



**Huskies win
meet crown
In Sports**

County GOP candidates speak out, Page 2A

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Silver City, subdivision ordinances
face public hearings in May

Homedale Elementary dedicates
garden for former administrator

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Established 1865

The Owyhee Avalanche

VOLUME 23, NUMBER 19

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

Appraiser: Assessments were falsified

Most recent study
shows that county
commercial property
under-assessed

A state appraiser has found evidence of falsified numbers in reports from the Owyhee County Assessor's Office.

Kathlynn Ireland, the consulting appraiser assigned to the county by the Idaho State Tax Commission, made the revelation Wednesday while explaining the most re-

cent ratio study that is used to make sure that the county is in compliance with state law when it comes to fair and equitable property valuations.

"We have been given information that was falsified in the past," Ireland said, "and so we have to go to great lengths to verify

the information in the ratio studies today because this precedent has been set and we want to make sure that the information that we are basing the calculations on and basing the results on are adequate."

— See *Assessments*, page 5A

Marsing P&Z seeks ideas on the future

Marsing Planning and Zoning has scheduled a meeting for 7 p.m. on Monday at Marsing City Hall. The public is encouraged to attend.

According to city planning and zoning commission secretary Christy Martinat, the session has been labeled a "positive input session." The goal is to receive suggestions and ideas from Marsing citizens regarding the future direction of the town.

Martinat said that the idea for a public positive input session came

— See *Future*, page 4A

Children learn at Ag Expo



Homedale FFA presents second annual event

Students from Homedale Elementary kindergarten teacher Melanie Harper's class, from left, Julia Gomez, Ahtziri Avilies and Abbi Reed, pet a calf at the dairy cow station Friday during the second annual Ag Expo Day at the Owyhee County Fairgrounds. Elementary students made their way through 20 ag-related stations. See **Page 13A** for more Homedale FFA news.

Legislative markup set for Initiative

Ranchers forge ahead despite
losing possibility
of immediate land exchange

Despite a potentially devastating roadblock, the Owyhee Initiative implementation legislation will head to a markup session in Washington today.

Owyhee Initiative Work Group co-chair Fred Kelly Grant said the door for today's markup session with the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources was opened when the work group agreed to move forward despite a crucial change in how the pivotal land exchange would be achieved.

The markup session, the agenda of which has 53 items including S. 2833 — the Initiative legislation,

— See *Initiative*, page 5A

All Owyhee officials discussed controversial policy

Commissioner: County's insurance
carrier recommended revision

A revision of the county personnel manual that has become a point of focus in the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office election

was suggested by more than one county elected official, according to a county commissioner.

"Every elected official from

the county came to the board," District 3 Commissioner Dick Freund said.

Freund said that Assessor Brett Endicott, Treasurer Brenda Richards and County Clerk Charlotte Sherburn joined Sheriff Gary Aman during the course of draft-

ing the revision that set the criteria for termination of or resignation by a county employee if he or she decided to run against an incumbent who also was his or her supervisor.

"And Charlotte and Brenda and Brett were just as vocal as the

sheriff," Freund said.

Sherburn, however, said she disagrees with the timing of the policy update and also feels that it's extraneous because the employee manual already addresses the issue.

— See *Policy*, page 4A

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GOP hopefuls address county committee

Two county incumbents announced that the 2008 election would mark their final campaigns during last week's Owyhee County Republican Central Committee meeting in Murphy.

District 2 Commissioner Hal Tolmie and Sheriff Gary Aman said that they would be serving their final terms if elected in the fall. Both face challenges in the May 27 GOP primary.

Tolmie, who is being opposed in the primary by former District 2 commissioner George Hyer, announced that the two-year term that he is seeking this year will be his last.

"This is a two-year term, and there are two ways to get rid of me," Tolmie told a packed audience inside the Owyhee County Courthouse. "Elect me, and I'll serve two years and I'm done, or don't elect me and I'm done."

Aman, who is battling county Deputy Daryl Crandall in a contentious race for sheriff, said he would seek, "another and final four years," during his presentation to the committee. Aman is seeking his fourth term as sheriff.

Tolmie's challenger, Homedale-area resident George Hyer, also spoke at the meeting as did Crandall, prosecuting attorney candidate Douglas Emery and District 1 Commissioner incumbent Jerry Hoagland, who is seeking a second term.

The ongoing debate between experience and a perceived lack of communication in the community continued in the sheriff's race as Aman and Crandall spoke to the audience.

"More than anything, the sheriff must know the county geographically and otherwise," Aman said as he wrapped up his remarks. "He must know its people and its values. I've done that for 27 years, and experience counts."

Aman outlined his experience with the growth of the county and steps he had helped take to remedy the affects of the phenomenon, including county ordinances and state law to deal with recreation headaches.

"As a sheriff, you do a lot more than be a cop in rural Idaho," Aman said. "I'm responsible for four different budgets. I help pre-



Gary Aman, incumbent



Daryl Crandall, challenger



George Hyer, challenger



Hal Tolmie, incumbent

pare those, I work within those and I've never overspent my budget once."

He also mentioned that the county jail was paid off early and that it is one of the top 17 certified jails in the county.

Saying he was asked two years ago to start contemplating a run for sheriff, Crandall repeated his three-pronged campaign platform of communication, cooperation and community.

"People were not getting information out of the sheriff's office," the four-year deputy said. "They did not know what was happening on the issues in this county."

"We weren't cooperating with people of this county. The people of the county have vast resources and many talents of people that are not being used, and we want to fix that."

Answering, "No. Absolutely not," Crandall denied he would rid the sheriff's office of many deputies if he were elected — an issue that one questioner said was being rumored in Homedale.

"Look at the changes, look at the future, look at the way that you want Owyhee County to be five years from now and 10 years from now, and that's what really matters," Crandall said.

There was no mention of the county's controversial personnel policy that requires an employee to resign or face termination if his or her political aspirations could be deemed to cause disruption within the department in which they work.

Tolmie's presentation focused on the potential of the county and his general responsibility as coun-

Marsing group sets forum for candidates

Candidates for Owyhee County elected offices have been invited to a fundraiser Speakout on Saturday in Marsing.

The Marsing Neighborhood and Senior Activity Center is sponsoring the forum at 6 p.m. The center is located at 218 Main St.

A meal is available for \$9 per person. Anyone planning on dining at the center for the forum must RSVP to the center.

For more information and to RSVP, call the center at 896-4634.

ty commissioner.

"I try to do the best I can for the majority of the people in Owyhee County," Tolmie said. "I'm not going to say all my decisions are right and I'm not going to say they're all wrong, but I will still keep trying to make the decisions for the people of Owyhee County to make this a good place to live and raise their family."

Hyer, who unseated Tolmie in District 2 20 years ago, said that communication between the county government and Owyhee's citizens needs to be fortified.

"We have a rural community with small towns. This is the lifestyle we want," Hyer said.

"But what we need to improve

in the county, I feel, is communication between the departments and the citizens of the county. There were some issues that happened this year that upset a lot of people, and the main reason was there wasn't a lot of communication, and that's all. It's simple to solve."

Hyer said that folks serving on volunteer boards, such as the Owyhee County Fair board, deserve the support of the county's residents. He also said that other key issues facing the county include expansion of county offices in Murphy and expansion of the fairgrounds in Homedale as well as the ongoing issues of dealing with recreation and trying to get the Owyhee Initiative passed.

"I admire Hal," Hyer said. "He's a good commissioner up here, but I feel that I have the energy and the desire to face the issues that are going to face us for the next several years."

Hoagland is wrapping up a two-year term as commissioner and currently serves as the board chair.

"We've accomplished a lot in that year," he said. "As a commission, we've really moved this county a long way, and I'm really proud of what we've accomplished."

Emery wrapped up the county candidates' presentation by laying down his philosophy for conducting business in the county prosecuting attorney's office.

"It is my hope that in the process of representing the citizens of this county that I take the right course and that the law enforcement officers that are called to the stand to testify know that they are being represented by someone who has done this before and is willing to undertake hard work and dedication to represent the interest of the county," Emery said.

Emery pledged that he would review all new cases within three weeks of receiving them from law enforcement agencies, including misdemeanor cases, which have a limited shelf life in terms of prosecution.

"In misdemeanor cases, there is a one-year window of time in which to evaluate that case and get it filed," Emery said. "If you miss that statute, the case is gone."

When Pleasant Valley resident Bill Lowry asked about Emery's stance of plea bargaining, the

prosecuting attorney hopeful said it was an important tool to help properly use the limited resources of the office, but that egregious offense would be prosecuted vigorously.

"The role of the prosecutor is to enforce the laws with apply to the county," Emery said. "And I recognize that the criminal laws on the books of the state were designed and intended and put in force to protect law-abiding citizens and to maintain peace and order, and without that vigilant enforcement and aggressive prosecution, peace and tranquility will cease to exist in the county and there will only be chaos."

Time also was set aside for state legislative and U.S. Senate candidates or their representatives to make pitches.

District 23 House of Representatives incumbents Bert Brackett (R-Rogerson) and Jim Patrick (R-Twin Falls) made presentations, and Brackett served as a proxy for state Sen. Tom Gannon (R-Buhl), who stated in a letter to the committee that he is seeking another term while dealing with health issues. Marsing's Doran Parkins, who is challenging Gannon, for the District 23 seat, also addressed the meeting.

No U.S. Senate candidates appeared in person, but Tolmie spoke for Lt. Gov. Jim Risch, and Homedale Middle School teacher Mark Boothby represented Nampa's Matt Salisbury. Tolmie and Boothby are the county chairs for Risch and Salisbury's respective campaigns.

The majority of the meeting was spent on the county offices that are up for grabs this year. The next county prosecutor and District 2 commissioner, for all intents and purposes, will be decided during the May 27 GOP primary because there are no Democratic or independent candidates running.

The winner of the Republican primary for sheriff will face independent candidate Perry Grant, a current Homedale Police Department corporal and a former county sheriff's deputy, in the Nov. 4 general election.

Marsing Democrat Joe Gannuscio awaits Hoagland in the summer race for the District 1 commissioner seat.

— JPB

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More valves to be installed this week

Sommer Construction employee Sean Coffey tightens bolts on a valve Thursday before its installation at the corner of North Main Street and East Owyhee Avenue.

City water to be shut off again

Homedale's municipal water system will be turned off at 2:30 p.m. today and Thursday as part of the ongoing improvement project.

City public works supervisor Larry Bauer said last Wednesday

that citywide water outages can be expected beginning at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday. Water also was shut off Tuesday.

The scheduled shutdowns will allow crews from Sommer

Construction to tie-in new lines to the existing system, Bauer said.

