

# The Owyhee Avalanche

## Marsing man remembers Battle of Bulge, Page 16B

Trojans' drought ends, Page 1B

Megan 17 Dream, Page 11A

Girls' basketball team wins first district title since late 1990s

Marsing High School student's birthday wish is to help others



VOL. 29, NO. 8

75 CENTS

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2014

## Austrian celebration bridges the century



**Top:** Ernie and Sharron Paul, formerly of Wilder, wear traditional Slovenian costumes for the Saturday dance. **Right:** A vintage photo of Austrian Settlement brothers from left, John and Lewis Marchek, lifting their glasses for a toast with unnamed friends.

More photos, Pages 8-9



## HHS closure magnifies needs

District alters lunch debt policy

A partial failure of the heating system forced officials to cancel classes last Wednesday at Homedale High School.

The problem is just one of a handful of infrastructure issues facing transportation and maintenance director Tom Muir.

School superintendent Rob Sauer said last week's heating problem was related to the boiler in the 74-year-old portion of the school. It didn't affect the gymnasium or the annex, both of which were built later.

According to the report Muir filed for the Feb. 10 school board meeting, replacing the high school boiler with a roof-mounted heating unit is on his to-do list of summer projects.

A contractor corrected the  
— See Needs, page 5A

## Settlement descendants feast on food, memories

More than 200 people braved a drenching rain and parking lot full of mud puddles to gather at the Homedale Armory on Friday for the Austrian Settlement Centennial potluck dinner.

As people entered the room, they stopped

for a moment to fill out name tags, which they proudly wore for the evening. The name tags spelled out Bahem, Cegnar, Demshar, Dolence, Kushlan, Jesenko, Marchek and Miklovich.

Families greeted each other with smiles

and hugs at the party, which turned out to be a giant family reunion.

After all, many of the seven original Slovenian families have intermarried

— See Settlement, page 5A

## Legion Hall returns as shining jewel for Bruneau community

Renovation complete just in time for annual Booster Club auction

It's only fitting that the Bruneau Booster Club's annual auction is the first big shindig for the refurbished American Legion Post 83 Hall in that tiny town.

After all, to paraphrase renovation project officer and former Post 83 commander

Joe King, the auction is a huge community event and it's the community that helped make the remodel possible.

The Legionnaires threw open the doors to the new-look hall Sunday for an open house. The event, complete with cake and

coffee, served as a thank-you for that community.

The project, which cost just less than \$200,000, resulted in new Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant restrooms, a refurbished kitchen chock full of new appliances, a new storage area and new flooring in the kitchen, mess hall, bathroom and

— See Jewel, page 13A



A \$5,000 gift-card grant from the Home Depot provided a slew of brand-new appliances for the Bruneau American Legion Hall's refurbished kitchen. Submitted photo



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## Inside

Bruneau auction arrives  
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Homedale Police Sgt. Mike McFetridge chats with Homedale Elementary School students during breakfast before school Friday. McFetridge has been spending about nine hours a day, four days a week at the schools in Homedale School District as part of the reinstated School Resource Office program. Photo by Jon P. Brown



# Officials pleased with Homedale SRO launch

McFetridge focuses on relationships, campus safety

Officials already are seeing positive results from the Homedale School Resource Office program a little more than a month after its reinstatement.

“It’s off to a great start,” schools superintendent Rob Sauer said. “We’re seeing the benefits that we were hoping for.”

Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller told the city council last Wednesday that Sgt. Mike McFetridge’s presence has resulted in increased enforcement at the high school and outreach in the elementary school and at the middle school.

Most importantly, though, Eidemiller said district officials reported fewer student discipline problems last month than in January 2013.

“The kids and parents are talking about it,” he said. “They know there’s a police officer on campus. ... The kids are less likely to do something that’ll get them in trouble.”

McFetridge spends about nine hours a day four days a week

visiting all three schools. He has office space at each school so he can also do the paperwork related to the other elements of his HPD job.

“The school district has been very generous,” Eidemiller said. “They’re as eager to see this succeed as we are.”

McFetridge has written traffic citations to high school drivers, and there has been one misdemeanor citation to a 17-year-old male for marijuana possession at the high school since the program began Jan. 6.

But enforcement isn’t the main objective.

“Sgt. McFetridge is developing a good rapport with the elementary students,” elementary school principal Terri Vasquez said. “It’s important for this age of children to get to know our SRO in a positive manner.”

Eidemiller agrees that students at all grade levels must have a positive relationship with law enforcement.

“The program is working the way it is supposed to,” the chief said. “The kids all need to be comfortable with the SRO.”

“The kids shouldn’t look at him as a cop, but as a mentor and a confidant.”

Some days, McFetridge greets HES students in the morning

as they arrive. He also takes his lunch in the school cafeteria occasionally.

“The kids just love seeing him in our building, and he is great with the kids,” Vasquez said. “I appreciate his effort to be a positive role model for our students.”

Campus safety is another focus in the early days of the SRO program.

McFetridge has been reviewing the security protocols at the schools. He also goes around and makes sure exterior doors are secured during the day.

“He and I are updating the school’s evacuation and lock down procedures to make our school as safe as possible,” middle school principal Amy Winters said.

Winters also said McFetridge also has provided education to the students and their parents if questions about the legal system arise.

HPD has conducted lock down drills at the middle school and elementary school in recent months, too. Eidemiller said a high school drill will be carried out in the future.

“We don’t want to have to wait for an event to happen to learn from that event,” the chief said. “I hope it becomes as commonplace

(in the students’ reaction) as a fire drill.”

