



Bruneau's
Prow honored
Page 15A

Trojans get first football win of season, 1B

Downtown plans, Page 2A

Veterans Day prep, Page 12A

Homedale revitalization grant
application ready for another round

Marsing Elementary seeks past,
present service members for event

Wednesday, October 22, 2008

Established 1865

The Owyhee Avalanche

VOLUME 23, NUMBER 43

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

Jobless rate doubled since January

Number of workers lower than same
time last year, but nearly twice
as many people are out of work

According to Idaho Department of Labor statistics, Owyhee County's unemployment rate has doubled since January.

The latest numbers from the state agency track employment trends through September. The coun-

ty's unemployment rate sits at three percent, growing by one-half of a percentage point between August and September.

— See *Jobless*, page 5A



Tomato toss part of teaching

Marsing Elementary School fifth-grader A.J. Burtchett keeps his eye on the target barrel after tossing a tomato during a competition Thursday during the Lights On Afterschool Harvest Party at the Marsing Community Garden. Marsing fifth-graders in the program learned about grains, pollination and plants at different stations.

Drug use at HHS topic of meeting

School, police to discuss
prevalence of mixed drugs

Officials have seen an increase in drug use among Homedale High School students, and they're looking for ways to curb the phenomenon today with an assembly and a parents meeting.

"What we're looking to do is educate everybody and show them ways that they can help," high school principal Mike Williams said.

In a letter to parents sent out last week, the high school announced a parent meeting scheduled for 6 p.m. today inside the high school library. Homedale Police Department and school personnel will be on hand.

The letter also invites parents to a school assembly at 10:30 a.m. today when "One-Man Volleyball Team"

— See *Drug use*, page 4A

Seats up for grabs in Gem Irrigation election

Absentee ballots are now available in Homedale for the upcoming Gem Irrigation District board of directors election.

Two seats, each with three-year terms, are up for grabs in the Nov. 4 election.

Division 1 incumbent Elmon Thompson is being challenged by fellow Marsing-area resident Kelly Lootens.

Dale Chrz, who is the Division 2 representative, will run against Dave Shenk

in that race.

Absentee ballots can be picked up at the South Board of Control Office, 19 S. 1st St. W., in Homedale until Nov. 3. The office is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through

Friday, but is closed from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch. The absentee ballots can be dropped off at the office until Nov. 4.

— See *Election*, page 4A

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Obituary

6A

Looking Back

5B

Calendar

7A

Commentary

6-7B

Dave \$ays

7A

Legals

8-9B

Sports

1-4B, 12B

Classifieds

10-11B

Inside

Crane KOs
Antelopes
Page 1B

Homedale creates revitalization footprint

Plan for new grant application unveiled during downtown survey workshop

The on-again, off-again plan to revitalize downtown Homedale passed a major milestone Thursday when a specific area for improvement was mapped out.

City officials — including two councilmen and Mayor Harold Wilson — settled on which blocks will be targeted for revitalization in Homedale’s latest application to secure a \$500,000 grant from the Idaho Department of Labor.

The final determination was made during a Homedale Chamber of Commerce-led meeting at Owyhee Lanes Restaurant at which results from recent surveys also were discussed.

With Sage Community Resources Director of Business and Community Development Pat Engel making clear that time was running out to file an application for fiscal year 2009 funds. The deadline to submit an application is late November, but Engel also needed solid guidance in order to set up a public hearing on the city’s plans.

“I’m truly at the point where I need to know what this project is,” Engel told the mayor and Councilmen Dave Downum and Aaron Tines.

She targeted Nov. 6 as the date for the public hearing to unveil plans for sidewalks, curbs, gutters and lighting in downtown Homedale.

Officials designated three priority areas where grant money — if received — would be applied.

- The intersection of Main Street and Idaho Avenue and three blocks west on Idaho Avenue.
- One block of North Main Street between Idaho and Owyhee avenues.
- One block of Idaho Avenue going east from the Main-Idaho intersection.

The objectives of the grant dovetailed with some of the priorities revealed by the three-pronged survey of town business customers, business owners and residents that Sage Community Resources released



Main intersection epicenter for grant plan

Sage Community Resources has its marching orders in terms of a plan that will be presented at a public hearing next month. The grant application calls for revitalization of three blocks of West Idaho Avenue immediately west of Main Street, a block of North Main and a block of East Idaho Avenue. Improvements could include new streetlights, sidewalks, curbs and gutters.

during Thursday’s meeting. Few business owners were present at the meeting, which also was attended by Chamber president Gavin Parker, Western Alliance for Economic Development coordinator Mike Pollard, Realtor Cathy Smith from Santa Fe subdivision, developer Ron Mayhew, Homedale Public Library director Margaret Fujishin, city public works supervisor Larry Bauer and city clerk and treasurer Alice Pegram.

An overwhelming majority of the business owners and customers who responded rated a visitor’s first impression of downtown Homedale as fair to poor.

According to the survey summary, 96 percent of the business owners who responded (23 out of 24) listed improving cleanliness as a top priority. Ninety-two percent want improved buildings and 71 percent would like to see new retail stores in town.

Nearly three-quarters of the customer survey respondents said the helpfulness of salespersons in town was excellent to good. Customers also want to see improved buildings and improved cleanliness downtown.

Engel pointed out that nearly 30 percent of those who responded to the customer survey rated their feeling of security while shopping in Homedale as fair to poor. Engel said that improved lighting as targeted by the community block grant application could help turn the tables on patrons’ insecurities.

A total of 123 customer survey responses were received, and about 21 percent of those surveys were turned in by out-of-towners. Meanwhile the community survey circulated door-to-door by city workers garnered 176 responses.

Nearly eight out of every 10 respondents to the community survey said they would visit downtown Homedale more often

if amenities such as a public plaza, a new city hall or street fair existed.

Nearly 71 percent of the community survey respondents listed their incomes under \$49,999, and a quarter of them said they get around downtown Homedale on foot, which Engel said spotlighted the need for better sidewalks.

The survey also gauged what community members thought would be important components to the revitalization of Homedale. Among those categories listed as “very important” were grocery (43.2 percent), new housing products, such as townhomes, condominiums and senior housing (38.1 percent) and specialty shops and restaurants (34.1 percent). Nearly 80 percent of the community members said they would visit downtown Homedale more than they do now if some of those amenities were present.

— JPB

Council set to see new airport leases

A discussion on the drafting of new leases for tenants of the Homedale Municipal Airport highlights the agenda for the second City Council meeting of October.

The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday inside City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming Ave.

With the council already having approved thousands of dollars to help pay for leveling of ground adjacent to the existing airport to make way for new hangars, officials are re-working leases of current tenants to help recharge Homedale’s economic development fund.

The city has received verbal commitment that the majority of tenants will go along with a 100 percent increase in their lease rates beginning Jan. 1. Documents are being drawn up that will bump fees from 2.5 cents per square foot to 5 cents per square foot.

Councilmen Dave Downum and Aaron Tines have urged the city to get the new rates in writing before moving forward with the expenditure that — coupled with money from the airport fund — would pay contractor Shippy Brothers to level the ground.

Also on tap Thursday:

- The council will be asked to approve the city’s Master Transportation Plan created by Project Engineering Consultants, Inc. The plan prioritizes transportation infrastructure needs for Homedale, a step that is required to help the city get future grant funding to pay for projects.

The plan was created with input from a steering committee and the gathering of traffic-related data.

It addresses pedestrian safety and access as well as the improvements of city intersections and identifies areas where more drainage is needed in city streets.

The study splits the recommended improvements into three priority categories — labeled highest, medium and lowest.

- A presentation from Idaho Power Co., its franchise to provide electricity to city residents. The 1978 ordinance granting the franchise expires this month.

- More discussion on the proposed building ordinance to adopt International Building Code.

Jim Risch on the Issues...

Jobs & Economy Families are hurting. It is time Congress stopped taking vacations and got to work solving America's problems. I will work hard to create jobs, tax less, spend less and put more back into the pockets of working families. I did that as your Governor and I will do it in the US Senate.

Energy America needs a long-term energy policy. It is time we began to increase our own energy supplies and plan for the future. High gas prices are only the beginning. We need to find solutions and I am ready to go to work.

Family Values Jim believes that family comes first. His marriage of 40 years to wife Vicki led to the distinction of the couple being selected as Idaho's Healthy Marriage Ambassadors, promoting healthy marriages and strong families in Idaho.

Vote **JIM RISCH** Nov. 4th

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

Ruptured gas line forces temporary evacuation in Bruneau

Grand View-Bruneau emergency services personnel were put on standby last week when removal of a tree stump ruptured a natural gas line.

Owyhee County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Bruce Cameron said that a family was evacuated from a neighboring home Oct. 14 after the Intermountain Gas Co., line was compromised. But he said no other major disruptions were reported.

