



Letters
to Santa
B Section

HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS

Proposed power line, Page 13A

Landowner laments lack of
formal B2H opposition in Owyhee

Season of generosity, Pages 12A

Several groups, individuals band
together to provide at Christmas

Established 1865

The Owyhee Avalanche

VOL. 23, NO. 52 75 CENTS

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2008

His star in the East

"... WHERE
IS HE THAT IS
BORN KING OF
THE JEWS? FOR
WE HAVE SEEN
HIS STAR IN
THE EAST, AND
ARE COME TO
WORSHIP HIM."

Matthew 2:1-2



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Calendar	7A	Commentary	18-19A
Peary Perry	7A	Dave \$ays	19A
Sports	14-16A	Legals	20A
Looking Back	17A	Classifieds	21-22A

Inside

Christmas
classics
Pages 2A, 23A

REMEMBERING THE REASON

The Christmas story

As told by St. Luke II

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæsar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judæa, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the



field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

A Christmas meditation — God with us

Written by Clare Willcuts for the Owyhee Chronicle for Christmas, 1952

Why does the world stand still today? Why such commotion over the birth of a Jewish peasant? For nineteen hundred years the birth of the Savior in Bethlehem has been the world's number one story. It has been the theme of innumerable songs and stories, the inspiration of countless works of art. It has been told and retold until today it is known the world over as the "old, old story" the sweetest story ever told. It has become the center of the most widely observed and most joyfully celebrated festival

in every land and among nearly all people.

It has been observed that the birth of Jesus has become the great center of interest. The educational world is represented in the wise men; the peasants are represented in the shepherds; royalty is represented in Herod; nature is represented in her gifts, "gold, frankincense and myrrh"; the heavens are represented in the star which led the way; the Heavenly Hosts are represented in their presence and praise; the lower creation is represented in

the cattle around the manger; poverty is represented in the place in which He was born.

In Matthew's recording of the birth of Christ he makes reference to the prediction of the prophet Isaiah. "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and she shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us," (Matt. 1:23). Emblazoned against the dark background of man's wickedness, sin and selfishness, the words, "Immanuel — God with us", are almost blinding, they appear startlingly misplaced. However, we will accept them and attempt to learn the reason.

In this story man has found the utmost in God's love. God is giving His only begotten Son that man may be Redeemed. He stoops to lift man from the depths of sin and death to life at its highest and best in fellowship with the living God. In the Child of Bethlehem, God unites Himself with man. It was God's utmost for man's highest. That is what makes it the story of the ages.

When the Wise men found Him they worshipped Him. The Birth of Jesus does not call for celebration so much, but for Worship.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

To all our kind and loyal customers, we wish a very merry holiday season and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Your business and goodwill mean a lot to us. Thanks, everyone!

Wayne Hungate ♦ Dave Cereghino
Laura Johnson ♦ Kelly Trout

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621 West Idaho
Homedale

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CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES ARE AT 9:00 AM

WITH SPECIAL MUSICAL SELECTIONS.

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Woman turns gourds to art
Page 10A

P&Z denies DeRuyter Dairy expansion, 4A

Fundraising tradition, Page 6A
Homedale sixth-graders begin
ticket sales for 48th Smorgasbord

High school basketball, Page 14A
Marsing boys, girls play host
to another Husky Holiday Classic

Established 1865

The Owyhee Avalanche

A SECTION, 24 PAGES

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2008

Snow for Christmas

Just in time for the holiday break, snow descended on Owyhee County. Several inches of wind-blown snow drifted throughout the area, adding that seasonal touch and forcing drivers to slow to a crawl. The drifting left some properties nearly bare, and others, like the Homedale High School parking lot, heaped with the white stuff. Forecasts through year's end predict more on the way.



Marsing area of impact

Council, county concerned that codes dovetail

The Marsing impact area plan will take some tweaking before it is finalized, and the area under scrutiny is what Mayor Keith Green predicted as the only possible sticking point a month ago — the nature of ordinances applying to those within the area.

Green received a letter from Owyhee County Board of Commissioners chair Jerry Hoagland following the approval of the zone's boundaries. The letter is a departure from what Green described as the county's earlier positive stance, as recommended by county consultant Fred Grant,

to simply use city ordinances within the impact area. Green recently told city council members that Hoagland and other county commissioners would like to see a separate non-county, non-city set of ordinances for the transition zone, which includes both residential and agricultural properties.

Councilman Tony Purtell expressed surprise at the county's stance, which seemed to have cooled in the period of a week or so. Green believed the desire to

— See Codes, page 5A



Early morning traffic jam

Tim Mackenzie's sheep moved through Homedale on Wednesday, on a frosty morning. Thousands of sheep and a handful of shepherds and sheepdogs made the passage from Johnstone Road along Idaho highway 19 to Riverside Road in safety. Homedale Police Officer Mike McFetridge and Owyhee County Sheriff's Deputy Isaac Gordon stopped traffic on Idaho 19 briefly to allow the band to cross without mishap.

Group honors Owyhee deputy

Nine-year Owyhee County Sheriff's Office veteran Chris Even was honored as the county's Officer of the Year last week by TRIAD, a group of senior citizens volunteers dedicated to promoting law enforcement in the county.

Even received a plaque during a ceremony in Murphy on Dec. 16. The deputy has been a TRIAD training officer, too.

Story, Page 11A



Government offices, local stores set holiday hours

Stores and government offices have set hours for Christmas and New Year's.

Additionally, 5 p.m. today is the deadline to submit display advertising for the Dec. 31 edition of The Owyhee Avalanche.

The Avalanche office will be closed Thursday and Friday for Christmas and will re-open at 8 a.m. Monday. For New Year's, all the usual deadlines are in place for the Jan. 7 edition. The Avalanche office will be closed Jan. 1, but will re-open on Jan. 2.

As for other holiday hours:

- While the holiday will not affect Owyhee County Sheriff's Office dispatch and patrol schedules, the remainder of the county offices in Murphy and Marsing will be closed Thursday and Jan. 1.

- Homedale City Hall will be closed Thursday and Friday for Christmas and Jan. 1-2 for New Year's.

- The Homedale City Council voted to cancel its second meeting of December because it falls on Christmas.

- Marsing's city offices will close at noon

today and will be closed all day Thursday and Jan. 1 for the respective holidays. The Marsing branch of the county division of motor vehicles will close at noon Thursday.

- The city offices in Grand View, Jordan Valley and Adrian are usually closed on Thursday and Friday of each week, so nothing changes with those hours.

- U.S. Bank branches in Homedale and Marsing will be closed Thursday and Jan. 1 for the holidays.

- Paul's Market will close at 7 tonight

for Christmas Eve and will be closed all day Thursday for Christmas. The store in Homedale will be open until 11 p.m. on New Year's Eve and from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on New Year's Day.

- Snake River Mart in Marsing will be open from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. for both Christmas and New Year's Day.

- Westowns Disposal, Inc., also will delay garbage pick-up by one day in the areas of Owyhee County that are serviced on Thursdays for the next two weeks.

Library sets resume workshop

Marsing-based international business consultant and entrepreneur Jeri Rutherford will present a resume workshop at the Lizard Butte Library in Marsing on Thursday, Jan. 8.

Rutherford will cover what businesses are looking for and how to beef up your resume and skills. Then, she'll conduct one-on-one reviews of resumes of each participant.

Class registration will be capped at the first 15 to sign up.

Call (208) 896-4690 for more information.

County P&Z board denies dairy expansion

The Owyhee County Planning and Zoning Commission has rejected a conditional use permit application from DeRuyter Dairies.

Dairy owner Nicolas DeRuyter applied to expand his operation from 9,600 cows to 14,400 head.

The P&Z commission rendered its decision in Murphy on Friday, nearly a year and a half after the CUP process began with a July 2007 public hearing that dragged on for 12 hours in Marsing.

During the hearing process, the P&Z board heard concerns from residents and officials about flies, odor, water quality, air quality and the destruction of the road around the Buntrock Road dairy operation.

DeRuyter has until Jan. 8 to appeal the decision to the Board of County Commissioners.



New cars lead parade
Left: Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller and his family ride in the department's new "slick" vehicle during the Homedale for the Holidays Parade on Dec. 13. Above: Officer Jeff Wasson drove the other new car late of Garden City PD.

HPD adds three new vehicles

Chief updates fleet with cars from Garden City, Portland agencies

The Homedale Police Department has updated its patrol car fleet with three used cars from other Northwest agencies.

At recent meetings, the Homedale City Council authorized Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller to buy three cars to update his aging fleet. Two of the vehicles — originally Garden City cars — were purchased in a deal with Dan Weibold Ford in Nampa.

Eidemiller flew to Portland on Wednesday and bought another car from that city's PD.

According to City Clerk and Treasurer Alice Pegram, all three cars cost the city a total of \$4,200. Eidemiller also traded the department's Ford Explorer as part of the deal with Weibold. Other expenses, such as decaling and equipment, will increase the price tag slightly, officials said.

"We can replace the oldest car we have and not buy another car this year," Eidemiller told the council during its Dec. 10 meeting.

The chief originally had budgeted \$26,000 for a brand-new car in fiscal year 2009. The chief said the deals amount to an \$18,000 to \$20,000 savings for the city.

"It gives us some breathing room until next year," he said.

Eidemiller told the council he plans to keep two of the cars as "slicks" — or unmarked cars — for supervisor vehicles.

During the Dec. 13 Homedale for the Holidays Parade, Officer Jeff Wasson drove the marked car formerly owned by Garden City, while Eidemiller drove the former Garden City slick.

Eidemiller said he was contacted by Dan Weibold Ford in Nampa when Garden City brought the vehicles to the lot. Decals were placed on one of the cars, while Eidemiller estimated a new radio one of the cars would cost about \$700. He told the council that money would come out of his radio fund.

The chief traded in the department's Ford Explorer and used \$700 cash to get the two patrol cars. Pegram said the city got \$6,500 in equity for the Explorer, which had 57,000 miles on it.

The chief said that getting rid of the Ford Explorer would be a relief because it has been something of an albatross for the department's maintenance budget.

The Portland vehicle is an unmarked Ford Crown Victoria, and Eidemiller said it had 60,000 miles on it.

The chief said the department would, in essence, be gaining two cars. He said there are plans to retire the HPD fleet's oldest vehicle at the end of the year.

"We'll rotate the oldest car out every year, so the fleet will be five years old at the oldest," Eidemiller said.

The oldest HPD car, driven by Wasson, is nearing 135,000 miles, Eidemiller said.

— JPB

Bad checks can rise as economy sags

County law enforcement agencies recommend check recipients take care in consciously checking identification, verifying addresses and making sure the two match.

Some merchants are seeing increases in check fraud and bad checks as the economy stagnates.

Sheriff's Deputy Aron Streibel spoke on bad checks, as well as general safety and theft-reduction for retailers, at the Marsing Chamber of Commerce meeting last Wednesday. With the economy being what it is, he warned, business owners may be at greater risk.

But retailers can help themselves, according to Streibel:

- Ensure that addresses on checks match that on ID.
- Write down driver's license or ID numbers on checks.
- Don't accept two-party checks.
- Be careful with customers that make multiple visits in a day.
- Have a check policy and ensure staff understands it.

- Beware cash-back checks.
- Share a list of bad-check writers with other businesses.
- When all else fails and a bad check is received, retailers must immediately report the check as bad to law enforcement, rather than setting a repayment date. Any discussion of repayment counts as entering a legal contract, and takes the matter out of law enforcement's hands. Partial payments do the same, making it impossible to pursue a criminal complaint. This difficulty can extend to postdated checks (which constitute promissory notes), checks held for an agreed time (which legally counts as an extension of credit), and checks given to a collection agency.
- As far as cash is concerned, Streibel recommended any business get a pen to help check for counterfeit currency. Law enforcement has seen bills as small as \$5 and \$10 counterfeited, possibly because people are less likely to check them for authenticity.

The Owyhee Avalanche

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Letters to the editor

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

Come share in our Appreciation
for years of
Service to Owyhee County!

An Open House on January 5, 2009, starting at 1:00 p.m. in the McKeeth Hall at the Owyhee County Museum in Murphy will be held to show appreciation for their years of service to Owyhee County:

- Commissioner Hal Tolmie
- Sheriff Gary Aman
- Prosecuting Attorney Matthew Faulks

There will be refreshments and stories to enjoy. Please come help us wish them well in their new endeavors.

Marsing ponders sewer system fix to stop infiltration

David Bauer of J-U-B Engineering gave Marsing City Council members some things to think about during a update on the municipal sewer system.

The good news is that the system as designed can handle considerably more households than are currently in place, if the pipes were in good condition, he said.

The bad news is the pipes are not in good condition. Groundwater infiltration is killing the city’s wastewater treatment plant.

Flow meters were inserted into the lines in sections of the city, amount of effluent measure, and the incoming wastewater compared to the outflow from the lagoons.

“It’s a huge difference,” Bauer said.

The average outflow in the winter is roughly 100,000 gallons per day, with that outflow jumping to a massive 230,000 gallons per day in the summer. While usage in the warmer months does rise some, Bauer said, an estimated 99,000 gallons per day of the summer load is actually water infiltrating the sewer system. The bulk of it is probably irrigation water.

That influx of water raises the phosphate level in the sewage outflow, pushes the plant past its rated 155,000 gallon capacity and causes more wear and tear on the system. Finding ways to combat the infiltration will be the next step, though Bauer cautioned that even the best results, with all the pipes in the town replaced, would likely only result in a 40 to 70 percent reduction in water sneaking into the system.

“You just can’t get it all,” he cautioned. A percentage of the infiltration depends on service line condition, and services lines are the bailiwick of property owners, and thus a constant problem as far as infiltration is concerned.

The system’s 15-inch main, lying in swampy ground and running directly under a wastewater ditch behind the Marsing American Legion Hall, is a possible culprit Mayor Keith Green would like to address early in any repair project. The mayor said he would prefer to move the pipe when replaced — rather than merely sleeve it — and try to place it in drier soil.

The city will have to get control of flow rate and infiltration, and then make sure the plant is of proper capacity to handle the flow, public works superintendent Danny Martin said of the system, adding that the state of the pipes would determine the size of the plant needed.

Green noted that the situation illustrated the need to replace pipe every year, section by section.

