Zoning administrator Sylvia Bahem advised the council that selling the land could require a public hearing before the Canyon County P&Z commission. The land must be split off from the rest of the city-owned parcel in order to be sold.

“If it has been split too many times, you would need a public hearing in Canyon County, and that could take months,” Bahem said.

Public Works Supervisor Larry Bauer said that there already have been two lot splits on the land.

Park lease on hold

The Sundance Park lease agreement between Homedale Youth Sports Inc. (HYS), and the City of Homedale was tabled until the council’s Feb. 28 meeting.

HYS, which recently completed registration for its summer youth baseball and softball program,

asked for more time to examine the proposed contract between the non-profit and the city.

“So far it looks very good to us,” HYS representative Brad Dines said.

Dines said a concern of HYS was the overall liability issue at the park, and the group wants to clarify what the city will be responsible for and what will be HYS’ responsibility. City Councilman Dave Downum echoed that concern. City Clerk Alice Pegram said she would contact the city’s insurance carrier, Idaho County Risk Management Program (ICRMP), to determine liability.

The proposed contract requires HYS to carry \$500,000 in liability insurance.

The proposed agreement will run from March 1 to Sept. 30, and the city has the option to negotiate an additional contract. HYS will have use of the fields from March 1 to Aug. 15, and the organization must submit a league schedule to the city one month before the start of the baseball-softball season. The city retains the right to schedule other events at Sundance during the timeframe, too.

Homedale Youth Sports will pay \$5 to lease Sundance, while the city provides watering, mowing and general maintenance at the park. HYS volunteers will apply diamond dust on the fields and also will be responsible for trash and restroom cleanup.

The contract allows HYS to

use the concession stand and its equipment. The non-profit must obtain all necessary permits, and the city will bill HYS on a monthly basis for the utilities used.

All improvements proposed by HYS, which initially have included dugout covers, must be approved by the City Council. The proposed playground construction also will require approval from the city.

Executive session called

Debbie Dickson’s complaint against the Homedale Police Department, which originally began as an open hearing, was sent into executive session quickly by a council voice vote on Wednesday.

Wilson called for the executive session when Dickson’s opening remarks were directly addressed to HPD Chief Jeff Eidemiller.

The executive session lasted for nearly 40 minutes, with Dickson meeting with the council and then Eidemiller going before the board after Dickson had left.

No details of the executive session are known, but Wilson said Thursday that he considered the issue complete.

— JPB

Library presents puppet show

The Homedale Public Library plans a puppet show for children of all ages at 10 a.m. Thursday.

The library is located at 125 W. Owyhee Ave.

The show is based on the story of the three Billy Goat Gruff brothers. “The Three Billy Goats Gruff” tells of brothers who weren’t allowed to cross a bridge by the troll that guarded it.

For information about the show or the library, call 337-4228.

Lutheran church plans food giveaway

Mount Calvary Lutheran Church of Homedale will hold a commodity giveaway on March 6 for individuals and families in need of food assistance.

The Homegrown Help Truck, a 24-foot refrigerated truck operated by the Idaho Foodbank, will be at the church, 621 W. Idaho Ave., in Homedale from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on March 6.

The distribution is being coordinated by the Idaho Foodbank, Mount Calvary and Thrivenet Financial, a non-profit

organization that supplied the truck to the food bank through a grant.

Meat, bread and fresh produce along with other food staples will be available during the two-hour event. Food will be given on a first-come, first-served basis, and it is free to people in Homedale having difficulty putting food on the table, according to organizers.

No income verification is necessary.

For more information, call Mount Calvary Lutheran Pastor

Ross Shaver at 337-4248 or Robin Aberasturi at 337-5585.

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Nuclear developer sends county a check for permit

\$50,000 will help Owyhee cover costs of process

Alternate Energy Holdings Inc., on Monday announced that it has paid \$50,000 to Owyhee County

to fund the approval process for a proposed 1,600-megawatt nuclear reactor near CJ Strike Reservoir. A press release issued by AEHI, the holding company for the Idaho Energy Complex, stated that the company “handed” Owyhee County officials a \$50,000 check on Monday, which was a holiday

for county officials. County Board of Commissioners chair Jerry Hoagland confirmed Monday night that money had been received from IEC. According to the AEHI release, Don Gillispie, president and CEO of the IEC, formulated the basic agreement with the county on the \$50,000 in December. The release said Gillispie would have paid the funds sooner but the county didn’t submit an invoice and otherwise arrange to receive the funds so both parties have control of disbursements.

County Planning and Zoning administrator Mary Huff said that Gillispie didn’t ask for invoices until an article about the company’s lack of payment appeared in a regional newspaper

last week. In that article, county officials threatened to suspend the permit process if the \$50,000 wasn’t paid.

Gillispie chalked up the situation to miscommunication.

“It has always been and remains our policy to pay any costs associated with processing our application,” Gillispie said. “Now that these technical issues have been addressed and the correct protocols set up, the county may now move forward on evaluating our application, and it won’t be at taxpayer expense.

“We regret the miscommunication with some of the county clerical staff who did not fully appreciate the need to follow procedures and send written invoices and establish other necessary controls. This miscommunication led to several newspaper articles last week when reporters did not talk with the proper county spokesper-

son on this matter.”

Late last week, IEC issued a press release saying it would meet with county officials Monday about the \$50,000. But county offices were closed Monday and officials said Friday that they weren’t aware of any meeting with IEC scheduled for the holiday.

The AEHI release said that IEC already has paid the county approximately \$7,000 toward processing an application for a meteorological tower, asserting that the figure is more than any other applicant for a similar request over the past year.

The county P&Z board is scheduled to hear IEC’s conditional use application for two towers — one about 33 feet tall and another nearly 200 feet tall — as well as two temporary office trailers at 3 p.m. March 12 in Murphy.

— JPB

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Driver’s ed information available at Homedale schools meeting

Homedale School District has set an informational meeting for students and parents to learn more about driver’s education.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday inside the Homedale High School library, 203 E. Idaho Ave.


Students and parents can learn

details about upcoming driver’s education sessions and the steps required to sign up.

The school district plans two education sessions in the coming months. Class enrollment will be prioritized based on the age of the student, with older students getting first accommodation.

The Owyhee Avalanche

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Catch county news in the Avalanche

Homedale veteran waits decades for medal

Barnard receives Purple Heart for Vietnam wounds

Dealing with the lingering effects of a war from long ago recently helped end a 35-year wait for a Homedale resident.

Lloyd Barnard, who attended grade school in Homedale and recently moved back to town, received a Purple Heart and a replacement for his Air Medal in the mail Feb. 4.

"I was surprised, I really was," Barnard said of opening the package. "I didn't think I'd ever get the Purple Heart."

Many combat veterans have told horror stories of what it took to finally get the medals they richly deserve from the Department of Defense. Barnard's tale of long-overdue recognition is relatively short and grew out of his arrival at the Boise Veterans Administration hospital for treatment of horrors of war that remain with him to this day.

While Barnard was at the VA hospital to participate in a post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) treatment program, a representative of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) asked him about his experiences and his medals.

Although Barnard was wounded twice, he said he never received the Purple Heart. Barnard said he applied for the medal signifying a soldier had been wounded in combat, but he never received it.



Resident receives overdue Purple Heart

Homedale's Lloyd Barnard displays the four medals he earned while serving in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War in the early 1970s. The commendations include, from left, the Air Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Purple Heart.

The DAV vet set the wheels in motion to get Barnard his medals.

Now the 59-year-old Barnard is making plans to build a case to proudly display his medals — the Purple Heart, the Air Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal and National Defense Service Medal — and said that the medals will be passed on to his sons when the time comes.

Barnard said his eldest son Lloyd, who lives in Susanville,

Calif., will get the Purple Heart. His 19-year-old son, Levi, of Payette, will receive the Air Medal.

Barnard served two tours of duty in the mountains of central Vietnam. He was drafted out of Torrance, Calif., as a 19-year-old in 1969. He went through basic training at Fort Hood, Texas, with the intention of turning a wrench when he got in theater.

The Army, as is often the case, had other plans.

"I trained to be a helicopter me-

chanic, but when I got there they needed gunners," Barnard said of his arrival in Vietnam. "Gunners weren't lasting more than 24 hours."

"The day I got there, two got killed."

Barnard's number came up soon enough.

"We were sitting waiting to pick up three Marines that were pathfinders looking for Vietnamese enemy companies," Barnard said. "(Commanders) sent us in by ourselves to pick these guys up with no gunship or air support."

North Vietnamese troops spotted Barnard's chopper and lobbed mortars onto the beach. One came too close to Barnard.

"I got shrapnel in my thumb, stomach and hand, but it didn't stop me from doing my job," he said. "I still have shrapnel in my right hip to this day. It still causes infections."

Barnard got through his first tour, one which he started as a green gunner swinging an M-60 machine gun mounted on the door of a chopper and ended with him as a crew chief making inspections of the combat damage on the helicopters.

But six weeks after his return, he volunteered to go back.

