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Established 1865

The Owyhee Avalanche

VOL. 23, NO. 51 75 CENTS

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2008

Bitter cold can't dampen joy



Homedale, Marsing hold wintry parades

Above: As children toss candy to parade-watchers, Santa Claus waves to the crowd from atop a Homedale fire truck Saturday on Idaho Avenue. The Homedale for Holidays Parade attracted several entries and scores of spectators. Left: A little girl throws goodies from a Marsing Ambulance unit during Marsing's Christmas parade, also Saturday morning. More photos, Pages 12-13

Merchant allegedly puts gun to man's head

Homedale businessman faces
felony after repo men run-in

A Homedale businessman faces a felony aggravated assault charge after allegedly holding a gun to the head of a man trying to repossess his daughter's vehicle.

An Owyhee County Sheriff's deputy took Mark Jolley into custody early on the morning of Dec. 2 at his residence south of Homedale. Jolley owns Allied Signs and the Owyhee Ice Cream Co., both of which are on Idaho Avenue.

Sheriff's Chief Deputy Bruce Cameron said Jolley was arrested at 1:31 a.m. at his Thompson



Mark Jolley

— See *Merchant*, page 5

Holiday alters Avalanche deadlines

The Owyhee Avalanche office will be closed Dec. 25-26 for the Christmas holiday, which alters the newspaper's deadlines slightly for the Dec. 31 issue.

The display advertising deadline will be noon on Wednesday, Dec. 24. Deadlines for classified ads and legal notices will remain the same.

The office will re-open on Monday, Dec. 29.

The Avalanche also will be closed for the New Year's holiday on Jan. 1, but will re-open Jan. 2.

County sees rise in full tax payments

At least half of property tax bill must be paid by Dec. 22

Even with all the doom and gloom reported about the economy, it seems property owners in Owyhee County are making sure they keep current with their tax bills.

"I was somewhat concerned with the economy if we were going to have these payments, and so far it's really good," county Treasurer Brenda Richards said.

The total amount of taxes levied for

2008 is \$4,922,232.56. By state law, property owners have until Dec. 20 to all or half of their 2008 assessments, but Richards said because Dec. 20 is a Saturday this year, her office will consider payments postmarked by Dec. 22 as on-time.

Through Friday, Richards said her office has received \$1,381,819.34 in tax payments, or 28 percent of the total tax

charge for 2008, which is five points higher than tax collections at this time last year and 10 percent higher than 2006.

"There are a lot of people that want to get their property taxes paid even with the economy as it is because their property is one thing they don't want to

— See *Tax*, page 5

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Inside

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Animal cruelty trial set to begin Friday

Nearly 11 months after their arrest, couple to appear in Murphy

Zachariah Robinson and Deborah Hopson are scheduled to go before an Owyhee County jury on the morning of Dec. 19 to answer charges of animal cruelty in a January case involving horses, burros, llamas, cows and dogs. After a Jan. 17 investigation by Owyhee County Sheriff's Office personnel at a residence at 5282 Sage Rd. near Homedale, Hopson was charged with two counts, specifically one count of cruelty involving 32 horses and burros with no available food and one count involving a pair of llamas without available food. Deputies charged Robinson for the same neglect in connection with two dogs and a pair of cows. All the charges are misdemeanors. The animals were eventually forfeited to the county in May.

Owyhee County spent more than \$5,000 on care of the animals beyond funds recovered from the accused. In September 2004, Robinson was charged with four counts under Idaho Code 25-3511, the animal cruelty section, stemming from citations issued by Elmore County Sheriff's Deputy Mike Barclay. In that case, 35 horses were seized by Elmore County. Elmore County prosecutor Aaron Bazzoli dropped the four charges on May 23, 2005, after a motion to dismiss. The state then moved to withdraw the dismissal on the following day "after a review of testimony presented." Fourth District Judge David C. Epis refused to sign the request to withdraw the dismissal without procedural or other legal basis to do so. Hopson faced an additional pair of identical charges from citations written on Sept. 30, 2004, by Elmore Deputy Laytrede Schultz. The Elmore County prosecutor later dropped the charges.

— MML

Bargain helps city revamp play area

City Park will get equipment identical to new Sundance site

Call it the Christmas Miracle. Thanks to the efforts of an individual and the vote of the Homedale City Council, the town's children will have safe playground equipment on which to climb come spring. Toni Kelly, who on behalf of Homedale Youth Sports Inc., has spearheaded a drive to get a playground built at Sundance Park, announced what she called a "screaming" deal on the apparatus to fulfill the need. Kelly told the council during Wednesday meeting that the \$13,200 raised for playground equipment has been transferred to the city and that a year-end closeout at the Miracle Recreation Equipment Co., has enabled her to buy the equipment for \$11,518 with shipping included. "This was on sale, and it's significantly bigger than anything we could have envisioned," Kelly said while showing the council an artist's rendering of the playground equipment. "It's \$11,518, freight included, and that gives us money left over for signage down there to recognize our substantial sponsors."

She also said that a \$1,000 donation by Sheila Leavitt in memory of her sister, Katie Christoffersen, would be used to purchase a separate piece of equipment that Kelly called a Tarantula climber. "It feels great to see it really become reality, and to have both parks included is an amazing gift here just in time for Christmas," Kelly said. When council president Dave Downum heard the price tag, he suggested the city also buy identical pieces of equipment from the Miracle Recreation Equipment Co., for use in City Park. "Toni got an extremely good



Homedale removes aging slide

City public works supervisor Larry Bauer cuts through the leg of the old slide at City Park on Friday before removing the apparatus.

deal on this," Downum said. "I've seen them for as much as \$25,000 when I've looked at them." City clerk and treasurer Alice Pegram confirmed Friday morning that she was finalizing a \$26,628 payment for the four pieces of equipment, all of which are available from the Miracle Recreation Equipment Co. Pegram said the money will come out of the city development fund. Downum's suggestion snowballed into an opportunity to reduce Homedale's liability in its parks. In addition to approving about \$12,500 for the playground equipment, the council acted on a suggestion by Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller and also authorized the removal of the antiquated and dangerous slide in City Park and teeter-totter at Riverside Park. "Your community would love you because they all call that the 'scary slide'," Kelly said. The swings will stay in place at City Park, Homedale public works supervisor Larry Bauer said. City crews removed the slide from City Park on Friday, eliminating what officials called a liability.

At Wilson's impromptu suggestion, the council also voted to give Kelly \$500 in recognition of her work in securing donations and grants for the Sundance project. The Sundance Park playground will be built near Field 2 in the softball complex. Bauer said it would cost between \$200 and \$300 to bring in fill material. "The name of the company is 'Miracle', and I think we're getting one," Kelly said. Kelly said the playground drive was fueled by help from the Homedale Youth Sports Inc., board of directors, including Shane Brown and Denise Carter; the Silver City Masonic Lodge No. 13 and Eastern Star Silver Star Chapter No. 83; the Homedale Lions Club; and the City of Homedale. Grants were provided by US Ecology and the Caldwell Community Foundation. "There has been so much support from so many good organizations and people here in Homedale, it has been a rewarding experience just to see so many people rallying behind the cause," Kelly said.

— JPB

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New sewer rates start Feb. 1

Plan balances hikes in base rate and usage fees

Homedale municipal sewer customers will see increases in their March bills after the city council approved a rate hike Wednesday night.

After originally discussing a \$9 increase in the monthly base rate, councilmen approved a new proposal brought forward by Mayor Harold Wilson.

The new base rate of \$17 and base coverage rate of \$1.55 per 1,000 gallons goes into effect Feb. 1 and will show up on customers' March 2009 billing. The new rates reflect a \$6.54 increase in the base rate and a 40-cent hike in the coverage fee.

The original proposal of a \$9 increase to the base rate met strong opposition during a Nov. 12 public hearing. The new rate will mean an increase of \$8.94 in the monthly bill of a customer who uses 6,000 gallons, but Wilson pointed out that as many as

572 customers use less than that each month.

Wilson publicly introduced his idea shortly before Wednesday's unanimous vote for the new rate schedule, which satisfies the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development requirement of at least \$6 in base-rate increases to qualify for the remaining \$1 million in sewer rehab bond money.

Wilson introduced his idea Wednesday, nearly a month after the public hearing on the matter. He said that the new structure would bring more than \$36,000 into city coffers for a capital improvement fund for ongoing maintenance and rehabilitation.

More importantly, as council president Dave Downum pointed out, it removes the bulk of the burden from fixed and low-income families who may not use that much water to begin with.

"I think this is a great idea," Downum said. "It puts the usage where it should be."

Wilson pointed out that larger sewer users would absorb more of the cost. As an example, he said the Sunset Village Mobile

Home Park monthly bill would raise \$130 to \$140 as a whole, but individual users in the park would see a minimal increase.

Both residents who spoke up during Wednesday's meeting called the compromise "fair".

The mayor based his figures on a usage month of 6.5 million gallons, and pointed out that the 40-cent usage increase would add \$2,600 per month to the city coffers for capital improvements, while the 54-cent base rate would bring in an additional \$459 per month, based on 850 customers.

Wilson said the city would see \$36,708 per year come into a sewer capital improvement fund, and city public works supervisor Larry Bauer speculated that the city could get ahead of repair work within 10 to 12 years with that type of income.

The \$6 increase to qualifying for federal bond money would be retired when the bond is paid off, Wilson said.

Individual rate increases will vary according to the size of the meter in use, city officials said.

— JPB



Caldwell Basque club donates again

Homedale resident Ric Uria, far left, and Homedale native Mike Frank, far right, represented Euzkaldunak of Caldwell (Caldwell Basque Charities) Thursday morning as 1,000 pounds of meat was delivered to Paul's Market in preparation for the Hands Around Homedale food box distribution that took place Saturday. Stan Zatica represented Paul's Market, and the three men were joined by some of the top performers in Homedale High School's food drive. The students included, from left, sophomore Katherine Rice, freshmen Wendy and Jenny Prado, junior Jeff Davis, freshman Adriana Albor, senior Kelsey Thatcher and sophomore Amber Brinkerhoff. Hands Around Homedale coordinator Randee Garrett said Euzkaldunak's contribution included 16 turkeys, 24 hams and 39 gift packs totaling 78 chickens, and 78 pounds each of hamburger and hot dogs. The meat was combined with other donations and handed out Saturday at Homedale Elementary School.

Marsing Chamber offers anti-crime seminar

The Marsing Chamber of Commerce, along with the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office, will hold a presentation today at

Essence of Life in Marsing.

The 7 p.m. seminar, held during the monthly Chamber meeting, will help business owners and

others learn the best ways to safeguard themselves against theft, fraud, counterfeiting, identity theft and more.

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Sheriff's office roundup

Accident leaves young driver dead

A 16-year-old male, a resident of Grand View, was pronounced dead at the scene Sunday when the car he was driving went into a canal.

The teenager, driving a Chevy Metro en route to visit his girlfriend, was reported as overdue at 10:48 p.m. Sunday when he did not return home.

Searchers later found the vehicle in a canal. Owyhee County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Bruce Cameron said the incident is still under investigation.

Bandit burgles beef from residence

Trying economic times apparently spawn meat bandits, if one call received by sheriff's office is an indication.

Investigators have a person of interest after 60 to 70 pounds of beef were stolen from a freezer at a River Road residence outside Homedale on Dec. 9.

"This happens more often than we know," Cameron said. "A lot of people don't report it. It's happened to one person in Grand View more than once."

The report of the River Road meat bandit was made after children discovered assorted cuts of beef missing from the family's upright freezer, Cameron said.

The burglar apparently pried open the back door and took only meat. Cameron placed a conservative estimated value of \$280 on the beef.

Cameron said in both the recent Homedale case and the previous Grand View thefts, chances are good that the burglar had a relationship with the victim.

"(It's) probably somebody out of work or who has hit hard times," Cameron said. "Meat has been expensive for quite some time and more so now."

Power cut by Monday crash

A collision that left a power line hanging, still live, from its pole on Idaho highway 78, just outside Bruneau, occurred Monday just after 9 a.m. Cameron said the car, driven by Mariana A. Juarez, 57, clipped the pole and also struck a speed limit sign near mile marker 76 on Idaho 78. Juarez was not injured in the incident, which Cameron said was fortunate because the vehicle had burn marks where the power cable had contacted it. The vehicle was totaled, and Juarez was cited for inattentive driving.

Male cited for Marsing battery

In an ongoing "big mess between the two families" — as

stated in the incident log on Sunday — Santiago Quebrado was cited for battery after an incident reported at 2:43 p.m. at the Marsing Labor Camp. Cameron said the disagreement dates back to a case involving Quebrado and others that remains pending, and details of which have not been released.

Man reports Grand View assault

James Cottingham, 54, of Grand View reported his assault by three males, who entered his apartment on the evening of Dec. 9. The incident report states that two of the men put Cottingham on the ground "and kicked him and told him to stay away from Christine Nicholas." Cottingham said that he did not know his attackers. The incident was reported on Thursday as having occurred two days before, and Cottingham informed investigators he would be going to the Veterans Administration Hospital the next day to have his injuries examined. The case is under investigation, and there are four persons of interest at this time, Cameron said.

Thief takes keys, stereo from GV car

Sheriff's Deputy Slade Heeb was pressed into school-bus duty Wednesday morning, taking

children to class after keys to a Grand View family's car were stolen along with the stereo inside the unlocked vehicle, which is owned by Salustia Mondragon.

Cameron said the sheriff's office has a person of interest in the crime and warned folks against leaving their keys in their cars and encouraged them to keep their doors locked.

Grand theft suspect arrested in Oregon

Sheriff's officials learned on Dec. 9 that a man wanted in connection with an Owyhee County grand theft case had been picked up in Ontario, Ore., on a failure-to-appear warrant stemming from burglary charges filed in Twin Falls and Canyon counties.



Steven L. Valero

Steven L. Valero of Fruitland was arrested on a \$15,000 warrant, but Cameron said he is also a suspect in an Aug. 25 burglary in which an Owyhee County man's wallet, cell phone and checkbook was stolen out of the back seat of

his vehicle.

Malheur County Sheriff's Lt. Rachel Reyna said Valero will remain in custody in Oregon until probation violation charges there are cleared up. It's unclear where he will be transferred after that.

Stolen Marsing car recovered

A stolen vehicle was recovered on U.S. Highway 93 at milepost 92. The vehicle, a 1997 Ford Escort, was reported from Marsing stolen by Melinda Aguilara, and the vehicle is registered to Leland Andrus. The car, and \$200, were reportedly stolen Friday. John Lee Welch, 51, is a person of interest in the incident. The Idaho State Police recovered the vehicle, but has not reported on the condition of the car, Cameron said.

— MML and JPB

Weather

	H	L	Prec.
Dec. 9	47	18	.00
Dec. 10	48	17	.00
Dec. 11	50	18	.00
Dec. 12	40	19	.00
Dec. 13	no reading taken		
Dec. 14	no reading taken		
Dec. 15	42	18	.00

Correction

The Owyhee Avalanche misquoted Owyhee County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Bruce Cameron concerning the two girls involved in the Dec. 7 joyriding incident involving Cindy Marks' vehicle. The girls could have faced charges of misdemeanor joyriding, but were not charged in the incident and no citation was issued to them.

