

Homedale state champs remembered, 1B

wohee Avalanche

OCA winter meeting, Page 2A Cattlemen urged to take stand against Idaho Power lines Animal cruelty, Page 4A Homedale couple hit with horse, dog ownership limitations

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HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

Established 1865

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2009

Disaster auction brings in \$90K

Despite tough times, donators, bidders step up

A crowd of supporters put their money where their bid-cards were on Saturday at the Marsing Disaster Auction, helping to raise more than \$90,000 by early counts. It doesn't look like the event managed to exceed last year's recordsetting \$99,000 — \$19,000 more than the previous year — but the weak economy doesn't appear to

— See Auction, page 5A



Animals add to auction Evon Timmons of the Marsing FFA shows off an adorable auction item to bidders at the disaster auction. In addition to the usual goods, several puppies, a pygmy goat, 20 chicks and five rabbits were sold.

House to vote on Initiative

OI Work Group co-chair debunks rumor; science review not dead

The U.S. House of Representatives is scheduled to vote on the Public Lands Management Omnibus bill of which the Owyhee Initiative is part on Wednesday morning, according to a memo from the co-chair of the Initiative Work Group.

In a memo to the Work Group, the Owyhee County commissioners and Congressional staffs dated Friday, Fred Kelly Grant said S. 22 will be called up for a vote at 10 a.m. MST.

He also attempted to quell

rumors that the science review had been scrapped from the Initiative.

"The science review is in the bill, in the agreement which is to be implemented, in the (memorandum of understanding) to be executed, and in the request for appropriations," Grant wrote.

In his memo, Grant says the bill will come to the floor under a closed vote, a procedure that allows no amendments. However, Grant said the Republicans who oppose the bill could seek modification through something called a motion to recommit (MTR).

An MTR allows one amendment, and if that amendment is allowed and passed, the bill is then returned to the Senate.

"If the Motion to Recommit fails, the bill will surely pass

— See Vote, page 5A

Smorgasbord dishes up international flavors again

Sixth-graders set ticket sales record for Saturday's fundraiser at elementary

The Homedale International Smorgasbord has fed hundreds of people during nearly 50 years of existence, but 2009 will go down as the best ticket sales year in history. The 48th annual event, themed "For the Love of Education", runs from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., on Saturday at Homedale Elementary School, 420 W. Washington Ave., and will offer Asian food, Mexican food, American dishes and Basque food along with bread, salad and dessert.

In addition to the food, there will be an art exhibit showcasing work by students from all three schools in the Homedale School Districts as well as adult entries and a gift basket silent auction.

According to Smorgasbord chair Heidi Nash, Homedale Middle

School sixth-graders brought in a record amount of revenue during advance ticket sales between

- See Smorgasbord, page 9A

Three Creek School fights state ed. numbers game

Uncertain future for SE Owyhee district, which could have as few as three students next year

While larger school districts plan for an uncertain future, tiny Three Creek School in southeast Owyhee County could be facing extinction altogether. "We're holding our breath to see if the state is closing us down," teacher Marylin Boss said.

Boss, who is in her sixth year at Three Creek, has just one student these days — second-grader Kodee Severe. Three students left the school when their parents moved away in November. Without enough students, the school could face losing funding from the Idaho State Department of Education. According to SDE spokeswoman Melissa McGrath, Three Creek received nearly \$120,000 in support funding and special distributions, such as lottery funds, classroom enhancements and technology

funding. "If we don't have it (the

— See School, page 5A

More on Three Creek in The OC, page 10A

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Cattlemen honor contributions of key colleagues

OCA passes resolution supporting mosquito abatement program idea

Saturday's Owyhee Cattlemen's Association winter meeting was a time for education and to honor dedication.

During an afternoon inside the Oreana Community Hall, the OCA recognized the work of four pivotal figures in Owyhee County ranching and learned about Elmore County's successful mosquito abatement program, the progress of new beef checkoff legislation in the Idaho Legislature and the latest on the Owyhee Initiative.

Former county Sheriff Gary Aman and former Backcountry Deputy George Reed were honored by OCA president Bodie Clapier, who presented each man with tokens of the organization's appreciation for years of work with the county's cattlemen.

"These people go beyond the call of the duty," Clapier said.

Nearly the full OCA membership gave Aman a standing ovation when Clapier presented him with an award in the shape of the state of Idaho.

"We all enjoyed working with Gary Aman for a lot of years, and I know there is a lot of people that think a lot of him and always will," Clapier said.

Aman was brief with his remarks after the presentation: "In all the things I did in law enforcement over 28 years, there's nothing that I hold dearer to my heart than working with the Owyhee Cattlemen's Association."

University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension educator Scott Jensen helped recognize Grand View rancher Donna Bennett for her recent Society for Range Management outstanding achievement award from the group's Idaho Section. Jensen nominated Bennett for the award in honor of her work with the Owyhee Local Work Group for sage-grouse conservation.

"Donna is just a get-it-done kind of a person," Jensen said. "It doesn't matter that she's always got a very, very full plate. She takes the time and brings a lot of people together."

Jensen also noted that Bennett's standing among fellow cattle producers that allows her to get many projects on private land accomplished.

"It isn't me that gets the award," Bennett said. "It's all of you guys that have put all the projects together and you ranchers that have offered up your ground to let us have the projects so we can put something forward."

Bennett also mentioned that bids are now being sought for the LWG's juniper mastication project.

"This is just another thing that we're trying to do to upgrade our ranches and upgrade the ground so that we can improve not only the sage-grouse but other species and the cows," she said.

Brenda Richards, an OCA member also active on the Bureau of Land Management Boise District Resource Advisory Council and the Public Lands Council, recognized Bruneau rancher Chris Black for riparian conservation efforts that landed him a prestigious BLM award last year.

"Several years ago, the BLM put together an award for a permittee who is going out of their way to do some out-of-the-boxtype things and try to make their place better for the resource and bring along the heritage aspect and really work to make things work for the ecosystem and for the whole resource in the long run," Richards said.

Richards expressed her awe at the work Black has done, and her gratitude for his willingness to show off his improvements.



OCA thanks former sheriff

Owyhee Cattlemen's Association president Bodie Clapier, left, presents Gary Aman with a plaque in recognition of his work with ranchers.

"I think any of you that know him know his work ethics, and I can't even to begin to keep up conversation-wise. His mind is always a-travelin'," Richards said.

Clapier presented Black with the Owyhee County brand, which the president said could become a permanent award at OCA meetings.

Black said he was honored to be recognized by the OCA and the BLM.

"What I'm all about is trying to hand what I have on to the next generation in better shape than what it is, and I tried to do that," he said. "And I'm honored to be recognized at it, but it's something that I feel is an obligation."

The OCA membership voted to

sunset several resolutions and reaffirmed a 2005 resolution stating that sage-grouse hunting seasons are proof that livestock management practices regarding the species and its habitat are appropriate and asking the Idaho Fish and Game Commission to direct the Department of Fish and Game to stop seeking modifications to allotment management in areas where hunting seasons exist.

The OCA also passed a resolution in support of the concept of a county-wide mosquito abatement district on the heels of extension educator Mir Seyedbagheri's informative and often humorous presentation on the success of Elmore County's program.

— JPB



OCA prepared to take on Idaho Power projects

The Owyhee Cattlemen's Association put the three proposed Idaho Power transmission line projects on its radar Saturday.

During the winter meeting in Oreana, the OCA membership discussed the impact of the Boardman-to-Hemingway and Gateway West 500-kilovolt transmission lines that could traverse parts of Owyhee County. The ranchers also discussed the Hemingway substation and the smaller transmission line planned to stretch into Canyon County from that proposed structure.

But the cattlemen stopped short of adopting a resolution suggested by Frank Bachman to oppose the current proposed route of the Gateway West on the south side of the Snake River. economic impact on the ranching community would be.

District 1 Commissioner George Hyer said that he and his Board of County Commissioners colleagues are active in the situation and in regular contact with the Bureau of Land Management and Idaho Power. He also said that Idaho Power is squeamish about the commissioners sharing coordination tips with other affected counties.

"We came in late, but we're on top of it," Hyer said. "(Idaho Power officials) really don't want us to talk to the Oregon counties because we have policies in place.

"It's on the way, and I think we need to get geared up to get it re-routed," Bachman said.

After discussion during which Bureau of Land Management Boise District director Aden Sedlitz said the draft environmental impact study wouldn't be released until the spring, OCA president Bodie Clapier suggested forming a committee to craft a resolution proposal for the July meeting in Silver City.

Jordan Valley-area rancher Mike Hanley made clear that any EIS should include what the "It's one of the highest priorities we have right now."

Connie Brandau, the county Planning and Zoning Commission chair, reminded the group of the two P&Z public meetings regarding the power line proposals. One will be held Feb. 24 in Marsing, and another Feb. 26 at Rimrock High School in Bruneau.

BOCC chair Jerry Hoagland, like Hyer a rancher, put it in plain terms for the cattlemen.

"It's going to be a big deal, and I think everybody should be aware of it and treat it as an attack on their cattle operations," he said.

— JPB

PA proposes county confidentiality resolution

Resolutions setting a county confidentiality policy and restructuring Board of County Commissioners meetings will be considered Tuesday in Murphy.

During their Monday meeting, the commissioners reviewed resolutions on those issues by Prosecuting Attorney Douglas Emery.

Next week's meeting will be held Tuesday because of the Presidents' Day holiday. The administrative meeting has been at 9 a.m., with the business meeting following at 10 a.m.

Other business covered by commissioners Monday included:

• Setting a Marsing Impact Area Committee meeting for 6:30 p.m. Feb. 19 at Marsing City Hall.

• Approval of a \$21,395 bid from a Mountain Home dealership for a new Dodge Charger sixcylinder sheriff's patrol car.

• Approval of a grant application for the annual \$4,445 Juvenile Accountability Block Grant for the Owyhee County Probation Office. The grant helps pay salaries.