"It was so boring in Fort Hood, Texas," he said. "They put me out fixing tanks. It was so boring; I needed action."

"Over there, there's always a lot of stuff happening, constantly. I just wanted to see the action."

The action was nearly too much

10 months into his second tour. In July of 1972, Barnard said an ammunition container he carried saved his life.

"The bullet went through my ammo can and into my kneecap," he said. "The ammo can deflected it enough where it hit my knee instead of my chest."

"If the bullet had been a few inches away from the ammo can, I wouldn't be here today."

Barnard never has received a Purple Heart for the wounds on his second tour, and he doesn't anticipate applying for it. The wound bought him a ticket home, where he spent six weeks in a hospital at Fort Ord, Calif., before completing his service as clerk for the commander of an artillery company.

"He tried to get me to re-enlist to be his aide, but I had had enough," Barnard said.

Barnard said his superiors told him not to wear his Army uniform and "don't look like a military guy," when he got out of the service.

He drew a contrast between the homecoming he and his buddies received more than 30 years ago — they were spit on and had to dodge rocks, he said — and the welcomes that returning Iraq and Afghanistan veterans received today.

"The guys are welcomed home with open arms, and all the war-hero stuff," he said with no hint of jealousy in his voice. "When we got back it was totally opposite."

— JPB

From page 1

✓ Arrests: Store surveillance video helps connect dots on Marsing crime

merchandise and \$40 worth of gas, paying for the purchases with suspicious-looking \$1 coins.

Deputy Lynn Bowman began an investigation at the scene of the burglary, while Det. Jim Bish went to the ION to talk to witnesses and examine evidence — including coins spent at the truck stop and store surveillance video of the suspects.

Bish talked to "somebody who knew somebody that might know something," and from that point, the quick apprehension of the suspects was money in the bank. Young and Marshall were arrested on charges of burglary and grand theft less than four hours later. The sheriff's office plans to issue a summons to the juvenile on a charge of grand theft.

"That was a miracle," Bish said of the ION employee calling just two minutes after the burglary report. "That close a time frame is seldom."

Bish said that of the items stolen, all but 11 coins were recovered.

"These were mint-condition dollar coins without scratch one on them," Bish said. "One of the

dollar coins they tried to pass at the ION was still wrapped in plastic."

Bish also said that the quick action of the ION employees and the store's video evidence were crucial to the quick apprehension of the suspects.

"That video was worth its weight in gold," Bish said. "We could see the suspects and

identify the vehicle they were driving.

"I've got to credit the clerks and owner of the ION truck stop for recognizing that something was wrong and reacting to it. My hat's off to them. They did the right thing, and within four hours we had 'em caught."

— RTH

✓ Sheriff: Homedale native challenges former boss for Owyhee's top cop position

seeking clarification have not been returned, Crandall didn't attend the luncheon.

Grant is on leave from the police department while he undergoes two weeks of Army reserve training, his wife, Hailey, said.

Grant left the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office and accepted a job with the Homedale force at the end of August. By December, Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller had promoted Grant to corporal, making him a supervisor in the five-man department.

A Homedale native who graduated from Homedale High School in 1993, Grant joined the sheriff's office as a jailer in April 2001. He was moved to a patrol position in October 2004.

"I plan to be a sheriff," Grant told the Avalanche in October 2004. "After Gary retires within 12 to 16 years, if I stay here, I would love to be the sheriff here."

Republican candidates can't officially file papers with the county clerk until March 10, and the filing deadline is March 21.

Other county offices on the ballot this year (with incumbents in parentheses) include District 1 commissioner (Jerry Hoagland), District 2 commissioner (Hal Tolmie) and prosecuting attorney (Matthew Faulks).

The Republican primary is scheduled for May 27, and many of the Republican candidates for county, state and federal offices are expected to make appearances at today's Owyhee County Lincoln Day Banquet in Marsing.

— JPB

✓ Banquet: GOP hopefuls expected to attend as well

including Lt. Gov. Jim Risch, who is running to succeed Craig as a U.S. senator from the state, Secretary of State Ben Ysursa, Treasurer Ron Crane, Attorney General — and former Owyhee County prosecutor — Lawrence Wasden and state Controller Donna Jones.

Field said Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter won't attend as he continues to recover from hip resurfacing surgery, but he will produce a video presentation for the banquet.

County officers also will be

on hand.

Congressional, state and county candidates also are expected to attend, including Matt Salisbury of Nampa, who is challenging Sali in the May 27 primary, and Neal Thompson of McCall, who is another candidate for U.S. Senate.

Jim and Donna Huntley with guest musicians Woody Purdom and Al Fisher will provide a wide variety of music for entertainment, Field said.

For more information, call Field at (208) 834-2488.

Senior menu

Homedale center

Feb. 20: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, California blend vegetables, gravy, roll, beverage.
Feb. 21: Stuff manicotti shells, salad, bread, beverage.
Feb. 26: Chicken chow mien, fried rice, stir fry vegetables, beverage.
Feb. 27: Hearty beef stew, roll, beverage.

Death notice

JULIAM. STEINMANN, 83, of Marsing, died Sunday, Feb. 10, 2008, in Nampa. A viewing and funeral services were held on Friday, Feb. 15, 2008, at Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Caldwell. Interment followed at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Caldwell.

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Marsing High hands out Pride Paws
Marsing High School recently announced another group of Pride Paw recipients. The group honored included, front row, from left: Alejandro Martinez, Tyler Wardle, Bernard Van Es, Chaz Covey and Libby Wieser; and back row, from left: Jessica Freeman, Robert Myers, Shad Jensen, Freddy Carrillo, Cherie Daniel and Brisa Stahle. Teachers nominate students who are working to improve themselves or their school community. Organizers say a qualifying act can be something as simple as raising their grades, helping other students or going above and beyond. Submitted photo

Youth Beef Field Day coming to Marsing

The Owyhee Cattlemen's Association and the Idaho Beef Council are among the sponsors for Youth Beef Field Day, which is scheduled for March 1 at Marsing High School.

All 4-H and FFA members and their parents are invited to the event, which takes place from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Youth Beef Field Day will include four stations:

- A station to point out where folks' favorite cuts of beef — New York, prime rib, flat iron — came from on the animal.
- How to determine if a steer has become market-ready.
- Quality grading — and sampling — of beef ribeyes.

- Important factors in determining yield grades, including counting dots and measuring fat thickness.

Clubs interested in participating in the daylong education program about producing and processing beef must RSVP by next Wednesday by either e-mailing owyhee@uidaho.edu or calling (208) 896-4104. Include members' names, the club affiliation and the number of youth and adults planning to attend.

The Malheur Cattlemen's Association, Pfizer Animal Health and Idaho Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) program also are underwriting the educational event.

School menus

Homedale Elementary

Feb. 20: Sweet & sour chicken or egg rolls, rice pilaf, veggies, fruit & veggie bar, fortune cookie, milk.
Feb. 21: Lasagna or mini corn dogs, corn, fruit & veggie bar, turnover, milk.
Feb. 22: Fish nuggets or turkey sandwich, French fries, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.
Feb. 25: Sloppy Joe or hot dog, tots, fruit & veggie bar, chocolate pudding, milk.
Feb. 26: Turkey & noodles or tuna sandwich, peas, fruit & veggie bar, goldfish crackers, milk.
Feb. 27: Chili or beef taco pie, roll, fruit & veggie bar, fruit rollup, milk.

Homedale Middle

Feb. 20: Burrito or fish sandwich, corn, fruit & veggie bar, apple crisp, milk.
Feb. 21: Spaghetti or chicken bacon melt, bread stick, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
Feb. 22: Pizza or popcorn chicken, salad, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.
Feb. 25: Chicken patty or rib-b-que, tots, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.
Feb. 26: Wiener wrap or sloppy Joe, green beans, animal crackers, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
Feb. 27: Beef or chicken taco, corn, fruit rollup, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Homedale High

Feb. 20: Spaghetti, burrito or pizza hot pocket, French bread, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
Feb. 21: Chicken patty or hamburger, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.
Feb. 22: Beef taco or toasted cheese sandwich, soup, corn, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
Feb. 25: Cheese pizza, mini corn dogs, or chef salad, fruit & veggie bar, brownie, milk.
Feb. 26: Chicken or wiener wrap, scalloped potatoes, fruit & veggie bar, fruit rollup, milk.
Feb. 27: Enchilada, burrito or pizza hot pocket, baked potato, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Marsing

Feb. 20: Tacos, veggie, fruit, milk, Red Baron pizza, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.
Feb. 21 Turkey gravy, mashed potatoes, fruit, milk, beef nuggets, salad bar 4th-12th, garlic bread.
Feb. 22: Hot dog, veggie, fruit, milk, sub sandwich, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.
Feb. 25: Chicken nuggets, veggie, milk, tacos, salad bar 4th-12th, cinnamon twists.
Feb. 26: Texas fries, fruit, milk, chicken patty, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.
Feb. 27: Corn dog, chocolate pudding, fruit, milk, egg roll, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.