Meanwhile, the Marsing water project continues on time and on track, according to the status report from city engineer Amy Woodruff. Inquiries will be made as to the feasibility of obtaining a Homeland Security grant to put security fencing around the new water tank and pump station as well as the sewer farm.

In another city services-related matter, Marsing has begun the process to take Katie Watkins of Boise, the owner of a house on 2nd Avenue West, to small claims courts over \$4,700 of outstanding charges arising from water, sewer and irrigation around the now uninhabited dwelling once sublet as four units.

The city may also investigate foreclosure on the property. Watkins, in addition to being in arrears on utilities charges, has not paid property taxes on the site this year.

Marsing’s next scheduled city council meeting will be held Jan. 14 at 7 p.m.

— MML

Crime log

A domestic dispute reported at 4305 Hogg Road in Homedale saw personnel from both the Owyhee County Sheriff’s Office and Homedale Police respond.

A 911 call from Teryn Kent Joseph Eddy of Emmett at 6:14 p.m. Saturday reported that he had been involved in an argument with his girlfriend, and that she had thrown herself down some steps and “said he pushed her”, according to the dispatch log. When law enforcement personnel questioned two witnesses at the scene, one said Eddy had pushed the woman, the other that she had thrown herself down the stairs. The woman involved was reported as being four months pregnant.

While leaving the home, officers found a sawed-off shotgun in Eddy’s truck, and forwarded the case to federal authorities, as the weapon violates federal firearms laws.

The identity of the driver killed in a Dec. 14 rollover near Grand View has been released. Cameron said alcohol does not appear to have been a factor in the crash that killed 16-year-old Adam Guy Lingle.

Lingle, who was not wearing a seatbelt, died when his

vehicle veered into a dry canal and rolled.

A report of Christmas tree theft was called in to the sheriff’s office last Wednesday. Someone cut several evergreens near Silver City in the Dewey Mine area on private property. The property owner had just paid to trim the trees in question. No witnesses to the Grinch-like behavior have come forward.

A report of telephone harassment by a Grand View resident is thought to be the work of an identity theft scammer. The reporting party told the sheriff’s office that the caller had said they were operating a mandatory federal survey and sought personal information.

Chief Deputy Bruce Cameron warned that the holiday period brings the scammers out of the woodwork. Any bank or government office that needs your identification numbers already has them, Cameron warned. He cautioned that one should never give their personal information over the phone. He said that, if an individual is concerned that a call might be real, request that the caller send a formal written request on corporate letterhead. “Or request to speak with a

supervisor. If one doesn’t come on within 10 seconds — it’s a scam,” Cameron said.

The first snow of the season wreaked havoc with haulers this week. Three trucks all fell afoul of the slippery surface.

The first accident occurred at 4:32 Friday morning, when a truck jackknifed on Idaho highway 78 near Grand View. The highway was blocked for a short time, and reduced to single-lane traffic for about an hour.

The second incident was reported on Saturday at 4:32 p.m. A truck slid and lost its load of hay into a ditch. The truck’s driver, Roberto Luna, said he was attempting to avoid what he reported as a “spun out” Simplot truck. A loader was scrambled to the accident, the truck reloaded and the only damage from the incident was to a roadside phone pedestal.

The third mishap happened roughly two hours later, when an 18-wheeler wound up sideways on Mormon Boulevard near Bruneau. A neighbor removed the truck shortly thereafter using a tractor and some chain.

No one was injured in any of the accidents.

— MML

Hopson and Robinson jury trial cancelled, plea deal pending

The trial for a couple charged nearly a year ago with animal cruelty in the Homedale area — Deborah Hopson and Zachariah Robinson — has been cancelled. A tentative date of Jan. 26 has been given for an appearance

of the pair for a change of plea and sentencing. The accused had originally filed a not guilty plea to the charges, which are misdemeanors in Idaho.

Homedale businessman Mark Jolley had his preliminary hearing

Monday. Jolley is accused of using a handgun to threaten two men repossessing his daughter’s car on Dec. 8. He faces two counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. Hearing results were not available as of deadline.

Homedale seniors set January schedule

The Homedale Senior Citizens Center has set its holiday hours and schedule of January events.

The center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., will be closed Thursday and Friday for Christmas and Dec. 31-Jan. 1 for New Year’s.

On Jan. 3, the center will hold

a community dance with music by Elvie Thomas, Vince Bingham and their band. The dance runs from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. The public is invited, admission is \$4, and participants are encouraged to bring finger foods.

On Jan. 12, the senior center is

planning a shopping trip. Call 337-4737 or the center at 337-3020 to reserve a seat on the bus.

The monthly foot clinic will be held Jan. 20.

Those interested may make an appointment by calling the center.

From page 1

✓ Codes: Marsing ordinances could inspire county in master plan update

form a separate set of ordinances was likely political, brought about by pressure from county voters in the area who were, perhaps, expressing fears of new ordinances to the commissioners.

The county hasn’t received any negative comments, as it happens. Hoagland explained the county’s concerns, which may be less serious than the city had been led to believe by the letter.

County planning and zoning administrator Mary Huff met with Marsing city engineer Amy Woodruff to look at ordinance is-

sues, Hoagland said. The concerns transmitted to Hoagland were that the county’s ordinances might not be up to snuff with Marsing’s proposed codes for the impact area.

“There needs to be quite a little work to make the two comprehensive plans compatible,” Hoagland said. “It’s the subdivision ordinance — it looks like Marsing has a really good one, and we want the county one to be compatible with that.”

There are also several smaller land-use issues, and county officials would like to make sure

they are on the same page as the city with those, he said.

The adjustments in the ordinances would ensure that, if the city annexes a property within the impact area, the ordinances wouldn’t change and that any properties would be properly up to code, Hoagland said.

The reworking of county ordinances will act as a first step in the planned update of the county master development plan, Hoagland said, with the county looking at the Marsing ordinances for inspiration in some areas.

There might have to be some specific rules in the impact area ordinances to keep it compatible with the county’s upcoming comprehensive plan update next year, Hoagland said. Lessons learned in the impact area could be included in the updated ordinances throughout the county.

In any case, the details aren’t the most important thing, Green pointed out.

“Our main priority isn’t whose ordinances are adopted, but getting it done,” he said. “But I hope they take a good look at it. I think

you’ve done a really good job on those ordinances.”

The council passed a motion to adapt and decide a compromise set of ordinances following discussions with the county.

The impact area is being put together to ensure the city’s eventual growth is both controlled and in-line with city needs, and city code. It encompasses the properties enclosed by Thompson, Pershall and Edison roads, and the high-water mark along the Snake River.

— MML

HHS student spotlight

Homedale High School has begun a new program in which students will be recognized on a weekly basis for their contribution to the school and community.

The first two recipients of the recognition are seniors Ulysses Vargas and Trevor Meligan. The students were selected by school staff.

Both have been active in student government and also have been four-year members of the wrestling team.

“Both are super nice guys you’d like to have around,” Trojans wrestling coach Toby Johnson said. “They’re always willing to help somebody else with anything.”

Both have plans to continue their education in college locally and then enter the health field.

Vargas has served as junior class president and student body president, while Meligan has been class president both as a junior and senior.



Trevor Meligan

Year in school — Senior
Parents — Jennifer and Tarry Meligan

Activities — Four years on wrestling team, student government, American Cancer Society Relay for Life

School accomplishments — Junior and senior class president, National Honor Society member, Homecoming king, freshman Homecoming prince and state tournament qualifier in wrestling

Future plans — Obtain Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) license, attend Boise State University to pursue a bachelor’s degree as a registered nurse (RN)

What they’re saying about Trevor:

“Trevor has grown up to be a fine man. He is dependable and honest with my dealings with him.”

— HHS teacher Thomas Thomas

“As president for the senior class, Trevor has one of the toughest jobs of any class officer. Trevor is a hard-working individual who cares for his classmates and is proud of his school.”

— HHS principal Mike Williams



Ulysses Vargas

Year in school — Senior
Parents — Jesus and Maria Vargas

Activities — Four years on wrestling team, student government, FFA, Science Club, Meridian Indoor Soccer, the Legion

School accomplishments — Student body president, junior class president

Future plans — Attend Boise State University or College of Western Idaho for two years then transfer to University of Southern California for pharmacist school

What they’re saying about Trevor:

“Ulysses has been an officer for the FFA and a very active member as a whole. While he is always the last on the bus to go anywhere, he always has the best attitude! He can make everyone smile, and he is truly an asset to the chapter.”

— Homedale FFA advisor Lori Harrison

“As the ASB president, Ulysses has proven himself as a leader in the school. Ulysses is very responsible and is willing to see a task through to the end. He is an ambassador for Homedale High School and the community.”

— HHS principal Mike Williams

Smorgasbord kicks off again

HMS sixth-graders begin ticket sales on Christmas break

The spirit and intent of the Homedale International Smorgasbord hasn’t changed in the five decades since it began, but this time around the incentive for enterprising sixth-graders who sell the tickets has.

The top three ticket sellers will receive coveted iPods for their efforts, Smorgasbord chair Heidi Nash announced to Homedale Middle School sixth-graders last week.

Nash and her husband, Ryan, are the 2009 chairpersons. Each year the Smorgasbord raises thousands of dollars for the Homedale School District. The Smorgasbord fund was instrumental in the construction of the high-tech reader board at Homedale High School and has contributed to numerous teachers and projects over the years.

Heidi Nash drew a crowd even before she began her orientation visits to each sixth-grade class at HMS. Carrying an iPod Touch (first prize), an iPod Nano (second prize) and an iPod Shuffle (third), she was swarmed by children in the hall inquiring about the digital music players.

The 48th annual Homedale International Smorgasbord, dubbed “For the Love of Education” for this school year, will be held on Valentine’s Day, Saturday, Feb. 14, at Homedale Elementary School. The Smorgasbord will be held from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and as in years past an art show with community submissions will be held.

Call Nash at 867-9091 for more information on either the Smorgasbord or the art show.

Tickets and letters were sent to sixth-graders on Friday, Nash said. Each student will be accountable for \$230 in tickets, about 25 tickets in all. Each student will be able to pick up additional tickets if they sell out.

The ticket sales agreement sent out with the tickets told



Students get first look at incentive

Homedale sixth-grader Darius Franklin stares intently at the three iPods that will be up for grabs in the ticket sales contest as Homedale International Smorgasbord chair Heidi Nash explains the rules.

students and parents of the annual campaign.

Tickets will be sold for \$28 for a family, \$7 for adults, \$5 for senior citizens, \$4 for first-through sixth-graders, and \$2 for preschoolers.

Beginning Jan. 9, the highest ticket-seller in each of HMS’ sixth-grade classes will be rewarded with a prize. The iPod overall prizes will be awarded Feb. 6.

In addition to the weekly prizes and the iPod grand prizes, each student who sells at least \$26 in tickets will be rewarded with a bowling party.

In years past, the Smorgasbord has had chairpersons and co-chairpersons. The co-chair usually helps the chair one year then takes over the organization of the event

the following year. Nash said she didn’t have a co-chair to hand off to for 2010 until Jessi Webster agreed about 10 minutes before the HMS visit last week.

There are chairs responsible for all the different international cuisine booths that will be set up Feb. 14 at the elementary school.

The chair this year include: Lori Emry, Oriental booth; Wendy Vaughn, European booth; John and Gloria Lejardi, Basque booth; Brian and Melissa and Clint and Romriell, American booth; Rodrigo and Mary Villarreal, Mexican booth; Patti Syme, bread booth; Tracy Fisher and Cami Lane, dessert booth; and Melanie Harper, salad booth.

— JPB

Senior menus

Homedale center

Dec. 24-25: Closed.

Dec. 30: Pork chow mein w/noodles, oriental vegetables, fried rice.

Marsing center

Dec. 24-25: Closed.

Dec. 29: Breakfast to order.

Dec. 30: Swiss steak, potatoes w/gravy, peas & carrots, jello, roll, oatmeal cookie, beverage.

Dec. 31: Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, spinach, vegetable, jello salad, cake w/cherry topping, beverage.

Death notice

JOHN L. SPENCER, 67, of Homedale passed away at a local area hospital on Saturday, Dec. 20, 2008. Services are pending under the direction of Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Homedale.

*Read all about it
in the Avalanche!*

Locals get U of I degrees

Andree’ Scown, the superintendent of the Jordan Valley and Pleasant Valley school districts, is among the people who graduated from the University of Idaho this month.

Scown graduated with an education specialist in education leadership.

She was among a handful of area residents to receive diplomas from the Moscow school during the winter commencement on Dec. 13.

Yasone Maite Lejardi of Homedale received a bachelor’s degree in English.

Melba’s Anna Lucille Schwisow earned a bachelor’s degree in political science, and fellow Melba resident Jacob Edward Silver received a bachelor’s in agribusiness.

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Calendar

Today

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

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

Saturday

Used book sale
11 a.m., Homedale Public Library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228

Monday

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

Tuesday

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

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

Saturday, Jan. 3

Community dance
7 p.m., \$4 and finger food, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

Monday, Jan. 5

Owyhee County Board of Commissioners meeting
Courtroom 2, Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy
Elected officials appreciation
1 p.m., event for District 1 Commissioner Harold ‘Hal’ Tolmie, Sheriff Gary Aman and Prosecuting Attorney Matthew Faulks, McKeeth Hall, Owyhee County Historical Museum complex, 17085 Basey St., 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.

Wednesday, Jan. 7

TRIAD meeting
1 p.m., Marsing Senior Center, 218 Main St., Marsing. (208) 337-4466
DivorceCare recovery support group
7 p.m., Mountain View Church of the Nazarene, 26515 Ustick Road, Wilder. (208) 337-3151
Homedale American Legion meetings
7 p.m., American Legion and Auxiliary meetings, Homedale American Legion Post 32 Hall, 16 E. Owyhee Ave.