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Display advertising

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Inserts

Friday noon the week prior to publication

Time’s running out for Owyhee ATV access decision

Counties must have list of road closures finalized by Jan. 1

According to Owyhee County Board of Commissioners chair Jerry Hoagland, the state-mandated county ordinance on ATV road closures must be approved by Monday. The commissioners were scheduled to approve the ordinance restricting ATV access during their Dec. 8 meeting. But

Hoagland said the board needed more time to understand some of the concerns raised in recent weeks, so the vote was tabled until Monday’s meeting, which is the last regular meeting of the year for the commissioners. A law passed by the 2008 Idaho Legislature opens all county roads to ATVs, and each of Idaho’s 44 counties have until Jan. 1 to pass an ordinance stipulating which roads will be restricted. The commissioners won’t meet on Dec. 29 because it’s the fifth Monday of the month — the board meets only four

Mondays each month — so Hoagland said a decision has to be made at Monday’s meeting in Murphy. “There are some concerns that puzzle us and that we need to understand a little bit more, so we’re going to review it more,” Hoagland said. Hoagland, a cattleman from Wilson, said that his fellow ranchers are concerned about safety issues pertaining to large cattle-hauling trucks sharing the roads with the ATVs. “Just when we’re out there, we see a lot of near-misses,” Hoagland said.

The county had restricted access with an ordinance earlier in the decade, but the new state law passed this year effectively nullified the county ordinance. Hoagland has said that no new road closures will be implemented by the 2008 ordinance, when it’s passed. In other words, the new ordinance will be no more restrictive than the old one. The District 2 commissioner also said another factor in closing roads to ATV use is to protect county resources, especially search and rescue funds. — JPB

County wants to avoid road controversy this winter

Silver City road closed
The Silver City road was closed as of Monday evening, according to Larry McDaniel, District 1 road supervisor. With two fairly heavy snowfalls last week, each better than two feet in depth, Silver City will be going into hibernation for the winter. Owyhee County Sheriff’s Chief Deputy Bruce Cameron said the status of no other roads have been affected by the snow.

With wintry weather upon us and Silver City Road closed, county commissioners are keenly aware they could face a massive road closure decision again. But, Owyhee County Board of Commissioners chair Jerry Hoagland said, if possible, the situation will be handled differently. Earlier this year, recreationists were angered when the commissioners ordered the emergency closure of several backcountry roads. The closures were precipitated by muddy conditions all over the county’s backcountry. The commissioners also wanted to protect county resources by reducing the possibility of costly search and rescue operations if

someone got stranded. “There was an immediate safety issue when we did it last time,” Hoagland said. “A lot of recreationists were upset. “I don’t understand why. They still had plenty of opportunity for recreation, but it was getting to be a life-threatening situation if those people kept getting back into that country and got stuck.” Last winter’s road closures were approved by a vote in late February. Hoagland said the commissioners will take a different tack this winter, if possible. There are no plans to close roads yet this winter outside of the tradition closure of Silver City Road, which was carried out Monday evening.

Hoagland, whose term as chair concludes when the new board is seated in January, said public hearings could be held if the closure issue isn’t an emergency. The District 1 commissioner from Wilson, who won a four-year term in November’s general election, said the commissioners will seek input from residents and property owners if closures are necessary this winter. He said that input from the property owners would be helpful in deciding which roads need to be closed. In February, vast tracts of land were shut down, but getting property owners involved could make any future closures more surgical. While much of the backcountry was closed off last winter, people

with property in the affected areas still were allowed access. Hoagland also said that the commissioners have also faced the dilemma of a closure disrupting a business venture, such as the recent operation in which Deep Rock Hauling, Inc., trucked mine tailings from War Eagle Mountain down to Silver City Road. “We talked about that: ‘How do you prevent a business from going back there while they’re maintaining the road with their own equipment?’” Hoagland said. Deep Rock has completed its operation on dirt roads and now will haul the ore from a storage area near the paved portion of Silver City Road. — JPB

From page 1

✓ Merchant: Allied Sign, ice cream shop owner faces Monday hearing

Road residence after allegedly pulling a 9mm Glock handgun and placing it to the head of a repossession agent who was on-site to reclaim Heather Jolley’s Chevrolet Cavalier on behalf of Cornerstone Credit Union. “The two guys had proper paperwork,” Cameron said of the repo men work for Auto Trackers Recovery Inc. “They went over to load it, got it loaded and Jolley came out, displayed a gun and

marched them off the property and told them to put the car back on the ground.” Cameron confirmed that Jolley had placed a gun to the head of one of the men while escorting off his property. Owyhee County Court records show that Jolley entered a not guilty plea to a charge of felony aggravated assault during arraignment on Dec. 2. He is free on \$3,000 bond and is scheduled

for a 1:30 p.m. preliminary hearing on Monday in Murphy. Jolley has a concealed weapons permit, Cameron said, adding that he is in danger of losing the permit if he is convicted of the assault charge. The chief deputy added that Jolley went peacefully “after some verbal discontent on Jolley’s behalf,” and that he had returned the gun to his waistband by the time deputies had arrived.

The felony charge, which carries a maximum sentence of five years in prison and/or a \$5,000 fine, isn’t the first scrape Jolley has had with the law. In 2005, Homedale Police arrested Jolley on false imprisonment and battery charges after he argued with a man about parking at his business. The false imprisonment charged was dismissed in April 2006. Judgment was withheld (Jolley was never

convicted) on the battery charge after Jolley paid fines and served probation. Cameron said confrontations over auto repossession, while unusual, never goes as far as firearms being involved. “It’s not common, but we’ve had it before. Most of the time it’s verbal or a chest-bump,” Cameron said. — JPB


✓ Tax: Payments are higher despite the rough economy

jeopardize,” Richards said. Richards said there has been an increase in debit card and credit card payments during the second year of the Access Idaho program. During the 2007 assessment payment period, \$6,599.03 was paid through the program by Dec. 12. This year, \$9,631.87 in taxes were paid by credit card by the same date. She said that more property owners are paying their taxes in full than a year ago. But she said that could be because the assessments skyrocketed a year ago, rising to \$5.3 million, more than \$1 million higher than

2006. Property owners who pay only part of their bill by Monday have until June 22 to pay the balance. Again, the legal deadline is June 20, but because that also is a Saturday, the treasurer’s office will accept payments postmarked by June 22.

— JPB

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MARILYN BLACK

The family of Marilyn Black would like to express our deep gratitude to the Bruneau Community, the Catholic Community, Monsignor Hallissey, Father Raul, the wonderful staff at the Cottages in Mountain Home, Dr. Koelsch, and to all our friends and neighbors for the kindnesses shown to Mom over the years and during our recent loss. But most of all, we would like to thank Amber Castillo and her family for showing Mom the dignity and respect she deserved for her lifetime of love and dedication to her family and community.

God bless you all,

Terry & Letha Black & Family
Tony & Charlene Black & Family
Ann & David Rutan & Family
Martin & Jennifer Black & Family
Elaine Black
Burke & Gerri Black
Bret & Kimber Black & Family
Sandy Black

Calendar

Today

El-Ada commodity distribution
11 a.m. to noon, Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (208) 337-4812

Advent Soup Suppers
6 p.m., free, Advent services at 7 p.m., Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, corner of Sixth Street and Idaho Avenue, Homedale. (208) 337-4248

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

Grand View Elementary Christmas Pageant
7 p.m., Rimrock Jr.-Sr. High School, 39678 State Hwy. 78, Bruneau. (208) 834-2775

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

Thursday

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

Senior citizens lunch
Noon, Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View

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

Grand View-Bruneau school board meeting
7 p.m., Rimrock High School, 39678 Hwy 78, Bruneau. (208) 834-2253

Middle school Christmas concert
7 p.m., fifth- and sixth-graders, Homedale Middle School, 3437 Johnstone Road

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

Friday

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

Monday

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

St. Luke’s mobile mammography
9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., call for appointment, Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (866) 381-2055

Owyhee Conservation District board meeting
10 a.m., 250 N. Old Bruneau Highway, Marsing. (208) 896-4544

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

Tuesday

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

Senior citizens Christmas party
1 p.m., dinner and gift exchange, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

Senior citizens dinner
6 p.m., Rimrock Senior Citizens Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (208) 834-2808

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

Wednesday

Grand View Chamber of Commerce meeting
6 p.m., Grand View Firehouse, Grand View.

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

Friday, Dec. 26

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, Dec. 28

Grand View Chamber of Commerce meeting
6 p.m., Grand View fire station

Monday, Dec. 29

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

Tuesday, Dec. 30

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

Senior citizens dinner
6 p.m., Rimrock Senior Citizens Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (208) 834-2808

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

Wednesday, Dec. 31

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

Friday, Jan. 2

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, Jan. 5

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

Tuesday, Jan. 6

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

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

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

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

Senior citizens dinner
6 p.m., Rimrock Senior Citizens Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (208) 834-2808

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

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



Bet You Didn’t Know

The name game: From Mickey to Moe and 2 Joes

Attila the Hun ... general all around bad guy ... died on his wedding night. No reason given.

As of 1998, the most popular name for a male in England was ... John.

If you said there had been six members of the comedy team ... The Three Stooges, you’d be right. That would be Moe, Curly, Larry, Shemp and two Joes.


Disney introduced Mickey Mouse in 1928. He was the first talking cartoon character. Makes him about 80 years old these days.

I don’t care what you heard in school, if you swallow gum it won’t stick to your heart.

The author George Orwell’s real name was Eric Blair.

The name of that 630-foot arch in St. Louis is the Gateway Arch. Now you know.

— *For more information on Peary Perry or to read more of his writings or to make a comment, visit www.pearyperry.com*



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\$23.35 to \$34.85 plus \$6.50 federal end user charge for single line business service.

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Low income individuals eligible for the Lifeline and Link-up assistance programs may be eligible for discounts from these basic service rates through the Oregon and Idaho telephone assistance programs and may also receive toll call blocking service without charge.

For information on our services, including Lifeline eligibility, or to place an order for service, contact the Oregon-Idaho Utilities, Inc., business office at:

(800) 624-0082

Keep up with county news in the Avalanche

Homedale church serves free soup supper

Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Homedale will hold the second and final Advent Soup Suppers today at the church, on the corner of Sixth Street and West Idaho Avenue.

The church also is planning special Christmas Eve and Christmas services this year, too.

For more information, call 337-4248.

Adrian grad helps Yotes debate to 2nd

Adrian High School graduate Kat Sillonis continues to help The College of Idaho Howlin' Yotes Speech and Debate Team this season.

When the Howlin' Yotes placed second at the Linfield College Speech and Debate Tournament, Sillonis was right there winning a debate award along with her partner Gerald Kirangama.

The Howlin' Yotes next compete in late January at the Northwest Conference finale at Western Washington University. The season ends in March at the National Championship Tournament at LSU-Shreveport.

Skinner cattle win award

Jordan Valley's Skinner Ranches earlier this year was recognized for excellence in beef quality.

Skinner Ranches collected one of 14 GridMaster Awards handed out at the Sept. 17-19 National Red Angus Convention in Cheyenne, Wyo.

The Skinner Ranches award was reported by BEEF Magazine on Dec. 8 on the Internet. Skinner was one of only two natural-fed operations to win GridMasters this year.

Skinner Ranches won the award as a commercial cow-calf producer processing their cattle as Natural through a Tyson plant in Washington state.

According to the BEEF Magazine online article, in order to GridMaster status, Red Angus or Red Angus-influenced animals enrolled in the Red Angus Feeder Calf Certification Program (FCCP) must be harvested through the Angus America or Meyer Natural Angus grids; or through Tyson's Pasco, Wash., plant providing they meet either the conventional- or natural-fed GridMaster specifications.

Natural-fed producers must have at least 30 head in a lot with a minimum of 85 percent of the cattle graded Choice or higher.

The Grid Score balances high percentages of Premium Products, Yield Grade 1s and 2s and USDA Choice-Grade cattle with minimal percentages of Yield Grade 4s.

Skinner's lot scored 95 percent Choice and 54 percent Yield Grade 1s and 2s. The cattle was fed at the Y-1 Farms Feedyard in Vale, Ore.

Read neighbor news
in the Avalanche

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THE OC

Folks worth knowing in Owyhee County

BOB HULSE, HOMEDALE Karcher Mall Santa Claus

Know someone worth knowing? Contact the Avalanche with feature ideas at jon@owyheeavalanche.com or (208) 337-4681.

Jolly St. Nick means more than just a red suit

Santa lives in Bob Hulse.

Which is to say Hulse lives and breathes Santa, and in turn breathes life into that beloved Christmas icon.

Hulse, a Homedale native, put on the red suit and the black boots for the first time in Mountain Home at a Kay's Book Store. He's been the Karcher Mall Santa in Nampa for 23 years.

"I got into it by mistake," he said, "and I'm still in it."

Hulse is a fairly wiry 69-year-old with the long, white hair and beard kids expect. They take his 185 pounds pretty well, as he explains it as being a healthier Santa who is concerned about heart attack and strokes.

He was initially pestered into the role of the Karcher Mall jolly old elf by a friend who worked in the deli at the Caldwell Paul's Market. Though, despite claims to the contrary, it probably didn't take too much prodding to put Hulse in the hotseat.

"I have a lot of fun with it," admits Hulse, after attempting to convince his listener that he really doesn't like kids. "Tears have come to my eyes more times than I can count."

Not as many children ask for expensive toys — at this point favorites like Barbie and Nintendo Wiis — as one might think. Many of the requests are sweeter, and sadder. Hulse recounted the story of one 10-year-old boy whose only Christmas wish was that his mommy and daddy wouldn't fight any more.

"I'm a gruff old man, but I have a soft heart," Hulse said. More than one Christmas request has had him blinking back tears.

A family who has visited him yearly for half a decade sticks in his memory. He recalled the first time he met the children, two sisters, both about 10 or 11 years of age, both walking into the mall with the stiff-legged, labored gait of a child in leg braces. Their mother was with them, and in the rear, also laboring in his own leg-braces, was their father. When the girls got their turn with Santa, the younger nudged the older.

The girls didn't want anything for themselves for Christmas, Hulse recalls. They asked, instead, if Santa could bring some camping gear that would make it



Santa prepares to meet his fans

Santa Claus, who also assumes the identity of Homedale resident Bob Hulse, combs his long white hair in his Karcher Mall dressing room in preparation for another day of hearing children's Christmas wishes.

easier for their dad to go camping again.

Santa said he'd try.

One of the elves working with Santa turned to Hulse, tears in her eyes, and asked, "How can you stand it, Santa?"

Santa and the elves had to retreat to the break room for a bit that day, Hulse said. The girls are yearly regulars, now in their teens. One is in a wheelchair, now.

That pair, like many others, are yearly visitants and form a sort of vast extended family that Hulse sees once a year. While he may not remember each and every one of them — at peak season his lap is occupied by 400 or more wish-makers each day — many remember him, and make a point of visiting him annually.

On Sunday, he had a visitor who brought a request that Santa had never seen before: A 29-year-old man, out of work and out of luck, brought a typewritten letter, sealed and addressed to Santa, seeking some type of intervention in his attempt to get his life back on track.

"Santa, I don't know what to do so I am asking you to help me out however you can," the man wrote in his letter.

"He was patient. He stood in line with everyone else," Hulse said. "He said,

Hulse is a professional storyteller in addition to being a professional Santa. He is a mine

of anecdotes and wit. That quickness, he said, is vital to being a good Santa.

"When a kid asks you a question, you have to have the answer right there," he said. There is no time to ponder a reasoned response to "Why are you limping, Santa?" from a 4-year-old, Hulse explained. You'd best be able to respond with a story of how Donner accidentally kicked you in the shin that morning while harnessing him to the sleigh without missing a beat.

