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Homedale High graduate finishes second at national tournament

Marsing Chamber plans return of suspended event

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Established 1865

# Dwyhee Avalanche

**VOLUME 23, NUMBER 9** 

**HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO** 

**SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS** 

# Mayor may have violated law



Building covered capped well

A city well capped by plywood, right, now stands exposed after city workers tore down an old well house that was used for storage near Homedale City Hall.

Homedale well house razed without public vote after round of phone calls to council members

The discussions leading up to the destruction of an old well house east of Homedale City Hall may have constituted an illegal meeting by the mayor and the city council.

Mayor Harold Wilson said he spoke individually with city council members before asking public works supervisor Larry Bauer to tear down the structure about a month ago, an apparent violation of Idaho Code 67-2340 through 2347, which, among other things, mandates that all decisions made by the council

must be done so in a public meeting.

"I had checked with every councilman, and they agreed," Wilson said of tearing down the defunct well house. "I talked to each one personally."

City councilman Aaron Tines said that he or another council member should have made sure that the mayor brought the

— See **Mayor,** page **5**A

— More on mayor's plan to relocate probation office, page 3A

# Crandall runs for sheriff

Hoagland, Tolmie to seek re-election

The field of hopefuls for this year's Owyhee County Sheriff election grew by one Wednes-

Sheriff's Deputy Daryl Crandall, a four-year veteran of the Owyhee office, threw his hat into the ring during the county Republican Party's Lincoln Day Banquet Wednesday afternoon at the Sandbar Restaurant in Marsing.

"I think the real issue is we need to get back to taking care of small

— See **Crandall,** page **5**A

# Punctured pipes halt water

## Homedale taps run dry for 6½ hours during two outages

Old lines and substandard mapping are being blamed for two citywide water outages in Homedale.

Residents and businesses were without water for about four hours on the morning of Feb. 19 and for about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours again last Wednesday, city public works supervisor Larry Bauer said.

"We were in an area of town that we knew was going to be difficult, and we had two surprises," Bauer

"We knew we were going to have them (line breaks), but we didn't know we'd have them back-to-back."

Both outages occurred when a

crew from Sommer Construction accidentally ruptured water lines during the second week of work on a massive rehabilitation project on Homedale's municipal water

"The contractors have done an outstanding job," Bauer said. "It's not their fault."

The veteran of city public works said pinpoint accuracy in locating the old pipeline is nearly impossible.

"The existing mapping was very, very substandard; almost non-existent," Bauer said of the ways Sommer workers locate

— See **Water**, page **5**A





Crews work fast to stem tide of broken main

Left: An employee of Sommer Construction of Nampa stands in a trench on North Third Street East on Feb. 19 while a piece of heavy equipment swings overhead to fill a trench where new pipe was installed. Right: Yards east of Homedale High School were flooded during the rupture of a water pipe Wednesday.

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# Crapo to Initiative group: Be ready, resilient

After seven years of formulation, the framers of the Owyhee Initiative finally may see light at the end of the tunnel.

The Initiative Work Group met Wednesday in Nampa with bill sponsor Sen. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) and learned that the outlook may not be as dire as once thought with Democrats controlling Congress.

"I want to welcome you to the most historic meeting because we have faced what we for a long time considered a beast, but we have found that it isn't really a beast but just a guardian of principles that they hold very strong, the committee staff and chairman (Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M.)," Initiative co-chair Fred Grant said to open the meeting.

Grant said Monday that the work group will be sending language changes to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. Another work group meeting is set for Thursday.

Crapo said that committee action on the implementation legislation could be imminent. A favorable committee nod could put the Initiative in a bundle of bills that would reach the Senate floor for a vote sometime this year — and more importantly — before recess for November's general election.

"I wouldn't go so far as to say the train has started, but it's fueled up," Crapo told members of the work group gathered inside Grant's Longbranch Station

"We're going to have to be able to respond to dynamics in

Crapo's sense of urgency came as he also tried to allay the work group's fears that Democratic control of Congress — and with it the switch of committee chairmanship to New Mexico Sen. Jeff Bingaman — could doom the legislation.

The junior senator from Idaho said that Bingaman's chief of staff, David Brooks, seems to be on the same page when it comes to the spirit of the legislation.

"I believe that instead of running into roadblocks, what we've done through our work is developed an ally," Crapo said. "I believe (Brooks) wants to help get the bill through, and that's phenomenal."

The timeline for action on the bill has shrunk considerably. Work group members were given a teleconference help sheet to make it easier to bring ranchers, conservationists, outfitters and others together quickly to make decisions as the Initiative steams towards what they all hope is a vote in the full Senate later this

The full-scale meeting with the Initiative group didn't go without some hiccups and a couple reality

Crapo told the group that he has enlisted the help of 51 of his colleagues in the Senate to help beat back an effort to attach



#### Senator visits Initiative work group meeting

Sen. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) addresses members of the Owyhee Initiative Work Group, including group chair Fred Grant, left, during a meeting Wednesday in Nampa.

gun legislation to the Initiative or any other land management bill. In return for dropping a filibuster, Sen. Tom Coburn (R-Okla.) recently was allowed an amendment to lift gun restrictions in national parks and wildlife refuges and attached it to a 60bill public land management package.

Crapo said last week that Coburn's action leapfrogged "administrative" efforts to get Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne to make 20-year-old rules governing the carrying and transport of guns on public lands more consistent with state laws.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) has pulled the bill and is trying to reformulate the legislation without the gun law attachment. Crapo said the fate of that first bill could impact the Initiative.

"The way it connects to the Initiative is if this first bill can't go, then there's not going to be a second bill," Crapo said.

The senator also told the work group that the necessary water rights to move the Initiative forward would have to be secured through a route other than federal law - most likely adjudication, according to Crapo. Grant said trying to dictate the water right through federal legislation could cause the State of Idaho to drop its support.

Work group member Grant Simonds, who represents the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association, illuminated another possible snag related to another federal legislaton proposal.

Simonds voiced concern about the Wild Sky Wilderness Bill, which aims to create 106,000 acres of wilderness in Washington

state. The bill sponsored by Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) already has passed the committee stage that the Initiative is in.

Simonds said the fact that the bill establishes float plane use as an existing use in the Wild Sky is "extremely" disappointing given that outfitting and guiding aren't allowed as existing uses in wilderness bills.

Crapo sympathized with Simonds' frustration, but said that efforts to allow outfitters and guides has been met with resistance based on the Wilderness Act of 1964 that classified the industry as a commercial act and not an established act.

"Outfitting is an established use and it's a commercial use," Simonds said. "It has a long tradition in Idaho going back to Sacajawea."

— JPB





Hours: M-F 8am - 5pm · Sat 9am - 1pm

#### Mayor envisions probation location

Homedale Mayor Harold Wilson points out the area east of City Hall that he thinks would be suitable for a new Owyhee County probation office and possibly an expanded city police station.



# New Homedale probation office discussed

## Mayor, officials from several agencies meet on possible relocation

When Homedale Mayor Harold Wilson asked his city maintenance staff to destroy a well house near City Hall, he had a plan.

With Owyhee County in the process of buying a building in Marsing to house services, Wilson wants to see a new probation office built elsewhere in Homedale.

"Probably 80 percent of the kids are from here," Wilson said of the ratio of juvenile probationers in the county system from the Homedale area. "If the office was moved (to Marsing), the sheriff's office would have to transport the kids. Our police department wouldn't do it."

Wilson proposes donating the land between City Hall/Magistrate Court and U.S. Bank to Owyhee County so a probation office can be built there. He said he's not sure if the land owned by the bank between the parking lot retaining wall and the city land would have to be purchased for the lot, but the mayor said the proposal would provide more parking for the probation office, too. The probation office's current location allows only on-street parking.

Wilson discussed his idea

from Owvhee County, the Third District Court, the City Council, Homedale Police Department and the Homedale School District.

Jerry Hoagland, the chair of the county Board of Commissioners and the commissioner from District 1, said Wilson's plan has merits. Hoagland was among the officials who met at Homedale City Hall on Feb. 12.

County probation officer Doris Jewett was unavailable for comment with this story.

The future of the probation office has been a popular topic since the county began looking to relocate the license bureau and sheriff substation now housed in cramped Marsing City Hall. When the county began investigating the purchase of the old Owyhee Conservation District building in Marsing, District 2 Commissioner Hal Tolmie presented the Homedale City Council with a plan to build an annex on part of the controversial seven acres south of the Homedale Municipal Airport. Part of Tolmie's plan included moving the probation office to the new location.

When the OCD building option

that the county would consolidate its Marsing-Homedale offices and move the probation department. The county recently agreed to buy the property at 19 Reich St. in Marsing for \$250,000.

Hoagland quelled the rumor of possibly moving the probation office out of the county's largest city: "I don't think there was enough room in the Marsing building to accommodate the probation office."