Thursday, Jan. 8

Women’s exercise course
9:30 a.m., University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office, 238 8th Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4104
Owyhee Conservation District board meeting
10 a.m., 250 N. Old Bruneau Highway, Marsing. (208) 896-4544
Exercise class
10:45 a.m., free, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave. (208) 337-3020
El-Ada commodity distribution
11 a.m. to noon, Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (208) 337-4812
Homedale Chamber of Commerce luncheon
Noon, Owyhee Lanes Restaurant, 18 W. 1st St. (208) 337-3271
Senior citizens lunch
Noon, Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View
Owyhee Gardeners meeting
1 p.m., University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office, 238 8th Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-5474 or (208) 896-4104

Resume workshop
4 p.m., Lizard Butte Library, 111 3rd Ave., Marsing. (208) 896-4690
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
Adrian school board meeting
7 p.m., Adrian School Library
AA meeting
8 p.m., Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave.
Owyhee County Fair Board meeting
8 p.m., county fairgrounds, Homedale. (208) 337-4575

Friday, Jan. 9

Grand View Lions Club meeting
11:30 a.m., Salinas Raider Cafe, 330 Main St., Grand View. (208) 834-2419
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. 12

Owyhee County Board of Commissioners meeting
Courtroom 2, Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy
Melba school board meeting
4 p.m., district office board room, 600 Broadway Ave.
Homedale school board meeting
7 p.m., district office board room, 116 E. Owyhee Ave.

You can find a comprehensive listing of local events online at www.theowyheeavalanche.com. Click of the “Calendar of Events” link on the left-hand side of the page.
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 jon@owyheeavalanche.com.



Bet You Didn’t Know Planet Earth: Over 69 billion served

Any idea of how many people have lived on the earth since the dawn of time? Best guess is between 69 billion and 110 billion. Give or take a few billion.

Henry Kaiser once said ... “I think that American salesmanship can be a weapon more powerful than the atomic bomb.”

The reason people tell you to “keep your shirt on” when they want you to calm down is because men used to take their shirts off whenever they got mad enough to get into a fistfight.

Ostriches do put their heads in the ground. Not to hide, though ... just looking for water.

So is there such a thing as a sardine? Nope, just a term used to describe more than 20 species of small herrings.

Costs the government 2.59 cents to make a nickel and only 1.42 cents to make a dime. Looks to me like we could save money making more dimes, doesn’t it to you?

You might have noticed that in those old photos made in the 1800s, not many folks smiled. The reason? Bad teeth.

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



Homedale High School winter royalty crowned

Perhaps it’s only fitting that Homedale High School seniors Grant Sweet and Cortnee Krzesnik were named 2008 Winter Court King and Queen this year. The two have been friends for years and have grown up in the Homedale school system. Submitted photo

Homedale library plans used book sale Saturday

Homedale Public Library advertises “amazing” low prices when it starts selling selected used books on Saturday. The sale will run from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. that day at the library.
Regular-size paperbacks will be priced at 15 cents, while larger paperbacks and hardcover books will be priced according to size. All books will cost less than \$1.
For more information, call 337-4228 every afternoon except Sunday.

Owyhee field manager urges grazers to be proactive

New Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Owyhee Field Office manager Buddy Green recently met with ranchers and county officials, detailing his past experiences and outlining the problems the Owyhee range faces.

Speaking before about two dozen people, Green also shared strategies and successes he’s had in his work during his years in Colorado in range management. He is a veteran of the wars between grazing rights and the desire to set aside land for petrochemical drilling in Colorado.

With change coming after last month’s general election, Green cautioned that ranchers needed to be proactive and have a post-

election strategy.

“Everyone that gets into office wants to change the world,” he said. In order to make sure those changes are ones residents and lease holders wanted to see, he suggested several things that had to be done. One of the chief tools that could be of use, he said, is being involved with and engaged in the Resource Advisory Council (RAC). Its use as an alternative conflict resolution system is especially necessary in the current atmosphere of litigation, he said.

It is also important that ranchers learn to “beat the drum” on their successes, Green said. While it isn’t something that came natural to cattlemen and those raised not

to brag, it is important to make sure to talk up the positive things that come out of ranchers’ projects and improvements, and their work with the RAC and other entities.

“The other side is very, very good at beating the drum. You have to be, too,” he warned.

In addition to doing so, laying in evidence of positive action for legal challenges and the like, Green said it is vital to avoid doing anything to give grazing opponents ammunition for attacks.

“Don’t do stupid things,” he said to a general laugh. “If you’re doing something and you are thinking it’s probably wrong, don’t. If you see your neighbor doing something, chew him out.”

In an atmosphere where environmental groups have a legacy of winning litigation, giving them additional material to go to court with is extremely counterproductive, he explained.

Another facet of the fight, he said, is getting youth involved. Having young people act as advocates for agriculture is both vital and difficult, he said. Given the divisive, litigious nature of the fight over grazing, it’s all too common for younger people to simply aim at a different career and turn their backs on the whole mess. He added that the rate of burnout and career change in the BLM that he has seen over the past years is, he believes, tied to that same harsh

environment.

He promised to do his best, though he was sure he’d anger some people at some point.

“If I don’t ever make you angry, I’m probably not doing my job,” he said. “And I’m probably missing something that would have been a positive for you in the long run.”

Green took questions from the crowd, and spoke with ranchers individually afterward. Owyhee County Treasurer Brenda Richards and Commissioner Jerry Hoagland — both ranchers — were present to listen, as well as Aden Seidlitz, the BLM Boise District manager.

— MML

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Ground-breaking deal clears way for riverfront homes

Official hopes stipulations set precedent for future subdivisions

A 28-home subdivision outside Homedale is set for construction after what one county official calls a unique development agreement.

The subdivision developer, Kastera Development LLC signed a document with the Owyhee County Board of Commissioners that requires River Shore Estates on the Snake River to have a nine-acre common area and an easement to provide connection to any future development.

Commission chair Jerry Hoagland said the agreement develops a pattern that the county would like to see with future construction.

“It goes back to when I was on Planning and Zoning,” Hoagland said. “There was a concern that we could approve these use permits with conditions, but the conditions didn’t cover some of the concerns that we really couldn’t address with the way the laws allow.”

Hoagland said the pact makes clear exactly what Kastera is allowed to do with the land,

which sits four miles northwest of Homedale.

He said the Planning and Zoning Commission came up with the idea of the development agreement and Kastera worked to flesh it out.

“We’ve seen other instances of misinterpretations, and this will avoid all that,” Hoagland said. “We really welcome Kastera’s desire to do this.

“They were the ones who first brought the concept and the idea forward.”

The agreement signed last month modifies an original voluntary development agreement Kastera entered in May 2007, seven months before the preliminary plat for the subdivision north of Homedale was OK’d.

Since May, the development’s name has been changed from River Bend Estates to River Shore Estates. The subdivision will encompass nearly 105 acres of riverfront.

Under the amended agreement, the Boise-based homebuilder agrees to provide and maintain

nine acres of common area north of the western half of the development. The common area would extend behind the first 16 lots of the development. A plan to add a boat launch to the common area was nixed by the Army Corps of Engineers, according to details in the development agreement.

The River Shore Estates Homeowners Association will be responsible for maintenance of the common area, which also must include a multi-use natural pathway along the river’s edge. Kastera’s Web site says the pathway will be 1½ miles long.

Most of the lots will be situated on River Road, west of its intersection with Northside Road.

The development turns to the south for the final four lots along River Shore Lane, and at the end of that road, Kastera has agreed to create a road easement to connect to future development south of River Shore Estates.

Finally, Kastera agrees to re-design River Shore Lane to include a 10½-foot-wide drainage swale along the roadway’s north side.

The development will have septic systems for sewage and

wells for water service.

Also this year, commissioners have approved the final plats for the Sunset Meadows subdivision outside Marsing and the Bella Vista subdivision along the Snake River outside Givens.

— JPB

RHS scans lunch crowd

Rimrock High School students don’t have to worry about losing their lunch card, anymore; as long as they take their finger to school, they have everything they need.

The school has installed a fingerprint reader that ties directly to the school’s MealTime software, allowing students to get their lunch with the touch of, literally, one finger. The system came online Oct. 16, JayDene Aquiso, food service supervisor for the district, said.

The \$450 scanner was well received, though Aquiso was initially concerned that there might be privacy issues with some parents or students. Only one student chose not to use the system, however.

The school tested the waters earlier, sending a letter home with each student enrolled in the elementary, middle and high schools, informing them of the desire to install such a scanner, and explaining the process and the built-in privacy safeguards.

“It took a while. I wanted to make sure I didn’t have any parents who would complain,” said Aquiso about the time period between the letter, mailed Sept. 5, and the Oct. 16 launch of the system.

“It’s not a fingerprint,” Aquiso explained. “It’s a finger scan. We put their school number (student ID) on the scan, so that’s what shows up when they go through.”

“It’s so easy. They just push their finger on the pad and go right through the line, it’s really quick,” Aquiso said.

Water report

The Bureau of Reclamation Web site showed that the Owyhee Reservoir was 25 percent full and that water was flowing in the Owyhee River above the reservoir at Rome, Ore., at a rate of 156 cubic feet per second. Water is flowing out at Nyssa, Ore. at a rate of 27 cubic feet per second. The reservoir held 179,615 acre-feet of water on Monday.

The following statistics were gathered from the National Resources Conservation Service Web site at 8:30 a.m. Monday (Year-to-date precipitation is measured from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30.)

SNOTEL report, Owyhee County sensors

	Snow Equiv.	Snow Depth	Year-to-date Precip.	Previous day's temperature		
	(measured in inches)			Max	Min	Avg
Mud Flat						
12/16	0.4	2.8	2.4	31.5	13.1	22.8
12/17	0.4	3.9	2.4	26.2	11.3	19.4
12/18	0.3	4.8	2.4	26.2	7.5	16.0
12/19	0.6	4.1	2.5	27.5	4.6	17.8
12/20	0.8	5.9	2.7	27.5	16.7	20.5
12/21	1.0	9.2	2.9	28.9	16.0	21.0
12/22	1.6	11.7	3.4	36.7	22.1	31.3
Reynolds Creek						
12/16	1.0	8.3	3.7	18.0	10.0	13.8
12/17	1.1	8.5	3.8	17.1	10.6	14.2
12/18	1.1	7.6	3.9	22.3	10.0	15.3
12/19	1.4	9.1	4.1	24.4	17.8	21.0
12/20	1.3	8.4	4.2	21.0	12.2	14.9
12/21	1.8	14.9	4.5	20.1	12.7	16.7
12/22	2.2	14.3	4.7	34.5	12.9	24.1
South Mountain						
12/16	1.4	12.9	7.1	26.8	17.2	19.6
12/17	1.3	12.4	7.1	21.9	8.2	15.4
12/18	1.4	11.1	6.9	24.6	10.2	17.8
12/19	1.9	12.2	7.6	23.2	18.1	21.0
12/20	2.1	15.9	7.8	20.8	12.6	14.4
12/21	2.4	17.5	8.1	21.9	13.8	17.6
12/22	3.1	16.5	8.8	33.6	21.7	30.6

Weather

	High	Low	Precipitation
Dec 16	32	16	trace
Dec 17	32	3	.00
Dec 18	27	5	.00
Dec 19	38	14	trace
Dec 20	no reading taken		
Dec 21	no reading taken		
Dec 22	37	17	.10

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THE OC

Folks worth knowing in Owyhee County

DONNA HAYLETT, HOMEDALE

Gourd artwork

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

Haylett never bored with gourds

Donna Haylett of Homedale makes artful use of an ancient item: the gourd. Her craft transforms the humble vegetable, used in primitive cultures as a storage device and utensil, into art.

Her craft takes gourds of many sorts — huge basket gourds, tiny miniatures, bottle gourds and more — and, with an eye for the art hidden in the shape, she turns them into baskets, vases, characters or whatever strikes her fancy.

She began by accident, seven or eight years ago, on a visit to her daughter.

“I was in California ... we went into a little shop that had birdhouse gourds, and I thought ‘How neat!’ The shop had some packages of mixed seeds, and I bought some to grow my own.” She also visits the yearly gourd fair near Folsom, Calif., and enjoys seeing the heights that some take the art to.

“They do amazing stuff,” she said. “They use really expensive pyro tools ... and do really intricate stuff.”

Her own “stuff” is quite intricate. Her gourds are finished satin-smooth, some hand-painted, some decorated carefully with wood-burning tools. The accoutrements on her gourd characters are all hand-made — tiny scarves, hats and more crafted for each piece individually.

Haylett bought some gourds in

Where to find them

Haylett’s gourd art can be seen and purchased in Homedale at Terri’s Jewelry and Gift Boutique at 114 W. Idaho Ave.

the early stage of her hobby, but grows most of her raw materials now. Gourds, it turns out, take nearly as much work to grow as to craft.

“You need at least five months to grow them,” she said. Haylett generally starts her gourd vines inside, then transplants them when the threat of frost passes.

Growing them is just the start. Once mature, the first frosts kill the vines, and Haylett leaves the gourds in place to begin drying and seasoning.

When green, a gourd has a large amount of water trapped in its pulp — a big one can weigh as much as a similarly sized pumpkin or squash.

Eventually, the gourds are picked and arranged on wooden pallets to allow air to circulate and help cure them. The drying process takes a year. With too much moisture the gourds will mildew, so the dry climate of Owyhee County is helpful for her hobby, Haylett said. Even with the low humidity, the larger gourds can be problematic, and



Fruits of her labor

Donna Haylett poses with a selection of her art. All her characters and containers start off as gourds and end up as you see them. Each gourd goes through a long process, taking more than a year from field to finished project. Some of her pieces offer a warm holiday glow using lights concealed in the gourd.

sometimes collapse into ruin as they dry.

After they’ve dried, a gourd must be laboriously scraped out and the dried and often tenacious pulp removed. Sanding the rough interior comes next, and then the sculpting, inscribing and painting, followed by a clear sealer to

protect the finished piece.

Any type of gourd has to be grown in strict isolation from other species, Haylett said, as the plants cross-pollinate easily, and the results are — even if interesting — highly unpredictable and not always useful.

This year, she grew 35 or so basket gourds, the largest ones too heavy to lift while green, and up to 51 inches in circumference and 18 inches tall.

While all Haylett’s gourds are decorative, she pointed out that they’ve long been useful tools for various peoples.

“Way back they were used widely by tribespeople. They can be treated inside to store food,” she explained. “Early people

made canteens, too. There’s a gourd called a ‘canteen gourd’, in fact.” Those biodegradable canteens took some work. Gourds have a naturally bitter taste, and it required many soaks and rinses to leech the bitterness from the canteen, she said.