• County auditor Jared Zwygart of Bailey & Co., CPAs presented the fiscal year 2008 audit. He pointed out that most county departments spent within their budgets for the year and some of the departments that did go over tapped into carryover funds to stay in the black. The full audit won't be released until the commissioners accept the document, which is expected Tuesday.

• Representatives from US Ecology spoke on legislation that could be introduced this year that will give the county a twoyear window in which to spend haz-mat funds for anything, save for \$110,000 requested to go to Elmore County for the upkeep of Simco Road, which US Ecology also uses in the transport of waste to its Grand View facility. The legislation won't be introduced to the Idaho Legislature until the commissioners give their blessing, probably Tuesday, according to US Ecology attorney Roy Eiguren.

Current law stipulates that the haz-mat fund, funded by tipping fees from US Ecology, can be used only for cleanup. The new legislation would allow expenditure of the existing fund — and new revenue — on any county purpose between July 2009 and July 2011.

The resolution presented by Emery this week would schedule three BOCC meetings on Tuesdays during the month, while leaving the meeting on the second Monday intact as required by Idaho Statute. Emery also urged the commissioners to make the move more permanent by holding public hearings and establishing an ordinance in the future.

At the suggestion of insurance carrier Idaho Counties Risk Management Program, Emery also brought forward the confidentiality resolution.

The resolution would provide statutory guidelines for what information would be available to the public regarding investigations by the sheriff's office as well as information from executive sessions dealing with personnel issues and litigation.

In addition to the resolution,

Emery also has drafted two confidentiality agreements for the commissioners' approval. One agreement pertains to all county employees, instructing them on what information can be released to the public, and the other agreement would be for elected officials. The agreement would create an understanding that violating the state's public records law by releasing sensitive information could result in disciplinary actions against employees, Emery said.

Emery also brought forward a draft resolution regarding public comment in the commissioners meetings. Later in the meeting, the commissioners agreed that the proposed sign-in sheet could be a tool to keep discussions concise and on-point.

— JPB

Fair board elects officers, plans power upgrade

The Owhyee County Fair Board met Thursday to elect officers and conduct its usual meeting. David Rutan was re-elected chair, Kelly Aberasturi was elected vice-chair and Kelly Haun will again be fair manager and secretary for the organization.

Last week's flare-up over the county's recommendation that the fair checkbook be handled by the county commissioners was addressed, and frustration was expressed across the board with what many felt was misinformation and lack of clarity from the county clerk and commissioners. Haun and horse board head Ann Rutan expressed displeasure that last week's article in The Owyhee Avalanche made the fair board, all volunteers, appear unprofessional.

In discussion, Haun also expressed her frustration concerning the discussion with the county clerk.

"We knew it (the transfer of the account) didn't sound timeefficient or practical," she said. When she called Sherburn to raise some of the points of conflict that seemed to make the transfer a bad idea, she recalled not being offered any option. Sherburn had responded "'That's the only way we can do it'," Haun said.

After some discussion, it was decided that, as the board had never moved to transfer the checking as was suggested, no action needed to be taken.

"We don't need a motion to stop doing what we're not doing," David Rutan said.

The board, in line with Idaho statutes, did submit the fair's financial report for publication at the meeting. While late — the report by law must be turned in within 90 days of the end of the fair — Haun explained that the county had not returned information cleared by the auditor until December.

The fiscal year 2008 financial statement appears in the B Section of today's Avalanche and reports that the fair board spent nearly \$75,000 last year and ended with a deficit of \$5,543.48.

Vendors may see upgraded power

Moving on to this year's projects, the board explored the possibility of adding to and

upgrading the electrical system behind the grandstands to accommodate the needs of the vendors who set up their booths in the area. A proposed fix that would replace older, light-duty outlets and ensure the reliability of the system would cost approximately \$5,000. A further expansion of the electrical project, which might have to be budgeted in sections across two years, would add 11 pedestal lights in the area between the grandstands and the armory. No action was taken at this time, pending discussion.

-MML

President's Day closures set

All government offices — both city and county — will be closed in Owyhee County on Monday in observance of Presidents Day.

There will be no postal service in the county, and all county libraries except Lizard Butte Public Library in Marsing also will be closed. Banks are closed, too.

Emergency services still are available throughout the county and in Homedale.

In Oregon, Jordan Valley City Hall also will be closed.

Meet your hometown tax experts



Suzanna Brockett was born and raised in Homedale and gradu-



ated from Homedale High School. Suzanna has worked for Mike Parker and Bowen Parker Day for the past 20 years. Suzanna has attended Gear Up Courses and the H & R Block Income Tax Course. Suzanna specializes in Quickbooks, Individual and Corporate Returns.

Suzanna's philosophy is to work hard, give great customer service and to provide an excellent product for a fair price.

Suzanna has been active in her son's sports and other activities. She has also been involved with the Homedale Fan Club, along with senior class projects at Homedale High School.

Suzanna's hobbies include reading, fishing, camping and bird watching. Suzanna and her husband Ron have two sons; Jared who is attending Boise State University and Brandon who is a senior at Homedale High School.



Not guilty plea for trucker on solicitation of teen

At his Jan. 30 arraignment in Canyon County District Court, Homedale resident Arthur Gene Schmierer entered not guilty pleas to both enticement of children over the Internet and lewd conduct with a child under 16. He is tentatively scheduled to stand trial on May 6 before Judge Renae Hoff in Third District Court in Caldwell.

It is not Schmierer's first appearance before Judge Hoff. In September, he was charged with being an accessory in the injury of a child, with the additional charge of being an accessory to a felony in harboring a wanted felon. Schmierer entered a guilty plea on Nov. 24, and awaits sentencing on Feb. 20.

Schmierer was also arrested by the Canyon County Sheriff's Office in July 2007 and charged with lewd conduct with a child under 16. The case was later dismissed by the court.

The newest charges, filed after Schmierer's Jan. 10 arrest at a Nampa McDonald's restaurant, were the culmination of a police sting operation involving numerous organizations.

The Idaho investigation began when Utah's Iron County Sheriff's Office forwarded information on the 35-year-old truck driver, informing the Canyon County Sheriff's Office that Schmierer was using the Internet to attempt to solicit underage girls. That information was received early in January.

The CCSO, in conjunction with the Idaho Attorney General's of-

fice, Nampa Police, Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Shoshone County Sheriff's Office, led Schmierer to believe he was meeting a girl, age 13, at the McDonald's in order to solicit sex. He was arrested at the location, and remains in custody in Canyon County Jail with a bond of \$250,000.

So far, no other charges have been filed, but officials are ex-



surface.

ploring the possibility of the case raising federal charges, CCSO Lt. Marv Dashiell said, as Schmierer may have attempted to solicit across state lines, given his profession and his use of the internet.

hmierer Investigators also are on the lookout for other cases of illegal conduct, which Dashiell warned might

warned inight

- MML

Pair sentenced to probation, limits on animals set

After more than a year of legal maneuvering, Homedale residents Deborah Hopson and Zachariah Robinson pled guilty to two misdemeanor counts each of animal cruelty on Friday and were sentenced to two years of probation. They were ordered to perform 40 hours of community service each, and limitations were imposed on the number of animals they are allowed to possess, according to Owyhee County Prosecutor Douglas Emery. Emery said that the limitations specifically allowed the pair to keep no more than three large animals — horses, cattle, sheep and the like — and four dogs or puppies on whatever property the pair resided on. The sentence was, Emery agreed, about the best one could hope for.

"I think we addressed the primary concerns of law enforcement on this," he said. "To make sure the situation did not recur."

The case stemmed from a Jan. 17, 2008 investigation by Owyhee County Sheriff's Office personnel at a residence at 5282 Sage Rd. near Homedale. Hopson was charged with two counts, specifically one count of cruelty involving 32 horses and burros with no available food and one count involving a pair of llamas without available food. Deputies charged Robinson for the same neglect in connection with two dogs and a pair of cows.

At least two of the horses had to be euthanized.

Member

The couple forfeited the seized animals to the county last May, after Hopson and Robinson failed to pay an additional \$12,467.86 bond to reimburse the county for the care of the animals. As the balance was not paid, the county was allowed to sell the animals at auction in an attempt to recoup some costs. According to county records, after freight costs, the sale made a profit of \$11.40 on the horses and burros, and \$506.07 on the two cows.

As of the default, Owyhee County had spent \$13.399.86 to keep the animals, of which \$7,700 was from an original bond paid by Hopson and Robinson on March 21. Of the remaining \$5,699.86 spent in care and feeding of the seized animals, \$5,182.39 came from county funds.



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From page 1

$\sqrt{\text{Vote: 'Motion of Recommit' could send Initiative back to the Senate}}$

next Wednesday," Grant wrote. If the MTR is successful, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) then must decide when to take the bill up again, Grant added.

One example of a previous MTR cited by Grant is the right to carry guns in national parks.

"If, for example, that is the

amendment offered by Republicans, western conservative Democrats may be afraid to vote against the amendment," Grant said, adding his hope that Rep. Walt Minnick (D-Idaho) would resist voting in favor of such an amendment should it be proposed.

"Sen. Crapo and members of the House with interests in the

package of bills are working hard to try to persuade the House leadership from using one of the gun bills as the Motion to Recommit amendment," Grant wrote.

He added that recent attempts to attach gun legislation has been avoided because congressional leadership has offered an "up or

down" vote on the bill giving the right to carry guns in national parks.

Grant said conservative Democrats in the House are being persuaded to cast their votes early in the process, easing the way for other western representatives to vote the same.

Grant also reported in his memo

that efforts to raise private money for the ranchers' compensation portion of the Initiative as well as preparation of an appropriations request for Rep. Mike Simpson (R-Idaho) are under way in case of passage Wednesday. Memoranda of Understanding also are being outlined, he said.

— JPB

Left: Betty

Ackerman

with the

Auction: Event's spirit of charity echoed by both buyers and crafters

have greatly impacted the urge of unable to cut fabric or sew. bidders to help support those in dire straights.