The probation office currently is housed in a rented building at the corner of West Idaho Avenue and North 1st Street West. Peggy Jackson owns the building, and County Clerk Charlotte Sherburn said Monday that the county pays \$550 in rent each month. Sherburn also said that the county paid \$309 for the building's January

The commissioners are scheduled to meet with Jewett at 11:15 a.m. Monday to discuss the lease agreement, which was originally signed in 2004. That meeting has been rescheduled from the Feb. 19 commissioners meeting when Jewett was unavailable. Sherburn said.

Sherburn also said that the commissioners are scheduled to take up the services contract the county has with Tessa O'Donnell, Jewett's daughter who works as

a support services coordinator in the probation office. O'Donnell's contract was renewed in January, but Sherburn said the commissioners hadn't received a signed copy back from O'Donnell. O'Donnell coordinates training opportunities for the advancement of probation department staff as well as conducts victim/offender counseling and other outreach programs.

Hoagland said he had no problem with the lease terms of the current probation building, but he said the cost of heating and cooling the old structure is prohibitive.

Wilson proposes a fresh building on a lot he says measures 100 feet by 125 feet. He said the city could donate the lot to the county, but also utilize a portion of the new building.

"My feeling is we'd probably donate it and probably put an office in there to enlarge our police department," Wilson said. "There's some money available for that, but we'd probably try to get some grants, too."

Homedale School District

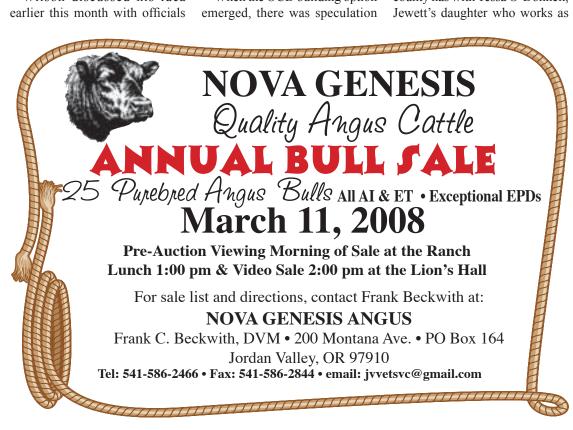
superintendent Tim Rosandick also attended the meeting at City Hall because the juvenile probation office runs a classroom for students who have been suspended from school.

"The school district has a strong interest in the juvenile probation office continuing to be located in Homedale," Rosandick said. "If the juvenile probation office was moved out of Homedale. we would lose a very valuable

District 3 Commissioner Dick Freund said that if the probation office was moved to a larger location, he would support an expansion of the probation services to include adult misdemeanor probationers. He said state officials encouraged that at a recent Idaho Association of Counties meeting.

"If we build a facility, why not add a little space?" he said. "If the program and funding is available, we should provide some of that prevention counseling at our level to keep them out of felony probation and prison."

— JPB





# Marsing Chamber plans to bring back festival

The Marsing Chamber of Commerce discussed the year's Chamber-sponsored events at its monthly meeting last Wednesday. The Chamber also heard presentations by Kym Bowers of the Marsing PTA and Mike Pollard of the Western Alliance for Economic Development.

The Chamber decided to go forward with a spring festival, the annual July 3<sup>rd</sup> fireworks show, a harvest festival in October, and a holiday festival in December.

The spring festival will be timed to coincide with Flag Day, which is Saturday, June 14. The theme is to be along the lines of an "olde tyme" or old-fashioned festival, and city councilwoman Marie Herman agreed to chair the event. An old-fashioned festival had been held in the past, but was suspended last year as the Chamber continued reorganization efforts.

A car show and shine is

scheduled to be a part of the spring festival, and Chamber member Josh Bauer is organizing that portion of the festivities. The early plan is to have cars on display at Island Park while other spring festival activities take place elsewhere in Marsing.

Rob Troxel has agreed to take on a leadership role in planning the traditional July 3<sup>rd</sup> fireworks show. The Chamber already has funds earmarked for the event, and Troxel said that the plan is to have the fire department handle the fireworks again.

Members discussed involving the 4-H and/or the Boy Scouts in the event, but made no decision as to how the clubs would contribute. The Chamber also discussed the annual Lions Club doodlebug race and barbecue that is traditionally held in conjunction with the fireworks show, but no decision was made on either count.

The Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center is booked for Saturday, Oct. 18 for activities associated with a second harvest festival, and also for Saturday, Dec. 13 for A Day at the North Pole.

The autumn festival was not given a theme at the meeting, and no chairman was named to coordinate the event, but the Chamber decided that a parade, live entertainment, and arts in the park would be retained as festival elements.

Paulette Wallin and Cathy Streibel will co-chair the planning effort for A Day at the North Pole. The holiday event, which was planned and then cancelled last year, will include a tree, up to 24 craft tables, food, and a visit from Santa Claus.

Bowers spoke to the Chamber on behalf of the Marsing PTA. She said that the Halloween Trunk or Treat was extremely successful, earning \$700. She asked for Chamber support for the PTA carnival coming up on May 9. The carnival has 13 game booths lined up so far. The Chamber voted to provide \$50 cash assistance.

Pollard, coordinator of the Western Alliance for Economic Development, introduced the Chamber to his agency, which is a part of Sage Community Resources. He explained that the Western Alliance worked with the communities of Marsing, Grand View, Homedale, Greenleaf, Melba, Parma, and Wilder, and that the agency's goals were to assist the partner communities with business retention, business expansion, business attraction, and infrastructure improvement.

Pollard said that the Western Alliance is encouraging the seven partner communities to think of and market themselves as an

economic region, and to establish mutually beneficial business collaboration with other businesses in the region. He said his agency helps member communities assess their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges, and helps the communities improve in light of those assessments.

For example, Pollard said, the Western Alliance is working with Homedale and Wilder on city master plans, and is planning to help Melba address the fact that it does not have a bank. Pollard said that one of the things Marsing Mayor Keith Green talked with him about was the lack of a pharmacy in town. Pollard said that his agency is there to support and strengthen member communities through business and marketing plan assistance, low-interest loan programs and

— RTH

## Marsing Lions bingo continues resurgence Saturday

The Marsing Lions Club will 6:45 p.m., followed by regular have increased in recent months. present its monthly fundraising bingo Saturday at the Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center, 126 N. 2nd St. W.

The early bird game begins at love said the crowds for bingo

games at 7 p.m. The cost begins at \$15 per person.

Beverages will be sold, and free popcorn will be served.

Lions Club secretary Chris Sa-

The event is used to raise money for different causes in Marsing.

"Our January bingo had a good crowd," he said. "And our February bingo was huge, the biggest crowd we've had in many years."

## Marsing auto repair shop re-opens after 18 years

Rob Townsend will re-open his auto repair shop Monday after an 18-year absence.

Townsend Tire & Muffler will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. The shop is located at 200 2nd Ave. W., behind NAPA Auto Parts, in Marsing.

Townsend will specialize in older vehicle repair, and plans to offer a wide variety of services.

The shop can be reached at 896-5000, or "early birds" can call 337-4480.





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# City may install streetlights near park

Safety will be an underlying theme Thursday night for the Homedale City Council's second meeting of February.

The meeting begins at 6 p.m. at Homedale City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming St.

According to an agenda provided by City Hall, security at the Homedale Municipal Airport will be one of the first topics tackled by the council.

Council members also will discuss a city plan to install two streetlights on the perimeter of City Park to increase visibility, especially in the crosswalks exiting the park across East Idaho Avenue.

According to a letter from Idaho Power to Mayor Harold Wilson, the installation of

the lights — one on the southeast corner of East Idaho and South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street East and one at the southwest corner of East Idaho and Industrial Road — would cost \$1,072. The cost includes the construction of a light pole at South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street East, but a pole already exists at the other proposed corner.

Under the proposal, Idaho Power would install two 100-watt streetlights and a 35foot pole at the corner directly across from Homedale High School's main building. High school students use both crosswalks in question during the school year.

An ongoing expense of \$15 per month for operation also will be discussed.

The council also is scheduled to go into

executive session near the end of the meeting. The executive session has been called pursuant to Idaho Code 67-2345 (1)(b), which covers discussion of evaluation, dismissal or discipline of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent of the city or a public school student. The code also allows for sessions for the council to hear complaints or charges brought against any of the aforementioned parties.

Other items on the agenda include:

- · Allied Sign owner Mark Jolley will present a discussion about sign placement for his business.
- The council will review the city's rental policy for the reader board that greets

visitors from the south side of East Idaho.