When she was attending bazaars regularly, Haylett would craft 25 to 30 gourds a year, she said. Now she does it when she wants, and for her own enjoyment and the pleasure of those who buy her art.

“I’m not going to get rich at it, but they’re fun and challenging,” she said. “I have books, albums of pictures of my work.”

— MML

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HOMEDALE, ACROSS FROM THE POST OFFICE

OCSO's Even honored by TRIAD, peers

Deputy's name added to list of officers of year

Owyhee County Sheriff's Office Deputy Chris Even has been awarded the TRIAD Officer of the Year Award.

A nine-year veteran of the office, Even was honored Dec. 16 as TRIAD visited Murphy for its annual day of appreciation for sheriff's office and jail personnel.

"I'm humbled by it, I really am," Even said. "I don't think I deserve it, but that's just me."

Marsing resident Merrill Tallman, a past president of TRIAD, said Even was recommended for the award by his peers.

Tallman said TRIAD has been honoring officers of the year for nearly 15 years.

"We just decided when we first started (the TRIAD organization) to honor a police person," Tallman said. "We decided that we want to encourage the officers."

"The whole idea of TRIAD is a police-help deal. We decided to raise enough money to honor someone every year."

TRIAD treasurer Mary Burman and member William Shaw joined Sheriff Gary Aman to present Even with a plaque. Burman and Shaw also brought trays of cookies for sheriff's office personnel, including jailers and dispatchers. Tallman said each person in the office gets a coffee cup filled with fudge, too.

Tokens of appreciation also were handed out to sheriff's deputies in Marsing and Grand View as well as Homedale Police Department personnel, he said.

In addition to receiving a per-

sonal plaque, Even had his name affixed to a perpetual plaque in the sheriff's office in Murphy. The names of past officers of the year also appear there.

"Chris is a very dedicated employee who will always go the extra mile," Aman said, adding that the Marsing-Homedale deputy's strengths lie in patrol and traffic enforcement.

Aman said Even is active within the Marsing community. He serves as training officer for the Sheriff's Posse and also has coordinated training for the sheriff's office and TRIAD senior citizens. He's also involved with children in the Marsing School District through the schools.

"Chris is admired by this administration and neighboring agencies," Aman said.

— JPB



Deputy accepts TRIAD award
Owyhee County Sheriff's Deputy Chris Even and his boss, Sheriff Gary Aman, stand with TRIAD representatives Mary Burman and Bill Shaw. Even received the TRIAD Owyhee County Officer of the Year award Dec. 16 in Murphy. Submitted photo

Caldwell foundation helps Homedale children

Children in Homedale will have more opportunities to grow thanks to grants from the Caldwell-based Whittenberger Foundation.

Homedale Elementary School secured a \$3,000 grant to assist the I Can Do after-school club, while the Homedale Public Library will use a \$200 grant to buy more "board" books for toddlers.

Homedale library director Margaret Fujishin said board books are indestructible books that parents can check out without fear of their smaller children tearing them apart before they get a chance to return them to the library.

"We should be able to buy 40 of those and add them to the ones we've got," Fujishin

said, adding that the addition would more than double the board book inventory.

Fujishin picked up the \$200 check during the Whittenberger Foundation's luncheon at The College of Idaho in Caldwell earlier this month.

At the same luncheon, Homedale Elementary School teaching assistant Maricela Guzman accepted a \$3,000 check to fund part of the I Can Do after-school program.

The program, which is staffed by volunteers including members of the Homedale High School chapter of the Future Hispanic Leaders of America and other high school students, meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Guzman also is among the

volunteers who help with the I Can Do club.

"That club is not associated with the school district, but they serve our kids and use the facility and it has been a great program," Homedale Elementary principal Yvonne Ihli said.

Ihli said the \$3,000 21st Century Grant will help fund the part of the I Can Do club's activities affiliated with the Caldwell YMCA. YMCA staffers will visit the school to provide the services in nutrition and activity, she said.

According to Beth Kopadt, Caldwell YMCA's coordinator for the Homedale after-school program, the 21st Century Grant program is designed to work with at risk youth, helping with home-

work, after school structure and physical activity.

Beyond the YMCA the 21st Century program also includes monthly parents meetings at the Caldwell YMCA at which nutritional information is offered. The families are allowed to stay after the meeting and play at the YMCA, Kopadt said.

Beginning in January, three Caldwell YMCA employees will travel to Homedale each Tuesday to spend 90 minutes with about 50 children. This outreach will last between eight and 10 weeks, Kopadt said. The agenda will include active games as well as sports skills lessons for karate, soccer, basketball, hockey, lacrosse and Ultimate Frisbee.

— JPB



New books enchant readers
Elizabeth Hergesheimer, 4, shows off her favorite new book, "Five Little Monkeys". She attends the Friday morning Story Time events at the Homedale Public Library, and will have even more books to choose from with the recent award of funds from the Whittenberger Foundation of Caldwell.



Bowling lanes co-owner bowls 300
Owyhee Lanes co-owner Mike Marose bowled the first perfect game of his 31-year career Dec. 16. Marose rolled his 300 for the Owyhee Lanes team during Tri-City League action. Submitted photo

Happy Holidays from all of us at:
The Owyhee Avalanche and Owyhee Publishing

We wish you a prosperous 2009!

Hands Around Homedale helps hundreds

Gift drive, food collection provides for 60 families

Hands Around Homedale organizers reported another successful season of giving this month in the wake of the annual food drive and Wish Tree effort.

“The people in this community are unbelievable when it comes to generosity,” school coordinator Randee Garrett said. “When I would have expected a thinner year, we had more food donated than ever before.”

“We very generously provided for 60 families.”

Garrett collected the names of families who needed help. And then Wish Tree organizers, Homedale School District students and community members set out to collect food and presents for a group that topped out at about 350 Homedale-area residents.

One of the Wish Tree organizers, Diana Maxwell, said personnel from the Homedale Fire and Police departments distributed gifts and clothing Saturday. Community members donated gifts and clothing by taking tags from Wish Trees placed throughout Homedale and then returning with the requested gifts.

The Wish Tree committee holds a Casino Night each year to raise

money to help fulfill all the tags. Maxwell said this year’s event at the Txoko Ona Basque Center raised between \$1,800 and \$2,000 on Nov. 29.

The food drive kicked off in the first week of December and culminated with a distribution on Dec. 13.

Garrett said she was still receiving calls from needy families in the days after the food handout, which took place at Homedale Elementary School.

“Those requests are still coming in from people who don’t realize how early we do it,” Garrett said, adding that she is able to provide for those late-comers through the donated Paul’s Market Price-Cutter Card points program.

This was the fourth year the elementary school counselor has coordinated the food drive. She said she is just a small part of something much bigger.

“Truly the best part of the whole thing is just seeing everybody coming out of the woodwork and just pitching in, and being a little part of that and watching it all come together (is rewarding),” she said.

“(Just) watching it all come together and being a small part of it ... The credit needs to go to everybody because it just doesn’t happen without them.”

Garrett said “everybody” encompasses hundreds of people who donate time and effort to



Homedale High School principal Mike Williams (right) and Dennis Ankeny, last month’s recipient of the Homedale school district’s Award of Excellence lend a hand as high school students and parents pitch in during the sorting of donated food.

organize the food, the clothing and the presents.

Several people — including some of the needy families — showed up Dec. 12 to help sort canned goods, fresh vegetables, dry goods and meat into food boxes for the 60 families.

“I had teachers and administrators from all three schools,” Garrett said. “I had students as young as second grade and parents and just members of local churches that came.”

Distribution took about two hours on Dec. 13, and Garrett said

7.4 pounds per student (703.2 pounds total weight). The freshmen averaged 7.39 pounds per student (836.1), while the seniors brought in 7.36 pounds per student (640.4) and the juniors had 5.43 pounds each (505).

Williams said the school was grateful for a kickoff donation of a half-ton of onions from Allendale Produce.

Over at the middle school, students collected 1,653 food items. Andrew Endicott’s home room won the class competition with 356 items.

“The kids did a fantastic job,” HMS secretary Linda Miklancic said.

At the elementary, teacher Marcie Coffman’s students were the most prolific with about 350 items. The students were rewarded with an ice cream party on Thursday, Garrett said.

The elementary averaged about 100 items per class for more than 2,500 items total.

Garrett also thanked Caldwell Basque Charities for donated a half-ton of meat for the food drive.

She stressed that more than just the 60 families were helped this Christmas in Homedale as local families, Eastern Star and local churches adopted additional families to help take pressure off the Hands Around Homedale program.

— JPB

Marsing FFA exceeds 1,000 Christmas donations

The Marsing FFA collected over 900 food, clothing items and toys in its annual Food/Clothing Drive.

This year, 15 Marsing students participated in the collection of food and other items.

Small groups of three to five students embarked on a scavenger hunt, going door-to-door to collect food and clothing items to fill out the lists they were given.

The winning group was Kelsey Granden, Payden Dingman, Jordan Barker and Evon Timmons, who collected 246 items in their searches.

Other students who participated in the food/clothing drive were: Chelsea Thor-

mure, Kelsey Easterday, Grayson Kindall, MacKay Hall, Shad Jensen, Bethany Sevy, Jessica Torres, Deidrie Briggs, Dafni Clausen, Shelbi Ferdinand, Josie Grim, Natalie Evans and Becky Carter.

This year the FFA will divide the donations between two local families, the Ronald McDonald House in Boise and local churches.

Early last week, FFA advisor Mike Martin reported members had collected 945 items.

As of Thursday afternoon he reported students had brought in another 60-plus toy, food and clothing items, which should bump the drive over the 1,000 mark.

Sage hens provide pillow presents

The Sage Hens, founded in 1947, made their annual visit to the residents at Owyhee Health and Rehab (OHR) on West Owyhee Avenue in Homedale on Thursday. The Hens brought handmade pillows this year — some hearts, some done for the men in more “macho” colors.

“We did some in camo,” Judy Hosking, Sage Hen president joked.

The Sage Hens, which began 61 years ago as a social club, has since morphed into a group that does a variety of community projects, tackling ones that seem especially needful to members.

Each year they bring gifts to the residents of OHR, and each year the gifts are different: pillows, stuffed animals, scarves, whatever seems needed or will brighten the day of the recipient. This year, nearly 40 pillows were presented.

The group does similar work with other groups of in-need



Sage Hens show heart at holiday
Back row, from left: Carol Chitwood, Dorothy Bogdan, Sue VanKleek, Betty Freeburg, Louise Adams. **Front row, from left:** Maria Richards, Judy Hosking.

people, whether its caps for those undergoing chemotherapy or, as were recently donated to the Terry Reilly Clinic, baby blankets. The Sage Hens like to pinpoint problems and deal with them as individual issues, rather than function as a generic fundraising

effort for some large and fixed charity, Hosking said. They donate money to the community as they see a need, provide girls’ scholarships and bring comfort where they can.

“It’s about caring for the community,” Hosking said.



Kindness makes for great OHR gift drive

Penny Riley of Owyhee Health and Rehabilitation carries packages to her vehicle Monday at the conclusion of another OHR gift drive sponsored by The Owyhee Avalanche.

Several bags and boxes of gift-wrapped items were dropped off during the past two weeks at the Avalanche office, and the Last Chance Saloon raised more than \$4,000 to help buy other gifts and necessary items.

Santa Claus distributes the gifts at 10 a.m. today at the nursing home on West Owyhee Avenue.

Barbara Hendrickson, who organized the Last Chance Saloon’s silent auction benefit on Dec. 13, said the West Idaho Avenue bar has been collecting to buy presents for OHR residents for about six years. More than \$2,300 was raised during the silent auction, she said.



Owyhee landowners still look for forum on B2H

Malheur residents lobby Idaho Power

Idaho Power has been soliciting input on the Boardman-to-Hemingway (B2H) transmission line project that would run through both Malheur and Owyhee counties. Property owners in Malheur County have begun to let their voices be heard uncertain terms, with organizations like Stop Idaho Power seeking to have the line rerouted away from exclusive agricultural-use land.

Owyhee County residents have not yet formed any organization to address concerns over the 500-kilovolt (kV) line's proposed route, though county commissioners are reportedly looking into concerns over conflicts with agriculture.

Dennis Turner, a landowner on the proposed route of the line west of Homedale, hopes that someone will follow Stop Idaho Power's lead.

"I feel that we're behind the times. I don't know how to organize it, but I wish people would," Turner said of the grassroots resistance across the state line. "It looks like we're either disorganized or uninformed, and don't know enough about how to stop this situation. Idaho needs to get on track here, either Planning and Zoning or someone needs to notify people that it's coming across."

Turner's actual mailing address wasn't on the original B2H property owners list. His letter informing him of the October scoping meeting held in Marsing went to the farm's address rather than his own, and he's been forced to play catch-up ever since.

"It's disappointing," Turner said of the lack of local effort to unite and get a handle on the proposed project. "I saw where (The Owyhee Avalanche) had the map of the route in the paper, and it still didn't raise eyebrows."

"I don't know what to do. This is not good. It's not going to go away; a thing this big. It's not going to go away, but it might be diverted to a different area."

Turner was surprised to discover the sheer size of the line towers. Each rears

up 15 stories tall. He fears Idaho Power will find a way to use the same easement occupied by an already existing line on his property to site the new line, and that might be why the company hasn't not bothered to contact him with details at this time.

"It makes you wonder if Idaho is downplaying this because (state residents) need the power," Turner said. Oregon residents may see it differently, he noted, as a line serving a neighboring state but situated over their own homes and farms.

Ron Keister of the South Board of Control has concerns of his own for irrigators. Keister was quoted by Bruce Corn at the most recent Stop Idaho Power meetings as having said that "If you're anywhere near the headgates along the transmission lines for PP and L during a storm, your hair will stand on end."

The Avalanche asked Keister if this was accurate.

"Yes it does," he said. "On the South Canal, right close to where this one (the B2H line) is going, we have a gate with (the existing) powerline overhead, and you can hear it sizzle and all that, and it makes you kind of leery about being there, especially when there's moisture."

Incidents like this reinforce landowner concerns over safety.

"It's a concern, because it's going to go through some of these farmer's properties," Keister said. "I think it's something they need to know for sure."

Knowing for sure is difficult, as no final plotted course for the line within the two-mile-wide proposed corridor has been released. Keister said that a representative of Idaho Power told him at the October scoping meeting in Marsing that the new line would likely be 1,500 feet offset from the existing line on much of its course.