This year marked the 48th for the event, and saw the end of two auction traditions, with the last quilt from Viola Hunt, 99, being auctioned, and the final sour cream and raisin pie of Peggy Korte - along with its recipe going to the block.

Hunt's quilt typified the spirit of the auction. Joe Churruca won the item for \$600, and then turned around and donated it back to the auction, where it was again sold, this time for \$550. Hunt has made her handcrafted quilts for the auction for the past 20 years. In 2007 the auction did not see a quilt from her, as a neighbor's house had burned down and she donated the quilt to them. This year her vision had deteriorated so that she could not finish the quilt on her own, and her daughter, Darlene Brewer, finished the quilt her mother had begun. This one would be the last, Darlene said, as Hunt was now

Betty Ackerman, who spoke with Hunt this year, said the quilts were part of a tradition going back many years.

"When visiting with Viola," Ackerman said, "she said 'I can't remember a time when I wasn't working on a quilt'. Viola also said she learned the craft from her grandmother who quilted to earn money for her family, at \$5 a quilt. Viola's mother also quilted, the quilting frames that Viola uses were handed down from her mother and now will go to her daughter Darlene who hopes to be able to continue the tradition."

Quilts from long-time donators were appreciated and drew big bids, most going for \$1,000 or more.

"The people of this community and its surrounding areas have come through in a very big way once again," auction media contact Lyle Bowers said in a Sunday release. "We are so proud to be part of this community event."

Members of the Marsing chapter of the FFA lent a hand throughout the day, while Parma auctioneer Bob Hopkins and associates kept up the pace through many hundreds of lots.

Some funds from the event help support the Marsing Senior Center, while the bulk are used to help area people in dire need due to personal disaster; whether by fire, illness or the like.

The yearly raffles saw good subscription numbers this year. In the \$10 category winners were as follows: The Remington .22-250 rifle, donated by Owyhee Farm Bureau Agents Wayne Hungate & Dave Cereghino, was won by Duane Berends; the gun safe, donated by Rhino Metals, went to Pastor Shorrow; the washer and dryer set, donated by Lowes and the MDA was won by Vickie Edwards; the 42" LCD-HD TV, donated by Canyon County Farm Bureau Agents Don and Darin Pfost and Kerry Harris was won by Jamie Miller; the 14-inch LCD



laptop, donated by ABI Computers and MDA, was won by Lacey Usabel; the Bradley Electric Smoker, donated by Cabela's and the MDA, was won by Randy Young.

In the \$1 raffle, winners were as follows: The \$250 shopping spree donated by American Legion post 128 went to Eric Allen; the Boise getaway, donated by Mason and Stanfield Inc., was won by Janice Bicandi; half a beef donated by Sandy and Terry

famed sour cream and raisin pie. Peggy Korte's recipe and the pie were auctioned this year, so the pie may be back in 2010.

McLeod went to Belen Crandall and the Wii game station donated by Dick Downum and the Haken Insurance Agency of Marsing was won by Terri Smit.

Top ticket sellers this year were Shelby Dines (first place for a \$200 prize), Kimber Bowman (second, \$100.00) and Kaitlyn Malmberg (third, \$75).

The \$50 prizewinners were Jeffrey Eells, Tanner Fisher and Wendy Lino.

-MML

School: Closure would affect ranch families and cattle operators

funding), we don't have our school," Boss said.

There could be some hope on the horizon: Kodee's two younger siblings are poised to enter kindergarten next fall, bringing the student body up to three.

"We've never been through it like this before," Boss said of the low student count. "(The state has) always allowed us to stay open. We've always had three or four students, and they've always let us stay open."

Three Creek enrollment trends

The number of students, by school year, of Three Creek

School since 1	991-92:
1991-92	15
1992-93	8
1993-94	10
1994-95	12
1995-96	12
1996-97	9
1997-98	7
1998-99	9
1999-00	9
2000-01	18
2001-02	15
2002-03	8
2003-04	10
2004-05	6
2005-06	4
2006-07	4
2007-08	4
Average	9.4

the school district, getting to school can be a time-consuming proposition. School trustee Harlan Mink says that some students have traveled as far as 40 miles to study with Mrs. Boss, who has 36 years experience, including in districts much larger than Three Creek.

"The transportation. They're on the bus an awful long time for such little ones," Boss said.

Mink, who by virtue of being chair on the three-person school board is also the district superintendent, said Three Creek's status is in a holding pattern at the moment.

site, Three Creek has had an enrollment of four each of the past three years. Between 1991-92 and 2003-04, the school averaged 10.9 students per year, but since 2004-05 the average yearly enrollment has been 4.5 students.

Idaho Code 33-1003 (2)(f) sets a minimum average daily attendance (ADA) for schools. According to state law, a district with few than 10 pupils in ADA must petition the state board of education to be included in state and county funding programs. Three Creek has had to seek approval in 10 of the past 17 school years, according to state numbers. The school and Pleasant Valley School on the west side of the county - were among 11 statewide to receive such approval in October for the 2008-09 school year. Mink said the trustees will start the petition process months early this year, perhaps as soon as next month, in preparation for the 2009-10 school year.

Mink also said that in years past there has been talk of either a private school or a charter school because of the small student body.

Even with a small student base, there's no shortage of community support for Three Creek School.

"Every function that we have. everybody in the community comes," Boss said. "They do all sorts of things like fundraisers. They save aluminum cans and box tops."

The Three Creek district, comprised of one schoolhouse, carries an annual budget of more than \$100,000 for building maintenance and a salary and house for Boss, 50 feet from the schoolhouse door. The house is necessary, school board chair Harlan Mink said, because of the remoteness of the district.

The school is located on Three Creek Road about 11/2 miles west of Rogerson. It's a 20-mile trip north on U.S. Highway 93 from Jackpot, Nev.

The school teaches children through eighth grade, at which time families have to make arrangements to transport their kids to high schools in Castleford (90 minutes away), Twin Falls ("a good hour-and-a-half", Boss

says, with no school bus service provided, meaning parents have to drive that distance — or move to town and find other work) or Filer, which provides bus service from Rogerson, requiring parents to drive their kids into town to catch a ride.

Even for the children in

'We don't know what the state's going to do," he said. "We're just sitting and waiting to see."

Mink, whose day job is road supervisor for the Three Creek Good Road District, has been in and out of the head chair on the school board since the mid-1990s. He has never seen the school on this precipice.

"This is the first time," he said. "We've faced the possibility of almost a low number, but every year, there's been a low number and a family has come in and rescued us."

According to the state Department of Education Web

State law also mandates enhanced funding for schools like Three Creek, which is the only institution in the school district. With fewer than 40 support units - an SDE measure of students - Three Creek also gets an

additional staff allowance.

As the community supports the school, really, so does the especially securing a workforce for neighboring ranches.

Without a school to attract families, the cattle operations that use the land around Three Creek could find it difficult to recruit ranch hands.

For the ranch help that sticks around more than a season, Three Creek School is one of the first stops when scouting the job prospects.

"Before they even took the (ranch) job, they would come to the school and look the school over and pretty much interview us," Mink said. "They'd grill us down pretty tight."

— JPB

Obituary **Ray Karl Johnson**

Ray Karl Johnson, 75, of Homedale passed away Sunday, February 1st 2009 from complications following a short illness with leukemia. Ray was born February 26, 1933 to Tom and Lena (Roth) Johnson in New Underwood, South Dakota. In 1940, Tom and Lena moved their family to Idaho. Ray attended Homedale schools, and graduated in 1952. He married his love, Josephine Bicandi, in November of that year. Ray and Josie remained in the Homedale area where they raised their family.

As a youth, Ray discovered the Owyhee Mountains. His spare time was spent hunting, fishing and camping. He would often recall those experiences through his paintings and his story telling. Ray was drafted in the U.S. Army in April 1953. After the completion of his duty in 1955, he returned home. In 1956, he began employment with the Ray Ewing Construction Company of Meridian as a mason. He was known throughout the business as "Shorty" and was highly respected for his skill and talent by those who knew him. He continued his employment with the company until 1984. That year he was hired



by the South Board of Control in Homedale. He remained employed there until his retirement in 1995. After retirement, Ray spent his time working on his acreage, tending to his beloved animals, traveling with Josie in their 5th wheel, listening to his polka music, reading, drawing and painting, and spending as much time as possible with his family. Ray was a member of the BPOE of Nampa for 15 years, and was a current member of the Homedale Basque Club.

Ray will be lovingly remembered as a kind heart and a gentle soul. He lived his life with enjoyment and always made friends with most everyone he met. His last words to his family were to "take the time to visit with one another".

Ray was preceded in death by his parents and one sister. He is survived by his wife, Josie; his children, Teresa (John) Phelps; Karla (Greg) Haylett; and Russ (Deana) Johnson; his grandchildren, Alisa Phelps; Lucas (Tegan) Phelps; Deitra (Christopher) Batt; Kelsi (Nick) Calaycay, Clay Haylett; Zara Grayson, Alex Johnson, Zane Johnson, Kale Johnson; great-grandchildren Tenley Grayson, Ava Batt, Taylor Phelps; brother Harold (Blanche) Johnson; sisters Lillian (Bud) Brant, Jessie Smith, Carylen Riley, Nancy (Rod) Leslie; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Ray were held Friday, February 6th 2009 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Hubert's Catholic Church in Homedale. Arrangements are under the direction of Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Homedale. Interment followed at Marsing-Homedale Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Idaho Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, 921 S. Orchard St., Ste. I, Boise, ID 83705 or the Homedale Basque Club - Txoko Ona, P.O. Box 1163, Homedale, ID 83628. Condolences may be given to the family at FlahiffFuneralChapel.com

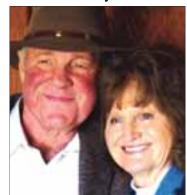
Anniversary Shenks celebrate 50 years

Dick and Margie Shenk of Homedale celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Jan. 25, 2009, with a family dinner at the Boise Red Lobster.

The Shenks were married Jan. 25, 1959, in Nampa. Both graduated from Adrian High School in 1956.

They enjoy hunting, fishing, team roping and camping with family and friends.