Knowing how to answer an endless variety of questions; how to hold a baby with a dangerously loaded diaper — without getting anything interesting on your Santa suit; and how to circumspectly find out if the parents waiting behind the child are going to be supplying the bike Santa was just asked for are among the skills a Santa needs. The most valuable, to Hulse, is his ability to read children.

That ability to read mood and intent helps him appear a step ahead, and properly magical. Question as to the naughty/nice points for the year might include a casual "Well, but weren't you and your brother(s) fighting a lot this summer?" — a question that can make eyes bug out, and help make the experience that much more impressive for children.

It even works in supermarkets. Several years ago, Hulse was witness to a mother whose child



was having a rampaging tantrum. Hulse, with long white beard and shoulder-length white hair, as well as a suspiciously Santa-ish set of glasses, strolled up, took out a pad of paper and began to write down notes. The child immediately went silent, his eyes went wide and, Hulse said, he didn't hear another peep during his shopping trip.

The art of being Santa is one that most serious method actors would immediately recognize when Hulse describes it.

"It's a bit like being a Christian," he said, "Or a sinner. If you're going to do anything, do it 365 days a year. Don't be a hypocrite."

Live the role. Internalize it and invest it with real emotion.

"You've got to convince yourself before you can convince anyone else," Hulse said.

Hulse lives with Santa in his heart every day, and it has changed some of the things he does. Back in 1985, when he decided to wear the red suit professionally, he told his wife he was giving up drinking and smoking his pipe. When she asked why he would want to do that, he answered that the children who came to visit him should have all the respect in the world, and that included Santa not smelling like stale pipe smoke, or faintly of Jack Daniels.

"Anybody can put on a red suit and say they're Santa," he said. "You have to be it in your heart 365 days a year. You don't have

to give gifts all year, but you do have to play and feel the part all the time."

Hulse took the mantle of Santa from his mentor and predecessor, Art Yenton.

In addition to being Santa, Yenton was in two movies with Clint Eastwood, Hulse said; Bronco Billy and Paint Your Wagon.

"His Santa boots were in those two movies," Hulse said.

Yenton was a teacher in Parma and a genuinely sharp man, Hulse said. He's buried, along with his wife, at Pleasant Ridge off Pride Lane.

In 1985, Yenton, who was getting up in years at that time, asked Hulse to meet him at the dressing room at the mall. Yenton, who had told Hulse that, when the time came for someone to replace him, Hulse would simply know, shook Hulse's hand and told him "You're going to be it, now."

"This was years before that 'Santa Clause' movie with Tim Allen," Hulse said with a laugh. "He really did pass it on."

Hulse himself has his eye on his own replacement. After numerous suggestions from other people, none of which felt right to Hulse, he's found his own understudy, who will have time to study the master at work before taking over the reins.

"I've got another 30 years to go," quips Hulse with a grin.

— MML

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U.S. 95 unlikely to see widening for at least 15 years

A state transportation official visiting Homedale last week said the widening of a treacherous part of U.S. Highway 95 could be two decades away.

The Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) held a public meeting soliciting comment on the U.S. 95 corridor study as part of the 20-year master corridor plan to address the route. The comments provided by the public are the best chance ITD has to find some way of dealing with the decaying and narrow roadway between Homedale and Marsing.

Project manager Phil Choate of ITD was careful to point out that the plan has many issues — not the least of which is lack of funding and a horizon date of 2030 or so for any widening of the road between Homedale and the junction with Idaho highway 55.

Choate was in town Dec. 9 for two U.S. 95 workshops at the Homedale Senior Citizens Center. About two dozen people attended the meeting, including Homedale Mayor Harold Wilson and Jerry Hoagland and Harold “Hal” Tolmie, Owyhee County commissioners from District 1 and District 2, respectively.

The resurfacing of the section, planned for 2010 at a cost of \$2.8 million, should go forward as its funding is in place, with over half the money coming from the U.S. Department of Transportation. Resurfacing will also occur on U.S. 95 in Owyhee County between milepost 15 and the Oregon line (\$5.5 million), and between Wilder and Parma (\$2.3 million) in Canyon County.

The repaving will do little or nothing to deal with the narrowness of the route between

Homedale and the junction with Idaho 55.

“It’s a temporary band-aid,” Choate said. The problems of the stretch in question run deeper and require a more expensive widening and re-engineering. How that will be accomplished without a 20-year planning process is a question ITD would like help answering.

“Frankly, the plan’s a decade overdue. We know there’s no shoulder and that the route’s narrow,” Choate said of the stretch. But, as he pointed out, statistically the road is under averages for accidents and makes the grade for the amount of traffic currently utilizing it. Local input is the best chance ITD has for finding methods and support to tackle the issue. Public comments, and the more the better, are what have a chance of getting the stretch

improved, Choate intimated.

“We need to know where we can grab the low-hanging fruit,” he said.

The economic crash has affected ITD negatively, with material costs rising and tax incomes dropping. This puts all but the highest priority projects on hold.

Hopes of federal help, should President-elect Barack Obama’s public works programs materialize, are slim. The programs, as discussed so far, are angled toward 90-day “shovel ready” projects. The planning and engineering on a project such as U.S. 95 takes more than a year, Choate said. This, combined with an original three-lane improvement plan dating back more than a decade, and now seen as outdated and over-engineered by ITD management, Choate said,

means there’s no way to put this section of U.S. 95 into a 90-day readiness.

“Submit your comments ... the issues and problems and things you’ve run across ... to help modify the plan,” Choate asked attendees at the end of the meeting.

Local drivers and property owners along the route are encouraged to submit comments to ITD. Choate may be contacted at 334-8901 or by e-mail at phil.choate@itd.idaho.gov. Those interested may join the study mailing list by sending your name and address to comments@itd.idaho.gov or call 334-4444.

More information is available online at the itd.idaho.gov Web site, under Projects, Southwest Idaho, U.S. 95 Corridor Study.

— MML

New businesses dot Homedale landscape



Discount store opens in strip mall

Russell and Heidi Wolfe stand outside their new Homedale Discount Store at 132 E. Idaho Ave. The couple opened their store last week, with a grand opening held during Saturday’s Homedale for the Holidays Parade. The Wolfes recently moved to Caldwell from Tulsa, Okla., and leased the suite in the Homedale strip mall because of the location and rental price, Russell said. Homedale Discount Store will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sundays through Christmas. Russell said the 1,400-square-foot store will be stocked with discounted name-brand canned goods, snacks and other household staples. A lot of the merchandise is purchased from reverse logistics brokers, who buy items from larger store chains who are looking to get rid of inventory.



Local shop transforms old jewelry

Cyndi Smith of Aquarius Design in Homedale hates waste and loves to be creative. She markets her ingenuity with recycled materials through jewelry and housewares that she sells at Aquarius Design, 6 W. Owyhee Ave. in Homedale. Smith sells a mix of handmade jewelry, crystal, vintage lamps, candles, locally made Buttercup Soaps, fabric and more. The shop is open Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The shop can be contacted at (208) 249-9814.



Homedale man opens downtown store

Homedale resident Jose Vargas opened his La Michoacana store at the corner of Main Street and Idaho Avenue last month. He stocked the shelves with beverages, snacks and retail items such as blankets.

Vargas’ store in the old TC’s 24-7 is open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Chamber holds festive luncheon

The Homedale Chamber of Commerce celebrated the season and looked ahead in its final luncheon meeting of 2008 on Thursday.

President Gavin Parker opened the floor to nominations for his position, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.

“I feel like I have unfinished business, and even though it’s pretty time-consuming, I’d be happy to serve another year as president,” Parker said.

Parker was nominated for president, Eagle-based developer Ron Mayhew was suggested as vice-president, Maleta Henry of Rehab Authority was the only nominee for treasurer, and Homedale City Clerk and Treasurer Alice Pegram and Dairyland Seed representative Sheila Matteson were nominated for treasurer.

Nominations will be accepted until the Chamber’s Jan. 15 meeting.

Early-bird membership dues specials were discussed. Dues before March 10 will be \$25 for a business with five employees or fewer, \$35 for six to 10 workers and \$50 for 11 workers or more.

After the business meeting, the Homedale High School choir performed 10 songs under the direction of David Sintay.



Jennifer Dixon sings during Thursday’s performance.

Gift drives near end

Final days to donate: Today throughout Homedale, Thursday at Snake River Mart

Community gift tree drives in Homedale and Marsing are winding down before distribution to needy families Saturday.

Today is the final day to turn in donations for the Homedale Wish Tree, while the Marsing gift tree drive will take presents until the close of business Thursday at Snake River Mart.

On Saturday, Homedale Police and Fire personnel will distribute gifts from the annual Wish Tree drive coordinated by Beta Sigma Phi. Marsing volunteer firefighters will hand out presents for the Marsing gift tree program beginning at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

Snake River Mart employee Vicki Green started up the gift drive again his year after an absence of a few years.

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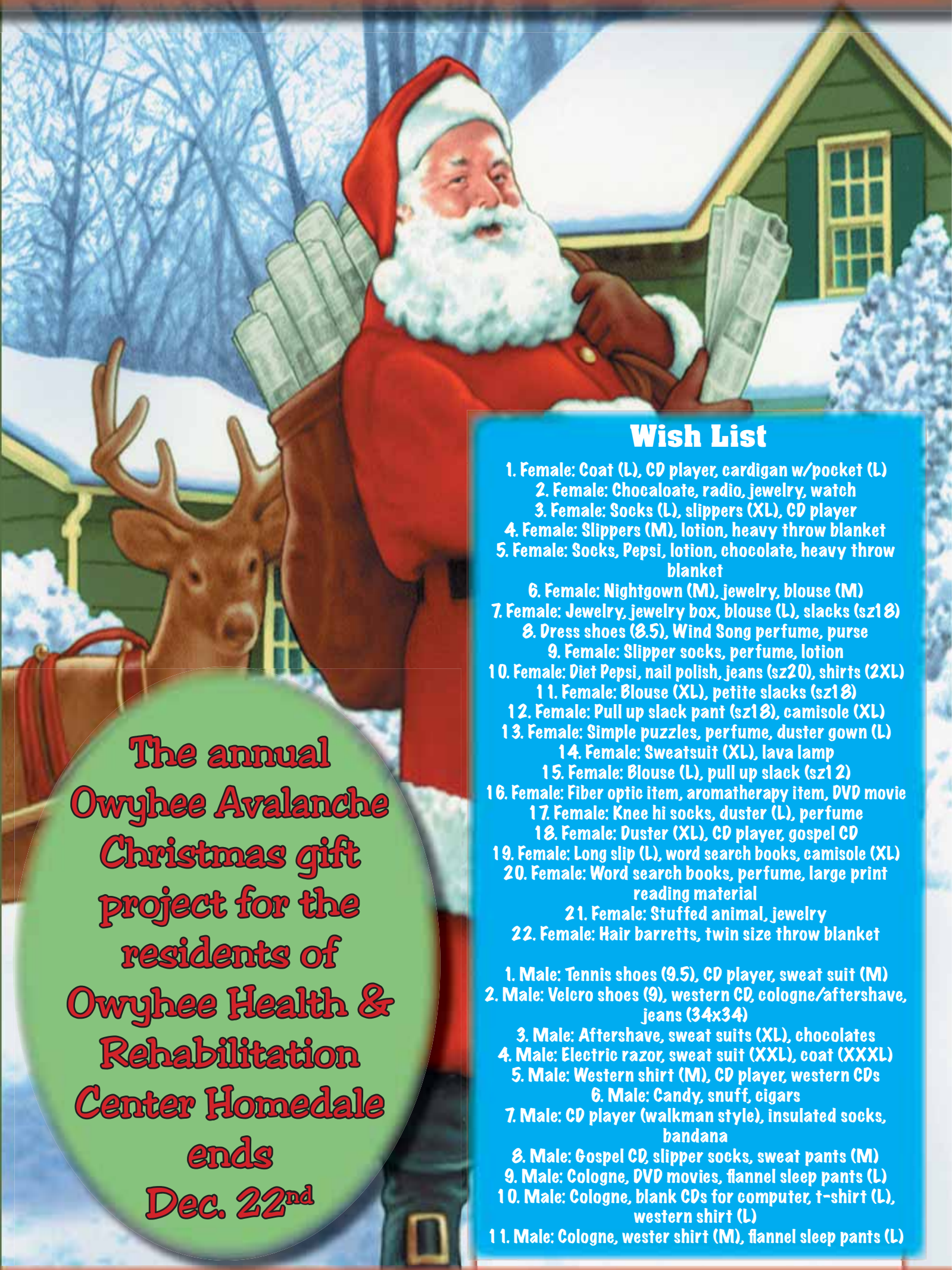
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Happy Holidays

Residents have included several gifts on their wish lists, but local "Santas" need only to select one item. Gifts may be gift wrapped and tagged with the number and item selected.

Gifts need to be dropped off to the Avalanche office by Dec. 22nd

DELIVERING OUR BEST



The annual
Owyhee Avalanche
Christmas gift
project for the
residents of
Owyhee Health &
Rehabilitation
Center Homedale
ends
Dec. 22nd

Wish List

1. Female: Coat (L), CD player, cardigan w/pocket (L)
2. Female: Chocaloate, radio, jewelry, watch
3. Female: Socks (L), slippers (XL), CD player
4. Female: Slippers (M), lotion, heavy throw blanket
5. Female: Socks, Pepsi, lotion, chocolate, heavy throw blanket
6. Female: Nightgown (M), jewelry, blouse (M)
7. Female: Jewelry, jewelry box, blouse (L), slacks (sz18)
8. Dress shoes (8.5), Wind Song perfume, purse
9. Female: Slipper socks, perfume, lotion
10. Female: Diet Pepsi, nail polish, jeans (sz20), shirts (2XL)
11. Female: Blouse (XL), petite slacks (sz18)
12. Female: Pull up slack pant (sz18), camisole (XL)
13. Female: Simple puzzles, perfume, duster gown (L)
14. Female: Sweatsuit (XL), lava lamp
15. Female: Blouse (L), pull up slack (sz12)
16. Female: Fiber optic item, aromatherapy item, DVD movie
17. Female: Knee hi socks, duster (L), perfume
18. Female: Duster (XL), CD player, gospel CD
19. Female: Long slip (L), word search books, camisole (XL)
20. Female: Word search books, perfume, large print reading material
21. Female: Stuffed animal, jewelry
22. Female: Hair barretts, twin size throw blanket
1. Male: Tennis shoes (9.5), CD player, sweat suit (M)
2. Male: Velero shoes (9), western CD, cologne/after shave, jeans (34x34)
3. Male: After shave, sweat suits (XL), chocolates
4. Male: Electric razor, sweat suit (XXXL), coat (XXXL)
5. Male: Western shirt (M), CD player, western CDs
6. Male: Candy, snuff, cigars
7. Male: CD player (walkman style), insulated socks, bandana
8. Male: Gospel CD, slipper socks, sweat pants (M)
9. Male: Cologne, DVD movies, flannel sleep pants (L)
10. Male: Cologne, blank CDs for computer, t-shirt (L), western shirt (L)
11. Male: Cologne, wester shirt (M), flannel sleep pants (L)

Miscellaneous Items: Western of Family DVDs, games, oldie karaoke CDs, heavy throw blankets, twin size pillows, trivia games, word search puzzles, memory games.