Bauer reported Friday morning that an emergency shutoff interrupted water service briefly late Thursday afternoon.

Public hearings on zoning issues planned

The Owyhee County Board of Commissioners is scheduled to hear testimony on proposed amendments to a pair of ordinances in the coming weeks.

During their regular weekly meeting Monday in Murphy, commissioners will hold a public hearing regarding changes to the Silver City Historic District zoning ordinance as recommended by the county Planning and Zoning Commission.

The public hearing is slated to begin at 10 a.m. in Courtroom 2 inside the county courthouse.

The P&Z recommendations grew out of public hearings urged by the Owyhee County Historic Preservation Commission.

According to a legal notice published last month in The Owyhee Avalanche, the proposed amendments are designed to provide the purpose of zone HD

(Historic District) for the Silver City Historic District and also outline the manner in which the purposes are implemented.

Also recommended has been the establishment of process for certifying the appropriateness of a development or action proposed by any conditional use permit within the historic district.

The amended ordinance also will provide a list of permitted uses and prohibited uses in the district.

The commissioners will convene another hearing on May 19, again at 10 a.m. in Courtroom 2 in Murphy, for public testimony on a long list of changes to the county subdivision and zoning ordinances, which have been recommended by the P&Z commission.

Copies of both sets of changes are available at the county P&Z office in Murphy.

GOP central committee candidates announced

The candidates for precinct committee for the Owyhee County Republican Central Committee also had a chance to address last week's meeting in Murphy.

Doran Parkins and Stacy Fisher are running for the South Marsing precinct seat currently held by Brett Endicott.

Lee Jones is running against incumbent Jerry Hoagland in the Wilson precinct.

Those running unopposed include North Homedale precinct incumbent Joann Mason and Murphy precinct incumbent Shawn Dygert.

According to Charlotte Sherburn, no candidates filed to

run for seats in South Homedale, Bruneau or Grand View, so write-in candidates will be taken during the May 27 primary.

Currently, the South Homedale precinct is held by former Homedale City Councilman Steve Schultz, who has moved out of the county.

Rusty Parker currently represents the Bruneau, while Dixie McDaniel is the committee person from Grand View.

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Lt Allen M. Bidwell, Nampa Police Dept., retired;

former Homedale Police Chief

Cindy Bidwell, Canyon County Sheriff's Office Crime Lab



"I have known Sheriff Aman his entire life. Sheriff Aman is honest, ethical and with his high moral integrity is the person that is perfectly able to continue leading the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office. His ability to operate his office and other departments on the tight financial restraints available to him is another skill that is a benefit to the taxpayers."

Ron Crane, Treasurer, State of Idaho

"The Idaho Brand Board is in full support of the re-election of Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman. Sheriff Aman's heart is with the Owyhee County Livestock Industry and he has put them in the front row for their on going protection in all areas. One of Sheriff Aman's many credits is the creation of a Range Deputy position, dedicated to protect not only the Owyhee livestock industry, but all of the citizens of his great County. One of the very few unique positions of that nature found anywhere in the state of Idaho."

Larry Hayhurst, State Brand Inspector

"I have enjoyed working with Sheriff Gary Aman for the past four years and find him to be a highly competent and ethical law enforcement officer."

Steve Bywater *

* His office policy prohibits using his title in political ads

"I have worked in law enforcement for nearly 30 years and I will say this: Sheriff Gary Aman is a very caring, progressive, diligent and professional person that gets things done. He stays on course until his goals are accomplished by problem solving, careful investigations or just plain hard work. He is a good Sheriff that cares about the citizens and their needs while trying to be progressive to the ever changing world of law enforcement. It would be good to see him re-elected."

Sheriff Larry Dasenbrock, Idaho County, Idaho



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From page 1

✓ **Policy:** Clerk argued against adopting measure during an election year

“I feel the county personnel policy was already in place to address the issues that the new section adopted concerning candidates running against the elected official (does),” she said.

District 2 Commissioner Hal Tolmie, who seconded the motion to pass the provision during a Jan. 22 meeting, told the Idaho Press-Tribune for an article published April 24 that Aman advocated the policy. That article centered on Owyhee County Sheriff’s Deputy Daryl Crandall’s challenge of Aman, a fellow Republican and incumbent sheriff, in the May 27 primary election. But the news story didn’t mention that other elected officials backed the addition of “Section X. Candidacy for Elective Office” to the employee code.

Aman supported Freund’s claim, saying that every elected official was present “on several occasions when the policy was discussed in great detail prior to it being adopted.”

“This is not a Sheriff’s policy,” Aman said. “It is not an Aman vs. Crandall issue. It is a county policy. In fact, it is a majority of Idaho counties’ policy.

“It was adopted prior to anyone declaring their candidacy. When you work for someone, you don’t have to like all the policies, but you are required to abide by them.”

The manual revision was passed unanimously during the Jan. 22 Board of County Commissioners, and the news was originally reported in the Feb. 6 edition of The Owyhee Avalanche. Most of the candidates for county office began announcing their intentions around the time of the Feb. 20 Lincoln Day Banquet in Marsing.

Sherburn said last week that she voiced a concern in January that

an election year wasn’t the right time to take the action.

“I felt like the timing for adoption of this policy was an issue,” Sherburn said. “I told all present, which included the Board, Sheriff, Treasurer, Fred Grant and Prosecuting Attorney (Matthew) Faulks, that it should not be adopted on an election year.

“... I felt it would be best to wait until next year, an off-election year.”

Furthermore, Sherburn said that “the only way to get qualified people to run for a county office is for them to have the experience working in that office.

The policy sets forth a four-point criteria to determine if a “reasonable prediction of disruption” can be established when an employee decides to run for office. The county developed its policy revision virtually word-for-word from a policy suggested by the Idaho Counties Risk Management Program (ICRMP) for all the state’s counties that it insures. A memo dated Dec. 18 from ICRMP to commissioners, clerks, prosecuting attorneys and risk managers in members counties urged the passage of the policy before the candidate filing date, which was March 21.

“In election years gone by, campaigns by employees against the elected official in whose office he/she serves have prompted disruption or employment terminations — or both. Additionally, employees who were unsuccessful in the election have returned to work angry and disgruntled, only to claim retaliation by the incumbent elected official when discipline is imposed,” the memo reads.

The memo acknowledges civic rights, but also points out the need for a balance between the “reasonable expectations of the employer to avoid a turbulent workplace

with the political interests of candidates for public office who are current employees.”

Aman said that the policy is more critical for counties with smaller departmental work forces because in counties with larger departments — such as Ada (which is not a member of ICRMP) or Canyon (which is a member, but doesn’t have the policy in place) — there is less chance of disruption.

“The Owyhee County Sheriff’s Office is the largest employer in Owyhee County government,” Aman said. “There are departments in Owyhee County with as few as two employees.

“Can you imagine what a disgruntled, still-working employee could do to the county treasurer’s office?”

If disruption is deemed inevitable — and, it is suggested, supported by documentation — by the affected official, the new policy requires the employee either resign or face termination.

There are four factors to determine a prediction of disruption, and only one of the four must be met:

- The size of the office in which the employee works, with the policy language maintaining that the smaller the office the greater the prediction of disruption.

- Whether the candidate holds a position of trust and confidence to the incumbent. “The closer the ties, the greater the likelihood of disruption,” according to language passed by the commissioners.

- Whether the employee candidate is running for a position in which he or she would replace or become superior to his or her current supervisor. The policy says “the threat of disruptions would loom larger” in this case.

- The nature of the relationship between employee candidate and

incumbent and the degree of contact they have with each other, concluding that the greater the amount of contact and interaction, the greater the possibility of disruption.

The provision acknowledges a person’s protections under the First Amendment, but “recognizes that this right is not absolute when balancing the right of the individual to become a candidate for office and the County’s interests in promoting the efficiency of the public services it performs through its employees.”

Section X also says that all hearing procedures listed in the employee handbook are applicable to a termination case.

Freund said concern over a possible civil rights violation had him leaning toward voting against the policy.

“I was the one that didn’t want to vote for it,” the former county sheriff’s chief deputy said. “I said I thought it sounded like it was violating your civil rights.”

Freund said that reassurances from Faulks and Aman convinced him to vote for the measure.

“I felt a lot more comfortable passing it then, and it was recommended by ICRMP, and we do this in order to protect the county against a lawsuit,” Freund said.

He also said Sherburn promoted

the policy in her role as stop-loss manager for the county.

“She was concerned about the county getting sued if someone got fired and we didn’t have this thing in place,” Freund said.

Aman said that, even though Crandall is seeking to unseat him in the primary, the Grand View-Bruneau deputy hasn’t been fired.

“This incumbent is taking the high road,” Aman said, referring to an opinion published by the Press-Tribune’s editorial board Thursday. “To date, no one has been fired for violation of this policy. And how can an employer after the election ever trust, especially in law enforcement where trusting someone could save lives, that person?”

“I don’t hold grudges, and I forgive all who trespass against me. That does not mean I have to trust them.”

Aman said the true issue is the ethical behavior of a law enforcement officer, and he pointed out that Douglas Emery, a Republican candidate for the county’s prosecuting attorney’s office, resigned his deputy prosecutor post even though Faulks is not seeking another term.

“He knows what is ethical and right,” Aman said of Emery. “He knew it would cause disruption.”

— JPB

✓ **Future:** City seeks positive input Monday

out of a workshop she attended in Nampa. She said that planning and zoning does not have an agenda for the meeting.

The commission hopes to get feedback from Marsing residents,

and will use the input from the meeting to try to make planning and zoning’s policies more closely reflect the needs of the townspeople of Marsing.

Martinat stressed that the meet-

ing is intended to be a positive, idea-generating, brainstorming meeting, and she said that there will not be time for an airing of complaints and negative discussion.



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Friday noon the week prior to publication
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From page 1

✓ Assessments: '07 Residential numbers are aligned with market value

She said that since November she spent five or six weeks putting together the ratio study for Owyhee County, which is one of only five counties she works with.

Ireland has been working with Owyhee County Assessor Brett Endicott as a representative of the state tax commission for 3½ years and has created four ratio studies (2004 through 2007). She said she found suspicious calculations while doing verification work for the 2005 ratio study.

"There was definitely a stark contrast between the sales prices that (Endicott) provided to us and the sales prices that those parcels actually received," Ireland said, adding that she collects information by sending out sales verification letters to owners of properties involved in recent transactions.

Ireland said that a lack of complete information from the county hampered her investigation two years ago.

"I have found numbers that were changed, and that's why I've been a bit of a bulldog on this, because I think it's imperative that the people of Owyhee County have truth in reporting on their assessments," Ireland said.

"Property taxes are terribly hated taxes, and so the worst thing we can do is have bad data that's going to affect their individual property taxes."