The Shenks have two children - Mike (Dixie) Armstrong of Sand Hollow and Jamie (MaryJo) Sample of Caldwell. They also have three grandchildren: Phil



Dick and Margie Shenk

(Melissa) Hodge of Denver, Dixson Armstrong of Caldwell and Ashley Yacavace of Nampa.



Bell ringer sets Nazarene show

Phyllis Tincher, a solo handbell ringer who plays three full octaves of bells (39 bells), will perform 11 a.m. Sunday at the Marsing Church of the Nazarene, 12 2nd Ave. W.

Tincher has been solo ringing since 1997 and presents a wide range of traditional and classic church music, according to a press release from Marsing pastor Bill O'Connor.

In addition to her solo concerts, she directs two handbell choirs at Nampa First United Presbyterian Church. She has served as guest conductor at several festivals and taught classes at handbell conferences and workshops. She is active in the Northwest Area of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers and served as chair for that organization from 2000 to 2002. "Phyllis enjoys using her musical talent in service to God, and the church and hopes that her worship programs help listeners to focus on and praise God," O'Connor wrote in the release.

School menus

Homedale Elementary

Feb. 11: Chicken nuggets or finger steaks, broccoli, fruit & veggie bar, cinnamon roll, milk.

Feb. 12: Chili or beef taco pie, roll, fruit & veggie bar, fruit rollup, milk.

Feb. 13: No school.

Feb. 16: No school.

Feb. 17: Beef or chicken taco, corn, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 18: Chicken patty or rib-b-que, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, cake, milk.

Homedale Middle

Feb. 11: Crispito or toasted cheese sandwich, taco salad, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 12: Nachos or baked potato, fruit & veggie bar, rice krispie treat, milk.

Feb. 13: No school.

Feb. 16: No school.

Feb. 17: Chicken nuggets or egg rolls, rice, vegetables, fruit & veggie bar, fortune cookie, milk.

Feb. 18: Burrito or fish sandwich, corn, fruit & veggie bar, apple crisp, milk.

Homedale High

Feb. 11: Idaho haystack, burrito or pizza hot pocket, fruit & veggie bar, cinnamon roll, milk.

Feb. 12: Chicken patty & soup or popcorn chicken, potato wedges, fruit & veggie bar, cookie, milk.

Feb. 13: Crispito or rib-b-que, corn, taco salad, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 16: No school.

Feb. 17: Chicken fried beef steak or chicken filet, mashed potatoes, roll, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Feb. 18: Spaghetti, burrito or pizza hot pocket, French bread, fruit & veggie bar, milk.

Marsing

Feb. 11: Waffle, ham & scrambled eggs, strawberries, chicken burger, salad & fruit bar, milk.

Feb. 12: chicken burger, salad, sub sandwich, salad & fruit bar, milk

- Feb. 13: No school.
- Feb. 16: No school.

Feb. 17: Burrito & rice, apple crisp, hamburger, salad & fruit bar, milk.

Feb. 18: Lasagna, salad, Italian bread, chicken nuggets, salad & fruit bar, milk.

Senior menus

Homedale center

- Feb. 11: Chow mein, fried rice, oriental vegetables, beverage.
- Feb. 12: Beef burrito, refried beans, rice, beverage.
- Feb. 17: Spaghetti & meat sauce, tossed salad, roll, beverage.
- Feb. 18: Chicken & noodles, broccoli, beet salad, bread, beverage.

Marsing center

Feb. 11: Stuffed shells, Italian blend vegetables, marinated mushrooms, mixed green salad, garlic bread, tropical fruit salad.

Treat your Valentine to an evening with

THAWLEY'S CATERING @ COWBOY'S PASTIME

6-9 pm - Sat Feb 14th - Bruneau, ID Enjoy Prime Rib, Scampi, Bread, Soup, Salad & Baked Potato, all served family style Hand-Dipped Strawberries © Bottomless Champagne!

CALL 208-845-2116 FOR RESERVATIONS

\$25/person in advance or \$30/person at the door Enjoy live music from Swen Dawson from 8 pm - 12 am

> Read all about it in the Avalanche!

Feb. 12: Ham w/sweet cheery sauce, herb roasted tomatoes, baked sweet potatoes, apples, whole wheat bread, ambrosia salad.

Feb. 16: Holiday.

Feb. 17: BBQ beef/bun, oven browned potato wedges, carrots, strawberries & bananas.

Feb. 18: Hawaiian pork over brown rice, curried coconut vegetables, tropical fruit salad, wheat bread, coconut crème pie.

lahiff neral Chapels § Crematory Since 1952, Flahiff Funeral Chapels have been dedicated to providing the families of Canyon and Owyhee Counties with a caring and professional environment to celebrate the life of a loved one. We offer services that are tailored to meet the individual needs of each family. Traditional & Alternative Services Canyon and Owyhee Counties' locally owned Crematory Pre-Arrangements by Licensed Funeral Directors

Caldwell 624 Cleveland Blvd. - Caldwell, ID 83605 (208) 459-0833

Homedale 27 E. Owyhee Ave. - Homedale, ID 83628 (208) 337-3252



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

PAGE 7A

Calendar

Today

Owyhee Watershed Council meeting

4 p.m., University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office, 238 8th Ave. W., Marsing. (541) 372-5782

Homedale City Council meeting

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

DivorceCare recovery support group

7 p.m., Mountain View Church of the Nazarene, 26515 Ustick Road, Wilder. (208) 337-3151 Grand View City Council meeting

7 p.m., City Hall, 425 Boise Ave. (208) 834-2700,

Monday through Wednesday Marsing City Council meeting

7 p.m., City Hall, 425 Main St. (208) 896-4122

Thursday

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

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.

Friday

Children's story time

10 a.m., free, Homedale Public Library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

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

Marsing Lions Club meeting

7:30 p.m., Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center, 126 2nd St. N., Marsing. (208) 896-4204

Tuesday

County Board of Commissioners meeting

Courtroom 2, Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy

Women's exercise course

9:30 a.m., University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office, 238 8th Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4104

Exercise class

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

El-Ada commodity distribution

1 p.m. to 4 p.m., El-Ada Owyhee office, 15 W. Colorado Ave. Homedale. (208) 337-4812

Every Child Ready to Read

3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m., Eastern Owyhee County Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2785

Children's story time

4:15 p.m., Lizard Butte Library, 111 W. 3rd St. S., Marsing. (208) 896-4690

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

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

El-Ada commodity distribution

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

Bruneau and Beyond speaker series

Noon, BLM Ranger Barbara Forderhase, free, RSVP by Monday, Bruneau Valley Library, 32073 Ruth St., Bruneau. (208) 845-2131 or (208) 845-2345

DivorceCare recovery support group

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

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

Thursday, Feb. 19

Women's exercise course

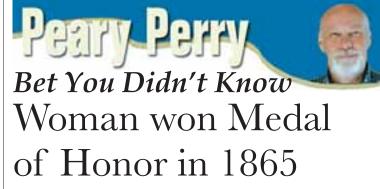
9:30 a.m., University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office, 238 8th Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4104

Exercise class

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

Senior citizens lunch

Noon, Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St.,



There has been at least on woman to win the Medal of Honor. President Andrew Johnson gave Mary Walker of the 52nd Ohio Regiment the award in 1865.

Did you know that a sneeze could travel at about 100 miles an hour. Please cover up ... thank you.

Just so you'll know ... Chianti isn't a red wine since it's made with both red and white grapes.

It's been reported that some dinosaurs were as small as hens, as in chickens ...

In 1800, America did not have a public library.

You might be interested to know that there is a martial art called "tessenjutsu" practiced in Japan. This deadly practice is based on the expert use of a fan.

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



Story Time packs 'em in

Homedale Public Library worker Ann Umphreys, left, leads a group of preschoolers and moms through a song Friday during Story Time.

Homedale library's popular Story Time continues to grow

Nearly 20 children and mothers turned out Friday for the weekly Story Time at the Homedale Public Library, and organizers probably can expect another large crowd when popular "Dora the Explorer" is the focus this week.

"Dora Loves Boots", a Valentine's Day story, begins at 10 a.m. Friday. There will be songs, refreshments and a craft.

Library director Margaret Monday for Presidents' Day.

participation over the same time last year. Fujishin reported that 1,222 items were checked out in the first month of this year, compared to 513 in January 2008 (a 138 percent increase). Additionally, 300 more visitors walked through the doors than a year earlier. Fujishin said 903 people visited last month.

The library will be closed

Saturday

Stroke, osteoporosis screening

9 a.m., \$159, pre-registration required, Homedale Senior Citizens Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (877) 237-1287

Homedale International Smorgasbord

11 a.m., tickets: \$28 family, \$7 adults, \$5 senior citizens, \$4 first- through sixth-graders, \$2 preschoolers, Homedale Elementary School, 420 W. Washington Ave., Homedale

Grand View Lions Club auction

Noon, lunch; 1 p.m., auction, Grand View Elementary School gymnasium, 205 1st St., Grand View

Rimrock Senior Center fundraiser

6 p.m., Valentine's Day dinner and live entertainment, suggested donations: \$8 per person, \$3.50 per child younger than 12, \$7 for seniors, \$20 for family of four, Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (208) 834-2808

Grand View

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)

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

AA meeting

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

Friday, Feb. 20

Children's story time

10 a.m., free, Homedale Public Library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

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

Find a comprehensive listing of local events online at www.theowyheeavalanche.com. Click the "Calendar of Events".

Fujishin released library usage numbers for January that showed library, call 337-4228 between 1 a huge jump in community

For more information about the p.m. to 5 p.m. during the week.



Saturday sees generosity, tradition and honors Marsing Disaster Auction



Marsing Disaster Auction quilts bring warmth. Both kinds.

The quilter's craft brought some of the highest bids at the Marsing Disaster Auction in 2009, with bids over the \$1,000 mark. Betty Ackerman, above right, holds the quilt donated this year by Viola Hunt, 99. The quilt, which incorporates a central piece made from Hunt's apron, is the last she expects to be able to sew. The auction brought it an estimated \$90,000 this year.