- · Council members will hear a request from a resident to establish a weekly flea market in Homedale. Currently, residents don't have to obtain permits to hold yard sales, but a resident can hold only two such sales each calendar year.
- The council will consider approving Professional Engineering Consultants, Inc., to proceed with the traffic study that was outlined during the Feb. 13 meeting.
- Reports also will be heard from Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller, city public works supervisor Larry Bauer and city building inspector Rod Roberts.

— JPB

# From page 1

# Crandall: Deputy will challenge boss in May 27 Republican primary

crimes," Crandall said. "We need a more customer-service-oriented office."

Crandall was among three men to announce their intentions during the biennial luncheon. Owyhee County Board of Commissioners chair Jerry Hoagland, who is in the final year of a twoyear term as District 1 commissioner, and District 2 Commissioner Hal Tolmie also said they would seek re-election.

Hoagland, who lives in the

Wilson area, attended the luncheon. Tolmie was ill, and County Clerk Charlotte Sherbun announced for him, according to County Treasurer Brenda Richards.

Prosecuting Attorney Matthew



Darryl Crandall

Faulks, whose term also is up this year, attended the luncheon, but Richards said he had to leave before candidates were given the floor. Faulks didn't answer an email from The Owyhee Avalanche inquiring about his intentions for the upcoming election.

Prospective candidates can officially file their intentions beginning March 10. The deadline to file paperwork is March 21.

While there are single candidates thus far for the two commission seats on the ballot this year, the sheriff's field has become crowded.

Crandall, who turns 45 next month, patrols the Grand View-Bruneau area for the county.

His boss, incumbent Sheriff Gary Aman, was at the banquet Wednesday. Aman previously had announced that he would seek a fourth term as sheriff.

The two men will square off in the Mary 27 GOP primary.

Former county sheriff's deputy

Perry Grant, now a corporal with the Homedale Police Department, also plans to run for sheriff. Grant hasn't announced on which ticket he will run.

A Murphy resident, Crandall served with the Homedale Police Department in 1994 before moving on to Canyon County.

Crandall said he has set up a campaign hotline for anyone who wants to discuss issues with him. The number is (208) 495-2504.

# √ Mayor: State's open meeting law requires decisions be made in public

matter up in an open meeting. Tines made assurances that the council would take steps to ensure that such a breach of the public's trust doesn't happen again.

The mayor, who like Tines has been office less than two months, would like to see the county probation office moved to the land adjacent to City Hall and the magistrate court where the well house stood. Wilson had the well house knocked down in preparation for a proposal made earlier this month to officials from Owyhee County and the Third District Court.

The well has been capped, and Wilson wants to take steps to abandon it, which he says will cost

about \$10,000. He said Thursday that the city is investigating grants to finance the project, and that part of the abandonment plan required the destruction of the well house.

The well house had been used to store city equipment, which, Wilson said, included the town's Christmas decorations. "I know I got a lot of flack

over it, and I don't care because there's a lot of storage in the city," Wilson said. Bauer said that city crews

salvaged the building's roof for other needs in the city, but the rest of the material was deemed unsalvageable and discarded.

The mayor said that no vote

to tear down the structure was taken in the phone conversations with council members. Open meeting law requires a quorum of councilmen in a public meeting before a decision can be made.

"There was no vote on it. It was just a discussion on that building," Wilson said, adding that he made the final decision.

Wilson defended the action, citing the Academy of City Officials handbook from the Association of Idaho Cities (AIC). He said he received the handbook during November's seminar for newly elected officials.

"I've been told I can have an impromptu meeting with up to two members at a time," Wilson

A call to AIC executive director Ken Harward for clarification on the handbook wasn't returned.

But Idaho law requires that city council decisions or deliberations that lead to a council decision must be conducted in an open meeting that has been properly advertised. The city must post notice of special meetings require at least 24 hours in advance.

Wilson also said that if the property is worth less than \$25,000, a public meeting isn't necessary. When asked how much the well house was worth, Wilson said, "A couple thousand — if that. I don't know."

Wilson cited one of the issues

of his campaign when defending the action.

"The building was no good," Wilson said. "To clean up our town, we have to clean up our back yard. It was a building actually of no use."

Wilson said that once the city's new well is drilled — most likely in Riverside Park — the well house in that location will be razed and a new well house covering machinery for both city wells in the park will be built.

"The well house will be replaced in a different location with a newer more functional building," Larry Bauer said of the Riverside Park structure.

— JPB

# Water: Official says discolored water is 'not dangerous'

underground pipe.

"All we can do is use witching and our knowledge, and witching isn't very reliable."

Bauer said the new pipe being installed features tracer wires, allowing work crews to use modern locating technology, which he likened to SONAR. A network of valves is another feature of the new system, and that will allow city workers to shut down portions of the system when there is a break rather than interrupt service to the entire

The Feb. 19 break occurred

at the corner of East Owyhee Avenue and North Third Street East. Wednesday's rupture was in the middle of North Third Street East. Both interruptions occurred between 8:30 a.m. and 9 a.m.

Andrew Kimmel, who oversees the job for project engineer Professional Engineering Consultants, Ltd., said water service was restored at about noon after the Feb. 19 interruption.

Kimmel added that the area where Sommer was working — the southeast corner of East Owyhee and North Third Street East — is a "hub" of utility

services for the city and also includes a natural gas line.

Bauer said city personnel did its best to inform the public of the emergency shutoff.

But he said that some calls may not have been made because of the emergency situation. "We didn't have time because

we were flooding people," Bauer Although yards were flooded

across North Third Street East from Homedale High School, Bauer said that neither water break caused property damage to residents' homes.

He also said that residents and businesses may have experienced discolored water after service was restored. Bauer said that was because impurities, such as an iron bacteria, fall off the inner walls of the pipes when water rushes out. City workers opened fire hydrants to flush the system once service was back online.

"When these pipes shut off, contaminants break loose," Bauer said. "(Customers') water may have been yellow-brown, but it's not dangerous."

## City to shut off water Tuesday

Water service to the City of Homedale will be interrupted for as many as four hours Tuesday.

City of Homedale public works supervisor Larry Bauer announced Monday that Sommer Construction has tentatively planned a shutdown of the citywide system for 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

Bauer said the outage, expected to last between two and four hours, will enable crews to tie old water lines to newly installed lines in several spots in town, including Main Street and Idaho Avenue.

# **Smorgasbord art** show winners

Shenk

Organizers of the Homedale International Smorgasbord art exhibit recently announced the winners from the display:

#### **Elementary Division Pencil Drawings**

**Grand champion** — Jake Deal

First place — Jesse Martinat Second place — Jake Deal Third place — Sophie Nash Honorable mention — Matthew Thatcher

#### Paint/Mixed Media **Grand champion** — Lauren

Barraza First place — Layne Riley Second place — Maya Correa Third place — Rachel Robinson

#### **Middle School Division** Pencil/Mixed Media

**Grand champion** — Whitney Uria

First place — Lizzie Farrell Second place — Hailee Aberasturi

Third place — Shelby McRae

Honorable mention — Aubrev Nash and Zac Michaelson

**Grand champion** — Mariah

First place — Brenda Vega Second place — Conner Landa

Third place — Kylie Schoonover

**Honorable mention**—Leavell Hicks

of the Ridgeview and Gem

irrigation districts and the South

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Monthly irrigation meetings set

The regular monthly meetings for 7 p.m., 7:15 p.m., and 7:30

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First place — MacKenzie McMichael

#### **High School Division Photography**

**Grand champion** — Stephanie Gomez

First place — Beth Davis Second place — Beth Davis Third place — Megan

Honorable mention — Joshua Klug

#### **Paintings**

Grand champion — Rachel Wheeler

First place — Kali McRae Second place — Irma Benitez Third place — Jonnie Burns Honorable mention — Nina Bell and Lynlee Lord

#### **Sculpture**

Grand champion — Megan Byerly

First place — Lynlee Lord Second place — Beth Davis Third place — Kindra

**Honorable mention** — Lynlee Lord and Megan Byerly

## **Pencil Drawings**

Grand champion — Kenzi

First place — Mandy Brasher Second place — Kenzi Tiegs Third place — Ali McRae

 $Honorable\,mention - \hbox{Meagan}$ Barraza and Challen Lootens

p.m., respectively, on Tuesday at

the South Board of Control office,

118 S. 1<sup>st</sup> St. W. in Homedale.

## Student promotion forum planned

The Homedale School District will hold a forum on student promotion through grade levels Thursday at Homedale Middle School.

Patrons and the public are encouraged to attend the community meeting to hear about the new policy devised by the school district on the standards students have to meet to advance to the next grade level.

The forum takes place at 6:30

## Coach plans school tourney

Homedale High School football coach Rob Kassebaum is organizing a district-wide Homedale Dodgeball Tournament, which will be open to all students from third grade to 12th grades.

The tournament will start at 9 a.m. on March 21. There will be boys and coed divisions.