"We had a couple of residents downwind (from the gas line) leave their house," Cameron said. "The gas company showed up forthwith, sealed the line and repaired it."

Cameron said the gas line

was damaged when Tony Black was using heavy equipment to try to remove a tree stump from the Kenneth Tindall's Bruneau property.

"Tree roots had grown around the gas line and when Tony pushed (the stump) over, it severed the line," Cameron said of the accident.

Cameron said Bruneau Quick Response Unit, and Grand View Ambulance and Fire were on standby in case there was a problem. He said Intermountain Gas crews from Mountain Home responded in about 30 minutes and the situation was resolved by about 6:30 p.m.

— JPB

Festival, auction benefits Friends building fund

Fun and fellowship are on tap Saturday for the annual Homedale Friends Community Church Harvest Festival and Silent Auction.

The event will be held from 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the church, 17434 Hwy. 95 between Homedale and Wilder.

Admission to the event is free, and proceeds from a food sale and the auction will benefit the second phase of construction for the church kitchen.

Free children's games will be offered, and each person who attends will receive a ticket for the door prize drawing.

A 12-foot-by-12-foot steel building from R&M Steel will be among the auction items.

A stainless steel barbecue also will be raffled off, with tickets prices at \$1 each or six for \$5.

Hamburgers, hot dogs and hand-dipped corn dogs will be available for 50 cents each.

For information, call 337-6210.

Let the harvest begin



Cooler weather brings out farmers

A farmer collects seed from his field near the intersection of Jump Creek Road and U.S. Highway 95 last week. In a sign of the season, the Amalgamated Sugar Co., beet dump opened in Homedale on Monday.

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Middle school messengers return



New school year means more life advice

Students from Homedale Middle School, in conjunction with Game Time International, made the rounds in downtown Homedale last week to put new signs in business windows. Distributing signs this year are, from left, Perla Albor, Graviela Albor, Jordan Brady and Corby Schamber.

New natural resources plan includes Initiative playbook

Hearing set for Natural Resources draft that provides guideline for coordination with feds

The document that gives Owyhee County a say in the fate of its public lands will get stronger in a draft update of the plan that will be scrutinized in a public hearing next month.

The county's Natural Resources Plan (NRP), developed with input from several committees, including the Owyhee Initiative Work Group, faces a public hearing at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 17, inside in Courtroom 2 of the Owyhee County Courthouse in Murphy.

"The importance (of the document) is that it gives us guidance on land issues on (Bureau of Land Management) land and state land," Board of County Commissioners chair Jerry Hoagland said.

Hoagland said the plan gives the county equal power to be involved in decisions regarding public land in the county, including plans for recovery or management of endangered or threatened species and recreational uses.

Such power is facilitated through coordination with the different agencies involved as mandated by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

Hoagland said one of key updates to the plan gives the county the muscle required to make coordination language in the Owyhee Public Lands Management Act work.

Ironically, the legislation package that carries the Owyhee Initiative implementation bill is scheduled to be heard on the floor of the U.S. Senate the same day as the NRP's public hearing.

Hoagland said the Initiative-related language in the draft NRP presents a guideline that could be used in future coordination should the federal legislation fail.

"There's been too much time and effort invested by all the parties to not let this work," Hoagland said. "Even though the wilderness won't be designated if the bill fails, the methodology of how to continue with the intent of the agreement is in place."

The Owyhee Initiative agreement, which solidifies the willingness of the interest groups to work in the spirit of the plan, already has been adopted by the county commissioners.

Other elements of the draft NRP include the previously adopted county sage-grouse management plan and the county wildland fire plan.

Recreational management plans developed by the Owyhee County Recreational Task Force also have been implement in the draft NRP.

The commissioners can adopt the NRP by resolution after the public hearing process.

— JPB

WRITE IN

Gary Aman for SHERIFF

OWYHEE COUNTY

P.O. FOR BY Citizens for Aman Committee, 304 Davidson, Teton

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

Alliance works to preserve Owyhee jobs

Coordinator: Two potential deals could create as many as 250 local jobs

With the county’s unemployment rate twice as much as it was in January, the regional economic development organization is working to brighten the work environment.

“The Western Alliance is working diligently to help Owyhee County businesses survive and retain jobs as well as working with local and state officials to try to attract new businesses and jobs to the area,” Western Alliance for Economic Development coordinator Mike Pollard said.

Homedale Chamber of Commerce president Gavin Parker, who also is a financial advisor for Bowen Parker Day, said that while the Chamber isn’t directly involved in helping create jobs, the organization does have information on the Web site www.cityofhomedale.com to bring prospective workers and local businesses together.

“I would say that we are fortunate that our unemployment rate is still quite low in relation to the current national average of

6.1 percent,” Parker said.

Parker also stressed that shopping locally will help bolster the economy and go a long way toward creating opportunity.

“I think whether in robust or lean economic times, it’s critical to support our local businesses,” he said. “Taking advantage of local goods and services will keep money in our communities and support local jobs.”

The Western Alliance’s membership includes Homedale, Marsing, Grand View and Owyhee County. Pollard said the organization has at least three irons in the fire to help either preserve existing county jobs or create new ones. Citing the need for confidentiality, Pollard wouldn’t provide specifics about these possible deals:

- The alliance is working with a county business that has nine employees. Pollard said the company has been found “out of compliance” with an Idaho state agency.
- “I have coordinated meetings with the business owner, city and state officials, an

“I would say that we are fortunate that our unemployment rate is still quite low in relation to the current national average ... ”

— Gavin Parker
Homedale Chamber of Commerce president

engineering company and the complaining agency to identify processes that will bring the business into compliance and save the jobs,” Pollard said.

- Pollard reports that a Florida corporation is interested in a mining operation in Owyhee County that would potentially mean 50 jobs for local residents.

“I am currently in discussions with the attorney representing the project to help overcome some temporary issues that are delaying the start of the business,” Pollard said.

The corporation is believed to be Silver Falcon Mining, Inc., a subcontractor of which recently reached an agreement with the Board of County Commissioners to haul ore from War Eagle Mountain to Melba for processing.

- An out-of-state company interested in establishing a distribution warehouse in Southwestern Idaho has specifically asked about a site in Owyhee County. Pollard said the warehouse could create 200 jobs.

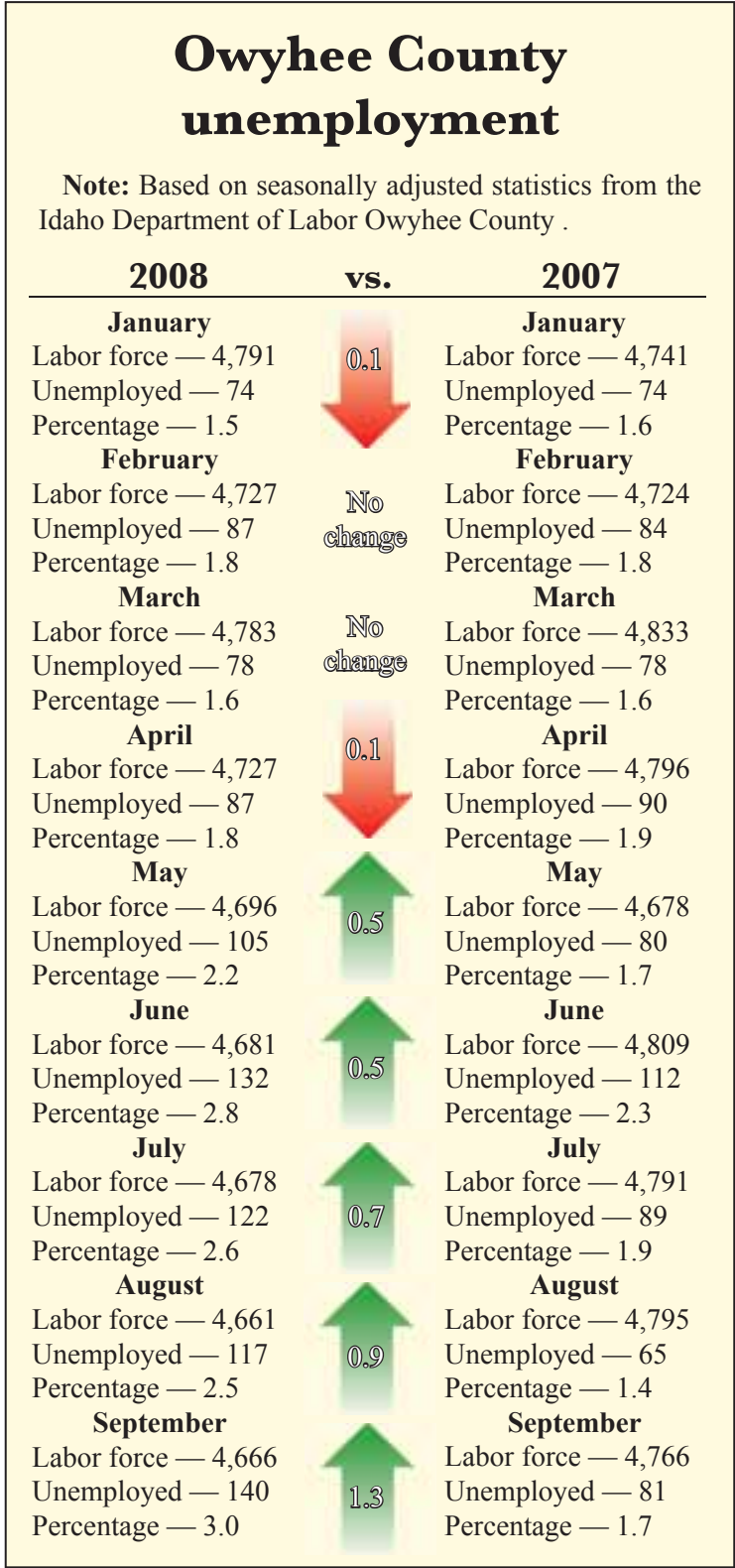
“I am working with local officials, a developer/investor, and other economic development professionals in the area to aggressively market and promote Owyhee County sites that fill the needs as outlined by the requesting business,” Pollard said.