Ireland said that malfeasance such as falsifying assessment information is a misdemeanor. She said such charges must be brought by county Prosecuting Attorney Matthew Faulks, but she is unsure if Faulks has been kept up-to-date on the annual ratio studies.

Ireland said she concentrates on making sure that the county taxpayers are assessed properly, and

that either her boss, tax commission county support division administrator Steve Fiscus, or the county commissioners can submit evidence of malfeasance to the prosecutor.

"My directive is to get out there, get the evidence and report what the evidence states and work to get the assessor in compliance," Ireland said.

Ireland said the state has been working with Endicott, who is halfway through his second term as county assessor, to bring assessments into compliance and ensure that all property taxpayers are paying their fair share. Last year, residential property assessments took a huge leap as the county tried to bring those categories into compliance.

Disparate assessments can create unfair burdens when taxing districts formulate their levies each year.

Counties are in compliance when they have an assessment level median ratio of between 90 percent and 110 percent of market value for each property category. The 2007 ratio study shows that the median ratio for improved commercial properties in Owyhee County is 71.14 percent, nearly 20 points lower than the bottom of the state's scale of acceptance.

"I thought it was fine," Endicott said of the overall 2007 ratio study. "It shows that we're low in the commercial valuation."

Ireland said the lower commercial ratio indicates that there are commercial properties in the



Brett Endicott

county that are being assessed below market value. Such a discrepancy shifts the tax burden from the commercial property owners onto residential property owners, she said, essentially increasing the tax bill for a segment of the population that already had been hit hard a year ago by adjusted assessments.

"The homeowner is paying more than his fair share because of the discrepancy in the commercial properties," she said.

Ireland also said a tax shift can occur within the property category, with some commercial owners paying more than their fair share compared to their counterparts.

The county's ratio study also shows that the uniformity of commercial property assessments is diverse, with the lowest ratio at 20.6 percent of market value and the highest at 145.34 percent of market value.

Ireland said that residential assessments remain in compliance.

Endicott confirmed that commercial property owners can expect to see an increase on their 2008 assessment notices, which are scheduled to be mailed out during the first week of June.

"Yeah, they're going to take a jump," he said. "Now, whether they take that big of a jump, I'm not so sure."

Because the assessment deadline is near, Endicott only has a few weeks to get the county's commercial property numbers in compliance, Ireland said.

"At this point and time, we're just proceeding normally through our assessment process, and we're hoping that everything will be compliant and we'll be able to get the job done as expected," Ireland said.

"Hopefully we can correct the

non-compliant categories before the primary roll closes at the end of May."

The county Board of Equalization will meet in the first part of July to hear assessment appeals, and the state will do a follow-up ratio study in mid-July.

Ireland said if the ratio study shows non-compliance at that time, the county BOE must reconvene and the assessor re-values property and sends out a second round of assessment notices.

The state BOE gets in on the act in August if the situation still isn't resolved, Ireland said.

"We'd like the county to be able to take care of their property values on a localized level," Ireland said. "They know the markets, and they know what their markets are doing, if (the assessor has) been doing the proper analysis."

Ireland said the work of deputy assessors in the county office has improved, but that one of the best deputies, who studied Multiple Listing Services (MLS) and land values cost per square foot to help verify assessments, has left his county job.

"I think things are improving, especially with past employees," Ireland said. "Leaps and bounds have been made in the residential area. There have been a lot of corrections in residential assessments as, unfortunately, a lot of people saw when their assessments went up dramatically in one year."

Although Ireland said her professional relationship with Endicott remains strained, the county assessor's office has made efforts to ensure that property sales data is more verifiable. The office now uses ProVal, a computer-assisted mass appraisal (CAMA) system, to input assessment data.

Endicott said his office began using ProVal in September, and it has been a useful tool.

"Actually, we didn't have any bad habits because we did everything by longhand, so we like the program very well," he said.

Ireland said that ProVal should cut down on the difficulty of getting information on property sales from the county.

"The assessor has implemented a national assessment package (ProVal), and (office staff members) have done a really great job of using the program," Ireland said, adding that the ProVal software is available free to counties from the state tax commission.

"Having ProVal in this county is huge, because (record-keeping) did go from a paper trail to being automated for the first time," Ireland said.

However, for the 2007 ratio study, Ireland said she received most of the data in the form of an Excel spreadsheet from Endicott's office. In her cover letter to Alan Dornfest of the state tax commission, which accompanied her report, Ireland wrote:

"Due to the lack of subsystem use by the county assessor or staff, I do not have the ability to download sales information directly from the CAMA system. This is standard practice in most Idaho counties and would provide the ability to verify the submitted sales data."

Ireland said she basically turned into a forensic investigator to fill in the holes through third-party sources such as independent appraisers, MLS listings and independently obtained sales verification letters to obtain reliable data.

— JPB

✓ Initiative: Leg work by supporters could make for smooth sailing today

begins at 7:30 a.m. MDT. There are several land exchange and Wild and Scenic Rivers bills also on the agenda.

"It has been made clear that the Bureau of Land Management and the Department of the Interior won't allow land exchanges contemporaneously with the bill," Grant said.

In other words, the land exchanges with Owyhee County ranchers that will help create 517,000 acres of wilderness will have to follow the same timeline as all other land exchanges that the federal government undertakes. The analysis will include mapping the land that currently lies in BLM Recreation Management Plan maps.

That stance essentially wiped out land exchange agreements that the work group had forged through work at the state BLM level with director Tom Dyer and special as-

sistant Howard Hedrick.

"Our idea was that by the time the bill passed, the exchanges could be executed, and we have been negotiating that for several months," Grant said.

Now, Grant said, the process could take as long as five years, but — much like the rest of the process that led to the Owyhee Public Land Management Act of 2008 — he said the leg work done by the work group could cut that wait to just two years.

The Department's hard line on the land exchange issue trig-

gered an emergency meeting April 29 of the Owyhee Cattlemen's Association board of directors to make sure that the ranchers were comfortable with placing the land exchange issue in federal hands.

"Part of the reason that they're willing to put that faith in (the federal government) is that they know the (Owyhee County Board of) Commissioners are totally committed to it and so is the work group," Grant said.

Grant said the OCA board meeting — and subsequent work group meeting in Nampa — were

crucial because committee staff required by Friday a final answer on proceeding with the markup, which also will included dozens of other public lands bills in the final such package of the 110th congressional session.

"The ranchers had to decide whether they were going to go ahead with the bill with all the positives even though any exchange may take a couple of years to get to," Grant said.

Grant said the work group will keep an eye on the feds to make sure the land exchange process is done quickly if the Initiative becomes law.

"The job of the work group is to stay on (federal authorities) and to see that they follow a timely time plan instead of sit on it," Grant said.

Grant doesn't expect any surprises during today's markup session. In fact, he said that David

Brooks, the chief of staff for the committee and Energy and Natural Resources Committee chair Jeff Bingaman (D-N.M.) recently expressed that the bill could sail through markup and on to a full committee vote and, possibly, on to the full Senate for passage.

"We've vetted these things in advance, and as David Brooks said the other day, this markup oughta take about 17 seconds because we've done the work, which is what he's been very impressed with, that we were willing to sit down and really hammer this stuff through with them before we got to the markup," Grant said.

Grant let his optimism bubble to the surface again last week, too.

"It's more than close now," he said. "I think it's just a matter of time, and the goal, and it's David's goal as well, is that this bill gets passed this year."

— JPB

"It's more than close now. I think it's just a matter of time, and the goal ... is that this bill gets passed this year."

— Fred Kelly Grant

Owyhee Initiative Work Group co-chair

Obituaries

W. Tennan Barnard



W. Tennan Barnard, of Homedale/Wilder area, passed away May 1, 2008 at St Alphonsus Regional Medical Center. Tennan was born October 17, 1934 in Delaware County, Oklahoma, the fourth of five children born to Charley & Opal Barnard. He was raised and educated in southern California. He married Delilah Nicely on May 17, 1954 in Coquille, OR, and together they raised four children. In 73 years of life, Tennan inspired and influenced many people.

A gunsmith by heart, a machinist by trade, he was a co-owner of Parma Company for 20 years, retiring in October 2000 to build custom rifles, a longtime dream. An avid and dedicated bowler, Tennan and Delilah purchased and operated Owyhee Lanes & Restaurant in Homedale, from February 2001 until September 2006.

Tennan's zest for life took him many places riding his horse, Ol' Joe, on the waters in his boat or traveling in "the" Winnebago. He

enjoyed camping, hunting, fishing and traveling with his family and friends.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, his son Chane Barnard, his daughter Kelly (Tony) Burns and his son Wes (Donna) Barnard, his son-in-law Kelly Aberasturi, all of Homedale/Wilder, his brother Donval (Jean) Barnard, Portland OR and his sister Wilma (Robert) Powell, Umatilla OR, 18 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren and numerous nieces

and nephews, all of whom love and will miss him dearly.

He is preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Callynn and Duane Barnard, his daughter Deonna Aberasturi and grandson Derek Barnard.

A graveside service will be held under the direction of Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Homedale, May 13, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. at the Wilder Cemetery. A "Celebration of Life" will follow the service, location to be announced.

Leah E. Erskin

Leah E. Erskin, 46, of Homedale died Thursday May 1, 2008 at a Boise hospital. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday May 7, 2008 at the LDS Church in Homedale, officiated by ministers of her faith, Bonnie Sikes and Robyn Hill. Viewing will be from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. at the church prior to the service. Services are under the direction of Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Homedale.

Leah was born May 26th, 1961 in Omaha, Nebraska to Michael and Genevieve Boslau Thompson. At the age of 9 she moved to

Homedale to make her home with her Uncle Dean and Aunt Karen Vance, whom she came to consider her Mom and Dad. She attended Homedale schools grades 3 through 12, graduating in 1979.

She married David Jenkins and had one son. Later, she married Ron Johnson and had two sons.

Leah graduated from TVCC with an Associates Degree in Art. She was employed by Canyon Owyhee School Services Agency, interpreting for the disabled and deaf. At the time of her death, she was working on her Bachelor's Degree at BSU.

Leah's faith and love for God were anchors to her during her courageous fight against cancer. She had an enthusiasm for life, enjoyed art, her yard and foremost she loved her sons.

She is survived by Dean and Karen Vance of Homedale; Michael Thompson of CA; her sons Jasper Jenkins in the US Army, Iraq; Caleb and Cody Johnson of Homedale; Geraldine Boslau of Homedale, sisters Shelly Black and Angela Thompson both of AK; Shannon Anter of NV; uncles Lyle Boslau, Rodney Boslau, and numerous nieces, nephews

and cousins and a host of friends. She was preceded in death by her mother and a brother, Bradley Hamlin.