Eidemiller had nothing but praise for the way the personnel and students at the two schools responded to the latest drills. The HMS lock down drill came Feb. 6, while the elementary school drill was performed Jan. 23.

Even with second-graders at recess, it took only 40 seconds for all students to be secured in their classrooms, which Eidemiller said was a vast and welcomed improvement over a previous exercise.

“This last drill was textbook,” he said. “You couldn’t have asked from a more smoothly run response from the school. The way the elementary school responded to the training was unbelievable.”

Eidemiller said the drills are not done to scare the students or disrupt the educational process, but “we have to create that muscle memory of where to go and what to do and how to act.”

The chief said the nature of today’s world requires lock down drills and a law enforcement presence on campus.

“SROs are not a luxury,” Eidemiller said. “They are key and vital staff members at every school now.”

— JPB

# GOP primary could clarify today

Today’s biennial Lincoln Day banquet will give Republicans a strong sense of who plans to seek office in the May 20 primary election.

The banquet begins at 11:30 a.m. inside McKeeth Hall at the Owyhee County Historical Museum, 17085 Basey St., in Murphy. After a 30-minute meet-and-greet, lunch will be served at noon.

RSVPs closed Sunday.

Owyhee County Republican Central Committee chair Shawn Dygert earlier said Idaho U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo and U.S. Rep. Raul Labrador will be in attendance.

Several state office-holders are expected to attend, including the District 23 legislative delegation. Sen. Bert Brackett of Rogerson and Reps. Rich Wills of Glenns Ferry and Pete Nielsen of Mountain Home are up for re-election in May, too.

County officials up for re-election are District 2 Commissioner Kelly Aberasturi for a two-year term and four-year office-holders including District 1 Commissioner Jerry Hoagland, Treasurer Brenda Richards, Assessor Brett Endicott, Clerk Angie Barkell and Coroner Aaron Tines. The latter two were mid-term appointees succeeding Charlotte Sherburn and Harvey Grimme, respectively.

Prospective candidates on both sides of the ticket can file nomination papers between March 3 and March 14.

Nomination petitions for county central committee positions for both the GOP and Democratic Party will be accepted between March and March 14. Precinct members will be elected May 20.

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# Marsing City Council votes to knock down Island Park building

No word on status of proposed law enforcement contract

During a busy meeting last Wednesday, the Marsing City Council decided to demolish a unused building at Island Park.

The council also appointed Cliff Hahlbeck and Hayzen Corder to the city's Planning and Zoning Commission and heard updates on several projects.

Mayor Keith Green proposed demolition of the Island Park building, which had been used in the past as a gathering place for parties as well as housing the park's restroom facilities. Green said the building "has become an eyesore." He suggested the city build a gazebo in the area.

There was no update given on the proposed \$15,000 contract between the city and Owyhee County Sheriff's Office. City clerk Janice Bicandi said the city has received nothing back from the county as yet. The contract would authorize OCSO deputies to enforce city ordinances.

Last month, Owyhee County Prosecuting Attorney Douglas D. Emery voiced concerns about increased costs to the county for his office prosecuting cases resulting from city citations under the new contract. At that time, District 2 Commissioner Kelly Aberasturi proposed that Sheriff Perry Grant and Emery meet with Marsing officials to resolve the prosecutorial issues. Green said last week he had not had any communication from the county on the issue.

Green recommended that the council appoint P&Z candidates

Hahlbeck and Corder and said he would like to see all vacancies on the seven-person board filled.

City engineer Amy Woodruff reported on several projects.

She presented a copy of the Waterways Improvement Grant application that has been submitted for the Island Park area. The grant application has been sent to the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation. Woodruff said she is "proud of the way the application turned out," and expects to know results by the end of May or early June. The city has attempted to gain funding to make Island Park improvements for several years. The improvements would update the area for recreationists.

The county has pledged \$5,000 in Vessel Fund money to help pay for improvements related to docks and other waterways usage. Green said the county has not communicated with him about it.

Woodruff said she has visited several times with the owners of the Family Dollar store being built on Main Street. She said the owners are aware of the city's position to withhold an occupancy permit until drainage issues are resolved. Woodruff expects the owners to move forward in the next few weeks to resolve the problems.

Another item in her report was the Community Choice grant application for a project on Idaho highway 78 (8<sup>th</sup> Avenue West). The grant is being sought to help put in a sidewalk stretching from the Marsing schools area to the

Labor Camp location. Woodruff reported the grant application is still viable and she is adding letters of support from the entities involved to the application.

Green reminded the council that the grant will require an \$18,000 city funds match.

A third item in Woodruff's report was an update on the East Bruneau Trunkline Sewer Rehabilitation Project. The city received three bids last week with Pipeline Inspections as low bidder at \$159,681. The council authorized Green to send Pipeline Inspections a notice of award so the project can begin.

City attorney Chereese D. McLain pointed out that the council has not scheduled a "first reading" of the ordinance amendment that would ban roosters in the city limits. She told council members that the reading should be placed on the next agenda before they can vote on the matter.

Green presented the idea to ban roosters in December, as he said they are becoming a nuisance and should be kept out of the city.

Bicandi said Friday that the first reading will take place during the March council meeting.

The city council also went into an executive session. Although specific Idaho Code was not cited at the time of calling for the closed session, Bicandi said Thursday that it was held under the provisions of Idaho Code 67-2341(c) and (f), which allow closed sessions to discuss matters relating to labor negotiations or acquisition of property, and to communicate with legal counsel on pending litigation.