Pollard said his organization is in the business of not only creating jobs for residents in the region it serves but also striving to cut down on commuting for those residents.

“The Western Alliance and our partners are dedicated to helping local businesses succeed and to keeping our workers employed as close to home as possible,” Pollard said.

— JPB

From page 1



✓ Jobless: Work force growth among lowest

The state’s unemployment rate is five percent. Statistics are based on seasonally adjusted data released by the Department of Labor.

The latest Department of Labor report shows a sharp increase in the county’s number of jobless beginning in March, when 1.6 percent of the labor force was out of work.

The county workforce was calculated at 4,791 people in January with 74 people out of work, while the state reported that by September there were 125 fewer workers in the labor force and 140 unemployed.

By contrast, Department of Labor statistics show that 100 more people were in the county workforce 12 months ago (4,766) with just 81 unemployed, a jobless rate of 1.7 percent.

The declining labor force and spike in unemployment shows a trend contrary to Sage Community Resources’ latest Southwest Idaho Comprehensive Economic Development Study (CEDS) update.

The Sage board of directors, of which Owyhee County District 2 Commissioner Harold “Hal” Tolmie is a member, unveiled the CEDS update in June. The document tracks economic trends from 2000 to 2007, updating a study that analyzed data from 2000 to 2006.

According to the most recent CEDS economic distress ranking, Owyhee County was the “least distressed” of a 10-county group studied by Sage when it came to the change in unemployment rate, which was listed as 1.7 percent in the study.

However, the Sage study also pointed out that Owyhee ranked ninth among the 10 counties in growth of the civilian labor force between 2000 and 2007, showing no measurable increase during the time period.

Another disturbing stat in the Sage CEDS showed Owyhee County had the highest percentage of residents living at or below the poverty line — 18.5 percent as calculated in 2005 — despite ranking fourth in annual average wage for 2000-06 (up 26 percent) and third in change in per capita income between the same period (31 percent). Overall, Owyhee’s cumulative distress ranking was eighth out of the 10 counties.

The 2005 federal poverty line as set by the Department of Health and Human Services ranged from an annual income of \$9,570 for a family of one to \$32,390 for a family of eight. The index has increased by nearly \$1,000 for a single person and more than \$3,000 for a family of eight in the ensuing three years, according to the HHS Web site.

Even with the seemingly bleak rankings, Sage reports that Owyhee County’s overall distress ranking for the 2000-07 period improved in comparison to its 2000-06 ranking, from 10th to eighth.

Sage also said Owyhee County’s 2000-07 unemployment rate was 1.2 percent lower than the rate for 2000-06.

The labor climate since January seems to show those gains have been wiped out.

But the CEDS update does provide suggestions on how to close the unemployment gap, including communities banding together to seek regional solutions in organizations such as the Western Alliance for Economic Development.

The proposed technical education and economic development corridor for the Canyon-Owyhee School Service Agency is cited as a way to build a skilled workforce and create employment opportunities.

The CEDS also mentions tools to bring redevelopment to rural areas, such as urban renewal districts.

Other findings of the Sage study centered on infrastructure and improvement, including the battle between aging water and sewer systems and declining tax revenues to help fund rehabilitation and the quest to revitalize run-down city centers.

Sage urged rural infrastructure funding through grants as well as public art projects to elicit community involvement in downtown revitalization projects.

Attracting new customers to businesses was another concept addressed by the study, with Sage suggesting events and activities to attract people to a town.

“Small communities need to think of themselves and their neighboring cities along a travel route as an ‘economic development corridor’ ... a destination for development,” the study states.

“Communities, professionals and funding organizations need to recognize the important role of low-cost activities and events, which provide the critical ‘short-term’ component to an economic plan and engage both residents and visitors in a sustainable economy.”

— JPB

Obituary

William (Bill, Billy) Wayne Marker

William (Bill, Billy) Wayne Marker, 79, of Ridgeview, Oregon, was welcomed into Heaven on October 16, 2008. He received exceptional care from Owyhee Rehabilitation during his last days.

He was born May 10, 1929 in Klamath Falls, Oregon to Katherine and Melvin Marker. When Bill was a young child, the family moved to Boise where he enjoyed his childhood. He enjoyed bicycling and spending time with friends including Lauren Stevens who has remained a devoted friend for 70 years. As a young man, he enjoyed motorcycles, hiking and camping which remained some of his favorite activities throughout his life.

He built houses and cabinets and remained a talented carpenter for many years. He worked as a roofer, cabinet maker, and printer. He was a natural builder with both materials and with the lives he touched. He built long lasting relationships with lives he touched. He also helped family and friends with their homes.

Horses became another passion

of his. He was always very fair and kind to all animals he was involved with. He also enjoyed gardening, traveling, cooking, dogs and mentoring. Many have benefited from the wise advice he gave and a listening ear.

He was never too busy for those he could help. When visiting with him a person got the feeling he was as solid as a rock.

Evelyn (Pat) Marie Stone became his devoted and loving wife on April 30, 1979 in Homedale, Idaho. They enjoyed life together for 29 years much of which was spent on motorcycle trips, camping, hiking and exploring. Bill retired in 1996 and the two moved to Ridgeview, Oregon.

Bill was an active member of a very large and extended family. He practiced being inclusive



always. No person should be excluded. He had open arms for all. He was a celebrated patriarch, mentor, friend, husband and Dad. He will always be deeply missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife, Evelyn Marker, of Ridgeview; children, Tina Barker and Monte Taylor; sister, JoAnn Shenk; brother, Warren Marker; stepchildren, Harvey, Bonnie, Roy and Gene Taylor; grandchildren including Andrea Barker, Alex Taylor, and Lori, Marshall, Brian, Valarie, David, Michael, and Daniel Taylor; great-grandchildren, Alexandra and Daphne Taylor; numerous cousins and two canine friends: Brigit and Buster.

Bill Marker's memorial service was held at 11:00, Monday, October 20, 2008 at Mountain View Church of the Nazarene at 26515 Ustick Rd, Homedale, Idaho. The family extends deep appreciation to Heart & Home Hospice Care and Owyhee Rehabilitation for their professionalism and deep care for Bill.

www.relyeafuneralchapel.com

School menus

- Homedale Elementary**
- Oct. 22: Chicken patty or rib-b-que, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, applesauce cake, milk.
 - Oct. 23: Enchilada or corn dog, scalloped potatoes, fruit & veggie bar, brownie, milk.
 - Oct. 24: Cheese pizza or PB&J, salad, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.
 - Oct. 27: Burrito or French dip sandwich, green beans, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.
 - Oct. 28: Nachos or baked potato, fruit & veggie bar, cinnamon breadstick, milk.
 - Oct. 29: Chicken nuggets or egg roll, rice pilaf, veggies, fruit & veggie bar, fortune cookie, milk.