A special thanks to all who have stood by Leah during her illness, especially Debbie Vance, who was like a sister to her. And special appreciation to her surgeon, Dr. Matthew Schwarz; her oncologist, Dr. Stephanie Hodson; and Dr. Curt Gedney, palliative care.

Donations may be made to "Make a Wish Foundation."

Private inurnment will be at Marsing-Homedale Cemetery.



Thomas 'Tuck' George Skinner

Thomas "Tuck" George Skinner died this past Friday, May 2, 2008 at 3:30 in the afternoon in Caldwell, Idaho. He died with family members at his side.

Visitation will be from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 7, 2008 with Rosary Devotions at 7:00 p.m. at Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Caldwell. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, May 8, 2008, at St. Bernard's Catholic Church, Jordan Valley, Oregon. Interment will follow at the Jordan Valley Cemetery, Jordan Valley.

Tuck was the oldest son of the family of Thomas Lewis Skinner and Violet Elizabeth Glover, both born near Jordan Valley of pioneer families. He was born August 16, 1917 in Boise, Idaho. Brothers Gardner William and James Timothy were born in 1919 and 1921, respectively. Rae Margaret, his only sister, was born in 1922. This family was reared on the Billie Parks Ranch, which borders the city of Jordan Valley



Upon graduation from OSU, Tuck received an R.O.T.C. Commission in Field Artillery and was ordered to active duty on May 8, 1941 and returned to civilian status on March 13, 1946. He served in the Alaska Defense Command for 27 months and the Pacific Theater of Operations for 16 months. He served in the Peleliu Invasion. Tuck was

honorably discharged from the armed forces with the rank of Major in Field Artillery.

While serving in the Alaska Defense Command, Tuck met Peggy (Mary Genevieve) Eubank; they married on July 12, 1942. Six daughters were born from this marriage: Rae Marie, married to Dean R. Reynolds; Rosanne, married to Patrick E. Moran; Mary DeMorris; Peggy Elizabeth; Sarah Ellen married to Gary A. Greener; and Mary Violet. Tuck and Peggy divorced in 1967.

Tuck moved to Harrisburg, PA and worked as a Right of Way Officer with the Federal Department of Transportation. While in Harrisburg, Tuck married Jacquelyn "Jaci" Lingle Shaver on August 2, 1969, who had one daughter, Sandra Lee, by a previous marriage.

Tuck moved back to Boise with Jaci in August, 1972. He entered the fee appraisal business there and again in April, 1973 when they moved to Caldwell. Jaci joined the business in 1975. He continued in the business until his retirement on December 31, 1999.

the award given to him by the Owyhee County Commissioners on June 14, 2004. It was presented to him for the "lifelong service and dedication to the custom, culture, and citizens of Owyhee County."

Tuck had been a board member of the Owyhee Historical Society and very much enjoyed giving tours throughout nearby counties; "put him on a dirt road and he was happy." He particularly enjoyed working with the horses on Mike Hanley's "mail runs" through the Owyhees.

He is survived by his wife, Jaci, and her daughter, Sandy Porter; six daughters of his first marriage; his sister; and by several grandchildren, Kecia M. Reynolds Carlson, Marc J. Reynolds, Scott A. Reynolds, Patrick C. Moran, Harry C. Moran, Katie M. Greener, McKenzie E. Greener, Ryan K. Porter, Daron B. Porter, Krysta L. Porter, and Kathryn L. Porter, and five great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and his two brothers.

He was a devoted family man and loved his family very much. He could make anyone smile. Tuck will be missed by many.

We are so lucky to have had you in our lives. We love you and will always save a scoop of vanilla ice cream and a piece of lemon meringue pie for you!

Memorials may be made to the Jordan Valley Owyhee Heritage Council/ION Museum or the Owyhee County Historical Museum.



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Aaron Tines
Mortician's Assistant
Proudly serving the Community as:
Member, Homedale Chamber of Commerce
Member, Homedale Lions Club

Your finances

Cash-and-carry

childbirth helps

parents avoid debt

Dear Dave,

My wife and I are debt-free, and we just found out we'll be having another baby. We have individual health insurance, but it doesn't cover childbirth. What's the best way to go about paying for this?

— Justin

Dear Justin,

Congratulations on the new baby AND on being debt-free!

Labor and delivery in most areas of the country can be done for the typical retail value of \$6,000 to \$7,000. And there are hospitals that will knock off about half the cost if you pre-pay for these services in the last trimester.

Since you're debt-free, it's going to be really easy for you guys to save up about \$3,500 in the next six or seven months. Then go to the hospitals in your area, tell them you plan on paying with cash and that you're trying to make up your minds about which hospital to use. Make sure they understand that one of the main considerations is which hospital will give you the best price!

Remember, in most ways hospitals are just another business. Plus, the birth of a child is one of the few times people actually WANT to go to a hospital. It's a happy occasion and a joyous time for family and friends.

And it's great PR for the hospital!

— Dave

Dear Dave,

My husband and I are in the process of getting a divorce, and he wants to take out a car loan. I don't think he'd do anything illegal, but how can I protect myself — just in case?

— Jennifer

Dear Jennifer,

Don't put your name on anything where this purchase is concerned. About the only way it could affect you at all is if you sign for the car.

Now keep in mind he could always sign your name fraudulently, or the judge could hold you liable in divorce court. But chances are neither of these things will happen.

No good judge would saddle you with debt he incurred on his own. If he's the one buying the car, all the payments and other headaches should be his — not yours.

I'm really sorry you have to go through this, Jennifer.

— Dave

Dear Dave,

Our 18-year-old doesn't quite



get where we're headed in getting our finances in order and becoming debt-free. He's used to us handing him at least \$30 on weekends, and that amount has dropped to \$10 if he's lucky. How can we explain it when we're ashamed as parents that we let our own financial situation get so bad?

— Cheryl

Dear Cheryl,

Everybody's fallen down at some point. Being imperfect doesn't make you a bad parent. And if you've made mistakes with money it just means you're alive and you've had money in your hands at some point.

I don't think you've got any reason to be ashamed as parents. You've fed him, clothed him, he's got shelter ... that's pretty much all you're obligated to do. The idea that you're supposed to just hand kids stuff all the time is ridiculous!

At his age, he's old enough to grasp a conversation that goes something like this: "We didn't do a good job teaching you to handle money in the past because WE didn't know how to handle money. We're sorry about that. But it doesn't mean we've given up our rights of parenting and making quality decisions from here on out."

No 18-year-old needs to be sitting around having money handed to him. Shove about a dozen job applications under his nose, or show him the business end of a lawnmower — something! This kid needs to be making money!

Once that happens, you can show him the lessons you've learned about budgeting, saving and handling money properly. Then, he can begin spending his own \$30 on weekends!

— 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. Send correspondence to syndication@daveramsey.com or write *Dave Says*, 1749 Mallory Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027

Calendar

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

Thursday
Exercise class
11 a.m., free, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020
El-Ada commodity distribution
11 a.m. to noon, Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (208) 337-4812
Homedale Chamber of Commerce luncheon
noon, Owyhee Lanes Restaurant, 18 W. 1st St. (208) 337-3271
Owyhee Garden Club meeting
1 p.m., University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office, 238 8th Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-5474 or (208) 896-4104
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
Van pool to Best of Betty & Ozark Mountain Music concert in Nampa
5:30 p.m., \$3, call to sign up, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020
Adrian school board meeting
7 p.m., Adrian School Library
AA meeting
8 p.m., Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave.
Owyhee Conservation District board meeting
8 p.m., 250 N Old Bruneau Highway, Marsing. (208) 896-4544
Owyhee County Fair Board meeting
8 p.m., county fairgrounds, Homedale. (208) 337-4575

Friday
Marsing PTA Carnival
5 p.m. to 8 p.m., food, games, raffle, Marsing Elementary School, 8th Avenue West, Marsing. (208) 896-4238 or (208) 475-4292
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
Owyhee Garden Club plant sales
9 a.m. to 2 p.m., vegetables and flowers, \$3 to \$6, Homedale City Park and Marsing community greenhouse.

Monday
Homedale school board meeting
7 p.m., district office board room, 116 E. Owyhee Ave.

Marsing P&Z Positive Input Session
7 p.m., Marsing City Hall, 425 Main St. (208) 896-4122
Melba school board meeting
4 p.m., district office board room, 600 Broadway Ave.

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.
Marsing school board meeting
8 p.m., district office board room, 209 W. 8th Ave.

Wednesday
Homedale City Council meeting
6 p.m., City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming Ave. (208) 337-4641
DivorceCare recovery support group
7 p.m., Mountain View Church of the Nazarene, 26515 Ustick Road, Wilder. (208) 337-3151
Grand View City Council meeting
7 p.m., City Hall, 425 Boise Ave. (208) 834-2700, Monday through Wednesday
Marsing City Council meeting
7 p.m., City Hall, 425 Main St. (208) 896-4122
Owyhee Watershed Council meeting
7 p.m., University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office, 238 8th Ave. W., Marsing. (541) 372-5782

Thursday, May 15
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.

The Owyhee Avalanche's calendar of events also can be accessed on the Internet at www.owyheepublishing.com. Submit news of upcoming fundraisers, meetings, reunions or community events to The Owyhee Avalanche by noon Fridays for inclusion in the calendar. Call (208) 337-4681 for more information.

VOTE FOR

Doran Parkins

State Senate District 23

Farmer, Educator, Businessman

Primary Election

May 27

Paid by Parkins For Senate Committee



Trojans show pride in town



Homedale High School students clean up

Friday was the biennial Trojan Pride Day in Homedale, and high school students fanned out to spruce up the town. Counter-clockwise from right: Trent Acree puts a fresh trim on the shot put throwing ring at Deward Bell Stadium; Blanca Uriarte, front, and Patty Ramos get into their work while restoring a backstop at the City Park tennis courts; Blanca Lira, front, and Jose Torres sweep debris of the sidewalk on West Idaho Avenue; and, from left, freshmen Nickelle Mainarick, Tanner Lair, Jarod Armenta and Christina Garcia paint a bench at City Park.





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Longtime principal memorialized at HES

Garden spot plaque dedicated Thursday for Fritzley

A man described as ahead of his time was honored for his legacy Thursday at Homedale Elementary School.

Herb Fritzley, who served as principal at the elementary school for 31 years, was on hand as a garden spot in front of the campus on West Washington Avenue was dedicated in a ceremony attended by past and present principals, school board members, Fritzley’s family and the elementary student body.

“I’m really humbled,” Fritzley said during a reception after the ceremony. “I feel that it’s not just myself, but my staff and community support that made it possible, all of the achievement we’ve had here.”