"But, then it crosses the river at Adrian and goes who knows where, then back and crosses right through the middle of the Owyhee Irrigation, and that's real sad," Keister said. "It's right through the middle of that whole country, that farming industry over there."

Keister warned that the Owyhee Irriga-

tion District and federal Bureau of Reclamation "needed to look seriously" at the proposed line.

Can the Bureau of Reclamation bring force to bear to tell Idaho Power that the line needs to be moved?

"I don't think they will," Keister said. "I think it's going to come back to the farming community and the people. The major thing is that they're going to come through the Owyhee irrigation, and they're really going to rip that thing up." The existing PP and L line is an annoyance for farmers already, Keister said, "but this one's going to be quite a bit worse."

"If it was going over the top of my house, I'd be screaming bloody murder," he said. "And there's a couple of them out there it has to go close to."

As to the project itself, Keister doesn't want to see it stopped. He, like Stop Idaho Power itself, is more interested in seeing the line sited in such a way as to minimize impact on agriculture.

"I'd like to see it put in the right location for the best of the people," he said, repeating the view of the combined irrigation boards, which met to discuss the line last week.

Stop Idaho Power echoes those sentiments. One of its founders, Roger Findley, explained the organization's goals succinctly and identically; moving the line out of exclusive agricultural-use areas.

The group's meetings, three so far, have seen hundreds turn out each time, and are gaining interest from legislators in Oregon, now. The last meeting saw an aide for Democratic U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden attend, and the group recently sent a packet of documents and maps to Matt Lawrence, policy analyst for Oregon state Sen. Ted Ferrioli (R-John Day). Stop Idaho Power's Web site reported that Ferrioli plans a town hall meeting in Ontario early next year.

In addition to garnering grassroots and legislative support to examine the placement of the proposed line, Stop Idaho Power has raised questions about the method used to decide on the potential course of the project. One of which, cov-

ered in a letter sent to Idaho Power and the Bureau of Land Management (the BLM is responsible for the Environmental Impact Statement on the project), questioned the makeup of the advisory committee chosen to help determine the corridor. While the line could potentially impact six counties in Oregon and Idaho, only representatives from Ada and Canyon counties were invited to take part. Ada County does not appear to bear any impact from the line as planned, and Canyon County is impacted in a small area near the proposed Sand Hollow substation.

Stop Idaho Power challenged Idaho Power and BLM to reopen the planning process with representatives from all impacted counties. Copies of the letter were sent to state and county officials on both sides of the border, including Owyhee County Board of Commissioners chair Jerry Hoagland.

"If there would have been any sort of representation on the advisory committee from western Treasure Valley (Malheur, Payette, Owyhee, and Gem Counties)," the letter states, "you would have gotten equal input about 'not in our backyards.' Idaho Power CANNOT say that this plan is a 'Treasure Valley Energy Plan'; it is simply an 'Eastern Treasure Valley Plan' being forced down the throats of everyone else in Treasure Valley."

"We request, as Western Treasure Valley citizens, equal representation with Eastern Treasure Valley citizens, with regard to development of Idaho Power's Treasure Valley Energy Plan," the letter concludes.

Findley said he did not have high hopes for the letter to actually engender a representative committee, but hoped it might encourage discussion.

Stop Idaho Power's next meets at 7 p.m. Jan. 12 at the Four Rivers Cultural Center in Ontario.

Stop Idaho Power's site can be found at <http://stopidahopower.blogspot.com>.

Read more about the B2H powerline project by clicking on the "Avalanche Examines" link on the homepage at www.theowyheecalanche.com.

— MML

Gateway West project officials look for route input

As plans move forward toward choosing a final site for the Gateway West transmission line project, representatives from Idaho Power and Rocky Mountain Power attempted to gather additional information on locations along the proposed corridor.

Roughly three-dozen property owners and concerned citizens attended an open house on Dec. 15 in Murphy to learn more about the proposed 500-kilovolt (kV) line project that will terminate at the planned Hemingway substation north of Murphy. Questions were handled individually, and property owners were encouraged to give any feedback they had on the best locations and options in their opinions.

Project engineer Doug Dockter was on hand, explaining the mechanics of tower installation to property owners.

Murphy, and the Murphy airstrip, lie within the proposed corridor. Dockter said corridor designers will have to take airplane approach routes and hazards into account. Looking at the map, avoiding the airstrip will probably force the line to pass to the north and west of Murphy, over rougher terrain.

Idaho Power public relations officer Lynette Berriochoa wouldn't give a specific cost on the Gateway West project, saying those numbers weren't being released, but did say the base cost was in the area of \$1.5 million per mile

for line alone. That would make the 1,150-mile Gateway West project start with a bill of \$1.72 billion, plus the renovation costs for five of nine substations, and the construction of the remaining four. Some of the costs on the Gateway West project will be borne by Rocky Mountain Power and other partners.

Whether these numbers will be accurate in the final analysis is open to question, as the figures available from Idaho Power are estimates at best. The only official cost estimate that is concrete is that for lineage and right-of-way, along with connection costs for substations on the second planned Idaho Power transmission line, the 298-mile Boardman-to-Hem-

ingway project: \$600 million.

That figure, provided by Bridgett Hanna of Idaho Power, does not include the cost of the three substations on the proposed B2H route. She added that an estimate of those construction costs was difficult to predict at this time.

IdaCorp, Idaho Power's parent company, reported a net income of \$82.3 million in 2007, down from \$107 million in 2006. The 2008 earnings for the company look more promising, with a reported \$91 million year-to-date in the third-quarter report.

Still, a pair of projects totaling in the billions of dollars, not millions, is in the works.

How will the Idaho Power por-

tion of the bill be paid for?

Idaho Power doesn't have just one answer. Hanna spoke of partnerships with other utilities corporations and Idaho's growing need for power. Exactly how the debt will be serviced — and what percentage of any costs will wind up on consumer's power bills — remains unanswered.

While the Gateway West project terminates at the Hemingway substation, it's separate from the B2H project, which is also in the planning stages. Both lines will occupy corridors that potentially cross hundreds of parcels of private property in Owyhee County.

— MML

Ensley transfers, continues triumphs

Avalanche Sports

Rival GFA girls knock off Rimrock

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2008



Things looking up for Trojans

Homedale High School senior forward Tyler Gibson blocks out for a rebound against Cole Valley Christian's Brandon Feil during a Dec. 16 game on the Trojans' floor. Photo by Gregg Garrett

Trojans steam along vs. 2A

Key contributions at crucial times lifted Homedale High School to a 6-1 boys' basketball record last week. The Trojans continued their hot start with non-conference wins over Melba on Thursday and Cole Valley Christian on Dec. 16. Both games were played against 2A Western Idaho Conference member schools on the Trojans' floor.

On Thursday, senior Austin Emry hit a pair of three-point goals en route to 21 points as Homedale trounced Melba, 62-30. The Trojans scored 38 points over the second and third quarters to blow open the game and post their most lopsided victory thus far this season.

Rodrigo Villarreal added eight points for Homedale. It was free throws in the fourth quarter that allowed Homedale to knock off Cole Valley Christian, 59-56, earlier in the week. Coach Kenny Thomas' squad hit 80 percent of its free throws throughout the game, including nine of 10 down the stretch to hold off the Chargers.

Crowded HHS wrestling room thrills coach

Roster exceeds expectations; key athletes return

The Homedale High School wrestling team has a bunch of faces — and many of those familiar — in the wrestling room this season. Coach Toby Johnson says he's pleased to see so many athletes for the team this season.

"I thought we'd have 15 or 16, but we've got close to 25 out for the team now," Johnson said. "We've got pretty decent numbers. Our room is full." He even has former four-time state champion Jeremy Ensley showing up to give some pointers. "Jeremy is really doing a nice job with us," Johnson said of the Trojans' all-time victories leader, who is now a junior at Mesa State College in Grand Junction, Colo.

"We've got pretty decent numbers. Our room is full."



— Toby Johnson
HHS wrestling coach

"He's super helpful. It's always fun to have the college guys come back and show the kids what you can really do with this sport." Sophomore Justin Ensley is following in his brother's footsteps as a strong contributor for the Trojans. He won the 125-pound championship at Saturday's Baker City tournament, which replaced the annual trip to Johnson's — See *Wrestling*, page 16A

Huskies hunt first victory in own Classic

The Marsing High School boys' basketball team was kept winless Saturday when Nampa Christian prevailed, 56-40, in the Nyssa Tournament in Oregon. "We came out in this game with lots of enthusiasm and determination to execute and play great defense," Marsing coach JW Chadez said. The Huskies (0-6) held the Trojans to three field goals in the first half — all points off turnovers — and led, 16-13, at halftime. The Huskies led by as many as five points in the third, but the Trojans began to hit their shots and Marsing committed 18 second-half turnovers.

"We lost all of emotion," Chadez said. "We stopped taking care of the ball and began to try and do everything independently instead of relying on our teammates." Marsing, which lost to Adrian in the opening round Friday night, was paced by Jose Paramo during the tournament. He averaged 18.5 points in the two-game stretch, closing with 18 against NCHS. Marsing's junior varsity boys are 3-3. They beat Glenns Ferry and Adrian and lost to Nyssa in the Nyssa tourney title game. The Husky Holiday Classic begins next week. — See *Classic*, page 15A

Big quarters carry unbeaten Jordan Valley boys basketball

Jordan Valley High School nearly doubled its score in the third quarter Friday on the way to a 73-30 boys' basketball blowout of non-league visitor Notus. Four players reached double figures for the unbeaten Mustangs (8-0), who led 31-11 at the break before laying 29 points on the Pirates in the third quarter. Alek Quintero led the way, downing a trio of three-point goals on the way to 17 points that paired nicely with six steals and

seven assists. The big three of Zac Fillmore, Koehl Trautman and Dusty Easterday were virtually unstoppable in the paint. Easterday converted all but one of his seven shots for 13 points, while Fillmore was 8-for-13 for 16 points and Trautman dropped two-thirds of his nine shots for 14 points. Trautman and Fillmore also grabbed eight rebounds each as Jordan Valley posted a 37-24 edge. Jordan Valley shot 51.5 percent from the

floor (33-for-64), while Trautman's three blocked shots helped stifle Notus' shooters (11 of 53, 20.8 percent). The Pirates' Tyler Christenson was 3-for-11 for a team-high nine points. **Jordan Valley 57, Harper 41** The Mustangs started the week Dec. 16 with another 1A High Desert League victory, this time riding 19 points from Trautman to a road victory over the

Hornets. Fillmore scored 14 points and Quintero added 10. "We managed to win despite cold shooting and getting out-rebounded," Mustangs coach Mike Workman said. "The intensity level is not where it needs to be." Jordan Valley (4-0 HDL) started quickly with a 21-10 burst out of the gate in the first quarter.

Sports

Adrian falls short in Nyssa boys' tourney

One night after surviving a hot-handed shooter, the Adrian High School boys' basketball team couldn't withstand a whole squad of sharpshooters.

Nyssa hit 47.5 percent of its shots Saturday to swamp the Antelopes and collect the championship trophy of its own tournament.

George Ellsworth averaged 11 points, five rebounds and four steals per game and was voted the tournament's all-around player.

He scored 12 points Friday as the Antelopes opened with a 53-47 victory over Marsing.

The Bulldogs went 6-for-18 from behind the three-point arc in Saturday's title game.

"Nyssa has a good team," Adrian coach Brent Ishida said. "They are very disciplined and can shoot the lights out if you give them the opportunity."

Three Adrian players — Blake Purnell (11 points) Rodrigo Magri (11) and Ellsworth (10) — reached double figures, but Nyssa hit twice as many field goals as the Antelopes to take control.

Adrian 53, Marsing 47

The Antelopes withstood 19 points from the Huskies' Jose Paramo to collect an opening-round win Friday.

"Jose Paramo from Marsing shot the ball well," Adrian coach Brent Ishida said. "We knew we were going to have to keep him in check in order to win."

"Marsing made a run at the end but we were able to hold on for the win."

Levi Jones added 11 points for Adrian. Blake Purnell grabbed 12 rebounds.

Ethan Salove scored 12 points for Marsing, which fell behind early but pulled to within a basket, 27-25, at halftime.

Rivals hand Raiders girls first WIC loss; boys post comeback

In a showdown between 1A Western Idaho Conference girls' basketball powers, Rimrock High School faltered with 37 turnovers in a 49-40 loss to Greenleaf Friends Academy on Dec. 15.

Katie Morse hit the last of her four three-point goals in the third quarter to help the host Grizzlies (6-1 overall, 6-0 1A WIC) take control.

Rimrock (8-2, 5-1) missed a chance to take sole possession of first place in the conference.

Anna Cantrell emerged with another double-double for Rimrock (11 points, 14 rebounds).

Rimrock 42, GFA 40

Trailing by five points with two minutes to go, the Raiders (3-5, 1-2) stormed back to grab their first 1A WIC win of the season.

Ricardo Araujo hit a three-pointer and scored five of his seven points in the fourth quarter, and teammate Cody McCarthy got four of his 10 points in the final eight minutes to fuel the come-from-behind win.



Thomson takes charge for Trojans

Ashley Thomson has emerged as a scoring threat for Homedale High School's girls' basketball team.

The 5-foot-2 senior guard scored a career-best 24 points Dec. 16 on the road as the Trojans opened the 3A Snake River Valley conference season with a 56-37 road victory over McCall-Donnelly.

On Friday, she added 10 points, including a key three-pointer less than six minutes into the game, but Homedale couldn't continue its good fortunes and lost 59-43 at home to conference rival Weiser.

Homedale and Weiser have met in crucial District III tournament games each of the past three seasons, giving any regular-season encounter added significance.

The Wolverines used their height advantage to take control on the inside after Thomson's trey gave the Trojans an early 13-7 edge.

Ana Overgaard led three Weiser players in double figures, scoring 17 points and snagging 14 rebounds. Mary Lancaster added 14 points.

Homedale owned a 14-11 lead after the first quarter, but Overgaard, Lancaster and Liz Richins took control inside in the second quarter as Weiser forged a 29-21 halftime lead. The Wolverines outscored the Trojans 30-13 over the second and third quarters.