- Homedale Middle**
- Oct. 22: Crispito or toasted cheese sandwich, taco salad, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
 - Oct. 23: Nachos or baked potato, veggie sticks, fruit bar, rice krispie treat, milk.
 - Oct. 24: Chicken tenders or chicken fried beef steak, potatoes/gravy, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
 - Oct. 27: Hamburger or hot dog, tots, cookies, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
 - Oct. 28: Chicken nuggets or egg roll, rice, veggies, fruit & veggie bar, fortune cookie, milk.
 - Oct. 29: Burrito or fish sandwich, corn, fruit & veggie bar, apple crisp, milk.
 - Oct. 30: Spaghetti or chicken bacon melt, green beans, bread stick, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

- Homedale High**
- Oct. 22: Idaho haystack, burrito or pizza hot pocket, fruit & veggie bar, cinnamon roll, milk.
 - Oct. 23: Chicken patty, sandwich & soup or popcorn chicken, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.
 - Oct. 24: Crispito or rib-b-que, corn, taco salad, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
 - Oct. 27: Pizza, popcorn chicken or chef salad, fruit & veggie bar, brownie, milk.
 - Oct. 28: Chicken fried beef steak or chicken filet, potatoes/gravy, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.
 - Oct. 29: Spaghetti, burrito or pizza hot pocket, French bread, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

- Marsing**
- Oct. 22: Red Baron pizza, salad, sandwiches, salad bar, fruit bar, milk.
 - Oct. 23: Hot dog/chili, strawberries/bananas, chicken salad wrap, salad bar, fruit bar, milk.
 - Oct. 24: No school.
 - Oct. 27: Wiener wrap, salad, desserts, sandwiches, salad bar, fruit bar, milk.
 - Oct. 28: Chicken burger, veggies, tostada delight, salad bar, fruit bar, milk.
 - Oct. 29: Burrito, desserts, hot dog/chorizos, salad bar, fruit bar, milk.

- Bruneau**
- Oct. 22: Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, peaches, milk.
 - Oct. 23: Roast turkey, potatoes/gravy, peas, roll/butter, fruited pudding, milk.
 - Oct. 24: Chicken wraps, fried rice, stir fry veggie, fruit, milk.
 - Oct. 27: Hamburger, potatoes/gravy, veggie sticks, roll/butter, fruit cobbler, milk.
 - Oct. 28: Nachos, salad, corn, fruited jello, cinnamon stick, milk.
 - Oct. 29: Sausage, hash browns, scrambled eggs & cheese, maple bar, fruit, milk.

Haz-Mat firm seeks increase for GV facility

Grand View hazardous waste disposal site US Ecology Idaho Inc., has announced its intent to increase disposal capacity.

A public comment meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 12, at Rimrock Jr.-Sr. High School, 39678 State Hwy. 78, in Bruneau.

US Ecology recently submitted a Class 3 permit modification with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality to expand its landfill through redesign of a wall and increasing the vertical waste placement at the existing unit.

For FAST results...
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Birthday

Family, friends to celebrate Martin's 90th at Wilder party

Homedale native Don Martin will celebrate his 90th birthday Sunday, Oct. 26, 2008, with an open house in Wilder.

Friends and family are invited to attend the event, which runs from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., at the Mountain View Church of the Nazarene.

The church is located at 26515 Ustick Road.

The family asks that no gifts be provided.



Don Martin

Senate hopeful visits Homedale

Bill Chisholm, the Democratic candidate for District 23 state Senate, will be on hand at Moxie Java in Homedale next Wednesday for a presentation entitled "My Father's Idaho".

The 7 p.m. event at 404 Hwy.

95 in Homedale will feature a slide show, speaking and guitar presentation by Chisholm and friends. Photos of Idaho in the 1950s and 1960s will be shown.

For more information, call (208) 845-2201.

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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

Saving for big items is part of a debt-free plan

Dear Dave,

I was wondering if you recommend including major, future purchases into your monthly budget. If so, how far in advance should you do this?

— Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

I'd start putting money aside and including it in the budget as soon as I knew I was going to have a need for the item. When you wait until things go wrong or something breaks down, then you're liable to find yourself in a mess and the victim of your own poor planning.

Let's say you're pretty sure you'll need another vehicle in a couple of years. Go ahead and start putting the money aside now! Decide on a price, and then do the math to see how much you'll need to save every month to make it happen.

If you can do it faster than two years, that's great. And that's one of the reasons I want to help get people out of debt.

It's a whole lot easier to save money when you don't have things like car loans and credit card payments hanging around your neck!

— Dave

Dear Dave,

My daughter is 19, and she has a spending problem. Although she works part-time while she's in college and during summers, we've allowed her to get into the habit of spending half of what she earns, along with some of our money, on fun stuff. Do you have any advice on how we can turn this around during her last three years of school?

— Lynn

Dear Lynn,

I think you're probably going to see a pretty negative reaction when you cut this kid off, and you need to be prepared for that. I also think that cutting her off is the best thing you can do for her right now.

You need to sit your daughter down and have a long talk. Explain to her that she's wasting a bunch of money — hers AND yours —



and that's not a responsible plan. I think you also owe her an apology for being an accomplice to this kind of thing, and for allowing her to live this way for so long.

She's going to experience some pain for a while, because she won't be able to maintain the lifestyle to which she's become accustomed. But you guys have to draw a line in the sand where money is concerned. Tell her that you'll give her a set amount each month — along with some for college — but the rest is up to her. If she doesn't earn the money for all the other stuff, then the other stuff doesn't happen.

As part of this, show her how to make a budget. Make sure she understands how to keep track of how much money comes in and where it all goes. Make sure she understands, too, that if she calls home asking for more money the answer is going to be no.

All this needs to very firm, but loving. What you're doing here, Lynn, is having "the talk" with her and making sure she has the tools and the knowledge to make it all work. Then, you check up on her from time to time.

She won't be able to change her habits in the blink of an eye, but by checking up on her you can answer questions and help her work through things!

— Dave

— Dave Ramsey is the best-selling author of *The Total Money Makeover*. He also is the host of *The Dave Ramsey Show* that airs at 6 p.m. daily on the Fox Business Channel. You can find tools to help with finances or previous columns at Davesays.org. For more financial advice, visit the Web site or call (888) 22-PEACE. Have a question for Dave? Send correspondence to syndication@daveramsey.com or write *Dave Says*, 1749 Mallory Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027

Marsing Optimist youth football closes year with awards party

The Marsing Lions Optimist football and cheerleading season has come to an end, and the organization will celebrate with a year-end party Tuesday.

The awards dinner will take place at 6 p.m. inside the Marsing

Elementary School cafeteria.

The Marsing Lions 11- to 12-year-old squad finished the year 5-2, while the 8-9 age group Raptors were 5-1-1. Marsing also fielded flag football teams, but no records are kept.

Calendar

Today

Drug awareness parent meeting
6 p.m., Homedale High School library, 203 E. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4613

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

Thursday

Exercise class
10:45 a.m., free, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

Malheur County Cattlemen's annual meeting
2 p.m., Sizzler Restaurant, 830 SE 1st Ave., Ontario, Ore. (541) 881-1417

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)
5:30 p.m. weigh-in, 7 p.m. meeting, First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St., Homedale. (208) 482-6893

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

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

Friday

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

Saturday

Harvest festival and silent auction
4:30 p.m., free admission, food for inexpensive price, Homedale Friends Community Church, 17434 Hwy. 95. (208) 337-6210

Sunday

Parenting class
9:30 a.m., "Parenting with Love and Logic", Homedale Friends Church, 17434 Hwy. 95. (208) 337-3464

Monday

County Board of Commissioners meeting
Courtroom 2, Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy

Tuesday

Exercise class
10:45 a.m., free, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

"Every Child Ready to Read" program
6 p.m., ages 6 and younger, Lizard Butte Library, 111 3rd Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690

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

Wednesday

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

Thursday, October 30

Exercise class
10:45 a.m., free, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)
5:30 p.m. weigh-in, 7 p.m. meeting, First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St., Homedale. (208) 482-6893

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

Friday, October 31

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

Sunday, November 2

Parenting class
9:30 a.m., "Parenting with Love and Logic", Homedale Friends Church, 17434 Hwy. 95. (208) 337-3464

Monday, November 3

County Board of Commissioners meeting
Courtroom 2, Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy

Tuesday, November 4

Exercise class
10:45 a.m., free, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

"Every Child Ready to Read" program
6 p.m., ages 6 and younger, Lizard Butte Library, 111 3rd Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690

Marsing PTA meeting
7 p.m., Marsing High School Commons Room, 208 S. 8th Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4273

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

Gem Irrigation District board meeting
1:15 p.m., 118 S. 1st St. W., Homedale

South Board of Control board meeting
1:30 p.m., 118 S. 1st St. W., Homedale

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

Wednesday, November 5

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

Thursday, November 6

Exercise class
10:45 a.m., free, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)
5:30 p.m. weigh-in, 7 p.m. meeting, First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St., Homedale. (208) 482-6893

Homedale Rod and Gun Club meeting
7 p.m., Owyhee Lanes Restaurant, 18 N. 1st St. E., Homedale. (208) 463-4383

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

Friday, November 7

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

Monday, November 10

County Board of Commissioners meeting
Courtroom 2, Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy

Tuesday, November 11

Exercise class
10:45 a.m., free, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020

"Every Child Ready to Read" program
6 p.m., ages 6 and younger, Lizard Butte Library, 111 3rd Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690

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

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

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

Sheriff: Fed prisoner deal would benefit county coffers

An agreement in the works between the county and the U.S. Marshals Service could double the income earned by the Owyhee County Jail, according to Sheriff Gary Aman.