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Your finances

Calculating home you can afford a wise first step

Dear Dave,
My wife and I are both 23, and we're hoping to buy our first home sometime this year. Combined, we bring home about \$4,000 a month, we have no debt and we're trying to save for a 20 percent down payment. Is there a way to calculate how much house you can actually afford?

— Chad

Dear Chad,
I'm so glad you guys are thinking and planning ahead! If you keep on working like this, you're going to have a great life together.
Most banks will let you qualify for 50 to 100 percent more than you should actually buy. I recommend that your monthly house payment never be more than one-fourth of your take-home pay. That way, it's a lot easier to save up for other things you'll need, like an emergency fund, retirement and even a college fund for any kids that may come along down the road.

Based on that advice, you'd be looking at a house payment of around \$1,000 a month. Then, if you calculate that on a 15-year fixed rate loan at 6.5 percent, you're looking at qualifying for a loan of about \$115,000.
You can get a great first home for that kind of money, Chad. Plus, you'd own your home outright while both of you were still in your 30s!

— Dave

Dear Dave,
My wife and I have gone from not having two pennies to rub together to making about \$90,000 in the past few years. The problem is that I can't get her interested in saving money. What's worse, her father is the preacher at our church, and he has convinced her that he knows the Lord is coming back in our lifetime. Thinking this, she says there's no reason to save because it will all be gone anyway. What can I do?

— Brian

Dear Brian,
I'm all for people living their



lives according to God's word. But the Bible says that no man knows when the Lord will return. So I get pretty leery when a guy — especially a preacher — tells me he knows when it's going to happen.

But the Bible does tell us very clearly that it is wise to save. The Bible does not contradict itself. So basically, if you don't save you are being foolish. Still, it probably wouldn't be a great idea for you to run and tell your wife that financially she's behaving like a fool.

This is a touchy situation in other areas, too. Right now her dad's theology is ruling your marriage, and that's not good. Husbands and wives should grow in their faith TOGETHER.

I think you guys should sit down with a good marriage counselor and, for the good of your family, come to an agreement on a new place of worship. I mean, even if her dad is right about this — and if he turns out to be right, I'm pretty sure it's not because he has inside information — there's some stuff going on here where he's interwoven his own ideas and spiritual authority with your household authority.

And that kind of thing could cause more problems down the road!

— Dave

— Dave Ramsey is the best-selling author of *The Total Money Makeover*. He also is the host of *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 Mallo-ry Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027

Calendar

Today

Caregiver training
10 a.m. to 3 p.m., free, lunch served, registration required, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 322-7033, ext. 273

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

Bruneau and Beyond speaker series
Noon, includes lunch, cowboy poetry by Toni McGuire, RSVP required, Bruneau Valley Library, 32073 Ruth St., Bruneau. (208) 845-2131 or (208) 845-2282

Lenten Soup and Service
6 p.m., Confessing the "When" of the Easter Season service by Pastor Ross Shaver, 7 p.m. Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, 621 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale (208) 337-4248

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

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

Thursday

Puppet show
10 a.m., free, Homedale Public Library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave. (208) 337-4228

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

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

Saturday

Homedale Senior Citizens fundraiser dinner
6 p.m., \$15 per plate, limited space and reservations required, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

Bruneau Booster Club Fundraiser and Auction
5:30 p.m., free dinner; 7 p.m., auction, Bruneau American Legion Post 83 Hall, 32536 Belle Ave. (208) 845-2842, (208) 845-2282 or (208) 845-2552

Tuesday

Exercise class
11 a.m., free, Homedale Senior Citizens Center,

224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

Storytime for first- through third-graders
4:20 p.m., Lizard Butte Public Library, 111 3rd Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690

Pure Word recovery meeting
7 p.m. Snake River Valley Fellowship, 20 E. Oregon Ave, Homedale. (208) 475-3733

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

Wednesday

Lenten Soup and Service
6 p.m., Confessing the "Where" of the Easter Season service by Pastor Ross Shaver, 7 p.m. Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, 621 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale (208) 337-4248

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

Thursday, Feb. 28

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

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

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

Friday, Feb. 29

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 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 jbrownceditor@cablone.net. For more information on submissions, call (208) 337-4681.

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Montana mission

Adventure prepares teens for next phase of LDS life

Two soon-to-be LDS missionaries from Homedale received some real-world training recently while working for an area developer.

Jacob McRae and Matt Holloway, both 2007 graduates of Homedale High School, were recruited along with McRae's cousin, Caldwell resident Daniel Hatch, to do some work on a Columbia Falls, Mont., development being built by Evergreen Companies.

Ron Mayhew, who helped develop the Santa Fe Subdivision in Homedale, is an owner of Evergreen Companies, and he and business partner Jeff Smith played a big part of getting the three boys back to the area near Kalispell for the October project.

"Their learning is that doing good work and loyalty can bring about better opportunities and experiences in life," Mayhew said.

Smith recruited the three teenagers, and they left in a hurry for Montana in the fall when manpower was needed to perform manual labor at the development site.

"Nothing worthwhile comes easy," the son of Alan and Andrea McRae said. "We were working real hard and real fast and made real good money."

"We were working hard and eating really good, and I gained about 10 pounds."

Jacob McRae, Holloway and Hatch were put to work laying sod, building fence and placing rocks. The hours were long, but the reward came in the form of the three boys essentially living on their own, even though they did have their food cooked for them each night.

"It was really weird because it just kind of felt natural," the 18-year-old Holloway said of the independence. "When I was in Scouts a lot of times the scout leaders would be off doing things with meetings, but the scouts would be back at the camp by ourselves."

"I've always been able to take care of myself, and it felt good



Taking in the sights in Montana
The three boys, from left, Jacob McRae, Daniel Hatch and Matt Holloway pause for a photo in front of majestic scenery at Glacier National Park in Montana. Submitted photo

to do it."

The son of Jerry and Cherie Holloway, Matt Holloway also talked about how hard he and his two friends worked in Big Sky Country.

"There were days that we'd get up and be up before everyone else, and we thought we should sleep in, too," Holloway said. "But we got more out of our days by sticking to what we had planned."

The life lessons didn't end with the work in Montana. Once the trio finished the project, Smith rewarded them with a trip back east.

"(Smith) said he had offered the same trip to 25 other people, but he felt we were the only ones who would appreciate it," McRae said.

But, as with the project in Montana, the trip east that was to start with a train ride from Whitefish to Gettysburg, Pa., didn't come without some hard work.

The first hurdle: The boys wouldn't be able to get to Gettysburg by train with the budget Smith had set up. No one knew this until the boys had taken a 2½-day train trip from Whitefish to Harrisburg, Pa.

"We had no way to get from Harrisburg to Gettysburg," McRae said. "We were too young to rent a car, there were no hotels because of the holiday (Veterans Day) and a taxi would have cost all our money."

Said Holloway: "We were all a little edgy because we thought our boss was going to be upset because

we didn't go to Gettysburg like he wanted. We thought we'd get our necks wrung."

But rather than being stranded in the capital of Pennsylvania, the boys' survival skills kicked in.

"We postponed our (train) tickets and bought Greyhound bus tickets," McRae, 18, said.

Three hours later, the three boys were in Washington, D.C.

"Our boss said, 'I'm glad you guys made a final decision because in life we're supposed to work as a team,'" Holloway said.

But the adventure didn't end there. The boys couldn't check into the hotel room that McRae's mother had arranged on short notice because the desk clerk was expecting an adult to accompany them and claim the credit card charge.

But good fortune smiled on the trio again when a disgruntled customer agreed to split the cost of a room at a different hotel.

The man that the boys befriended was in town from Seattle to read the name of his fallen friend from the Vietnam War Memorial Wall.

Before the Veterans Day ceremony at the wall, though, he took Holloway, McRae and Hatch to see the sights in the nation's capital.

"Arlington Cemetery is what impacted me the most because you're out in Washington and everybody's rushing and running and you get into Arlington and there's a peace about it," Holloway said.

"It puts you on a spiritual high, no matter what faith you are. It was a calming experience for us and also a time to realize what the men and women had done for our country also."

All three boys are of the Mormon faith, and McRae and Holloway both said that the experiences in both Montana and Washington helped prepare them for their upcoming missions.

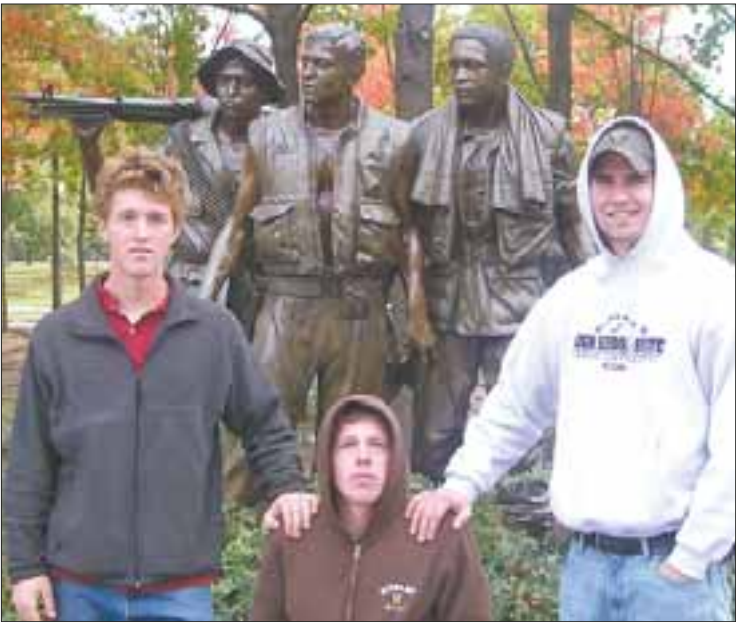
Hatch is already serving his two-year mission in Phoenix. McRae has his farewell at the Homedale LDS church Sunday and then will report to Provo, Utah, on Wednesday. Three months later, he'll be in Poland.