Fritzley came to the Homedale School District as a classroom teacher in 1961. He had told his wife that they would probably stay in Homedale for about three years when he arrived after graduating from the University of Idaho with a masters degree in school administration.

A year later, he was appointed as temporary principal for the junior high school by Superintendent Dick Frazier. In 1963, he became principal for the entire facility, which at the time dealt with students in first through eighth grades.

“We’ve had many people go on to great professions, with attorneys and doctors,”



Principals, past and present

Three people who have served as Homedale Elementary principals, from left, Scott Freeby, Herb Fritzley and Yvonne Ihli, pose by the commemorative plaque.

Fritzley said. “We’ve always had good parental support, which is critical, as is a good staff, great parental support and a good administration and board that will work together for a common cause, which is the children.”

Fritzley branched out as a city councilman

and still serves on the city’s Planning and Zoning Commission today.

Current elementary principal Yvonne Ihli opened the ceremony during which a plaque embedded in a rock was dedicated to mark the garden area. Scott Freeby, whom Ihli succeeded in the head office at the school, also was on hand.

The program was prefaced by music from the Beach Boys, a band that emerged on the music scene the same year Fritzley came to Homedale. Other highlights of the ceremony included the Star Spangled Banner sung by the school’s third- and fourth-graders and a closing song of America the Beautiful performed by first- and second-graders.

“We are here to say ‘thank you’ to Mr. Fritzley for all the leadership he provided,” Ihli said. “This year, I’m completing my first year here, and I can tell you that you’ve earned this award for the 30-plus years you gave to this school.

“It’s only right that Mr. Freeby is here today to join us in this celebration.”

Freeby got the ball rolling on what would become the landscape feature that was dedicated last week to Fritzley. Freeby, who made the trip from his new job in Coeur d’Alene for the ceremony, said the dream to honor Fritzley actually began with elementary teacher Kristie Garrett when she tried — several times — to plant a commemorative tree in front of the school.

No matter which tree was planted, however, it would perish. The landscaping, which was designed by Ned Stokes, and plaque, which was affixed in stone by the district’s Tom Muir, will serve as a permanent acknowledgment of Fritzley’s contributions.

In 1980, Fritzley gave Freeby his first teaching job. Thirteen years later, Freeby became Homedale Elementary principal when Fritzley retired. Freeby said Fritzley always was a mentor to him, even when he entered his administrative track in the Melba School District.

“I really felt that Herb was taking care of me, watching me, helping me, as he did with a lot of people,” Freeby said.

He put Fritzley in a pantheon of administrators who he said have made the district so strong today.

“(Deward) Bell, (Nolan) Taggart and Herb Fritzley were all here for 30 years, and a lot of people would tell you that’s why the Homedale School District has been so strong,” Freeby said.

Freeby said that even 15 years after he last walked the halls at Homedale Elementary, Fritzley stays current with educational trends and philosophies.

In fact, Freeby said that his mentor always seemed ahead of the curve with school innovations.

“He was so innovative,” Freeby said. “He was instrumental in bringing a computer network to Homedale, and I think we were one of the first rural districts to have that. He was well ahead of his time.

“The more I do my job, the more I respect what he did.”

— JPB



Grab a Bite Tonight!

Here’s a list of monthly specials from area restaurants.

Watch for this Dining Guide the first issue of the Owyhee Avalanche each month.

The Blue Canoe is now serving dinner on Wednesday & Thursdays from 4pm - 9pm. Also, come join in the fun in the back yard, Horseshoes, volleyball & cold beer! Karaoke every Saturday Night.

Bring this ad in for 1/2 OFF a second meal
Wednesday & Thursday Nights Only

The Blue Canoe
Highway 78 • 495-2269 or 859-6346

Don't forget! Mother's Day Brunch from 10Am to 1pm May 11 Only!

Mother's Day All May Long!
BBQ Chicken Breast Sandwich w/ side and yummy dessert \$5.99
Wednesdays are Senior Day! \$2.00 of Menu Items
Essence of Life Deli
Open Mon, Tues & Fri 9 am - 8 pm
Wed, Thurs 9 am - 6 pm
Saturday 10 am - 4 pm
111 Main Street • Marsing, Idaho • 896-7001

May Special - Large 1 Topping Pizza & Garlic Cheese Bread \$15.99
All You Can Eat Pizza & Salad
Lunch Buffet Weekdays 11-2
We Deliver! 337-6222

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May Special - Mom's Favorite
Large 16" Canadian Bacon & Pineapple - \$13.75
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MAY SPECIAL... 16 oz. AVALANCHE only \$2.50
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337-5566 www.moxiejava.com

Just for Mom! - Mother's Day Specials
Small Cut Prime Rib
with Baked Potato & Soup or Salad \$14.99
Salmon Dinner
with Baked Potato & Soup or Salad \$13.99
Caba's Restaurant & Lounge
2 E. Main, Marsing • 896-4182
Specials good Sunday May 11 From Noon to 8:00 pm Reservations Recommended

Friday & Saturday Night Dinner Specials
"Treasure Valley's Best Prime Rib Dinner" 10 oz \$14.99 • 14 oz \$17.99
Add a skewer of 5 Jumbo Shrimp for only \$2.99
Captains Platter featuring a fresh Salmon fillet, Jumbo Shrimp, Corona Battered Cod and deep fried shrimp for \$17.99
Dinners include: homemade soup or salad, Savory Red Roasted potatoes, veggie and a whole wheat dinner roll.

Owyhee Lanes and Restaurant
18 W. 1st St., Homedale
337-3757

May Special - Any 1 Topping Large Pizza \$9.99
Check out these Daily Lunch Specials!

Monday Chef Salad 20 oz. Drink sm: \$3.59 lg: \$5.99	Tuesday 2 Enchiladas Rice & Salad \$4.99	Wednesday Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes + Gravy & Roll \$4.99	Thursday Philly Steak Sandwich, Fries & 20 oz. Drink \$4.99	Friday Slice of Pizza 20 oz. Drink \$2.99
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Matteson's
Wilder 482-9210

This guide is also available on the web at www.theowyheeavalanche.com
call 337-4681 to advertise!

Death notices

HILDA HUFFMAN, 91, of Homedale, died Monday, April 28, 2008, at a Homedale care center. Arrangements pending with Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Homedale. 337-3242

VELDA I. FINN, 80, a former resident of Homedale and a 1945 graduate of Homedale High School, passed away on Dec. 25, 2007, in Portland. A celebration of life will be held Saturday, May 10, 2008, at the Church of the Brethren, 11030 Orchard Ave., in Nampa at 1 p.m. No graveside service will be held.

Senior menus

Marsing center
May 7: Fish or meat loaf, peas, potatoes, salad, dessert, beverage.
May 8: Mother’s Day Tea and ham dinner, yams, baked beans, corn, coleslaw, fruit, soup, dessert, beverage.
May 12: Breakfast to order.
May 13: Chicken cordon bleu, rice, Sicilian vegetables, coleslaw, soup, dessert, beverage.
May 14: Salisbury steak, potatoes, gravy, winter blend vegetables, cabbage salad, soup, dessert, beverage.

Homedale district to serve meals

The Homedale School District will participate in the federal Summer Food Service Program beginning in June.
Meals will be provided to all children without charge. Meals will be served Monday through Friday.
On June 2-3, lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Homedale High School, 203 E. Idaho Ave.
From June 4 to July 2, the program shifts to Homedale Elementary School, with breakfast being served from 7:45 a.m. to 8:45 a.m., and lunch being served from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Lunch only will be served from July 7 to Aug. 15 at Homedale Elementary. The lunch time will be 11 am. to 12:15 p.m.
Acceptance and participation requirements for the program and all activities are the same for all regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service.

School menus

Homedale Elementary
May 7: Chicken patty or rib-b-que, potato wedges, applesauce cake, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
May 8: Wiener wrap or chicken bacon melt, mac & cheese, green beans, rice krispy bar, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
May 9: Cheese pizza or PB&J, salad, cookie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
May 12: Chicken nuggets or egg roll, rice pilaf, veggie, fortune cookie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
May 13: Nachos or baked potato, cinnamon breadstick, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
May 14: Burrito or French dip sandwich, green beans, cookie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Homedale Middle
May 7: Crispito or toasted cheese sandwich, taco salad, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
May 8: Nachos or baked potato, rice krispie treat, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
May 9: Chicken tenders or cf beef steak, mashed potatoes/gravy, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
May 12: Pizza or popcorn chicken, salad, cookie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
May 13: Chicken nuggets or egg roll, rice, veggie, fortune cookie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
May 14: Burrito or fish sandwich, corn, apple crisp, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Homedale High
May 7: Idaho haystack, burrito, pizza hot pocket, cinnamon rolls, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
May 8: Chicken patty, sandwich & soup, popcorn chicken, potato wedges, cookie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
May 9: Crispito, rib-b-que, corn, taco salad, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
May 12: Cheese pizza, popcorn chicken, chef salad, brownie, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
May 13: CF beef steak, chicken filet, mashed potatoes/gravy, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
May 14: Spaghetti, burrito, pizza hot pocket, French bread, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Marsing
May 7: Red Baron pizza, salad, fruit, milk, egg roll, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.
May 8: Corn dog, fruit, veggie, milk, tostada delight, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.
May 9: Sloppy Joe, fruited jello, veggie, mil, chicken patty, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.
May 12: Weiner wrap, fruit, milk, French dip, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.
May 13: Ham/cheese sandwich, fruit, milk, cf teak, salad bar 4th-12th, cinnamon twist.
May 14: Taco, fruit, veggie, milk, Red Baron pizza, salad bar 4th-12th, roll.

Bruneau-Grand View
May 7: Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, fruit, milk.
May 8: Taco, Spanish rice, corn, fruit cup, milk.
May 9: Ham/cheese sandwich, chips, veggie, fruit, cookie, milk.
May 12: Cheesey chicken bake, tossed salad, bread sticks, fruit, milk.
May 13: Haystacks, corn, fruit cup, cherry crisp, milk.
May 14: Cook’s choice.
May 15: Turkey sandwich, tots, carrots sticks, oranges, cookie, milk.
May 16: Cook’s choice.
May 19: Cook’s choice.

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Homedale center
May 1: Chopped sirloin, mashed potatoes, gravy, roll, Calif. blend vegetables, beverage.
May 6: Oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, peas, roll, beverage.
May 7: Beef burritos, refried beans, rice, beverage.
May 8: Country fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, roll, beverage.
May 13: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, roll, beverage.
May 14: Chicken pot pie, tossed salad, roll, beverage.
May 15: Pork chow mein, stir fry vegetables, noodles, beverage.
May 20: Baked meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, Calif. blend vegetables, roll, beverage.