Aman recently briefed the county Board of Commissioners on the plan.

Under the plan, the county would house low- to medium-custody federal inmates with the federal government paying housing and transportation costs.

Aman said an agreement could be signed after federal officials inspect the jail, which is expected later this month. Inmates could be transferred to the Murphy complex by the first of the year.

Revenue from the deal would go into the county's general fund and benefit more departments than just the jail and the sheriff's office, Aman said.

The sheriff said he hopes to hold 15 to 20 inmates; exact per-inmate revenue figures weren't available.

"I believe one of my responsibilities is to keep the burden on taxpayers down, and this is one way I can do that," the three-term sheriff said.

Aman and federal officials began work on the deal after county jail Sgt. Dee Messick reported results from his meeting with officials from the Idaho Department of Corrections Virtual Prison program. Aman said

Messick discouraged the county's continued participation in housing state prisoners because of the cost-prohibitive counseling and educational program requirements set forth by the Virtual Prison.

"It would cost thousands of dollars on a continual basis to provide the inmates the programs that are required," Aman said of the state guidelines. "It is not cost-effective to hold state inmates in Owyhee County."

"We cannot build classrooms and provide educational instructors and make any money."

The bond for construction of the jail was paid off early, in part, because of the extra income brought into county coffers

because of the out-of-county prisoner housing program. The revenue garnered from housing state inmates has helped pay for the operation of the jail, too.

"We have brought in more money from holding out-of-county and state inmates than it cost to build the jail," Aman said.

Aman said overhead costs for operating the jail, such as paying utility bills and employee salaries, are the same whether there is one inmate or 40 incarcerated. He added that food costs and miscellaneous costs related to laundry and cleaning supplies — among other things — runs less than \$10 per day per inmate.

— JPB

Sheriff's office lauded for China Ditch animal rescue

A federal agency recently cited the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office for its work in helping remedy an animal welfare situation earlier this year on China Ditch Road.

Kirk Miller, an investigator with the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, presented Sheriff Gary Aman with a certificate of appreciation for the office's "participation and contribution in removing wolves and other distressed animals to new homes." during an operation on the property of Sandy Knox.

Through an agreement with

Knox, the USDA, sheriff's office, Idaho Fish and Game and Idaho Humane Society banded together to evacuate 17 wolves, dozens of house cats and bobcats and numerous dogs from the elderly woman's China Ditch Road property in late April.

"Gary's cooperation was pivotal because he and his officers were able to convince (Knox) to let those animals go and treated her with the utmost respect," Miller said. "It was just a win-win for everyone."

The rescue operation was triggered after one of Knox's captive

wolves escaped its enclosure in October 2007. Miller said authorities were able to reason with Knox that she was no longer able to properly care for the animals.

"It was a joint operation, but without his assistance, it never would have happened," Miller said. "The lady was relieved of her burden, the animals are safe and the community is relieved of the burden of the threat of any animals getting loose."

The certificate presented by Miller bore out that fact:

"Your commitment to the operation made it possible to relocate the animals safely and without incident, resolving long-standing problems and many future issues as well."

Miller said most of the 17 wolves were transferred to a wolf rescue compound in Florida, and a few were taken to the Nez Perce Tribe's Wolf Education Research Center in Winchester.



— JPB



Federal investigator thanks sheriff


U.S. Department of Agriculture investigator Kirk Miller recently presented a certificate of appreciation to Sheriff Gary Aman for the Sheriff's Office. The document commended the sheriff's office for its "participation and contribution in removing wolves and other distressed animals to new homes. Your commitment to the operation made it possible to relocate the animals safely and without incident, resolving long standing problems and many future issues as well."

Submitted photo





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I appreciate your past support and ask for your vote on November 4th.



*Paid for by Brackett for State Senator.
Fred Jaynes, treasurer*

Courts update

Homedale man awaits sentencing on pot charges

Adelberto Lopez, 53, arrested July 21 in a raid on his house on Whitecloud Circle in Homedale, awaits sentencing following a guilty plea to both manufacturing and possession of a controlled substance at a pretrial hearing.

Police seized 12 marijuana plants and a quantity of dried leaves in the raid.

Lopez will be sentenced on November 25, and could face up to five years of imprisonment and \$5,000 in fines.

Douglas Scott Maxwell's trial begins in Murphy

Douglas Maxwell's jury trial began Monday in Murphy.

Maxwell, a building inspector for the City of Caldwell, is accused of rape and lewd conduct with a child under 16 stemming from an incident in Homedale, and was arrested on an Owyhee County warrant in Canyon County and later indicted by an Owyhee County grand jury.

The trial is expected to wrap up this week, though no details have been released.

Homedale man to face kidnap retrial in Idaho Co.

Roy L. Lyons, 41, of Homedale, who faced trial earlier this month for kidnapping and rape charges, will be doing so again.

"The Attorney General's Office plans to retry Mr. Lyons on the

same charges," Bob Cooper, spokesman for Attorney General Lawrence Wasden's office said.

"There is a status conference scheduled for (Thursday). The new trial date will be set at that time."

The charge — first-degree kidnapping with intent to commit forcible rape — stems from an arrest following and Aug. 5 incident in which Lyons allegedly attempted to abduct a Michigan woman in Idaho County near White Bird Hill.

Lyons, a former resident of Stites, was first tried in Second District Court in Grangeville. A mistrial was declared after the jury couldn't agree on a verdict after six hours of deliberation on Oct. 3.

This is not Lyon's first brush with a felony charge. He was convicted in December of 1989 of lewd conduct with a minor under 16 in Idaho County and has been a registered sex offender since that time. He also has a conviction for felony theft dating from 1996 in Granite County, Mont. The new charge makes him eligible for an extended sentence under the three-strikes rule, should he be convicted.

— MML



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Homedale FFA judges set for national convention



Homedale Range and Dairy teams are headed for State competition.

Dairy team qualifies for CDE state championship later this year, too

Two judging teams from the Homedale FFA chapter are competing at the national convention this weekend in Indianapolis.

But even as Homedale’s range and livestock judging teams take part in the national competitions for their respective Career Development Experience (CDE), another batch of Homedale FFA members has started on a road that they hope will take them to the 2010 National FFA Convention.

During the recent district CDE competition in Burley, Homedale’s Dairy judging teams collected first- and third-place showings.

The first-place team of Mickayla Taggart, Erin Shenk, Carissa Gardner and Katie Eaton has qualified for the state competition later this year.

Taggart also won the individual district championship, and Shenk finished third.

The team of Mark Williams,

arenas where they will do more than just farm.

The National FFA Organization provides its members with important career skills aside from farming. Our members have the opportunity to succeed beyond their potential.

CDEs provide students with the skills necessary to lead the nation not only academically, but also financially. However, the knowledge of these events doesn’t magically appear, and the many CDEs available require an ample amount of preparation.

Each Career Development Event provides students with the knowledge of specific jobs or trades, and also provides a competitive edge. Events generally relate to agriculture, and especially public speaking. They provide realistic problems, and require logical solutions. For instance, parliamentary procedure provides students with a discussion point, and the students must debate the topic using the appropriate parliamentary order.

Preparation for district, state, and national Career Development Events begins long before the event takes place.

The Homedale FFA members typically begin 30-minute practices just before school (7:30 a.m.) We always begin preparing for district competitions, and move our way towards the state level. If a state win exists, the team then moves to nationals.

After a team has completed a



The Homedale Range team enjoys a refreshing break in the two feet of October snow in Burley.

national event they are no longer available to compete in that particular event for the rest of their FFA careers; this gives other members, who didn’t qualify before, the chance to compete as well.

Competing at a Career Development Event requires dedication ripened with knowledge. Once these two goals are met, the team is well on their way towards success.

— Homedale FFA member Drew Farwell contributed to this report.

