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First subcommittee meeting reveals possible solution to county's concern



VOL. 28, NO. 49

75 CENTS

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2013

Santa Claus arrives in style



Snow dumps on Saturday's festivities

Above: Santa Claus waves at a young child as he rides in a convertible during Saturday's Homedale holiday parade. Right: From left, Owyhee County Assessor Brett Endicott, District 2 Commissioner Kelly Aberasturi and Sheriff Perry Grant toss candy from the Owyhee County 150th anniversary float that was voted the top entry. See Pages 13-14 for more parade coverage. Photos by Karen Bresnahan



Ex-SBOC employee charged with stealing thousands in fuel

Allegations force change in fuel card policy

A 53-year-old former South Board of Control employee faces a Dec. 23 arraignment on a charge that he stole thousands of dollars in fuel from the agency during a span of more than six years.

The transactions with which he was charged apparently began two years after he voluntarily ended his employment with SBOC.



Donald Robison

— See Charged, page 5

Homedale public works chief on leave

City to pay Bauer through June; Smith takes over

The City of Homedale has a new public works supervisor.

Larry Bauer, the man who held the position for more than 25 years, posted news that he accepted an early retirement to his Facebook page Thursday

night after his final official day

"I was given the opportunity to take a six-month early retirement, and I gladly accept the offer," Bauer wrote.

"I will miss working for all the great people in this city, but I have a lot of travel and play to do yet and am ready to get started."

Essentially, Bauer said Monday,

— See Leave, page 5

Bruneau's bids for bikes pays off

Thursday ceremony celebrates success in nationwide contest

promoting its cause, Bruneau Elementary School has been selected as one of two nationwide winners in an adopt-a-bike program.

Because of their successful campaign of marketing and promotion through posters and

After spending most of the fall Facebook posts, the elementary school's student body will receive nearly 70 bicycles from the USS Foundation.

> Each year, the non-profit organization mounts the adopt-a-bike program to help underprivileged children. Kathryn E. Cunningham/Canal Point

Elementary in Florida is the other school that will receive a shipment of bicycles.

Bruneau's students will receive their bicycles in a ceremony from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Thursday at the school, according to Bruneau fourth- and fifth-grade teacher Brandi Lisle.

Schools invited to enter the contest were required to created

— See Bruneau, page 5



Ruby Lisle and Moses pitch for bikes in Bruneau. Submitted photo



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Santa holds 6-month-ol Carly Pate.

The second annual Santa Brunch took place on Saturday following the holiday parade at the Homedale Elementary School.

The school came alive with activity for the event, which was attended by more than 100 people. Parent Teacher Organization president Jamie Kraupp said the event brought in about \$5,500.

Families going to the brunch were directed to the cafeteria, while a separate waiting line was set up in the gymnasium, where children waited to meet Santa and have



Santa Brunch brings in the crowd at Homedale Elementary School

their pictures taken.

Various school groups set up tables in the gym for fundraisers, and tables full of gift baskets and other items were sold in a silent auction.

A Christmas tree was decorated with bird nests made by third -raders and native song sticks made by fourthgraders.

In the Homedale Chamber of Commerce's Santa Bucks drawing held at noon, 40 people won \$10 certificates, which can be used at local businesses by Dec. 31.

Chamber of Commerce members each contributed \$20, which was transferred into two Santa Bucks. A total of \$440 was given away during the drawing.

The grand prize winner of the \$100 gas card donated by Matteson's Owyhee Motor Sales was Robin Helmbolt.

Other winners in the Santa Bucks drawing will be contacted via telephone this week.

Chamber of Commerce president Gavin Parker said he was pleased with the turnout for the parade and also the brunch, especially because the weather was cold.



 $Daniel\ Krause,\ Joseph\ Jett\ and\ Rachael\ Jett\ \ have\ photos\ with\ Santa\ taken.$



Stephanie Garcia and Carina Purdom come up with ideas for selling school shirts at the Santa Brunch fundraiser.

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Photos and story by Karen Bresnahan



Power line panel generates hope

Gateway West power line in Owyhee County seemingly has come full circle.

But no one looking out for the interests of the county or its private property owners is holding their breath.

The Gateway West siting subcommittee charged with resolving issues revolving around segments 8 and 9 met for the first time Thursday in a conference room inside the National Interagency Fire Center, across a Boise parking lot from the Bureau of Land Management Boise District headquarters.

It was the first of four meetings for the panel, which is seeded by BLM Boise District Resource Advisory Council members, BLM officials and interested parties.

The biggest development of the meeting was the idea that, despite what the BLM national office has said, there is a way to route Segment 9 of the 500-kilovolt electrical transmission line through the Morley Nelson Birds of Prey National Conservation Area — a concept Idaho Power apparently floated four years ago.

Idaho Power project manager Doug Dockter told the subcommittee and assembled concerned citizens that piggy-backing the 500kV line on the existing 138kV line strung through the NCA was possible with some work.

Dockter's revelation turned on a ray of light for Oreana residents

The siting possibilities of the Ernie Breuer and Robyn Thompson, Owyhee County Citizens Task Force members who are trying to keep the power line off private ground.

The present accepted route in BLM's Final Environmental Impact Statement sends a segment of the 1,100-mile-long line over the Breuer-Thompson property.

Putting the line through the NCA by building taller towers and stringing both 138kV and 500kV in the same pathway would take Gateway West off their property.

It would also eliminate the need for a second right-of-way in the NCA and wouldn't create any further damage to the resource, Breuer figures.

New towers could be built, and the old, wooden 138kV towers with raptor nesting boxes could be left in place to preserve the habitat.

"The raptors wouldn't be there without those towers because they aren't ground-nesters," Breuer said. "They roost even in towers without boxes."

The optimism of county residents such as Breuer and Thompson and county commissioners Joe Merrick (District 3) and Jerry Hoagland (District 1) was tempered by Betsy Buffington's insistence that allowing the route through the NCA would create a precedent that would affect all other lands in the National Landscape Conservation System.

Buffington is the Bozeman,

Mont.-based vice president of programs for the Conservation Lands Foundation.

Breuer disputed Buffington's claim, saying that the 138kV line through the Birds of Prey NCA already sets the precedent.

The subcommittee, co-chaired by Murphy biologist and raptor expert Karen Steenhof and University of Idaho range economics professor Dr. Neil Rimbey, decided to focus on the western portions of segments 8 and 9, concentrating on finding a route over the Snake River that would remove the line from further encroachment on private property.

As with the NCA, the 500kV line could be strung across the river in close proximity to the 138kV line, apparently.

Grand View rancher Donna Bennett — a RAC member also serves on the subcommittee.

BLM officials were reluctant to release names of subcommittee members prior to last week's meeting. An early list did change with one conservationist falling off and BLM Boise District manager Jim Fincher being added.

Other members are RAC chair Gene Gray, Idaho Department of Water Resources bureau chief Rick Raymondi, state Office of Energy Resources director John Chatburn and Kuna Mayor Greg Nelson.

The subcommittee meets again at 9 a.m. on Tuesday at NIFC. The meetings are open to the public.

Homedale entrance subject of public hearing

City residents and business owners are encouraged to attend a joint public hearing tonight that will help decide the future look of Homedale's entryway intersection.

The Idaho Transportation Department has struck an idea to reconfigure the East Idaho Avenue-U.S. Highway 95 intersection to accommodate a second entrance into the old Homedale Auto Wreckers property that King's Variety Stores owner Tom King says is necessary to relieve traffic congestion that his new store may

King bought the property last year and plans to build a retail complex, with a King's and possibly one other business on

The Burley-based company wants an entrance to the property off Idaho Avenue as well as North 4th Street East, as the Homedale City Council favors.

Tonight's public hearing, which is part of the council's final regular meeting of the year, will begin sometime after 6 inside City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming Ave.

The council — two members of which (Dave Downum and Tim Downing) will be sitting in their final meeting — wants input on how to proceed with the intersection.

ITD must hold a public hearing as part of the process to declare the grassy area between U.S. 95 and Idaho Avenue surplus and sell it either to King or the city.

ITD has proposed turning the intersection into a true four-way interchange much like the U.S. 95-Industial Road intersection is to the south.

Also on the agenda tonight, the council must re-ratify the school resource officer contract after changes apparently made by the Homedale School District's legal





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participating Retailer for complete details and Rebate Form.

Trust What You Love to...



El-Ada partnership to distribute funds again

The El-Ada Community Action Partnership will distribute \$3,418 in Federal Emergency Management Agency funds in Owyhee

PAGE 4

Next Wednesday is the deadline for public and private organizations to apply for funding.

A board of local representatives will decide on distribution.

To be eligible for funding, a program must be a private voluntary non-profit or a unit of government that has an accounting system, practices, non-discrimination and has demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/ or shelter programs. The private organizations also must have a voluntary board of directors.

For more information or to ap-

Owyhee County coordinator, Olga Valero, at (208) 337-4812. Applicants can also stop by the office located at 15 W. Colorado Ave. in Homedale.

The money was designated for the county by a national board empowered by Congress to distribute the funds and help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in areas of the country with the highest need.

The board includes representatives from FEMA, The Salvation Army, The American Red Cross, United Jewish Communities, Catholic Charities USA, National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. The United Way of America provides administrative staff for programs and acts as the



Open M-F 9-4. Closed Saturday & Sunday

Eastern Oregon weather delays refinery megaload another week

Firm addresses commissioner's concern of long-term road damage

The massive water purification unit being hauled from western Oregon won't get into Homedale until next week at the earliest.

Holly Zander, the spokesperson for Hillsboro, Ore., shipping company Omega Morgan told The Owyhee Avalanche in an email Sunday night that the shipment is still stalled in Eastern Oregon because of weather.

Earlier, Zander had speculated the shipment would be in Homedale by Tuesday morning for its daylong trek across Owyhee County. No definitive day of arrival next week was specified.

"It is very hard to predict as we want to be sure we aren't traveling over ice, and I know some sections of 395 in Oregon have yet to clear up enough for the load," Zander wrote in an email Friday.

District 1 county commissioner Jerry Hoagland last week expressed concern after hearing that other such shipments have damaged roadbeds and created wavy pavement similar to freeze heaves.

Zander said Omega Morgan engineers deny such damage can happen.

"A heavily loaded dump truck puts more concentrated load onto the asphalt than our high frame," Zander said, relaying information from the engineering staff.

Zander added that the company had hauled a transformer on a backcountry road that was in poor condition in Northern California and that a county official following the load couldn't find any further damage to the roadway.

"The tire loading was similar to what we have on this load,"

She said for the water purification haul, the Oregon Department of Transportation worked with the company to "design a trailer configuration in such a way that the load will not cause long-term damage to the road."

Zander said the 380-footlong caravan, which includes a 330,000-pound, 96-foot-long water purification unit, hauling semis and pilot vehicles, was parked south of Pendleton, Ore., after not moving since Friday.

"I believe that puts us out a week from your area," she wrote. "(We're) just waiting on weather.'

Once the cargo enters Idaho from Adrian via Oregon highway 201, the shipment will travel Idaho 19, U.S. Highway 95 and Idaho 55 into Marsing, turning onto Idaho 78 and traveling the rest of the way through the county to Interstate 84 in Mountain Home.

The trek through Owyhee County should take up to a day because the shipment can travel between 75 and 100 miles per day.

The Idaho Transportation Department won't issue a travel permit until an estimated time of arrival in Idaho is firmed up, according to agency spokesman Adam Rush. ITD has called the cargo a heat exchanger in local media reports, which Zander said is also an accurate description of the 96-feet-long, 23-feet-wide, 19-feet-tall piece of equipment bound for a tar sands oil field in Alberta, Canada.

The ODOT permit allows travel only between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. daily to minimize traffic impacts. Furthermore, the shipment can create delays of only 20 minutes at any given point.

— JPB

The Ownhee Avalanche

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From page 1

$\sqrt{\text{Charged:}}$ Case covers 2006 to 2013, but thefts may have begun earlier

Homedale-area resident Donald Wayne Robison turned himself in on Nov. 27 when a warrant for his arrest was issued, Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller confirmed last week. He was released from custody at the Owyhee County Jail in Murphy the same day.

Eidemiller said Robison is suspected of stealing \$17,000 in fuel from South Board over the period.

Robison worked first with the maintenance crew and then as a ditch rider with South Board from February 1990 to May 2004. He

left to take a job with the Golden Gate Highway District, according to South Board manager Ron Kiester

Owyhee County Prosecuting Attorney Douglas D. Emery's Nov. 26 court filing charges Robison with illegal use of an SBOC fuel transaction card between 2006 until this past July. Kiester said it's unclear if Robison used the card prior to that.

Although Robison faces just one felony count of grand theft, Robison apparently used the company card at the Matteson's fuel depot on Main Street to fill up on hundreds of occasions during the time span.

"There might be more to it now, but the (charge) is what we caught him on with that card," Kiester said.

Robison's arraignment before before Magistrate Judge Dan C. Grober in the Owyhee County Courthouse in Murphy, scheduled for Monday, was continued until 9 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 23.

Kiester said that South Board became aware of the problem about five months ago after the SBOC bookkeeper at the truck yard noticed unusual gas purchases after work hours.

"We were a little lax on the way we handle our cards," Kiester said.

"As of now, we've done away with all the cards, period, and went to key cards, and there are only a few out."

Kiester said the key cards are fobs that go with the keychains for each individual company truck. Now the only employees with access to transaction cards are supervisors and the shop foreman, he said.

Kiester said that all credit cards were discontinued when the

alleged thefts came to light.

Kiester said Robison's alleged actions shocked him.

"He was a super employee for the district," Kiester said. "He was just a super employee, and I was surprised."

No one answered the phone at the Golden Gate Highway District office to confirm whether Robison was still employed there.

Kiester confirmed that Robison has agreed to make full restitution.

— JPB

$\sqrt{\text{Leave:}}$ Longtime city employee leaves door open to help new mayor

he's on administrative leave until his original retirement date in June. March would mark his 29th anniversary as a public works employee (he spent more than 27 years as the supervisor). He will continue to receive a paycheck, he said.

"This is their call that they felt strongly enough to do, and that's OK. It's a little strange," Bauer said of the council's decision, adding that he would not comment further on the circumstances.

Recently, Bauer has seemingly been at odds with the city council. During the Nov. 13 council meeting, Councilman Tim Downing asked Bauer if he disagreed with the city's plan for the Sundance Park auxiliary parking lot. Days earlier, Bauer had told The Owyhee Avalanche that

another councilman expressed misgivings about the plan and that the project surface the parking lot was on hold.

He also didn't agree with the council's decision to not pursue an Idaho Transportation Department grant to perform rehabilitative work on North 3rd Street West.

Bauer admitted that his vocal opinion on those two proposals may have led to the current situation, but he added that as the department head he felt it was his job to look out for the betterment of the city's infrastructure.

"The give-and-take of two opposites is what makes things happen," he said.

In the end, though, Bauer said there is no ill will.

"I've had a trouble-free ca-

reer," he said. "Lots and lots of good things happened, and not to much bad.

"We're leaving the community pretty healthy. The city has a good infrastructure and a good raport in the industry and with other towns and agencies."

Bauer said he is open to advising the Mayor-elect Gheen Christ-offersen's administration until his retirement date and beyond.

Assistant public works supervisor Bret Smith, who has been groomed for the position, has taken over the department's top spot.

"The position is being left in good hands, and I am sure they will continue to provide a high level of services that the Homedale public works department has always tried to provide to the citizens that

paid our wages," Bauer wrote in his Facebook post.

"Thank you for the privilege to serve."

Bauer and his wife, Becky, pur-

chased a home in Homedale earlier this fall after living outside the city limits for nearly 30 years.

— ЈРВ



The creativity included devices at Bruneau Elementary School speaking for themselves. Submitted photo

√ Bruneau: Community gets in on the act

posters, photos and videos that were posted on the USS Foundation's website.

"Kids went online personally and commented," Lisle said.
"Parents, grandparents, community members, previous years' teachers — from as far away as China — and anyone who wanted to commented and supported us.

"It was a contest of creativity and originality as well as sheer numbers of posts and likes."

Bruneau and the Florida school were among 25 schools invited to participate in the 2013 contest.

Thursday's presentation of bikes to kindergarteners through fifth-graders will include speeches from USS Foundation founder and CEO Adel Sayegh and Bruneau-Grand View School District superintendent Dennis Wilson.

Some of the creative entries by Bruneau community members

included a rap video written and performed by the Mills family, which has two children in the Bruneau school.

Bruneau students also performed chants and songs and wrote letters.

"Our support really played up that we are a rural school where kids work with their parents and are mostly cowboys and farmers, and very deserving of reward," Lisle said.