Bruneau/GV reminds public about Child Find

The Bruneau/Grand View School District is reminding its parents and area agencies of its Child Find program.
Child Find activities conducted throughout the school year create awareness of special education programs, advise the public of the rights of students and alert residents about identifying and serving children with disabilities from age 3 through the semester in which they turn 21.
If you are aware of a child ages 3 through 21 who may have needs resulting from disabilities or developmental delays and who is not enrolled in a program, contact Penny Hines, special ed administrator, at (208) 834-2775 or the district at (208) 834-2253.
Community agencies or civic groups seeking more information can call Hines or the district.
Children with developmental delays or disabilities may have difficulty walking, talking, hearing or learning or may display behaviors that appear different from other children their age.

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Homedale students head for Girls State

The Homedale American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 32 has named Homedale High School students Hannah Johnson and Annamaria Salas as its 2008 delegates to Idaho Syringa Girls State, June 8-13 at Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa.

"We feel these girls will represent our unit, our town, and the school very well," auxiliary member Carolyn Grooms said. "Both girls are juniors at Homedale High School, and carry high GPAs (grade-point averages). They are both active in sports programs and various clubs and other activities."

High school counselor Kelly DeWitt said Johnson had a 3.8 GPA through the first semester of

this school year, and Salas carried a 4.0.

According to the American Legion's Girls State Web site, the program teaches participants "responsible citizenship and love for God and Country." Delegates learn about government by creating and operating a government in the weeklong program. Participants run for office, draft, debate, and vote on laws, and learn about and participate in many other facets of democratic government.

In addition, two students from each participating state are elected to become senators, and represent their state in Washington, D.C. at Girls Nation, which is a national government education program.

Ordinarily, the Homedale American Legion Post sponsors representatives to Boys State, but according to adjutant James Gammett, three Homedale High School students nominated to participate turned down the opportunity.

The auxiliary tries as much as possible to cover the expenses of program participation, and Grooms said contributions are welcome to help with the costs. Anyone wishing to contribute can contact Grooms at (208) 249-6021.

According to Bill McBride of the Bruneau American Legion, Post 83 has nominated Cy Lootens from Rimrock High School for Boys State this year.

— RTH

Hazardous waste not out of ordinary for GV dump site

A hazardous waste disposal site in the Owyhee desert has received all proper certification to accept a large quantity of contaminated sand from Kuwait.

US Ecology spokesman Chad Hyslop confirmed last week that the company soon will be storing dozens of containers of sand laced with depleted uranium and lead that originates from Camp Doha in Kuwait.

News of the contaminated sand has caught the eye of environmentalists as well as regional politicians. Only last week was the lead contamination revealed by the U.S. Army.

But Hyslop said the project isn't anything out of the ordinary as far as the general operation of the company's Grand View waste site.

"Our military has a long history of returning hazardous and radioactive waste from its bases in foreign countries to the United States for disposal," Hyslop said. "Obviously, the host foreign country does not want our military to leave our waste there."

"Our Grand View facility has accepted waste from foreign U.S. military bases for over 20 years."

The contaminated material stems from a Persian Gulf War-era fire at the U.S. military base in which armor-piercing ammunition was destroyed, releasing uranium and lead into the soil.

About 6,700 tons of sand is scheduled to be shipped from Longview, Wash., to the US Ecology site near Grand View. According to a fact sheet issued by US Ecology parent company American Ecology, the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission

approved the shipment for import from the Middle East and disposal in Grand View.

The shipments will move from Longview by railcar, according to US Ecology, and should begin arriving in Grand View by the middle of the month.

According to Hyslop, the levels of lead and uranium found in samples from the Kuwaiti sand is high, but still within the parameters of hazardous waste the Grand View dump site is authorized to accept.

"The highest levels of lead found was 19 parts per million," Hyslop said. "This is still considered 'hazardous,' but is very low compared to soils we receive from shooting ranges, or emission control dust we receive from steel mills."

"We've been safely handling lead waste for decades. The uranium is an average of 10 picocuries per gram (10 parts per trillion). Those are very low levels, and one-tenth of what we are allowed to receive. We safely manage and dispose material at far higher levels than this material every day."

— JPB

Illegal alien arrested in Homedale for alleged sexual misconduct

A Mexican citizen in this country illegally was arrested by Homedale Police in Homedale on April 28, and, hours after his release from the Owyhee County Jail, was arrested again the next day by the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office on Highway 78 outside Melba.

Juan Bernabe, 23, was arrested at a residence in Homedale in connection with an effort by Homedale Police to find a runaway Nampa teen. After Bernabe's arrest, Homedale Police, with the assistance of the Wilder Police and the Canyon County Sheriff's Office, executed a search warrant on the residence, seeking forensic evidence to back up a charge of lewd and lascivious conduct with a minor.

"We were looking for forensic evidence," Eidemiller said of the search. "It's not like a fingerprint, we have to send that stuff to the lab. It will be evaluated at the lab."

According to Eidemiller, when Bernabe was taken to the jail in Murphy, charged with pedestrian under the influence, Homedale police intended to have Bernabe held there until the search warrant to

find corroborating evidence of sexual misconduct could be executed. Eidemiller said that his department requested an

immigration hold be placed on the suspect, which would have kept him in custody until the additional charges could be filed. Bernabe was released before the immigration hold was processed, only to be picked up by OCSO on his way back to Homedale.

According to Sheriff Gary Aman, Bernabe was released on his own recognizance April 29 after making a court appearance on the misdemeanor charges of pedestrian under the influence and delay and obstruct. A warrant for felony charges of lewd and lascivious conduct with a minor under the age of 16 was issued two hours after Bernabe's release, with the immigration hold placed on April 30.

Aman explained that felony



Juan Bernabe

charges require a probable cause statement granted by a judge at the request of the prosecuting attorney. In this case, Bernabe was released on the misdemeanor charges before the probable cause statement and warrant were issued.

"We were going to go with a felony charge regardless, based on the victim's statement. We try to back that up with forensic evidence if we can, and there was some physical evidence that led us to the investigation, because it initially started out as recovering a juvenile runaway. The situation suggested that there was more than just a harboring of a runaway. The other details at this point are part of our initial case, so I'm not going to discuss the details that led us to believe that at the moment."

Bernabe faces charges of delaying and obstructing justice, pedestrian under the influence, and lewd and lascivious conduct with a minor.

Eidemiller said that Bernabe has been living in Homedale, but when questioned, admitted to the chief that he is from Mexico and in this country illegally.

— RTH

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Marsing carnival set for Friday

The Marsing PTA is hosting a carnival on Friday to raise funds for its school support efforts. The festivities are scheduled to take place from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Marsing Elementary School, according to the group’s secretary, Edith Sterkenburg.

“We’re going to have a lot of different food booths, games that

kids can buy tickets to play where they can win little prizes, and a dunk tank if it’s warm enough,” Sterkenburg said.

The PTA buys classroom and other school equipment with some of the money it raises, according to the secretary.

“Last year we bought picnic tables for the middle school

because they don’t actually have a cafeteria area, and for the elementary school, we bought a laminator,” Sterkenburg said.

This year’s carnival will be the second put on by the group. Last year’s carnival raised around \$7,000, Sterkenburg said.

“We’re going to have a cake walk, we have a dessert booth, we’re going to have Mexican food, and games, and a raffle. Two of the big prizes in the raffle are a patio set and a barbecue,” Sterkenburg said. “This year, we basically gave the raffle tickets to the fifth-graders, and they sold them. Whoever sells the most gets a prize, and it’s going to be a refurbished computer. We will also have raffle tickets on sale at the carnival, so we’re just going to have a variety of things to do.”



Banker teaches finesse of finance

Jessica Tomlinson, a financial services representative at the Wilder branch of Zions Bank, shares the basics of managing money to Colleen Paxton’s first period class at Homedale Middle School on April 29.

Students learn saving is critical

Jessica Tomlinson switched careers for an hour last week. Tomlinson, a financial services representative at the Wilder branch of Zions Bank, took on the role of teacher in Colleen Paxton’s first period class at Homedale Middle School.

Why the change? April 29 was National Teach Children to Save Day, and Tomlinson was in front of the classroom to do just that. Tomlinson said that Homedale Middle School is one of 500 schools that Zions Bank representatives will visit this year to talk to students about the importance of saving.

“At Zions Bank, we volunteer on National Teach Children to Save Day to encourage tomorrow’s generation to learn good savings habits so that they can reverse the negative savings trend,” Tomlinson said. “It’s never too early for kids to learn how to pay themselves first by saving money and earning interest. The bank is doing this to try to encourage kids to save and start to prepare for the future.”

Tomlinson talked to the students about how repeated small purchases can add up over time, how interest rates work, to use grocery lists and the public library to save money, and how to use a savings passbook or check

register.

Tomlinson also told students that Zions Bank pays for A’s on report cards. For students in seventh through 12th grades, Zions Bank will deposit \$1 for each A into the student’s savings account. Students without a savings account, or who just want the cash, are paid 50 cents for each A. All students who participate are entered into an annual drawing for two \$150 scholarships and one \$1,000 scholarship.

Each student in Paxton’s classroom received a goodie bag with a pencil, a grocery list pad, a sample check register, and a calculator.

Paxton said that the class had an opportunity to see school subjects applied to a real-life situation.

“I think it’s really important for the students to see why math is important; to make that real-world connection, because for a lot of them it’s just that we do addition or subtraction every day, but they don’t always understand why it’s so important,” Paxton said. “I think this was a really good chance for them to see that when they get older and have a job, or like right now can have a savings account, that it’s important to know that math.”

— RTH

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Homedale FFA news



Homedale FFA chapter officers recognized

Left: Outgoing Homedale FFA chapter president poses with the plaque signifying him as recipient of this year's Steve Harrison Memorial Scholarship. **Right:** The 2008-09 officers include, from left: Historian Rachelle Christoffersen, reporter Ashli Kesler, sentinel Kendall Rupp, treasurer Drew Farwell, secretary Megan Harper, vice-president Laken Hiser and president Rye Hyer. Submitted photos

Homedale FFA honors members

The Homedale FFA chapter held its fourth annual banquet April 21. The chapter members thank Nolan Taggart for being the keynote speaker and Jason Tindall for preparing our dinner prior to numerous awards being handed out.

Annual membership awards were presented first.

Members receiving a Discovery Degree, which is set aside for middle school members only, were: Casey Christoffersen, Trey Corta, Deena Emry, Kylie Farwell, Tucker Gerdes, Bodie Hyer, Clay Johnson, Raven Kelly, Conner Landa, Lane Matteson, Laurien Mavey, Zach Mereness, Aubrey Nash, Katie Price, Kyle Purdom, Brett Ryska, Brett Shanley, Nick Sutterfield, and Mark Williams.