—KB

# Marsing P&Z now has six members on board

Panel continues comprehensive plan revision work

The Marsing Planning the Zoning Committee gained two new members at last Wednesday's City Council meeting. Including the two new members, the commission now has six people on board. The Planning and Zoning commission holds its meetings at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at City Hall.

Here's who is on the Marsing Planning and Zoning committee, including their occupations:

- Michele Jacobi, chairperson, real estate broker
- Brad McIntire, farmer
- John deOsio, truck driver
- Don Case, City of Meridian utility worker
- Cliff Hahlbeck, Micron Corp. project control engineer
- Hayzen Corder, crop consultant

Corder and Hahlbeck were added last week.

Although the commission now has six members, Mayor Keith Green said during last week's meeting that he would like to add a seventh member. State law allows anywhere from three to 12 panelists.

The biggest issue right now for the Marsing P&Z is completing an update of the Marsing City Comprehensive Plan, according to P&Z secretary Annie Campbell.

The revision project has been an ongoing process during the past year, she said.

The commission also recently considered a proposal by AT&T to put in a cellular communications tower on school district property adjacent to the Marsing High School gymnasium on Main Street. The issue was dropped after it was determined that the school district had authority over the decision. Ultimately the tower was not put in.

A Verizon representative also approached the commission a couple of months ago about a proposed tower near Marsing High School, but the issue was dropped when the communications company chose to build the tower outside the city limits.

A P&Z commission is charged with recommending to the city council information about the boundaries of the zoning district and the appropriate regulations that should be enforced regarding them. They deal with measures affecting the present and future movement of traffic, the segregation of residential and business districts, and the convenience and safety of person and property in any way dependent on city planning and zoning.

—KB

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# US Ecology awards annual grants

US Ecology Idaho has helped 11 organizations with Owyhee County ties through its Helping Hand Grant program.

- The 2013 recipients include:
- Rimrock High School for new basketballs, footballs, handballs, and volleyballs
  - Marsing Elementary School to send students on an educational field trip to the Botanical Gardens
  - Owyhee Conservation District to buy a new projector for educational presentations
  - The Oreana Community Hall to assist the roof repair
  - Eastern Owyhee County Library in Grand View to help buy an area rug and reader boards
  - The Bruneau Valley Library to purchase large-print books
  - Bruneau American Legion Post 83 to help pay for renovations of the Legion Hall, which reopened Sunday and will host the Bruneau Booster Auction on Saturday
  - Grand View American Legion Post 134 to provide new new



From left: Bruneau Valley Library board clerk Ginny Roeder and board treasurer Liz Ogg accept a \$300 grant from US Ecology Idaho from the company's human resources manager, Elizabeth Schwager and Richard Theodozio, senior operator at the Grand View facility. Submitted photo

- electrical wiring in the Legion Hall.
- Grand View Chamber of Commerce to help with a renovation project for the Grand View American Legion Post 134 Hall
- The Owyhee Historical Society to add a children's hands-on learning center at the Owyhee County Historical Museum in Murphy
- The Melba School District to help with the completion of a softball field

USEI's grant committee will accept 2014 grant requests in October. To apply, organizations must provide a letter explaining its needs and how the grant will benefit the community. Send requests to Elizabeth Schwager at P.O. Box 400, Grand View, ID 83624.

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**Elementary students Jump Rope for Heart**  
Homedale Elementary School students skipped rope Thursday in the annual American Heart Association fundraiser. Children obtained pledges then got to jumping. Photo by Rob Aman

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**Member** **JOE E. AMAN, publisher**  
E-mail: [joe@owyhee.com](mailto:joe@owyhee.com)

**JON P. BROWN, managing editor**  
E-mail: [jon@owyheeavalanche.com](mailto:jon@owyheeavalanche.com); Ext.: 102

**KAREN BRESNAHAN, reporter and photographer**  
E-mail: [karen@owyheeavalanche.com](mailto:karen@owyheeavalanche.com); Ext.: 103

**JENNIFER STUTHEIT, office**  
E-mail: [jennifer@owyheeavalanche.com](mailto:jennifer@owyheeavalanche.com); Ext.: 101

**ROBERT AMAN, composition**  
E-mail: [rob@owyheeavalanche.com](mailto:rob@owyheeavalanche.com); Ext.: 105

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# All county departments now accepting credit cards

Owyhee County Clerk Angela Barkell last week confirmed that the county departments’ transition to accept credit cards for various payments is complete. Through the Access Idaho program and for a three percent surcharge, county customers can now pay their bills at the various county department locations with

a credit card or debit card. The policy covers all offices at the Owyhee County complex in Murphy as well as the annex in Marsing and the assessor’s office Division of Motor Vehicles window inside Grand View City Hall. Property tax bills can be paid with plastic at the treasurer’s office.

Residents can use credit cards to pay for marriage licenses, permits and other services — such as document recording — at the clerk’s office. Barkell said credit cards also can be used to pay Planning and Zoning and building department-related fees. Earlier this year, the sheriff’s office

announced that it would begin accepting credit cards for the payment of concealed weapon permit fees, civil fees and sex offender registration fees. Access Idaho charges the three percent convenience fee. Barkell said the county doesn’t make any extra money because of the surcharge.