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School menus

Homedale Elementary

Dec. 11: Orange chicken, steamed rice, peas, cucumbers, mandarin oranges

Dec. 12: Chili, baby carrots, broccoli, applesauce, goldfish crackers

Dec. 13: Pizza hot pocket, salad, baby carrots, tropical fruit

Dec. 16: Hot dog, tater tots, baked beans, peaches

Dec. 17: Nemo sandwich, sweet potato fries, salad, strawberries,

Dec. 18: Mini corn dogs, steamed carrots, broccoli, applesauce

Dec. 19: Turkey/gravy, mashed potatoes, stuffing, fruit salad, roll w/jelly, pumpkin pie

Homedale Middle

Dec. 11: Popcorn chicken or beef nuggets, steamed carrots, broccoli,

Dec. 12: Pizza hot pocket or corn dog, salad, baby carrots,

Dec. 13: Turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, stuffing, jello, roll, pumpkin pie

Dec. 16: Nachos or philly beef/cheese hot pocket, cucumber, baby carrots, tropical fruit

Dec. 17: Hamburger or grilled chicken sandwich, potato wedges, baked beans, peaches

Dec. 18: Spaghetti or burrito, green beans, salad, apple

Dec. 19: Beef or chicken taco, corn, baby carrots, pears

Homedale High

Dec. 11: Spaghetti & French bread or corn dog, salad bar, fruit

Dec. 12: Nachos or deli sandwich, sherbet, salad bar, fruit choice Dec. 13: Crispito w/taco salad or hot pocket, corn, salad bar, fruit

Dec. 16: Pepperoni pizza or fish sandwich, salad bar, fruit choice Dec. 17: Hamburger, cheeseburger or grilled chicken, potato wedges,

Dec. 18: Idaho haystack or hot pocket, salad bar, fruit choice

Dec. 19: Turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, stuffing, jello fruit salad, roll, pumpkin pie filling

Marsing

Dec. 11: Spicy chicken & rice w/roll or burritos, steamed carrots, salad bar (6-12)

Dec. 12: Rib-b-que or mac & cheese w/breadstick, buttered corn, salad bar (6-12)

Dec. 16: Chicken fajita or chicken sandwich, steamed carrots, chocolate chip cookie, salad bar (6-12)

Dec. 17: Sub sandwich or beef taco w/chipotle rice & beans, mixed vegetable, salad bar (6-12)

Dec. 18: Teriyaki chicken bowl w/roll or corn dog, buttered corn, salad bar (6-12)

Bruneau-Grand View

Dec. 11: Teriyaki chicken bowl, steamed rice, stir-fry veggies,

Dec. 12: Beef & bean burrito, romaine & tomato, corn, fruit

Dec. 13: Corn dog, tots, baby carrots, fruit

Dec. 17: Chicken & noodles, romaine salad, steamed carrots, fruit

Dec. 18: Chicken patty/bun, steamed broccoli, fruit

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All Proceeds go to the Wilder Library Building Fund. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Obituary

Ruth Marie Collett

Ruth Marie Collett was born in Nampa, on June 27, 1931 to Kirby and Winifred Foreman. She was raised on the family ranch in Oreana all of her life. She was very proud of her ranching heritage. She was the third daughter in a family of seven. Sister Beryle Saxton lives in Meridian; brother Neil Foreman (Frances) live in Nampa; sister Bonnie Riley lives in Oreana, and brother Robert Arland Foreman lives in Caldwell.

Ruth went to school the first eight years in a one-room schoolhouse on Castle Creek in Oreana. She went to high school in Boise, and graduated from Boise High in 1949.

In 1947, Ruth was the Owyhee County Rodeo Queen.

In the summer of 1949, she worked for the Owyhee County Courthouse and she also met the love of her life, Bobby Dan Collett. They married later that year in Reno, Nevada, November 7, 1949.

Bob worked for Ruth's dad for a few years and then in 1961 he and Ruth leased the ranch and in 1966 they bought it. The family has been here for 119 years and still running strong.

In the 1950s, Ruth drove the mail route from Murphy to Oreana to the Castle Creek area.

Bob and Ruth spent many hard, but happy years living on the family ranch. They spent the winters in the



valley and the summers on the mountain where the cow camp is. Ruth hauled water and cooked on a wood stove at cow camp until 1971 when Bob built a house on the mountain just for her.

She loved her garden and flowers and always liked to be working outside. But that did not stop her love for baking and sewing. She sewed many of her own clothes as well as for the kids. No matter what, her house was always spotless as well.

Ruth was very involved in her community. She was the treasurer for the Catholic Church for many years as well as bookkeeper and overall caretaker of the Community Hall.

Bob and Ruth just celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary this year. Bob said they had a long and wonderful life together.

She was preceded in death by her dad, Kirby Foreman; mother,



Winifred Foreman; sisters, Neva Portlock Marshall, and Patricia Novacek.

She is survived by husband Bob Collett, son, Blaine Collett (Denise) and son Brian Collett (Christine), also by three grandsons, one granddaughter and three great-grandchildren. Two sisters and two brothers.

In lieu of flowers please make a donation to Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church or the Oreana Community Hall.

Services were on Thursday, December 5, 2013 with a viewing from 12 noon to 1:45 p.m. at the Oreana Community Hall and funeral service at 2:00 p.m. at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church, with burial at the Oreana Pioneer Cemetery followed by a dinner at the Oreana Community Hall. Arrangements are under the direction of Rost Funeral Home, McMurtrey Chapel.

Death

LUCILLE A. MONTGOM-ERY, 96, of Arock, Ore., died Monday, Dec. 9, 2013 of natural causes at her son's home in Caldwell. Funeral arrangements are under the care of Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Caldwell. (208) 459-0833

Have a news tip? Call us! 337-4681

Meridian parade features Owyhee 4-H mounted flagbearers

Chilly temperatures and windy conditions didn't deter Owyhee County 4-H'ers from participating in the Meridian Holiday Night Light Parade on Friday.

Six children, all 13 and younger, saddled up and carried sponsor flags for the Meridian Lions Club Rodeo in 9-degree weather.

The children — Montana and Fallon Wasson of Marsing, Homedale Middle School students Jaiden and Jordyn Vincent and Amber Allen, and Madison Shields-McLeash of Caldwell — dressed themselves and their horses in holiday tinsel and lights.

"As the grand entry director

of the rodeo, I tip my hat and say thank you to (the children)," Cheryl Verkerk, an Owyhee County 4-H leader, said. "And thanks to the parents for all their time and work to get the kids to the parade and cleaning up after the south end of the northbound horses during the parade."

The same children carried flags in the grand entries and between events at the Meridian Lions Rodeo and at the Idaho Cowboys Association Finals in Nampa.

"These kids have represented Owyhee County very well and show why we take pride in our youth," Verkerk said.



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Aaron Tines Mortician's Assistant

Avalanche starts OHR gift drive

The Owyhee Avalanche's annual gift drive for the residents at Owyhee Health and Rehabilitation in Homedale is under way again.

The effort to bring some cheer to the residents of the facility in the 100 block of West Owyhee Avenue has been around for the better part of 30 years.

In what has become a new tradition to the old tradition, the Owyhee County Historical Society donated this year's Christmas tree, which sits in the Avalanche office on East Idaho Avenue.

Now it's up to the community to come together to put presents under the tree for the OHR residents.

Appearing on Page 28 of this week's Avalanche is the wish list for 30 residents at OHR.

There are specific requests such as country gospel music CDs, sweat suits, slippers, cologne, earrings, blouses and shirts, pajamas, candy and movies.

Miscellaneous items such as word search and crossword puzzle books, family movie DVDs and games also are requested.

Gifts for the residents may be dropped off at The Owyhee Avalanche office, 19 E. Idaho Ave., from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The secret Santas can giftwrap and tag the presents with a corresponding number from the list and label of what the item is.

The list will be updated as specific items are received and published weekly in the Avalanche.

OHR staff will pick up the gifts on the morning of Monday, Dec. 23, so the best strategy is to get any donations to the Avalanche by Friday, Dec. 20.

The residents will receive the gifts during the OHR Christmas party on Christmas Eve

Calendar

Today

Story Time

10:30 a.m., for preschoolers, Lizard Butte Library, 111 S. 3rd Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690

Senior center board meeting

1:30 p.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

Christian Life Club

3:15 p.m. to 5 p.m., kindergarten to sixth grade, transportation provided, Homedale Friends Community Church, 17434 Hwy. 95, Wilder. (208) 337-4757, (208) 353-6024 or (208) 337-3464

Homedale City Council meeting

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

Grand View City Council meeting

6 p.m., Grand View City Hall, 425 Boise Ave., Grand View, (208) 834-2700, Monday through Thursday

Marsing City Council meeting

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

Three Creek School Board meeting

7 p.m., Three Creek School multipurpose room, Three Creek

Thursday

Senior center exercise class

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

Owyhee Gardeners monthly meeting

1 p.m., potluck and gift exchange, Lizard Butte Library, 111 S. 3rd Ave. W., Marsing

Rimrock Food Pantry preparation

4 p.m., Knight Community Church, 630 Idaho St., Grand View. (208) 834-2314

Taking Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) meeting

6:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St. W., Homedale. (208) 337-3867

Friday

Story 11me

10:15 a.m., Homedale Public Library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228; call afternoons Monday through Saturday

Saturday

Rimrock Food Pantry distribution

8:30 a.m. Knight Community Church, 630 Idaho St., Grand View. (208) 834-2314

Christmas concert

4 p.m., free, Homedale First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St. W., Homedale. (208) 850-5172

Tweens and Teens program 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Homedale Public Library,

125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228 afternoons Monday through Saturday

Christmas in the Country light judging

7 p.m., throughout Grand View

Sunday

Christmas nativity play

6 p.m., Valley Christian Fellowship, 37866 State Hwy. 78, Grand View. (208) 834-2655

Middle school youth group

6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Homedale Friends Community Church, 17434 Hwy 95, Wilder. (208) 697-1409

Monday

Board of County Commissioners meeting

9 a.m., Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy. (208) 495-2421

Homedale Middle School art show

6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Homedale Middle School, 3437 Johnstone Road, Homedale.

Tuesday

Foot clinic

8 a.m., \$12, appointment necessary, Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

Senior center exercise class

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

El-Ada commodity distribution

1 p.m., El-Ada Community Action Partnership Owyhee County office, 15 W. Colorado Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4812

After-school Story Time

4:30 p.m., up to third-graders, Lizard Butte Library, 111 S. 3rd Ave. W., Marsing, (208) 896-4690

Homedale Middle School winter concert

7 p.m., Homedale Middle School, 3437 Johnstone Road, Homedale

Wednesday

Story Time

10:30 a.m., for preschoolers, Lizard Butte Library, 111 S. 3rd Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690

Grand View Chamber of Commerce meeting 5:30 p.m., Grand View Firehouse, 720 Roosevelt St., Grand View.

Job's Daughters Bethel 31 meeting

7 p.m., Silver City Masonic Lodge No. 13, 19 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 453-2116

Christian Life Club

3:15 p.m. to 5 p.m., kindergarten to sixth grade, transportation provided, Homedale Friends Community Church, 17434 Hwy. 95, Wilder. (208) 337-4757, (208) 353-6024 or (208) 337-3464

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

Submit information on upcoming fundraisers, meetings, reunions or community events to The Owyhee Avalanche by noon Fridays for inclusion in the calendar. Drop off press releases at the Avalanche office at 19 E. Idaho Ave., Homedale, mail them to P.O. Box 97, Homedale, ID 83628, fax them to (208) 337-4867 or e-mail them to jon@owyheeavalanche.com (an e-mail link also is available on our Web site). For more information on submissions, call (208) 337-4681



Sagebrush & Axle Grease Breaking oxen

The bull team was quite different in that it was made up of slow-moving cattle. They were called bull teams because of their size and because of the practice of leaving the oxen, in the teams, bulls until they were three or four years old. They weren't castrated before then because this allowed them to develop more muscling and strength. This wasn't always the case though, because steers were used most of the time and they were still called bulls just like their unaltered brothers.

Breaking an ox is much different than a horse or a mule. I have tried breaking steer calves to work, and I followed the age-old process of halter breaking them and then yoking them together. I let them run free yoked together for a month while they learned to respect the yoke. After that they were hooked up to a wagon with a man on each side with a halter rope. If they tried to run away, they were pulled to a stop, and if they didn't want to go, the third man poked them with a sharp stick — called a "goad" — in the black side. After a few applications, they learned the ropes, so to speak, and worked like they were supposed to.

In the early days, a mature ox would out-pull either a horse or mule of comparable size. Oxen that were used in the fields or on the roads were taught voice commands as were jerkline teams. They were controlled by the bull driver, who walked along the left side of the wagon and kept his outfit going with encouraging words, a sharppointed stick, or a whip. His tool of the trade was the bull whip, which earned him the name, "Bull Whacker." The brake lever of the bull wagon protruded from under the bed near the center of the left side. The bull whacker had only to pull it back on its ratchet to brake the wagon. One feature slow-moving oxen had that made them popular in the mountainous country was that they moved up steep grades slowly and never had to stop and rest as often as other draft animals.

The bull teams were the most economical of all the work stock because they needed only grass that grew along the roads. Because of this, they were used extensively in the early settling of the West. Even though oxen were economical, their drawback was their being slow. They could average only 10 miles a day, while freight-hauling horses and mules could double that or better.

Oxen really reached their test when they were taken over the Oregon Trail. An 1850 account at Fort Laramie showed 36,116 oxen passed through and only 7,548 mules and this probably included pack mules. An accounting wasn't given on horses, but it would have been considerably less than the numbers of oxen. I would guess that the preliminary events at Independence, Missouri, leading up to the formation of a

westbound wagon train contained many ox-breaking scenes.

- Local historian, author and rancher Mike Hanley lives in Jordan Valley. Excerpts in this column come from his various books, which are on sale at The Owyhee Avalanche office in Homedale. Visit www.owyheeavalanche.com for a list of available titles, including Hanley's Owyhee Graffiti, Sagebrush & Axle Grease (with Omer Stanford), Tales of the I.O.N. Country and Journal of Michael F. Hanley IV.

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Homedale Public Library Teens and Tweens members made door hangers Saturday afternoon (right) and then walked across West Owyhee Avenue to deliver the gifts to residents at Owyhee Health and Rehab (below). Submitted photos



Homedale Teens and Tweens keep up the holiday spirit

The Homedale Public Library's Teens and Tweens program's campaign to bring holiday happiness to the town's senior citizens continues Saturday.

The group, open to any boy or girl ages 10 to 17, will meet at 4 p.m. at the library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave.

Holiday door hangers will be made, and the Teens and Tweens will distribute them to the residents of the senior apartment complex on North 2nd Street West.

Saturday, the group presented door hangers to Owyhee Health and Rehabilitation residents across the street from the library.

Justina De La Rosa, Madie and Hannah Quilantan, Jordan Stuart and Fernando Perez fashioned door hangers Saturday.

For more information on the program, call the library, 337-4228, in the afternoons between Monday and Saturday.



Story Time takes on holiday feel this week

Story Time explores the magic of the holiday season through the reading of "Fancy Nancy Splendiferous Christmas" by Jane O'Connor.

The Story Time for preschoolers takes place at 10:15 a.m. Friday at the library.

The book tells of all the bright lights and decorations that can be seen at Christmas and what can happen when the family dog runs rampant.

The group will sing special holiday songs and also enjoy treats and crafts.

Call the library for more information.

Senior menus

Homedale Senior Center

Dec. 11: Ham & beans, corn bread, carrots

Dec. 12: Taco salad w/cheddar cheese, chips

Dec. 17: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, peas & carrots, bread

Dec. 18: Pasta primavera, bread

Dec. 19: Christmas Dinner, turkey & all the trimmings

Marsing Senior Center

Dec. 11: Fish or chef's choice, cheesy potatoes, mixed vegetables, cabbage salad, pineapple, whole wheat roll, graham crackers

Dec. 12: Pork chops, Spanish rice, carrots, apple/cabbage salad, roll, cookies

Dec. 16: Breakfast – Ham & eggs, pancake, hash browns, fruit

Dec. 17: Chicken supreme, pasta, Italian vegetables, green salad, French bread, peach cobbler

Dec. 18: Salisbury steak, potatoes, gravy, cauliflower w/cheese sauce, cole slaw, roll, fruit cobbler

Dec. 19: Turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, yams, cranberry sauce, jello salad, pumpkin roll

Rimrock Senior Center

Dec. 12: Sweet & sour chicken

Dec. 17: Lasagna

Dec. 19: Turkey dinner Closed Christmas Week

Dec. 31: Beef stroganoff





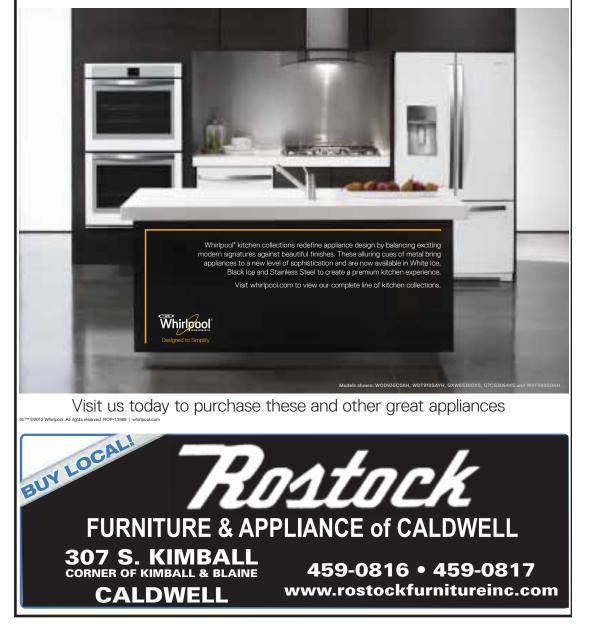
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Giving Tree effort begins in Marsing

More than 60 children in need

Efforts are under way in Marsing to run food drives and toy collections for the needy this holiday.

The school district and the city have partnered up with local businesses to run The Giving Tree

"We are a small community with a really big heart," Chamber of Commerce member Jolyn Green said.