Owyhee Cattlemen's Association



Cattlemen hand out awards

Above left: Bev White shows off the silver bit she won in the membership drawing to kick off Saturday's winter meeting for the Owyhee Cattlemen's Association. **Right:** Cattlemen's president Bodie Clapier, left, shakes hands with Bruneau rancher Chris Black after presenting him with a brand in recognition of his BLM rangeland management award.



RESTAURANI



Fed grazing fee unchanged

Steak and Shrimp Dinner for S

INCLUDES: HARICOT VERTS, ROASTED RED NEW POTATOES, SOUP, SALAD & OVEN FRESH BREAD SERVED BY CANDLELIGHT COMPLETE WITH SPARKLING WINE WITH BERRIES AND CHEESECAKE SHOOTERS \$39.95 / COUPLE

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHT FEBRUARY 13 & 14 · 5-9PM 459-8200

14949 SUNNY SLOPE ROAD · HWY 55 BETWEEN MARSING & NAMPA BREAKFAST AND LUNCH: WED-SUN 7AM-2:30PM · DINNER: FRI-SAT 5-9PM

The 2009 federal grazing fee of \$1.35 per animal unit month (AUM) of for Bureau of Land Management lands and \$1.35 per head month (HM) for lands managed by the Forest Service is unchanged from the 2008 charge, according to a BLM press release. An AUM or HM is the occupancy and use of public lands by one cow and her calf, one horse, or five sheep or goats for a month. The fee, effective March 1, applies to nearly 18,000 grazing permits and leases administered by the BLM and more than 8,000 permits issued by the Forest Service.

The formula used to determine the grazing fee, set by Congress in the 1978 Public Rangelands Improvement Act, continues under a 1986 presidential Executive Order. Under the order, the grazing fee cannot fall below \$1.35 per AUM, and any change cannot exceed 25 percent of the previous year's level.

The annually adjusted fee is computed using a 1966 base value of \$1.23 per AUM/HM for grazing on public lands in Western states. The figure is adjusted according to three factors – current private grazing land lease rates, beef prices, and the cost of livestock production. Fee changes are based on market conditions, with livestock operators paying more when conditions are better and less when conditions have declined.

The \$1.35 per AUM/HM grazing fee applies to Idaho, Oregon, Nevada and 13 other Western states.

$\sqrt{\text{Smorgasbord:}}$ School district fundraiser set Saturday at elementary

From Page 1A

the start of Christmas break and Friday. HMS' four sixth-grade classes rounded up nearly \$6,600 in total sales.

Tickets will be available Saturday at the door: \$28 for a family ticket, \$7 for adults, \$5 for senior citizens, \$4 for children in grades 1-6 and \$2 for preschoolers.

The top three ticket-sellers from this year's pre-sales drive were crowned Friday. Morgan Nash from Kelly Schamber's class won the top individual prize of an iPod Touch after selling a school-best \$1,560 in tickets. Devon Fisher from Lesa Folwell's class won second prize and an iPod Nano after bringing in more than \$1,025. Schamber student Kyler Landa won the third-place prize of an iPod Shuffle with \$321 in sales.

Students who sold at least \$26 worth of tickets during the fiveweek drive will attend a bowling party. Schamber's students, who sold more than \$2,700 in tickets, won a pizza party as the class with the highest ticket sales for the pre-Smorgasbord drive.

The Smorgasbord, which raises money for school supplies and needs, will feature:

• An Oriental Booth with shrimp foo yung, teriyaki chicken, fortune cookies and, new this year, egg rolls

• The American Booth with smoked beef brisket and cheesv potatoes

• The Basque Booth featuring chorizos and makailoa, a codfish dish

• The Salad Booth with coleslaw, jello, pasta, bean, fruit and Oriental cabbage salads

• The Dessert Booth featuring the curiously named "Robert Redford" dessert

• The European Booth

• The Bread Booth

According to gift basket cochair Michelle Larzelier, the basket silent auction is trying to top last winter's event.

"2008 was one of the highest years for the silent auction, if not the highest," Larzelier said. "I'm excited to see what 2009

will bring."

Baskets will range from car care to sweets to kitchen themes. she said. The first- through fifthgrade classes, school clubs and the school district's lunch crew are among the groups that contribute baskets.

Last year's auction brought in \$2,049, Larzelier said. The top bid went to a basket created by HES' first-graders (\$275), followed by the second-grade basket (\$200) and a basket put together by the FFA welding class (\$180).

"The welding class will contribute some of their beautiful creations that we always look forward to," Larzelier said.

Nash said that the money earned by each bid is returned to the class or group that made the basket and is used to buy supplies. All items in the gift baskets are donated, meaning the first-graders had a net profit of \$275 for their efforts a year ago.

On Friday, Homedale Chamber of Commerce president Gavin Parker issued a plea for volunteers to wash dishes between 2:30 p.m.

Smorgasbord ticket top sellers for this year are, from left, Morgan Nash (\$1,560), Kyler Landa (\$321), Devon Fisher (\$1,025.50) and smorgasbord chair, Heidi Nash. Each of these top three sellers won an iPod.

and 4 p.m. at the Smorgasbord.

"It is actually a very enjoyable time and a chance for us to give back to the community," Parker said in an e-mail to Chamber members. "As it's Valentines Day, bring your spouse or significant other and we'll put them to work as well."

Longtime Bread Booth chair

Patti Syme echoed the importance of helping out.

"There are some families that have been involved for generations," she said. "The exciting thing about the Smorgasbord is the community involvement and camaraderie."

— JPB

Young artists step into Smorgasbord spotlight

Artwork has come a long way from days of serving as

place mats

For nearly as long as there has been fine eating at the Homedale International Smorgasbord, there has been fine art to help patrons with their digestion.

Neither of the current show's organizers - Katy Belanger at Homedale High School nor Shannon Johnson at the elementary — knows when the idea for the show began.

"I'm unsure about how long the actual art show has been a part of the Smorgasbord, but students have been creating art for the Smorgasbord since I was in elementary school," said Johnson, who now has children of her own making their way through the Homedale School District.

"I remember searching until I found 'my space' and then dragging my parents with me to

elementary, middle school and high school artists have their own gallery adjacent to the elementary school dining hall. And the art is much more sophisticated than coloring on a piece of white butcher paper.

Belanger said it's fitting that the art show has evolved into something more than a colorful distraction from the international flavors of the Smorgasbord.

"(This is) an opportunity to make the community aware of the talent and dedication of the students in our district, illustrating the importance of fine arts in education," she said.

"It is an opportunity to promote our programs and an opportunity for the students to achieve recognition for their art."

Recognition comes in the form of more than just the marveled expressions of art lovers as they mill through exhibits of threedimensional work as well as pieces utilizing mixed media, graphite, acrylic paint, ink, water color, colored pencil and even photography. "I love to see and hear reactions from people who realize so many students are quite creative and artistically talented," Johnson said. "People always seem to be surprised at how good the art is, These days, the Homedale and I love to give my students the recognition they deserve."

Former HHS teacher Brenda Paxton, who now teaches at Nampa's Idaho Arts Charter School, will judge the artwork. Although adult entries are allowed, only the student entries are eligible for cash prizes and ribbons. There will be a grand prize winner as well as awards for first through third places. Johnson also said that honorable mention ribbons will be handed out for each age group and media division.

The winners will be announced Saturday morning when the Smorgasbord opens.

Entries must be submitted by 10:30 a.m. Friday. Belanger said the show averages about 360

entries each year.

Belanger said that the explosion in the popularity of the school district's art program triggered a change in the show's policy. The adult entries are purely for exhibition now.

"So now, the exhibit is focused exclusively on the kids," she said.

The children take an active role in producing the show, too. After the best work from the students is chosen, the pieces are matted or mounted for professional presentation. Student artists also are assigned time slots throughout the day of the show to watch over the exhibits and answer any questions visitors might have.

Belanger is hopeful that the

district's art program — the inspiration for the art show that has become a staple for the traditional February fund-raising meal — will remain intact in the face of budget cuts.

"Students need to have an opportunity for self expression and the chance to demonstrate and practice creative thinking and problem-solving skills in an environment that encourages students to take a risk and try something new and different," she said.

"For many of the students that participate in this exhibit, art has become a passion. I can't imagine what it would be like to live without a passion."

— JPB



show them my masterpiece."

When Johnson was in elementary school in the 1970s, the students' artwork was covered in clear plastic and used as place mats for the Smorgasbord dining tables.





Folks worth knowing in Owyhee County

MARYLIN BOSS, THREE CREEK One-room school teacher

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



"She's a very qualified teacher. If she cared any more for those kids, I don't know what we'd do with her. She's a good teacher; well-versed. It's an all-around good situation."

> - Harlan Mink Three Creek superintendent



Visions from a one-room schoolhouse

Top: Three Creek School teacher Marylin Boss goes over a lesson with her one and only student, Kodee Severe. Above: Photos of events and field trips by the schoolchildren cover a chalkboard inside the Three Creek classroom.



Instructor wears several hats for tiny SE Owyhee district

A quick glance at any of the myriad Web sites touting school districts gives you an idea of how important Marylin Boss is to Three Creek School.

She's listed as principal and administrator on those sites. She's also the teacher and school secretary.

She might as well be the security guard, too, because she lives less than 50 feet from the school.

"We have a real good situation with her," Three Creek district superintendent and school board chair Harlan Mink said. "She's a very qualified teacher. If she cared any more for those kids, I don't know what we'd do with her. She's a good teacher; well-versed. It's an all-around good situation."

Her dedication is evident. Boss lives on her own in Three Creek during the school year while her husband farms in Hollister. She does go home about twice a month on the weekends.

In June 2007, she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer and was given a dire prognosis. But after six surgeries in nine days and two months of being very ill, she was back in school by fall.

She had another surgery in January 2008, missing a month of school, but now she is cancer-free.

When the community found out about Boss' illness, visits, cards, phone calls, dinners and gifts soon poured in.