## From page 1A

### Hundreds celebrate Austrian Centennial at Saturday shindig

Slovenian descendants learn about old country, eat garlic sausage, drink beer and dance the polka

It was a night to remember at the Homedale Armory on Saturday as nearly 400 people gathered to celebrate the Austrian Settlement Centennial. Descendants of the eight original families and their friends filled the hall. They were the Bahems, Cegnars, Demshars, Dolences, Kushlans, Jesenkos, Marckecks and Mikloviches, and many more. The smoke from garlic sausages cooking on the grill was combined with the aroma of beer and wine as the event went into full swing. People snacked on slices of potica and ate hot dogs and sauerkraut. Families and friends lined up to inspect the posters filled with images past and present. Many stopped to admire the large scale model of an Austrian settlement house. People of all ages came to celebrate their Slovenian heritage and reflect on the meaning of the history. Phil Kushlan gave a brief informative talk on Slovenia, followed by a report and slide show on an actual visit to the “homeland” by Ron Cegnar. Joe Demshar held the audience’s interest with his complete story of how the families came to live in Homedale, with some of the personal details of those individuals. Demshar also talked about the book, which is near completion called “The Homedale Empire.” He also thanked all the people who planned and contributed to the event. As the Edelweiss Band fired up the trumpets, clarinets, trombone, accordion and drums, the children were the first to respond. They flocked to the dance floor, inspired by the peppy and easy-to-dance to beat of the polkas. Later, they were joined by many adult couples who lightly danced to polkas and waltzes. The Edelweiss Band is from Boise, and is directed by Harry Simons. They have been performing for 35 years and they specialize in authentic

Oktoberfest beer garden music. For the centennial celebration, the band played the following Slovenian tunes: “Trachtenfest,” “Wir Machen Urlauls,” “Hansi Polka,” “Der Wildschutz,” “Adra Sonne,” and “Ach Rosie”. Many individuals, both young and old, had smiles on their faces during the evening filled with happy conversation and stories shared about past memories. Some family members traveled great distances to make it to the centennial party. It is a reminder of the great span of influence the Austrians have had of many who grew up in this area and then moved away. People arrived from Montana, Adrian, Vale and Harper, Ore., Ephrata, Wash., Fairbanks, Alaska, Colorado, Salt Lake City and Riverton, Utah, Madison, Wis., Lexington, Ky., Nampa, Marsing, Boise, Star, Garden Valley, Caldwell, Twin Falls, Murphy, Wilder, Melba, Meridian, Emmett, Kuna, Middleton, and one person from Baghdad, Iraq. A small group of visitors from the Boise Edelweiss Club, who regularly follow the band, came to the party dressed in full Bavarian costumes, and eagerly hopped to the dance floor. It was a great party that stretched into the evening, as people were still dancing and drinking at 10 p.m. Most lingered as long as they could to remember those wonderful families who began that daring adventure of settling in Homedale 100 years ago. To remember the Slovenians is to remember their legacy of hard work, devotion to their families, strong moral character and their inclination to celebrate life vigorously. And as each person was leaving, they were embraced fondly by several people as they headed toward the door. A last goodbye and good luck until the next 100 years.

—KB

### ✓ Settlement: Silent auction helps fund placement of memorial in Bette Uda park

over the past 100 years, so basically everybody is a mother or father, brother or sister, aunt, uncle, cousin, grandson or granddaughter of someone from the first settlement. Large posters lined one end of the hall, and people wandered over to look at their family history. Each family had created displays of their family tree and had posted old and new photos. Many individuals stood before the posters and studied them for a long time. Some people were able to see photos they had never seen before. A scale model was also on display, which showed the size of the houses that were built by the Slovenians. At the other end of the hall were banquet tables loaded with an abundance of food. There were various kinds of meats,

vegetables, casseroles, salads and more dessert than could be counted, including a few Slovenian specialties. Many guests commented that the food was incredibly delicious and cooked to perfection. The party was as much a Thanksgiving dinner, as a birthday party, as people talked about how thankful they are to be related to the original settlers. Many stopped to admire the table lined with a few souvenirs that were brought back by Phil Kushlan on a recent trip to Slovenia. Silent auction bids were made on the items, with money raised going toward the monument placement at Bette Uda City Park. A bar was set up in another room, offering several types of beer and wine. The most popular drink of the night was the Lasko bottled

beer, which is from Slovenia. Soon the beer ran out. After quietly settling in for the giant feast, people relaxed with their children and grandchildren, while each family group gathered for a family photo. Many people were amazed at the number of descendants in each family. A few of the portraits had more than 30 people in them. The room was packed wall-to-wall with friendly, happy faces of people enjoying each other’s company. The youngest person there was one month old Frances Demshar. The oldest was Mary Chadez (Marchek) Cegnar, who is 95. “It was a wonderful party,” Eddie Chadez, 89, said. “This was so special because there are so many good, nice people in these families,” Helen Chadez, 85 said. —KB

### ✓ Needs: Fire alarm fix could cost \$30-35K

heating issue by 5 p.m. last Wednesday, Sauer said. He hasn’t seen the invoice on the work, so doesn’t know the cost of the repair. “We were making arrangements to have students in other classrooms,” if the situation hadn’t been remedied during the day of cancelled classes. Muir’s list also includes updating the high school annex building’s fire alarm system, replacing that building’s roof and carpeting more classrooms. “Each building has needs, and we only have so much money in the plant levy and have to prioritize,” Sauer said. Muir told the board that the fire alarm system in the annex building, which was built in 1972, tends to overheat, resulting in melted wiring. “It is a very old system,” Muir wrote in his report. “To replace it, we have to bring it up to code.” The work will require input from the state fire marshal and will cost between \$30,000 and \$35,000, Muir said. Sauer said the overheating was discovered during prolonged