"We want to make sure everyone has a nice dinner and a nice Christmas this year," she said.

The Chamber, Marsing School District, City Hall, and the LDS church are backing the community-wide effort.

More than 60 children's names have been hung on decorated trees placed at six locations in town. Tree tags include a list of wishes and clothing sizes. The trees are on display at City Hall, the school district office, Logan's Market, US Bank, Marsing Hardware and Spot Pizza.

Anyone in the community is being invited to pull tags off the trees and fulfill the wishes of needy children.

All purchased gifts should be returned to the same location for pickup.

"We're getting this thing rolling

a little later than we anticipated," Green said. As an extra effort, donation boxes will also be placed at the high school basketball and wrestling competitions, for increased public participation,

The effort will conclude on Dec. 19 and 20, where city and school district employees will join together to wrap presents and prepare boxes for delivery.

Anyone who wants to participate is welcome to attend the food and toy preparation efforts, which will be held at the Marsing Elementary School gymnasium, from 3 to 4 p.m. on both days, Green said.

After the gift boxes are prepared, city employees will handle the delivery to needy families.

The effort will coincide with early school dismissal on Friday Dec. 20.

Last year, about 40 baskets of food and toys were put together for families, said Ken Price, director of the Marsing School District's after-school program.

Every classroom in Marsing will be running a food drive, according to school district superintendent Norm Stewart.

The effort will be done as a competition, and the winning classroom from each of the three schools will be given an ice cream party, he said.



Eighth-grader Megan Houser keeps a running tally of cans collected for the Homedale Middle School food drive. Photo by Karen Bresnahan

Hands Around Homedale helps the needy with food and gifts

Help is needed to pack food boxes and donate gifts

In the holiday spirit of generosity, many hands are working together to provide food and gifts to needy families in the community.

All three Homedale schools are participating in the Hands Around Homedale effort, which is twofold. "Many hands make light work," is the motto behind both projects, The Wish Tree program (see article this page) and food

This year 58 families have been placed on the referral list to receive gifts and food.

"This is a shining example of what a community can do when it works together," Homedale school counselor Randee Garrett said.

In the food drive effort at the schools, each family on the list is provided with three boxes, one each of canned goods, produce and meat. This year, families will be picking up their boxes on Dec. 13th from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Friday at the Homedale Elementary School.

Community members are being

asked to join in the effort of packing the food boxes from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Dec. 13th, at each of the three Homedale schools, or anyone can to send donated food items to any school.

The Caldwell Basque Club-Euzkaldunak is involved in the food drive every year, donating hundreds of pounds of meat to the program. Delivery date for the meat going to Paul's Market has not been determined as yet, but will most likely be this week, Garrett said.

Paul's allows the use of its cooler for storage, and Paul's Price Cutter Club Points are used to purchase any extra meat needed. Points may be donated at the customer service desk at Paul's.

The referral list for both the food drive and Wish Tree is created from input gathered by teachers during parent-teacher conferences in October each year, Garrett said. Teachers get a sense of who may need extra help, she said.

This will be the fourth year that the program has implemented a community service project. The idea is that families receiving food and gifts are encouraged to give something back to the community by participating, Garrett said.

"My goal is to allow these

families to give something back, and also to teach some valuable skills," Garrett said.

She is hoping that individuals can gain skills that could potentially enhance the lifestyles of needy families. Each year, one project is done on a weekend at one of the schools.

This year, more than 40 people gathered at Homedale Elementary for a hands-on project for school improvement. The participants were shown how to cut, pin and sew new curtains for the cafeteria windows.

Garrett, who taught the class, said, "They get really excited about these projects. They are always willing and we always have fun."

In the past few years, several projects have been done, most of them involving items that were sewn. Some of the women have come to Garrett afterward and expressed a wish that they had a sewing machine and could do

"This might turn out to be something that could change a life," Garrett said.

For more information about Hands Around Homedale, call Garrett at 337-4033 or 337-5780.

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Wish Trees still loaded with tags

The Homedale chapter of Beta Sigma Chi operates the Wish Tree program, from the same list of referrals obtained from the schools for the Hands Around Homedale drive.

Members of the sorority have written up Christmas gift tags, with children's names, clothing and shoe sizes and wishes for toys, and placed them on decorated trees around town at Homedale Drug, Paul's Market, the post office, Owyhee Lanes and Moxie Java.

Anyone is encouraged to find the trees, remove tags, and buy presents for the children in need.

"We are already getting some presents turned in, and that is always a good thing," said Diana Maxwell, one of the organizers.

However, the Wish Trees are still "loaded with tags," she said.

Everyone in the area is being asked to pitch in and help buy presents. Presents can be returned to the location where the trees are. It is hoped that most of the tags will be picked up by community members and wishes fulfilled. However, any remaining wishes will be filled by members of the sorority group.

The deadline for buying presents

for the Wish Tree tags is Saturday, with delivery to local families scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 21. On that date, local fire trucks and police cars will be delivering the presents to the recipient families.

The Beta Sigma Chi sorority held a fundraising event for Wish Tree on Nov. 30 at the Txoko Ona Basque Center. The total draw on the even featuring a Texas Hold-'Em poker tournament, raffle and silent auction has yet to be tallied, but the fundraiser "went well," Maxwell said.

Proceeds will be used to buy any remaining gifts.

Homedale officers taser unruly suspects

Miguel Bedolla

Benjamin King

Chief: Separate deployments first incidents in a year

Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller hopes that two incidents of Taser deployments by his officers isn't the start of a troubling trend.

Two different HPD officers had to use incapacitating electronic devices to apprehend two uncooperative wanted subjects in the span of three days recently.

On Dec. 3, HPD Cpl. Anatacio Montes subdued 34-year-old Benjamin Paul King in the 200 block of West Idaho Avenue.

On Nov. 30, Officer Chris Jacob used his Taser and received help from a citizen to arrest 19-year-old Miguel Bedolla.

The incidents marked the first times in a year that Homedale law enforcement personnel was forced to deploy the devices

that send thousands of volts of electricity through their targets. "We went a year without a Taser

deployment, and then had two of them within three days, and with the subject (Nov. 30) so willingly aggressing the police officer, it's troubling," Eidemiller said.

Jacob spotted Bedolla at the Jacksons Food Store at the corner of East Idaho Avenue and North 1st Street East and recognized him as a person wanted on a \$5,000 bench warrant. Bedolla failed to appear for a Nov. 20 sentencing on a misdemeanor charge of malicious iniury to property.

Eidemiller said Bedolla struck Jacob in the face when he tried to take him into custody.

A foot pursuit ensued, and Jacob tried to subdue the suspect with his Taser. Bedolla's heavy coat, however, prevented the probes from penetrating to his skin, Eidemiller said.

That's when the bystander helped apprehend Bedolla.

Eidemiller said he will seek special recognition for the civilian, who he didn't identify. Owyhee County Sheriff's Deputy Terry McGrew also provided backup.

Bedolla now faces five felonies and three misdemeanors in connection with his scuffle with police.

"(The \$5,000 warrant) is small in comparison to the charges he now faces," Eidemiller said.

The felonies include one count of battery on a peace officer and four counts of possession of a controlled substance.

When Bedolla stands before

Magistrate Judge Dan C. Grober at a 1:30 p.m. preliminary hearing on Monday in Murphy, he'll also face two misdemeanor counts of drug paraphernalia possession and one misdemeanor charge of resisting arrest. Bedolla's attorney also has filed a motion to reduce his client's bail or get his release on recognizance.

If Eidemiller had his way, though, Bedolla would remain behind bars in Owyhee County Jail in Murphy because he struck Jacob.

In the latest incident on Dec. 3, Montes tried to arrest King because of a warrant in which the suspect has been charged with six felony counts of

Montes deployed his Taser after King tried to elude arrest by re-entering a residence on West Idaho Avenue.

forgery, Eidemiller said.

Montes immediately requested Homedale Ambulance and asked Owyhee County dispatch to contact Eidemiller, both of which are part of the protocol when a Taser is used, the chief said.

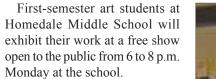
Once the ambulance checked King out and cleared him medically, Montes transported him to county jail.

King bonded out a day later, when he was scheduled to appear in Canyon County for jury trial stemming from a March 16 driving under the influence arrest by Nampa Police.

Eidemiller said that drug use and imprudence may have something to do with suspects' willingness to resist or become aggressive.

"I think it's probably a little bit of both. That false sense of security when you're high. That invincibility," the chief said. "Ten-foot-tall and bulletproof.

"It almost harkens back to the day when people were sniffing glue and using LSD, that false sense of bravado."



"I think these kids just need a place to display their finished work, that they may not have otherwise," said Shannon Johnson, HMS art teacher.

Students have been learning about some of the first known works of art that were drawn and painted on cave walls as early as 31,000 BC, Johnson said. The students have recently completed projects based on the elements of line, shape and color in art.

Three different kinds of projects will be seen at the show:

- "Line project," where the students have designed and are creating original alphabets.
- Making designs and painting blank masks.

"This has always been a popular art project with the kids," Johnson said. There is always a lot of interest expressed by the kids to do masks, she said.

• Drawings by advanced art students used to decorate the school entry.

HMS has already displayed some artwork ceiling tiles by previous classes. Johnson said the drawings will be mounted on thick poster board and will replace some of the existing tiles.

The show will be set up similar to an art gallery. All parents and friends are invited to come, Johnson said.

"These kids are really proud of their work, and they want other people to come and experience it with them," Johnson said.



HMS students ready to show off art

Eva Symms works on her ceiling tile design project in Shannon Johnson's art class. Photo by Karen Bresnahan





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Page 12

Grand View council seeks state grant for Riverside dock

Water & Sewer board votes to be counted tonight

The City of Grand View has applied for an Idaho State Parks and Recreation grant to complete part of its Riverside Park project.

The Grand View City Council and Water and Sewer Association board of directors will hold their monthly joint meeting tonight inside City Hall. The proceedings start at 6.

Other joint business for tonight includes:

• Reviewing the 2012 and 2013 audits for the city and water and sewer association and the streets and roads and parks departments.

The water and sewer board Riverside Avenue. will hear:

- The board election's ballot
- A request to extend sewer service south on Idaho highway

The council's other business tonight includes:

- The results of the water and sewer election count
- Scheduling the city's Local Rural Highway Improvement Program-funded roadway project
- Assigning addresses to Owyhee Estates lots being developed

During its Nov. 13 meeting, the city council approved submitting a grant application in an attempt to cover the cost of building a dock at Riverside Park, which is on the old Goodman Oil Co. property on

City clerk Tammy Payne said the city's engineering firm has yet to come back with final costs for the project and is currently redesigning the plans.

Also last month, the council voted to switch contractors to pick up trash at city hall and the city shop. During last month's meeting, Glenns Ferry-based Snake River Rubbish was awarded the contract, ending the city's relationship with Republic Waste.

Grand View will save about \$5 monthly with the new contractor, but working with a local company seemed just as important as the slight savings.

"Council president Bill Mead stated, 'We Should do business with local businesses when we can,' " Payne reported in an

Snake River Rubbish will pick up the City Hall garbage on Mondays, the same day the firm picks up garbage from the Owyhee County dump site in town.

The contract does not affect residential service.

Grand View continues to work on a couple planning documents,

The council has reached out to Dr. Jaap Vos, the director of Boise State University's School of Urban and Regional Planning, as well as Idaho Rural Partnership members for assistance in developing a comprehensive plan.

"It will be several more weeks before we have their outline for the comprehensive planning process," Payne said. "As planning progresses, community members will be solicited for participation and input."

A comprehensive planning update is scheduled for tonight's meeting.

A subcommittee has been formed to draft an emergency evacuation plan for the city, too.

A full committee meeting on an emergency evacuation plan will be held at 6 p.m. on Jan. 22 at the Grand View Fire Station. Payne said anyone interested in participating in the process can call City Hall for more information.

Grand View City Hall is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday and can be reached at (208) 834-2700.

During last month's meeting, the city council decided to table moving forward with the building permit process until after Franklin Hart's mayoral administration begins in January.





Homedale council takes up **Austrian Settlement monument**

Committee still working on centennial plans

The Homedale City Council is scheduled to hear a pitch about memorializing the Austrian Settlement during its meeting

Florence Paxton presented the council with the idea of a monument during a Nov. 13 meeting, but council members asked that she or another Austrian Settlement Centennial representative return for the December meeting with a definitive location.

"We want to pick a spot that does it justice," Councilman Steve Atkins said in November. "But we want to pick a spot where it won't receive a bunch of water that would damage it."

During the November meeting, Paxton said the group had ideas of placing a nine-foot-tall stone monument in one of the town's parks.

The monument would pay tribute to the original families who development the Austrian Settlement outside of Homedale in 1914, including the Demshars, Marcheks, Kushlans and Cegnar.

Joe Demshar, who is part of the centennial committee, said that Bob Cegnar, who lives in Washington state, is donating the stones for the structure. A friend of Cegnar's will engrave the

stones, Demshar said.

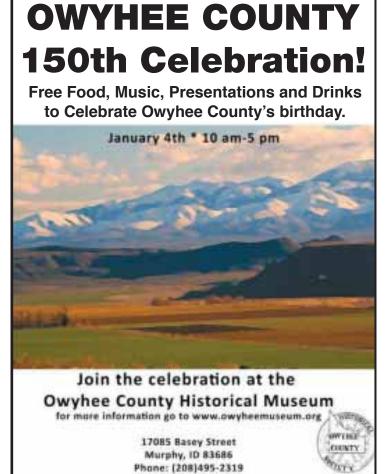
The monument is scheduled to be unveiled during a public centennial celebration that will start at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 15.

The committee has been meeting on a regular basis to plan the centennial celebration, which actually will be a two-day affair.

On Friday, Feb. 14, a private reunion for the descendants of the original families will be held.

During the public celebration, an Edelweiss band will perform. Food offerings include Solvenian garlic sausage, bratwurst, potica and coffee and will be available for a small price, Demshar said.

— JPB



Weather 58 20 20 .00 Dec. 4 58 Dec. 5 27 14 .00 .00 Dec. 6 26 Dec. 7 25 .02 Dec. 8 22 .00 Dec. 9 13 -9 .00 Note — An inch of snow fell to account for the Dec. 7 precipitation.

First storm cold but quiet for SO

Temperatures and snow may have fell Saturday, but the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office reported just one minor vehicle incident despite all the white stuff.

A potato silage truck sild off Idaho highway 78 at milepost 35.5 in the vicinity of Sinker Creek. at 5:17 a.m. Saturday.

No injuries were reported.

Sell it, trade it, find it in the classifieds: 337-4681

Homedale High School cross country coach Heidi Ankeny laughs as she prepares to start the Santa Dash on Saturday. Standing with her are her boys, Jacob, 10 and Samuel, 13.



Caleb Oviedo gets ready to run.



From left, Samuel Ankeny, Margo Phariss, Maya Correa, Kathryn Thatcher and Ryan Randall



Decked out in a Santa suit Caleb Oviedo runs beside HHS cross country teammate Ryan Randall.

The race must go on ... Santa Dash a quick freeze



Ryan Randall and Maya Correa break out running in the one-mile Santa Dash.

Homedale student organizes fundraiser as senior project, wants to help community

Homedale High School senior Caleb Oviedo is a pretty ambitious guy. Not only is he a cross country, baseball and basketball performer, but he works hard as a fundraiser, too.

Caleb chose as his senior project to take on the Santa Dash event on Saturday, which was held to raise funds for the cross country team. The race brought in \$100, HHS cross country coach Heidi Ankeny said.

In spite of the severe weather and blizzard-like conditions, about 10 runners showed up to participate at Deward Bell Stadium. Plans for the race went on as scheduled, Ankeny said. There was no consideration given to cancelling.

Race contestants included two school district staff members, counselor Randee Garrett and second-grade teacher Margo Phariss. Others racing were: Ryan Randall, Maya Correa, Kathryn Thatcher, Esteban Lejardi, Draydon Julian, Jacob Ankeny and Braden Ankeny. Caleb's mom, Nora Oviedo, was a runner and his dad, George Oviedo, followed the runners in his truck.

Caleb Oviedo crossed the line first, and second place went to Randall, with Correa finishing third. Oviedo did not claim a prize of free movie tickets, according to Ankeny.

"He's just an all-around amazing kid," she said. The reason he went out for cross country was to just get in shape for basketball, she said. "The kids just love Caleb.

That's why they were out there," she said.

The Santa Dash, which cost participants \$5, was a one-mile lap around the Deward Bell Stadium track. And in the spirit of the holidays, race contestants were encouraged to wear holiday attire. The race had to be accomplished just in time for those attending to be able to make it to the downtown parade afterward.

Oviedo set up the registration, the race, and even planned for hot chocolate to be served the contestants

The prizes he chose for the event were: The movie passes for the winner, free bowling for the runner-up and free ice cream at The Owyhee Scoop for third place.

Oviedo is interested in learning how to be involved in the community. "I just want to be involved and have fun," he says.

In setting up the race, he discovered the hardest part about planning an event is "not having enough time."

"But," he added, "I have my mentor to help me, and she has helped a lot." His mentor is Ankeny.

Oviedo enjoys being active in sports at HHS. The best part about sports to him is "all my coaches," he says. He lists basketball as his favorite sport.

"I like it because it's aggressive and I love dribbling the ball. It's cool and it's fun," he said.