Rachelle Christoffersen led Homedale with 12 points.

**Homedale 56
McCall-Donnelly 37**

Thomson was 10-for-15 from the floor and connected on all three of her three-point attempts during her breakout game against the Vandals.

Annamaria Salas added eight points, while Kendall Rupp led the Trojans with eight rebounds and four steals.

Homedale forced McCall into 25 turnovers while only committing 12 miscues in 32 minutes.

✓ Classic: Girls play in tournament, too

From Page 14A

In the varsity bracket at the high school gym, Marsing meets McCall-Donnelly at 4:30 p.m. Monday and Gem State at 6:15 p.m. Tuesday. At the middle school gym, Marsing's JV takes on McCall at 6:15 p.m. Monday and Gem State at 4:30 Tuesday.

The varsity girls play Vale, Ore., at 6:15 p.m. Monday and McCall at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday.

The JV girls play Monday vs. Parma (1 p.m.) and Vale (4:30 then Gem State at 4:30 Tuesday.

Trojan Winter Sports



BASKETBALL

Boys basketball

Varsity
Friday, Jan. 2, home vs. Wendell, 7:30 p.m.

Junior varsity
Friday, Jan. 2, home vs. Wendell, 6 p.m.

Freshman
Friday, Jan. 2, home vs. Wendell, 4:30 p.m.



Girls basketball

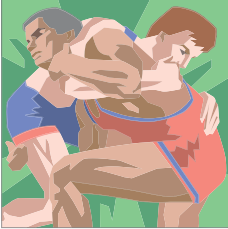
Varsity
Tuesday, Jan. 6 at LaGrande, Ore., 6:30 p.m. MST

Junior varsity
Tuesday, Jan. 6 at LaGrande, Ore., 5 p.m. MST






Freshman
Tuesday, Jan. 6 at LaGrande, Ore., 3:30 p.m. MST

WRESTLING

Tuesday, Jan. 6 at Marsing, 6 p.m.



Go Trojans!

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 PAUL'S www.pauls.net	 CAMPBELL TRACTOR CO 337-3142	HOMEDALE CHIROPRACTIC CENTER J. Edward Perkins, Jr. D.C. 337-4900

Sports

Former Trojans star still winning in college

Jeremy Ensley, runner-up at 125 pounds in the 2008 National Junior College Athletic Association championships, has transferred to Mesa State College in Grand Junction, Colo.

The Homedale High School graduate is showing signs of keeping up the success as a junior at Mesa State.

In November, Ensley was named the outstanding wrestler at the Old Chicago Northern Colorado Open in Greeley, Colo.

Ensley captured the 125-pound championship on the University of Northern Colorado campus by upending fellow junior, Tony Mustari, from the host school, 4-3, the championship match.

Earlier in the month, Ensley finished third at 125 pounds in the elite division of the Wyoming Open in Laramie.

According to the Grand Junction Sentinel newspaper, Ensley wrestled unattached in those early tournaments because of eligibility problems.

After winning four consecutive state championships at Homedale during a career in which he set the school record for pinfalls and victories, Ensley finished second as a sophomore and fifth as a freshman at the JC nationals for Northwest Community College of Wyoming. Ensley’s success at Northwest also garnered him a pair of JC All-American nods.

Free throws save day for JV

Emma Johnson hit late free throws Friday to help Jordan Valley High School preserve a 44-41 non-league girls’ basketball victory over Notus.

Kayla Cuvelier led Jordan Valley (7-2 overall) with 15 rebounds, while Catie Kershner led the scoring with 13 points. Anne Marie Eiguren chipped in 10 points.

The Mustangs are 4-0 in the 1A High Desert League after a Dec. 16 victory over Harper.

HHS forms athletic association

Parents and boosters of Trojan athletics have an organization to be involved in as of the evening of Dec. 15 and the formation of the Homedale Trojan Athletic Association (HTAA). The organization was formed under the auspices of athletic director Dave Hart and principal Mike Williams of Homedale High School.

The HTAA’s goals and structure were explained to about two-dozen coaches, parents and community members during the initial meeting on the 15. Hart’s brainchild is “intended to promote and foster (athletic) programs at not just the high school but the middle school as well,” Williams said during his introduction.

The organization will involve coaching staff as well as parents and boosters. Its bylaws stipulate a pair or coaches be on the seven-person board of directors, as well as a pair of parents with students in the programs.

Two concerns were raised by those attending as the seven pages of bylaws were reviewed. The first was over a possible conflict in fund-raising with the Homedale Fan Club, though as attendees pointed out, several of them former Fan Cub Members, the Fan Club itself is largely defunct. Hart and Williams both argued that the HTAA would intentionally avoid the 50/50 drawings and traditional sorts of fund-raising that the Fan Club did, in order to co-exist, should the club return.

The second concern was the wording in Article II, Section 1 of the bylaws, as to membership eligibility. Two tiers of membership were initially envisioned by Hart; regular members and associate members. Regular membership would require an individual either be a parent of a student, a coach, alumni or a staff member of the school. Only regular members could hold office in the HTAA, though they would be eligible to become members of committees and special groups at the authorization of the board of directors.

Hart explained he had gone with the stricture in hopes of ensuring the board was composed of people with personal interest and involvement in the success of the athletics programs, who would be least likely to walk away from the job. Still, it would mean that a director whose child graduated would no longer be eligible to hold office, nor would a booster who had no child.

Whether the positive commitment to the program would outweigh any perception of exclusionary tactics is something the HTAA will have to examine. Hart and Williams both said the section of the bylaws could be examined.

While the HTAA will, in Hart’s

vision, have a single very large fund-raiser yearly to address special needs of the athletic programs, he doesn’t see that as the primary role of the organization.

The organization is intended to promote the school’s athletic programs, help support faculty and coaches and improve school spirit in Homedale, he explained.

“We want it to be all positive,” he said. “No finger pointing or he-said she-said.” The program is intended to encourage kids to play and attend events, as well as give interested adults an avenue for involvement. It’s also intended to address the reputation of Homedale.

“Our image in Homedale is kind of tarnished because of the way we’ve treated some of our coaches — I won’t lie to you — this is about that, too,” Hart said to the crowd.

Initially, the HTAA is intended as strictly a support organization. “Big events come later,” Hart said.

Striving to keep the organization on a positive footing is something Williams stressed more than once. In the end, he said “if it’s positive, it’s going to be better for our kids.”

The HTAA will have its next meeting, and choose directors, on Jan. 5 at 6 p.m. at the Homedale High School library.

— MML

Wrestling: Trojans excel in Baker City

From Page 14A

alma mater, Mac Hi, in Milton-Freewater, Ore.

“We were missing several wrestlers, but still had a good showing,” Johnson said.

The Trojans racked up 124 pounds to finish third behind champion Parma and runner-up Baker City. Adrian placed sixth.

Homedale put five wrestlers in championship matches. Kenny Cockrum (103), Danny Zenor (145), Ulysses Vargas (160) and Cassidy Cook (189) all brought home runner-up trophies.

Johnson said Cockrum’s championship match was one of the best of the day.

“Kenny was fantastic,” the coach said. “He moved extremely well against his opponent and was just a half-inch away from a pin in the first round.”

Phillip Moulton, a 119-pounder, settled for a fourth-place finish after losing in the semifinals to the weight class’ top seed in a controversial overtime match, Johnson said.

Jesus Gonzalez moved up in weight and grabbed third at 285 pounds.

“Jesus Gonzalez had a great day,” Johnson said. “We bumped him to heavyweight and he picked up third.

“I kind of “rolled the dice” with him. I didn’t have a heavyweight, so I picked him to see if he could score some points and he excelled.”

Ulysses Vargas made his first appearance in a tournament championship match.

“He’s been wrestling very well this year and I’m looking forward to more from him,” Johnson said.

Three other wrestlers achieved top-six showings — 130-pound Chris Bueno, Dylan Kushlan at 189 pounds and 215-pounder Kyle Abels.

Jacob Compton (125) and Salvador Cardenas (215) also made the trip Saturday.

Homedale began the week Dec. 16 by splitting its assignments at the Catfish Duals in Parma.

Ensley pinned his opponent in a 119-pound match as Homedale (2-1) edged Parma, 33-30. Homedale lost to Nyssa, Ore., in its other dual meet and brought home a second-place finish after winning the event each of the past two seasons.

The Trojans narrow win over the Panthers was keyed by a victory from 189-pound junior Cassidy Cook.

“We were short-handed and still managed to be the Panthers,” Homedale coach Toby Johnson said. “Cassidy Cook was the man of the hour.

Johnson said that Homedale (2-1 in duals) wrestled without four starters.

Cook rallied from a third-period deficit to pin Parma’s Randy Riley to open the dual meet and set the tone for the Trojans, Johnson said.

Pins by Ensley, Wes Taggart at 215 pounds and Brandon Valadez at 285 helped Homedale get enough points to stay in front.

Senior 145-pounder Danny Zenor decisioned Greg Ferguson, 5-4, for another dramatic turn in the Parma match.

Homedale fell to Nyssa, which finished fourth in the 3A Oregon state tournament team standings a year ago, in the Trojans’ other dual of the night.

Kevin Mercado (160) and Taggart were the only winners on the mat for Homedale against the Bulldogs.

While senior Rowdy Lair was injured during the dual meet loss to Nyssa, Homedale still has a large number of key returners, including Ensley at 119 (he wrestled at 125 against Nyssa), Philip Moulton at 125 (119 vs. Nyssa), Zenor, Cook, Taggart and Valadez.

— JPB

MARSING
HUSKIES

BASKETBALL

Boys basketball

Varsity

Husky Holiday Classic At high school gym

Monday, Dec. 29, home vs. McCall-Donnelly, 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 30, home vs. Gem State Adventist, 6:15 p.m.

Junior varsity

Husky Holiday Classic At middle school gym

Monday, Dec. 29, home vs. McCall-Donnelly, 6:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 30, home vs. Gem State Adventist, 4:30 p.m.

Girls basketball

Varsity

Husky Holiday Classic At high school gym

Monday, Dec. 29, home vs. Vale, Ore., 6:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 30, home vs. McCall-Donnelly, 4:30 p.m.

Junior Varsity


Husky Holiday Classic At middle school gym

Monday, Dec. 29, Team No. 2 home vs. Parma, 1 p.m.


Monday, Dec. 29, Team No. 1 home vs. Vale, Ore., 4:30 p.m.

WRESTLING


Tuesday, Jan. 6, home vs. Homedale, 6 p.m.




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Looking back...

from the files of The Owyhee Avalanche and Owyhee Chronicle

25 years ago

December 28, 1983

Trojans BB posts wins against Rimrock & Marsing
Homedale’s varsity boys marched to two pre-Christmas basketball wins last week, downing Rimrock 69-33 on Tuesday and dropping Marsing 60-42 in a Thursday makeup game.
The back-to-back conference wins pushed the Trojans to 3-2 on the season before the Christmas break.
Three Trojans, Larry Corta, Christ Landa and Gary Kushlan, had 10 point each for the night to pace the balanced Homedale scoring attack against Marsing.

Mattesons’s squad hold lead
A third round of Homedale Men’s City League basketball has put the Matteson’s Owyhee Motor Sales squad in front of the pack with a 3-0 record on the season.
Matteson’s Owyhee Motor Sales clobbered the scrappy Wilder Cats 80-59 during league play last Wednesday night in the Homedale high school gymnasium.
Matteson’s Ray Gross sizzled all night for 32 points to help his teammates in a romp over the Wilder Cats. Teammates Dan Landa with 15 and Greg Haylett with 12 added heat to the squad victory fire.

Over coffee...
Joe and Wava Pierce of Homedale observed their 50th wedding anniversary last Thursday, Dec. 22. They were married in Benkelman, Nebraska, December 22, 1933, and have lived in Homedale off and on through the years. They have two children, Sharon Clau of Riverside, Calif., and a son, Baud Pierce of Everett, Wash. The Pierces may take an anniversary trip to California at a future date. Mrs. Pierce is recovering from recent heart surgery.

Dean Jones of Fargo was concerned and worried last week that if the frigid cold temperatures continued, his cows might start giving ice cream instead of milk!
The Homedale Volunteer Fire Department responded to an attic fire last Friday afternoon at the home of John Itano. Earlier last week the fire crew answered a call to a chimney fire at the home of Angel Bicandi.
Homedale Girl Scouts met Wednesday, Dec. 14, for a gift exchange and Christmas party. They made gifts for their parents and refreshments were served. Guest speaker, Nancy Zattiero from the Owyhee Veterinary Clinic, spoke to the girls about the care of pets and gave them handout information. The Girl Scouts are currently working toward their badges on pets and hobbies.
Silver Star Chapter 83, OES, had its regular meeting Tuesday, Dec. 20, with Associate Matron Maie Decardoville and Past Patron Lester Buck presiding. Worthy Matron Maie welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. The altar was draped in memory of Rachel Paulsen, a member of 83 and a Past Grand Matron. A potluck dinner preceded the meeting. A Christmas party followed the meeting with a gift exchange.
Virginia Ulrich of Rupert came to Homedale to spend the Christmas holiday with her son, Pastor Fred Ulrich and his wife Ruby and family. Virginia extended her visit after Christmas, waiting for the road to clear.

JV girls trounce Rimrock Raiders
Homedale’s junior varsity girls romped to a 25-13 pre-Christmas victory over the Rimrock Raiders Thursday.
Both teams were cold from the floor as the young Trojans played controlled ball and worked a pattern offense for the road game.
The Raiders and the Trojans traded baskets in the first quarter to end it with a 2-2 tie-up.
Homedale outscored Rimrock 8-3 in the third quarter to finish that period with a comfortable 17-6 margin, but the Raiders came back in the fourth quarter to play near-even ball.

Kerry Krzesnik paced the JV squad with 12 point, while Anna Mansisidor added 7. Tricia Webb had 6 for the night.