alarm usage of 10 to 15 minutes during testing. There is no evidence that the overheating takes place during shorter alarms such as are used in fire drills. The superintendent also said that Muir did mitigation by moving electrical wires away from the heat source. In another report to the board, elementary school principal Terri Vasquez said it has been discovered that the school’s fire alarms aren’t wired into a system that is monitored by county emergency dispatchers. “That means if there is a fire when we are not in school, no one will be alerted,” Vasquez wrote in her report. Muir says it will be costly to re-wire the system. **Lunch policy changed** A recent controversy in a Utah school’s cafeteria has triggered a change in the Homedale district’s food services policy. Under federal reduced-price lunch program guidelines, if a student is more than \$10 in debt, food service workers are sup-

posed to take the food tray away from the boy or girl and throw it away, wasting food and — as Utah parents said — humiliating the child. Sauer said that on Feb. 10 the middle school and high school cafeterias began following a policy already in place at the elementary school. At Homedale Elementary School, students who are over the \$10 threshold are given a peanut butter and jelly sandwich before they enter the food line. Now the other two schools will follow the same process. In the past, fifth- through 12<sup>th</sup>-graders in the program would receive their food tray before the status of their account was known. Sauer said he knows of one instance where a middle school student was asked to dump a hot lunch food tray after receiving the meal. According to Sauer’s memo to the school board on the issue, federal guidelines require that the school district satisfy the debt with general fund money not food service funds. —JPB

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# Marsing Legion Post 128 serves annual stew feed Friday

## Auxiliary benefit auction also planned

The Marsing American Legion Post 128’s annual thank-you event for the community will be held Friday.

The American Legion will hold a free stew feed followed by the Post 128 Auxiliary’s dessert and craft auction.

The event begins with a 6 p.m. social hour. The stew feed starts at 7 p.m., and the auction follows.

The stew feed is free and open to the public.

The festivities take place at the Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center, 126 W 2<sup>nd</sup> St. N., in Marsing.

“The Post does the stew feed every year as a thank you to the community for supporting our post and projects during the year,” Post 128 adjutant Kathy

Barton said.

The Auxiliary auctions home-baked desserts and crafts after the free stew feed to raise money for its community service program, including sending a Marsing High School student to this summer’s Girls’ State civics camp as well as donating cash to the Idaho Veterans Home in Boise.

“We also will help a veteran’s family if they are in need of food or gifts for their children at Christmastime,” Auxiliary member Pam Brown said.

The Marsing American Legion Post 128 has been active with several community service projects.

• Work continues on the cemetery locator at the Marsing-Homedale Cemetery. An Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant access ramp and motion-sensitive lighting will be installed soon. Cemetery staff continues work on the name panels, and there are hopes for a Memorial Day

dedication ceremony.

• The Post’s honor guard presented the colors at the Husky Duals wrestling tournament on Feb. 8 and at a recent Marsing High School boys’ basketball game.

• The Post sponsored lodging expenses for Bailey Bowman when she ran in the MS Mini Marathon on Jan. 18 in Phoenix.

• Kitchen improvements have been carried out at the community center, including new commercial sinks to allow folks to clean tall pots and pans and a hot water loop back system to get hot water to the sinks faster. The Post will install cabinets later.

The Post also is circulating applications to find candidates for this summer’s Boys’ State civics camp, and members are gearing up for the annual gun show March 22-23.

For more information on the stew feed or the organization, call Barton at 350-3915 or Cmdr. Julie Sterling at 859-2237.

# What is “To be or not to be?” Shakespeare Jeopardy! planned

## Adults can join Tween and Teen fun Saturday at Homedale library

The Teens and Tweens Program’s monthlong Valentine’s observance ends Saturday at the Homedale Public Library, but adults are welcome to join in the fun.

The group, which welcomes boys and girls ages 10-17, will visit YouTube and watch a humorous Romeo and Juliet skit performed by the Reduced Shakespeare Co.

Afterward, participants will play a game of Jeopardy! that cov-

ers the classic love story. Adults are invited to take part in this game to see if they are “smarter than a seventh-grader” as organizers said.

Two teams of mixed adults and children will be formed and prizes will be awarded to the winning team members.

The program begins at 4 p.m. at the library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave.

Call program coordinator Teasha Harris at 337-4228 for more information.

The library is open from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

## Mo Willems book to be read at Story Time

“Pigs Make Me Sneeze” by Mo Willems will be read at 10:15 a.m. Friday for the next preschool Story Time at the library.

There will be songs, crafts and snacks to go along with the Story Time.

Call the library for more information.

# Jury Day for library art show set

The search for the 2014-15 batch of showcase artists for the Lizard Butte Library approaches.

Organizers have contacted several artists, but also invite them to submit their work for the Juried Wall Art Exhibit at the Marsing library.

Jury Day is set for Saturday, March 1 inside the library’s Community Room, 111 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. W.,

in Marsing.

Interested artists are invited to bring three pieces of their artwork for judging between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m.

There is no fee to participate in the selection process. Artists selected will be able to display their artwork exclusively for a month on the walls inside the library. They may also sell the

artwork.

While there is no fee to exhibit the work, artists are asked to donate 10 percent of the proceeds of any sales to the Lizard Butte Library District to help fund projects and programs.

For more information on the juried art exhibit, contact Dotie Christensen at 455-2550 or dfchris2@gmail.com.