For more information, e-mail Kassebaum at rkassebaum@ homedaleschools.org.

## HHS seniors, faculty to play

The annual Homedale High School seniors vs. faculty members basketball game is set for 7 p.m. March 12 inside the main gymnasium.

The fundraiser will feature a silent auction for gift baskets as well as a live auction for cakes and a handful of other baskets.

Organizers said that two of the baskets to be auctioned off have been built to the theme of Boise State University and the University of Idaho, respectively. J.B. Salutregui will serve as auctioneer.

Two half pigs donated by Ed Leavitt also will be raffled.

Concessions will be available,

# Have a news tip: Call us! 337-468 I

# School menus

#### Homedale Elementary

Feb. 27: Chili or beef taco pie, roll, fruit & veggie bar, fruit rollup,

Feb. 28: Chicken nuggets or finger steaks, broccoli, fruit & veggie bar, cinnamon roll, milk.

Feb. 29: Pizza or popcorn chicken, salad, fruit & veggie bar, cookie,

March 3: No school.

March 4: Chicken tenders or cf beef steak, mashed potatoes/gravy, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

March 5: Crispate or toasted cheese sandwich, taco salad, fruit & veggie bar, churro, milk.

#### Homedale Middle

Feb. 27: Beef or chicken taco, corn, fruit rollup, fruit & veggie bar,

Feb. 28: Idaho haystack or split top sandwich, churro, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 29: Chicken tenders or cf beef steak, mashed potatoes/gravy, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

March 3: No school.

March 4: Chicken or beef nuggets, broccoli, fruit & veggie bar, cinnamon roll, milk.

March 5: Enchilada or chicken & noodles, corn, fruit & veggie bar, turnover, milk.

#### Homedale High

Feb. 27: Enchilada, burrito or pizza hot pocket, baked potato, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 28: Chicken patty, sandwich & soup or popcorn chicken, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, turnover, milk.

Feb. 29: Crispito or rib-b-que, corn, taco salad, fruit & veggie bar,

March 3: No school.

March 4: Beef or chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes/gravy, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

March 5: Lasagna, burrito or pizza hot pocket, French bread, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

#### Marsing

Feb. 27: Corn dog, chocolate pudding, fruit, milk, egg roll, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.

Feb. 28: Mac & cheese, fruit, veggie, milk, burrito, salad bar 4th-12<sup>th</sup>, maple bar.

Feb. 29: Nachos, fruit, milk, sandwiches, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.

#### Bruneau

Feb. 27: Weiner wrap, tots, veggie, fruit, brownie, milk.

Feb. 28: Burrito, salsa, salad, corn, fruit, bread stick, milk.

Feb. 29: Fish nuggets, potato wedges, veggie, fruit, cookie, milk.

March 3: Crispy chicken/bun, potato wedges, fruit, cake, milk.

March 4: Nachos & salsa, salad/croutons, corn, fruit, milk.

March 5: Corn dog, fired, veggie sticks, fruit, cookie, milk.

#### Homedale center

Feb. 27: Hearty beef stew, roll,

Feb. 28: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, mixed vegetables, bread, beverage.

LLOYD SAMUEL SCHOONOVER, 67, of Homedale, died Feb. 16, 2008. A graveside service was held Monday, Feb. 25, 2008, at Marsing-Homedale Cemetery.



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#### Homedale

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# Your finances Discipline, tight belt always trumps a bankruptcy filing

#### Dear Dave,

I've been trying to help my sister figure out her financial situation, and it's a real mess. She makes good money, but she has a lot of debt. At what point do you recommend bankruptcy?

#### Dear Jamie,

I tell people to file bankruptcy about as often as I tell them to file for divorce. In other words, I don't. Like many of the divorces today, most bankruptcies are the result of people just giving up.

If your sister is asking for help, she's probably feeling hopeless and overwhelmed already. When you sit down with her, get her to step back from the situation and think logically, not emotionally. She may have to sell some things or take an extra job to make this work. Living on a very strict, written, monthly budget will be a must!

But make sure she takes care of necessities like food, shelter, clothing, transportation and utilities first. She may take a few dings on her credit along the way, but in most cases you can map out a plan to get caught up and be financially on your feet again in two or three years.

Her finances may be out of control, but chances are she's not bankrupt. It may take a little while — along with a lot of hard work and going without things she'd like for a time — but you should never file bankruptcy over a problem you can solve in two or three years.

Walk her through it, Jamie, and be there for her. Most of all she needs a plan and the hope that goes with having one in place!

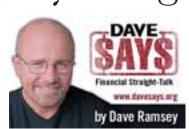
#### Dear Dave,

I've listened to you for a little while now, but I was wondering about the envelope system you recommend. How does it work, and how much do you suggest saving for emergencies?

— Dale

#### Dear Dale,

The envelope system is simple. It's just grandma's old-fashioned, common-sense way of budgeting



Back in the old days when people were paid in cash, they would take their money and divide it up in different envelopes. These envelopes represented the different categories in their budgets - food, clothes and whatever else they needed. When a particular envelope was empty, they stopped buying that particular item because the money budgeted for the category was gone. So, if you wanted a shirt but the clothing envelope was empty, you didn't buy the shirt that month. It's just a simple cash system that keeps you from overspending.

Today, we don't use it that way for every single category, but it's always a good idea to at least use it for food and clothing. These are two areas where most people tend to really bust their budgets!

A fully funded emergency fund is three to six months of expenses. So, if your total monthly expenses are \$2,000, you'd need between \$6,000 and \$12,000 in your emergency fund. Think of it as your rainy day fund, Dale. You've heard the old saying, "Into every life a little rain must fall?" Well, the emergency fund is your umbrella and protection in these

Trust me, if you live very long you're going to have some rain in your life. And your emergency fund will keep you from getting soaked!

— Dave

 Dave Ramsey is the bestselling 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 \$ays, 1749 Mallory Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027

# Read all about it The Ownhee Avalanche 337-4681

# Calendar

#### **Today**

#### **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

#### **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

#### Celebrate Recovery 12-step program

6 p.m., Mountain View Church of the Nazarene, Friday, March 7 26515 Ustick Road, Wilder. (208) 337-3520 or (208) 337-3151

#### Saturday

#### **Marsing Lions Bingo**

6:45 p.m. early bird; 7 p.m. regular game, \$15 minimum cost, Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center, 126 W. 2nd St. N.

#### Tuesday

#### **Exercise class**

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

#### Ridgeview Irrigation District board meeting

1 p.m., 118 S. 1st St. W., Homedale Gem Irrigation District board meeting

#### 1:15 p.m., 118 S. 1st St. W., Homedale

South Board of Control board meeting

#### 1:30 p.m., 118 S. 1st St. W., Homedale

#### "Let's Talk About It" series, "We Are What We

#### Eat — The Tummy Trilogy" discussion 3 p.m., free, Eastern Owyhee County Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2785

Storytime for first- through third-graders

4:20 p.m., Lizard Butte Public Library, 111 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690

#### **Marsing PTA meeting**

7 p.m., Marsing High School Commons Room, 208 S. 8th Ave. W., Marsing.

#### Pure Word recovery meeting

7 p.m., Snake River Valley Fellowship, 20 E.

## Oregon Ave, Homedale. (208) 475-3733

#### Wednesday, March 5 **Lenten Soup and Service**

6 p.m., Confessing the "Why" 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, March 6

#### **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

#### Rod and Gun Club meeting

7 p.m., Owyhee Lanes Restaurant, 18 N. 1st St. E., Homedale

#### AA meeting

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

#### 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, March 8

#### Tree grafting seminar

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., \$24, register by March 1, University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension office, 238 8th Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 337-3782 or purvisrc@msn.com

#### 8th annual Homedale Basque Dance

6 p.m., live and silent auction, raffle, Txoko Ona Basque Center, 333 S. Main St., Homedale

#### Monday, March 10

#### Homedale school board meeting

7 p.m., district office board room, 116 E. Owyhee Ave.

#### Melba school board meeting

4 p.m., district office board room, 600 Broadway

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 jbrowneditor@cableone.net.

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# GOP stresses Lincoln Day unity









#### Top party reps visit Marsing

Members of the state's Congressional delegation and the county's Idaho Legislature representation urged attendees of Wednesday's Lincoln Day Banquet at the Sandbar Restaurant in Marsing to remain strong during this year's election.

#### Counter-clockwise from top left:

Owyhee County Republican Committee chair Frances Field presents Sen. Larry Craig with a gift in appreciation of his 28 years of service in Congress.

Idaho Attorney General Lawrence Wasden, a former Owyhee prosecutor, gets some laughs while standing on a chair to address the group.

Sen. Mike Crapo talks about the Owyhee Initiative. Jake Ball holds up two Owyhee County-themed books while

Jake Ball holds up two Owyhee County-themed books while asking for bids during the fundraising auction.