Cross country has been an important sport for Oviedo. "It

has motivated me to do better," he said. Most of all he enjoys running with his friends.

Baseball interests Oviedo because he really likes to pitch. The coaches do a good job of motivating him, he says.

Oviedo said he felt prepared for Saturday's fundraiser. He convinced his other cross country runners to help him out with the event. They helped him by directing traffic and taking care of registration an hour before the race. One friend even did a play-by-play call of the race at the stadium.

Although he said he hadn't planned on wearing a Santa suit, Oviedo did don the outfit for Saturday's event.

The senior project is a class at the high school and is a requirement for graduation. Students must take on something that is new to them, and the activity often involves a community service. The project must feature a minimum of 15 hours and the student must select three goals to reach. Seniors must also do a presentation about their project at semester's end. Oviedo gave his presentation Monday.

Oviedo has lived in Homedale all his life. He has one sister, Michelle, 25 who also lives in Homedale.

After high school, Oviedo plans to study criminology in college because he wants to be a crime scene investigator.

"I've always wanted to be a cop, ever since I was a little boy," he said.

Story and photos by Karen Bresnahan

Snow arrives just in time for Homedale holiday parade



Photos
and story by
Karen
Bresnahan

Kids in the community with the right connections, got to ride on top of one of the fire trucks during the holiday parade.



Homedale Elementary schoolchildren sing Christmas carols.



 $\label{thm:condition} \textit{A giant snowman moves through Homedale's snowy streets on Saturday}.$



Parents and their children line the streets, gathering candy that was tossed from floats.



Fourth-grader Kandace Chadwick arrives at the parade with Warren Leavitt, ready to sing Christmas carols.



Merry carolers from the elementary school won third place.



Les and Jenny Shank of Homedale won second place in the parade for their antique automobile.



Ho Ho Ho...



Even parades are better, if you've got a sucker.

Snow and Santa come to Homedale



Christmas is heaven for little munchkins on the Donna's Daycare float.

Cold temperatures and near-blizzard conditions did not stop the people of Homedale from celebrating the town's annual Christmas holiday parade.

The winds blew and the snow came down on dozens of parade entries, which included a few floats, cars, wagons, a horse and carriage, the Homedale High School Marching Band and, of course, Santa Claus.

Crowds of families lined the streets, and children scrambled eagerly for the candy that was tossed to spectators. A canned food drive was also held during the parade, with a float dedicated for the collection.

Santa arrived in a sleigh, but as the parade continued, he traded up for a nice comfortable car.

The Owyhee County 150th anniversary celebration float was the largest entry. It won first place and \$30 in Santa Bucks from the Chamber of Commerce.

Second place went to Les and Jenny Shenk in their classic truck, and they were given \$20 in Santa Bucks.

Third place in the parade was awarded to the Homedale Elementary School carolers float, and they won \$10 in Santa Bucks. The Santa Bucks are good at various businesses in town until Dec. 31.



What could be more fun than riding on the sheriff's office float that is a boat?



Reindeer come in all sizes.



Megan Aman wears a chipmunk hat, just for fun as she plays in the HHS band.



Mike and Jeannie Beavers enjoy riding in their horse and carriage representing Frontier Communications.

Page 17

Austin Emry reaches Big Sky meet again

Avalanche Sports

Marsing girls hammer North Star Charter

Page 18

Trojans sweep hardwood rivalry games

Girls roll to fourth straight win

A slow start didn't impede Homedale High School's run to a fourth consecutive girls' basketball victory Thursday.

Tory Lane was perfect in six trips to free-throw line and hit a three-point goal, registering 16 points in the Trojans' 52-29 non-conference victory over host Marsing.

The Huskies (1-3 overall after winning their 2A Western Idaho Conference opener Saturday) eked out a 5-4 lead in the first quarter.

"After that, we settled into our offense and played a lot better," second-year Homedale coach Joe Betancourt said. "(The Huskies) play a very aggressive half-court man (defense), and it gave us problems early on."

Shelby Dines scored 12 points to lead Marsing, which had fallen behind 23-12 by halftime. The 5-foot-10 off-guard, who has been dealing with stress fractures in her legs, rested after the middle of the third quarter, first-year Huskies coach Jaime Wood said.

The Trojans iced the game with a 16-5 spurt to open the second half

"They're a good team, and they kind of have their legs under them, and that was just our third game," Wood said. "We were just not in game shape."

Missy Hardy and Kieya Buckley scored five points each for Marsing.

Homedale guard Morgan Nash scored 10 points and led a stifling defense with four steals. Hattie Mertz chipped in nine points and eight rebounds.

Dec. 3: Homedale 58, Nampa Christian 35 — Another balanced offensive attack carried Homedale to another non-conference blowout in Nampa.

Senior Kaylee Rupp led all scorers with 14 points and ripped

— See **Girls,** page **19**



Homedale's Elise Shenk battles heavy defense from Shannon Clover and a Marsing teammate during Thursday's game on the Huskies' floor. Photo by Dan Pease

Boys get defensive vs. Huskies

Homedale High School showed its versatility during Friday's boys' basketball victory over Marsing.

"Our defensive pressure led to offensive opportunities," secondyear HHS coach Casey Grove said. "It really showed in the second half."

The Trojans limited their rivals to six points in the second half of a 57-19 non-conference blowout inside the HHS gymnasium.

Homedale (2-0 at the end of the week) outscored Marsing, 20-2, in the game's final eight minutes.

"We only allowed six points total in the second half. It was a total team effort," Grove said. "Everyone is buying into the team concept. Everyone realizes that we don't lose any production from our bench players, in fact they have been out-playing our starters at times."

Highly competitive practices has helped with the depth, the coach said.

Trey Lane and Dillon Lowder scored 10 points each against the Huskies, but even the only player not to get into the scoring column had an impact.

"Lane didn't have a very good offensive night but he had eight rebounds, five blocks, and four steals," Grove said. "He helped the team out in other aspects of the game instead of scoring."

The Trojans cut their turnovers by two-thirds from their opener to Friday's game. Homedale committed just 10 turnovers against the Huskies, and Jesse Padilla and Angel Cardenas led the team with three assists apiece.

Padilla also had three steals, while Caleb Oviedo collected six of his eight rebounds on Marsing's end of the floor.

Jose Acuna scored 11 points for the Huskies, and teammate Ben Isert added six. Marsing was 0-for-7 from the foul line.

Christofferson stands tall in state folkstyle tournament

Fifth-grader one of two Homedale wrestlers to medal

Two Homedale Wrestling Club competitors reached the podium Saturday in the USA Idaho State Folkstyle Tournament.

Brayden Christofferson won the Novice 85-pound state championship when he pinned Kyle Smith of the Bonners Ferry Wrestling Club in 1 minute, 29 seconds of the second round of their title match.

Joseph Egusquiza, who like Christoffersen is a fifth-grader at Homedale Middle School, finished fifth in the Novice 70-pound division after a 10-5 majority decision against Kyle Richardson of the 3 Style Elite Wrestling Club.

The state tournament took place in Moscow.

Christofferson's other matches, included:

- A 12-second pin of Carson Dowell of Bonners Ferry in the opening round
- A 38-second pin in the semifinals against Tanner Russell of Team Bullcatcher

Egusquiza's tournament included:

- A 9-0 majority decision loss to Team Bullcatcher's Owen Rogers in the opening round
- A first-round pin (1:18) of Tyson Tucker from Potlatch
- A majority decision (11-2) over Bridger Norman of Sugar-Salem
- A 6-2 majority decision loss to Rogers in the third/fourth place qualifier

Sports

Season of optimism starts slow for Trojans wrestlers

Coach expects things to heat up once key athletes return to mat

Toby Johnson's 17th season as Homedale High School wrestling coach got off to a mild start during

the Calhoun Classic in Nyssa, Ore.

Facing a season opener with some front-line varsity athletes missing, the Trojans still managed four top-six wrestlers.

"We took a lot of young wrestlers to Nyssa on Friday and Saturday," Johnson said.
"Many of our varsity guys were sidelined with injuries and

and other things."
Sophomore Nash Johnson went

Sophomore Nash Johnson went 4-1 and finished third at 126 pounds.

Andy Montes, a sophomore at 106 (3-2), 182-pound senior Curtis Stansell and 220-pound sophomore Manny Macias (both 1-2) all collected top-six finishes.

Homedale began a new season with plenty of returners who helped the Trojans to a 17-2 record in dual meets a year ago. Homedale finished third during the 3A Snake River Valley confer-

ence duals season then finished eighth (just 4.5 points out of seventh) in the 3A state tournament behind the second state title of Tyler Hardy's career and five top-six wrestlers overall.

Hardy, at 113 pounds, and Brad McCain (fifth place at 195) have graduated, but several state-meet qualifiers are back.

The list includes juniors An-

drew Randall and Michael Deleon (two-time state qualifiers), and 2013 state placers senior Jovan Cornejo (fourth at 160), junior Devin Fisher (third at 126) and Nash Johnson (fourth at 106).

Randall and Deleon are both nursing injuries to start the season, and Fisher has been on a family

vacation.

Toby Johnson also lists Stan-

sell, Montes junior Colton Grimm (195), senior Tyson Furlott (170) and sophomore John Collett (160) as key returners.

"We would really like to im-

prove on our five-medal, top-eight finish and take more than nine to State," the coach said. Key freshmen graduating from

the middle school program include Caleb Meligan, Jacob Furtlott and Shane Keller, Johnson said.

..... JPB

omedale

HHS grad locks down Big Sky berth

Emry kicks off final collegiate season with heptathlon win at E. Washington

Austin Emry didn't waste much time qualifying for the Big Sky Conference championship meet.

The Homedale High School graduate opened his final indoor track and field season with the University of Montana with a qualifying time in the 55-meter hurdles.

Emry's 7.56-second effort also helped him win the heptathlon at the sixth annual Candy Cane Invitational in Cheney, Wash.

Emry scored 5,529 points over Friday and Saturday in the multievent heptathlon on the Eastern Washington University campus. He was 94 points shy of his school-record personal best of 5,623 points from last year's Candy Cane Invitational.

In Saturday's conclusion of the heptathlon, Emry cleared 14 feet, 9 inches in the pole vault and ran the 1,000 meters in 2 minutes, 52.52 seconds.

Emry's quest to beat his own record was derailed with his long jump experience on Friday. He scratched on his first two attempts as he pushed for 25 feet. Emry turned conservative and settled for a 21-8¾ in his final try.

"He was over 23 feet on his first two jumps but just over the board. On his third jump he took off a foot and a half behind the board, so he probably lost 100 points in that event alone," UM track and field coach Brian Schweyen said. "But Austin was still solid."

The son of Stuart and Lori Emry has two months to amass a better score in the seven-event discipline and qualify for the NCAA national meet, which will be held March 14-15 in Albuquerque in New Mexico.

The Big Sky Conference meet will be held at Idaho State University in Pocatello from Feb. 27 to March 1. In 2013, Emry placed 12th in the heptathlon at indoor nationals with a score of 5,486.

Next up for Emry is a meet in Bozeman, Mont., at Montana State on Jan. 6-7.

HMS to host SRV wrestling finals

Several athletes have successful tune-up week

Homedale Middle School wrestlers tuned up for hosting the conference championship meet Saturday with a busy week.

The 3A Snake River Valley conference meet takes place inside the HMS gymnasium beginning Saturday morning.

The Trojans were in a tournament-type atmosphere Saturday at Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, Ore., for the annual 3A SRV-2A Western Idaho Conference Duals

German Albor was unbeaten in five matches, while Kaden Binford — a newcomer to the program — won five of his seven matches.

Drew Deal and Jesse Packer were both 4-1, while Edgar Navarette was 4-2. Jesse Martinat, David Villanueva and Izaiah Lopez were 3-1.

Last Wednesday, Homedale hit the road for a 3A Snake River Valley conference tri-meet against Ontario, Ore., and host Weiser.

Homedale won 55 percent of its matches with Aaron Macias and Jordan Packer both notching 3-0 records. Villanueva, Navarette, Jesse Packer, Mathew Miklancic and Martinat each went 2-0.

Drew Deal was 2-1, and Lopez and Jose Uriarte won their only match of the afternoon.

Jose Buenrostro and Jordan Packer went 3-0, and Martinat and Deal were both unbeaten in two matches as the Trojans collected 23 wins in 49 matches against visiting wrestlers from Fruitland and McCain-Parma on Dec. 2.

Buy it, sell it, trade it, rent it... in the

Classifieds!



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Athlete of the Week

Hattie Mertz, jr., girls' basketball

The Play — The forward averaged 8.5 points and 5.5 rebounds per game in the Trojans' two victories last week. She scored nine points with three rebounds and a blocked shot in the Dec. 3 non-conference win over Nampa Christian. On Thursday against rival Marsing, she pulled down eight rebounds and chipped in nine points.

Girls' Basketball

Varsity

Thursday, Dec. 12 vs. New Plymouth, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17 at Melba, 7:30 p.m. Junior varsity

Thursday, Dec. 12 vs. New Plymouth, 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17 at Melba, 6 p.m. Frosh-soph

Thursday, Dec. 12 vs. New Plymouth, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17 at Melba, 4:30 p.m.

Wrestling

Wednesday, Dec. 18 at Marsing, 6 p.m.

Boys' Basketball

Varsity

Thursday, Dec. 12 at Melba, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 at Vale, Ore., 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17 at Marsing, 7:30 p.m. Junior varsity

Thursday, Dec. 12 at Melba, 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 at Vale, Ore., 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17 at Marsing, 6 p.m. Frosh-soph

Thursday, Dec. 12 at Melba, 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 at Vale, Ore., 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17 at Marsing, 4:45 p.m.











Sports

Dynamic Dines delivers for Marsing girls's first win

Huskies open WIC with easy victory on road

Shelby Dines isn't your prototypical shooting guard,

but the Marsing High School sophomore is getting along just fine in that position these days.

Dines scored 18 points Saturday as Marsing snapped a season-opening three-game girls' basketball losing streak against North Star Charter in Eagle. "She's doing well," first-year Marsing coach Jaime Wood said. "She's handling the ball good and driving to the basket."

Missy Hardy chipped in 11 points for Marsing (1-3 overall, 1-0 2A WIC), and Destiny Reynolds added nine points.

"The girls were a little angry or hungry, whatever you want to call it, so they came out and played really well and took care of the basketball," Wood said.

The coach credited Thursday night's rough go with Homedale for steeling his players again ballhawking defense.

"They definitely made us better," he said. "They came out and pressure hard, and that's what we needed."

Every player on the Marsing roster scored during the dismantling of North Star.

Marsing boys learning to adjust to new system, coach

Little emphasizes efficient offense, intense defense

The growing pains have been apparent for the Marsing High School boys' basketball team.

Tim Little, formerly the MHS girls' basketball coach, has taken the reins, and implementation of a new system resulted in low offensive output during an 0-2 start to the season.

"This system will be different and difficult to get used to for some players," Little said. "There will be a sharp learning curve, and players must see the big picture, as learning the system may take time."

Marsing struggled offensively in its first two games, averaging just 21 points in losses to Parma (46-23) and Homedale (57-19).

Sophomore Rodrigo Acuna scored 11 points in Dec. 3's loss to the visiting Panthers. He also had four steals.

Marsing committed 21 turn-overs against Parma.

"We have a tough preseason and are in the process of still adjusting to a new system," Little said afterward.
"The growing pains are frustrating, but as time goes on things will get better."

Little said that in both of last week's games turnovers and low



shooting percentages from the free-throw line and the field were concerning.

Little inherited a team from JW Chadez that was without senior standouts Jason Galligan and Miguel Leon. Those two stalwarts of last year's fourth-place 2A District III Tournament team graduated after All-2A Western Idaho Conference and senior all-star nominations.

Returning from last season's 14-10 team are guard Jose Acuna and forwards Les Loucks and Dylan Breshears.

Little, who coached Sweet Home, Ore.'s boys' squad to 50 wins and two 4A Oregon state playoffs appearances between 2004-05 and 2007-08, brings a methodical philosophy to Marsing, which coincidentally has the same mascot (the Husky) as Sweet Home.

"Each possession, we will work for the best shot we can get. Doing so will help us control the tempo, reduce turnovers and make the opposition work while trying to shorten up the game on both ends of the court," the coach said.

"Getting our shot each possession can only happen if we learn basic, correct technique on some fundamentals to get the best shot possible."

Much like his outlook while guiding the Marsing girls' team to a pair of 2A state tournament appearances, Little hangs his hat on stopping the opposing team's offense.

"Defensively, I want the program to be great," he said. "Becoming great can only happen with intensity, dedication to do things correct and ability to learn some basic and advanced fundamentals on the defensive end.

"We will try to limit looks to contested outside shots, blocking opponents out and trying to give them only one opportunity each offensive possession."





Marsing's Dylan Breshears steadies himself on a Parma defender while attempting a finger-roll at home. Photo by Dan Pease

MAIRSING HUSIKIES

Winter Sports

Athlete of the Week

Jose Acuna, sr., boys' basketball

The Play — In a two-game week during which the Huskies struggled in a new offense, the guard averaged 7.5 points and nailed a pair of three-point goals. He scored all 11 of his points from the floor as Marsing managed just 19 points against Homedale on Friday.