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IN THEIR SUPPORT OF DAVE AND KELLY**

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| Sue Showalter | Matt Bertagnolli | Gordon Trout |
| Lynn Taggart | Peggy Bertagnolli | Sandra Trout |
| John Lejardi | Dwayne Fisher | Kevin Miyasko |
| Rick Shanley | Barry Johnson | Steve Lootens |
| Mil Shanley | Greg King | Shannon Johnson |
| Rodger Nash | Debbie King | Toby Johnson |
| Ardis Nash | Ryan Nash | Rob Aman |
| Joe Aman | Heidi Nash | Steve Lejardi |
| Dan Felty | Valerie Stacey | Dave VanWassenhove |
| Jimmy Thomas | Steve Stacey | Phillip George |
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Homedale bridge revamp set to begin next spring

ITD plans public meetings on highways in Marsing, Homedale

The Idaho Transportation Department’s planned rehabilitation project for the Homedale Snake River bridge won’t start until spring, an ITD spokesman said. The project, which will repave a portion of U.S. Highway 95 spanning the river be-

tween Owyhee and Canyon counties, also calls for work on the deck of the bridge. According to ITD’s District Three Project Report, released in September, Concrete Placing Co. Inc., of Boise has been contracted for the construction, which is the first work on the structure since it was built in 1969. The project report said the \$638,815 project was to start in either the fall or next spring, and ITD’s Reed Hollinshead updated the timeline last week, saying

the work would start in the spring. The estimated completion date is the summer of 2009. Other elements of the work includes repaving 50 feet of approaching roadway on the north and south ends of the bridge, replacing bridge joints and patching a pier. Additionally, 50 feet of curb and gutter will be replaced and 27 feet of guardrail will be reset. In other highway-related developments that affect Owyhee County, Hollinshead

reported that an Idaho highway 55 corridor study meeting similar to the one held last week in Caldwell is slated for early 2009 in Marsing. Hollinshead said 99 percent of the approximately 60 attendees at last Wednesday’s meeting hailed from the Nampa/Caldwell area. Hollinshead also reported that a U.S. 95 corridor study meeting has been scheduled for Homedale in mid-December. — JPB

One Mexican eatery leaves, another moves indoors

Jacksons shutters Taco Time; mobile vendor finds shelter on Main Street

Options for Homedale diners have been altered in recent weeks with the closure of one Mexican food restaurant and the relocation of another vendor. Jacksons Food Stores shut down its Taco Time franchise in its Homedale convenience store early in the week of Oct. 6. Company CEO John Jackson, a Homedale native, said the closure was a matter of economics. “Bottom line, we just couldn’t make it,” Jackson said. “There was just not enough sales, so we had to give it up.” The Homedale Taco Time,

located at the corner of East Idaho Avenue and North 1st Street East, was one of eight Taco Time franchises owned by Jacksons. A Homedale native, Jackson said the Meridian-based store chain recently opened a Taco Time franchise in a Portland location. Closure of the Homedale store didn’t come as a shock to those who watched revenue in the Jacksons chain. “We’d been watching for the last several months to see if we thought it might turn around,” Jackson said. “After seeing the last month’s (profit and loss state-

ments), it just didn’t make sense to keep it open.” Jacksons Quick-Serve Restaurants district manager Mike Hamstra said five people worked at the Homedale Taco Time. He said two of the employees were truly full-time, while another split time between the convenience store side and the walk-up/drive-through restaurant. Hamstra said the part-timer who split hours between the store and restaurant still works at the location, while another employee transferred to the Jacksons store in Wilder and another went to work at Paul’s Market in Homedale. Hamstra said he was sure of the employment fate of the remaining two workers. While Taco Time has closed, another Homedale Mexican food vendor has established a brick-and-mortar restaurant after years in a motorhome on West Idaho Avenue. Tacos El Panal, owned by Steven Gaspar, has moved into the restaurant space on North Main Street formerly occupied by Tortilleria Martinez. As a mobile vending location,



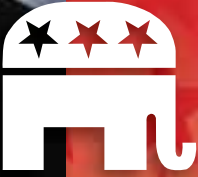

Tacos El Panal put up its new shingle earlier this month.

Tacos El Panal had come under the scrutiny of city officials and other business owners after Gaspar built a covered dining area adjacent to the motorhome in which he cooked his tacos, burritos and other fare. That food still is served at the new location, which features sit-down dining indoors.

The Homedale City Council’s recent push to establish temporary, transient and mobile vending guidelines for the city was sparked in part by the presence of Gaspar’s business and other mobile vending units in town that never left their locations. — JPB

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November 4

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Board taps into Olsen’s school and community ties

Homedale grad succeeds Duncan as district business manager

Faith Olsen has as close to an ownership stake in the well-being of the Homedale School District as anyone ever will, so it’s only fitting that she is the entity’s new business manager.

“I think it’s a big resource to me to have her insight,” district superintendent Tim Rosandick said. “She has insight into the nature of the community and the pulse of the community that I never would have.”

Olsen was appointed by the Homedale school board to succeed Jim Duncan in the business manager position. She has spent more than 13 years in the district office in an evolving role that moved from administrative specialist to assistant clerk and treasurer.

“The unanimous vote by the board to appoint Faith to the Business Manager position is indicative of their confidence in her knowledge of school finance, accounting procedure, payroll and many other business functions,” Rosandick wrote in a press release announcing Olsen’s promotion.

Olsen has spent 31 years in school district offices. She worked as an assistant clerk in Middleton for 13½ years before she and her husband, Owyhee County Sher-

iff’s Sgt. Gary Olsen, moved to a place outside Homedale.

“I’m a stakeholder here. I live here. My grandchildren go to school here,” Olsen said. “(A prosperous district is) important to me for their education and other kids’ education.”

Cliche or not, Faith Olsen truly has found a home in the Homedale district.

Both her daughters — Jennifer Meligan and Shauna Beebe — graduated from Homedale High School, like their mom. In fact, Beebe is in her first year as cheer advisor for the Trojans.

Olsen’s five grandchildren attend Homedale schools, ranging from a first-grader at the elementary to senior Trevor Meligan, the 2008 Homecoming king at the high school.

“It’s where I grew up. It’s my hometown,” Olsen said of Homedale. “I want this school district to continue to be the school district it always has been.”

The district has begun working on finding a person to fill a position similar to the one Olsen left.

Olsen admits she’s not replacing Duncan’s expertise by taking on the new challenge. He spent 50 years working with the district; it’s hard to duplicate that experience even after working virtually side-by-side with him for so long.

“He’s an institution. I’m happy to be able to do it (succeed him),” Olsen said. “Basically being tutored by him this many years I feel — and the board obviously



Faith Olsen brings vision and experience in her new role as Homedale School District business manager. The move marks a new chapter in Olsen’s 17-year career at the district.

feels — I can take on that responsibility.”

“I think she’ll do a good job,” said Duncan, whose son, Monte, was in the same HHS graduating class as Olsen.

Olsen has had Duncan as a mentor, learning the ins and outs of keeping a district’s books.

“The main thing is to keep all the books in order and make sure the board is aware of the financial state of the district so they can make informed decisions,” Olsen said.

Rosandick commended Olsen on her cheerful personality and said that she will blend her friendly demeanor seamlessly with the regulatory demands of the new post.

“I think she’s very professional and very customer-friendly,” he said. “She’s strong in that she maintains the compliance required by others.”

“There are certain policies or procedures that have to be followed, and you can’t work around it. She enforces our compliance.” — JPB

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Marsing community collects favorite player cards

Some people collect comic books, some collect ceramic dolls, more than a few collect sports cards. In Marsing this year, fans and students have been able to collect sports cards featuring Marsing High School athletes and cheerleaders.

The program arose as a way to help athletes realize how they acted as role models for other students, MHS principal Wade Pilloud said.

The athletes from the varsity teams made an appearance at the elementary school, Pilloud said, and the response was great. The cards are being distributed with programs at the teams' games.

"The elementary kids just loved it," he said.

Both younger and older students

are collecting and trading the cards — as are proud parents. Pilloud said he is excited by the amount of interest shown by adults.

Brandy Smith designed the cards. Smith is the business education instructor at Marsing High School. All the photos on the cards were taken by the Yearbook staff: Jonica Eells, Cari Anderson, Maricruz Esquivel, Amanda Freeman, Jessica Torres, Tiphani Deneka and Jacob Mays.

"We coordinated with the coaches to get the varsity team in their uniforms and take pictures after school at a practice, with Tiphani, Jessica and Maricruz taking the pictures," Smith said.

Once the perfect pictures were in hand, the class split into groups

in charge of cropping and layout of the photos, adding the copy on the backs of the cards — with one group covering football, and one focused on volleyball and cheerleading.

Once the cards were printed, all the students helped cut them out.

"I hope to get my computer graphics class involved in designing the cards for the winter and spring sports," Smith said.

"This is an introductory class, so they are just learning how to use programs such as Photoshop, InDesign, and Illustrator. Typically, on a project like this, it's a graded assignment, and then I give a prize to the student(s) whose design is chosen to be used."

From the feedback Smith has had, the cards are hot.

"I do know, from speaking with the students, that the cards seem to be in demand. The high school students are collecting cards of their friends, and I know the program went very well at the



elementary school, with many of the students hoping to collect a card from every athlete," she said.