Field leads the group in singing "God Bless America."



# Homedale marks FFA week



#### Chapter shows ag pride

Thursday was "Drive Your Tractor to School" day for the Homedale High School FFA chapter. Students parked their tractors in the school parking lot as a way to mark FFA Week.

## MORE THAN JUST PIZZAS

Sure we have great pizza, but you can try our salad bar, soup, or a selection of yummy hot sandwiches too!

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# Visions of a snowy Friday

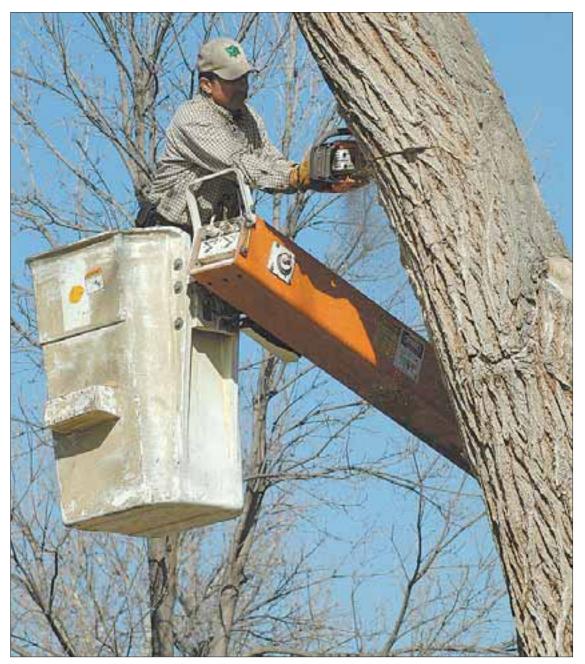




#### Snow wreaks havoc, causes beauty

Top: Homedale Rural Fire District personnel responded along with Homedale Ambulance and the Homedale Police Department to a onecar accident on Northside Road. Homedale Ambulance transported Homedale residents Gordon and Bonnie Maxwell to West Valley Medical Center in Caldwell after the accident, which occurred after a brief but heavy snowfall made local driving conditions treacherous on Friday morning. Left: The snowfall also created a winter wonderland for birds in a Homedale-area tree. Photo by Jan Aman

# Two trees are no more in Homedale



#### City eradicates aging elms precariously positioned in park Clockwise from top:

Wilder-based tree-cutter Brad Case uses a chain saw to section part of a 60-foot elm tree one of the branches of which had fallen into the City Park picnic area

around Feb. 16. City of Homedale maintenance worker Jack Ulrich holds a guide

begins to topple. The trunk of the tree fell to the ground with a thud and blast of wood chips after Ulrich had given

it a push with the backhoe on the

rope as another section of the tree

city tractor. Part of a branch falls to the ground after Case completes a cut with his chainsaw.

# City fells trees to keep public safe

## Elms in City Park cut down after limb falls in picnic area

crews, with help from a Wilder tree-cutter, brought down two aging elm trees in City Park early

The smaller of the trees, a 60footer overhanging the picnic area in the southwest corner of the park, was eliminated on Feb. 19.

And 80-foot tree near the southern boundary of the park was brought down Wednesday.

City workers on scene, including Brad Hunt and Jack

City of Homedale maintenance Ulrich, said the removal of the trees was necessary to ensure public safety.

> Brad Case of Wilder used his boom truck to first knock off limbs from the trees and then fell the trunks.

> Hunt said that the trees had been damaged several times by windstorms in recent months. He said that around Feb. 16 one of the limbs from the 60-foot tree fell to the ground near the picnic area, which was not in use at the time.





# Severe conditions trigger county closures

#### Board moves to protect life, property

Commissioners on Monday approved resolution 08-03, Emergency Area Closures, which authorizes the county to restrict access to parts of Owyhee

The closure resolution will remain in effect until rescinded by the commission. According to the resolution, the affected areas carry increased danger to life and property because of current conditions of snowpack, mud, runoff, and erratic weather.

"It's a safety issue, and a resource damage issue," Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman said. "The safety factor was the No. 1 reason, and hopefully this will save people's lives."

The county is now authorized to post closure signs in the affected areas. Persons who violate the closures will be held liable for the cost of rescue, if required, up to \$4,000 per incident as per Idaho Code 6-2401. The closure does not affect ranchers, landowners, persons authorized by landowners, or law enforcement personnel.

Violators also could face criminal penalty as per Owyhee

The Owyhee County Code 07-02 through

The affected areas as listed in the resolution are:

- South of the "A" Canal to U.S. Highway 95
- South of Sommercamp Road from U.S. 95 to the Power Line
- South of the 500kw power line
- to Upper Reynolds Creek Road · South and west of Revnolds Creek Road to the intersection of
- Rabbit Creek Road South of Rabbit Creek Road to Murphy
- South of Idaho highway 78 to Oreana Loop Road
- South of Oreana Loop Road to Oreana Cut Off Road
- South of Oreana Cut Off Road to Mud Flat Road
- · South of Mud Flat Road between Oreana Cut Off Road and Shoofly Road
- South of Shoofly Road to Idaho highway 51
- South of Sugar Valley Road to the Bruneau River.

Aman stressed that the closures are temporary, and that only recreation areas currently compromised by excessive snow and mud are affected.

'It's a safety issue, and a resource damage issue. The safety factor was the No. 1 reason, and hopefully this will save people's lives.



— Gary Aman Owyhee County Sheriff

# **Winter Horse Blankets** On Sale! \$40.75 to \$48.75



• Horn Wraps





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## Commissioners authorize sheriff's flood readiness plans

At the Owyhee County Commission's Feb. 19 meeting, the board unanimously authorized the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office to use airplanes to monitor snowpack in the Owyhee Mountains. According to county clerk Charlotte Sherburn, the board approved aerial surveillance of snow conditions as long as there is a potential for flooding from rapid runoff. The board also authorized the sheriff's office to augment its flood preparedness by purchasing enough sandbags to bring the office's supply to

"There is a lot of snow in the mountains, and discussions were held on how that snow may come out," Sherburn said. "If it turns hot, it will move faster. The county wants to be as prepared as we possibly can in case of flooding."

Sherburn provided no information with regard to the cost or duration of the monitoring.

The board also decided to have a county building inspector examine the building on Reich Street in Marsing that the county is planning to purchase from the Owyhee Conservation District.

At the board's meeting on Monday, new business consisted of public defender William Wellman's two-year contract being up for review, and a request by Phifer Construction to address

According to Sherburn, firm

owner Del Phifer requested time on the agenda to discuss technology to produce power with water rushing through irrigation

Phifer told The Owyhee Avalanche earlier this month that he is working on a way to produce hydroelectric power in irrigation canals. He said that one irrigation ditch could produce 1.7 megawatts (MW) of power. By comparison, he said that the entire Owyhee Project network of canals is capable of producing

Phifer said that such technology already is in use south of

— RTH and JPB

# IEC discussion hits TV Sunday

## Gillispie, anti-nuclear activist to appear on KTVB's Viewpoint

power plant proposed for the Bruneau area will be held Sunday on a Boise television station's news program.

KTVB NewsChannel 7 anchor Mark Johnson, who will host the Viewpoint program to air at 9 a.m. Sunday, said the show will center on why Idaho Energy Complex officials have chosen Idaho for the their project.

He said the idea of the show originated with IEC, which recently paid \$50,000 to Owyhee County to help defray costs of the local permitting process. The county had threatened to pull the plug on permitting before developers for the \$4.5 billion nuclear power plant provided payment last week.

"Idaho Energy Complex came to us and asked if we have any airtime available," Johnson said.

Johnson said the first two segments of the show will feature

A discussion of the nuclear Idaho Energy Complex chief executive Don Gillispie.

> Anti-nuclear activist Peter Rickards, a Twin Falls podiatrist who ran for the Idaho Legislature two years ago, will appear on the final segment of Viewpoint, which will be taped Friday in KTVB's Boise studios.

> Johnson said he hopes the show will help residents make an educated decision about the proposed 1,600-megawatt power plant, which Gillispie said also will feature a biofuels plant.

"I think the specifics are going to deal with why Idaho and who (IEC officials) think their major customers are going to be," Johnson said. "Is he going to be selling it locally, and how much is he going to ship out of state?

"And if they can get by all the hurdles in the state that are pretty anti-nuclear right now."

Johnson said KTVB's news discussion program is perfect for the controversy of nuclear power in Idaho.

"Viewpoint deals with issues that individual communities are dealing with, and this seems like a major issue in the Bruneau area," Johnson said. "And this looks to be an issue that has been met with some resistance."

In another IEC-related development, the company announced Monday morning that during the weekend it had severed ties with Jay P. Clark, whose family farms the James Hilliard-owned land where the power plant is proposed. According to an IEC press release, Clark had been the project site manager since the fall.