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Boys' Basketball

Varsity

Thursday, Dec. 12 at Parma, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17, home vs. Homedale, 7:30 p.m. Junior varsity A

Thursday, Dec. 12 at Parma, 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17, home vs. Homedale, 6 p.m. Junior varsity B

Thursday, Dec. 12 at Parma, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17, home vs. Homedale, 4:45 p.m.

Girls' Basketball

Varsity

Thursday, Dec. 12, home vs. Payette, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13, home vs. Nampa Christian, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 at Parma, 7:30 p.m. Junior varsity

Thursday, Dec. 12, home vs. Payette, 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13, home vs. Nampa Christian, 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 at Parma, 6 p.m.

Husky Wrestling

Friday, Dec. 13 at Buck's Bags Boise Valley Duals, Capital H.S., Boise, 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 at Buck's Bags Boise Valley Duals, Capital H.S., Boise, 9 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18, home vs. Homedale, 6 p.m. Շիր Քա<u>ր</u>իթը Ղառևոստից 337-4681



Sports

Raiders win third straight

Rimrock High School put Garden Valley in an early hole to win its third straight game to start the girls' basketball season.

Hailey Boman and Kyla Jewett fueled a big run in the first eight minutes Dec. 3 as the Raiders handled the Grizzlies, 59-36, in a non-conference road game.

Desi Meyers put in a co-gamehigh 15 points for the Raiders.

Rimrock started on a 20-3 tear as Boman scored eight points and Jewett hit one of her team's two three-pointers as part of her seven points. Meyers nailed a trey in the second to help Rimrock build a 20-point lead at the break.

Marylynn Morgan scored 15 points to lead Garden Valley.

Sakota Hall and Mickie Newman led Rimrock with eight rebounds each. The Raiders held a 29-6 advantage on Garden Valley's glass.

Furlott gets fourth in prep debut

Jacob Furlott captured fourth place at 120 pounds in his first high school wrestling competition at the Calhoun Classic junior varsity meet. The Homedale freshman went 4-2.

In all, seven Trojans has more than one victory during the twoday tournament that ended Saturday in Nyssa, Ore.

Jairo Hurtado (126), Coty Ford (138) and Adrian Monreal (145) were all 3-2. Korbin Osborn (106), Jesse Watson (138) and Quentin Thornton (145) were 2-2.

√ **Girls:** HHS dominates with scoring, rebounding

From Page 16

away nine rebounds to go with two steals.

Elise Shenk scored 10 points and dished five assists. She also had three steals.

Tory Lane and Destiny Lone scored nine points apiece for Homedale, which owned a 16-point lead after three quarters against winless Nampa Christian.

Hattie Mertz scored eight points and grabbed three rebounds.

Kelsey Castledine scored 13 points to lead Nampa Christian, which also received 11 from Katie Rhodes.

Tall, talented Trojans take aim at title

Boys' bench brews second-year coach's optimism

For the second year in a row, two senior transfers are providing a spark for the Homedale High School boys' basketball team.

Unlike last season, the height forwards Lane Sale (6-foot-6) and Talon Freelove (6-3) possess is complemented by several other Trojans taller than six feet.

"We have a lot of size and athleticism," second-year HHS coach Casey Grove said. "We are going to run, run, run and run some more.

"This year, we not only have size, but everyone can run the floor. If we have to slow a game down, we can because we have the size to do it."

The Trojans showed that knack in their first two games, holding back Melba, 71-59, with strong rebounding and great perimeter shooting, then dismantling Marsing, 57-19, with defense and scoring Friday

"We have the size, "Dillon Lowder experience and most importantly the depth to compete for a title," is very Grove said while acknowledging Fruitland is still a force with its 11 consecutive 3A Snake River Valley conference championships.

Sale and Freelove are transfers from Vallivue and already helped the Trojans' football team into the 3A state semifinals for the first time. Last year, Ricky McBride and Adam Abrego were the transfers that made a difference as Homedale went 10-11. Point guard Hayden Krzesnik also graduated in the spring, leaving the Trojans light on experience at point guard.

"(Sale) brings an unmeasurable amount of intensity and leadership to the program," Grove said. "He has a motor that doesn't stop.

Not only is he tall, but her runs and jumps really well."

Freelove has been part of the scoring triumvirate with returning senior Trey Lane, a 6-1 guard, and first-year varsity player Dillon Lowder, a 6-1 junior forward.

"Trey worked really hard this summer and played really well

for us," Grove said. "He is a great scorer and one of our best defensive players."

Freelove is returning to Homedale after leaving in the midst of his sophomore year.

"Talon is a great allaround athlete," Grove said. "He runs and jumps well. His shot improved greatly over the summer."

Lowder has emerged as the Trojans' leading scorer in the early goings, averaging 13 points per game.

"He has a lot of potential," Grove said. "With Dillon, it will be a matter of putting in the work on the defensive end. Of-

fensively, Dillon is very good. He is very quick and athletic."

Sale has been one of the defensive anchors thus far. He had five blocked shots against Marsing and is averaging 2.5 steals and 3 blocks per game. Another senior, 5-8 guard Jesse Padilla, leads the team with three steals after making his season debut in Game 2 on Friday against the Huskies.

"We will be very aggressive on defense and try to create turnovers, which hopefully will lead to fast break points," Grove

The team pulled off 21 steals in its first two games.

Another returning senior, 6-3 power forward Caleb Oviedo, has shown just how well the Trojans may be able to use their height.



The new backboards coaches Casey Grove, on ladder, and Luke Ankeny, in lift, installed with some help before the start of the season aren't the only new goals the Homedale High School boys' basketball team are shooting for this season. Photo by Karen Bresnahan

He's averaging 12 rebounds per game.

"Caleb run cross country this year, so he is going to come into the season in much better shape," Grove said. "I think Caleb is going to be the surprise player in the SRV this season.

"He can shoot well from both inside and out. He has a natural nose for the ball."

Senior power forward Britt Eubanks, another major cog in the Trojans' football success, returns after working on his jump shot in the offseason, Grove said.

"Britt brings a lot of intensity to the program," Grove said. "He expects a lot out of himself and his teammates. He plays great defense and rebounds well."

Angel Cardenas, a 5-8 senior guard, is another returner, and his coach praises him for his unselfish nature on the floor.

Connor Carter, a 6-1 sophomore guard, has made an impact early in his first season with the big club. He's averaging 6 points per game.

"He is a good shooter and has a high basketball IQ," Grove said. "He improved a lot over the summer as far as adjusting to the varsity style of play. I expect great things from him now and for the next three years."

— JPB



That's when the Owyhee Avalanche hits the news stands

HES fitness drive gets boost

Grant helps walking club build incentives

A school group will keep walking thanks to an Idaho Community Foundation grant.

The ICF's Southwestern Regional Grants Panel selected Homedale Elementary School's Walkin' Talkin' Trojans to receive money in the latest round of awards.

ICF distributed \$201,000 to 98 southwestern Idaho and central Idaho nonprofits, educational organizations and governmental entities.

The HES Walkin' Talkin' Trojans walking club, which is directed by school physical education teacher Dan Moore, received \$500, which is a substantial chunk of the program's \$1,250 annual budget.

"(The budget) varies based on the number of students that achieve higher goals at the end of the year," Moore said. "The program costs approximately 10 cents per mile walked; in the last two years, we have walked more than 12,500 miles each year."

The program encourages students to stay active by setting goals of walking during the school

year. Club members walk during the school week to get to their goals.

And, Moore said, it's not just for the kids.

"The community is encouraged to come and walk with our students," he said. "We have numerous parents, grandparents and other relatives that come and walk with our students."

Several school staff members also are part of the walking club, he said: "Many of them have received 50-mile T-shirts in the past few years."

Visitors for the walks must sign a check-in sheet at the paved track, which lines the elementary school's perimeter.

The ICF grant will be used to pay for incentive programs for those children who reach their goals. Some of the incentives include lunchtime parties, sports parties with Homedale High School athletes, 50-mile club T-shirts and year-end parties at the YMCA for 75-milers and Wahooz for the 100-mile club.

At least 375 students have participated in the club's 13th year, and Moore said more than 150 students have walked more than 10 miles. Many students have walked 30, 40 or 50 miles

already during the lunch recess get-togethers on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

"Our students have walked more than 125,000 miles during the past 12½ years," Moore said. "This program has been an extremely beneficial program in the health and happiness of our students and entire community."

Basic awards come every 10 miles achieved and include popcorn parties at lunch, free books and a special foot token. At 20 miles, students receive a chain necklace to hold the tokens.

The rewards have already started this year:

- A pizza and movie party for the top class in each grade level during the first monthly class challenge
- A Subway sandwich and movie party for the winning classes in the second monthly challenge

Currently, there is a schoolwide challenge. The top 25 percent of walkers from each grade level at the end of the challenge will qualify for either a sports party/clinic hosted by the HHS wrestling and volleyball teams or a party/clinic put on by the high school basketball teams.

— JPI

Stephan Craig Puterbaugh



Sean Rogers

Renowned musicians to perform classic Christmas concert

Two local musicians will present a free concert Saturday at the First Presbyterian Church in Homedale.

Pianist Sean Rogers and tenor Stephan Craig Puterbaugh will perform "A Classic Kind of Christmas" at 4 p.m. inside the church at 320 N. 6th St. W.

An Ontario, Ore., resident Rogers has worked with the Music Theater of Idaho, the Ring Praise group, where he accompanies Phyllis Tincher's bells, the Nampa Presbyterian Church, and the Old Time Fiddlers' Festival. His repertoire ranges from classical to jazz, from musical comedy to church organ to historic Idaho folk music.

Puterbaugh sings music from a wide variety of styles, including musical theater and cabaret songs.

He has been a soloist in operas and oratorios.

"It is going to be warm, classicfeeling music," Puterbaugh said of Saturday's concert.

"I am truly excited to perform in Homedale. I love performing in churches because of the great sound you get and the warmth of this time of the year."

Church publicist Carolyn Rees said the church is a special place to see the duo in concert.

"Sean and Stephan are of an entirely different level of musicianship and showmanship," she said. "The Homedale Presbyterian Church was constructed with special attention to fine acoustics."

For more information, contact Homedale Presbyterian pastor Marianne Paul at (208) 850-5172

Grand View's ICF grant brings radios

An Idaho Community Foundation grant will help the City of Grand View improve communications.

The ICF's Southwestern Regional Grants Panel awarded \$1,250 for Grand View to buy two-way radios for its public works department.

Grand View public works employees will use the radios during water, sewer and public emergencies. They'll also communicate

through during routine maintenance of the city infrastructure.

"New radios will provide a reliable means of communication for the public works and improve response time for emergencies," Grand View public works supervisor Bob Servis said.

Homedale Elementary School and Grand View were the only Owyhee County interests to receive ICF grants during this grant Money for the grants comes from several ICF funds that were established by donors to benefit southwest and central Idaho. To donate, go to www.idcomfdn. org, click on Donate Today, enter "Greatest Need Endowment Fund for Southwest Idaho" in the Fund Name search field, click Search, and then click on the fund name to access the donation form.

water, sewer and public emergencies. They'll also communicate cycle. —JPB Advent observation on Sunday, that day, the incorporation of the communication o

Vandals struck Homedale-area mine in 2011

The Bureau of Land Management has completed cleanup and removal of an historic mercury mine southwest of Homedale.

Earlier this month, the federal agency announced the administrative record of its cleanup and removal actions at the Mac D Mercury Mine and Retort site was available for public review. The BLM Boise District's Hazardous Materials unit oversaw the work.

A public comment period runs through Jan. 10.

"We are open to substantive comments regarding the removal of that facility," BLM Boise District spokesperson MJ Byrne

Written comments can be sent to project manager Carrie Wontorcik at the BLM's Boise District Office, 3948 S. Development



The remnants of the Mac D Mercury Mine were removed by BLM crews earlier this year. Photo by Carrie Wontorcik / BLM

Ave., Boise, ID 83705-5339. Comments also may be emailed to cwontorcik@blm.gov.

The administrative record file can be reviewed from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the BLM's Owyhee Field Office, 20 1st Ave. W., in Marsing.

Just over two years ago, the mill came to the BLM's attention when the agency began investigating vandalism at the site of the abandoned mine. Vandals had apparently used cutting torches to remove metal support mechanisms, compromising the structure's integrity and creating a hazard, so the area was fenced.

During the investigation, BLM officials became aware of how extensive the site was.

At the time, the agency reported finding mercury contamination on the ground after someone had vandalized the retort.

BLM Boise District spokesperson MJ Byrne said the BLM is still looking into the origins of the mercury found at the site.

According to BLM, the mercury mine site was last active about 47 years ago. — JPB

Homedale Christian Church continues Advent observance

Women's prayer today; Brownies troop planned

Homedale Christian Church celebration of Advent continues this weekend with the third Sunday of Advent.

The third advent candle will be lit Sunday, and at 6 p.m., a light supper will precede the church's annual Christmas Program.

The church is located at 110 W. Montana Ave., in Homedale.

Homedale Christian Church's Disciples Women's Prayer Meeting begins at 2 p.m. today at the church. Those attending are asked to bring a Christmas poem or thought.

Advent observances began Dec. 1 with a special reading and the lighting of the first candle. The church service followed with the hanging of the holiday greens and the traditional potluck on the first Sunday of the month.

The second Advent candle was lit last Sunday, and the fourth candle will be lighted

on Sunday, Dec. 22. At 4 p.m. that day, the church will hold its inaugural Longest Night Service of Remembering. The non-denominational special service will be held to honor and celebrate the lives of lived ones who have passed away or for an individual who is in need of special uplifting in their lives.

The Homedale Christian Church has an open-door policy and invites anyone to its services. Regular Sunday services begin at 10 a.m. for adult Bible study. Worship is at 11 a.m., and the children church begins at the same time.

In other church news, Barbie Vander Boegh and Laryssa Takashige are starting a Brownies Girl Scout troop, the meetings for which will be held during regular children church on Sundays. For information, call Vander Boegh at 337-3486.

Minister Maurice Jones officiates church services, and he can be reached at 319-4650.

For all other questions, call Rob Troxel at 896-4279 or Jan Aman at 337-3149.

A little romance and a lot of luck Local man wings it with Thanksgiving flyover proposal

"It was do or die, and I had no backup plan"

there is no time to waste and when it comes to romance, no plan is too crazy, as demonstrated by a Homedale family over the Thanksgiving holiday.

Jacob McRae met Megan Bailey while away at college at Brigham Young University Idaho, in Rexburg. He took one look at her and told a friend, "Man, that girl is super cute. Who is she?" That started a whirlwind romance for the two of them that brought them home for the holiday break to meet his family.

Jacob enlisted the help of his mom, Andrea McCrae, and his little brother, Garrett McCrae for ideas on how he could propose to Megan.

"Jacob rarely does anything simple and usually has great ideas that he acts on," Andrea said. She actually came up with the idea of the couple flying over the property.

As plan No. 1 began to form, Jacob imagined they would fly over the family home and look down on burning letters that said, "Will you marry me?" But that idea was soon "extinguished" by his dad, Allen McRae, who reminded him it just wasn't feasible.

"I was so disappointed," Jacob said. "I really wanted burning letters, but they would have just turned into a burning mass, and she wouldn't have seen what it was," he said.

So, plan No. 2 was born. Jacob's little brother made a trip to downtown Homedale to The Owyhee Avalanche and purchased several large roll ends of paper, which they proceeded to cut in half with a chop saw. Next, the family tried to lay the letters out on the ground, and the wind started to blow them away. Luckily, they had some small chunks of kindling on hand to hold the letters down. They decided it just might work.

Step two of plan 2 involved enlisting the help of the neighbors, of course. So, when Jacob's

When you meet the right girl, family friend, Russ Tackett, he happily joined in the caper. The family even code-named the idea "Operation Sparkle Hawk." The situation was made to look totally spontaneous, and "Russ was perfect," said Jacob. "He was totally calm and played along."

Tackett was sitting in his plane at the airport when he met up with the couple, seemingly by chance. He explained that he was supposed to take someone else for a plane ride, but they didn't show up. So, he invited Jacob and Megan to go instead.

"My biggest fear was that she wouldn't want to fly in the plane," Jacob said. "It was do or die, and I had no backup plan," he explained.

Tackett flew the couple on a tour of the Owyhees and told them he always filmed his flights. He asked them to video tape the scenery and handed Jacob the camera.

Megan said later about the flight, "It was really pretty, but I'm from Tennessee where there are a lot of trees, so we saw a lot of brown. She thought it was weird that they were video taping the flight.

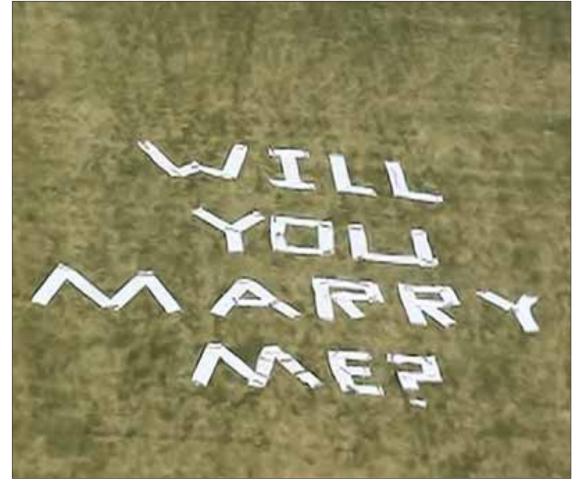
The flight lasted about 15 minutes, Jacob said. "We even swooped down on some deer," he said.