Marsing, Homedale brave co



**Marsing makes
a day of it**
Clockwise from above:
*Parade grand marshals Ruth
and Gene Clapier*
*Marsing American Legion
Post 128*
*Mrs. Claus and Santa with
youngsters at A Day at the North
Pole at the community center*
The Marsing school band
*The Owyhee Cattlemen's
Association board of directors
won for best float*
*The Spot float, complete
with favorite pizzas of Santa's
reindeers*



The power o Lights and music con

Josh and Jessica Bauer of Marsing like Chr
This year they have 19,500 of them up.
The lights — mostly incandescent bulbs, a
strings — are synched to the Bauers' 107.5 F
tune their car radio to the frequency and hear
a synchronized light show.
Just putting up the lights takes weeks.
Halloween.
Dovetailing the light show to the music rec
Bauers spent 10 hours of work on each four-m
doing the proper things at the proper time, Jos
about 25 minutes long, featuring six songs, b
The display is run by a reworked Mr. Ch
remanufactured for the job, and a wireless F
computer.
This year, the display is running 32 separat
if he can. He has plans to add a 20-foot super
more music to the holiday show.
Complex Christmas light displays are somet
homeowners and studies other designers' plan
The display only pulls about 20 amps, Ba
machine, since not all the lights are on at the
The show can be seen on Patton Street, just

Old to warm up for holiday



Band, businesses partake
Clockwise from above:

A trumpeter plays as the Homedale school band moves east down Idaho Avenue.

Santa hands a youngster a bag of treats while standing between Homedale fire trucks after Saturday's parade.

The Pruett Lumber and Supply float was a forklift being pulled by tiny reindeer.

Jeff Jackson, left, and Claudio Garcia make sure Snoopy is secure for the ride on the Dairyland Seed entry.

As with many entries, the Donna's Daycare float had a dedicated candy-tosser that walked along the route.

Pruett Lumber and Supply, Dairyland Seed and Donna's Daycare split evenly the \$60 prize pool for best entries.



Parade-goers pack sidewalks for Homedale event

Spectators braved blustery winds that created one of the coldest days of the year Saturday to view the annual Homedale for the Holidays parade. Parade entries from Donna's Daycare, Pruett Lumber and Supply and Dairyland Seed split the top prize for entries, sharing a \$60 prize pool. Several businesses were represented in the parade. There were two classic car entries, and a host of emergency vehicles from Homedale and Wilder.

The Homedale Schools marching band and other school district representatives — including a trailer full of singers — also made the trek west on Owyhee Avenue and east on

Idaho Avenue.

Other parade entries included Idaho Power, Pruett Tire, Paul's Market, a group of women calling themselves Santa's Elves Over 70 and others. After the parade, Santa Claus handed out scores of goodie bags packed two days earlier by 4-Hers. The bags included an orange, peanuts and candy provided by the Homedale Lions Club. Chamber president Gavin Parker awarded dozens of turkeys donated by businesses and a handful of gift baskets created by the Homedale Senior Citizens Center.

Drawing winners included:
Shari Castro, Carolyn Turner, Ryan Conner, Darlene Loosli, Patricia Dickinson, Pam Car-

son, Rebekah Page, Tabitha Rios, Jose Uriarte, Kristi McCutchen, Jerry Anderson, Gabriel Vega, Gloria Conner, Carol Cobb, Barbara Hall, Annie Davis, Marty Young, Robyn Page, John McBride, Sondra Bicknell, Bob Hulse, Terry Mahler, Carol Ebbers, Allen Mitchell, Riley Grimes, Donna Fisher, Samuel Page, Heidi Apel, Kimberly Scarbrough, Dannette Ritzert, Keith Stansell, Sylvia Stewart, Bonnie Hedrick, Judy Donnell, Lynda Woodhall, Joe Gentry, Lupe Cobb, Don and Kathy Young, Andrea Vega and Evelyn Maurer.

Businesses and groups that donated turkeys included:
Western Alliance for Economic Develop-

ment, City of Homedale, Homedale Realty, Tolmie's Appliance, Homedale School District, Kitfox Aircraft LLC, Owyhee Publishing Co., Bowen Parker Day CPAs, Cathy Smith-Group One, Owyhee County Probation Department, Owyhee Health and Rehab, Dairyland Seed Co., Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Matteson's-Owyhee Motors, Owyhee Auto Supply, Busy Bee Preschool, Aquarius Design, Rehab Authority, Jim White-White Automotive, Greg Evans-Harvest Realty, Patti Zatica, The Owyhee Avalanche, Homedale Chiropractic Center, Owyhee Realty-Charlene Uranga, Owyhee Lanes and the Homedale Lions Club.

— JPB

f Christmas mbine in yard display

Christmas lights.

as Josh is not a fan of the reliability of LED M broadcast of Christmas songs. Viewers can Christmas classics and more while watching

Josh began putting up the first strings at

quires hours at the computer, in addition. The minute song to make sure the proper lights were h said. At this point, the broadcast and show is ut the Bauers are working on adding more. Christmas controller that Josh pulled apart and M broadcast package, the whole run by their

re circuits. Josh wants to get to 100 next year, tree next year as well, and will be adding even

thing that fascinates Josh. He corresponds with ns online as part of his hobby.

auer said, about the equivalent of a washing same time.

t off of 7th Avenue West.

— MML



Rimrock boys lose
first two WIC games

Avalanche Sports

Homedale girls bat
.500 for the week

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2008

Middle school athletics



Huskies can't grab championship

Marsing Middle School eighth-grade girls' basketball player Ashley Hull concentrates on grabbing a rebound as New Plymouth's Emma Abbe tries to swat the ball from her grasp Thursday in the 2A Western Idaho Conference tournament championship game.

Marsing loses title game

Marsing Middle School's eighth-grade girls' basketball team couldn't get shots to fall down the stretch Thursday in a championship-game loss to New Plymouth.

The Pilgrims scored the final nine points of the 2A Western Idaho Conference tournament final

in Marsing to take home a 22-18 victory and the league championship.

"We had a fantastic season, and even though we didn't win the tournament we still finished with the best record in the league," Huskies coach

— See *Marsing*, page 17

HMS wrestlers win 4 district crowns

Nearly half of the Homedale Middle School wrestlers competing in the 3A District III Tournament finished in the top three of their weight classes on Saturday in Ontario, Ore.

"This was a good, solid performance," HMS coach Toby Johnson said.

"After having only six or

seven kids out for wrestling last year, and placing even fewer (in 2007 districts), this was much better. We are building and improving."

Four wrestlers walked away with championships, including Cayetano Montes at 117 pounds and Brad McCain at 185 pounds, both of whom

finished the season unbeaten. McCain went 10-0, and Montes was 7-0.

Michael Deleon was the district 75-pound champion, and 96-pounder Joel Campos Jr. also collected a district title after a 14-2 season.

— See *Wrestlers*, page 17

Homedale boys shake slump, keep on winning

The weather wasn't the only thing that was chilly Saturday, but once Homedale High School's shooters warmed up on the road, the Trojans rolled to another boys' basketball victory.

After hitting just one of a dozen shots in the first quarter, the Trojans drained 17 of their final 36 shots for a 52-37 non-conference victory over host Parma.

The victory put Homedale (4-1 overall) back on a winning path after suffering the first loss of the season Thursday on the road against Nampa Christian.

Parma owned a 4-3 lead after the first quarter as both teams

were icy. But after Homedale coach Kenny Thomas called a timeout with 3½ minutes left in the first half there seemed to be no stopping the Trojans.

Homedale (4-1 overall) embarked on an 11-2 run to erase a four-point deficit then opened the second half with 20 points in the first eight minutes.

Senior Austin Emry led a balanced scoring night with 12 points on 6-for-8 shooting from the floor. Tyler Gibson nailed six consecutive foul shots en route to eight points, while Ryan Garrett was 2-for-4 from behind

— See *Boys*, page 16



Trojans' ball hawks soar

Parma's Tyler Ford is swarmed by, from left, Homedale High School's Tyler Gibson, Grant Sweet and Rodrigo Villarreal during Saturday's home-court victory for the Trojans. Photo by Gregg Garrett

Wrestlers make most of rare home date

Homedale High School lost only twice on the mat in Wednesday's season-opening dual against the Bishop Kelly wrestling squad.

Coach Toby Johnson began his second decade as the Trojans' coach with a 57-18 win over the Knights from Boise.

"It was a great way to start the season. We dominated," Johnson said.

"We also got to show-off our brand new Dollamur mat. The community has been very supportive of our fundraisers and we are very thankful for that."

Six of Homedale's wins came by pinfall, including a 26-second quickie by 125-pounder Justin Ensley. Joe Mac Hernandez pinned his opponent at 152 pounds in 91 seconds, while Phillip Moulton (119), Kevin Abels (171), Rowdy Lair (215) and Brandon Valadez (heavyweight) also recorded pins.

A senior, Valadez dispatched his opponent in 18 seconds.

Danny Zenor was the only victorious Trojan who went the distance Wednesday in varsity action, capturing his 145-pound match by a score of 10-5.

Johnson said his junior varsity wrestlers lost only one match against Bishop Kelly, with Trevor Meligan, two victories, and Dylan Kushlan winning by pinfall.

The dual meet marked the first of a handful of home dates for the Trojans, who play host to the 3A District III Tournament on Feb. 21.

Other home meets for Homedale include 3A Snake River Valley conference duals against Payette (Jan. 13) and archrival Weiser (Feb. 12) and the Jan. 31 Homedale Team Duals.

Homedale will compete close to home on Jan. 6 with a non-conference dual meet at Marsing.



Mercado narrowly misses win

Homedale High School's Kevin Mercado began his senior season with a 7-4 loss to Bishop Kelly 160-pounder Keegan Geis on Wednesday inside the Trojans' gymnasium.

Dwindling population pressures Mustangs

When Chris Elsner took over the Jordan Valley High School girls' basketball program, she inherited a problem built on numbers.

"With the student population in the Jordan Valley High School dropping, especially on the girls side, our program will be building on young players that will need to step up and play at a varsity level," Elsner said.

Elsner is in her fifth year of helping coach girls' basketball and volleyball at Jordan Valley.

— See *Mustangs*, page 15

Sports

Cantrell scores 14 against Patriots

Rimrock High School senior Anna Cantrell, left, takes a shot over the defense of Amanda Gilmore during the teams' 1A Western Idaho Conference game played Dec. 8 in Nampa.



Rimrock in familiar spot atop conference

Anna Cantrell pulled down 20 of her team's 55 rebounds Friday as Rimrock High School stayed unbeaten in 1A Western Idaho Conference girls' basketball play.

Shoni Gennette collected a double-double of 18 points and 12 rebounds in the Raiders' easy 69-18 victory over Wilder in Bruneau. Gennette erupted for 10 points in the second quarter after going scoreless for the opening eight minutes.

Kaile Murray hit a pair of three-point goals and finished 16 points to go with four steals, while Randie Denton led the way with six assists.

Rimrock (8-1 overall, 5-0 1A WIC) owned a 42-12 lead at halftime after scoring 25 points in the second quarter.

Ariel Savage hit four of seven free throws and finished with eight points for Wilder.

The Raiders played Greenleaf Friends Academy on Monday in a showdown at the top of the conference. Results from the game weren't available at press time.

Rimrock 34,
Liberty Charter 26
Murray hit a three-pointer with

3 minutes, 43 seconds left as the Raiders scored the final nine points of the game for another fourth-quarter comeback win Monday in Nampa. The trey accounted for the only points in the 1A WIC game for Murray.

The come-from-behind conference victory was the second in a week for Rimrock.

Rimrock coach Mike Chandler said the lack of experienced guards has been a key in the Raiders' early-season hiccups. The longtime backcourt duo of Shelby Chandler and Ellie Cantrell graduated last spring.

"We don't have that go-to player," Chandler said. "I think it's more of a leadership role that we need. Someone to step in and say, 'This is what we have to do'."

Anna Cantrell scored 14 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, and Gennette scored nine points and corralled seven boards.

Liberty Charter held a 16-15 lead at halftime and scored the first six points of the fourth quarter to erase a 25-20 Rimrock edge.

Emily Rainboth scored nine points for the Patriots, while Aimee Washburn hit a three-pointer and finished with eight points for the Nampa school.

✓ Mustangs: New coach welcomes slew of youngsters

From Page 14

As an assistant, she has seen four 1A Oregon state playoff games in basketball and a state championship and a second-place finish in volleyball.

But, now that she has assumed the hoops duties from Doug Rutan, Elsner is staring the responsibility down from the point.

She takes over a team that has eight players returning from last year's campaign that resulted in fourth-place showings in the High Desert League regular season and the district tournament.

The returners — all veterans of the varsity — include seniors Kayla Cuvelier, Emma Johnson, Catie Kershner and Nickie Naegle.

Three juniors — Anne Marie Eiguren, Ashley Hebison and Michelle Telleria — are back as is sophomore Shelly Payne.

"These girls have played varsity for the last three years," Elsner said of the bulk of her returners. "They are a strong team with a good work ethic."

With the aforementioned reliance on underclassmen, Elsner looks to a trio of freshmen to provide a spark — Meagan Fillmore, Jessi Carson and Haley Hebison.

"While these girls are new to the program, they are willing to step up and go into the game whenever we need them," Elsner said.

— JPB

Mustangs get first victories of year

Jordan Valley High School's girls' basketball team has found its usual winning ways it seems.

The Mustangs began the High Desert League season last week with three victories.

Jordan Valley (3-2 overall, 3-0 HDL) capped the week with a 53-30 home victory over Prairie City on Saturday. No details of the game were provided.

On Friday, coach Chris Elsner's squad pounded visiting Dayville/Monument, 58-33, behind 16 points from Kayla Cuvelier and 12 points and seven assists from Catie Kershner.

"The whole team got to play," Elsner said. "We started off strong and was able to score off of some Monument/Dayville turnovers."

Kershner led the team with four steals, while Cuvelier came up with three. Cuvelier also had a team-high eight rebounds, with Emma Johnson added seven and Shelly Payne chipping in six.

Meagan Fillmore notched 10

points and six rebounds.

"The team is improving every game," Elsner said.

On Dec. 9, Kershner notched team highs with 13 points and six steals as the Mustangs got their first victory of the season in their league opener, beating host Huntington 38-22.

Kayla Cuvelier added eight points, eight rebounds and five steals for Jordan Valley as Elsner got her first victory as the Mustangs' coach.

Johnson added eight points, while Anne Marie Eiguren had six rebounds. She and Ashley Hebison had three assists apiece.

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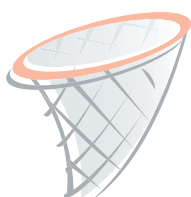
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Trojan Winter Sports



BASKETBALL

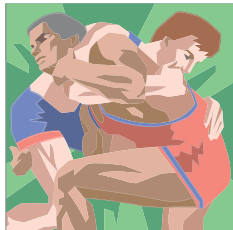
Boys basketball
Varsity
Thursday, Dec. 18, home vs. Melba, 7:30 p.m.
Junior varsity
Thursday, Dec. 18, home vs. Melba, 6 p.m.
Freshman
Thursday, Dec. 18, home vs. Melba, 4:45 p.m.














Girls basketball
Varsity
Friday, Dec. 19, home vs. Weiser, 7:30 p.m.
Junior varsity
Friday, Dec. 19, home vs. Weiser, 6 p.m.
Freshman
Friday, Dec. 19, home vs. Weiser, 4:45 p.m.