First-year high school members who received the Greenhand Degree: Sydney Cornwall, Amanda Fink, Caitlyn Johnson, Jacob Lowder, Ali McRae, Kali McRae, Kara McRae, Joel McCutchen, and Summer Phelps.

Members who have been active in our chapter for two years of high school earn the Chapter Degree: Kaitlyn Amos, Karly Bertagnolli, Jessica Eubanks, Drew Farwell, Ryan Garrett, Megan Harper, Nestor Machuca, Mikal Mackenzie, Summer Megargee, Alex Mereness, Ryan Ryska, and Anna Salas.

The State FFA Degree went to

students who have been involved in our chapter for three or more years and earned at least \$1,000 in addition to passing a parliamentary procedure and FFA knowledge exam: Alysha Bahem, Rye Hyer, Hannah Johnson, and Ashli Kesler.

Caitlyn Johnson earned the Star Greenhand Award, which is given to the Greenhand Degree recipient who has worked hard and strived harder for success.

Drew Farwell received the Star Chapter Farmer Award, which goes to the chapter degree recipient who has gone above and beyond the call of duty.

The Workhorse Award went to Laken Hiser, who has shown great involvement and progress toward obtaining her State FFA Degree.

The FFA chapter also presented scholarship money to active seniors in the chapter. The \$200 Dekalb Scholarships went to Kortney Bahem, and the Steven Harrison Memorial Scholarship went to Mathew Hansen. The \$100 Ken Tamura Memorial Scholarships were awarded to John Bittick, Alysha Bahem, and Nina Bell. Thanks to Clay and Terri Harrison and Tamura Produce for being scholarship sponsors.

The Scholarship Award recognizes members who have maintained a cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or higher through-

out their high school careers: Alysha Bahem, Kortney Bahem, Nina Bell, Karly Bertagnolli, John Bittick, Rachelle Christoffersen, Bri Cornwall, Sydney Cornwall, Austin Emry, Jessica Eubanks, Drew Farwell, Ryan Garrett, Mat Hansen, Megan Harper, Rye Hyer, Laken Hiser, Caitlyn Johnson, Hannah Johnson, Ashli Kesler, Mikal Mackenzie, Ali McRae, Kali McRae, Kara McRae, Summer Phelps, Kendall Rupp, Annamaria Salas, and Ulysses Vargas. Letter awards also were given to members who remained involved throughout the year.

Honorary degrees for those who help to advance agricultural education and the FFA were given to Gayle Batt, Vicky Landa, Glenda Watts, Tom Muir and Mike Williams. Chapter members thank them for all their help and support.

For our proficiency awards, Steven Williams was cited for dairy entrepreneurship and Alysha Bahem was recognized for equine placement entrepreneurship.

Each fall, Homedale FFA holds its annual Harvest Auction. This year, our top buyer was Dave Williams, and his contribution to the chapter were appreciated.

Finally, the Homedale FFA members thank everyone who helped and supported the chapter in the past year.

Chapter's greenhouse sale starts Thursday

The Homedale FFA chapter will open its greenhouse Thursday for its annual plant sale.

The greenhouse will be open during school hours on Thursday and Friday. Homedale FFA advisor Lori Harrison said the green-

house also will be open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday.

The sale's flower inventory will include petunias, geraniums, ivy geraniums, pansies, marigolds, zinnias and million bells. Vegetable plants set for sale include zuc-

chini, watermelon, cantaloupe, cucumber, toxi pepper, fat fry pepper, bell peppers and tomatoes.

The flowers and vegetables will sell for \$2 per pack, while a wide variety of hanging baskets will be available for \$15 each.

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Garden club announces Saturday plant sales

The Owyhee Garden Club will hold a plant sale form 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday in two locations — City Park in Homedale and the community greenhouse in Marsing near the high school on 8th Avenue West.

According to club president Sharon McIlveen, plants will be

priced from \$3 to \$6.

Heirloom tomatoes and hot peppers raised in the greenhouse near the Marsing FFA shop will be sold.

Flowers from the gardens of club member homes, including petunias, daisies, lilacs and others also will be for sale.

Water report

The Bureau of Reclamation Web site showed that, as of Monday afternoon, Owyhee Reservoir was 64 percent full and that water was flowing in the Owyhee River above the reservoir at Rome, Ore., at a rate of 1,720 cubic feet per second (cfs). Water is flowing out of the reservoir at Nyssa, Ore., at a rate of 243 cfs. The reservoir held 458,863 acre-feet of water.

The following statistics were gathered from the National Resources Conservation Service Web site at noon Monday (M indicates data is missing at the sensor, and year-to-date precipitation is measured from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30):

Date	Reynolds Creek			
	Year-to-Date Precipitation	Temperatures		
		Max.	Min.	Avg.
04/29	15.0	68	49	58
04/30	15.0	M	M	M
05/01	15.0	M	M	M
05/02	M	M	M	M
05/03	M	M	M	M
05/04	M	M	M	M
05/05	M	M	M	M

Current snow depth and snow water equivalent information is missing at this sensor.

Date	South Mountain			
	Year-to-Date Precipitation	Temperatures		
		Max.	Min.	Avg.
04/29	29.3	66	46	55
04/30	29.3	52	28	41
05/01	29.6	37	22	27
05/02	29.6	45	22	32
05/03	29.8	55	30	32
05/04	29.8	57	40	47
05/05	29.8	59	39	48

Current snow depth: 29 inches; snow water equivalent: 14 inches.

Date	Mud Flat			
	Year-to-Date Precipitation	Temperatures		
		Max.	Min.	Avg.
04/29	13.9	71	44	58
04/30	13.9	62	33	47
05/01	13.9	40	28	32
05/02	14.0	48	26	36
05/03	14.1	58	24	44
05/04	14.1	62	40	50
05/05	14.1	62	41	51

Current snow depth: 1 inch; snow water equivalent: -0.1 inches.

Weather

	H	L	Prec.
April 29	84	44	.00
April 30	66	35	.00
May 1	55	30	.00
May 2	60	25	.00
May 3	69	30	.00
May 4	no reading taken		
May 5	79	41	.00

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Lori Nettleton

Nettleton earns NNU degree

Lori Nettleton graduated from Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa on Sunday, May 5, 2008. She received a bachelor of science degree as a registered nurse with honors. Nettleton is the daughter of Jan and Joe Aman of Homedale and Robert Nettleton of Melba. She is the granddaughter of Mary Ziegler of Nampa and the late John Zieger and Joe and Edith Nettleton, formerly of Reynolds Creek. Her plans are to move to Virginia, where she and her future husband, Adam Bahem, will make their first home.

Kindergartener places in story contest

A Marsing Elementary School kindergartener will be honored in Boise for placing high in a regional writing and illustrating contest. Daniel Uranga will be recognized for placing third in the 14th annual Reading Rainbow Young Writers and Illustrators contest. He is scheduled to attend

at 2 p.m. ceremony on May 17 at the Ada Community Library. Uranga’s story is titled “The Hero Adventure.” All contestants wrote stories illustrated with at least five pictures and submitted the entries to the Idaho Public Television station their region. Uranga’s regional IdahoPTV regional station is Boise-based

KAID. The May 17 celebration will showcase works by Uranga and other regional winners. The students will read their stories aloud, receive certificates signed by Reading Rainbow series host LeVar Burton, and receive donated prizes. Uranga’s story and drawings

was one of 359 entries from Southwest Idaho. Statewide, 887 students from 87 communities entered their work for judging. The contest is for kindergarteners through third-graders. Entries are judged on originality, creative expression, storytelling and integration of text and pictures.

Owyhee County 4-H news

Submitted by Owyhee County Extension Office

Horse Judging

Fifty-eight youth from nine Owyhee County 4-H clubs participating in horse judging on April 26 in Bruneau. The future of Owyhee County 4-H horse projects looks bright with 14 Cloverbuds, ages 5-7, participating. Those learning about horse judging included Darion Boman, Baylee Davis, Cheyenne Davis, TJ Davis, Reuben Jolley, Louisa Metcalf, Sam Monson, Wade Raine, Dally Rutan, Riatta Rutan, Lyndsey Salutregui, Wyatt Wardhaugh, Fallon Wasson and Montana Wasson. Sage Raine from South Mountain Cowboys took first place in the Junior 1 division. Bruneau Sage Riders’ Arlie Stevenson finished with a second-place ribbon, followed closely by Lewis Rutan in third place. Eight- and 9-year-old participants were: Rozin Jolley, Krista Mayer, Lena Metcalf, Morgon Monson, Sage Raine, Lewis Rutan and Arlie Stevenson.

First-place recipient in the Junior 2 division, ages 10-11, was Carlie Purdom from the Dust Devils. Owyhee Silver Spurs members Carey Dines, Shelby Dines and Rianna Kent took second, third and fourth place, respectively. Adrianna Salutregui of South Mountain Cowboys was fifth, and Sami Bachman of Bruneau Sage Riders followed closely in sixth place. Other Junior 2 participants who also competed well were Bridget Black, Hailey Boman, Abe Cunningham, Triston Hylton, Sage Jolley, and Bonnie Standlee. There was tough competition in the division with the most participants, the Intermediates, ages 12-14. Bits ‘n’ Pieces member Shelbi Ferdinand finished first, with Lacey Usabel of Wilson Butte in second. Bailey Bachman of Bruneau Sage Riders finished strong in third place. Another Wilson Butte member, Kate Blackstock, was fourth. Two more Bits ‘n’ Pieces members, Tanner Lair and Evon Timmons, took fifth and sixth, respectively. Other Intermediate participants competing were Jordan Boman, Becky Carter, Caleb Cunningham, Elizabeth

Gramps, Hayleigh Green, Quincy Hall, Stephanie Hylton, Ashley Jayo, Sydnee James, Tom Nelson, Dalton Penrod, Jackie Phillips and Brittany Rahier. In the Senior division, continuing to compete well before she heads for college in the fall on a judging scholarship, Kortney Bahem of the Dust Devils finished first. Mandy Brasher, also from the Dust Devils, was second. Catie Kershner and Carlen Hipwell of South Mountain Cowboys finished third and fourth, respectively. Bits ‘n’ Pieces’ Rowdy Lair was fifth, followed by Summer Megargee of the Dust Devils in sixth. Congratulations to each 4-H member for a job well done. And thanks to the horse leaders who organized and helped to make this a great experience for the youth. Thanks also goes to the participants’ parents for their help and support. Those moving on to district judging will not have far to go this year. OwyheeCounty will host District 2 Horse Judging on Saturday, May 31, at the fairgrounds in Homedale. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., with the contest following at 10 a.m.