50 years ago

December 25, 1958

Trojans win 2 of 3 league games; plan tournament
Homedale lost their opening SRV-B league game to Wilder here December 12 in a heartbreaking overtime thriller 41-40, but bested Fruitland 39-35 the next night at Fruitland.
Last Friday the Trojans ran wild in the second half to win its second SRV-B league contest from Marsing 53-42 on the local floor.
The Trojans wound up their pre-holiday schedule by losing to Kuna 37-35 in a non-conference game.
The score was tied 39-all as the Trojans and Wildcats finished four quarters of play. In the overtime period, Homedale got the ball on the tip-off and played good keep away for nearly three minutes, trying for a set-up.
Cliff Beagley was fouled and scored one point to put the Trojans ahead 40-39. But when Wilder got the ball on the throw-in, they moved it down court and fed it to Carlson who climaxed a torrid night by canning a field goal to rack up the ball game.

Kiwanis prepares 21 Christmas baskets
A total of 21 Christmas baskets was prepared and distributed to needy families Sunday by Kiwanians, it was reported by committee Chairman Dick Frazier at the regular meeting held Tuesday noon at El Gavilan.
Fred Buller showed color slides of Hagerman valley, Death Valley, Calif., mountain lakes, and miscellaneous slides of flowers, trees, homes, and scenic views.
The meeting next week will also be held Tuesday because of the holiday.

400 years pass before Christmas’ date is set
It took the Christian church more than 400 years to decide on a date for Christmas. Three dates seemed to be in the running — March 25, December 25, and January 6.
Theophilus of Antioch was supposed to have written around 180 A.D. that the Gauls were celebrating the birth of Christ on December 25, so they could celebrate the resurrection on March 25. This preference spread because December 25 was the winter solstice and a Roman feast day celebrating the victory of light over darkness.
The Eastern church still clings to January 6.

Firemen called
An overheated stove in a trailer house at the east end of the Snake River bridge was called to the attention of the Homedale volunteer firemen Saturday afternoon, according to Bruce Smith, rural fire chief. Only slight damage occurred.

Homedale locals
Mrs. Sharon Swisher and children, McDermitt, Nev., returned home last Saturday after a week’s visit here with her mother, Mrs. Charlotte Pierce, and relatives. Mr. Pierce and Cathy Simon took them home and returned the next day.
Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Tidwell and son Jerry attended the wedding reception of a nephew Roy Lee Tidwell and Rosemarie Jolley, Saturday night at the LDS stake house, Nampa. The couple were married Friday at the Idaho Falls LDS temple.
Mr. and Mrs. John Marble and daughters Karen and Vivian and son Timmy left Tuesday night to spend the holidays at Los Angeles, Calif., where they will visit relatives. Orville Wilson, Caldwell, and Johnny Marble will do their chores while they are gone.
Larry Lannigan arrived at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Lannigan, Caldwell, Saturday morning after completing basic training with the army at Fort Collins, Colo. His wife, the former Leonna Zittel, has been staying with his parents since he entered the service. After his two weeks’ leave he will be stationed in Georgia. Sunday dinner guests at the Lannigan home were Leonna’s parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Danforth, and Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Bright and son Matt.

140 years ago

December 19, 1868

GOVERNOR’S MESSAGE. The Governor, in his message, in speaking of the mines, says the fabulous yield of the Owyhee Quartz Mines continues equal to our most sanguine expectations, being probably the richest on the continent.
A good recommendation is that of the Governor touching the codification of the Statutes of the Territory. The condition of our laws is a positive disgrace, — those of two sessions being as inaccessible, even to lawyers, as the edicts of the Tycoon of Japan; and the whole bundle, from the organization of the government down, a mess enactments taken from California and Nevada by a set of jacklegs, who, in many cases have followed verbatim the enacting clause of their original copy: “The People of the State of California represented in Senate and Assembly etc. etc.” “The People of the State of Nevada etc. etc.”
The letterhead who invented the index to the First Session Laws, for instance, ought to be put to mauling rails or turning a grindstone for life. Let the entire cursed jumble be compiled, codified, abolished.
On the revision of the laws, the Governor says:
“The laws of the last session were printed in plain type, bound in a substantial manner in a pamphlet form and distributed within forty days after the adjournment of the Legislature. The laws of the second and third sessions are still in the hands of the publishers in San Francisco. I am more than ever convinced that the laws of the Territory ought to be revised and published in one volume. I cannot better explain my views than to repeat what I said in my message to the last Legislature.”

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL! Before another issue of our paper, Christmas will have come and gone. O, how we used to wish for Christmas in our younger days! — the bright visions of what old Santa Claus would give us. And how much earlier we could wake up on Christmas morning, than any other morning in the year — and what a race for our stockings! It almost makes us feel young again to think of it. How is it that none of our lady or gentlemen friends are making a move towards a Christmas Tree this season? It will be the first Christmas eve for the last four or five years that will have passed in Owyhee without a Christmas Tree. We hope some of our lady friends will take hold of the matter before it is to late, and not make this year an exception to the general rule.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS. We would recommend all who wish to purchase Christmas presents, to give our friends Bradley, of the Post office, and Robbins, the Jeweler, a call. They have some of the nicest presents this side of San Francisco. In fact, they have everything that is appropriate for presents for children from one month old up to old bald-headed men — the editor included.

WE UNDERSTAND there will be a grand “Silver Wedding” in Silver City on the night of January 1st. Rumor has it, that there is about two hundred invitations already extended. The parties, we learn, are our oldest and most respected citizens. We hope they may live to celebrate their Golden Wedding.

BEWARE THE SHERIFF! Everyone that owes me! For he will certainly give you a call if your accounts with me are not settled by the 5th of December. The time has arrived when “forbearance ceases to be a virtue.” I must have money! Will have it! No exceptions! Phillip Kolheyer

PROVIDENTIAL. About the only survivor of the great earthquake at San Francisco, is W. L. Ustick, 327 Bush street, who is yet spared to sell shirts and gentlemens furnishing goods of the very best quality, at astonishing low prices. Idahoans visiting the Bay City, desiring any of the articles referred to, will find it profitable to give him a call.

Commentary

Baxter Black, DVM

On the edge of common sense



Christmas shepherd

I wrote a little Christmas poem to put it in perspective. It seems around this time of year a lot go apoplectic With all the ads and football games to shimmer and obfuscate And count the days we’ve left to shop before it’s gotten too late!

I don’t begrudge the merchant class enticing us and teasin’.

Or entertaining specials to remind us of the season When families gather to renew their lives with love professing,

And recognize the birth of Christ as mankind’s greatest blessing.

We each can count those private times amidst the frantic whirring

For me it comes on Christmas morn, before the house is stirring.

I slip myself out to the barn to feed the cows and collie

The horses, too, and break the ice, beyond the boughs of holly.

I do the chores, like every day. That’s part of country livin’.

It is the shepherd’s greatest gift, the privilege we are given

To tend the flock, on constant watch, as keepers we’re made liable

And charged with the dominion of, according to the Bible.

And so we do our duty first before the celebration

Like other occupations who stand guard and serve the nation;

The ones who make the coffee at the homeless mission hall,

Policemen, nurses, EMTs, the linemen, all on call.

’Cause they are their brother’s keeper as directed from above

As are farmers with our animals, as well as those we love.

Is it just some basic instinct, or is caring something learned?

Where does the need to give beyond primordial concern

Begin? To help without coercion, no promise of reward,

My friend, the answer is simple, it’s by example, from the Lord.

When you get that funny feeling that somebody’s watching you

Yer right, watching over you. See, Jesus is a shepherd too.

— 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”.

Michael Lane, reporter

The way we see it

Power to the people, whether they want it or not



That the Treasure Valley area will need more power in the future is a given. That Idaho Power’s current plans to bring that power to the area are the right solution is not.

Two major transmission line projects, intended to connect substations in Wyoming, Idaho and Oregon with new 500-kilovolt (kV) lines, are in the planning stages at this point. Owyhee County has the dubious distinction of being the only county to be affected by both the Boardman-to-Hemingway and Gateway West projects, which will come together at a proposed substation north of Murphy.

Before fingers are pointed and accusations of prejudice against power projects be leveled, the existence of the proposed lines aren’t the problem for most residents of this county (and neighboring Malheur). The location of the route is.

Though the measurable benefits to the residents of Malheur and Owyhee counties seem to be little more than an improved resilience of power supply in the case of downed or out-of-service lines, few landowners are innately against the multi-billion dollar project. So long as it stays out of their field.

And there’s the rub.

The proposed routes of both lines within Owyhee and Malheur counties cross a large number of private properties. Hundreds of private properties lie within the two-mile-wide proposed corridor the line may occupy. Owners are justifiably concerned with the safety and practicality of continuing to farm — and live — around and under a major transmission line. They are further curious as to why more than 250 of the 298 miles of the proposed

Boardman-to-Hemingway route lie on private land. The Gateway West project does a slightly better job of avoiding private land, but still involves scores of properties in the Grand View and Bruneau area.

This isn’t to say that Idaho Power engineers aren’t looking for ways to site towers on the corners of pivot-irrigated fields, and to raise lines beyond the minimum code-specified 30-foot height. They are, and are genuine in their concerns that the line causes minimal disturbance to agriculture beneath it.

The question is why they should have to be concerned at all.

Idaho Power officials have said the goal is to connect the substations with the fewest miles of line on the route easiest to engineer. While understandable, this fails to address the basic truth that the line exists in the real world, and impacts the properties of real people. Minimizing that impact through routing carried on in federal energy corridors (such as the West-Wide Energy Corridor) and on public land need to be a primary concern during planning. It’s also interesting to note that the proposed line detours entirely around Canyon County on a much longer route than would otherwise be needed. If this was out of concerns over private land issues in our neighboring county, more pointed questions might be asked — such as why that agricultural land is more valuable than properties in Malheur and Owyhee counties?

Oregon residents have a leg up on the project. In

— See *Power*, page 19A

Wayne Cornell

Not important ...

but possibly of interest



‘Hello, I got Rolex? Only ten dolla!’

In 2007, we went to Europe. I don’t speak German, Italian or French, I never really felt uncomfortable in those countries as far as language is concerned. China was a different story.

On the flight to Beijing, I was seated next to a Chinese teenage girl. For about 15 minutes prior to takeoff, the girl talked to someone on her cell phone in Chinese.

I’m not a total stranger to Oriental languages. I’ve heard a lot of Japanese spoken. Japanese is a rhythmic, melodious language. It rolls smoothly off the speaker’s tongue. Chinese has little in common with Japanese. Chinese has a staccato, quality about it — like someone is beating on your eardrum with a miniature jack hammer. I was greatly relieved when takeoff time came and the girl had to put away her cell phone.

When we arrived in China we learned quickly that it would be to our benefit to know a few Chinese words. Probably most useful is the word for “thank you.” You say “xièxie.” It is difficult to spell it the way you say it. It’s sounds sort of like “See Shu” only that’s not really it. Anyway, even if you say it improperly, your Chinese listener probably will give you points for trying.

Another useful phrase is “Ni hao” — pronounced “Nee How.” It means “How are you?” with “hello” being implied. One answer to this question is “Ding ding how”, which means “I’m fine” or something of that sort. Or you can say “ma ma hoo hoo” — “I’m so so,”

But the most valuable phrase I learned in China was “Whoa Boo Ya” (my spelling). It is spoken in a loud irritated voice when you are being badgered by street peddlers who are trying to sell you “Rolex” watches,



A Chinese “Mosquito” — or street vendor — laughs as her photo is taken during an encounter with a security officer in Shanghai.

scarves, wheels for your shoes that blink when they roll, or other trinkets. According to our guide, Whoa Boo Ya means “I don’t need anything.” But the speed with which the peddlers skedaddle suggests there may be other meanings.

Unfortunately, conversational Chinese isn’t that easy,

— See *Rolex*, page 19A

Commentary

Financial management Christmas gimmies can give you a financial hangover

Dear Dave,
How do you balance a Christmas budget with all the stuff your kids want? Should you give them everything they want even if it means going beyond your pre-planned Christmas spending? This issue is causing some problems with my wife.

— Jim

Dear Jim,
I think the first thing you have to do is stop and ask yourself one important question — what is



Christmas? If your definition is lots of stuff under the tree, then I think you’ve got a pretty bad definition of the day and the entire Christmas season!
It sounds like you guys laid out a Christmas budget — that’s a

good thing — and now one of you wants to change all that because the kids have got the “gimmies.” That’s *not* a good thing. There are two possibilities. Either someone’s spoiling the kids and needs to learn how to tell them no, or the budget was too small because one of you has the spirit of a tightwad. It could even be a little of both.
It’s not a good thing for couples to fight over things like this — especially at this time of year. Sit down together and take another look at your budget. Compare

the cost of what you’ve already planned to give them with the cost of the other stuff they want. If you’ve got the money and you’re not robbing Peter to pay Paul, you might consider increasing the budget a little bit. Just don’t jack it up so much that your kids start thinking there are money trees growing in the back yard.
But always remember this, Jim. Saying no may be the best gift you could give your kids. That word has started to disappear in our culture, but it’s one that can keep

kids safe when they’re small, and can be part of a teachable moment when they’re older!
— Dave

— Dave Ramsey is the best-selling author of *The Total Money Makeover* and host of *The Dave Ramsey Show* (6 p.m. daily on Fox Business Channel). Have a question for Dave? Send correspondence to syndication@daveramsey.com or write Dave Says, 1749 Mallory Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027

✓ Power: Utility forgets to look at public land, private property differently during project design

From Page 18A
Oregon, any transmission line has to be examined and approved by the Oregon Department of Energy, which does have strictures in place — including requirements that companies offer alternate routes and seek to avoid disrupting prime agricultural land. Idaho residents don’t have that state protection.
Is Idaho Power intentionally bulling through private land? Sadly, it’s probably not an intentional attempt to grab 250-foot easements through farmland. It’s a combination of a lack of concern for the impacts of the line on residents and an urge to get the line in as easily as possible.
Eric Hackett, the B2H project manager for Idaho Power, summed it up as taking the “route of least resistance” and stressed, repeatedly, that the public or private nature of the land under the line was not examined or addressed in the choice of route. “We treated public or private land exactly the same,” Hackett said.
That Idaho Power doesn’t see the problem that arises from treating all land as identical is why the project(s) are beginning to face opposition from groups like Stop

Idaho Power in Malheur County, and added scrutiny from county commissioners here in Owyhee County. Public land and private land are different. To expect support from the public while treating their property and public land as indistinguishable dirt can only harm the project’s chances for success.
Idaho Power needs to remember that this is the public that will likely bear some portion of the costs of the project for decades to come on its power bills. It is going to demand more consideration than that — and should.
If the B2H and Gateway West projects are truly vital, then having the support and goodwill of landowners is also vital. That might mean longer routes through Bureau of Land Management land. It might mean more direct routes through farmland to minimize the number of properties affected. It definitely means the route needs to be chosen with a differentiation between public and private lands.
— For more information on the proposed Boardman-to-Hemingway transmission line project, see our special report at www.theowyheeavalanche.com under the *Avalanche Examines* link on the left-hand side of the home page.