"Clark's duties were primarily as liaison for visitors and workers at the project site," the press release stated. "Effective Feb. 23 (Saturday), Clark no longer has any affiliation with the Idaho Energy Complex."

The company says it's now looking for "an experienced professional nuclear site project manager."

— JPB

## Girl Scouts plan March cookie sales

Local Girl Scouts will sell cookies from booths set up in Marsing and Homedale Paul's Market in Homedale from supermarkets in March.

The Girl Scouts will sell cookies at both Snake River Mart and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on March 8.

If the Girls Scouts have any inventory left, they'll hold another sale from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on March 15 at Paul's Market.

#### NOTICE OF FEE INCREASE

The Homedale Jt. School District #370, Canyon and Owyhee Counties has proposed to increase the following fee by an amount that exceeds one hundred five percent (105%) of the fee charged last year. The proposed percentage increase on the fee is listed below. The following table is an estimate of what this change may mean to the students.

				Percent	Last Year	This Year	
	Last Year	This Year	Percent	Above	Cost per	Cost per	
Fee	Fee	Fee	Increase	105%	Student	Student	Exceptions
Driver Education Fee	\$130.00	\$152.00	116.92%	11.92%	\$130.00	\$152.00	None

This fee is being increased to cover increased costs.

All citizens are invited to attend a public hearing on the increased fee request. The hearing will be held on March 10, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Homedale School District Board Room, 116 East Owyhee, Homedale, Idaho.

Faith K. Olsen Administrative Specialist 2/27/3/5/08

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#### Puppet show private screening

Top: Homedale Public Library director Margaret Fujishin watches for her cue to continue reading the story of the Three Billy Goats Gruff on Thursday. Right: The Gomez children, from left, 10-year-old Monica, 8-yearold Andrea and 6-year-old Asaiel, check out some of the materials available at the library.



# ibrary still selling books

The Homedale Public Library staged a children's puppet show for an intimate audience Thursday, and librarian Margaret Fujishin confirmed that the book sale held in January actually still is going on.

The book sale, formally held Jan.25-26 at the Homedale Senior Citizens Center, continues with a display of available books and video tapes inside the library at 125 W. Owyhee Ave. Books are available for 50 cents a pound.

Fujishin said last month's sale at the senior center raised about \$300 for library expenses.

Three children attended Thursday's puppet show, "The Three Billy Goats Gruff," but a snafu probably held attendance down. When library personnel contacted the daycare provider who usually brings the children under her care to the shows, it was learned that a postcard reminder mailed Feb. 12 never was received.

Before the puppet show, Fujishin showed the children on hand books relating to the puppet show theme of goats. She also led the children, 10-year-old Monica Gomez, 8-year-old Andrea Gomez, and 6-year-old Asaiel Gomez, in a counting exercise.

The library's next puppet show, entitled "Little Red Hen," will be held in March.

# Earthquake shakes Three Creek area

District 23B rep says Wells tremor left no damage

The District 23 state legislator who calls part of southeast Owyhee County home said that Thursday's earthquake that devastated a Nevada town was felt in the Three Creek area but left no damage.

A 6.0-magnitude earthquake ripped the brick facades off buildings and destroyed cars in Wells, Nev., but District 23B Rep. Bert Brackett (R-Rogerson) said he heard that folks in Owyhee County only felt the rumble and were spared the rubble.

"They felt it," said Brackett, who received reports by phone because he is in Boise for the 2008 session of the Idaho Legislature. "Tables shuffled and plants shifted a little bit, but there was no damage."

Brackett lives in the Three Creek area, and returned home when the Legislature recessed for the weekend.

Brackett, who has yet to say if

'Tables shuffled and plants shifted a little bit, but there was no damage.'

> — Bert Brackett District 23B rep R-Rogerson

he will seek another term in the Legislature, said he and colleagues felt a tremor while in a meeting room in the Capitol Annex in Boise.

"We were up here in the Annex on the fourth floor, around the conference table," Brackett said. "We thought somebody bumped the table, but it went on for 10 or 15 seconds."

Brackett said his son, who lives in the Castleford area near the Owyhee County line, also felt the quake but there was no damage there.

— JPB

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# Homedale native changes jobs in Craig's D.C. office

Jacq Landa, a Homedale High School graduate, has a new

assignment in Sen. Larry Craig's Washington, D.C., office.

The Homedale native, who joined Craig's staff in May 2006, is the senator's new press secretary in the nation's capital. The Gonzaga University graduate had been the deputy communications director Jacq Landa for Idaho's senior senator.

Kyle Hines, a Potlatch native, replaces Landa as deputy communications director.

Landa is moving into the slot formerly held by Sid Smith,

who has been named

the Sandbar Restaurant in

Marsing. Craig said that proposed for the Bruneau area.



he also met with citizens earlier in the day to discuss the Idaho Energy Complex nuclear power plant



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#### Marsing resident wins Paul's shopping spree

Marsing's Marcy Simmons flings an item into her shopping cart during the early stages of Saturday's two-minute Western Family shopping spree she won as part of the Homedale Paul's Market location's observation of Founder's Day. Simmons was given an extra minute to rush through the aisles after she mentioned that the original cart was "a little slow." Simmons grabbed \$152 worth of Western Family items during the spree.

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PAGE 12A

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# Grant funds analysis to help Owyhee cities

The program devised to help Owyhee County's three cities attract and maintain business recently received a financial boost.

Pat Engel, the business and community development director for Garden City-based Sage Community Resources, announced Wednesday that Capital Matrix has awarded the Western Alliance for Economic Development a \$25,000 grant.

"Our goal is to create strong, thriving businesses within the Alliance, providing diverse, quality job opportunities and services for the citizens of the area," Engel said.

"Capital Matrix funding will help us develop tools to support this partnership."

The Community Initiative

Grant and money pooled from the seven Alliance towns will be used to develop a 10-month market analysis. The project is expected to begin this month, according to a Sage Community Resources press release.

The analysis will provide marketing and outreach information for businesses and communities to make long-term investments and create job opportunities, according to the release.

The Western Alliance for Economic Development, which is headed up by director Mike Pollard, was formed to benefit Grand View, Homedale and Marsing in Owyhee County and Wilder, Greenleaf, Parma and Melba in Canyon County. Each city has paid \$1 per resident to join the Alliance.

# HMS Academic Bowl squad continues to improve score

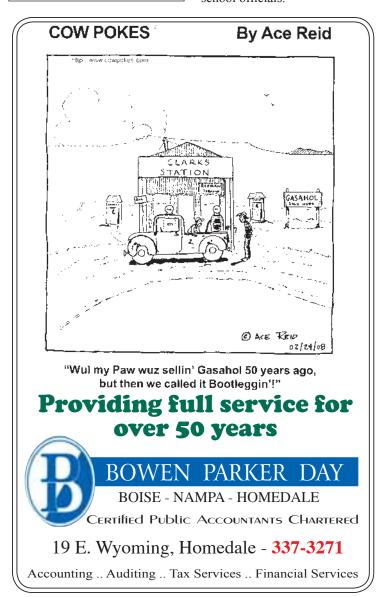
The Homedale Middle School Academic Bowl team has shown a penchant for consistency this year.

While competing last week at the latest Snake River Val-

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ley conference Academic Bowl, HMS finished fourth for the second month in a row. There are six schools competing in the monthly Academic Bowl. The next meet is March 19 in Ontario, Ore.

The Trojans, comprised of 10 to 12 sixth- to eighth-graders, continues to score more points in each round and shows improvement each month, according to school officials.



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 210,702 acre-feet of water.

The following statistics were gathered from the National Resources Conservation Service Web site at 12:30 p.m. Monday (Year-to-date precipitation is measured from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30):

Reynolds Creek				
Date	Year-to-Date	T	emperature	S
	Precipitation	Max.	Min.	Avg.
02/19	11.4	44	25	33
02/20	11.4	38	23	30
02/21	11.5	40	27	31
02/22	11.4	42	26	31
02/23	11.6	34	25	28
02/24	11.6	37	24	29
02/25	11.7	36	28	33

Current snow depth is 21 inches, with a snow water equivalent of 7 inches.

Date	South Mountain Year-to-Date	T	Semperatures	
	Precipitation	Max.	Min.	Avg.
02/19	20.8	50	31	38
02/20	20.8	50	33	39
02/21	20.8	41	28	33
02/22	20.8	43	27	33
02/23	20.9	42	27	32
02/24	20.9	41	23	30
02/25	21.2	39	31	33

Current snow depth is 52 inches, with a snow water equivalent of 17 inches.