Livestock weigh-in

The Owyhee County Fair is only three months away, and our youth have been working hard to get their market projects off to a good start. Thirty 4-H and FFA beef project steers were weighed in on March 8. Seven 4-H and FFA youth will be taking a beef project sponsored by Owyhee Cattlemen’s Association members to the fair, and the remaining projects are self-sponsored. If you thought you heard pigs squealing on April 28, it might have been the 188 pigs that were weighed in and tagged — some more willing than others. A total of 106 youth will be taking market swine projects to the fair. Thanks to all those who helped get the pigs to the weigh-in sites and helped with the unloading and loading. Sheep projects will be weighed in on Friday, May 30. Weigh-in at the fairgrounds in Homedale begins at 7 a.m., while weigh-in at Rimrock High School begins at 4 p.m. For more information about the 4-H in Owyhee County, visit <http://extension.ag.uidaho.edu/owyhee> or call Judith McShane at 896-4104.

Public Notice of Intent To Propose Or Promulgate New Or Changed Agency Rules

The following agencies of the State of Idaho have published the complete text and all related, pertinent information concerning their intent to change or make the following rules in the new issue of the state Administrative Bulletin.

The written comment deadline is May 28, 2008, unless otherwise listed.
(Temp & Prop) indicates the rule is both temporary & proposed.
*** Indicates that a public hearing has been scheduled.*

IDAPA 16 – DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE
P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0036
16-0208-0801, *Vital Statistics Rules*. Changes terms “designate” and “designee” to “designated associate.”

IDAPA 24 – BUREAU OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSES
1109 Main St. Ste. 220, Boise, ID 83702
24-1801-0801, *Rules of the Real Estate Appraisers Board* (Temp & Prop). Incorporates by reference the current edition of the USPAP and clarifies the timeframe for the USPAP update course needed for continuing education from 2 years to 24 months.

58 – DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
1410 N. Hilton, Boise, ID 83706-1255
**58-0101-0703, *Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho*. Renumbers and clarifies sections relating to the sulfur content of fuels. Comment by: 6/10/08.


NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING MEETINGS ARE BEING HELD ON THE FOLLOWING:
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
58-0103-0801, *Individual/Subsurface Sewage Disposal Rules*.

Please refer to the Idaho Administrative Bulletin, May 7, 2008, Volume 08-5 for notices and text of all rulemakings, Senate and House Concurrent Resolutions, Omnibus Rulemaking Notice of Final and Temporary Rules, public hearing schedules, Governor’s executive orders, and agency contact information.

Issues of the Idaho Administrative Bulletin can be viewed at the county law library or online.

To view the Bulletin or Code or for information on purchasing the Bulletin and other rules publications, visit our website at www.adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/ or call (208) 332-1820 or write the Office of Administrative Rules, 650 W. State St., Room 100, Boise, ID 83720-0306.

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Cow stomachs, Owyhee life Field Day hits

Region's fifth- and sixth-graders visit reservoir to learn about resources, ag

The learning station was labeled "Livestock Production," but it was really about sticking your hand into a live cow's stomach.

Scott Jensen of the Owyhee County Extension Office in Marsing and Stephanie Etter of the University of Idaho Caine Veterinary Center taught visitors about the digestive system of cattle using a life-size cow stomach demonstration model and a fistulated cow, which is a cow with a hole in its side.

The exhibit was one of 21 set up in and around Owyhee Irrigation District buildings at the base of Owyhee Dam for the Owyhee Watershed Council's seventh annual Owyhee Field Day on Thursday and Friday. About 600 fifth- and sixth-graders from grade schools in Owyhee country and the Treasure Valley attended the two-day educational event.

Whether through curiosity, morbid fascination, or revulsion, the cow livestock production station was a hit.

"Thank you, it was awesome!" a girl from Homedale Elementary School yelled as she was leaving.

Hernan Albor, a fifth-grader from Homedale, said that the cow stomach was his favorite part of the trip.

"It was kind of gross; it was kind of cool, too," he said.

David Chavez, another fifth-grade student from Homedale also thought that reaching into the cow's stomach was the highlight of the day.

"It feels kind of squishy. It feels cool," Chavez said.

"It was slimy, and hard to pick up," fellow Homedale fifth-grader Andy Martinez said, after pulling

some of the cow's stomach contents out of the port in the animal's flank.

Aside from getting the opportunity to stir a big, 101-degree pot of grass stew, the students learned that, contrary to popular belief, cows do not have four stomachs. They have one stomach with several compartments.

Not all of the students called the livestock production exhibit their favorite station. Martinez' favorite part was the raft ride on the Owyhee River conducted by Dan Thomas of the Bureau of Land Management.

There were enough demonstration booths for all visitors to have fun and learn something. Students learned about aquifers and water use, backcountry survival, energy, global positioning technology, irrigation, marine safety, crop science, geology and mining, soils and erosion, wild horses, predator control, rangeland ecology, riparian vegetation, water quality, and wildfire management, as well as livestock production and rafting.

According to event coordinator Jennifer Martin of the OWC, the goal of the field day is to give students a better understanding of the Owyhee watershed, its natural resources, and the people who live and work in the area.

More than 100 volunteers assisted in the field day, including 60 area FFA members. Martin extended a special word of thanks to one Jordan Valley FFA member in particular.

"We really depend on the FFA to be able to put this event on," she said. "Out of those FFA members, there's a few that come back to help us year after year. One of



Lessons from the land

Left: Students learn about Owyhee Dam, which was built more than 75 years ago to bring water to turn the Owyhee basin into farmland during the annual Owyhee Watershed Council Field Day on Friday.

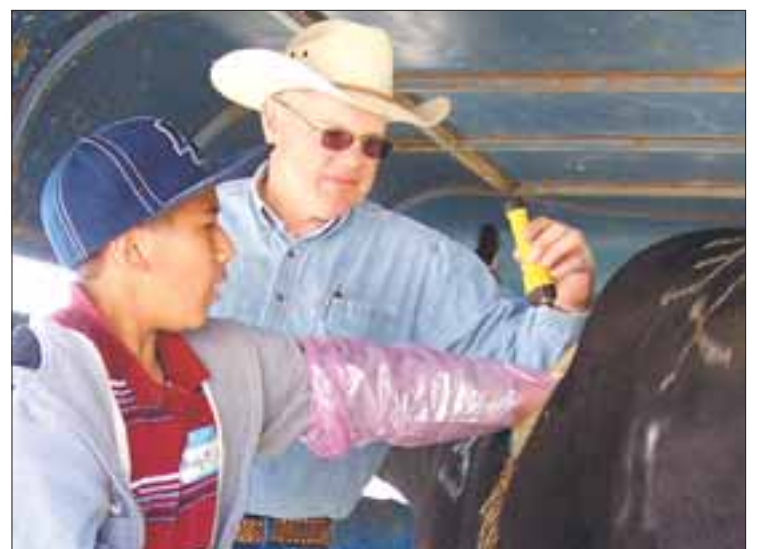
Below: Owyhee County Extension Educator Scott Jensen shines a flashlight as Homedale Middle School fifth-grader Andy Martinez explores the inside of a cow's stomach.

the kids that's been coming the longest, for six years straight, is Athena Beckwith. It makes it so much easier for us to have someone who knows what's going on up here, and is really good and interested in helping the kids learn. She always sets a good example for her peers, and we just really appreciate her being here.

"There's a few FFA programs that always come through for us: Jordan Valley, Adrian, Nyssa, Ontario, and then Fruitland FFA has helped us in the past."

Martin said that the field day has grown from a one-day presentation with 180 students in attendance to this year's two-day event with 600 visitors. Grade school students from Homedale, Caldwell, and Boise in Idaho and Jordan Valley, Adrian, Nyssa, Ontario, Arock, and Annex in Oregon attended the field day this year.

Presenters this year included the Owyhee Irrigation District, the OWC, Malheur Search and Rescue, Owyhee County Extension, Caine Veterinary Center,



the Malheur County Sheriff's Office, Adrian High School, Idaho Power, Kinross-Delamar Mining from Owyhee County, the BLM, the Oregon State University Malheur County Extension, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, Idaho Rangeland Resources, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Although not all of the young students saw the perforation on the side of a cow as the ultimate

window into life in the Owyhee Basin, everyone in attendance seemed to enjoy the field day experience.

"I think it's pretty cool, and kind of educational and fun," Albor said.

"It's fun, learning about new things," Chavez said.

"It's putting new wrinkles on your brain," Martinez said.

— RTH



Homedale city buildings get fresh coat

Pete Austin of Homedale's Austin Painting sprays a coat of trim on Homedale City Hall on Thursday. Austin put a fresh coat of paint on City Hall and also painted buildings in and around Riverside Park as part of a spruce-up project that city public works supervisor Larry Bauer prices at about \$2,500.



Riverside fire burns near gas line

A fire on the property of TM Farm Supply just north of Homedale burns dangerously close to the natural gas pipeline that spans the nearby Snake River and supplies the city Thursday evening. Homedale Fire Chief Scott Salutregui said the volunteer fire department dispatched every piece of equipment to knock down the fire before it could get any closer to the pipeline, which is designated by the sign seen in the photo. An Intermountain Gas Co., employee said that the utility recently fixed a leaky valve on the pipeline near the site of the fire.



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Milford
Cordon Bleu **4 for \$5**

Beef Stew Meat **\$2.59** lb.

Rosa's
Deli Burritos **39¢** ea.

Whole 8 oz.
Mushrooms **2 for \$4**

Red Cluster
Tomatoes **\$1.99** lb.

Lemons **2 for \$1**

Local
Asparagus **\$1.59** ea.

Mangoes **79¢** ea.

1 lb.
Baby Carrots **\$1.29** ea.

Darigold
Whip Cream



89¢ ea.
Half Pint

14-16 oz.
Captain Crunch Cereals **\$2.89** ea.

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Premium Creamery Select Ice Cream



\$3.29 ea.
56 oz.

Kraft 4 ct.
Pudding Cups **\$1.29** ea.

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2 Liter Bottle
Pepsi Products **\$1.39** ea.

Hamm's Beer



\$9.99 ea.

24pk Cube

18pk 12oz Cans
MGD-Miller Lite Beer **\$12.99** ea.

Folgers Coffee
34.5-39 oz. **\$9.99** ea.

Western Family
Butter Quarters **\$2.39** ea.
16 oz.

Pillsbury
Crescent Rolls **\$1.89** ea.
8 oz.

Classico
Pasta Sauce **\$2.19** ea.
16-26 oz.

Western Family
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Western Family
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Wonder 12 ct. Seeded
Hamburger Buns & Hot Dog Buns 16 Pack **\$2.69** ea.

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16 oz. **\$1.79** ea.

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