# School menus

## Homedale Elementary

- Feb. 19: Chili, baby carrots, broccoli, apple, cheese crackers
- Feb. 20: Orange chicken, steamed rice, peas, cucumbers, mandarin oranges
- Feb. 21: Pizza hot pocket, tossed salad, grape tomatoes, tropical fruit
- Feb. 24: Hot dog, tater tots, baked beans, strawberries
- Feb. 25: Spaghetti, green beans, salad, pears, bread stick
- Feb. 26: Beef taco, corn, fresh grapes, taco sauce

## Homedale Middle

- Feb. 19: Grilled cheese or rib-b-que, corn, grape tomatoes, orange wedges
- Feb. 20: Chicken or beef nuggets, broccoli/cauliflower, mandarin oranges, cinnamon roll
- Feb. 21: Pizza hot pocket or corn dog, salad, baby carrots, applesauce
- Feb. 24: Chicken & noodles or popcorn chicken, carrots/grape tomatoes, mandarin oranges, animal crackers
- Feb. 25: Sloppy Joe or grilled chicken sandwich, tater tots, baked beans, pears
- Feb. 26: Mini corn dogs or ham/cheese hot pocket, green beans, salad, apple

## Homedale High

- Feb. 19: Lasagna w/French bread or rib-b-que, mixed vegetables, salad bar/fruit choice
- Feb. 20: Nachos or corn dog, salad bar/fruit choice
- Feb. 21: Crispito w/taco salad or hot pocket, corn, salad bar/fruit choice
- Feb. 24: Pepperoni pizza or grilled ham/cheese, salad bar/fruit choice
- Feb. 25: Chicken tenders or pork chop, scalloped potatoes, roll, salad bar/fruit choice
- Feb. 26: Enchilada or hot pocket, salad bar/fruit choice

## Marsing

- Feb. 19: Spicy chicken w/rice & roll or burritos, steamed carrots, salad bar 6-12
- Feb. 20: Rib-b-que or mac & cheese w/breadstick, buttered corn, salad bar 6-12
- Feb. 24: Chicken fajita or chicken sandwich, steamed carrots, chocolate chip cookie, salad bar 6-12
- Feb. 25: French dip sandwich or beef taco w/chipotle rice & beans, mixed vegetables, salad bar 6-12
- Feb. 26: Teriyaki chicken bowl or corn dog, buttered corn, salad bar 6-12

## Bruneau-Grand View

- Feb. 19: Chicken patty/bun, steamed broccoli, fruit, jello
- Feb. 20: Taco soup, salad, cornbread, fruit
- Feb. 21: Cheeseburger salad wrap, celery sticks & cauliflower, fruit, rice krispie treat
- Feb. 25: Chicken wrap, romaine/tomato, carrots, pudding
- Feb. 26: Spaghetti w/meat sauce, salad, peas, breadstick, fruit

# Senior menus

## Homedale Senior Center

- Feb. 19: Ham & beans, carrots, corn bread
- Feb. 20: Meat loaf, mashed potatoes/gravy, beets, bread, gravy
- Feb. 25: Baked chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, broccoli, bread
- Feb. 26: Sausage & biscuits, mashed potatoes/gravy, carrots & onions

## Marsing Senior Center

- Feb. 19: BBQ pork/bun, coleslaw, potato wedges, green salad, fruit, peanut butter cookies
- Feb. 20: Pepper steak, rice, green salad, green beans, roll, pear salad
- Feb. 24: Breakfast, ham/cheese omelet, hash browns, toast, fruit, juice
- Feb. 25: Pork cutlet, potatoes, corn pudding, broccoli whole wheat bread, apricots
- Feb. 26: Beef tacos, black beans, tomato, onion, Mexican corn, Spanish rice, green salad, fruit cup, baked custard
- Feb. 27: Mushroom chicken, Italian bread vegetables, rice, fruit, breadstick, cake

## Rimrock Senior Center

- Feb. 20: Country fried steak
- Feb. 25: Tuna casserole
- Feb. 27: Pizza



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# Homedale FFA hosts Zamzows tomato growing class Monday

Monday’s tomato starting class presented in conjunction with Zamzows is more than just a chance to teach the community for the Homedale FFA chapter. The class, which starts at 6 p.m. inside Homedale High School’s old gym, is part of the chapter’s competition for a \$5,000 Helping Communities Grow grant from the Nutrients for Life Foundation. The class will be held during the school’s parent-teacher conferences. Homedale FFA advisor Lori Harrison said Tolmie’s Ace Hardware and Appliance will offer Zamzow products this year to coincide with the class. “This should be a great class,” she said.

## Calendar

### Today

- Story Time**  
10:30 a.m., for preschoolers, Lizard Butte Library, 111 S. 3rd Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690
- Owyhee County GOP Lincoln Day banquet**  
11:30 a.m., \$20, McKeeth Hall, Owyhee County Historical Museum, 17085 Basey St., Murphy. (208) 250-9882
- Marsing FFA appreciation breakfast**  
Noon, Marsing High School ag shop, 8th Avenue West, Marsing
- 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
- Grand View Chamber of Commerce meeting**  
5:30 p.m., Grand View Firehouse, 720 Roosevelt St., Grand View.
- Parenting class**  
6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., free, Homedale Elementary School library, 420 W. Washington Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4033 or (208) 337-5780

### 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
- Homedale Elementary L’il Pantry distribution**  
4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Homedale Elementary School pantry, 420 W. Washington Ave., Homedale.
- Friends of Lizard Butte Library board meeting**  
6 p.m., Lizard Butte Library community room, 111 W. 3rd Ave. S., Marsing. (208) 455-2550
- Taking Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) meeting**  
6:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St. W., Homedale. (208) 337-3867
- Marsing FFA Sadie Hawkins dance**  
7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Marsing High School ag shop, 8th Avenue West, Marsing.