"Let me put it this way: I felt loved and appreciated," Boss said.

Boss, who has taught in larger districts in Idaho and five other states, has been teaching the children of the ranching community in southeast Owyhee County for six years.

She came to Three Creek after nursing her mother through the final stages of Alzheimer's then returning to College of Southern Idaho to update an education degree she earned from The College of Idaho in 1972. "I love being able to teach the kids," Boss said. "You don't hold them back at the age group they are. If they can fly, you let them fly. If they need help, you help them. education would be stupendous. It would be marvelous."

In many respects, Boss is like a mother hen. The school accommodates kindergarten through eighth grade, and then the students embark on their high school careers in far-flung places like Filer, Castleford and, for some, even Twin Falls. And usually when one sibling goes, they all go.

Boss said that when the older children in a family graduate from Three Creek, it's not feasible for the families to send their children in two different directions each day.

"I've lost two families when the older gets to eighth grade," Boss said. "There's one in Castleford and one in Filer."

The veteran teacher said that the job in a schoolhouse a couple miles from the nearest town and about 20 miles north of the Idaho-Nevada border also has advanced her education.

"I've learned so much out here, not just the teaching duties," she said.

The 36-year education veteran has become versed in the work of a district secretary, too, filling out transportation forms and attendance forms and dealing with the state Department of Education.

She's also the public relations officer for the school. Boss contacts The Owyhee Avalanche to make sure her honor roll is published. Each fall and winter, she's drumming up turkey recipes and letters to Santa Claus for the county newspaper's two special sections. She also shows up quite frequently in Lola Blossom's Three Creek column in the Avalanche.

Although it may seem like she's dealing with all the administrative headaches of a school on her own, Boss is well aware that there are plenty of hard-working folks in this rural area who chip in whenever asked.

COMPLETE MEAL FOR TWO Bacon Wrapped Top Sirloin Steak & Shrimp Combo cup of homemade soup or salad choice of potato, veggie, homemade rolls, Chocolate Truffle Layer Cake A bottle of Champagne or Sparkling Cider \$33.98 PER COUPLE Please call ahead to reserve your table 337-3757



"They chip in and help each other. It's wonderful."

In fact, Boss promotes the idea of the one-room schoolhouse as a way to improve the results coming out of the public school system. "I prefer the smaller school," she said. "If everybody went back to a one-room school, the Even families who no longer have children at Three Creek help out with fundraisers and other events.

It's that community awareness and close-knit atmosphere that Boss loves. She's taught in larger districts in Gooding, Twin Falls, Filer and five other states, but she's thrilled to teach at tiny Three Creek.

"It's a whole different world out here," she said. "Children learn to entertain themselves not with video games and TV, but with hideand-seek, climbing trees, racing and playing by using their imaginations, not store-bought items."

— JPB

Chefs share details, not secrets, of their preparation

Volunteers will serve up food from around the world Saturday at the 48th annual Homedale International Smorgasbord at the elementary school.

The event, which runs from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., attracts hundreds of diners throughout the day to feast on dishes made in the community, some for decades, specifically for the Smorgasbord.

Some of the volunteers, or booth chairs, have the Smorgasbord in their blood because they have been involved for years, or their parents were. Most volunteers have children in the local school system and the service of others has out-lived their children's Homedale School District educational careers.

Not much has changed about the booths at the Smorgasbord. There are still long hours of preparation and set up all in anticipation of the hundreds of hungry folks who will mill past hot dishes offering cultural favorites at the Oriental Booth, the Basque Booth, the European Booth, the American Booth and the Mexican Booth. For side dishes, you have the Bread Booth and the Salad Booth. And, of course, no one seems to be able to resist the Dessert Booth and something called "Robert Redford", according to this year's Smorgasbord chair, Heidi Nash, who is sharing the organizational tasks with her husband, Ryan.

"They have a dessert that is coveted and goes like gangbusters every year," Heidi Nash said of booth chairs Tracy Fisher and Cami Lane.

Here's a look at some of the booths for this year's Smorgasbord:

Oriental booth

Chair: Lori Emry (Kubosumi), second year. She's been involved with the Smorgasbord on and off since stretching back to her days attending Homedale Elementary.

Children in school district: Austin, a senior at HHS; Deena, a freshman

Dishes: Shrimp foo yung, teriyaki chicken, fortune cookies and egg roll

Preparation details: The vegetables for the shrimp foo yung will be prepared at Homedale Middle School this



Jello')," Emry said. "We are still preparing the chicken and egg foo yung, but the kaki mochi is very labor-intensive. So based on that, I suspect today's menu has evolved because of preparation time and a reduced volunteer base."

Memory of the Smorgasbord: "I remember hand-cutting kaki mochi for hours when I was young. We used to set aside a Saturday at the elementary school to make enough for the Smorgasbord, and it took about a dozen people or more to help. People who have come to the Smorgasbord for years when it was being served still ask for it today. It is still my favorite."

Why she got involved: "I guess it's my time especially since those of my parents' generation have taken the lead for so long. Why did I get involved? My family is part of the community and the money will benefit those who attend the Homedale School District. Without volunteers, this event wouldn't exist."

American booth

Chairs: Brian and Melissa Morris, Sherri and Clint Romriell, fourth year for both couples

Children in school district: Morris — Braxton, 14, eighthgrader at HMS; Kerigan, 12, sixth-grader at HMS; Romriell — Amber, 16, sophomore at HHS; Heather, 13, eighth-grader at HMS; Craig, 9, fourth-grader at HES

Dishes: Morris — smoked beef brisket; Romriell — cheesy potatoes (also called funeral potatoes)

Preparation details, beef: Melissa Morris said anywhere from three to five people will rub the beef with Brian's seasoning recipe. Brian then "does two allnighters", getting up every hour to pile on fruit wood and stoke the fire on the smoker, which can hold up to 400 pounds of beef at once. While a total of 400 pounds will be prepared for the big day, Brian usually does about half at a time, his wife said. ... In recent years, the meat has been obtained from Owyhee Meat Co., the Owyhee Cattlemen's Association and Wal-Mart, Melissa said. **Preparation details, potatoes:** One hundred pounds of potatoes are used to make the dish that basically is scalloped potatoes, Sherri said. ... About 40 pounds

of cheese donated by Idahobased Glanbia Foods and 60 pints of sour cream donated by Homedale dentist Dr. William Jeppe and Homedale chiropractor Dr. Edward Perkins also go into the recipe. ... About 60 pans of potatoes will be prepared Friday morning at the HMS cafeteria, a process involving family and friends that takes three to four hours, Sherri said. The mixture is refrigerated until the cooking starts at about 9 a.m. Saturday.

More on the chairs: Brian and Melissa have been married 21 years. ... Brian is originally from Oklahoma, and Melissa hails from the New Plymouth area; both have lived in Homedale since 1987.

... Sherri and Clint served as cochairs for the 2003 Smorgasbord, and followed that up with running the show the following year. They've been involved with the American Booth ever since.

Thank the Food Network: Melissa said her husband has developed his rub recipe from "watching hours and hours of whatever the barbecue channel is." "Every time I come home, he's got it on, saying 'I'm so hungry', and I'm like, 'Quit watching that show!'"

Basque booth

L

Chairs: John and Gloria Lejardi, 22 years

Children in school district: Both have graduated. The Lejardis' children — Miren and Yasone — used to help prepare dishes for the booth along with their schoolmates Tina and Tristan Uria and Michelle and Amaia Larzelier. Gloria said the girls' not-so-neat work is her best memory from the Smorgasbord. "They laughed and teased and had flour everywhere!" Gloria said. Now, Esteban and Michael Lejardi — the sons of future booth chairs Steve and Margaret Lejardi — have stepped up. "I have noticed they are much neater in the flouring process," Gloria said.

Dishes: Chorizos and makailoa, a codfish dish

Preparation details: There will be 200 pounds of chorizos, a pork sausage seasoned with garlic, salt and peppers. There will be 160 pounds of makailoa (floured cod with pimientos).

Stepping down but not away: Gloria said this will be the final year as chairs for her and John. "We will be working with Steve and Margaret Lejardi, showing them the ropes this year so they can take over the reins next year and hopefully many years to come." ... John and Gloria will continue helping out where needed. ... "We are grateful to our family, friends and the countless volunteers for always helping us make our small part a success."

Salad booth

Chair: Melanie Harper, eighth year ("I think," she said.)

Children in school district: Megan, 16, junior at HHS; Kenny, 13, eighth-grader at HMS

Dishes: Coleslaw, jello, pasta, bean, fruit and Oriental cabbage salads

Preparation details: Teachers provide the different salads, Harper said. ... Both the cabbage salad and the coleslaw are made at the school, with about 12 pounds of cut cabbage being used.

Past Smorgasbord experience: A kindergarten teacher at HES, Harper served as the chair on the 40th dinner in 2001, and turned around and helped out again the following year after the house of that year's chairs was destroyed by fire days before the Smorgasbord. ... Harper also was

instrumental in starting the gift basket fundraiser project.

Bread booth

Chair: Patti Syme, eighth year

Children who attended Homedale schools: Alyssa, 1997 HHS grad; Bryant; Crysta; Dayton, 2008 HHS grad

Dishes: Sweet breads ("tons of varieties," she said.), French bread (50 loaves of which are donated by Paul's Market each year), Basque bread ("Which just a few who know how to make it donate," Patti said.) and butter donated by an area farmer

Preparation details: "The French bread is used for garlic bread, which is prepared and heated Saturday morning. The rest (of the bread) is made in lots of area homes and delivered throughout the day on Saturday."

Past Smorgasbord experience: Syme has been involved with the Smorgasbord since she and her husband, Scott, moved to the area in 1991. ... The Symes got their start by serving food and cleaning up. ... "Then in 1996 we co-chaired with some great charis, Gregg and Randi Garrett." ... When the Symes chaired the next year, they dealt with the retirement of five booth chairs and the original co-chairs. "Marc and Val Asumendi stepped up graciously and we had the most successful year financially that ever happened," Patti said.