Holloway expects to file mission papers this month and will hear about where he'll serve in either March or April.

"When we were in Montana and when we were in D.C., we had our Scriptures with us and prayed like missionaries do, and we made our own missionary environment," Holloway said.

"It was like we were preparing ourselves for what was going to happen (on missions). We knew we needed to rely on ourselves and each other, and that's what you do when you're on your mission — you rely on the Man Upstairs and yourself and each other."

— JPB



Hard work and its fruits
Right: Holloway, left, and McRae strip bark from a log that will be used to build a three-rail log fence in Columbia Falls, Mont. Left: The three boys pose at a statue that is part of the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, D.C. Submitted photos



Beef recall barely felt in Owyhee schools

The recent federal recall of beef from a California slaughterhouse had a minimal impact on the food supply in Owyhee County's school kitchens.

The Idaho State Department of Education alerted schools of the recall at the beginning of the month after the U.S. Department of Agriculture issued an administrative hold on beef products received from the Hallmark/Westland Meat Packing Co., in Chino, Calif., on Jan. 31.

The hold only affected two of the county's three major school districts — Homedale and Grand View-Bruneau. Marsing schools superintendent Harold Shockley said that district's kitchen hadn't received a shipment from Hallmark/Westland in several months.

"The meat we have has no connection to the Hallmark issue nor do we have anything in stock that has been placed on hold," Shockley wrote in an e-mail.

By the weekend, the recall had grown to the largest in U.S. history, affecting 143 million pounds of meat. The USDA had earmarked 37 million pounds of beef from the California plant for use in the national school lunch program.

Grand View-Bruneau superintendent Vickie Chandler said that the recall had an impact on one week of menus for her district's cafeterias.

"We were already getting a new shipment on Friday (Feb. 8), when the warning had come out, so only one week was affected," Chandler said.

Chandler said that the district's food service director, JayDene Aquiso, checked the lot numbers on the cases of meat as soon as the warning was issued.

Homedale schools boss Tim Rosandick said that district's kitchen had only 12 cases of meat from Hallmark/Westland in its freezer at the time of the recall.

"We were immediately notified that this was possibly a problem and ordered more patties from another distributor," Homedale district food services manager Vicki Eby said.

Eby, who became the district's food services manager two years ago, said the replacement beef was supplied by Northwest Distributing. There was no interruption to the district lunch menu.

"We take food recalls very seriously, and when we're notified we immediately make sure we don't have any of that product in stock, and if we do we make sure we do not use it," Eby said, adding that in her experience "99.9 percent" of the recalls have been for products not used by the district.

Eby also said that the loss of the 12 cases of meat probably will have a minimal impact on her department's budget. Commodity meat from the USDA program is priced lower, she said.

District officials said they received few calls from concerned parents.

The recall apparently was triggered by a USDA investigation into inspection and slaughter procedures at the California plant. Federal officials have said they don't believe there is a health hazard.

— JPB

Field inducted into weed control hall of fame

State awareness campaign releases book identifying noxious species

Grand View's Frances Field, a former longtime member of the Idaho House of Representatives, recently was inducted into the Idaho Weed Control Association (IWCA) Hall of Fame.

Frances, who is involved in a family farming operation with her son and other family members, was one of four inductees honored during the 2008 Idaho Weed Conference held last month at the Nampa Civic Center.

Field, who is the chair of the Owyhee County Republican Committee, served 11 terms in the Idaho Legislature and was an original member of the Idaho Noxious Weed Advisory Committee formed by the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA).

"Rep. Field has been a strong advocate for issues and funding to help Idaho fight noxious weeds," IWCA president Paul Muirbrook said during the presentation.

Joining Field in this year's class of the Hall of Fame are Scott Uhrig, the weed specialist and fire rehabilitation supervisor for the Bureau of Land Management's Twin Falls District Office, Meridian's Dee Sienknecht, who as a staff member of Association Management Group helps handle the day-to-day administrative responsibilities of the IWCA, and Bonner County Weed Superintendent Brad Bluemer of Sandpoint.

In other news in the fight against noxious weeds in the state, the Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign recently announced that a new booklet to help identify noxious weeds is now available.

The free, 115-page booklet contains color photos depicting weeds in various stages of growth. The booklet was produced by the ISDA.

Weed awareness officials say invasive weeds cost the Idaho economy nearly \$300 million a year.

"The single-best weapon we can have in this war is an informed citizenry that can quickly identify a noxious weed infestation so they can deal with it," campaign coordinator Roger Batt said.

The problem of identifying and controlling noxious weeds continues to escalate, Batt said. Officials added 21 new species of weeds in September, bringing the statewide list to 36 species.

Copies of the new booklet can be requested by calling the Idaho Noxious Weed Hotline at (866) IDWEEDS (866-439-3337) or by visiting the awareness campaign's Web site at www.idahoweedawareness.org, .net or .com and filling out the online request form.

Jordan Valley FFA news

by Anne-Marie Eiguren

On Tuesday, the Jordan Valley FFA chapter played host to an appreciation breakfast in the school's Ag room.

Chapter members served pancakes, eggs, ham, hash browns, milk, coffee, and orange juice from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.

The breakfast was held as a way to thank you for the community's generosity and support.

On Feb. 6, 11 members from the Jordan Valley FFA chapter attended the Snake River District Contest. Several competed in the Co-op quiz, placing fifth and seventh.

Six members, Elisa Eiguren, Bryce Kershner, Brandon Mackenzie, Sonny Mackenzie, Anne-Marie Eiguren, and Tad Jones competed in the Advanced Parliamentary Procedure.

Catie Kershner and Anne-Marie Eiguren were elected to district offices. Kershner will serve as vice president of the Snake River District, and Eiguren will be the district's reporter.

Jordan Valley FFA maintains presence

While Jordan Valley FFA chapter member Athena Beckwith, left, is retiring as Snake River District president, two other Jordan Valley students are coming aboard as district officers. Catie Kershner, center, will serve as vice-president, while Anne-Marie Eiguren will serve as reporter. Submitted photo



Jordan Valley FFA maintains presence
While Jordan Valley FFA chapter member Athena Beckwith, left, is retiring as Snake River District president, two other Jordan Valley students are coming aboard as district officers. Catie Kershner, center, will serve as vice-president, while Anne-Marie Eiguren will serve as reporter. Submitted photo



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Record auction brings good news to Grand View

— JPB

“As we move into the age of computers, it’s almost virtually impossible for me to get information from your bank

Also last week, Eidemiller told the Homedale City Council that

Thurman said Robison and many other community members volunteered numerous man-hours to the project.

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185/65HR-14	46.81	195/60HR-14	48.76	195/55VR-16	61.72	245/45ZR-17	88.30	255/45ZR-17	107.17	245/40VR-17	99.83	225/35ZR-18	134.46		
195/65HR-14	51.89	205/60HR-15	55.12	205/55VR-16	64.76	205/50ZR-17XL	101.20	245/45VR-17	117.01	255/35ZR-18	177.68				
195/65HR-15	52.91	195/60HR-15	53.21	205/55VR-16	72.09	205/50VR-17	131.39	225/45ZR-18	141.78	215/40ZR-18	139.87	255/35ZR-18	197.56		
195/65HR-15	52.73	205/60HR-15	58.08	225/55VR-16	73.07	235/50ZR-18	148.28	245/45ZR-18	121.33	225/35ZR-18	195.72				
205/65HR-15	55.52	215/60HR-15	59.32	195/50VR-16	58.37	205/45VR-16	85.37	235/40ZR-18	130.40	235/35ZR-18XL	211.52				
215/65HR-15	61.84	225/60HR-15	66.76	205/50VR-16	62.82	205/45VR-17	88.37	215/40ZR-18	143.12	245/35ZR-18	214.46				
175/60HR-13	39.15	205/60HR-16	66.76	195/50VR-16	65.51	215/45VR-17	95.85	205/40VR-17	191.80	245/35ZR-20	169.99				
185/60HR-13	44.93	215/60HR-16	67.18	205/50VR-16	72.13	225/45VR-17	99.78	215/40VR-17	92.78	255/35ZR-20	162.02				

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LT235/65SR-16HR E	147.37	LT235/75SR-16HR E	135.87	LT235/75SR-16	128.83	LT235/75SR-16	128.83
P235/75SR-15	102.41	LT235/75SR-16HR E	135.87	P235/75SR-16	128.83	P235/75SR-16	128.83
P235/75SR-15	105.43	LT235/75SR-16	162.28	P235/75SR-17	146.87	33/12.5	



Increased flow is good news to farmers
The federal water forecast points to a strong irrigation season because of the Owyhee snowpack.