### Friday

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

### Saturday

- Teens and Tweens program**  
4 p.m. to 5 p.m., Homedale Public Library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228  
afternoons Monday through Saturday
- Bruneau Booster Club Auction**  
5:30 p.m., free meal; 7 p.m., live auction, American Legion Post 83 Hall, 32478 Belle Ave., Bruneau. (208) 845-2282

### Sunday

- 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

### Tuesday

- Senior center exercise class**  
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020
- Homedale Chamber of Commerce meeting**  
Noon, Owyhee Lanes and Restaurant banquet room, 18 N. 1st St. W., Homedale. (208) 337-3271
- After-school Story Time**  
4:30 p.m., up to third-graders, Lizard Butte Library, 111 S. 3rd Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690
- Bruneau-Grand View school levy meeting**  
7 p.m., Oreana Community Hall, 18092 Oreana Loop Road, Oreana

### Wednesday

- Story Time**  
10:30 a.m., for preschoolers, Lizard Butte Library, 111 S. 3rd Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690
- County P&Z hearing**  
2 p.m., Owyhee County Courthouse Annex, 17069 Basey St., Murphy. (208) 495-2095, ext. 2
- 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
- Parenting class**  
6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., free, Homedale Elementary School library, 420 W. Washington Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4033 or (208) 337-5780

### Thursday, Feb. 27

- Senior center exercise class**  
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020
- Bruneau-Grand View school levy meeting**  
12:15 p.m., Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View
- Taking Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) meeting**  
6:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St. W., Homedale. (208) 337-3867

### Friday, Feb. 28


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

### Saturday, March 1

- Lizard Butte Library artists jury day**  
10 a.m. to 11 a.m., Lizard Butte Library, 111 S. 3rd Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 455-2550 or dfchris2@gmail.com

Owyhee  
Then & Now

Michael F. Hanley IV



### Tales of the I.O.N. Country

*The meat saw*

My grandfather’s camp tender and herder Domingo Corta, better known as Old Sunday, got into an argument over the sawing agility of Old Sunday’s meat saw. Sunday said it was sharp enough to cut the barrel off a rifle and the tender said it couldn’t be done. He stayed up all night sawing on it and sure enough he did it. Sunday won his bet but my grandfather wasn’t a bit pleased when he discovered that he was the looser with a ruined meat saw and 44-40 Winchester Rifle.

*Keeping busy*

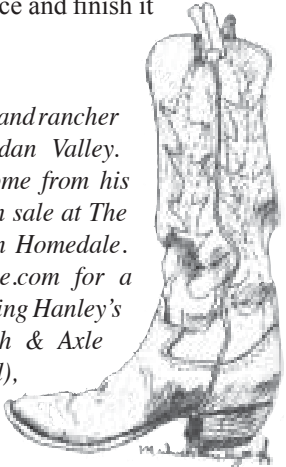
Orrin Day was going to work for my grandfather, Jim McEwen, on the Visher Ranch. “After breakfast Jim came out to the bunkhouse and told the men what he wanted them to do for the day. I asked him, “What do you want me to do, Jim?” and he said, “If you can’t find anything to do on a ranch this size, you’re not worth a darn.”

*Man of a few words*

Some buckaroos are known as men of few words. One particular buckaroo reported at breakfast that he was going to buy a new saddle. That night at supper he said, “It’s going to be a darn good one, too.”

He was the kind of man who would start a statement in the fall, stop in mid-sentence and finish it in the spring.

— 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](http://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.



# GUN SHOW

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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](mailto:jon@owyheeavalanche.com) (an e-mail link also is available on our Web site). For more information on submissions, call (208) 337-4681.



THE AUSTRIAN CENTENNIAL



Teej, Scott, Cristy (Kushlan) Putz and Ali enjoy the potluck.



Joe Demshar introduces Mary (Marchek) Chadez Cegnar, 95, the oldest descendant.



Kathy Demshar holds the youngest Slovenian at the party, 1 month old Frances Demshar.

Photos by Karen Bresnahan



Coleen Paxton and her mother Florence (Marchek) Paxton wore traditional Slovenian costumes to the potluck dinner.



Annette and Dave Bahem look over the family tree with Ernie and Sherry Bahem.



Brenda Paxton (Marchek) serves up the Lasko Slovenian beer.



Over 200 Austrian descendants attended the potluck dinner at the Homedale Armory.



Family members discuss their memories of the settlement families.



From the oldest, to the youngest, members of the Cegnar family gather for a portrait.



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A bouquet of flowers stands on a table with the flag of Skofja Loka.



Members of the Edelweiss Band play the clarinet and trumpet.



Children join hands and happily dance to the polka tunes.



Helen and Eddie Chadez stand next to a poster with their wedding photo on it. He is the son of John and Mary Marchek. At 90, he still danced a waltz.



Edelweiss Band members are Harry Simons, Chuck Smith, Al Anderson, Brad Marshall and Bill Kennedy.



Lloyd and Joan Noe enjoy dancing to a polka.



The Jesenko clan poses for a portrait. The family includes more than 60 people. The original settlers were John and Agnes, who had eight children.