Date	Mud Flat Year-to-Date	T	emperature	s
	Precipitation	Max.	Min.	Avg.
02/19	11.2	43	12	26
02/20	11.2	47	17	31
02/21	11.3	66	20	33
02/22	11.4	43	20	31
02/23	11.5	44	28	34
02/24	11.6	43	26	33
02/25	11.7	45	34	36

Current snow depth is 30 inches, with a snow water equivalent of nine inches.

## Weather

	H	$\mathbf{L}$	Prec.
Feb. 19	47	19	.00
Feb. 20	49	18	.00
Feb. 21	47	23	.00
Feb. 22	47	27	trace
Feb. 23	no re	eading	taken
Feb. 24	no re	eading	taken
Feb. 25	59	30	.13

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# Cowboy poet packs 'em in

by Judy Erwin

With almost 40 reservations, the monthly speaker program for the Bruneau Valley Library had to be relocated to the Bruneau Community Church on Wednesday for an appearance by local poet Toni McGuire, who read selections of her cowboy poetry.

The McGuire family has lived in the Bruneau area for about five

McGuire struck quite an image as she strode down the aisle of the church in her feathered black cowboy hat and black cut-away tuxedo jacket to deliver samples of her poetry to the group. Her natural beauty was obvious, and then a look at her feet made one realize that this was also a woman with a sense of humor. One blue boot, one pink boot? She explained that the mismatched boots came about from a prank by her daughter, a prank that became her trademark — mismatched boots.

McGuire explained that much of her poetry is not as humorous as

most cowboy poetry, but is more to the serious side. Some time ago, she was apologetic about this to her mentor, Gordon Peterson. He told her not to apologize for her style but to "just do what you do." Undoubtedly, the audience that day was impressed with what she does.

She read a number of her poems, both serious and comical. The poem "This Old World" won her the Poem of the Year Award from the Famous Poetry Society. She related that she had a compulsion to write a poem in the wee hours of the morning. Hours later, she discovered that another mentor, a lady shaman and Paiute tribal elder from whom she had learned much, had died at the same time she was prompted by inner feelings to write the poem.

McGuire said she draws much inspiration from her father's Spaniard and Paiute heritage as well as her cowgirl upbringing.

One more humorous poem, "Cowboys on Fluff," drew chuckles from the crowd. The poem tells of an event she

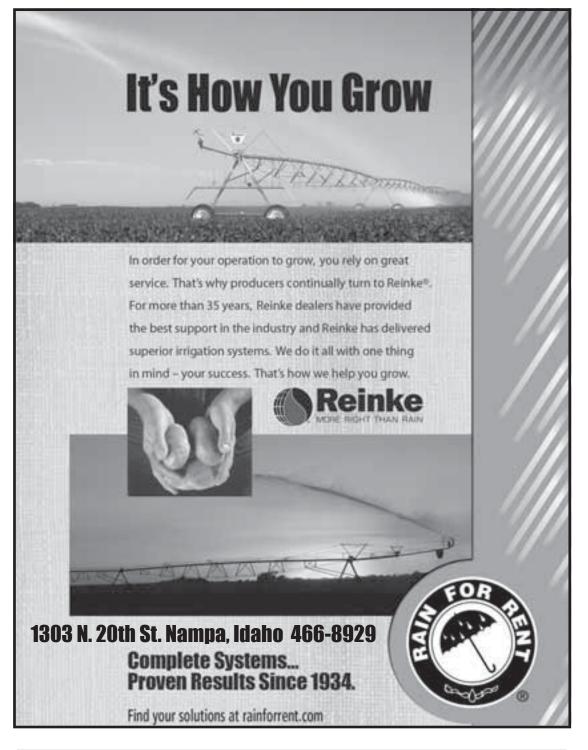
witnessed in the laundromat in downtown Bruneau one rodeo weekend in which some inebriated cowboys inserted their quarters and climbed in to take a spin in the dryer.

Currently, McGuire is working on filming a video presentation of her poetry readings. She has one CD completed entitled, "Tails From Battle Creek." The CD is currently back-ordered from her producer in Nevada, but copies should be available soon for

McGuire is also featured in a new book produced by Range magazine entitled "Cowboys and Country: Life in America's Outback."

When asked about her appearances at performances and competitions, she replied that she goes to as many as she can afford. She stated that there are hundreds every year, so she has to be selective.

As a member of the Cowboy Poets of Idaho, she gets much of her information on events around the country from them.



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

# Historians visit Homedale Masonic Lodge

## Masons announce annual scholarship breakfast fundraiser

Three representatives of the Idaho State Historical Society and a historical consultant were in Homedale on Thursday to meet representatives of the Silver City No. 13 Masonic Lodge and to look at the lodge's collected historical artifacts.

Emily Peeso, Jody Ochoa, and John Dadabay of the historical society, and Elizabeth Jacox of TAG Historical Research met with William Shaw and Rob Troxel of the Homedale lodge. Troxel and Shaw gave the historians a tour of the lodge and showed them some of the items from the lodge's past, several of which date to the

Peeso said that the historical society visited the West Idaho Avenue lodge to evaluate artifacts for possible inclusion in an upcoming exhibit entitled "Brotherhood: Freemasonry's Mark on Idaho," which is scheduled to run May 24 through Aug. 31 at the Idaho State Historical Museum in Julia Davis Park in Boise.

"The exhibit will give both a general overview of the group's history and organization as well as specific details about Masons in Idaho," Peeso said.

The exhibit will re-create a Masonic Blue Room, among other things, and will include historic furniture, hand-carved officer's chairs, degree charts, a portrait of George Washington, symbolic objects, photos, clothing, and other items from Idaho lodges.

"We are in the process of selecting objects for the exhibit, and all of us at the museum are grateful to so many Masons who

have taken time to meet with us and tell us their items' and lodge's background, history and stories," Peeso said.

Several items are on the historical society's evaluation list, according to Peeso, including crowns from Bethel No. 24 of the Job's Daughters, an 1867 Bible used on the altar of the Owyhee Lodge No. 5 in Silver City, and a set of ceremonial lodge jewels made from silver mined from War Eagle Mountain.

The Idaho State Historical Museum is located at 610 N. Julia Davis Drive in Boise. Hours for the exhibit will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$2 for seniors 65 and older, and \$1 for children ages 6-12 and students with ID.

The historians' visit came just a few weeks prior to one of the Homedale lodge's main fundraising events of the year. Shaw said that the lodge's Silver City Scholarship Breakfast is scheduled for Sunday, March 9, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the lodge, which is located at 19 W. Idaho Ave.

The event is one of two annual fundraisers conducted by the Homedale lodge to benefit Homedale, Marsing, Parma, and Wilder schools. The breakfast features all-you-can-eat hotcakes, ham and eggs, with plenty of juice, coffee, and tea for \$5 per person. For more information, contact William Shaw at (208) 337-4466.

— RTH





#### Prospecting in Owyhee's past

Counter-clockwise from top:

William Shaw, left, talks to John Dadabay of the Idaho State Historical Museum in front of a display case of collected items from the Silver City No. 13 Lodge.

Emily Peeso tries to make a seal with the Homedale lodge's antique press.

Rob Troxel, left, shows Elizabeth Jacox, Peeso, and Dadabay a Masonic ballot box



# AARP driver courses available throughout Owyhee this year

The AARP Driving Safety Program has lined up five driver's education classes this year in Owyhee County.

Ervin Gifford, the Area 3 district coordinator for the AARP education program, announced the lessons last week.

Gifford said the classes are taught by instructors certified by be available the day of the class,

the State of Idaho, and, although the classes are tailored for drivers 55 and older, drivers of all ages can take the class to erase three driving points from their record. Classes will be limited to between 20 and 25 students, and registration will be taken until classes are full. Gifford said registration might

depending on demand.

Gifford said that many insurance carriers offer discounted premiums for drivers 55 and older who take the defensive driving course every three years.

Classes are scheduled from now until October in Homedale, Marsing and Jordan Valley.

The first class, comprised of two four-hour sessions, is scheduled for March 12-13 at the Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. Class both days starts at 10 a.m., and another class on the same schedule is set at the location for Oct.8-9.

Call 337-3020 for information on the Homedale classes.

AARP will offer a one-day, eight-hour class in Jordan Valley

for drivers who normally would have to travel to Homedale or Nampa for the class.

The Jordan Valley class is set for 9 a.m. April 16 at the Lions Den. Call (541) 586-2328 to register.

A pair of two-day classes are scheduled for the Marsing Senior Center. The sets of two four-hour classes take place April 21-22 and Sept. 24-25 and convene at 9 a.m. Call 896-4634 to sign up.