Near-normal spring inflow forecast for Owyhee Reservoir

According to a National Weather Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service estimate, the Owyhee River inflow to Owyhee Reservoir from March through June will be 515,000 acre-feet, which is 84 percent of normal, and good news for farmers, if true.

But the good news could also mean a threat of flooding as spring runoff could swell streams and, in turn, send water rushing over areas burned by 2007 wildfires.

The estimated outflow from Owyhee Reservoir into the Owyhee River from April to July is 135,000 acre-feet, or 62 percent of normal.

The volume of the Bruneau River from April through July is estimated to be 180,000 acre-feet, which is 87 percent of normal. The estimated Snake River volume at Murphy from April to July, however, is 1,980,000 acre-feet, which is just 64 percent of normal.

The huge wild card still looming over the estimates is precipitation from March through June, which the federal agencies assumed in

their calculations will be at normal levels. Seasonal volume forecasts coordinated between the National Weather Service and the NRCS for the Bruneau, Owyhee and Snake rivers are based on observed snowpack, precipitation through Feb. 1, and the assumption of normal precipitation from March through June.

A factor in favor of the assumption of at least normal spring precipitation is the mild La Niña weather pattern in the western tropical Pacific Ocean. According to NASA studies, a mild La Niña weather pattern, which is marked by lower than normal sea-surface temperatures in the western tropical Pacific Ocean, generally causes above normal precipitation in Idaho.

The National Weather Service climate prediction center forecasts continued La Niña conditions this spring, which indicates an increased probability of above-normal precipitation in Idaho for February, March and April.

In fact, the threat of spring flooding is above average this

year based on current and projected snowpack and soil moisture conditions. Flooding risk is especially high near small streams whose inflows come from low elevations that are currently snow-covered.

Also at risk this spring, according to the forecast, are areas burned by wildfire in 2007. Fire damaged areas face increased risk of damaging runoff. Risk of flooding, debris flows and mudslides in fire-ravaged areas will be highest during storms in April or May, near the end of the snow melt season.

The Bruneau River is the only Owyhee County river specifically listed as facing increased risk of spring flooding. The greatest risk of the Bruneau breaching its banks is estimated to be from late March through late May.

Peak spring flow of the Bruneau River at Hot Springs is forecasted to be 2,030 cubic feet per second. The listed reasonable range of flow on the Bruneau is 1,240 to 3,400 cfs, with flood stage at 3,200 cfs.



La Niña, snowpack could mean flooding of Snake, other rivers
While lots of water is good for producers in Owyhee County, there is an increased threat of spring flooding because of the mild La Niña weather phenomenon and the projected spring run-off.

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Water report

The Bureau of Reclamation Web site showed that, as of Monday afternoon, Owyhee Reservoir was 29 percent full and that water was being released into the Owyhee River at Nyssa, Ore. at a rate of 33 cubic feet per second. The reservoir held 204,584 acre-feet of water.

The following statistics were gathered from the National Resources Conservation Service Web site at 2:00 p.m. Monday (Year-to-date precipitation is measured from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30):

Date	Reynolds Creek		Temperatures	
	Year-to-Date Precipitation	Max.	Min.	Avg.
02/12	11.2	37	30	34
02/13	11.2	49	35	40
02/14	11.3	41	20	24
02/15	11.4	27	18	23
02/16	11.5	42	23	31
02/17	11.4	36	29	33
02/18	11.4	36	27	31

Current snow depth is 20 inches, with a snow water equivalent of 7 inches.

Date	South Mountain		Temperatures	
	Year-to-Date Precipitation	Max.	Min.	Avg.
02/12	20.3	43	29	34
02/13	20.3	51	33	41
02/14	20.6	40	19	24
02/15	20.7	31	15	23
02/16	20.8	43	23	32
02/17	20.7	40	30	34
02/18	20.7	44	27	34

Current snow depth is 51 inches, with a snow water equivalent of 16 inches.

Date	Mud Flat		Temperatures	
	Year-to-Date Precipitation	Max.	Min.	Avg.
02/12	11.1	48	23	35
02/13	11.1	45	19	33
02/14	11.2	36	23	29
02/15	11.1	38	10	25
02/16	11.1	36	07	20
02/17	11.2	44	15	29
02/18	11.2	41	13	25

Current snow depth is 33 inches, with a snow water equivalent of eight inches.

Weather

	H	L	Prec.
Feb. 12	no reading taken		
Feb. 13	no reading taken		
Feb. 14	55	25	.00
Feb. 15	45	22	.00
Feb. 16	no reading taken		
Feb. 17	no reading taken		
Feb. 18	53	19	.00

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Bruneau Boosters’ benevolence carries on

Annual auction slated for Saturday

Area merchants and artists have donated a wide variety items for the annual Bruneau Booster Club’s annual dinner and fundraiser, which will take place Saturday.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Bruneau Booster Club.

The evening starts with dinner at 5:30 p.m., followed by a live auction and silent auction. The festivities take place at the Bruneau American Legion Post 83 hall, 32536 Belle Ave.

The free dinner will consist of “More” casserole, tossed salad, French bread, punch and coffee. Homemade pie will be sold for \$1 a slice, and pop and water will be available throughout the night for \$1 each.

The live auction will get under

way between 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. and auctioneers Kyle Colyer and Dick Strickland will lend their local brand of humor to the affair.

The silent auction will run from 5:30 p.m. to about 8:15 p.m.

Donations still can be made to the fundraiser. For more information, call Judy at (208) 845-2842, Ginny at (208) 845-2282 or Charmaine at (208) 845-2552. Items may be dropped off at the Legion Hall from noon to 4 p.m. Friday and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Items already committed for the auction include:

- A signed and numbered print donated by Jerry Kencke and featuring local resident Matt Tindall riding a bull during the 2007 Bruneau Roundup rodeo.
- A copy of the third printing of “The Valley of the Tall Grass.” The book is No. 51 in the third printing of the book that chronicles a history of the Bruneau area.
- Other items on the auction

block include bagged fertilizer, hydraulic fluid, oil, tools, tires, an 8-foot fiberglass ladder, batteries, backhoe work, custom application, quilts, handcrafted jewelry, a birdhouse, Western items, metal art, racing jerseys, an Agri-Lines jacket, a silver spur doorknocker, portable gas grills, a framed cowboy’s kids print, a cowboy saying framed print, sprinklers, gopher traps, cases of canned tuna and salmon, newspaper subscriptions — including The Owyhee Avalanche — a tackle box, homemade cakes and candies, hay, toys, an assortment of gift baskets and gift certificates for a vehicle front-end alignment, tanning sessions, haircuts, portrait sessions, asparagus, steak dinners, pizza and more, as well as the ever-popular white elephant items.

The Bruneau Booster Club civic organization was established in January 1988, and the annual auction is the sole fundraiser for the group. Organizers attribute the success of the club to the support

and generosity of the Bruneau community and people in the surrounding area.

The Bruneau Boosters have raised more than \$37,000 in the past four years through the dinner and fundraiser.

Club members say their purpose is to give back to Bruneau in ways that will benefit the community at-large.

Among the ways the club gives back to the community:

- Each year, the club pays half the expense of the town’s streetlights.
- The club hosts an annual community Christmas dinner, including a visit from Santa.
- There is a Memorial Day potluck dinner each year.
- The Boosters supply all the paper products and table service for local funerals.
- Scholarships are provided to local high school graduates, including eight \$500 scholarships in the past four years.
- Upkeep and maintenance

of Bruneau Community Park, including construction of a picnic shelter in 2004 and completion of electrical work for the shelter in 2005.

- When the installation of a new water system for Bruneau drove up utility rates last year, the group drilled a well at the park, and the plan is to complete the project this spring with the installation of a pump.
- The Boosters also are working on the restoration of all the Bruneau High School class photographs, which hang in the Legion Hall.
- Other funds have been used to buy equipment for the Bruneau Valley Library, support the VISTA reading program at Bruneau Elementary, to assist the Bruneau American Legion with facility improvements and to enable students to participate in extracurricular educational activities such as workshops and the People to People Ambassador Program.

Honor rolls College of Southern Idaho

Students achieving grade-point averages of 4.0 with 12 or more completed credits qualified for the President’s List. Students with GPAs of 3.2 to 3.9 qualified for the Dean’s List.