WRESTLING

Saturday, Dec. 20 at Mac Hi Tournament,
Milton-Freewater, Ore.



Go Trojans!

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Sports

Raiders boys falter

Rimrock High School boys' basketball coach Gary Jones pegged 1A Western Idaho Conference boys' basketball showdowns against Wilder as his team's rivalry games this year.

Wilder took Round 1 in decisive fashion Friday night, beating the Raiders, 56-26, in Bruneau.

The Wildcats held Rimrock to just four points in the first quarter and owned a 19-point lead after the first eight minutes.

Sam Richardson scored eight points for Rimrock, while teammate Stetson Dick added six.

Miguel Rodriguez turned in a double-double for Wilder with 19 points and 14 rebounds. Josh Rivera led all scorers

with 20 points for the visitors.

Liberty Charter 42, Rimrock 40

The Raiders' fourth-quarter comeback try fell short in the team's conference season opener in Nampa on Dec. 8.

Cody McCarthy scored all but two of his team-high 13 points in the second half for the Raiders, including four in the final period. But Rimrock couldn't overcome 18 turnovers, many of which were traveling calls in the first half.

Kurtis McConnell scored all eight of his points in the third quarter, and teammate Derek Linford added 10 points in the period as the Patriots opened a 33-28 lead. Linford led all scorers with 17 points.



Successful shots hard to come by for Rimrock

Rimrock High School's Dary Langitt, right, puts up a shot in a crowd after corraling an offensive rebound Dec. 8 in a 1A Western Idaho Conferenc loss to host Liberty Charter in Nampa. The shot was the third offensive attempt of the possession for the Raiders.

Boys: Emry pours in season-high point total in losing effort vs. NCHS

From Page 14

the three-point arc as part of his eight-point night.

"Tyler Gibson played pretty well, we just have to get his free-throw shooting shored up," Thomas said.

"He was 4-for-11 against Nampa Christian and he started the Parma game 0-for-4. He

finished the second half with six in a row to get to 6-for-10, so hopefully he's gaining some confidence at the line."

Rodrigo Villarreal also scored eight points and had a team-high five steals. Ryan Ryska dished four assists.

"In the Parma game, everybody scored. Everybody contributed,"

Thomas said.

Nampa Christian 54 Homedale 50

Homedale's shooters slumped as the Nampa Christian boys got their first win of the season and opened their new gymnasium with a victory.

"It was a nice facility, really nice. I don't think there was any real adjustment to the gym itself for our kids," Thomas said of any possible shooting woes created by

unfamiliar environs.

"Right now, I just think it's a mental thing. We're not getting to the rack as well. We're shooting a lot from the outside. Mostly I think it's a mental thing. Have to get confidence back."

Emry was 7-for-13 from the foul line and hit 54 percent for a season-high 21 points despite sitting the entire second quarter with foul trouble. He played just 21 minutes and only scored two points from inside the three-point

line or off the free-throw stripe. Emry popped three of his team's eight three-point goals.

"I thought Friday night was the best basketball game I'd ever seen him play all the way around," Thomas said. "He kept his head in it defense."

Grant Sweet, known for his inside play, also fired in three treys en route to 11 points.

Nampa Christian held a 36-32 edge on the backboards, and Thomas speculated that the hosts scored as many as 10 points on offensive putbacks. Justin Van Gundy led the way for NC with 16 points.

"NC has big guys, and I thought we played good defense," Thomas said. "We Just weren't as intense as we had been in past."

Gibson also scored 11 points, while Ryska led the team with five assists and seven steals.

Homedale 57 New Plymouth 56 (OT)

In a game that was close throughout, the Trojans scored just enough in the extra period at home to knock off the Pilgrims. Homedale had to wade through a season-high 24 turnovers.

"Our downfall in that game was turnovers," Thomas said. "We turned the ball over a lot, which was something we haven't been doing this year."

Three players reached double figures for Homedale, and three also pulled down 10 or more rebounds on a night that the Trojans needed every ounce of all-around play to withstand 11 three-pointers from New Plymouth.

Emry and Gibson each posted double-doubles, with Emry pouring in 17 points and grabbing 11 rebounds. Gibson had 12 points and 12 boards. Emry only missed one of his seven foul shots.

Villarreal snagged 11 rebounds to help the Trojans own an overwhelming 50-26 edge on the glass. Sweet also scored 14 points for the Trojans.

— JPB

MARSING
HUSKIES

BASKETBALL

Boys basketball
Varsity
Friday, Dec. 19 at Nyssa, Ore., Tournament
Saturday, Dec. 20 at Nyssa, Ore., Tournament

Girls basketball
Varsity
Thursday, Dec. 18 at New Plymouth, 7:30 p.m.
Junior varsity
Thursday, Dec. 18 at New Plymouth, 6 p.m.
Freshman
Thursday, Dec. 18 at New Plymouth, 4:45 p.m.

WRESTLING

Wednesday, Dec. 17 at Garden Valley tri-meet vs. Garden Valley and Cascade, 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 18 at Glenns Ferry tri-meet vs. Glenns Ferry and Valley, 6:30 p.m.

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Sports

Busy Trojans girls spilt four contests

A long week took its toll on the Homedale High School girls' basketball team.

The Trojans split four games, but paid the price for playing three games in three days at the end of the week, dropping two of the three.

Three of the four games were played on the road, with the only home date being a 45-40 comeback win over LaGrande, Ore.

The Trojans trailed 32-31 before scoring 14 points in the fourth quarter to grab the victory. All but one of the girls who saw action in the contest scored, led by seven points from Kendall Rupp.

Homedale also beat Cole Valley Christian on Dec. 9 in Meridian. The Trojans hit 23 of 34 free throws in a 51-34 non-conference win.

Mikal Mackenzie went 6-for-7 from the foul line, and Ashley Thomson was 6-for-8. Both scored eight points.

Freshman guard Brooke

Moehlmann led the Chargers with nine points, while Andrea DeMers, a senior post, chipped in eight.

On Thursday, Homedale helped Nampa Christian open its new gymnasium. Nampa Christian scored 18 points in the fourth quarter to break open the game for a 49-35 non-league victory.

Rachelle Christoffersen led Homedale with nine points and 14 rebounds.

"In each of the first three games, we played well for the most part. Our defense is really starting to come around. We are forcing teams to take tough shots, and are doing a good job of rebounding the ball," Homedale coach Jeremy Chamberlain said.

Homedale finished the week with a 64-41 non-conference loss on the road to Melba. Chistoffersen scored 10 points and collected 10 rebounds, but the Mustangs won the battle of the boards, 49-29.

Melba was paced by 20 points from Katie Brinkerhoff.

✓ Wrestlers: Rebuilding Trojans finish 4th at district

From Page 14

Homedale rode to a fourth-place team showing behind runner-up finishes by 110-pounder Alfonso Barbosa (15-2) and Mike Mavey (11-7) at 160 pounds. Ali Garcia (5-4) was third at 160, while Jed Jones (11-11) also got a bronze medal at 139.

Fruitland won the championship with a 34.5-point advantage over runner-up and host Ontario.

"The kids did a great job. If we could have had just a couple more kids in the right places, we would have been top three," Johnson

said. "We were very competitive against much larger teams. We really have quality wrestlers in Homedale."

The rest of the team: Dean Kester (96 pounds), Justin Palmer and Tell Hyer (103), Debra Esparza (110), Curtis Stansell (117), Trey Lane (124), Caleb Oviedo, Calvin Black and Taylor Coons.

HMS wrestlers won 60 percent of their matches this season (124-83).

"I am really proud of the kids," he said. "They worked hard and improved a lot this season."

✓ Marsing: Coach proud of team's season-long effort

From Page 14

Jim Eisentrager said. "I am very proud of my girls. We began the season with the goal of getting to the tournament, and we achieved that goal."

Marsing (8-2 overall) reached the postseason as the tournament's top seed after a 7-1 run through the regular season. The Huskies knocked off Nyssa, Ore., on Dec. 9 behind 15 points from Ashley Hull to reach the championship game. New Plymouth dispatched Parma in the other semifinal of the single-elimination tournament.

Hull scored 11 points in the championship game, including a steal and a layup and a crucial jump shot in the third quarter as Marsing clung to a two-point lead.

Ashlynn Bartlett, who scored

13 points Dec. 9 against Nyssa, scored six in the title game for Marsing. Alex Montes averaged six points in each game for the Huskies.

But after Hull hit a jumper 14 seconds into the final period Thursday against New Plymouth, the Pilgrims took control with rebounding and defense.

Emma Abbe, Cassandra Brown and Amber Orr all scored on offensive putbacks, and Brown hit a jumper after a steal by teammate Kailey White during the decisive 9-0 run.

The rest of the squad included Lacey Usabel, Mykaela Dines, Kimber Bowman, Kathlyn Welch, Gloria Martinez, Gabby Torres, Kala Hardy, Janett Morales, Erica Mendez and Elena Miranda.

— JPB

Owyhee County Church Directory		
	Knight Community Church Grand View Pastor Paul H. Ryan • 834-2639 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study: Wednesday, 7 p.m. Knight's Neighborhood: (Youth Activity Group) Friday 5-6:30 pm	Crossroads Assembly of God Wilder Hwy 19 & 95, 482-7644 Sunday School 10am Sunday Morning Worship 11am Sunday Evening Worship 6pm Wed. Bible Study 7pm
Assembly of God Church Homedale 15 West Montana, 337-4458 Pastor George Greenwood Sunday School 9:30am Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am Sunday Evening Service 6:00pm Wed. Bible Study 7:00pm	Friends Community Church Wilder - Homedale 17434 Hwy 95, 337-3464 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Services: 10:45 am Sundays Wednesday Prayer Meeting 6:30 pm	Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church 1122 W. Linden St., Caldwell 459-3653 Mass: Saturday 5:00 pm Sunday 9:30 am Spanish Mass: Saturday 7:00 pm Spanish Mass: Sunday Noon
Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church Homedale - 337-4248 Sunday Services 10am Rev. Ross Shaver, Pastor Youth and Adult Sunday School 9-9:45am Wed. Adult Bible Study 7-8:30pm Visitors Always Welcome!	Chapel of Hope Hope House, Marsing Look for the Blue Church South Bruneau Hwy at the Hope House Welcoming Families, especially those with special needs children. Keith Croft, Pastor 880-2767 Jake & Alisha Henriouille, Youth Pastors 761-6747 Sunday Services at 10 am	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Homedale 708 West Idaho Ave 337-4112 Bishop Alan McRae Bishop Ronald Spencer Sunday 1st Ward 9am Sunday 2nd Ward 12:30pm
Homedale Baptist Church Homedale 212 S. 1st W. Sunday School 10am & 11am Sunday Evening 7pm Wednesday Evening 7pm Pastor James Huls	Wilder Church of God Wilder 205 A St. E, 482-7839 Pastor Ray Gerthung Sunday School 9:45am Sunday Service 11am Sunday Eve. 6:00pm Wed. Eve. 7:00pm	Mountain View Church of the Nazarene 26515 Ustick Road, Wilder 337-3151 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:30 Adult & Youth Bible Class: Wednesday 7:00 pm Bible Based Recovery: Friday 7:00 pm
 MARSING APOSTOLIC ASSEMBLY Asamblea Apostolica de Marsing 221 W. Main • Marsing, Idaho Pastor Ricardo Rodriguez 896-5552 or 371-3516 Sunday School 1:30 pm • Sunday Service 3 pm Thursday Service 7 pm • (Bilingual Services/Español)	Iglesia Evangelica Wilder 317 3rd st., Pastor Ramiro Reyes 10 am Sunday School 11 am Service 482-7484 Bilingual	Marsing Church of Christ Marsing 932 Franklin, Marsing Minister Gib Nelson Sunday Bible Study 10am Sunday Worship 11am
Christian Church Homedale 110 W. Montana, 337-3626 Pastor Maurice Jones Sunday Morning Worship 11am Church school 9:45	Bible Missionary Church Homedale West Idaho, 337-3425 Pastor Ron Franklin Sunday School 10am Worship 11am Sunday Evening 7pm Wednesday Evening 7:30	Assembly of God Church Marsing 139 Kerry, 965-1650 Pastor Rick Sherrow Sunday School 10am Sunday Worship 11am & 6 pm
Lizard Butte Baptist Church Marsing Pastor David London 116 4th Ave. W., 859-2059 Sunday worship: Morning: 11am-Noon• Evening: 6-7pm Sunday school 10 am-10:55am Wednesday evening 6pm-7pm	Nazarene Church Marsing Pastor Bill O'Connor 896-4184 12 2nd Avenue West Worship Services - Sunday 11am and 6pm Teen Services Sundays 7:00 pm Sunday School - 9:45am Mid Week TLC Groups	Trinity Holiness Church Homedale 119 N. Main Pastor Samuel Page 337-5021 Sunday School 10am Sunday Morning Worship 11am Sunday Evening 7pm Thursday Evening 7:30pm
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Marsing 215 3rd Ave. West, 896-4151 Sunday 1st Ward, 9:00 a.m. Bishop Lakey Sunday 2nd Ward, 12:30 p.m. Bishop Payne	Vision Community Church Marsing 221 West Main Marsing, Idaho 208-896-5407 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Adult, Kids & Youth Meetings Wed. 7:00 p.m.	United Methodist Church Wilder Corner of 4th St. & B Ave. 880-8751 Pastor June Fothergill Sunday Services 9:30am
First Presbyterian Church Homedale 320 N. 6th W., 337-3060 Pastor Marianne Paul Sunday Morning Worship 11am Sunday School 11am	Calvary Holiness Church Wilder Corner of 3rd St. & B Ave. Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening: 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening: 7:00 p.m. Food Pantry Open Fridays 10 am - Noon	Seventh Day Adventist Homedale 16613 Garnet Rd., 880-0902 or 453-9289 Pastor Chuck Dimick Sabbath School Sat. 9:30am Worship 11am Tuesday Prayer Mtg. 7:00 pm
Iglesia Bautista Palabra de Esperanza Homedale 711 W. Idaho, 463-9569 Pastor Jose Diaz Servicios: Los Domingos 11:00 am	Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church - Oreana 2008 Mass Schedule - the following Saturdays at 9:30am Jan. 26 - Feb. 23 - March 8 - April 12 May 10 - June 28 - July 12 - Aug. 16 Sept. 27 - Oct. 11 - Nov. 22 - Dec. 27 All are welcome! For more information, call St. Paul's Church, Nampa 466-7031	Amistad Cristiana de Wilder UMC Esquina de 4 y calle B Domingos Servicio: 12:00 pm El Ropero (Banco de ropa) Miercoles 12- 2pm Martes y Jueves: 6:30 pm Ingles Sabados: 12:00 pm Arte Infantil Todo en Espanol, Inf. 989 7508

Commentary

Baxter Black, DVM



On the edge of common sense

Taking a fall

One of the secrets of life is knowing how to take a fall. Physical, financial or emotional.

When you drop something, it breaks. Be it a bank, a bone, or a heart.

I've experienced all three kinds of falls. They all take a while to get over. My usual reaction is to roll ... and keep rolling till I can see daylight. This method to get beyond trouble is not unique to me. Cattle feeders have as many lives as Geraldo Rivera. They crash and burn over and over, and are miraculously reborn, acting as if nothing ever happened! They are like the Chicago Cubs at the beginning of each season. The slate is clean, their memories erased and it's Batter Up!