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# BATTER, BATTER, GRILL! SWING INTO GRILLING SEASON

**Baseball great Ozzie Smith and** champion pitmaster Chris Lilly offer home run tips and recipes

aseball players aren't the only ones who benefit from spring training — grilling enthusiasts can, too. Many people neglect their grills during the winter. But, as the days begin to get longer again and daylight saving time allows for more fun in the sun, it's time to swing into grilling season. In fact, the extra hour of daylight means more practice time for baseball players and grilling gurus alike. It's never too early to light up some charcoal and share game-

winning moments with friends and family while enjoying great food.
World champion shortstop Ozzie Smith believes that even seasoned players need a little pre-season warm-up. Nearly as passionate about charcoal grilling as he is about baseball, Smith said, "I tend to grill year round, but when the teams head to camp, I know it's time to step up my game. Many people wait until summer to grill, which is a shame because, as in all sports, practice makes perfect."

While nationally renowned pitmaster Chris Lilly hardly needs more practice behind a grill, he holds a special fondness for springtime grilling.

"Nothing signals the coming of warm weather and says 'slow down and grill' quite like the unmistakable aroma of the ballpark or the first charcoal cookout of the season," said Lilly. "If you can combine the two experiences — whether tailgating at the stadium or firing up the grill and inviting friends over to watch the game — that's even better."

These tips and recipes from Smith and Lilly will help grilling enthusiasts hit their next gathering out of the park.



Practice Makes Perfect: Your grill may be a little rusty from the off-season, so before you begin grilling, make sure it's in good shape. Scrub the grate with a longhandled, stiff wire grill brush to remove any residual food. Always discard any residual ashes from the grill before cooking. A thick layer of ashes will act as insulation, affecting the distribution of heat and air

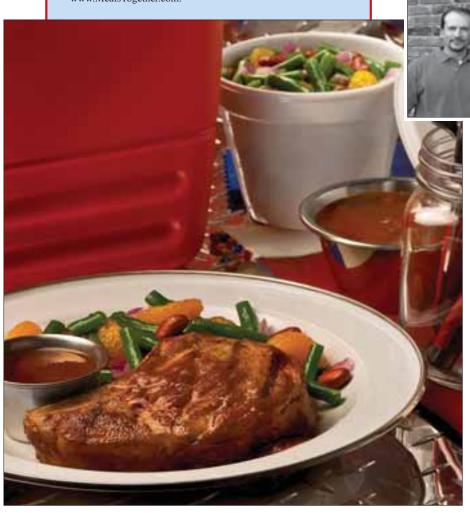
Score a Double Play: Amp up the flavor of your grilling experience by using new Kingsford charcoal with Hickory. The flavors add just the right touch of sweet and hearty flavor to all types of food, adding a new element to the delicious smells that are part of the stadium experience.

Don't Interfere: Turning food too often during grilling forces moisture out of it. Instead, let food brown before turning it to develop a flavorful crust, the signature of great grilling. When it's time to flip, use tongs or a spatula in place of forks that pierce food and release juices.

Strike 'em Out: Marinate your meat before grilling to fight sudden flare-ups and apply sauces, such as KC Masterpiece Barbecue Sauce, to meats once they have cooked a while on the grill rather than before you start. You'll still taste the delicious flavor without risking a burst of flames.

True fans can take baseball tailgating to the next level by creating a game-day menu featuring recipes that incorporate the flavors and ingredients of your team's hometown. For more grilling tips and recipes, visit www.MealsTogether.com





#### **Grilled Pork Chops** With Apple-Cranberry Glaze

Created by champion pitmaster Chris Lilly.

Makes: 6 servings Prep time: 15 minutes, plus 12 to 24 hours for brine Cook time: 16 minutes

bone-in pork chops or boneless loin chops (1 inch thick)

cups water

cups apple cider

tablespoons kosher salt

tablespoon sugar tablespoon cracked black pepper

tablespoon thyme leaves (dry spice) 1/2 teaspoon minced garlic (dry spice)

allspice berries (dry spice)

Sauce tablespoons spicy brown mustard

cup maple syrup

1/2 cup cranberry sauce

1/2 cup apple sauce teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon black pepper 1/16 teaspoon red pepper

Mix brine ingredients and stir well. Place chops and brine in Glad Food Storage Bag and refrigerate 12 to 24 hours.

In small pan, add sauce ingredients and mix well. Heat until warm. Reserve 1/2 cup sauce for plating. Build charcoal fire for direct grilling. Grill chops directly over Kingsford charcoal (approximately 450°F) for 8 minutes on each side. During the last 3 minutes of cooking, baste both sides of chops well with sauce. Internal temperature of chops should reach 150° to 155°F prior to removing from grill.

Drizzle reserve sauce over chops when serving

#### **Shortstop** Shrimp Stack

Created by world champion shortstop Ozzie Smith.

Makes: 4 servings

Prep time: 10 minutes Cook time: 3 to 6 minutes per skewer

1 pound extra large shrimp (21 to 25), peeled and deveined

1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil

cup lime juice

1/4 cup chopped cilantro (about half of a bunch)

1/2 teaspoon kosher salt

teaspoon ground black pepper

1/2 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes

teaspoon minced garlic

8 bamboo or metal skewers

Assemble marinade ingredients in large Glad Food Storage Bag, seal and toss to mix. Add shrimp and toss to coat. Marinate shrimp 30 minutes.

If using bamboo skewers, soak them in water while shrimp is marinating to prevent them from burning on the grill. When shrimp are finished marinating, spear three shrimp per skewer. Discard

remaining marinade. Grill shrimp on outer edges of the grill over Kingsford charcoal (approximately 400°F) for 2 to 3 minutes on one side and 1 to 2 minutes on other side. Serve on the skewer or remove shrimp from skewer and serve a on platter.





## **Beef Rib Steak**



**Pork Shoulder Blade** Steak

Large **Roma Tomatoes**  1 lb. **Strawberries** 

## **Bone-In Pork Shoulder Roast**



## **Tony's Pizza**



## **Asparagus**



## **Green Onions**



Western Family 16 oz.	\$299
String Cheese	\$399 ea.
Western Family 12 oz.	0 \$5
<b>American Chesse</b>	2 \$ 5
Country Style	\$4.49
Pork Ribs	\$ <b>1</b> 49 <sub>1b.</sub>

Western Family 48 oz. Fish Sticks	\$699 ea.
Redi Serve 10 oz.  Breaded Patties	4.\$5
Redi Service	4.\$5
Chicken Strips	4 for <b>3</b>

Baker Potatoes	49¢
2 lb. Cello Carrots	\$109 ea.
Green Cabbage	59¢

Navel Oranges	59¢
River Ranch Salad Mix	\$129 ea.
Jonagold Apples	\$109 <sub>1b.</sub>

## Banquet **Frozen Dinners**



Western Family 6 oz.	<b>\$1</b> 19	
Medium & Large Olives	ea	à.

#### **Western Family Creamery Select Ice Cream**



6pk 12oz Cans	0.80
Shasta Soda	2 for 3

## Pepsi **Products**



12pk 12oz Cans	<b>3</b>
r Bottle	¢.4.20

2 Liter Bottle	\$139		
Pepsi Products	ea.		
Golden Grain Rice	6440		

## **Keystone Beer**



24pk 12oz Cans 18pk 12oz Cans

Medium & Large Olives	\$119 ea.	Shasta Soda	2 for 3	Pepsi Products	\$139 ea.	MGD/Miller Lite Bee	* \$1299 ea.
Western Family Orange Juice 96 oz.	\$399 ea.	Western Family Mayonnaise 32 oz.	\$229 ea.	Golden Grain Rice & Pasta Roni Asst'd	\$119 ea.	Gatorade 32 oz.	\$129 ea.
Western Family Butter Quarters 16 oz.	\$229 ea.	Western Family Salad Dressing 32 oz.	\$209 ea.	Propel Flavored Water 23.7 oz.	\$119 ea.	Kellogg's Cereals Asst'd	\$379 ea.
Western Family Sour Cream 16 oz.	\$109 ea.	Chef Boyardee Pasta 14.75-15 oz.	\$139 ea.	Progresso Soup 19 oz.	\$169 ea.	Western Family Fruit Snacks 6 ct.	\$119 ea.
Eggo Waffles 10 ct.	\$219 ea.	Western Family Wastebasket Liners 4 & 8 gal. 20-30 ct.	\$149 ea.	Western Family Plastic Wrap 100 ft.	\$129 ea.	Western Family Pan Coating Spray 6 oz.	\$ 1 79 ea.
Betty Crocker Fruit Snacks Asst'd Varieties	\$209 ea.	Barilla Pasta 16 oz.	5 \$ for 5	Western Family Tuff N Soft Towels 8 Rolls	\$759 ea.	Western Family Pudding Cups 4 ct.	\$109 ea.
SOBE 20 oz.	\$139 ea.	Barilla Pasta Sauce 24 oz.	2 \$ 5	Tidy Cat's Cat Litter 20-25 lb.	\$469 ea.	Lay's Potato Chips 11.5-12.5 oz.	\$279 ea.

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