"Hey, have you ever seen your house from the air?" Tackett questioned the couple.

So, then they flew along Succor Creek until they came to the area where the family home was

In the meantime, family members and friends had gone out to the field and worked as fast as they could to spell out in giant letters, "Will you marry me?" for the couple.

When the moment arrived and they flew over the sign, Jacob asked Megan, "Hey did you see that?" He said Megan was giggly and happy, and as they flew over the sight a second time, he pulled the ring out of his pocket and told her, "Megan I love you, will you Idaho. He is a political science athletic trainer. Jacob will graduate



A very important question — spelled out with roll ends purchased at The Owyhee Avalanche — was placed in a field near Homedale on Thanksgiving day. Submitted photo

and they kissed in flight. Jacob said she was completely surprised by everything.

"I was shocked," Megan said later. I was giggling and I didn't know what to do. I couldn't believe he planned the whole thing. He really went all out."

Down below, there were 16 family members, including a group of his friends from college waving at them from the back deck of the home.

Andre McCrae said, "As a mom, I shed a few happy tears at the time, which added to an already perfect Thanksgiving."

Jacob proudly told the Avalanche, "It was great. I had nearly all my siblings and best friends there."

Jacob has two brothers and four sisters. They are: Trent, 26, Garrett, 16, Kali, 28, Ali, 20, Shelby, 18 and Lindsey, 14. He is the son of Alan and Andrea

Jacob, 24, is a senior at BYU



Back on Terra Firma, Jacob McRae, takes a knee in front of his fiance, Megan Bailey, to re-enact the mid-air matrimonial question.

Megan, 18, is a freshman at the school, majoring in exercise physiology, and plans to be an mom Andrea called a long-time marry me?" She answered yes, major, with double secondary in April, and he says that getting

majors in pre-law and sociology. engaged is the best graduation present ever. The couple has not decided on the wedding date yet, but they now have a real

See the big event

Jacob McCrae's family posted a video of his unique marriage proposal on YouTube. You can view it at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0fGUi9j3EaU&list=HL1386016774&feature=mh lolz



GV church presents annual **Christmas** production

The Valley Christian Fellowship east of Grand View presents its annual Christmas nativity play Sunday.

"Real Christmas" follows two hooligan teenagers who steal a Salvation Army donation kettle, and hide unknowingly in a time machine. They end up being transported to the time of Jesus' birth, where they encounter a man named Simeon who teaches them truth about themselves and Jesus.

Dinner will be provided after the play.

The play takes place at 6 p.m. at Valley Christian Fellowship, 37866 State Hwy. 78, which is three miles east of Grand View.

The cast includes Lanie Jenkins as Mary, Timothy Hook as Joseph, Robin Holmquist as the Archangel Gabriel, Dean Schultz at Innkeeper No. 1 and Garry Boeger as Innkeeper No. 2.

For more information, call (208) 834-2655.

Lanie Jenkins plays the role of Mary, and Timothy Hook is Joseph in the Valley Christian Fellowship production of "Real Christmas." Submitted photo

Commentary

Baxter Black, DVM

On the edge of



common sense

Crypt orchid is king

"In the land of the geldings, the crypt orchid is king." That seems to be the best way to describe American politics since Reagan or Truman. But we get what we deserve.

Politics by nature is divisive, susceptible to corruption and injurious to the participant. Government bureaucracy is the pre-eminent example of Peter's Principle, which says as long as one achieves at a position he is in, he will be promoted. When he finally reaches a position he is not good in, he remains at that level. Mediocrity is the

The appointed jobs after elections often go to big campaign donors or cronies. Cabinet members and judicial positions are only as good as the judgment of the president himself. Then stop and remember how presidents are chosen. By the time they reach that level they are fully gelded politicians. To paraphrase William Buckley, "I would rather be governed by the first 400 people in the St. Jo phone book, than by the hapless congress and administration in Washington, D.C."

We are governed by the lowest common denominator. I don't know which is more unintelligibly obtuse: A politician being interviewed by a reporter OR an NFL lineman being questioned about his poor performance. When they pontificate from the podium that "everybody counts or nobody counts, that we are all in this together," ask yourself why every senator, representative, administration member and their sycophants are exempt from the forcefed debacles they create and we, the victims, are gagging

We resent CEOs in business who wreck a company, get fired and walk away with millions of dollars. Our own elected government potentates in Washington wreak their own havoc but have protected themselves with a "golden parachute" that would make Donald Trump blush!

I must admit, after making these comments I have little hope that it will ever change. Even the terms of Presidents Washington, Adams and Jefferson were beset with connivery, slander and sabotage. "Lack of character" did not begin with Nixon or end with Clinton. The most we can expect from our leaders is "not to make it worse."

On a lighter note, once you get over the indignation, disgust and urge to protest, try this: While watching them squawk politico-media blather on television with their talk show accomplices, turn the sound down. Then imagine they are actors on a reality show discussing hemorrhoid medications. At least it would be more believable.

— Visit Baxter's Web site at www.baxterblack.com for more features and to purchase Baxter Black merchandise, including his newest compilation, "Poems Worth Saving," other books and DVDs.

Letters to the editor

Marsing community dinner a glimpse of what should be

A big thank you to The Owyhee Avalanche for the spread on the Marsing community dinner put on by the Marsing Assembly of God Church, Lizard Butte Baptist Church, First Church of the Nazarene, Vision Bible Church, Marsing City Council and American Legion Post 128 of Marsing. (Page 11A, Nov. 27).

I even saw some Catholics and Mormons there, not just for a meal but all in a spirit of community — a spirit of

It was refreshing to see so many Christian churches join with two secular organizations in such a worthy cause. Why can't more Christians play nice with each other, as in this event?

It would seem that such variant groups, dedicated to "Love one another," and to "Do unto others," could cooperate in works of charity for their professed brothers and sisters. The Marsing event is a great example of true ecumenism.

Wouldn't it be nice if we could all agree to disagree on doctrine and agree to be jointly about our Father's business, which is that "pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is ... to visit the fatherless and the widows in their affliction ... " Or as is said in another place, the purpose of having riches is "to do good — to clothe the naked, to feed the hungry, and to liberate the captive, and minister relief to the sick and afflicted."

It's a sad world in which some folks feel they have to kill "others" to prove a religious point. Two thousand years ago, the Lord of the Universe offered a prayer beginning with "Our Father ..." thus stressing the brotherhood of all mankind.

I also like the prayer of Little Tim, "God bless us,

Letters to the editor

All letters to the editor submitted to The Owyhee Avalanche must be no longer than 300 words, signed and include the writer's address and daytime phone number.

The deadline for submitting letters is noon on Friday. Letters can be submitted in these ways:

- E-mailed to jon@owyheeavalanche.com
- Faxed to (208) 337-4867
- Mailed to P.O. Box 97, Homedale ID, 83628
- Dropped off at the Avalanche office at 19 E. Idaho Ave., in Homedale

For more information, call (208) 337-4681.

everyone!"

And a warm welcome to your new reporter, Karen Bresnahan. A great photo essay.

Ray Heidt

Member, American Legion Marsing Post 128

Enviro extremists mount contradictory crusade

The radical extreme environmentalists have shown their two-faced hand.

It is OK to chop up eagles with wind turbines, but God help you if you even think of putting a transmission tower out in the sagebrush on BLM land.

P.T. Rathbone Marsing

Sen. Mike Crapo

From Washington

UN Arms Trade Treaty could infringe upon 2nd Amendment

International organizations like the United Nations (UN) cannot deny American citizens the right to bear arms. We must protect and preserve this constitutional right. That is why I joined 49 of my Senate colleagues in writing to President Obama to express strong concerns about his decision to sign the UN's Arms Trade Treaty. We conveyed our opposition to ratification of this treaty and that we do not regard the U.S. as bound to uphold the treaty's purpose.

On April 2, the UN approved the first international arms agreement, popularly referred to as the "UN Arms Trade Treaty." According to the UN, the goal of this treaty is to establish "common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms." It was adopted by the General Assembly by a vote of 154 to 3, with the support of the Obama administration. In 2009, then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton stated that the U.S. supported negotiation of the Arms Trade Treaty only by "the rule of consensus decision-making," which ended up not occurring. Twenty-three countries, including major arms exporters, abstained.

This treaty is scheduled to go into effect 90 days after 50 nations have ratified it. Secretary of State John Kerry signed the treaty on Sept. 25. However, any treaty that the U.S. signs must be ratified by two-thirds of the Senate before it can take effect. The Obama administration stated that the terms of the treaty only apply to international trade and nothing in the treaty "could ever infringe on the right of American citizens under our domestic law or the Constitution, including the Second Amendment." However, this vaguely worded treaty could be subject to broad interpretation by the UN and other international organizations and could subject the U.S. to internationally defined standards.



I am concerned that it fails to expressly exclude civilian firearm ownership from its scope and specifically focuses on small arms and light weapons and omits the right of selfdefense; it gives power to impose firearms restrictions to an international body that is not accountable to the American people; and it urges long-term recordkeeping of arms endusers, which would result in a registry of law-abiding firearms owners in the U.S. available to foreign governments. Moreover, irresponsible countries it was aimed at already have vowed not to abide by it and, accordingly, it contains no enforcement mechanism. The U.S. already has standards for controlling arms exports, and if other countries wanted to impose tighter rules on the arms trade, they could have already passed and enforced their own laws.

My most recent letter to the president reflects my ongoing concerns with the treaty. I also co-sponsored S.Con. Res. 7, which was introduced by Sen. Jerry Moran (R-Kan.) on March 13, to express that the president should not sign the Arms Trade Treaty, and that, if he does, the Senate should not ratify it. This resolution provides that no federal funds should be appropriated or authorized to implement the treaty, or to conduct relevant activities, until the Senate ratifies the treaty and has enacted legislation. On March 23, the Senate voted 53-46 to express its opposition to the treaty. I will continue to resist efforts to advance the treaty in the Senate.

The Second Amendment reads: "A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." I firmly believe this provision prohibits the federal government and the United Nations from denying citizens this right. I will continue to protect our rights guaranteed under the Second Amendment.

Commentary

Your emergency fund is about security, not growth

Dear Dave,

Is it better to keep your emergency fund in a certificate of deposit or a money market account?

— Tiffany

Dear Tiffany,

Right now, a short-term certificate of deposit (CD) pays about the same as a money market account. The problem is you're only going to make about 1 percent with either one. The good thing about a money market, though, is that there are no early withdrawal fees attached.

In my mind, an emergency fund isn't there for the purpose of making money. It needs to just sit safe and sound until it's needed. It should also be in a program where it's easily accessible and there are no stupid fees or penalties for simply using your own money.

So, yeah, savings interest rates right now are aggravating. But you don't have a 3- or 4-percent-home-mortgage world without a 1-percent CD world. They kind of go together. Just remember that interest rates aren't the end game when it comes to your emergency fund. You want three to six months of expenses just sitting there, waiting for life to happen. Trust me, it will!

— Dave

Dear Dave,

I'm in the military, and my wife



and I have \$13,000 in the bank along with \$35,000 in a Roth IRA. We also have no debt, and we put \$3,500 into our savings account each month. Our new baby is due to arrive in January, so do you think this would be a good time to buy our first home?

— Tom

Dear Tom,

Based on the market alone, it's a great time to buy a house. Interest

rates are fantastic, and prices are recovering but still buyer-friendly. However, considering your wife's delivery date and the fact that it takes a while to find and complete the process of buying a home, I think I'd wait on this. Moving is stressful enough under normal circumstances, but combining that with a pregnancy could shoot your wife's stress levels into the stratosphere. I really don't think you want to do that to her. And speaking as an old married guy, it's something *you* don't want to experience, either.

Another thing to consider is if there's a good chance you'll be reassigned in the next four or five years. We work with the military a lot, and that means we see people who buy, and get stuck with, homes all over the country. These places usually become rental homes because they don't sell quickly. And this is a situation you want to avoid because being a long-distance landlord is a real pain.

If everything falls into place, you could easily have enough set aside for a big down payment a few months after the baby arrives. At that point, things will feel a little more settled. I know the temptation is great right now to move into a place you can call your own, but you want buying a home to be a blessing, not a curse. Take a little more time, and see how things feel career- and family-wise in a few months. That's my advice.

Americans for Limited Government

Method to Senate majority's appointment filibuster madness

by Robert Romano

There is one mystery that has perplexed political observers after Senate Democrats decided to violate Senate rules allowing the minority party to block presidential appointments, and that was why it was so important to do so to help Patricia Ann Millett to get confirmed to the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals.

A cynic might want to take a look at a new Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulation severely restricting political activity of 501(c)4 organizations that was dropped the day after Thanksgiving.

After all, when this regulation is challenged — and it will be — that court, which handles cases involving federal regulations, is where the case will invariably wind up.

As for the regulation itself, not content with merely targeting Tea Party and other 501(c)4 organizations that engage in various types of political activity on an ad-hoc basis, the Obama administration via the Treasury Department has come out with a far more uniform approach to stifling (c)4 political speech.

Never mind that the law itself only explicitly prohibits 501(c)(3) charities from engaging in political activity, but not (c)(4) social welfare groups. In fact, it was the regulation that put a limitation in place. The 1960 regulation implementing 501(c)(4) states, "The promotion of social welfare does not include direct or indirect participation or intervention in political campaigns on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office."

It also further defines what social welfare means under the law: "An organization is operated exclusively for the promotion of social welfare if it is primarily engaged in promoting in some way the common good and general welfare of the people of the community."

Under existing rules, an organization may carry on electioneering activities so long as they do not constitute a majority of its activities. But no longer.

Now, limitations will be imposed not simply on advocacy for or against a candidate for public office, as has been the case for more than 50 years, but on any communication that even mentions a public official who happens to be a candidate. Specifically, the regulations will define "certain communications that are close in time to an election and that refer to a clearly identified candidate as electioneering communications."

It applies blackout periods 60 days prior to the general election and 30 days prior to primary elections at the federal, state, and local level.

But as Americans for Limited Government President Nathan Mehrens notes, this will not apply to 501(c)5 labor unions and (c)6 trade associations: "the proposed regulation does not apply to labor organizations, although the proposal states that the Administration is considering a regulation in this area. Thus, a likely result is that a final rule will be promulgated further restricting non-profit speech and activities long before any comparable regulation is

promulgated on the activities of labor organizations."

Mehrens summarized, "The net result will be more restrictions on the rights of conservative-leaning organizations while the same restrictions on left-leaning labor organizations remain unfinished."

Adding ambiguity to how the regulations might be implemented, the IRS will no longer merely consider the costs of communications in determining eligibility for the 501(c)4 tax status. It will use a far more subjective, content-based standard: "the expansion of the types of communications covered in the proposed regulations reflects the fact that an organization's tax-exempt status is determined based on all of its activities, even low-cost and volunteer activities, not just its large expenditures."

And, the icing on the cake, "The Treasury Department and the IRS intend that content previously posted by an organization on its Web site that clearly identifies a candidate and remains on the Web site during the specified pre-election period would be treated as candidate-related political activity."

Can you say ex post facto?

To give readers an idea of the broad implication of this regulation, Americans for Limited Government is a 501(c)4 organization whose websites have content dating back to 2008.

Understandably under prior rules allowing it, we have written extensively about public officials, including members of Congress, who also happen to be candidates that run for office every two years.

Thousands of articles, in fact — nearly all of them mention public officials (who are usually running for reelection) or reference legislation or policies they support.

not advocate for or against the election of candidates — a constitutionally protected activity, but let's leave that aside for a moment — they supported or criticized policies being proposed in the public arena.

But because the articles mention officials who happen to be candidates, and because primary elections occur at various intervals throughout election years, and because it is impossible to decipher by what standard the agency will determine to what degree actions are "candidate-related political activity," complying with the new regulation might make it impossible for Americans for Limited Government to continue in its current form.

It is possible we would have to either shut down our website or go article-by-article to remove ones that mentioned public officials who happen to be running for reelection. Or redact the names of any officials who might be running for office and replace the names with black rectangles.

We publish lots of cartoons, too. We might have to go back and black-out the faces of any officials who appear that also happen to be running for office. Then there's all of those YouTube videos we made that mention officials who happen to run for reelection at regular intervals. Can't forget those.

We might even have to remove any hyperlinks to roll call votes alerting the American people how their elected representatives voted on critical issues because those links would include the names of candidates, too. Or links to any other news articles that might mention candidates. You know, just to be thorough.

Because primaries occur throughout federal election years, the blackout could apply through the better parts of 2014 and 2016. But don't forget Virginia and New Jersey, which have state elections in federal off years (i.e., 2013, 2015, etc.), and we've written about issues concerning public officials there, too. Don't want to go through all the trouble of redacting federal, state and local officials in 2014 and 2016, and not remember to remove Virginia and New Jersey ones for 2013 and 2015.

During all of those years, it is possible that to comply we'd have to shut down much of our communications since they so often reference government, if not elections.

That is, to keep 501(c)4 tax status, and not be classified as, say, a 527 political action committee. Both are tax-exempt entities, but with one critical difference: 527s have to disclose donations to the Federal Election Commission, and 501(c)4s do not.

And therein we get to the true intent of the new IRS regulation, which is to achieve via regulation what Congress could not when the DISCLOSE Act was defeated in 2010. The Obama administration is bent on regulating critics of the administration out of existence by threatening to expose organizations' membership lists.