I've bought twice as many wedding rings as I've been married. To my good fortune I just kept rolling till the best one finally caught me and put me back on my feet.

I have a dear friend who contracted Parkinson's disease in his 40s, 20 years ago. The battle he and his family fight continues to this day. They struggle and fall and keep rolling. And every single hour of every single day that they get their head above water is worth more than any World Series ring, Academy Award, or \$700 billion dollar bailout.

It is this human spirit of resilience that makes regular folks into heroes. Single mothers working two jobs. Local bankers in tight money times extending loyal farmers seed money to keep them rolling. Teachers, firemen, doctors, deputies putting in unpaid extra hours to make our lives better. Volunteers whose immeasurable contributions allow hospices, museums, county fairs and colleges to keep communities functioning.

It was surprising to me that when the American economy stumbled and fell in October, most of the rest of the world's economies tumbled like dominos. Now they are scrabbling around like we are, trying to find their footing. Some of the global nations may have taken secret pleasure in our misery, our come-uppence. Our fall was humbling. But now the realization of their dependence on us is humbling for them. Now no one has any doubt that the United States carries the world's economy on its shoulders.

The shoulders of each American; you and me, and each of us who gets up every day, goes to work, pays taxes, takes care of those around us, unselfishly contributes time and money, and keeps the faith ... in God and country and each other.

We are taking this fall together and all we can do is keep rolling till we see daylight. And a year from now the world will be a better place.

— *Can't get enough Baxter? Visit his Web site at www.baxterblack.com for more features, merchandise and his new book, "The World According to ... Baxter Black Quips, Quirks & Quotes".*

Jon P. Brown, managing editor

The way we see it

U.S. 95 road paved is good intention, but it's not enough



It's time for someone to take the wheel regarding the condition of U.S. Highway 95.

If you take the word of one state official, man will walk on Mars before the dangerous stretch of U.S. 95 between Homedale and Marsing will see a much-needed facelift.

That is, of course, unless emergency personnel start shoveling bodies into bags at an alarming rate.

Apparently, death toll is one of the major factors in whether a roadway deserves to see funding from the Idaho Transportation Department. Much to the credit of those brave souls who traverse the narrow, ill-conceived highway each day, fatalities — and even traffic accidents — are minimal.

That's quite a feat considering that the crumbling pavement has crept past the fogline and there is evidence of semis passing with a paper-thin gap between them to avoid putting a tire on the unforgiving shoulder.

Unfortunately, the anecdotal safety rating penalizes the roadway when it comes to inching up the infinite priority ladder lugged around by ITD.

District 23A Rep. Jim Patrick (R-Twin Falls) said it best weeks ago when he suggested that the squeaky wheel gets the oil. Road construction projects in Canyon and Ada counties on Interstate 84 are tops on the to-do list because of the volume of traffic and commerce that is shuttled through the corridor on a daily basis.

The Catch-22 for U.S. 95 in Owyhee County is that there isn't enough traffic or commerce on the roadway to get the attention of the ITD brass. And, dollars to doughnuts, the lack of traffic and commerce can be tied directly to the condition of the roadway. This vicious circle also has been highlighted in recent discussions with Patrick and his Idaho Legislature colleague, Rep. Stephen Hartgen (R-Twin Falls), who — along with state Sen. Bert Brackett (R-Rogerson) met with commissioners Monday to look ahead to the 2009 session.

It's not as if the state isn't aware of the situation on U.S. 95. Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter, Patrick and Hartgen were among the dignitaries who piled into a van and surveyed the highway during the Sept. 29 Capital for a Day program in Homedale. Otter told The Owyhee Avalanche that the roadway certainly was in need of substantial repair. No doubt echoing his white-knuckled, western Owyhee County

constituents, Hartgen wants to see a full re-engineering of the stretch of road, not just a new coat of asphalt.

But the Catch-22 faces a perfect storm of rejection. The state has priorities elsewhere based on traffic patterns and demand, and the state doesn't have enough money to pull off the prioritized projects that are in front of U.S. 95.

It's the type of gridlock that can't be solved by building another lane, as was the original, outdated plan for U.S. 95 south of the Snake River.

So what is the solution?

During last week's workshops, ITD representative Phil Choate all but suggested that an area famous for finding communal solutions to tough problems come together, get loud, creative and help ITD find a way to make it happen on the drivers' own timetable rather than the state's.

But perhaps it was a newspaper reporter and a county commissioner who came up with the best idea by rolling up their sleeves and digging into the issue during a quick chat at the workshop.

The Owyhee County Board of Commissioners could look out for their constituency when it appears no one else is. By petitioning the state to relinquish oversight of the seven miles of U.S. 95 between Marsing and Homedale, the county could step in and take the wheel.

Even if that proposal is impractical because of legal ramifications (i.e. Homedale Highway District interests), some sort of outside-the-box problem-solving will be required to fix the issue in a timely fashion.

A solution would involve replacing outdated engineering — quickly — with a new plan, and then one of two things could occur. Either the county looks to the voters who gingerly drive the road to approve a bond for the work or officials can try to get a chunk of the next economic stimulus package that Washington is pointing toward public works projects.

Once the shiny new road is in place and the state comes back asking for a return to the status quo, the county could recoup its expenses by "selling" the road back for the amount of the project and eliminate the bond in the process.

There are obvious variables in the coffee table idea, but at least it has more potential and vision than the state's current plan to throw nearly \$11 million at three sections of U.S. 95 for a repaving that even Choate calls a "band-aid."

Sen. Mike Crapo

From Washington

Initiative among issues on tap for 111th Congress next year



As the 110th Congress ends, we can reflect on important accomplishments, including endangered species reform, the Farm Bill and improving benefits for Medicare patients. With a new president and a different dynamic in the House and Senate, legislating in the 111th Congress will require innovative approaches to policy-making. I look forward to working with my colleagues and the other members of the Idaho delegation, Senator-elect Jim Risch, Rep. Mike Simpson and Representative-elect Walt Minnick, to accomplish fiscally responsible, effective policy objectives that benefit our society and help our economy.

Seven years in the making, comprehensive land management legislation resulting from the historic Owyhee Initiative came close to passing the Senate in 2008. Sen. Harry Reid (D-Nev.) has indicated that the Owyhee Initiative bill will be one of the first orders of business

for the new Congress. Passage of this legislation will write a new chapter in the history of land management in Idaho and the West. Furthermore, I will continue to work with Rep. Simpson and Senate leadership on the Central Idaho Economic Development and Recreation Act (CIDRA).

Indications are that the current economic challenges will continue for some time. Our financial systems and tax structures should operate in ways that help, not hinder, the economy. To that end, it's a priority of mine to prevent increases in income tax rates, as well as increases in the death tax rates and the capital gains and dividends tax rates — increases scheduled to occur in 2010, barring action from Congress. As to our financial services industry, the regulatory structure must be equipped to respond to increasingly complex financial arrangements

— See *Initiative*, Page 19

Commentary

✓ Initiative: Congress also must protect ag industry with actions

From Page 18

and procedures. Modernizing this structure will reduce the likelihood of the financial catastrophes that characterized the better part of 2008.

As more countries gain access to international markets, fair trade and a level playing field for international trade will become absolutely necessary for the U.S. to maintain economic strength and food security. I will continue to support and advocate policies that expand market access for Idaho and U.S. industries and emphasize our trading partners' adherence to trade commitments. In a related matter, I will work to ensure sound implementation of the 2008 Farm Bill.

Agriculture and trade issues often raise the issue of immigration. My view of what constitutes sound U.S. immigration policy has not changed. The most effective immigration policy will ensure proper protection of our nation's borders, and will provide a workable guest worker program that assures American citizens have the first right to access available jobs. It will not provide amnesty to those who have entered the U.S. illegally.

While current financial difficulties are making media headlines right now, we have another crisis — that is, lack of affordable, choice-centered health care. I will continue working with my colleagues to achieve fiscally responsible bipartisan health care reform, one that incorporates private market initiatives.

As most Idahoans know firsthand, transportation dollars are critical to our state. I will work to ensure that Idaho's priorities are preserved in the comprehensive transportation reauthorization scheduled for next year. Also, I will continue to advocate for Idaho's leadership in development of alternative energy sources, including nuclear, wind, geothermal, hydro, biofuels and innovations in clean coal and natural gas technologies.

These are just some legislative priorities for the next Congress. But, all legislative goals of mine will continue to abide by principles of fiscal responsibility and deficit reduction.

I am energized as I look ahead to next year, working with my colleagues and for Idahoans to enable the federal government to play an appropriately constrained and beneficial role in people's lives.

— Republican Mike Crapo will become Idaho's senior member of U.S. Senate when the 111th Congress convenes next month.

Wayne Cornell

Not important ... but possibly of interest

For sale: 8,707-room fixer-upper

The Forbidden City, which is smack dab in the middle of Beijing, was home to China's emperors from the middle of the Ming Dynasty to the end of imperial rule in the early part of the 20th century. It was built from 1406 to 1420. Today the complex consists of 980 surviving buildings with 8,707 rooms.

To enter the Forbidden City we must cross an arched bridge just in front of the main gate. There are soldiers spaced a few yards apart along both sides of the bridge. Chris warns us that although it's OK to take photos before or after crossing the bridge, stopping on the bridge isn't allowed. He puts enough emphasis on this rule that we waste no time getting across the bridge.

The Forbidden City is made up of an Outer Court and an Inner Court. In the old days you had to be someone pretty special to even get in the Outer Court where visiting heads of state and their emissaries were entertained. We're in the Outer Court now. Off to our left are some toilets Chris says we can use. Standing in front of the rest rooms is a middle-aged Chinese guy wearing what appears to be an old military fatigue jacket. He is chain-smoking cigarettes and shouting orders at Chinese visitors headed for the toilets. He apparently is telling them the bathrooms aren't for public use. They ignore his shouts and we do, too.

Just past the restrooms, there is a small parade ground where some soldiers are drilling. There are about 50 men dressed in fatigues, wearing visored helmets and carrying long batons and shields. They are practicing what I recognize as crowd control drills and one has to assume that if someone tries to make trouble here or in Tiananmen Square, these are the guys who will be the first responders. I would like to take a photo of them, but I notice none of the Chinese tourists are taking pictures. I decide to follow their example, as I'm not sure being a stupid American would get me off the hook if there is a photo ban. A little farther on are some troops doing some ceremonial drilling. Everyone is photographing them, so I join in. The soldiers are very young and seem to be too small for their uniforms.

We follow the crowds up some stairs, through an ornate gateway and down some other stairs into a huge courtyard — about 200 yards long and nearly the same distance wide.



China's imperial past and economic future come together in the Forbidden City in Beijing.

Now we are in the Inner Court where only the Emperor, his family, advisors and members of the court were allowed. If you tried to sneak in here, the guards killed you.

Chris tells us the stone paving in the courtyard is about 15 bricks deep to assure no one could tunnel in. He says the Emperor and Empress and their family lived here along with the Emperor's concubines (lady friends), who could number in the hundreds. Apparently the Emperor had a lot of free time. The royal family also was attended by male servants — Eunuchs — who were "fixed" so they wouldn't mess with the Emperor's concubines. Chris's description of how the Eunuchs became Eunuchs seems to make the women listeners cringe even more than it upsets us guys.

We file past the Emperor's chambers, and through the open door we can see his bed. Sara pauses for a second to get a better look, and the Chinese guy behind her gives her a shove. Chris says pushing is common — probably because people always are in crowds — and we shouldn't take it personally. I think about my farmer friend Richard back home. Richard would take a push personally. If he were here we would be up to our ears in the Army riot squad about now.

— Go to www.theowyheeavalanche.com to link to some of Wayne's previous columns on his Internet blog. You'll find the link in the bottom right-hand corner of the home page.

Financial management

Husband needs to stop hiding behind baby and get a job

Dear Dave,

I bring home \$2,800 a month, and my husband stays home with our two daughters — one three, the other three months. He's healthy and able, but he won't work because he thinks he can't make enough money to cover the cost of daycare. Our rent is \$1,000 a month, and our other bills add up to about \$2,000 a month. What do you think about this, and when is it OK to avoid daycare expenses by not working?

— Daisy

Dear Daisy,

I'm an old-school guy, a crusty old dinosaur about some things. I grew up in a generation where a guy who did this kind of thing was called a wuss, or worse; not because he's staying home with the kids, but because he's staying



at home while you guys can't pay the bills!

I'm all about family togetherness, and with spending as much time with your children as possible, and I don't have a problem with guys being stay-at-home dads as long as the family is in agreement and can afford to do that kind of thing. But if you're just scraping by, or can't meet your financial obligations, which seems to be true with you guys, that's a different story.

This guy needs to get off his butt, fulfill his responsibilities as a

man and a husband, and find a way to start taking care of his family!

— Dave

Dear Dave,

My husband and I haven't been out on a date, just the two of us, since our daughter was born earlier this year. It's really starting to strain our relationship. Most of the babysitters around here charge \$40 or \$50 a night, and we can't afford that because we're trying really hard to get out of debt. Our closest relatives are five hours away. I'm afraid we're growing apart because of this. Do you have any ideas to help?

— Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

I was married for several years before I realized husbands and wives were supposed to have date nights. We survived my

ignorance, and things that were a whole lot tougher, but I still think date nights are a great idea. You've got to keep the lines of communication open, and one-on-one is how you do that.

I think you've being a bit dramatic, however, when you say your marriage is unraveling because you haven't had a date night in a few months. If that's the case, the fibers were already too loose. The roots of any relationship should be a lot deeper. If yours is falling apart over something like this — especially when you've got the great bonding experience of a new baby in the house, then there may be other issues you need to address with a good pastor or marriage counselor.

How about asking friends to help out once in a while and look after the baby for a couple of

hours? Maybe you could form a babysitting co-op. There are plenty of other broke couples with babies out there. Take some time to get to know people at work, or in church, who are in similar situations. Then trade off babysitting duties — they take your kid one night, and you take theirs another night.

You could get really creative and work a tradeoff with a trustworthy high school student. Instead of paying them money, you might trade babysitting for something you have to offer. I don't know a college student alive who wouldn't jump at the chance for a nice, big home-cooked meal once in a while!

— Dave

— Dave Ramsey is the best-selling author of *The Total Money Makeover*.

Looking back...

from the files of The Owyhee Avalanche and Owyhee Chronicle

25 years ago

December 21, 1983

Government grinch grabs Homedale Christmas tree

The government grinch was back in Homedale last week in yet another attempt to steal Christmas from this Treasure Valley community.

But, the government grinch was foiled again — this time by mayor-elect Paul Fink and a crew of dedicated city businessmen and workers.

And, the result is that Homedale’s official Christmas tree has a new home in the southwest corner of Coomb’s Car Corral at the intersection of Main Street and Idaho Avenue.

FINK, FRANK Matteson of Owyhee Motor Sales and Jim Clarke of Greenway Tractor Co., spearheaded a Saturday morning project to put up the tree after state Highway Department officials ordered it taken down from its traditional spot in the northwest corner of Matteson’s business lot.

For days the government grinch had his way and Homedale was without the guiding light of the official Christmas tree, which was turned over to the city on Monday, Dec. 5, for placement and decorating.

By Wednesday evening, the state Highway Department had decided the tree had to come down, according to Mayor George Murray, who told The Owyhee Chronicle that Sgt. James Dickey of the Homedale Police Department had received a call from Boise demanding that the fir be removed from the Main Street-Idaho Avenue intersection.