Some collectors are also cunning opportunists.

"We had several programs left

over after the volleyball game last night, and I saw some elementary and middle school students going through the left-over programs to collect the cards out of them," she said.

— MML

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Vets asked to join Marsing ceremony

Elementary wants military to attend, seeks photos and bios for school display

The organizer of Marsing Elementary School's annual Veterans Day honors is hoping members of the nation's military will attend the Nov. 11 ceremonies.

Teacher Liz Lacer said that any and all veterans are invited to take part in the celebration, which begins at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11 with a meet-and-greet with the veterans.

"We spend a lot of time on Veterans Day at the elementary school," Lacer said.

A new twist this year is a wall

of honor for the veterans. Lacer is asking for photographs and short biographies on area veterans.

The material will be posted on a wall at the school and displayed beyond Veterans Day, according to Lacer.

For more information on the program or on submitting veterans bios and photos, contact Lacer at llacer@marsingschools.org or 896-4111, ext. 426.

After the meet-and-greet with veterans on Nov. 11, the school will hold a slide show of military

personnel serving in Iraq. Sr. Master Sgt. James McMonigal of the Army National Guard will coordinate the slide show.

Veterans will visit classes after the slide show, then the students and vets will enjoy lunch.

The main program begins after lunch with veteran and Idaho State Police director Col. G. Jerry Russell serving as keynote speaker.

The program will include a flag presentation, the Pledge of Allegiance and a presentation by the Student Council.

Another slide show honoring the troops will be held before the playing of Taps and the singing of God Bless America by those attending.



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Marsing schools' closed campuses stay that way

Looking ahead, Marsing ponders a potential of doubling its enrollment

While the Marsing School District has enforced a closed campus policy for the last few years, it's now doing so with appropriate policy addendums in place, Superintendent Harold Shockley said in an interview recapping the school board's Oct. 14 regular meeting.

The policy, which Shockley had understood was in place as of his beginning work with the district in 2003, was in fact recommended but hadn't been made part of the official policy.

"The board had taken action to close the campus in 2003 or '04," Shockley explained, "but technically they'd only closed the high school campus. We needed that technicality cleared up."

"I really believe in a closed campus. It keeps your kids on campus and keeps undesirables off campus, which is as valuable as keeping the students on," he said. Having a closed campus is all about safety, he explained.

With high school students, the noon hour is the chief concern.

"They can get distracted, get back late or be involved in other

activities ... coming back in 'an altered state of mind'," Shockley said. Having a closed campus mitigates those concerns, he said. "It keeps the focus on education and minimizes problems you really shouldn't have to deal with."

The closed-campus policy will be district-wide, but there will be provisions for students needing to leave campus for things such as off-campus classes at Canyon-Owyhee School Services Agency sites or medical appointments, Shockley said.

The school has had several issues with a few parents and students in the high school with what Shockley described as a "the rules don't apply to me or my child" take on the matter. Making sure the policy is in place and iron-clad will allow the school to police the matter more easily, he said.

"We want it cleared up. The issue is safety, and that's our focus," Shockley said.

Marsing Mayor Keith Green also addressed the trustees, explaining the city's impact zone

plans and its eye toward dealing effectively with future growth over the next 20 years. In the past 18 months, Planning and Zoning has received requests that could add 338 homes within the school district's area.

"With 2.5 kids per house, that's a potential increase of 845 kids," Shockley said. That increase would double the district's class sizes, he said.

Right now, it's about "having a plan to deal with this," he said. "The reality is that we're going to grow. We need to put the emphasis on controlling growth and having the plans to improve infrastructure."

Would this require additional buildings?

"Before we can do much more growth, we'd have to look at adding buildings or classrooms, period," he said. Shockley expects the growth will happen, though at what rate remains to be seen.

"I'm bullish on the area. We have the best of both worlds: A rural setting, space and quick access to anything you need," Shockley said.

Students will be allowed epinephrine injectors

The school's zero-drugs on

campus policy is also being slightly tweaked in light of recent state legislation that gives students the right to carry medicines designed to help the severely allergic to deal with bee-sting or other exposures that could lead to anaphylactic shock. Senate bill 1443, which became law on July 1, mandates that students with a life-threatening allergy must be allowed to carry a doctor-prescribed epinephrine delivery device.

Writers craft club

Students have lobbied for and been granted a writing club, Shockley said.

The group, headed by Marsing High student Samantha Jensen, is small at present, about eight members, but Shockley is very pleased to see the students were the source of the club.

"Maybe we're getting the kids to focus on the value of academics. I'm really pleased it came from them," he said. "We've been trying to increase academic awareness and challenges and opportunities — this was generated by students themselves."

Students write on different topics, critique each other's writing, "and, hopefully, as they

develop their skills and so on, they will try to get things published," he said.

The board endorsed the program.

Marsing makes new hires

Mikel Bell resigned his position as Career Information System (CIS) specialist with Marsing schools, and was replaced with Jacky King. Shockley wouldn't comment on the resignation, beyond calling it voluntary.

CIS is a service to which Marsing and many other schools subscribe that offers career and counseling advice to students.

In new staff additions, Joe Casteneda was made head groundskeeper, Lamon Loucks stepped into the junior varsity boys' basketball coach slot, Michael Swanson took on the eighth-grade boys' basketball coach mantle and Dana Hammer was picked as Marsing's middle school wrestling coach.

Hammer, who has worked as assistant coach with the high school grapplers, also donated a selection of reference texts and software to the Marsing High School science staff, Shockley said.

— MML

Hunters see a slow start as weather takes a surprise turn

While exactly the same number of deer were counted at the checkpoints after the first weekend of the 2008 season, the number of hunters in the field had increased substantially, meaning the success rate for hunts had fallen this year, Idaho Fish and Game Southwest Region's Jon Rachel said.

"Too much wind and not enough gear," was Rachel's take on the results. "Snowy weather,

it hampers the hunters more than the deer, sometimes."

He does expect the results to improve, though, saying: "I think the hunters will prepare themselves for the next weekend."

On opening weekend, hunters used to being able to hunt in shirtsleeves faced as much as 10 inches of snow in the upper Owyhee Mountains, Rachel said. The weather cutting hunts

short kept the harvest — 55 deer at the Marsing checkpoint on Sunday and 42 in Walters Ferry on Saturday — exactly the same as this time last year, despite the number of hunters rising by 40 and 55 percent at the stations respectively, he said.

Even given the slow start, Rachel expected the season to be better than last year, weather permitting.

Homedale library plans Story Time, games, songs and treats

Story Time at Homedale Public Library will feature "Caps for Sale" at 10 a.m., Friday.

In addition to the story, there will be a game, a song and refreshments. Children of all ages are welcome.

For more information, call the Homedale Public Library, 337-4228. The library is located at 125 W. Owyhee Ave.

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• Castleford Solar for Schools Coordinator
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Paid for by Chisholm for Senate Committee, Rich Carlson Treasurer



More Adrian High happenings
Above: Adrian High School's 2008-09 Associated Student Body officers are, from left: George Ellsworth, vice president; Sammy Bowns, secretary; Blake Purnell, treasurer; Katie Bowns, representative; Terra Rust, reporter; Claudia Beltran, president; McKenzie Purnell, historian. *Below:* The Adrian High School Advanced Biology class, under the direction of Pam Myers, spent four days at Yellowstone National Park studying the natural wonders of the Earth and wildlife species earlier this year. Students taking the trip were, clockwise from right: Jake Warren, Roman Voight, Tais Grote, Evan Sneider, Katharina Kucsh, Lois Adam, Ranea Orosco, Edison Pueblo, Andrea Shenk, Matthias Lorenz, Brittney Phelps, Rodrigo Magri, Karolina Woydyla, Jack Zittercobb and Joey Arreola. AHS Photography



Adrian Glean Team rounds up food
Above: Some of the Adrian High School students who helped gather potatoes and onions for families included: Back row from left, Nick Strauch, , Samantha Bowns, Rebecca and Jinell VanCorbach; front row from left, Katie Bowns McKenzie Purnell, Brittney and Hunter Phelps, Terra Rust and Andrea Shenk. *Below:* Senior George Ellsworth picks up onions from an Adrian-area field. Submitted photos

Adrian's Glean Machine sets tables for friends and foes

With the power it has been displaying, the Adrian High School football team could be called the Green Machine. But with the prodding of principal Kevin Purnell, the small school in this Oregon border town boasts of the Adrian Glean Machine.