Never mind what the Supreme Court stated clearly in *NAACP v. Alabama* (1958). Then-Justice John Marshall Harlan's majority opinion stated, applying the First Amendment via the Fourteenth to Alabama, "We hold that the immunity from state scrutiny of membership lists which the Association claims on behalf of its members is here so related to the right of the members to pursue their lawful private interests privately and to associate freely with others in so doing as to come within the protection of the Fourteenth Amendment."

Should the regulation go into effect in 2014, considering that it took about two years for federal courts to litigate the Citizens United decision, the blackout periods could be in effect through the entire 2016 election cycle.

Before it comes to this, the Supreme Court upon finalization of the rule will need to be petitioned to stay all implementation of the regulation in order to protect the First Amendment rights of citizens of all political stripes. To allow these regulations to govern speech during the next few cycles without full court scrutiny would be a grave disservice that the Supreme Court can and should stop.

— Robert Romano is the senior editor of Americans for Limited Government.

Looking back...

from the files of The Owyhee Avalanche and Owyhee Chronicle

25 years ago

December 14, 1988

Community effort results in Homedale's Nativity scene

For perhaps the first time in the modern history of Homedale, and with thanks to a large body of volunteers, a large Nativity scene was erected in the Homedale City Park on Monday. The religious scene joined a Christmas tree and other decorations placed in the park in observance of the holiday season, including gaily-wrapped six-foot high candy canes, also built by volunteers.

City Maintenance Supervisor Larry Bauer expressed appreciation on Monday for the large number of citizens helping establish the Nativity scene and other signs of Christmas, noting, "It's really pretty neat to see so many people involved this year."

Bauer credited the Homedale Ministerial Association, headed by the Rev. Rod King, and members of the Homedale Chamber of Commerce with coordinating and carrying out the special seasonal touches, assisted by volunteers from the high school and community.

The templates for the Nativity scene were donated by Fred and Sandi Sarceda. Using them, the industrial arts class, under the direction of Mike Greeley, built the figures for the manger, and provided an undercoat of paint on them. Several members of the high school arts class taught by Sharon Frost, including Spence Jewett, Valerie Chadez and Greg Carson, provided painting and drawing touches to the figures. Adult volunteers, organized by Pat Lootens, who joined in the Nativity painting effort, included Young Ho Park, Mary Maurer, Launie Mashburn, Sharon Taggart, Helen Kettle, Donna Watterson and Monica Uberuaga.

The manger was built by Joe Favinger, Mashburn and Bauer. Mashburn, a member of the City Council, also provided free labor to hook up its lighting system and the Christmas Star arrangement overhead.

Ambulance gets radio grant

One of the problems encountered in the mock major accident in Homedale Dec. 3 should be solved soon.

"We have received word from the State Department of Health and Welfare Bureau of Emergency Medical Services that we have been awarded \$800, or half our request, for the purchase of two portable EMS radios," Ida Burt, Homedale Ambulance Association president, told the Homedale Fire Board Monday.

During the mock drill, the Homedale Ambulance crews were unable to get out on their portable radios to alert the EMS Communications Center of the emergency.

"They are old radios and for some reason wouldn't carry. They finally had to get out on the ambulance's radio," Jerry Decker, EMS regional coordinator, told The Owyhee Avalanche after the incident drill.

The HAA, Burt told the Fire Board, got \$800, or funding for half the cost of two radios. Another \$800 in its Memorial Fund, will give HAA the \$1,600 it needs.

Trojan girls' basketball team wins

The Homedale Trojans girls' basketball team showed that it can handle the man-on-man defense last week as they beat New Plymouth, 29-23.

This win gives the Trojan girls a 5-4 overall and 1-1 WIC A-3 league record.

The Trojans were led by Michelle Sonke with a gamehigh 15 points and five rebounds, while Melanie Cornell dominated the boards with nine rebounds and six points.

Tom Basabe Cattle Feeder of Year in '88

BOISE—Tom Basabe of Grand View has been named Cattle Feeder of the year by the Idaho Cattle Association.

Basabe, general manager of the J.R. Simplot Company's Land and Livestock operations, was honored at the Cattlemen's Association's annual meeting in Boise.

He heads one of the largest feeding operations in the Western United States. The company produces approximately 250,000 head of cattle at feedlots near Grand View and Caldwell, and Boardman, Ore.

50 years ago

December 12, 1963

Homedale Trojans win

Making up this year's Trojans squad are Tony Maher, center; Skip Bicandi, Bill Cegnar, Ray Dewey, Larry Comer, Robert Fountain, Brian Johnstone, Larry Stansell, Guards; Floyd Breach, Mark Evans, Fred Egurrola, Art Solis, Jim Wilson and Glenn Kushlan, forwards. Head coach is Dean Vance, assisted by Dehryl Dennis. Bob Holbrook is student manager. Cheerleaders are DyAnne Carson, Judy Markley and Teri Wilson.

Homedale defeated the Melba Mustangs 56-42 in a game Saturday at Homedale.

The Trojans held the lead all the way as Tony Maher led the 14 points and Bill Cegnar added 12. Butch Frisch topped the Mustangs with 20 points as they closed the gap to nine points going to the final period.

Drop Adrian

The Adrian Antelopes dropped a 53-46 non-league tussle to Homedale in a basketball game Friday at Adrian High School.

The Trojans were led by Art Solis, with 17 points and Brian Johnstone with 10. Glenn Kushlan racked up nine points.

Adrian was led by Ed Lowtrip with 14 points and Don Brewer with 10. The Antelopes ran into difficulty when most of their players fouled out and there was no one to put in.

Gem Irrigation election results are announced

Forney Malmberg was reelected for a three-year term as director of division No. 1, and Russell Dines was reelected for a three-year term as director for division 2 at the regular election of directors of the Gem Irrigation District held Tuesday, according to Tom Cotton, manager of the South Board of Control.

Mr. Malmberg received 23 votes at Marsing, 13 votes at the Gem Irrigation office and 6 votes at the Legion Hall.

Chroniclings

Election judges at the Gem Irrigation District office were sampling jerky, courtesy of Bill Wells, Tuesday afternoon during the election.

The mystery of the stolen pickup has been solved. Seems that Kenny Downing was parked downtown, and when he drove back to the city hall he took the wrong pickup by mistake.

Owyhee SCD elects two supervisors

The Owyhee SCD re-elected Henry Sweep, supervisor of the Homedale area and Bus Cummings, supervisor of Reynolds Creek area to serve another 3-year term. Serving on the election board were Arlie Parkins, Leonard Douthit and Betty Sconce. Presently serving on the Board of Supervisors are Dean Brandon and Alvin Benson, alternates for Homedale and Reynolds Creek areas; Leonard Douthit and Ted Blackstock, Jr., supervisor and alternate from Opaline; Art Bahem and George Johnstone, supervisor and alternate from Jordan Valley area; Arlie Parkins chairman, and Betty Sconce, secretary-treasurer.

Homedale locals

Mrs. Doyle McPherson attended the AAUW luncheon in Caldwell last Saturday in the student union building at The College of Idaho. The luncheon featured the cathedral bell ringers of the First Methodist Church of Boise. A style show was also featured during the program.

Mr. and Ms. Richard Eismann attended the AAUW luncheon held at the student union building of The College of Idaho, Caldwell, last Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Kindred were Saturday afternoon callers at the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Steele and Mr. and Mrs. Ester Kindred, all of Boise.

Anne Smith, who attends the Lady Catherine Beauty School in Boise, spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Smith. She also returned home Tuesday afternoon.

140 years ago

December 13, 1873

ANNEXATION. The counties of Idaho, Nez Perce and Shoshone are extremely anxious to shed the galling chains that bind them to the parent stem, in order that they join their fortunes with Washington Territory, which stands with open arms ready to embrace the would-be seceders. Those three counties comprise about one-third of the area of Idaho Territory, and added to Washington Territory, would make it of unwieldy dimensions, more uncouth in shape than the ugliest-looking Spanish branding iron imaginable. Trouble arises, however, in another quarter: Walla Walla County wants to join Oregon, which of course, neither suits Washington nor our wayward sister counties of North Idaho. But it may be put down as a settled fact that there will be no change of boundaries in that direction, unless Congress should conclude to resolve the question by voting to divide the Territory of Utah and annexing a portion thereof to Idaho, in which case, Shoshone and that portion of Nez Perce north of the Salmon River range of mountains, might be permitted to join Washington Territory. Until this happens, all the memorials that Washington Territory passes, and all the petitions that North Idaho can frame will come to naught.

MORE ECONOMY. Another of the economical (?) measures for which the Hon. Gilmore Hays is so unenviably famous, was his introduction and advocacy of a bill which passed and became a law at the last session of our Legislatures, and which provides as follows: "That so much any railroad as shall be constructed within the limits of Idaho Territory, including rolling stock and depots belonging to the same, is hereby exempted from all Territorial, County and Municipal taxation, until the first day of January, A.D. 1880." This bill was gotten up for the special benefit of the Mormon concern, known as the Utah Northern Railroad, running from the Central Pacific, in Utah, to Soda Springs, Oneida County, Idaho Territory.

The Utah Northern Railroad Company have already notified the Secretary of the Idaho Territory that they accept the provisions of the Act of our Legislature, exempting them from taxation. When the Act was passed the railroad was completed nearly to the boundary line between the two Territories, and would have been speedily extended to Soda Springs, even if the Act had not been passed.

The passage of this Act was an outrage upon our tax-ridden Territory. Our venerable friend Hays says, "it is for the benefit of the tax-payers" and so it is, but only for the benefit of the tax-paying monopoly in contradistinction to all other tax-payers in the Territory who are greatly the sufferers thereby. The road-bed, rolling stock, depots and other improvements of the Utah Northern Railroad within the limits of Oneida County are exempt from taxation for seven years; while every other property owner in the county must continue to pay.

By this economical (in a horn) measure by Judge Hays and others, Oneida County is swindled out of more then two-thirds of its just taxes, and the Territory Treasury is correspondingly the loser thereby.

LOCAL MINING RECORD. Outside capitalists are paying more than ordinary attention to Owyhee, whose reputation of a rich and permanent quartz-mining camp is now so thoroughly established. Men can now invest in our mines with the assurance that they are engaging in no wildcat speculation. A new leaf has been turned over, and a system of legitimate mining inaugurated, the beneficial influences of which are already felt throughout every branch of industry in our camp. In taking a general view of the condition of our mines, we find the prospect decidedly flattering.

Golden Chariot. This mine, which now embraces the Minnesota, is developing splendidly, producing ore-rich yields, from \$60 to \$100 per ton. Forty stamps, viz: The Ellmore and Owyhee mills, are constantly running on Golden Chariot and Minnesota ore. The Golden Chariot Company have leased the latter named mill and took possession yesterday. They have an abundance of supplies of every description on hand to last till next June. Superintendent Clark seems to be the right man for the job.

Public notices

NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT DUE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ACCORDING TO SECTION 43-707, IDAHO CODE, assessments for the Grand View Irrigation District 2013, Irrigation season are due and payable and will become delinquent at five o'clock p.m. on the twenty day of December 2013. Payment must be made in lawful money of the United States, negotiable bank draft or cashier's check. Payment may be made in person at the Irrigation District Office or mailed to the District.

Dixie McDaniel, Secretary, PO Box 9, Grand View, Idaho 83624

12/11,18/2013

LIEN SALE

Unit A-4, Jerry Followill, 16 Shelter Hills Dr, Yerington, NV 89447. Unit contains furniture and misc. household items.

Unit I-20, Amy Mullins, 501 S 2nd St E, Homedale, ID 83628. Unit contains laptop computer, TV and misc. household items.

Units will be sold by sealed bid on 12-28-2013. Sealed bid will be accepted between the hours of 9:00am and 1:00pm on that day. Units will go to the highest bidder. Units and sale will be at Hwy 95 Self Storage located at 3685 Hwy 95, Homedale, ID 83628. All sales are cash only and all sales are final. All units will be emptied of all contents including trash by buyer.

12/11,18/13

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

Idaho Code 45-1506 Today's date: November 13, 2013 File No.: 7021.17868 Sale date and time (local time): March 17, 2014 at 11:00 AM Sale location: in the lobby of the Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Highway 78, Murphy, Idaho 83650 Property address: 502 West California Avenue Homedale, ID 83628-3039 Successor Trustee: Northwest Trustee Services, Inc., an Idaho Corporation P.O. Box 997 Bellevue, WA 98009 (425) 586-1900 Deed of Trust information Original grantor: Jeffrey L Garcia, and Melissa R Garcia, husband and wife Original trustee: Fidelity National Title Co Original beneficiary: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. solely as nominee for Countrywide Bank, FSB, its successors and assigns Recording date: 05/13/2008 Recorder's instrument number: 264995 County: OWYHEE Sum owing on the obligation: as of November 13, 2013: \$137,520.30 Because of interest, late charges, and other charges that may vary from day to day, the amount due on the day you pay may be greater. Hence, if you pay the amount shown above, an adjustment may be necessary after we receive your check. For further information write or call the Successor Trustee at the address or telephone number provided above. Basis of default: failure to make payments when due. Please take notice that the Successor Trustee will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for certified funds or equivalent the property described above. The property address is identified to comply with IC 60-113 but is not warranted to be correct. The property's legal description is: Lot 15 and 16 in Block 11 of amended plat of the townsite of Homedale, Boise Meridian, Owyhee County, Idaho, according to the official plat thereof, Records of Owyhee County, Idaho. The sale is subject to conditions, rules and procedures as described at the sale and which can be reviewed at www.northwesttrustee.com or USA-Foreclosure.com. The sale is made without representation, warranty or covenant of any kind. (TS# 7021.17868) 1002.260081-File No.

11/27;12/4,11,18/13

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

NOTICE: WE ARE A DEBT COLLECTOR. THIS COMMUNICATION IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR PURPOSES OF DEBT COLLECTION.

On 2/26/2014 at the hour of 11:00am of said day, (recognized local time), on the front steps of the Owyhee County Courthouse, Milemarker 29 1/2 HC 79, City of Murphy located in Owyhee County, State of Idaho.

William L. Bishop, Jr., as successor trustee, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, payable, for certified funds, or the equivalent, which is lawful money of the United States of America, all payable at the time of sale in compliance with Section 45-1506(9) Idaho Code, the following described real property, situated in Owyhee County, State of Idaho, and described as follows, to-wit;

LOT 4 IN BLOCK 2 OF SILVER SAGE SUBDIVISION NO. 1, ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED MAY 29, 1998 AS INSTRUMENT NO. 225021, OFFICIAL RECORDS OF OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO.

The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above-referenced real property, but for purposes of compliance with Section 60-113 Idaho Code, the Trustee has been informed that according to the County Assessor's office, the address of 103 Silver Sage Pl, Homedale, ID 83628 is sometimes associated with said real property.

Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the deed of trust executed by Tad Osborn Hansen and Mindy Janice Hansen, Husband and Wife, as grantors to Ticor Title Ins. Co., as trustee, for the benefit and security of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. solely as a nominee for Freedom Mortgage Corporation and its successors and assigns, recorded May 30, 2008, as Instrument No. 265186 Mortgage Records of Owyhee County, Idaho. Said Deed of Trust was assigned on July 20, 2012 to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Associaion under Auditor's File No. 278262 on August 6, 2012.

THE ABOVE GRANTORS ARE NAMED TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 45-1506(4) (A), IDAHO CODE. NO REPRESENTATION IS MADE THAT THEY ARE, OR ARE NOT, PRESENTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OBLIGATION.

The default(s) for which this sale is to be made is the failure to pay when due, under the Deed of Trust note, the following: **The monthly payments for Principal and Interest Due from** 4/1/2012 through 10/1/2013: and all subsequent payments until

the date of sale or reinstatement. These payments include interest at a fixed rate. The current rate is 6.000%. **Total:** \$16,742.77 Accrued Late Charges \$145.12 Corporate Advances \$98.00 **TOTAL DEFAULT \$16,985.89**

The sum owing on the obligation secured by the said trust deed consists of the principal balance of \$114,630.66, together with any advances plus foreclosure fees and costs. All delinquent amounts are now due, together with accruing late charges and interest, unpaid and accruing taxes, assessments, trustee's fees, attorney's fees, and any amounts advanced to protect the security associated with this foreclosure.

DATED: October 21, 2013 TRUSTEE By: William L. Bishop, Jr., Attorney at Law, 720

Olive Way, Suite 1201, Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 622-7527 Ref: Hansen, Tad Osborn & Mindy Janice, 3062.1240561

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

12/4,11,18,25/13

On March 20, 2014 at the hour of 10:30AM, of said day, on the steps of the Owyhee County Courthouse located at 20381 State Highway 78 Murphy, ID 83650.

Alliance Title & Escrow Corp.. as successor trustee, will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, for cash, cashiers check, certified check or tellers check, (from a bank which has a branch in the community at the site of the sale), money order, State of Idaho check or local government check, or cash equivalent in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the same time of sale, the following described real property, situated in the County of Owyhee, State of Idaho, and described as follows, to wit:

In Township 2 North, Range 5 West, Boise Meridian, Owyhee County, Idaho

Section 4: Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter

THE TRUSTEE HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF A MORE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION OF THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED REAL PROPERTY, BUT FOR PURPOSES OF COMPLIANCE WITH IDAHO CODE, SECTION 60-113, THE TRUSTEE HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT THE STREET ADDRESS OF: 6118 Johnstone Road, Homedale, ID 83628, MAY SOMETIMES BE ASSOCIATED WITH SAID REAL PROPERTY.

Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the deed of trust executed by Phillip Mason and Diana Lee Parten, husband and wife, as Grantor to Alliance Title & Escrow Corp., as successor Trustee, for the benefit and security of Levi Y Kettle a married person and Wiatt E Kettle, a married person as successor Beneficiary, recorded 04/06/2011 as Instrument No. 274070, Mortgage records of Owyhee County, Idaho. THE ABOVE GRANTORS ARE NAMED TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 45-1506(4)(a), IDAHO CODE. NO REPRESENTATION IS MADE THAT THEY ARE, OR ARE NOT, PRESENTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS OBLIGATION.

The default for which this sale is to be made is failure to:

Make principal and interest payments as set forth on said Deed of Trust and Promissory Note. The original loan amount was \$400,000.00 together with interest thereon at the rate of 5.000% per annum, as evidenced in Promissory Note dated March 31, 2011. Payments are in default for the months of July 2013 through and including October 2013 in the amount of \$2,361.36 per month and continuing each and every month thereafter until date of sale or reinstatement. Provide, maintain, and deliver to Beneficiary(s) fire insurance satisfactory to and with loss payable to Beneficiary(s). The principal balance as of October 28, 2013 is \$382,455.08 together with accrued and accruing interest thereon at the rate of 5.000% per annum. In addition to the above, there is also due any late charges, advances, escrow collection fees, attorney fees, fees or costs associated with this foreclosure.

The balance owing as of this date on the obligation secured by said deed of trust is \$382,455.08, excluding interest, costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligations thereunder or in this sale, as trustee's fees and/or reasonable attorney's fees as authorized in the promissory note secured by the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

Dated: November 18, 2013 Alliance Title & Escrow Corp. By: Melissa Ambriz, Trust Officer Phone: 877-947-1553 File No.: 204613 / Customer Ref No. 3200-00-00256900

This communication is on behalf of a debt collector and is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

11/27;12/4,11,18/13

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

T.S. No. 005280-ID Parcel No. RPB-04800020010ANOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE On 3/20/2014, at 11:00 AM (recognized local time), ON THE FRONT STEPS TO THE OWYHEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 20381 STATE HIGHWAY 78, MURPHY, ID 83650, in the County of Owyhee, ELISA MAGNUSON, ESQ., a member of the State Bar of Idaho, of PITE DUNCAN, LLP, as trustee, will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, for cash, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, the following described real property, situated in the County of Owyhee, State of Idaho, and described as follows, to wit; LOT I IN BLOCK 2 OF VALLOTTON SUBDIVISION, MARSING, OWYHEE COUNTY. IDAHO, ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL PLAT THEREOF ON FILE AND OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE

RECORDER FOR OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO. The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above referenced real property, but for purposes of compliance with Idaho Code Section 60-113, the Trustee has been informed that the address of; 302 RIVERVIEW DRIVE, MARSING, ID 83639, is commonly associated with said real property. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the Deed of Trust executed by CAROLE PERCIFIELD, A SINGLE WOMAN, AS HER SOLE AND SEPARATE PROPERTY, as Grantor, to TRANSNATION TITLE & ESCROW, INC., A DELWARE CORPORATION as Trustee, for the benefit and security of MORTGAGE **ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION** SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR MORTGAGE PARTNERS, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS as Beneficiary, dated 6/28/2002, recorded 7/512002, as Instrument No. 240127, official records of Owyhee County, Idaho. Please note; The above named Grantors are named to comply with Idaho Code Section 45-1506(4) (a); no representation is made that they are, or are not, presently responsible for the obligation. The default for which this sale is to be made is the failure to make monthly payments when due from 2/1/2013 and all subsequent monthly payments thereafter, including installments of principal, interest, impounds, advances, plus any charges lawfully due under the note secured by the aforementioned Deed of Trust, Deed of Trust and as allowed under Idaho Law. The sum owing on the obligation secured by said Deed of Trust is \$59,324.01, including interest, costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation thereunder or in this sale, and trustee's fees andlor reasonable attorney's fees as authorized in the Note, Deed of Trust or as allowed under Idaho Law. All delinquent amounts are now due, together with accruing late charges, interest, unpaid and accruing taxes, assessments, trustee's fees, attorney fees and any amounts advanced to protect the security associated with the Deed of Trust described herein as provided under the Note, Deed of Trust and as allowed under Idaho Law. ELISA MAGNUSON, ESQ., a member of the State Bar of Idaho, of PITE DUNCAN, LLP, DATED: 11/14/13 Signature/By Elisa Magnuson P1071138

11/27;12/4,11,18/13



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NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

Idaho Code 45-1506 Today's date: November 5, 2013 File No.: 7042.12077 Sale date and time (local time): March 10, 2014 at 11:00 AM Sale location: in the lobby of the Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Highway 78, Murphy, Idaho 83650 Property address: 330 West Owyhee St Homedale, ID 83628 Successor Trustee: Northwest Trustee Services, Inc., an Idaho Corporation P.O. Box 997 Bellevue, WA 98009 (425) 586-1900 Deed of Trust information Original grantor: Gifford Lowell Shipley, an unmarried man Original trustee: Pioneer Title Company of Canyon County Original beneficiary: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. solely as nominee for America's Wholesale Lender Recording date: 02/20/2001 Recorder's instrument number: 235086 County: Owyhee Sum owing on the obligation: as of November 5, 2013: \$40,243.40 Because of interest, late charges, and other charges that may vary from day to day, the amount due on the day you pay may be greater. Hence, if you pay the amount shown above, an adjustment may be necessary after we receive your check. For further information write or call the Successor Trustee at the address or telephone number provided above. Basis of default: failure to make payments when due. Please take notice that the Successor Trustee will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for certified funds or equivalent the property described above. The property address is identified to comply with IC 60-113 but is not warranted to be correct. The property's legal description is: Lots 17 and 18. Block 27, Amended Townsite Plat of Homedale, Owyhee County, Idaho, according to the official plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the recorder for Owyhee County, Idaho. The sale is subject to conditions, rules and procedures as described at the sale and which can be reviewed at www.northwesttrustee.com or USA-Foreclosure.com. The sale is made without representation, warranty or covenant of any kind. (TS# 7042.12077) 1002.259702File No. 11/27;12/4,11,18/13

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S

T.S. No. 003282-ID Parcel No. RPB00000033152A NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE On 3/20/2014, at 11:00 AM (recognized local time), ON THE FRONT STEPS TO THE OWYHEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 20381 STATE HIGHWAY 78, MURPHY, ID 83650, in the County of Owyhee, ELISA MAGNUSON, ESQ., a member of the State Bar of Idaho, of PITE DUNCAN, LLP, as trustee, will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, for cash, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, the following described real property, situated in the County of Owyhee, State of Idaho, and described as follows, to wit: A part of Government Lot 1 in Section 3, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, Boise Meridian, Owyhee County, Idaho, more particularly described to-wit: COMMENCING at the Northwest corner of Section 3. Township 2 North, Range 4 West, Boise Meridian, Owyhee County, Idaho, thence South 90° East 179.40 feet along the North line of said Section 3; thence South 0°00' West 108 feet along the East line of Seventh Avenue West to a brass monument; thence South 81° 41' East 145.3 feet along the Northerly line of 40 foot Patton Street; thence South 55° 25 East 163.63 feet along the said Northerly line, to the INITIAL POINT of this description; thence continue South 55° 25' East 88 feet along the said Northerly line; thence North 34° 35' East 98.30 feet to a point on the Southerly line of Block 10 of Patton's Second Subdivision to Marsing, Idaho; thence North 43° 14' West 90.03 feet along the Southerly line; thence South 34° 35' West 117.30 feet to the INITIAL POINT of this description. The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above references real property, but for purposes of compliance with Idaho Code Section 60-113, the Trustee has been informed that the address of: 116 PATTON STREET, MARSING, ID 83639, is commonly association with said real property. Said sale will

ESQ., a member of the State Bar of Idaho, of PITE DUNCAN, LLP, DATED: 11/14/13 Signature/By Elisa Magnuson P1071151 11/27;12/4,11,18/13

be made without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the Deed of Trust executed by LAUREANO R VALDEZ ANĎ SANTOS E VALDEZ, WIFE AND HUSBAND as Grantor, to PIONEER TITLE COMPANY as Trustee, for the benefit and security of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR AEGIS WHOLESALE CORPORATION, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS as Beneficiary, dated 8/11/2005, recorded 8/19/2005, as Instrument No. 253099, official records of Owyhee County, Idaho. Please note: The above named Grantors are named to comply with Idaho Code Section 45-1506(4)(a); no representation is made that they are, or are not presently responsible for the obligation. The default for which this sale is to be made is the failure to make monthly payments when due from 8/1/2012 and all subsequent monthly payments thereafter, including installments of principal, interest, impounds, advances, plus any charges lawfully due under the note secured by the aforementioned Deed of Trust, Deed of Trust and as allowed under Idaho Law. The sum owing on the obligation secured by said Deed of Trust is \$44,401.41, including interest, costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation thereunder or in this sale, and trustee's fees and/ or reasonable attorney's fees as authorized in the Note, Deed of Trust or as allowed under Idaho Law. All delinquent amounts are now due, together with accruing late charges, interest, unpaid and accruing taxes, assessments, trustee's fees, attorney fees and any amounts advances to protect the security associated with the Deed of Trust described herein as provided under the Note. Deed of Trust and as allowed under Idaho Law. ELISA MAGNUSON,

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FOR SALE

English Walnuts, \$1.00 per pound, 29033 Peckham Road in

Wilder, 208-482-7566 3 Custom Saddles, 15 1/2" Dee Pickett Roper, padded seat, full stamped corner carved; 16' Wade, used-good shape; 16 1/2" Wade full carved lined custom silver. 541-586-2259 Jordan Valley

Premium Fruitwood \$220/cord. Free same day local delivery. Cedric 899-5246 or 454-8804 Affordable & Fun Piano, Guitar, Violin, Fiddle and Ukulele private lessons, All ages & levels, 208-

283-5750 or 467-6244 ATV & Motorcycle Tires, 25x8-12 & 25x10-12 GBC Dirt Devil ATV tires \$389.00. All sizes available. Tim's Small Engine, 30916 Peckham Rd. Wilder. 482-7461 www.wilderrepair.com

Roll ends: Great for packing material, building fires, lining birdcages or for your kids to doodle on. The Owyhee Avalanche, Homedale

REAL ESTATE

For sale: city lot in Jordan Valley Oregon, Will entertain any offer. Contact rhibberd@ hibberdmillwork.com

10 +/- acres, irrigation available, plus an approved building permit. 4.5 miles west of Hwy 95 off Red Top. 22725 Montey Rd, Parma. Call Clay 880-1623 Clayton L. Brown RE

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Drivers: Training, Class A CDL. Train and work for us! Professional and focused training for your Class A CDL. You choose between Company Driver, Owner Operator, Lease Operator or Lease Trainer. 800-993-7483 www.centraltruckdrivingjobs.

Fulltime Class A CDL Driver. 10 Western States, No Tickets, 2-years experience. Great Wage & Benefit Package! Call 208-697-9923

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Broken Concrete, You Haul, 100 yds +, We can load for \$\$\$. 2 miles east of Homedale. Contact Dave @ 573-1704

Rubber Stamps

Made to order

The Owyhee Avalanche

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FARM & RANCH

Allis Chalmers WD 45 parts. Call in evenings, 6pm. 541-339-3910

Bulls for Sale: December 13, 2013 1pm Fall and Spring Yearlings. Burgess Angus Ranch, Homedale, Id 208 337-4094

Alfalfa hay, 3rd cutting, Delivered locally \$260 a ton. In the stack \$230 a ton. Call 453-

Richie Lyon's Horse Shoeing. Trimming & Shoeing, Call 208-869-2715

Balewagons: I sell & buy New Holland, self-propelled & pulltype models/parts. Financing/ trades/ delivery available. Call Jim Wilhite (Greenleaf) 208-880-2889 www.balewagon.com

TRADE GROUP, LLC

is offering contracts for harvest delivery of wheat and whole corn out to our new Greenleaf facility.

For more information and prices, call Mike at Greenleaf office:

208-649-5296 Cell: 208-573-0376 Bliss office: (Jody) at 800-727-9931



2 bdrm apartment, in town of Homedale, W/D hookup, stove, fridge, W/S/T paid. No yard for children. \$440/mo plus deposit. 337-4444

Marsing Storage Inc., Hwy 55 & Van Rd. 10x10 units available, trailer spaces. Call 208-830-

THANK YOU

On behalf of Gardner-Kiester families, we would like to extend gratitude and thanks to each of you. The Military Honor Guard, Army National Guard salute, and those officiating prayers, pallbearers, the day of services. Friends and family providing music and food, Legion members, Jump Creek Club Lady's, LDS Church-Relief Society for clean-up and serving. Thank you to all who brought food. Most of all to Tonia White Family for the memory video, life sketch, and caring ways to all of us. Thanks Scott, Caleb, Hannah White, you are always there for us! Ron & Carol Kiester

Buy it, sell it, trade it, rent it... in the Classifieds!



SERVICES

Trees Topped & Trimmed! Cleanups & Stump Removal available. Small Tractor & Loader for Fall Cleanups. Call 337-4403

Young man willing to work. winterization, Home cleanups, maintenance, construction, Very Affordable & Dependable. Call Brad @ 208-602-1571

Preschool program available! Daycare, all ages, ICCP approved, all meals provided, 2-full time staff, Call Donna 337-6180

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Call Mountain West Tree LLC for free estimate. We take pride in your tree service needs! 585-

Parker Tree Service Inc. Family operated since 1937. Specializing in tree trimming, pruning, removal. For the most reliable job & service call 208-461-8733. Lic/insured. Technical Computer LLC,

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AVAILABLE PROPERTIES

ROOM FOR HORSESIEF 8.98 ac., 3/bed 2/bath 3000 st, stalls, shop+much more in Haale - 5334,500 COZY CHARMER in d/t Hdale, 5/bed 1/bath, carport, new roof & numerous upgrades - \$50,000 RIVERFRONT PROPERTY Incl. 2/bed 1/bath home at 3.63 ac. w/detached garage -MOW \$179,000 MILLION DOLLAR VIEWS from Wilder Rim, 3/bed 3.5/bith on 1 acre, no CCF's1 - \$249,000 ROOM GALORE in d/t Holele near park, corner lot, 3/bed 2.5/beth, NEW ROOF - \$114,900 42 sc. +/- RIVERFRONT W of Holate w/kr. dating back to 1950's, SRING AN OFFER? - \$199,900 RESIDENTIAL BUILDING LOTS some w/city samiless, view and/or acreage - \$9,200-89,500 COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL BLDG. LOTS w/Hwy 55 frontage in Wilder or Homedale - \$58,000-185,000

CALL TODAY FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION!





Patti Zatica Tess Zatica McCov 208-573-709/

208-573-7084





VERY MERRY CREETINGS

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

Male 1: Country gospel CDs, sweat suit (xlrg), cologne

Male 2: Sweat suit (xlrg), slippers, cologne, candy

Male 3: Western shirts (M), Wrangler jeans (32x34), western movies

Male 4: Western shirts (M), t-shirts, pillow, cologne

Male 5: Spanish movies, shirts & sweats (2xl)

Male 6: Shirts (2x), jacket, hat, cologne

Gift

Drive

Ends

Dec: 2

Male 7: Sweat pants (3x), Brut cologne, tank top, basketball type shorts

Male 8: Slippers (xlrg), sweat pants & t-shirt (3x), word search books

Male 9: Socks, flannel pajama pants (xlrg), movies, shirts (xlrg)

Female 1: Candy, slippers, pant/blouses (2x)

Female 2: Sweat pants & top (L), perfume, jewelry

Female 3: Coloring books, slacks (S), tops (S), slippers, perfume

Female 4: Pants (xlrg), slippers (L), headbands, tops (xlrg)

Female 5: Lotion, sweat pants (L), top (L), chocolate

Female 6: Sweat suit (xlrg), blouses, perfume

Female 7: Sweat suit (M), chocolates, leggings (S), jewelry

Female 8: Pants (2xl), tops, undershirts, perfume

Female 9: Pants & blouses (3x), undershirts, perfume

Female 10: Earrings, blouses (M), slacks (M), perfume

Female 11: Lipstick, sweater (xlrg), scarf, perfume, earrings

Female 12: Blouse & slacks (2x), sweater, slippers, jewelry

Female 13: Thank you cards, expo markers, blouses (4x)

Female 14: Blouses (3x), slacks, slippers, candies

Female 15: Blouses (xlrg), slacks, sweater, perfume

Female 16: Flannel pajamas (xlrg), socks, perfume, lotion

Female 17: Headbands, body spray, stuffed animal/doll, coke

Female 18: Chocolates, blouse (xlrg), slacks, socks, sweater

Female 19: Peanut clusters, mixed nuts, sweater (xlrg)

Female 20: T-shirt with 3/4 sleeves (xlrg), ankle-high nylon, long flannel nightgown

Female 21: Earrings, crosswords, fleece pullover (M)

Misc Items: Word search puzzles, jewelry, perfume, cologne, country western CDs, family moves DVDs, games

Gifts for residents may be dropped off at the Avalanche office, 19 E. Idaho Ave., between 8am-noon and 1pm-5pm Monday through Friday.