“They (state officials) said it blocked the big stop sign at the corner,” Mayor Murray told the City Council during its regular 8pm Wednesday meeting. Several residents attending the session indicated they had no trouble seeing the stop sign, which controls northbound traffic off Highway 95 (Main Street).

City seeks airport upgrading

Homedale’s City Council wants things to fly right at the municipal airport.

Jim Evans, chief pilot for A&J Construction of Homedale, appeared before the Council last Wednesday to brief city officials on plans to upgrade the airport.

EVANS, who works for Jay Jackson, Homedale’s airport manager, told city officials that his first priority is lighting repairs and suggested that Homedale consider installing pilot-controlled runway lights.

“We could save over 50 percent of the power bill down there if we had pilot-controlled lighting on the runway,” said Evans, former chief flight instructor at Nampa.

Under the pilot-controlled lighting system, the only constant lighting would be the airport beacon, which has been down and scheduled for repair, according to Evans, who estimated the cost to be under \$100.

Evans told the Council that he was not only working closely with Jackson on the project, but had been directed by the Homedale businessman to make municipal airport improvements his personal responsibility.

Evans suggested that the airport not only needed attention from the standpoint of upgrading the facility, but also needed a community awareness campaign that would point out the benefits of having a well-maintained operation for flight service.

City may tap users for their water bill

Homedale may be looking at a plan to collect its own water bills from city customers.

That was one of several ideas explored during last Wednesday’s City Council meeting when members of the South Board of Control appeared with manager Clyde Hutton to discuss the city’s current water budget certification.

Currently, under the city’s long-standing agreement with the South Board, the Gem District collects water fees from city customers based on the municipality’s certification of need for funds to operate the Homedale water system each year.

50 years ago

December 18, 1958

Story of 3 little pigs, modernized

A series of phone calls last Thursday morning put Kenny Downing, city clerk, to herding three lost pigs which were wandering by the city hall. After the supposed owner called up to ask him to watch them until he could get there but never showed up, Kenny became suspicious that he was the victim of a practical joker and went back to his work.

The pigs, however, locked up under the Roy Martin warehouse, got loose that evening. They were later cornered in an old house when L. W. Upton, policeman, brought around a trailer to haul them.

Johnny Krzesnik, owner of the animals, discovered his loss and came looking for them Friday afternoon. The pigs had strayed from the Johnny Martin farm, several miles from town.

Gem directors reelected to board

Ed Stansell, Ed Parr, and Don Parker were re-elected last Tuesday for three year terms as directors for the Gem irrigation district, South Board of Control.

Election judges were Mrs. Martha Mortensen, Mrs. Fay Orr, and Mrs. Florence Stimmel, at the Gem office; Mrs. Dora Upton, Mrs. Emma Henry, and Mrs. Anna Brewster, at the Legion hall; and Anna Moore, Ruby Maxwell, and Mrs. Emma Johnstone, at the Wo-He-Lo club house at Marsing.

Co-op oil opens Homedale store

A farm supply store and bulk plant recently completed by the Co-op Oil association of Caldwell will open for business here Saturday under the management of Jim Murray who has been associated with the company for several years.

Forrest Parker, who has been running his Co-op oil truck out of Caldwell to service this area, will not have his headquarters at the local plant. The oil service will be complete with a radio dispatch.

The store, located on South Main Street and Colorado avenue, will handle a large stock of farm supplies, gas, and stove oil.

School supts. meet at Marsing

A good representation of school superintendents of Owyhee county met Monday morning at Rosehaven café near Marsing with Senator Elect Arlie Parkins and Representative Elect Alvin Benson to discuss county problems of education including financial problems.

The group discussed possibilities of obtaining the \$10,500,000.00 legislative appropriation for the biennium as asked by the United Education Council, composed of the PTA, Trustees association, and the Idaho Education association.

More supplies and equipment for education needs in the schools to better educate students was acknowledged to be as important as the much needed increase in teachers’ salaries.

Attending the meeting were Stan Wills, Marsing superintendent; Bill Anders, Marsing high school principal; Bob Jones, Grand View superintendent; Dick Haworth, Grand View principal; Al Starns, Bruneau principal; Dick Frazier, Homedale superintendent; Deward Bell, Homedale high school principal; and Clark Walker, Homedale junior high school principal.

Albert Eidemiller, chairman of the Homedale school board, school trustees Allen George, Jody Distler and Orville Vance, and School Supt. Dick Frazier attended a district meeting of school trustees and administrators at Emmett Tuesday night.

Homedale locals

Sunday dinner guests of Mrs. Hattie Pierce were Mr. and Mrs. Lee Stutheit and Mr. and Mrs. McGuire.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Crummett and children, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Fox and sons and Mrs. Elmer Ross and children attended the annual Idaho Power company children’s Christmas party at Payette Friday night.

140 years ago

December 12, 1868

OTHER TOPICS. We have discussed the question of our county indebtedness — its causes and remedies — we hope to the satisfaction of all who are interested in its welfare. There are other topics of legislation which we would simply intimate to our present Legislature, to be digested by that body. We would suggest some modification of the present law in regard to the compensation of the Board of Commissioners of Owyhee county. The position of Commissioner is one of importance and responsibility, and is increasing in these respects more and more every year. We are rapidly increasing in population and wealth, and it is important that we have efficient business men to supervise our county affairs. In this respect we have been extremely fortunate, from the organization of our county to the present time, we have had men of honor and intelligence upon our Board; but we are satisfied that the compensation of those officers is inadequate to the duties and responsibilities of their position, and we think should be increased. It requires time, patience and a great deal of judgment to fill the office of County Commissioner, particularly Owyhee county. So, if we desire to retain good men in these places, we ought to, and must, compensate them.

We also think that the compensation of the Clerk of the board of County Commissioners is entirely inadequate to the duties of that office. To fill that position as efficiently as it is done by the present Clerk, Mr. W. H.. Angell, is worth much more than the present rate of compensation.

One more suggestion. We think that the biennial session system is a great error; and if viewed properly must be acknowledged to be so. It may suffice for an old State with a long settled polity, but is certainly wrong in a young and growing Territory. New interests are springing up daily that require legislative action; and we can safely assert that the biennial system has cost this county \$20,000 for the year 1868, and unless the revenue law is changed, we will have to take the benefit of the insolvent act, or repudiate, or fund — all of which measures we oppose. We consider the biennial system a false system of public economy; and that it would be better to have an annual legislature, if it did not set for more than twenty days. We would suggest to the Legislature a repeal of this system; also, a general revision of the revenue law, which should be uniform in its operation — all counties be treated alike. The revision of the revenue law can be made simply and easily, without flourished or technicalities, and in the most essentially vital points, in a very few sentences. All of which we earnestly recommend.

INCORPORATED. Articles of incorporation of the Golden Chariot Mining Company were filed in the office of the Secretary of the State of California, on Dec. 1st. The company propose to carry on mining extensively on this justly noted lode, which will reflect no disadvantage upon the business of this region. The incorporators are energetic businessmen, prominently among whom, is George Hearst, one of the most indefatigable quartz dealers on the Pacific Coast. Mark Livingston, George Hearst, Hill Beachey, M. J. McDonald, J. Q. Valentine, R. Bailey and G. W. Beaver are Trustees for the first three months. The principle place of business will be San Francisco, and the capital stock is \$1,000,000, in 10,000 shares of \$100 each.

OFF THE GRADE. Two freight wagons loaded for this place belonging to Mr. Carpenter slipped off the grade below Ruby this week, one of the wagons carried team and all with it, and strange to say but little damage was effected. The driver made a narrow escape.

SOCIAL PARTY. A very pleasant social party was given at the Idaho Hotel on Tuesday night. It was not very numerously attended but mirth and harmony prevailed. Dancing was kept up vigorously until 12 o’clock, when an excellent supper was spread and ample justice done the same, after which, the guests departed for their respective homes, if not wiser, at least very well satisfied with themselves.

Public notices

OWYHEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES
DECEMBER 1, 2008
OWYHEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
MURPHY, IDAHO

Present were Commissioner’s Hoagland, Tolmie and Freund, Clerk Sherburn, Sheriff Aman, Treasurer Richards, Assessor Endicott, Jim Desmond, George Hyer, and Merleen Johns.

Amendments to the agenda included the Treasurer’s Joint Quarterly Report, and SWDH Board.

The Board submitted a vote for election of Kathryn Alder to serve on the CAT Board.

The Board approved the EMPG Grant in the amount of \$12,057.21 for 2009-2010.

The Board sent a letter to Goff’s on property taxes owed on a parcel the county purchased.

The Marsing Impact Committee approved the boundary for the Proposed Marsing Impact Area.

The Board approved the Map for the Marsing Impact Area.

The Board approved a lien on Indigent and Charity case no. 08-48, and denied case no. 08-44 pursuant to I.C. 31-3505 (4)(b)

The Board approved payment of all outstanding bills to be paid from the following funds:

Current Expense \$41,785, Road & Bridge \$2,629, District Court \$1,211, Fair Grounds & Bldg. \$189, Probation \$918, Historical Society & Museum \$735, Indigent & Charity \$26,970, Revaluation \$21, Solid Waste \$362, Tort \$880, 911 \$691.

The Board called for an executive session pursuant to I.C. 67-2345 on a personnel issue. No action was taken.

The Board requested the Prosecuting Attorney review the Northwest Owyhee County CWMA.

Treasurer Richards presented the Joint Quarterly Report.

The Board will make a decision on the SWDH Board member during the reorganization in January.

The complete minutes can be viewed in the Clerk’s office.

/s/Jerry Hoagland, Chairman
Attest: Charlotte Sherburn
12/17/08

NOTICE OF IRRIGATION DISTRICT ASSESSMENT DUE

In compliance with Title 43, Section 707 of the Idaho State Code, as amended, each property owner or interested party in

CITY OF HOMEDALE Quarterly Expenditure Report 4TH FISCAL QUARTER, FY2008								
FUND	PERSONNEL	Overhead / Maintenance	CAP IMP	QTR TOTAL	CITY SUPPORT *	Fiscal Year to Date Total	BUDGET AMOUNT	PERCENT of BUDGET USED
01 General	\$ 18,730.43	\$ 21,764.76	\$ -	\$ 40,495.19	\$ 334,685.00	\$ 504,065.82	\$ 547,546.00	92.1%
02 Streets & Highways	\$ 9,617.00	\$73,115.59	\$ -	\$ 82,732.59		\$ 158,478.50	\$ 162,171.00	97.7%
03 Parks	\$ 10,994.24	\$ 10,510.90	\$ 500.00	\$ 22,005.14		\$ 54,930.42	\$ 86,765.00	63.3%
04 Library	\$ 7,001.08	\$ 7,432.78	\$ 3,239.73	\$ 17,673.59		\$ 51,477.73	\$ 66,390.00	77.5%
06 Law Enforcement	\$ 67,235.39	\$15,792.22	\$ -	\$ 83,027.61		\$ 300,473.10	\$ 313,513.00	95.8%
30 Airport	\$ -	\$ 2,521.72	\$ -	\$ 2,521.72		\$ 2,761.16	\$ 5,115.00	54.0%
60 Irrigation	\$ 10,320.61	\$ 13,492.63	\$ -	\$ 23,813.24		\$ 94,044.93	\$ 109,640.00	85.8%
25 Water	\$ 21,172.30	\$ 187,786.38	\$ 199,908.81	\$ 408,867.49		\$ 1,567,956.48	\$ 2,301,985.00	68.1%
26 Sewer	\$ 15,518.11	\$ 14,231.93	\$ -	\$ 29,750.04		\$ 355,460.54	\$ 823,300.00	43.2%
27 Sanitation	\$ -	\$ 22,245.37	\$ -	\$ 22,245.37		\$ 81,925.72	\$ 87,000.00	94.2%
TOTAL (all funds)	\$ 160,589.16	\$ 368,894.28	\$ 203,648.54	\$ 733,131.98		\$ 3,171,574.40	\$ 4,503,425.00	70.4%
The General Public is invited to inspect all supporting documents for the above Financial Statement at City Hall during regular business hours. Publish: December 17, 2008 Signed: ALICE E. PEGRAM City Clerk~Treasurer								
* Support dollars includes the City support for the Library, Parks & Rec and Law Enforcement Funds								

title to land located within the boundaries of the Reynolds Irrigation District is hereby notified that the assessments of the District are now due and payable. The 2008 assessment will become delinquent if not paid by 5:00 P.M. the 20th day of December, 2008. The second half will become delinquent if not paid by 5:00 P.M. the 20th day of June, 2009. Payment may be mailed to Reynolds Irrigation District, PO Box 12, Melba, ID 83641; or arrangements may be made to hand deliver payment by calling the District Treasurer at (208) 495-2950.

Brad Huff, Sec/Treas.
Reynolds Irrigation District
12/17/08

PUBLIC NOTICE

Westown’s Disposal is planning a transfer station at 3396 Industrial Road, Homedale. This facility will be a terminal where our trucks and the public can bring their waste, to be transported to the landfill. If you would like to view our plans of the proposed facility or make comment to the DEQ please contact us at 208-337-4359.

12/17/08

NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT DUE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ACCORDING TO SECTION 43-707, IDAHO CODE, assessments for the Grand View Irrigation District 2008, Irrigation season are due and payable and will become

delinquent at three thirty p.m. on the twenty second day of December 2008. Payment must be made in lawful money of the United States, negotiable bank draft or cashiers check. Payment may be made in person at the Irrigation District Office or mailed to the District.

Dixie McDaniel, Secretary
Grand View Irrigation District,
PO Box 9, Grand View, Idaho 83624
12/10,17/08

MECHANICS LIEN SALE

1980 Suzuki Motorcycle GS250. Sale on Monday 01-12-2009 at 9a.m., 11090 Hwy 78 Melba, ID 83641 in Owyhee County.

12/17,24/08

NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT DUE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that assessments levied by the Gem Irrigation District in 2008 for 2009 by virtue of the public notice given by the Bureau of Reclamation under Owyhee Project contract requires that payment is due in full before water will be delivered.

This assessment will become delinquent and subject to a penalty and interest unless paid before 5:00 p.m., December 22, 2008, provided that one-half of said assessment may be paid on or before December 22, 2008 and the remainder on or before March 16, 2009, or the delivery of said water will be withheld.

Payment of said assessment may be made to the Gem Irrigation District in the City of Homedale, County of Owyhee, Idaho, during office hours of any business day or mailed.

Connie Chadez
Secretary/Treasurer
Gem Irrigation District
12/17/08

CALL FOR BID FOR SCHOOL BUS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by Homedale Jt. School District No. 370, Homedale, Idaho for the purchase of one (1) 2010 71-passenger school bus (complete – body and chassis).

Bid documents and detailed specifications are available at the Homedale School District Office, 116 East Owyhee Ave., Homedale, Idaho between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday until day of bid opening.

Bids must be submitted on or before 9:00 a.m. on February 3, 2009 to the Homedale School District Office, 116 East Owyhee Ave., Homedale, Idaho. Bids received after the stated time and date will not be considered. At the stated time and place, bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The Board of Trustees reserves the right to accept or reject or to select any portion thereof of any or all bids and to waive any technicality. No bidder may withdraw his bid after the opening of such bids unless the awarding

of the bid is delayed for a period exceeding thirty days.