Ten Adrian students participated in the first agriculturally related event last month, gleaning 2,500 pounds of potatoes off fields owned by WBH and Saito farms. The effort continued Sept. 25 when 18 students fanned out over fields at Brent Ishida Farms and Hartley Farms to glean onions, which were combined with more potatoes and delivered to Prairie City — Purnell's old stamping



grounds — during the school's Sept. 26 stay for football and volleyball games. "It was an enthusiastic group of kids to work with and by the end of the afternoon they were brainstorming names for the 'club'," Purnell said in a press release. "The Glean Team', 'The Glean Machine' and 'The Green Gleaners' are a few of the names that were thrown around." Whatever the nickname, the cause is clear: To help those in the Adrian community and

in the communities of the Antelopes' rivals in the High Desert League. The produce has been donated to local food banks. After the first gleaning, which took place on Sept. 19, nearly a half-ton of potatoes was presented to the administrators from Monument, Dayville and Longcreek high schools. Skip Inscore, the athletic director at Dayville and the coach of the three-school football co-op, reported back the results of that first donation. "Robert Waltenburg (Grant County Educational Services District superintendent) and his family along with my family went out and delivered potatoes to our town members ... " Inscore wrote in an e-mail to Purnell. "People were really impressed that your kids would go out and pick up potatoes for others. Thank your kids again." Inscore also drove to Prairie City late last month to pick up more produce for his community. "The intent is for this to be a student-run organization, and I think that we are off on the right foot," Purnell said.

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Sincerely, **Norman Semanko**, State Chairman of the Idaho Republican Party
Barry Peterson, Region 3 Chairman of the Idaho Republican Party

Paid for by Crandall for Sheriff, Merleen Johns, Political Treasurer.

Adrian, Jordan Valley youth in running for heifers

Malheur Cattlemen name winners at fall meeting Thursday in Ontario

Four young livestock growers from Adrian and Jordan Valley have applied for a new program to help perpetuate the beef industry.

The quartet will learn if they have been chosen to participate in the Malheur County Beef Heifer Replacement Program when that county's cattlemen's hold their annual fall meeting later this month.

Naming the winners of heifers donated by local cattle breeders is part of the agenda for the Malheur County Cattlemen's meeting set for 2 p.m., Thursday at the Sizzler Restaurant, 830 SE 1st Ave., in Ontario, Ore.

Bill Moore of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association will serve as guest speaker, and a no-host dinner will begin at 6 p.m.

Wannie Mackenzie of Baker City, who is related to Mackenzies in Jordan Valley and Homedale, is current MCCA president.

Several Owyhee Cattlemen's Association members also hold memberships with the Oregon

group because they run cattle in both counties, according to MCCA secretary Anna-Marie Chamberlain.

Chamberlain said this is the first year of the heifer replacement program, which is open to Malheur County fifth- through 10th-graders who show at that county's fair each year.

"The MCCA is wanting to promote breeding projects at the fair and are aiding kids in building a breeding herd," Chamberlain said. "Ranchers from the county have been asked to donate a heifer calf, either a commercial or purebred calf."

According to the program's

guidelines, students who receive donated heifers will be responsible for raising the animal and show it at the 2009 and 2010 Malheur fairs — first as a bred heifer and then as a cow/calf pair).

The student also must keep production and expense records and present an update at the Cattlemen's fall meeting.

After two years of showing the animal, students are free to do whatever they want with the project, Chamberlain said.

Also on the agenda for Thursday's meeting:

- A roundup of natural beef programs instituted by Painted Hills Natural Beef, Country

Natural Beef, Agri Beef, Beef Northwest and Tyson.

- A report on the statewide bovine viral diarrhea (BVD) project in Oregon. Barbi Riggs, a livestock agent for the Oregon State University Crook County Extension Office in Prineville, will deliver the report.
- Bureau of Land Management representatives will be on hand to discuss the North Fork Malheur Geographic Management Area rangeland health project.
- Updates on trichinosis in Malheur County and the wolf problem.

For more information, call Chamberlain at (541) 881-1417.

HMS finishes second in opening Academic Bowl

Homedale Middle School finished second in a six-team field last Wednesday in the first Academic Bowl of the 2008-09 school year.

New team advisor Linda Miklancic said that 13 students

made the trip to McCain Middle School in Payette.

The next Academic Bowl competition comes at 4:15 p.m. on Nov. 19 at Homedale Middle School.

The Academic Bowl competi-

tion consists of three rounds of quizzes. Each team of six consists of a pair of eighth-graders, a pair of seventh-graders and a pair of sixth-graders.

In the opening round, each team gets the same question and must

write an answer on a 3x5 card and turn it in within 60 seconds.

The second round features a question from one of five different categories.

Contestants have 30 seconds to answer the question.

The final round is a lightning round of sorts, during which the six competitors from each team can answer free-for-all questions. The first to hit a buzzer gets a chance to answer the question, but must do so within 10 seconds.

Award-winning teacher passes on her passion for science

Rimrock's Prow involves students in community as part of curriculum

Connie Prow's impact on her students was illustrated recently when two University of Idaho freshmen helped nominate her for a prestigious award.

A 25-year teacher at Rimrock Jr.-Sr. High School, Prow recently earned one of three statewide awards for her work as a science instructor.

The Idaho/Utah section of the American Association of Physics Teachers bestowed upon Prow a Micron Technology Foundation Outstanding Science Teacher Award, which the Bruneau resident received earlier this month at the annual meeting of the Idaho Science Teachers Association, which was held in Idaho Falls.

"Quite a bit of the time, teachers in small schools are overlooked as far as how much impact they can have on their students," Prow said.

Prow teaches seventh-grade Life Science, sophomore Biology, Physics and Environmental Science as well as a junior high Math class.

She has been named the Idaho Secondary Teacher of the Year twice and also the Bruneau/Grand View School District Teacher of the Year.

She was nominated for the Micron award by her principal Phillip McCluskey and a pair of recently graduated students — Ellie Cantrell and Shelby Chandler — who are enrolled as freshmen in Moscow.

"When I went to Idaho falls to get the award (the presenter) said one of the things that made the difference is I have some ex-students that are up at the University of Idaho," Prow said.

Prow said that Chandler and Cantrell said she helped them not only with Science, but with other things that all high school students face.

"We have to be able to take a kid at any level and any class and help them progress forward and succeed," Prow said. "We want them to succeed, but as a teacher you also help them with their personal problems."

"It's almost like being a mother figure. You have to take an interest in every single one of them. Each one is different, and you teach them like they are your own child. You want what's best for them."

In his nomination form, McCluskey pointed out Prow's affinity to present hands-on projects for her students.

"If you're like me. If you



Dedication pays off for Prow
Veteran Rimrock Jr.-Sr. High School Science teacher Connie Prow was one of three Idaho teachers to earn a Micron Foundation Outstanding Science Teacher award recently in a ceremony in Idaho Falls. Submitted photo

touch something, you see it and remember it a lot more," Prow said. "You can apply it."

Prow's teaching style includes putting her students in positions to help in their community. One reason, she said is because rural school districts operate on shoestring budgets for many subjects, including Science. In fact, the \$250 cash award from Micron already is spent, Prow

said, on supplies for projects.

Currently, her Environmental Science students are learning about the noxious weeds in their part of Owyhee County. The class recently heard from Idaho Power officials about using global positioning system (GPS) devices to map and identify noxious weeds.

Prow is a member of the steering committee seeking to form a

cooperative weed management association in the area.

"I like projects," Prow said. "I'm kind of passionate about what I teach. I want them to be interested in science. I think that is so much a part of so many different areas that they can go into any more."

Prow's legacy can be seen in students who such as Cantrell and Chandler who have gone on to U of I and the University of Utah. One of her former students — Richard Knight — is preparing to graduate from medical school at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., and another is a genetic researcher. She said there are lawyers and "lots of teachers" as well as business owners, as well as international sales and marketing personnel living in Europe.

Not bad for a teacher whose average class size is about 20 students.

"Great things are happening in our smaller schools, and there are many, many teachers in these schools who deserve awards for their hard work and the positive impacts that they are having on their students," Prow said.

"This award, to me, recognizes the efforts of not just me, but all the teachers in the small rural school systems."

— JPB

Christian ed. organization recognizes GV-Bruneau-area school

The Grand View/Bruneau Christian School has received a Quality Status Certificate for the 2007-08 school year from the Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) organization.

According to an ACE press release, Grand View/Bruneau

Christian School uses the ACE curriculum to focus on Christian character training and outstanding academic accomplishments by its students. ACE also said that the Grand View/Bruneau school demonstrates continuing commitment to state-of-the-art,

computer-enhanced education.

The certification recognizes that during the 2007-08 school year the school's students completed an average of 78 PACES, or curriculum unit, per student with a 96.1 percent average grade.

Students must average at least

60 PACES each for the school to maintain its Quality Status.

In the press release, the school attributed its success in part to community commitment to maintain an atmosphere where a school such as Grand View/Bruneau Christian School can

effectively educate youth to attain tomorrow's achievements.

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