Looking ahead, looking back: Patti, who took over the Bread Booth from Randi Garrett, is preparing Kathy Deal and Kari Brown to take over as new booth chairs. She also cited Jeanne Clark for her help making "hundreds of calls for me getting workers and bread donations."

Attempts were unsuccessful to get more details on the Mexican Booth from chair Mary Villarreal, the Dessert Booth from chairs Tracy Fisher and Cami Lane, and the European Booth chaired by Wendy Vaughan.

— JPB

Expires: 2/14/2009 Valentine's Day is

week, three or four days before the Smorgasbord. Then, the dish is mixed and cooked Saturday during the Smorgasbord. ... The teriyaki chicken will be cleaned and pre-cooked at Homedale Elementary School three days before the Smorgasbord and then completed the day of the event. ... The egg roll, which is new this year, will be prepared the day of the Smorgasbord on site.

Reason for the specific dishes: "When the Smorgasbord started 48 years ago, I believe the Oriental Booth served chow mein, teriyaki chicken, egg foo yung, kaki mochi (a deep-fried sesame cracker coated with soy sauce) and finger jello (which my classmates nicknamed 'Japanese



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Owyhee Basin water outlook mixed for 2009 season

Despite a dry spell through the end of January, numbers provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) seem to indicate that the Owyhee Basin is on track for replacement of surface water in the upcoming year. What may be an issue is the impact on reservoir levels from last spring's poor runoff.

While snowpack lags slightly behind historical averages, with the current depth at 95 percent of normal, the overall precipitation for the year is at 108 percent. The precipitation to date is ahead of the curve, with the deposit of 157 percent of last season's totals at this same time last year, according to the most recent NRCS figures.

If snowfall is generally looking fairly reliable, reservoir levels are not. According to the NRCS, most of the reservoirs south of the Snake River are well below average due to poor runoff last spring. Owyhee Reservoir is currently at 29 percent of capacity, with 234 cubic feet per second of water entering, and 27 cfs exiting the outflow. With just over 200,000 acre-feet of water in storage, the reservoir is well below its yearly average of 400,000-plus acre-feet in February.

The shortfall isn't unexpected, Brian Sauer of the Bureau of Reclamation's Boise office said when asked about the reservoir's status. The Owyhee Basin is a case of feast or famine, and rarely logs a "normal" year, he said. The extremely dry 2006, with just a third of average runoff, lowered the two-year-capacity reservoir seriously. Last year's runoff, about 90 percent of normal, kept pace but didn't recharge the lake's holding capacity, he explained.

With weather forecasts at present calling for fairly normal precipitation throughout the rest of the season, the reservoir should be in good shape come the beginning of the year, he said.

The latest Idaho water supply outlook report from the USDA shows that warmer than normal temperatures extending into December have prevented the snowpack in many areas from reaching its usual seasonal levels.

"The new water year started with below-normal precipitation falling in October across the state," the NRCS reported. "November faired slightly better with amounts ranging from 85 to 105 percent of average. After an early December dry spell, the weather gates opened allowing storm after storm to roll in from the Pacific Northwest. December mountain precipitation did not reach record-high levels, but ranged from average in the Idaho Panhandle Region to 160 percent of average in the basins south of the Snake River.

"Precipitation since the water year started Oct. 1 ranged from a high of 123 percent in the Southside Snake basins (which includes Owyhee Basin) to 83 percent in the Panhandle region."

The snow on the ground, as of Jan. 1, accounted for just 30

percent of the average April snowpack. Snowfall will have to continue in the higher elevations to meet the yearly norm. Scant fall rains in many areas failed to saturate soils or produce runoff, which "means an additional 2 to 5 inches of snow melt will be absorbed by soils in the spring before rivers rise," the report said.

Sauer also stressed the importance of spring rains in forcing quantities of runoff, especially from mid-elevation snowpack of the sort that drains into the Owyhee Basin.

Whether there will be enough runoff this year to help recover some of the carryover shortfall in reservoirs is still a question that will only be answered by time.

- MML

Three agencies respond to Homedale High School call

Wednesday afternoon saw units from the Homedale Police Department, Owyhee County Sheriff's Office and the Wilder Police Department respond to a call at Homedale High School. Wilder's drug dog was present for the investigation.

One parent present stated that their child had been suspended for five days, though the school did not release specifics.

No details on the event have been released by law enforcement at this time, and the incident is under investigation. Homedale

Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller said the call was in response to a "suspicious circumstances" report.

Just who is investigating the undefined situation depends upon who is asked, to add to the confusion

Two sources with the Homedale

police department have indicated that the Sheriff's Office is investigating the event, possibly due to a potential for conflict of interest. Sheriff Crandall responded to a faxed inquiry as to the situation with "this is a Homedale incident."

Principal Mike Williams said the call was the result of a "safety concern" and did not release further information, other than to add that more than one student was involved in the events that resulted in the three agencies responding.

Former Owyhee resident's plea in Ada kidnap expected

Danny Ray Watson, Homedale High School grad and resident of Boise, appeared in Ada County Court on Wednesday for his arraignment on charges of attempted kidnapping and battery. He will appear

McLaughlin to enter his plea.

Watson, 39, allegedly tried to take Celia Corona's 2-year-old child on Jan. 4 in Meridian. Corona was preparing to put

again on Feb. 18 before judge Michael her child in the seat of her vehicle outside her home, near the intersection of Linder Road and Cherry Lane. Watson, whom Corona said she had never met, reportedly demanded the car and her child.

Witnesses, including Corona's father Manuel, attempted to restrain the wouldbe kidnapper, who broke free. Watson was arrested two hours later a few blocks from the site of the incident.

Homedale reps for Girls State may be stranded by lack of funds

With its 63-year history, Idaho Syringa Girls State has been an American Legion tradition though this year the program is having serious issues as far as funding is concerned.

Linda Rice, who, with Carolyn Grooms, has organized the Legion Auxiliary's support for the event, is worried that Homedale may only be able to send one representative this year.

"If we don't see some help soon, we may be in trouble," she said.

The program, which allows high

school girls to learn the methods and means of government through a student-run state legislature, has seen three to five girls attend from Homedale each year. Students learn about the machinery and interplay of local, county and state government.

With the entry fee rising to \$300 this year, the Auxiliary will only be able to send a single girl without help from the community.

Organizers are looking for ways to plan fundraisers, but the clock is ticking, as fees must be paid by March 15, Rice said.

"We're looking for help to get the kids there," she added.

Those wishing to donate can contact Rice at 337-5783 or Grooms at 249-6021. Donations may also be mailed to the American Legion Auxiliary, P.O. Box 1056, Homedale ID, 83628.

Raptors to be focus of Bruneau and Beyond talk

Bureau of Land Management Ranger Barbara Forderhase will give a talk on raptors and the Snake River Birds of Prey National

SHOP

Conservation Area during the free noontime Bruneau and Beyond luncheon at the Bruneau Valley Library, 37023 Ruth St.

To ensure enough food is made, RSVP to library director Clara Morris at (208) 845-2131 or (208) 845-2345.



Water users honors S. Board worker

A South Board of Control employee recently was honored with an Outstanding Employee Award by the Idaho Water Users Association.

South Board maintenance worker Gary Wroten, a Homedale

during the IWUA's 71st annual convention in Boise last month.

"We are delighted to honor these individuals, all of whom have demonstrated outstanding service to various segments of the Idaho water user resident, was one of five people community," IWUA executive director Norm Semanko said in

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Page 13A

HHS student spotlight

Homedale High School has begun a new program recognizing students for their contribution to the school and community:

Chance Bohr

Parent — Jeff Bohr and Lori Davies

Activities — Volunteer with the St. Luke's Women's Fitness Celebration with family; member of Homedale National Honor Society and recently helped with the local Chrsitmas canned food drive.

School accomplishments — I had a perfect attendance my freshman and junior years. I was a leader for Homedale High's Super Stars of Knowledge. I helped last year's graduation by supervising the sound system for the gym.

Thanks — To my family for always supporting my decisions. To my friends who helped pass the time through these past four years with fun and happiness. Thank my teachers for opening my mind and filling it with knowledge.

What they're saying about Chance:

"Chance is a very quiet young man but don't let that fool you.



I have had Chance for 2 years in my vocational classes and he has a very wry sense of humor and the wheels are always turning. He is a bright and talented young man in my drafting class. He plans on attending college and will do well at whatever he attempts."

> — Mike Greeley Industrial Arts teacher

Kelsey Thatcher

Parents — Mark and DeAnn Thatcher

Activities — School band and school drama club

School accomplishments — National Honor Society historian, band president and drama club secretary

Future plans — Go to college at BYU-Idaho and major in special education/elementary education to become a teacher. Get marrid to a good guy and have a good family.

Thanks — To God and my wonderful family for always being there for me; to every friend I've ever had for their support; and the Band and Drama kids for all of the good times.

What they're saying about Kelsey:

"Kelsey is a ray of sunshine ... she

What they're saying about both students:

"If I had the ability to choose which students came into my classroom I would pick students like Chance Bohr and Kelsey Thatcher. These students just flat get the job done. They are punctual, dependable, self- starters, hard workers, caring, consistent and polite need I say more. These two students make teaching a joy and a classroom full the students like them would be a dream come true."

— Dennis Ankeny

Marsing council to split meeting

The Marsing City Council will hold its normal meeting, in an abbreviated form, at 7 p.m. today at the Marsing city hall.

In the absence of Mayor Keith Green, councilman Tony Purtell will convene the meeting, though the council will limit actions to paying bills, approving the minutes of the last meeting, and finalizing the rezoning of the property occupied by the Bureau of Land Management building — adjoining the Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center — as commercial. Whether or not a representative from the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office will make a monthly law enforcement report is not known at this time.

At 6 p.m. next Wednesday, an additional meeting will be held. During the follow-up meeting J-U-B Engineering will address the mayor and council on the state of the Marsing sewer project, city engineer Amy Woodruff will give her report on the water project; and the council will be asked to approve the modification of code within the city with the reorganization of several common

misdemeanor nuisance offenses as infractions.