/s/Faith K. Olsen, Business Manger
12/17,24/08

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION CASE NO. CV-06-05537 IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF OWYHEE

In the Matter of the Estates of NERRON BEULER HIGHLAND and ROSEMARY HIGHLAND, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given to the heirs and devisees and all other persons who are interested in or who claim an interest in the above estate that on November 25, 2008, Charles Highland filed with this Court a Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Formal Appointment of Personal Representative. The petition has been set for hearing at the Owyhee County Courthouse at 31 West Wyoming Avenue, Homedale, Idaho, 83628, on January 7, 2009, at 10:30 o’clock a.m.

DATED this 25th day of November, 2008.

/s/Russell G. Metcalf, Attorney for Petitioner
17 E. Wyoming Ave., PO Box 385, Homedale, ID 83628. 208-337-4945 Fax 208-337-4854 email: rmetcalf@cableone.net
12/10,17,24,31/08



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Public notices

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE
On March 31, 2009, at the hour of 11:00 o’clock AM of said day, at the Owyhee County Courthouse, State Highway 78, Murphy, Idaho, JUST LAW, INC., as Successor Trustee, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, the following described real property, situated in the County of Owyhee, State of Idaho, and described as follows to wit:

See Attached Exhibit “A”
The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above referenced real property, but for purposes of compliance with Section 60-113 Idaho Code, the Trustee has been informed the address of **6057 Claytonia Way, Marsing, ID**, is sometimes associated with the said real property.
This Trustee’s Sale is subject to a bankruptcy filing, a payoff, a reinstatement or any other conditions of which the Trustee is not aware that would cause the cancellation of this sale. Further, if any of these conditions exist, this sale may be null and void, the successful bidder’s funds shall be returned, and the Trustee and the Beneficiary shall not be liable to the successful bidder for any damages.

Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possessions or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the Deed of Trust executed by Kenneth D. Park and Shawna M. Park, husband and wife, as Grantor(s) with Nationstar Mortgage, LLC fka Centex Home Equity Company, LLC as the Beneficiary, under the Deed of Trust recorded April 7, 2006, as Instrument No. 255861, in the records of Owyhee County, Idaho.
THE ABOVE GRANTORS ARE NAMED TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 45-1506(4)

(a), IDAHO CODE. NO REPRESENTATION IS MADE THAT THEY ARE, OR ARE NOT, PRESENTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS OBLIGATION.
The default for which this sale is to be made is the failure to pay the amount due under the certain Promissory Note and Deed of Trust, in the amounts called for thereunder as follows: Monthly payments in the amount of \$1,447.44 for the months of July 2008 through and including to the date of sale, together with late charges and monthly payments accruing. The sum owing on the obligation secured by said Deed of Trust is \$156,666.50 as principal, plus service charges, attorney’s fees, costs of this foreclosure, any and all funds expended by Beneficiary to protect their security interest, and interest accruing at the rate of 10.5% from June 1, 2008, together with delinquent taxes plus penalties and interest to the date of sale.
The Beneficiary elects to sell or cause the trust property to be sold to satisfy said obligation.
Dated this 25th day of November, 2008.
Sumerli Lynch, Trust Officer for Just Law, Inc., P.O. Box 50271, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83405. (208) 523-9106 Fax (208) 523-9146
Exhibit A
A parcel of land being a portion of the East One-Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 28, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, Boise Meridian, Owyhee County, Idaho and being more particularly described as follows:
COMMENCING at a found Brass Cap marking the Northwest corner of said Section 28, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, Boise Meridian, Owyhee County, Idaho and being the centerline intersection of Dunlap Street and Edison Street, said Brass Cap bears
North 0° 00’ 00” East, 2666.85 feet from a found 5/8” iron pin marking the West Quarter corner

of said Section 28 and being the centerline intersection of said Edison Street and Bruneau Highway; thence
South 88° 52’ 33” East, 1996.52 feet along the North boundary of the said Northwest Quarter of Section 28 and along the said centerline of Dunlap Street to a found 5/8” iron pin; thence
South 01° 06’ 45” West, 1315.59 feet along the centerline of an existing concrete irrigation ditch to a point; said point being witnessed by a found ½” iron pin which bears
North 89° 09’ 40” West, 5.00 feet; thence
North 89° 09’ 40” West, 326.12 feet to a set ½” iron pin, said pin marking the REAL POINT OF BEGINNING; thence
South 0° 34’ 46” West, 674.44 feet to a set ½” iron pin lying on the South boundary of the North One-Half of the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 28; thence
North 89° 09’ 40” West, 319.85 feet along said South boundary of the North One-Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 28 to a found 5/8” iron pin marking the Southwest corner of the said North One-Half of the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 28; thence
North 0° 02’ 49” East, 674.50 feet along the East boundary of the said East One-Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 28 to a set ½” iron pin, said pin bears
North 0° 02’ 49” East, 9.99 feet from a found 5/8” iron pin marking the Northwest corner of the said North One-Half of the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 28; thence
South 89° 09’ 40” East, 326.12 feet to the REAL POINT OF BEGINNING.
For information concerning this sale please contact Just Law, Inc. at www.justlawidaho.com or Toll Free at 1-800-923-9106, Thank you.
12/3,10,17,24/08

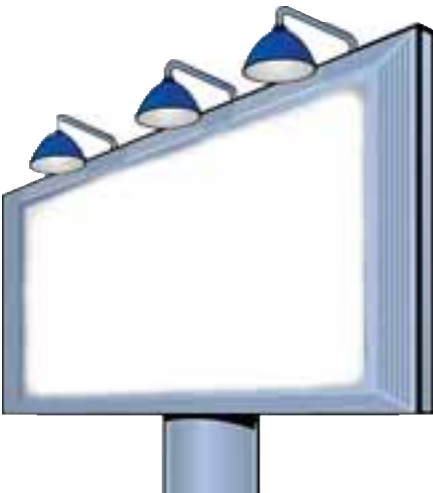
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* – Survey conducted by the National Newspaper Association and the Center for Advanced Social Research at the Missouri School of Journalism at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Researchers surveyed adults 18 years old and up in markets with fewer than 100,000 residents.



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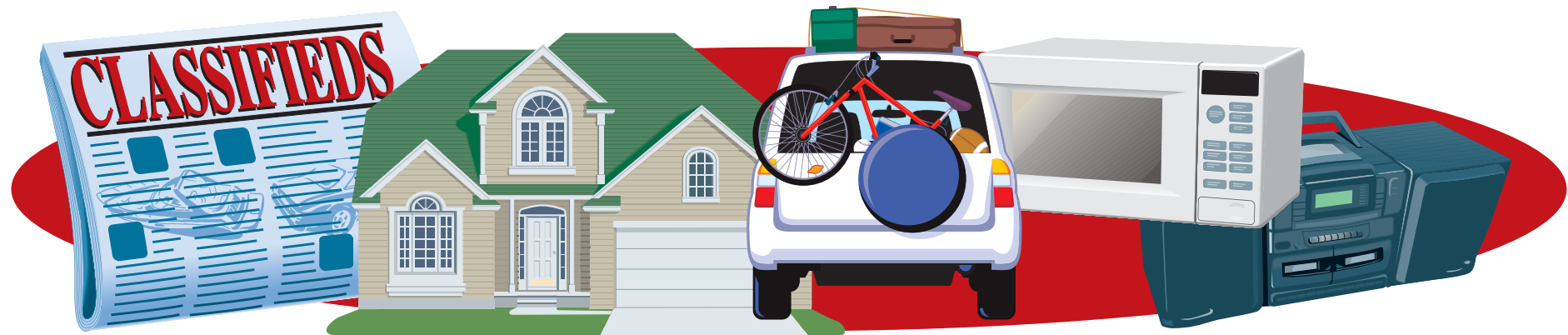
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week of publication

Legal notice deadline

Friday noon the week prior to publication

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3 bdrm, country, garage/shop, lrg yard, \$500/mo. 337-3312 lve msg
2 bdrm 1 bth mobile home, Homedale in country. Call evenings only 208-965-1309, 936-5932
Homedale 3-1bdrm duplex units. 1-recently remodeled, avail now; 2-currently being remodeled. Each unit different color scheme, you pick! Max 2 occupants. \$375 + dep (W/S/T pd) 208-936-3898
Storages for rent, Pioneer Mini Storage, 4155 Pioneer Rd, Homedale. 208-337-4589, 208-573-2844
1 bdrm Homedale apartment. New paint. Stove, refrigerator, microwave, washer & dryer. \$350 a month \$200 deposit. 495-2809 or 880-7929
Homedale, 1 & 2 bdrm apartments avail. Rent from \$395-\$550 plus deposit. Allen Property Mgmt 467-2132
Priced reduced! 40x60 shop 20 ft ceilings. For ag storage, commercial or contractor. Office, bthrm, sits on .25 ac, Homedale area, \$500/mo + dep. *Discounts available* 208-573-1704
Marsing Storage, Inc., Hwy 55 & Van Rd. Boat & RVs welcome. Call 867-2466, 830-1641

FARM AND RANCH
Got cows? Need feed? 4x4 baled corn stalks, 1500 lbs \$60/ea. Smilin A Ranch 541-339-3740
2 well broke saddle horses. 1-7 yr. old mare. 1-10 yr. old gelding. Easy to catch, shoe & trailer. Both used around cows & hunting. Sound & gentle. \$1000/ea. Pair \$1500. 896-4638
Wanted: round pen. 896-5673
10 calf hutches, \$50 ea. 896-4251

FOR SALE
Firewood, Pine \$180/cord, Red Fir \$210/cord, split & delivered; mill ends \$35/load. 208-250-3885
Pistol, Ruger 9mm P-89 \$300; recliners, 2 for \$150; computer desk \$100. Call Dave 989-0467
Microfiber couch & love seat, stain resistant, lifetime warranty, brand new in boxes. Retail \$1399. Must sell \$450. 208-888-1464
Bedroom set 7-piece cherry set Brand new in boxes. List \$2250. Must sell \$450. 208-888-1464
Bed-queen pillowtop mattress Brand new, still in plastic, warranty. Sacrifice \$109. 208-921-6643
King-sized pillowtop mattress New, in bag, with warranty. List \$750. Sacrifice \$199. 208-921-6643
Cherry Sleigh bed solid wood w/mattress set. Brand new in box. \$299. 208-888-1464
Used tractor parts 100's of salvaged farm tractors and combines. Nampa Tractor Salvage, 9055 Hwy 20, Nampa, ID 83687 (208) 467-4430
Roll ends: Great for packing material, building fires, lining birdcages or for your kids to doodle on. The Owyhee Avalanche, Homedale

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Wanted to rent, in Homedale city limits, house, prefer 2 bedrooms. Frankie Schierman 509-754-1124

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Drivers/ CDL Career Training: w/Central Refrigerated! We train, employ w/ \$0 down financing. Avg \$40k first year! 800-521-9277

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Technical Computer LLC, repairs, tune-ups, backups, upgrades, networking. Call Tom or Colette 896-4676 or go to technicalcomputer.com
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Home Repairs & Remodels. Kitchens, baths, drywall, flooring, roofing, decks, siding, framing, fencing, landscape, painting, property maintenance. Local references/insured. 697-2409
Local junk car & truck removal service. Free removal, can pay cash for some. Call Bill 208-724-1118
Top soil, fill dirt and all kinds of gravel products delivered and/or placed. Jim 573-5700
Backhoe, trackhoe, grader, dump truck or belly dump services for hire. Demolition, driveways & general excavation. Jim 573-5700
Dog boarding at my home. Outdoor and indoor facilities. Knowledgeable & attentive care for your best friend. Call Rebekka at 208-861-6017 rockinrcountrykennel.com

SERVICES
Trees topped & removed. Clean up & stump removal available. 337-4403
Daycare, all ages, ICCP approved, all meals provided, lots of activities, preschool available, 3 full time staff. Some evenings & overnight avail. Call Donna 337-6180

THANK YOU
We want to thank all the guys on the Homedale Fire Dept. for helping us this past Sunday morning. You are great and we appreciated all you did to help in our small electrical fire. Also a big thank you to Officer Wasson for having so much patience and understanding. Perry and Connie Chadez

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*88.68 acres w/ 3 splits along river on Unick Road.

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\$4.99 lb.

John Morrell
Shanks



Butts \$1.59 lb
\$1.29 lb.

Navel Oranges



59¢ lb.

Red Delicious &
Granny Smith Apples



\$1.79 ea.
3 lb. Bagged

Boneless Pork
Loin Chops



\$2.69 lb.

Farmland Boneless
Whole Hams



\$1.49 lb.

Sweet Potatoes & Yams



99¢ lb.

Broccoli



99¢ lb.

DiGiorno's Pizza **2 for \$10**
Bar-S 16 oz. **\$2.29** ea.
Bacon **\$2.29** ea.
Western Family 8 oz. **\$2.19** ea.
Shredded Cheese **\$2.19** ea.

Bone-In Turkey Breast **\$1.59** lb.
Western Family 8 oz. Cream Cheese **99¢** ea.
SeaBlend 16 oz. **\$2.29** ea.
Imitation Crab **\$2.29** ea.

1 lb. Baby Carrots **\$1.29** ea.
Jumbo Yellow Onions **39¢** lb.
Baker Potatoes **49¢** lb.

Celery **99¢** ea.
River Ranch Salad Mix **\$1.19** ea.
Large Granny Smith Apples **89¢** lb.

Darigold
Egg Nog



\$2.59 ea.
Quart

Western Family 16 oz. Sour Cream **\$1.19** ea.

Swanson's Broth



69¢ lb.
14-14.5 oz.

Western Family 8 oz. Frozen Whip Topping **\$1.19** ea.

Coca Cola Products



3 for \$13
12pk 12oz Cans

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

Coors Beer



\$13.99 ea.

18pk 12oz Cans 20pk Bottles
24pk 12oz Cans Beer Ice House-Miller High Life **\$11.99** ea.

Western Family Milk 2%,1%,Skim Gallon \$2.99 ea.	Folger's Coffee 27.8-33.9 oz. \$7.49 ea.	Dansani Water 24 Pack \$4.99 ea.	Lay's Potato Chips 11.5-12 oz. \$2.59 ea.
Western Family Butter Quarters 1 lb. \$2.39 ea.	Dole Pineapple 20 oz. \$1.29 ea.	Christmas Candy Asst'd Bags \$3.49 ea.	Nabisco & Keebler Crackers 8-16 oz. \$2.79 ea.
Kraft Salad Dressing 16 oz. \$2.69 ea.	Western Family Jellied & Whole Cranberry 16 oz. \$1.09 ea.	Marie Callender's Pies Asst'd Sizes \$6.29 ea.	Planters Cocktail, Honey & Dry Roasted Peanuts 16 oz. \$3.09 ea.
Nalley Dill Pickles 46 oz. \$3.89 ea.	Stove Top Stuffing 6 oz. \$1.69 ea.	Mezzetta Peppers 16 oz. \$1.89 ea.	Chinet Paper Plates 15-44 ct. \$2.99 ea.
Western Family Medium & Large Olives 6 oz. 4 for \$5	McCormick Gravy Mixes .87 oz. 59¢ ea.	Kleenex Facial Tissue 80-200 ct. \$1.89 ea.	Diamond Cutlery 48 ct. 2 for \$3
Stephen's Cocoa Mix 16 oz. \$4.09 ea.	Western Family Adult Formula Cat Formula 14 lb. \$9.99 ea.	Scott White Bath Tissue 12 Roll \$9.99 ea.	Western Family Aluminum Foil 25 ft. \$1.19 ea.

HOURS: Mon. - Sat. 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. - Sunday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Marsing, Idaho

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