Area students placed on the

honor roll for the fall semester:

President’s List — Michelle Baltzor, Jordan Valley

Dean’s List — Samuel Ensley and Michelle Uria, Homedale; Justin Aman, Murphy; Kirsten Grenke, Jordan Valley

University of Idaho

Several students with ties to the Owyhee country have earned spots on the University of Idaho’s Dean’s List after the fall semester (GPA of 3.5 or beter for 12 or more graded units):

Bruneau — Hugo Araujo Lino

Homedale — Maria Alvarez,

Spencer Batt, Yasone Lejardi, Zachary Lootens, Mark Vance and Andres Vaquez-Aguilera

Jordan Valley — Asahel Beckwith and Shane Smith

Melba — David Gonzalez, Hannah Nizam-Aldine, Anna Schwisow, Leah Schwisow and Jacob Silver

Oreana — Melinda Lewis

Water system rehab begins

Sommer Construction on Wednesday began its three-month project to rehabilitate Homedale’s municipal water system.

One crew began by trenching and installing new pipe on a stretch of West Wyoming Avenue between Railroad Avenue and West 2nd Street South.

Updates on the water project will be available at The Owyhee Avalanche’s Web site, www.owyheepublishing.com, as they are made available.

In other water system-related news, city public works supervisor Larry Bauer told the City Council on Wednesday that the test well drilled by Boise firm Stevens and Sons in Riverside Park seems capable of providing 400 gallons per minute.



“The well is suitable,” Bauer told city councilmen. “It’s not as great as it could have been, but it will meet our needs. It’s 400 gallons per minute, which will meet our backup needs.”

Bauer said that the drilling cost was lower than anticipated, too.

In other city public works news, Bauer reported that he had secured the purchase of a used broom from the Nyssa Highway District at a cost of \$1,500. Bauer said the broom will be used for street cleanup after sanding or excavations operations. Unlike

Gas line forces slight adjustment

Sean Coffey guides an elbow pipe into the trench Thursday as co-worker Jeremy Williams lowers the pipe into the hole. The elbow was necessary to redirect a water line around a natural gas pipeline.

in the past when the city leased a broom once a year for cleanup, Bauer said owning the tool is

more convenient.

“We’ve always leased one,” he said. “This way we will have the ability to do it when we need it.”

The broom attaches to a tractor.

Bauer also announced that the city will take delivery of a new tractor from Campbell Tractor some time this spring. The city will pay more than \$23,000 to replace its existing tractor, and Bauer said he probably will ask the council to declare the existing tractor surplus property at its Feb. 28 meeting.

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International Smorgasbord raises \$17,000

Homedale High School athletic director David Hart samples the Italian fare from the European booth at the Homedale International Smorgasbord, which was held Feb. 9 at Homedale Elementary School.

Organizers said last week that the 47th annual Homedale International Smorgasbord generated several thousand dollars for Homedale School District needs this year.

The Smorgasbord, which was held Feb. 9 at Homedale Elementary School, attracted nearly 2,100 people during an eight-hour run, according to district clerk Faith Olsen.

Olsen said the Smorgasbord grossed about \$17,000 this year, including \$2,049 the day of the event in raffle tickets for the gift baskets supplied by district students.

This year's Smorgasbord chairs were Tracy and Dwayne Fisher. Co-chairs were Heidi and Ryan Nash.



‘The Princess Bride’ comes to Homedale

The Homedale High School Drama Department is staging “The Princess Bride” on Friday and Saturday in the school’s old gymnasium at 203 E. Idaho Ave.

The play, which features “fencing, fighting, torture, revenge, giants, monsters, chases, escapes, true love, miracles...” as well as a dread pirate, an albino, a six-fingered man, a Brute Squad, and a farm boy, is sure to entertain, according to the drama department folks.

The cast includes Kirsi Thatcher and Jennifer Dixon, who each play Princess Buttercup in one performance, Dayton Syme as Westley, Mark Klug as Inigo Montoya, Shane Witt as Prince Humperdinck, Aldin Juarez as Count Rugen, Gage Egurrola as

Vizzini, and Sam Hart as Fezzik.

DeAnn Thatcher, the school’s drama coordinator, thinks attendees should pay attention to the sets and props as well as the play.

“We are so excited about all our backdrops and props,” Thatcher said. “Daylene Woodruff has painted beautiful backdrops for us. Aldin Juarez has painted for

us. Many of our drama members have helped make papier-mache props. Mr. (Mike) Greeley’s shop classes are even involved in wood projects for us.”

Shows begin at 7 each night, and tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for students, and \$20 for a family ticket. Tickets are available from members of the Drama Department or at the door.

2nd Marsing PTA carnival on horizon

The Marsing PTA is forming committees to organize the group’s second annual school carnival.

The carnival is scheduled for 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on May 9 at Marsing Elementary School.

Organizers say that the “overwhelming positive” response to last year’s carnival has triggered a drive to provide more food and fun this year.

Service club members and members of the business community are encouraged to participate in the planning.

To help with game booths or donate prizes for the carnival, call Muriel Briggs at 896-4574.

For advertising and o donate a raffle item, call Kym Bowers at 896-4238.

Anyone interested in volunteering to prepare food or donate grocery items can call Jennifer Torres at 896-4111, ext. 493.

Donations of cakes or cupcakes for the cakewalk should be directed to Dawn Clausen or Joni Wood at 896-4111, ext. 309.

ION museum asks, ‘When will buzzards return?’

Jordan Valley museum holds contest to guess when vultures will roost in town

They may not be as graceful or pleasing to the eye as the swallows of San Juan Capistrano, but the turkey vultures — more commonly referred to as buzzards — soon will be making their return to Jordan Valley.

With this in mind, the organizers of the ION Heritage Museum in Jordan Valley have conjured up a contest for young and old alike — “Guess when the buzzards will return to Jordan Valley.”

Material for the contest has been distributed in school in Jordan Valley. Prizes will be awarded for those who guess closest to the actual date of arrival this year.

According to a letter written by ION museum board president Mike Hanley for the contest, turkey vultures return to Jordan

Valley each spring and roost in trees within the city limits of the small town just over the Idaho-Oregon state line.

Turkey vultures aren’t endangered or threatened, but they are under federal protection through the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Buzzards are under the management of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and it is unlawful to harm the birds.

According to a regional land bird biologist from the USFWS, the earliest arrival of buzzards in Malheur County is Feb. 18, and the average arrival date has been March 16. The peak of spring migration is April 5-15, according to material furnished by the museum’s board of directors.

The ION Heritage Museum is located at 502 Swisher Ave., in

Jordan Valley. The museum is open on weekends, and private tours are available on other days. Joanne Cunningham is the curator.

Call (541) 586-2100 for more information on the museum or to book a private tour.

Memberships to the museum are available in a range of prices from as little as \$10 for an annual membership for students younger than 18 and senior citizens older than 55, to as much as \$500 for a lifetime membership.

Member benefits include unlimited free admission to the ION museum as well as the Owyhee County Historical Museum in Murphy, priority registration for educational programs at the ION museum, a subscription the museum newsletter, volunteer opportunities and discounts in the museum gift shop.

Anyone older than 80 who were born in the Idaho-Oregon-Nevada region is eligible for an honorary membership.

Other annual membership prices include: Adult, \$15; family, \$25; supporting, \$50; small business, \$100; corporate, \$150; and associate, \$250.

According to the City of Jordan Valley’s Web page dedicated to the ION Heritage Museum, the grand opening originally scheduled for last year has been tentatively rescheduled for this spring.

The Web site also announces that a \$2,000 grant from the Cenarrusa Foundation for Basque Culture will help purchase display cabinets that will be used in the museum, which is located in the former Elorriaga family home.

Basque dance set for March

The eighth annual Homedale Basque Dance will be held March 8 at the Txoko Ona Basque Center, 333 S. Main St., in Homedale.

The Herribatza Dantzariak and Oinkari Basque Dancers will be featured during the dinner and dance. Admission is \$5, and doors open at 6 p.m.

There will be dancing as well as a live and silent auction.

A 42-inch high-definition television also will be raffled.

BLM RAC meeting for SE Oregon rescheduled

The Bureau of Land Management has cancelled the Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council (SEORAC) meeting originally scheduled for Thursday and Friday at the federal agency’s Burns District Office.

The SEORAC will reconvene May 8-9 in Lake County at a location yet to be determined.

Proposed agenda items for the two-day session are:

- A discussion on fire rehabilitation initiatives
- Fire and fuel management practices
- Sagebrush Cooperative progress
- Southeast Oregon Geographic Information System mapping status
- The Wilderness Study Area

located within the Sand Dunes east of Christmas Valley

- Transportation strategies for lands administered by the Oregon and Washington BLM and Fremont-Winema National Forests.

Specific details regarding the meeting will be provided in April via a Federal Register Notice and news release.

The Southeast Oregon RAC helps govern an area that includes the Vale District, in which Malheur County and Jordan Valley is located.

For more information about the SEORAC or upcoming meeting, contact Scott Stoffel at (541) 947-6237. More information regarding RACs is available online at: <http://www.blm.gov/or/rac/index.php>.

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Federal grazing fee stays steady from '07

The federal grazing fee for Western public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service will not change in 2008, the feds have announced.

The federal grazing fee on lands in Idaho, Oregon, Nevada and 13 other Western states will remain at the minimum \$1.35 per animal unit month (AUM), which is the same level it was a year ago.