Both meetings are open to the public.

Homedale

The Homedale City Council meeting, scheduled for 6 p.m. today at City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming Ave., will be relatively routine.

In addition to the standard departmental reports, councilmen will hear from Homedale Youth Sports, Inc., as well as from a city resident regarding a property easement.

Buy Idaho boss to visit Chamber

Buy Idaho, Inc., Executive Director Dale Peterson will visit the Homedale Chamber of Commerce monthly luncheon Thursday.

The meeting begins at noon at the Owyhee Lanes Restaurant.

Chamber president Gavin Parker said Frontier Communications will sponsor this month's luncheon and a representative will talk about current company promotions. The Chamber also will be recruiting dishwashers for the Homedale International Smorgasbord.

According to a press release issued by Western Alliance for Economic Development coordinator Mike Pollard, Peterson will discuss the "Buy Idaho" concept of Idaho business, industry, education and agriculture.

Buy Idaho is a non-profit association that receives no tax money support; but is a membership driven association of 1,163 member businesses.

Peterson has served as Buy Idaho's executive director for more than 10 years. Raised on a dairy farm in Nyssa, Ore., he spent 40 years in radio with KCID AM and FM in Caldwell. He began his career as a disc jockey while at The College of Idaho and he eventually owned the stations until selling them in 1996. He is still involved in agriculture.

He served at president of the Idaho Radio and Television As-

sociation; and was presented the "Lifetime Achievement Award" from the Idaho State Broadcasters Association. In 1996, he was honored during "Dale Peterson Day" in Caldwell, with a key to the city.

Peterson has served on many community and public service boards, including Salvation Army, Caldwell Chamber of Commerce, College of Idaho Capitol Campaigns and the Idaho Community Foundation. He currently serves on the board of directors of Murdoch Finance; Treasure Valley Idaho Advisory Board of Zions Bank of Idaho; the Home Federal Bank Foundation Board of Directors; and Board of Directors of West Valley Medical Center.





not only bright and conscientious, she is overwhelmingly positive about the world and her place in it. She has a ripple effect of optimism."

– Melinda Lathrop English teacher

Business teacher

Child reading program starts at Eastern Owyhee library

The Eastern Owyhee County Library will kick off a six-week parent-child reading program Tuesday.

Every Child Ready to Read will be held each Tuesday from 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m., and is open to children 6 years old and younger and their parents.

Library director Kathy Chick said the program, which will run through March 31, is funded by the Idaho Commission for Libraries. Activities help children prepare to learn to read. Chick said the program will be held each Tuesday except March 24, which is Spring Break in the Bruneau-Grand View School District.

The library is located at 520 Boise Ave., in Grand View. For more information, call (208) 834-2785.

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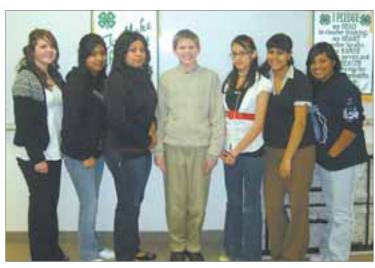


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Marsing kids meet 'Teacher in Space'

Marsing children met Barbara Morgan on Jan. 30. Morgan, an Idaho teacher who flew on a NASA mission, was in Boise for the Engineer for a Day event. Clockwise from left are Justin Ineck, son of Jason and Kelly Ineck, and Logan and Regan Stansell, children of Eric and Wendy Stansell. Justin belongs to Wilson Butte 4-H, and Logan is with Silver Spurs 4-H. Both are in Aerospace Adventures. Photo by Wendy Stansell



Owyhee County KYG delegates tabbed From left: Abby Clay, Christina Gonzalez, Jessica Gonzalez, Nicholas Munson, Wendy Prado, Lily Hurtado and Adriana Albor will represent Owyhee 4-H at the Know Your Government summit this weekend in Boise.. Submitted photo

Owyhee youth ready to learn government

Seven Owyhee County youth will be among more than 180 4-H members attending the 22nd annual Know Your Government gathering at Boise during Presidents' Day weekend Saturday through Monday.

The event gives youths, most of them 13 or 14 years old, the chance to learn about the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government.

Owyhee County participants will include Abby Clay, Christina Gonzalez, Jessica Gonzalez, Nicholas Munson, Wendy Prado, Lily Hurtado, and Adriana Albor.

Participants will hear from top elected officials. Idaho Supreme Court Justice Joel Horton will address participants. Idaho Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter and First Lady Lori Otter have also been invited to participate.

Youths act as legislators, judges and reporters during the event. State and local officials and others address them during the gathering, which is open to students in 8th and 9th grades.

4-H members will continue the KYG tradition of mock committee meetings and mock trials, breakfast with legislators and judges.

OCHS ready to plan field trips

The Owyhee County Historical Society will be holding a field trip planning meeting on Saturday, Feb. 21 at the Sandbar Restaurant, 18 Sandbar Ave., in Marsing beginning at noon.

Anyone interested in helping to organize, lead or share ideas for this schedule of field trips is invited to attend the no-host luncheon. For more information, call 495-2537.



Mark your calendars! Valentine's Day Saturday, February 14 5:00 to 9:00 pm Magguerade Valentine's New York Steak & **Shrimp Dinner** Music with Baked Potato, With DJ James Soup or Salad Saturday Night, February 14 ^{\$30}/couple Saturday, February 28th 9:00 pm - 1:00 am 8 pm - 1 am Reservations Recommended, but not necessary **Drink Specials! DJ James!**

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Sheriff's briefs

Feb. 2, 1:09 p.m.: Wanted subject: warrant was served, out of county. No details on subject, or nature of the warrant.

Feb. 2, 3:15 p.m.: Hit and run, 3704 S. Frontier Lane, Homedale.

Feb. 2, 1:56 p.m.: Prisoner transport, out of county.

Feb. 2, 9:28 p.m.: Battery reported on Well Road in Marsing.

Feb. 4, 12 p.m.: Agency assist at Homedale High School.

Feb. 5, 6:20 a.m.: Report entered on shoplifters, Snake River Mart.

Feb. 6, 6:47 p.m.: Accident (property damage), Idaho

highway 78 and Old Bruneau Highway, Marsing.

Feb. 7, 3:43 p.m.: Accident (property damage), Market Road, Homedale.

Feb. 8, 12:17 a.m.: Disorderly conduct at the Last Chance Saloon in Homedale. Homedale Ambulance, OCSO, posse and Homedale PD responded.

Feb. 8, 12:16 p.m.: Petty theft, Mule Springs Road, Homedale.

Contacted Thursday for context on some of the week's early calls, the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office had not responded by deadline.

Eastern Owyhee auctions planned

Eastern Owyhee County will be Bruneau Boosters the site of two benefit auctions in the next two weeks.

The Grand View Lions Club's annual raffle and auction is set for Saturday inside the Grand View Elementary School gymnasium, 407 1st St., in Grand View.

Lions Club members will serve lunch prior to the 1 p.m. start to the auction. Baker Auctioneers will run the proceedings.

A raffle for a 12-gauge shotgun and a barbecue grill will be held.

Some of the items on the block for the auction include livestock, hay and straw, furniture, household products, petroleum products, cakes and pies and miscellaneous articles.

The Bruneau Boosters Club's annual auction/fundraiser is set for the Legion Hall on Feb. 21.

The event includes a free potato bar and salad bar at 5:30 p.m. The auction starts at 6:30 p.m.

A live auction and silent auction will run concurrently with items donated items on the block such as hay, produce, oil products, fertilizer application, and gift certificates for portraits, meals, gravel, road grader time, newspaper subscriptions. Gift baskets, cakes, toys, quilts and crafts also will be on the block.

Donations can be dropped off from noon to 4 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 20, or from 10 a.m. until auction time on Saturday, Feb. 21.

Garrett lands on CSI fall Dean's List

Homedale High School graduate Hailee Garrett has earned a spot on the College of Southern Idaho Dean's List for the fall semester. Garrett is the daughter of Gregg

and Randee Garrett. Weather

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Feb. 4	49	15	.00		
Feb. 5	no re	eading	taken		
Feb. 6	42	24	.00		
Feb. 7	no re	eading	taken		
Feb. 8	no re	eading	taken		
Feb. 9	58	22	.00		



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Monthly health plan premiums starting at



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Call SecureHorizons now to reserve a seat at a community meeting or schedule an in-home appointment. The open enrollment deadline is March 31.

1-800-875-5148 (TTY: 711) 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. local time, 7 days a week.

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A sales representative will be present with information and applications. For accommodation of persons with special needs at sales meetings, please call 1-800-875-5148 (TTY: 711), 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. local time, 7 days a week.

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Shasta Soda 12 Pack	\$299 ea.	Betty Crocker Brownie Mix 19-8-26.7 oz.	\$259 ea.	Western Family Premium Ice Cream 56 oz.	\$379 ea.	Western Family Duo Cookies 17-18 oz.	\$269 ea.
Arrowhead Water Spring Water 24pk .5 Itr Bottles	\$ 5 99 ea.	Betty Crocker Cookie Mix 17.5 oz.	\$209 ea.	Western Family Frozen Vegetable Blends 16 oz.	\$ 1 59 ea.	Western Family Peg Candy 5-9 oz.	\$119 ea.
Chef Boyrdee Pasta 14.75-15 oz.	\$ 1 39 ea.	Western Family Apple Pie Filling (Cherry Filling \$2.59)	\$ 1 89 ea.	Western Family Frozen Waffles 10 ct.	\$189 ea.	Kleenex Facial Tissue 80-200 ct.	\$1 99 ea.
Western Family Wide Egg & Presto Noodles 12 oz.	\$ 1 29 ea.	Classico Pasta Sauce 15-24 oz.	\$289 ea.	Marie Callender's Apple & Cherry Frozen Pies	\$ <mark>6</mark> 49 ea.	Lysol Spray Cleaners 22-24 oz.	\$ <mark>3</mark> 49 ea.
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