Education 3-R’s aren’t extinct in 21st century schools

by Tim Rosandick

For obvious reasons, the Homedale School District does not teach kids the skills required to successfully hunt saber-toothed tigers. Our job is not to prepare kids for a world that no longer exists. Our job is to get kids ready for the world they live in today and will face in their future. This is the Digital Age, not the Stone Age.
So what kinds of skills must the 21st century learner develop? According to a report published by the North Central Regional Educational Laboratory and the Meteiri Group entitled *enGauge 21st Century Skills: Literacy in the Digital Age*, the skills needed to be successful in the 21st century are:
• **Digital-Age Literacy:** Basic, scientific, economic, and technological literacies; visual and informational literacies; multicultural literacy and global awareness.
• **Inventive Thinking:** Adaptability, managing complexity, and self-direction; curiosity, creativity, and risk taking; higher-order thinking and sound reasoning.
• **Effective Communication:** Teaming, collaboration, and interpersonal skills; personal, social, and civic responsibility; interactive communication.
• **High Productivity:** Prioritizing, planning, and managing for results; effective use of real-world tools; ability to produce relevant, high-quality products.
As you read the list above did you catch it? — Under Digital-Age Literacy is listed *Basic Literacy*, further defined in the report as “language proficiency in English and numeracy at levels necessary to function on the job and in society to achieve one’s goals and to develop one’s knowledge and potential in the Digital Age.” In other words, even though we are in the Digital Age, to be successful, our kids will need to be able to read, write, speak, do mathematical computations and use math to solve problems. Therefore, it’s clear to me, that the 3-R’s still have a place in today’s schools.
None of us have a crystal ball. If we did, we’d be able to know exactly the kinds of jobs our kids will have during their lifetimes. Being able to foresee the future would enable us to precisely adapt the curriculum accordingly. But crystal balls don’t exist. Nonetheless, all indications are that one important way we can prepare our kids for the world in which they will live, is to make sure that they have solid basic academic skills. In the past several years, the Homedale and many other Idaho school districts have made significant progress in the basic skills area. Today in Idaho we have more kids reading, writing, and computing at higher levels of proficiency than ever before. Our focus on these academic areas should and will continue. For it appears that even in the 21st century, the 3-R’s are not saber-toothed tigers.
— Tim Rosandick is superintendent of the Homedale School District.

✓ Rolex: Weight of Chinese words all in delivery

From Page 18A
Our guide said any word can have four different meanings depending on the inflection the speaker uses. Three of the meanings might be benign or complementary. But the fourth pronunciation might be a World War III-starting insult.
Fortunately for the non-Chinese traveler, China has done a good job of including information in English on most highway and general information signs — at least in the larger cities. I suspect that might not be the case out in the sticks.
We discovered you can understand a lot even if you don’t have a clue as to the meaning of the word being spoken.
We were on the Bund — the old waterfront in Shanghai. The Bund is one of the city’s main tourist attractions. The visitors also draw a lot of “mosquitoes” — street vendors. Authorities look the other way when the vendors are on the side streets but try to keep them from becoming too much of a problem in the tourists spots.
I was shooting pictures when I heard the voices of two women speaking in Chinese. About 25 yards in front of me was a middle-aged woman dressed in a gray uniform.

About 30 yards past her was a Chinese girl — probably in her early 20s. The girl was trying to sell watches and the lady security officer was obviously telling her to get lost. The officer had her back to me, so I took her picture with the vendor in the distance looking toward us. Just about the time I took my picture, the Mosquito spotted me. She laughed, pointed past the officer at me and said something. A Chinese man standing nearby started chuckling at whatever the young woman had said. Just after I shot the photo, the security officer turned around and saw me.
As near as I could tell the girl must have said something to the officer like, “Well, you may be running me off, but there is an American standing behind you shooting a picture of you big rear end.”
Now I don’t know for sure that’s what the girl said, but the frown the guard gave me suggested my translation was pretty close.
— 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.

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<div>Owyhee County Church Directory</div>		
	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 Henrioulle, 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



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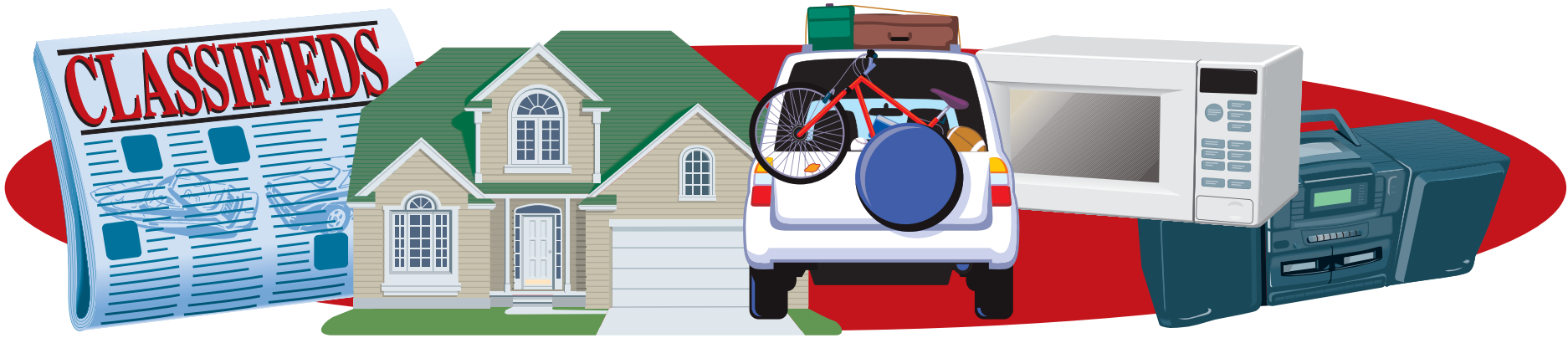
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OWYHEE'S CHRISTMASSES PAST

Changing Christmas — Frontier and the '50s

From the Owyhee Chronicle, Dec. 25, 1958

Christmas on the frontier, as new bands of pioneers pushed ever westward to carve an empire out of virgin plains and wilderness, was in marked contrast to the present holiday.

There was more meaning then in the words of The Book concerning shepherds in a certain country watching their flocks by night. The solitudes, the closeness of the stars, the virginity of the new world and its humble people made one feel that time had stood still. Christmas in those days somehow seemed much closer to that first Christmas.

Those bleak plains could be the ones the wise men crossed, this the night, and yon sleeping village Bethlehem. The faith of the trail breakers was that of the wise men.

On Christmas Eve the pioneer folks would gather in a crude

little church or schoolhouse where children recited their pieces and sang songs about the birth of Christ child. Santa would hand out mosquito-bar sacks of candy, a golden orange, or an apple to each one, and childhood rapture would make that meager offering truly a gift of gold and frankincense.

Home-made sleds and sleighs skimmed over the snowy countryside with sleigh bells jingling accompaniment to the caroling of "Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells."

Except in the forest regions, few children enjoyed the sight of a Christmas tree. But always they hung up their stockings, an old custom of their forefathers.

It was a lucky boy who awoke Christmas morning to find a new jack-knife in his stocking; a lucky girl who received a string of beads or a calico doll from Santa Claus. But that doll, made from spare

strips of bright cloth, probably was more treasured than any modern doll that can say "Mama," go to sleep, and perhaps require a diaper.

Children who received a slat pencil or a shell-box, a little affair covered with shells and containing a small mirror, were the special favorites of Santa.

For goodies, no Christmas was complete without its pans of popcorn and ropes of molasses taffy. In rare cases there might be a bag of candy.

In the isolated cabins it wasn't so easy to gather with one's neighbors to celebrate. There were wolves in the timber and being caught in a sudden storm on the pioneer trails spelled death.

Christmas in some places meant a bobsled ride or perhaps a square dance, often followed by a turkey dinner costing 25 cents.

Gifts, if any, generally were in the form of utilitarian mittens, mufflers, or home-made boots. For the women there might be a piece of intricate handiwork to which some enterprising friend had devoted her spare time for months.

Throughout the holiday season a candle burned in the attic window, guiding late-faring travelers

to shelter — the star of Bethlehem on the frontier.

But withall these hardy folks had as much fun as their great-grandsons and daughters who again this year will celebrate by exchanging elaborate gifts, dancing to name bands, feasting with no worries that tomorrow there may be nothing in the electric refrigerator.

What Christmas means to me

From the pages of The Owyhee Chronicle, December 22, 1949

The Christmas season. Christmas day. Light-studded garlands across the streets, handsome store displays, the crowds of last minute shoppers. Christmas carols from across the way. Fresh snow crunching underfoot, frost-coated shrubs, holly wreaths and tinsel trees in windows. Cheery greetings, friendly gestures, the giving and the receiving of presents. The family gatherings, the warmth of the fireside. Home. Christmas means all of these things of course.

But is this all Christmas means to me?

My whole being, my God-formed soul, my inmost thoughts and desires say Christmas must mean more than that. Those things alone are too earth-bound, too self-contained. They savor of a part of the world self-complacent, self-content, self-sufficient — but utterly forgetful of that other part, persecuted, homeless, oppressed, starved, naked, cold. Those things savor of men possessing knowledge and truth, heedless of the anguished cry of those in error. They savor of a people so smug and self-righteous as to think itself Christian, when in reality true Christianity is but a memory. Those things savor of a selfish Christmas. Such is a Christmas that is no Christmas at all.

Then what should Christmas mean? The thousands thronging the streets and crowding the churches at midnight, dawn, or later in the day — they have the answer. They do not go to church merely to hear the Christmas gospel read: the crowded inn, the stable, the birth of the Son

of God made Man. They come to church to have the Christ child present before them and reborn in them. To Him, the Child whose birthday it is, they pray for the strength to accomplish in themselves and in others what He began. They bring peace from the Prince of Peace, wisdom from the Angel of Great Counsel, life from the Author of Life, hope from the Source of All Hope, joy

from the Promise of Eternal Joy. They bring Christ to a darkened and troubled world. They are happy because their Christmas is not their own. It is like Christ's, for others.

And as for all those other things — now they take on meaning too, because I have found the true meaning of Christmas.

— Contributed

Thanks good friends for your loyalty and good will. Hope your holidays will be filled to the brim with old fashioned Christmas cheer!

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During this busy holiday season take some time to relax and enjoy your family and friends. Reflect on the true meaning of Christmas, the true reason for celebration!



And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

Luke 2:8-14

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lb.

Apio 40 oz.
Veggie Tray w/dip



\$10.99
ea.

4 lb. Bagged
Oranges



\$2.79
ea.

Western Family
Boneless Hams **\$1.49** lb.
Hillshire
Smokies **2 \$6** for
Beef Chuck Steak **\$2.49** lb.

Tillamook 2 lb.
Cheese **\$6.99** ea.
Johnsonville
Bratwurst **\$3.99** ea.
Jennie-O 16 oz.
Ground Turkey **\$1.29** lb.

1 lb.
Baby Carrots **\$1.09** ea.
Large
Avocados **89¢** ea.
8 oz. Whole or Sliced
Mushrooms **2 \$4** for

5 lb.
Red Potatoes **\$2.89** ea.
#1 Yams &
Sweet Potatoes **89¢** lb.
Large
Fuji Apples **99¢** lb.

La Victoria
Salsa



\$1.99 ea.
16 oz.

Western Family 7 oz.
Whip Light Cream Topping **2 \$3** for

Hamburger, Tuna, Chicken Helper



\$2.69 ea.
Asst'd Varieites

Western Family Asst'd
Foil Seasoning Mix **3 \$1** for

Pepsi Products



3 \$10 for
12pk 12oz Cans

2 Liter Bottle
Pepsi Products **3 \$3** for

Budweiser Beer



\$8.99 ea.
12pk 12oz Cans or Bottles

12pk 12oz Bottles
Michelob & Rolling Rock Beer **\$8.99** ea.

Darigold
Egg Nog Qt. **\$2.59** ea.
Pillsbury
Grand Biscuits **\$1.89** ea.
16.3 oz.
HomePride
White or Wheat Bread **\$2.39** ea.
20 oz.
Cinnamon Toast
Crunch & Lucky Charms **\$3.19** ea.
11.5-12.8 oz.
Western Family
Wide & Extra Wide Egg Noodles **\$1.29** ea.
12 oz.
Western Family
Oatmeal Cookies **\$1.99** ea.
18 oz.

Hidden Valley Ranch
Dressings **\$4.49** ea.
20-24 oz.
Western Family
Italian & Ranch Salad Dressing Mix **39¢** ea.
.6-1.13 oz.
Maxwell House &
Yuban Coffee **\$9.89** ea.
32-39 oz.
Ore-Ida Frozen
Potatoes **\$2.79** ea.
20-32 oz.
Western Family
Frozen Orange Juice **\$1.59** ea.
12 oz.
Totino's
Party Pizza **\$1.59** ea.
10.5-11.5 oz.

Pillsbury
Cake Mixes **\$1.19** ea.
11.5-12 oz.
Guittard
Baking Chips **\$2.69** ea.
12 oz.
Jeff Puff
Marshmallows **\$1.79** ea.
16 oz.
Meadowgold
Ice Cream **\$3.29** ea.
56 oz.
Hefty Foam
Plates & Bowls **\$2.89** ea.
28-50 ct.
Western Family
Daytime Cold Liquid Medicine **\$2.89** ea.
6 oz.

Planters Cashew
Halves & Mixed Nuts **\$4.29** ea.
9.25-11 oz.
Western Family
Chocolate Peg Candy **\$1.59** ea.
7.5 oz.
Nabisco & Keebler
Crackers **\$2.89** ea.
18-16 oz.
Doritos
Tortilla Chips **\$2.59** ea.
12.5 oz.

We Wish All Our Loyal Customers a Blessed Christmas & a Healthy & Happy 2009!
Employees of Snake River Mart

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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