The fee, determined by a congressional formula, goes into effect March 1. It applies to nearly 18,000 grazing permits and leases administered by the BLM and more than 8,000 permits administered by the Forest Service.

The formula used for calculating the grazing fee, established by Congress in the 1978 Public Rangelands Improvement Act, has continued under a presidential Executive Order issued in 1986.

The grazing fee cannot fall below \$1.35 per AUM, and any increase or decrease cannot exceed 25 percent of the previous year's level. An AUM is the amount of forage needed to sustain one cow and her calf, one horse, or five

sheep or goats for a month.

The annually adjusted grazing fee is computed by using a 1966 base value of \$1.23 per AUM for livestock grazing on public lands in Western states.

The figure is then adjusted according to three factors:

- Current private grazing land lease rates
- Beef cattle prices
- The cost of livestock production.

In effect, the fee rises, falls, or stays the same based on market conditions, with livestock operators paying more when conditions are better and less when conditions have declined.

Without the requirement that the grazing fee cannot fall below \$1.35 per AUM, this year's fee would have dropped below \$1 per AUM because of declining beef cattle prices and increased production costs from the previous year.

The Forest Service applies different grazing fees to national grasslands. The national grassland fee will be \$1.35 per AUM, down from \$1.37 in 2007, and will also take effect March 1.

Chambers talk teamwork

The Homedale Chamber of Commerce was visited by representatives of the Caldwell Chamber during Thursday's monthly luncheon.

Caldwell Chamber executive director Diana Brown and membership coordinator Teresa Harden outlined some of the programs and events presented by the 395-member organization.

Brown invited Homedale Chamber members to take advantage of what the Caldwell Chamber has to offer, including participation in the Treasure Valley Night Light Parade during the Christmas season, and attending the Chamber's luncheon on the second Tuesday of each month at the College of Idaho's Simplot Dining Hall.

"The more everyone can participate and support each other, the stronger we will be," Brown said.

Brown also extended an offer for the Homedale Chamber to display its upcoming map at the Caldwell organization's office.

Jeff Blodgett of Adair Homes, who is active in both Chambers, said that cooperation between the two organizations can strengthen Homedale as businesses begin to look to Owyhee County for more clients and customers.

In other Chamber business, Homedale Chamber president Gavin Parker said that the map project by Caldwell-based Hometown Maps is nearing completion.

"We've really put a lot of thought into it," Parker said, adding that the map will feature a guide to the burgeoning "wine country" in the region.

Parker said about 2,000 maps will be mailed to households in Homedale and Wilder.

"It really will be a useful tool that people are going to look at and use," Parker said.

Parker also said that the finishing touches are being placed on the joint Web site for the City of Homedale and the Chamber.

Parker also gave a report on the proposed summertime fundraiser of bringing Payette-based Fun Time Carnival to town.

He said the Chamber would receive 15 percent of the gross revenue, or between \$1,000 and \$2,000.

"All we need to do is help market it and find a location for it," he said.

He suggested the first week of June, which had been the time for the city's Community Block Party, as a good time to bring the carnival to town.

Homedale Chamber of Commerce Secretary Robin Aberasturi reported that she is representing the organization on a committee for the Western Alliance for Economic Development.

Aberasturi said she and Western Alliance executive director Mike Pollard recently met with a representative from the Idaho Department of Commerce to investigate grant opportunities

for the Homedale Municipal Airport.

She also said that the Chamber could be eligible for grant money from the Idaho Board of Tourism to help with promotion of Homedale businesses.

Toni Kelly, the Homedale mom who has spearheaded the drive to install playground equipment at Sundance Park, also made a pitch for help with the project.

Kelly recently said that the Homedale Lions Club donated \$1,000 to the project, and she still is looking for matching funds to fulfill a requirement to receive a \$5,000 Caldwell Community Foundation grant.

Kelly announced that donations are tax deductible because money will be channeled through the non-profit Homedale Youth Sports Inc.

"We're striving not only to be good stewards of Sundance Park, but a great steward of the most precious resource entrusted to us — the kids," she said.

Kelly said she has reapplied for a grant from Hamburger Helper, and that a percentage of the gross receipts from the Sundance concession sales during the rec season will go toward the playground fund.

"The outpouring of positive support from the community has been phenomenal, but we need money to make it happen," she said.

— JPB

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Student selected for D.C. trip

Teacher tabs
Melba soph from
Owyhee County

A Melba High School sophomore who lives in Owyhee County has been selected to participate in a youth conference this spring in Washington, D.C.

Clint Robertson was nominated by his English teacher, Jeri Lynn Walker-Bickett, to attend the National Young Leaders Conference (NYLC). Conference organizers accepted his nomination in December.

Robertson was selected based on high academic standard, leadership abilities and character. He'll take part in a conference slated for April.

The six-day NYLC program provides high school scholars with the opportunity to interact with a variety of folks who work in the three branches of government — executive, legislative and judicial — the news media and the

international community.

Past highlights of the NYLC week have included welcoming remarks from a current or former member of Congress, made from the floor of the House of Representatives, which is a rare opportunity for visiting groups, according to a press release from the Congressional Youth Leadership Council, which provides the NYLC opportunity.

Students also have had opportunities to interact with prominent members of the Washington media corps at the National Press Club as well as chances to meet with senators and representatives or appointed staff members to discuss important issues facing the nation.

Also on the agenda are leadership skill-building activities and simulations, including one role-playing activity, "If I Were President," in which students act as the president and cabinet members dealing with an international crisis.

Students also participate in "Testing the Constitution," in



Clint Robertson

which they will examine actual Supreme Court cases.

The conference culminates with "Model Congress," in which scholars assume the roles of congressional representatives and debate, amend and vote on proposed mock legislation.

Robertson served as co-captain of the Melba junior varsity football team and also belongs to the school's chapter of Business Professionals of America (BPA). In the recent BPA regional competition, he finished fourth in Presentational Management.

Robertson also has become active in the Boise Composite Squadron of the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol, a youth organization that focuses on, among other things, aerospace and leadership training.

Robertson said his future interests include aeronautics or aerospace engineering and becoming a pilot, a sheriff, a mayor or a cabinet member.

The 16-year-old Robertson is the son of Charlie and Lynda Robertson.

Robertson is seeking donations and sponsorships to help defray the cost of the trip to Washington. Send donations to Melba High School, in care of Student-Clint Robertson, 520 Broadway Ave., Melba ID, 83641.

The Owyhee Avalanche
Owyhee County's best source for local news!!

Who Knew Vegging Out Could Taste So Great?

FAMILY FEATURES

Vegetables: The More the Merrier!

Eating vegetables is one of the most important things you can do for your health. In fact, a growing body of science shows a vegetable-rich diet can help you control calories and lose weight, and also may help reduce risk factors associated with heart disease, diabetes and some cancers. Yet nine out 10 U.S. adults aren't meeting the daily recommended intake for vegetables and fruit.¹ Why? Some of the most common barriers are convenience and taste. In fact, a recent survey reveals that nearly 60 percent of respondents said that if vegetables tasted better, they would likely eat more each day.²

The good news is that a little creativity can go a long way in making vegetables taste good. One of the latest innovations from the makers of *V8* vegetable juice, which has been delivering vegetable nutrition for 75 years, is *V8 V-Fusion* — a unique blend of vegetables and fruit that delivers a light, sweet taste. Each 8-ounce glass provides a full serving of vegetables and a full serving of fruit, plus antioxidant vitamins A, C and E. That's great news for more than half of the women surveyed who said they prefer the taste of fruit over vegetables.³

Also consider new and innovative options like a mango and avocado salad, a refreshing granita, or sneak extra vegetables into favorites like pasta or lasagna.

Vegetable guru and best-selling cookbook author Mollie Katzen says the sky's the limit when it comes to ways to enjoy eating your vegetables. "There are hundreds of ways to make vegetables flavorful and fun. Experiment with all different types and combinations to find something that tantalizes your taste buds."

Here are some tips to get you on your way to eating more veggies!

- **Creative Cooking:** Add vegetable juice to chilis, stews, meatballs and more. One 8-ounce glass adds 2 servings of vegetables.
- **Fuel Up on Flavor:** Enjoy one of the flavorful varieties of *V8 V-Fusion*, which provides a full serving of vegetables and fruits in each 8-ounce glass in unique, on-trend flavors include Acai Mixed Berry, Pomegranate Blueberry and Peach Mango!
- **Keep It Simple:** Grab and go with a bag of pre-cut baby carrots or celery for a healthy snack or lunch accompaniment. Choose frozen vegetables to add to sauces or eat as a side dish.
- **Be Adventurous:** Try new vegetables in new ways! More than 200 types of vegetables have been categorized around the world, with about 75 types growing throughout the United States.⁴ Mix and match with your favorite fruits and other foods for something you'll enjoy.

¹Casagrande SS, Wang Y, Anderson C, Gary TL. Have Americans Increased their Fruit and Vegetable Intake? The Trends Between 1988 and 2002. *Am J Prev Med* 2007; 32:257-63
²Online Omnibus survey of 1,000 women ages 35+, conducted by Impulse Group on behalf of V8; Dec. 2007
³Online Omnibus survey of 1,000 women ages 35+, conducted by Impulse Group on behalf of V8; Dec. 2007
⁴Michael W. Davidson and The Florida State University



Pan-Seared Salmon in Peach-Mango Sauce

Prep: 20 minutes
Cook: 30 minutes

- Vegetable cooking spray
 - 4 salmon fillets, about 3/4 inch thick (about 1 pound)
 - 1 large red pepper, chopped (about 1 cup)
 - 1 clove garlic, minced
 - 1 1/2 cups *V8 V-Fusion* Peach Mango juice
 - 1 mango, peeled, seeded and chopped (about 1 1/4 cups)
 - 1/4 cup honey
 - 2 tablespoons cornstarch
 - 1 tablespoon lime juice
 - 1/4 teaspoon cracked black pepper
 - 4 cups fresh baby spinach
 - 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro leaves
 - 2 cups cooked regular brown rice
- Season the salmon as desired.
 - Spray a 12-inch skillet with the cooking spray and heat over medium-high heat for 1 minute. Add the salmon, skin-side up and cook for about 5 minutes or until it's well browned. Turn the salmon over and cook for 4 minutes or until it flakes easily when tested with a fork. Remove the salmon from the skillet and keep it warm.
 - Add the red pepper and garlic to the skillet and cook over medium heat until the pepper is tender-crisp.
 - Stir the V8, mango, honey, cornstarch, lime juice and black pepper in a small bowl. Stir the V8 mixture and the spinach into the skillet. Cook for 2 minutes or until the mixture boils and thickens. Stir in the cilantro. Serve over salmon. Serve with rice.

Makes: 4 servings

Nutrition facts, amount per serving: Calories 430, Total Fat 9 g, Sat. Fat 2 g, Cholesterol 56 mg, Sodium 106 mg, Total Carb. 63 g, Dietary Fiber 4 g, Protein 26 g
% Daily Values: Vitamin A 100%, Vitamin C 79%, Calcium 7%, Iron 12%



From Mollie Katzen's new cookbook *The Vegetable Dishes I Can't Live Without:*

Beet-Avocado-Pear "Carpaccio"

Thin slices of beautifully contrasting ingredients are arranged in shallow layers on a plate and sprinkled with touches of extra flavor, texture and color. Serve this as an elegant first course for dinner or as a main dish for lunch.

NOTES: You can cook the beets any way you prefer — by steaming, boiling or roasting. Cut the pear and avocado just before using, so they won't turn brown.

- A few handfuls of very fresh arugula leaves or spinach leaves
 - 1 pound beets, cooked until tender, then peeled and thinly sliced
 - 1 to 2 tablespoons roasted walnut oil or extra-virgin olive oil
 - 1 medium firm-but-ripe avocado
 - 1 tablespoon cider vinegar
 - Salt, to taste (optional)
 - 2 medium-sized perfectly ripe pears, in thin slices (peeling optional)
 - 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
 - 1/4 cup crumbled Roquefort or Gorgonzola cheese
 - 1/2 cup minced walnuts, lightly toasted
- Optional garnishes:**
Pomegranate seeds
Dried cranberries (or minced fresh cranberries)
Squeezable lemon wedges
Freshly ground black pepper, to taste

- Scatter the arugula or spinach onto a medium-large serving platter, or on 4 or 5 individual plates.
 - Place the beet slices over the arugula. Drizzle the beets with oil.
 - Halve the avocado, then pit, peel, and cut it into long thin slices. Arrange these around the beets and immediately drizzle the avocado surfaces with vinegar to keep them from discoloring. Sprinkle very lightly with salt, if you desire.
 - Lay the pear slices on or around the avocado, then sprinkle everything with lemon juice.
 - Toss the crumbled cheese over the top and garnish with walnuts, pomegranate seeds, or cranberries, and a wedge of lemon. Serve immediately, passing around the pepper mill.
- Yield: 4 to 5 servings*

Excerpted from *The Vegetable Dishes I Can't Live Without* by Mollie Katzen. Copyright (c) 2007 Tante Malka Inc. Published by Hyperion. All Rights Reserved.



Pomegranate Blueberry Granita

Prep: 10 minutes
Chill: 5 hours, 30 minutes

- 4 cups *V8 V-Fusion* Pomegranate Blueberry juice
- 2 cups fresh blueberries and/or strawberries
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice

- Place the V8, blueberries, honey and lemon juice into a blender container. Cover and blend until smooth. Pour the V8 mixture into an 11x17-inch baking pan. Cover the pan tightly with plastic wrap.
- Freeze for 45 minutes or until the edges of the V8 mixture become icy. Stir the V8 mixture with a whisk. Cover and freeze for 45 minutes more. Stir the V8 mixture again with the whisk.
- Cover the pan and freeze for 3 hours or until the V8 mixture is frozen solid.
- Scrape the frozen V8 mixture with a fork to form icy flakes. Cover and freeze for 1 hour.
- Spoon the granita into goblets or parfait glasses. Garnish with mint leaves and serve with additional fresh fruit.

Makes: 6 servings

Nutrition facts, amount per serving: Calories 114, Total Fat 0 g, Sat. Fat 0 g, Cholesterol 0 mg, Sodium 22 mg, Total Carb. 29 g, Dietary Fiber 1 g, Protein 0 g
% Daily Values: Vitamin A 11%, Vitamin C 108%, Calcium 3%, Iron 2%

Mango & Avocado Salad with Acai Berry Vinaigrette

Prep: 15 minutes

- 1/2 cup *V8 V-Fusion* Acai Mixed Berry juice
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup balsamic vinegar
- 2 tablespoons water
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 6 cups chopped Romaine lettuce
- 1 medium mango, peeled, seeded and sliced (about 1 1/2 cups)
- 1 medium avocado, peeled, pitted and sliced (about 1 1/2 cups)

- Beat the V8, oil, vinegar, water, mustard, garlic and black pepper in a medium bowl with a whisk or fork.
- Divide the lettuce among 4 salad bowls. Top with the mango and avocado slices. Spoon 2 tablespoons vinaigrette over each salad. Serve immediately.

Makes: 6 servings

Tip: Garnish with fresh raspberries.

Nutrition facts, amount per serving: Calories 122, Total Fat 8 g, Sat. Fat 1 g, Cholesterol 0 mg, Sodium 49 mg, Total Carb. 12 g, Dietary Fiber 3 g, Protein 1 g
% Daily Values: Vitamin A 61%, Vitamin C 43%, Calcium 3%, Iron 4%

For more tips and additional recipes, visit www.v8juice.com.



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ea.

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30pk 12oz Cans

12pk 12oz Bottles
Corona Beer **\$13⁹⁹**
ea.

Western Family Milk 2%-1%-Skim Half Gallon \$1⁹⁹ <small>ea.</small>	Hunt's Diced Tomatoes \$1¹⁹ <small>ea.</small> 14.5 oz.	Powerade 32 oz. 99¢ <small>ea.</small>	Meadowgold Ice Cream \$3⁴⁹ <small>ea.</small> 56 oz.
Western Family Cottage Cheese \$2⁶⁹ <small>ea.</small> 24 oz.	Hunt's Tomato Sauce 49¢ <small>ea.</small> 8 oz.	Orville Redenbacher Microwave Popcorn \$2⁹⁹ <small>ea.</small> 6 ct.	Krusteaz Waffles & Pancakes \$2²⁹ <small>ea.</small> 12 ct.
S&W Beans 15-15.5 oz. 89¢ <small>ea.</small>	Western Family Instant & Boil N Bag Rice 14 oz. \$1⁴⁹ <small>ea.</small>	Nalley Dill, Bread & Butter Pickles \$2²⁹ <small>ea.</small> 24 oz.	Ore Ida Hashbrowns \$2⁷⁹ <small>ea.</small> 27-32 oz.
Western Family Traditional Soup \$1⁴⁹ <small>ea.</small> 19 oz.	Kraft Pudding Cups \$1²⁹ <small>ea.</small> 4 ct.	Fritos & Cheetos 8.5-11 oz. \$2¹⁹ <small>ea.</small>	General Foods International Coffees \$3⁴⁹ <small>ea.</small> 4.4-10 oz.
Betty Crocker Fruit Snacks \$1⁸⁹ <small>ea.</small> 10 ct.	LaVictoria Taco Sauce \$1³⁹ <small>ea.</small> 8 oz.	Lay's Potato Chips \$2²⁹ <small>ea.</small> 12.5 oz.	<div>Get Ready for Easter! Baskets, Candy, Eggs, Flowers & much more.</div>
Quaker Chewy Granola Bars \$2⁶⁹ <small>ea.</small> 10 ct.	Classico Pasta Sauce \$2¹⁹ <small>ea.</small> 26 oz.	Western Family Jumbo Biscuits \$1⁰⁹ <small>ea.</small> 16 oz.	

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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