*Ben Holloway plays a saxophone solo during the Homedale band and choir spaghetti feed fundraiser earlier this month. It was reported last week that \$11,000 was raised.*

## Marsing Fire crab feed raises \$10K

*More than 600 people attended the annual Marsing Volunteer Fire Department crab and prime rib feed Saturday night. The all-you-can-eat dinner, which featured fresh crab brought from the Oregon Coast, raised more than \$10,000. The funds will go toward training or other department needs. Fire Chief Brion Showalter said he is proud of all the firemen, their families and the community for the support. Submitted photo*



## Adrian FFA'ers place in leadership CDEs

by Tane't Campbell  
chapter reporter

On Wednesday, Feb. 5, the Adrian FFA chapter took 17 students to Jordan Valley High School to compete in the Snake River District Leadership Career Development Events (CDEs).

Members participated in a variety of contests, such as Creed Speaking, Prepared Speaking and Parliamentary Procedure.

Adrians's Advanced Parliamentary Procedure team finished second and earned the opportunity to compete at the Sectional contest to be held at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande, Ore., on Thursday.

Creed speaker Lauren Barraza finished fourth.

Mike Griffin tied for fourth with a student from Vale in the Sophomore Prepared Public Speaking event. Mike's speech was titled "Monsanto — More Than you Might Know."

Kellie Barraza and Raquel DeHoog finished fourth and seventh, respectively, in the Prepared Public Speaking event.

Kellie's speech was titled "The Next Spotted Owl?" and brought awareness about a looming, potentially devastating issue with the potential listing of the Greater Sage-grouse under the Endangered Species Act.

Raquel's speech, "The Rest of the Story," focused on the need for Agriculture proponents to tell their positive story, such as

was done with the famous Super Bowl ad based on the Paul Harvey monologue “So God Made a Farmer.”

Besides competitions, the 2014-15 Snake River FFA District officer team was elected. Kellie Barraza will serve again as district secretary.

The Adrian FFA chapter continues to make progress in not only competing in new CDEs in comparison to past years, but also in being more competitive and successful.

The Jordan Valley FFA, Administration and Ag Advisory group were great hosts, and the contest was organized and a great experience for everyone participating.

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# The “Megan 17 Dream”

## Marsing girl gives up her birthday, to raise funds for sick kids at St. Luke’s Children’s Hospital

You would expect a 16 year old to wish for the usual gifts on her 17<sup>th</sup> birthday, like new clothes, new shoes, a cell phone, iPad, laptop, CDs, DVD movies, a big party with her friends, or even dream of a new car.

But Megan McRae is not your typical teen. She has big dreams, for sure, but right now she has decided to forego all her birthday presents, to make a few children smile.

This is her wish: for her family, friends, community, and school to come together and donate 1,700 gifts to the St. Luke’s Children’s Hospital in Boise. It’s called the “Megan 17 Dream.”

“If I can get people to listen to me, I think it will be easy,” the slightly shy, soft spoken teen said.

How is she planning to accomplish her lofty goal?

With power. The power of persuasion that she naturally possesses.

“I’m just a simple girl that is doing something amazing,

to-door seeking support. Six businesses in town are already aware of the project. The LDS 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Wards have already heard about it. Staples has donated \$100 for printing costs.

The first step Megan made was to re-post the St. Jude’s video on her Facebook page, to share her interest. Then she created an “event” on her Facebook page explaining her project and seeking support. Next she took the color flyers she created to community events, such as the November craft show in town, to promote the idea.

But wait, hold everything.

This is no small donation of gifts and there is a protocol that must be followed with the hospital. Because there will be so many donations, Megan had to fill out paperwork to present the idea to the St. Luke’s Foundation. The Foundation partners with the Ronald McDonald House and various business that offer donations

and services. Also, the hospital has locations in Meridian, Nampa, Twin Falls and McCall. Megan’s dream of giving can be expanded to include all those locations.

The St. Luke’s Foundation gave Megan a list of items that are appropriate to donate. Some must be new items, and some can be used. She was told the families need everything, because they are so overwhelmed by the medical costs, and personal difficulties of lengthy hospital stays.

Now, Megan is creating a second flyer about the “17 Dream” which will include the list of requirements.

It didn’t take Megan long to up with another outlet for her fundraising and she approached her favorite radio station, KISS FM 103.5. She was hoping to get a message about her quest on the air, but after hearing her idea, the radio station took Megan’s challenge one step further. Station officials told her if she set a goal and involved her school in the fundraiser, they would reward her with a free visit to the school to play music.

After that, Megan wrote a proposal and went to Principal Tim Little and Superintendent Norm Stewart, to win approval for her project. She now plans to kick off the effort with a school pep rally, followed by a barrage of flyers and bins located at each school to collect items. Cash donations are also being sought, in the form of gift cards to restaurants and stores to help the families and the children who are hospitalized.

“This is all pretty overwhelming, but for a good cause,” Dawn said. “She is a teenager, but she has her moments, where she melts my heart,” she said.

Megan understands the nature of suffering because she has experienced a great deal of difficulties in her young life.



that anyone can do,” she said. “I am excited, and nervous about it, but I have a lot of people supporting me.”

Megan has proven talent for raising money. Two years ago, after watching a TV commercial where Larry Gebert was promoting the “Polar Bear Challenge” to raise money for the Make-a-Wish Foundation, Megan told her family enthusiastically, “I want to do that.”

Then she got her step-dad and brothers involved and they went door-to-door in Marsing and in just three days, she got sponsors and raised \$600 for the cause, then happily went to Lucky Peak Reservoir on New Year’s Day, and leaped in the cold water.

“I was so proud of her,” her mother Dawn Cahill said. “That was her brainstorm.”

So now, Megan has a new brainstorm. A wish that began about six months ago has grown into a major fundraising project. And on her birthday, March 11, she will make a trip to Boise with her friends to deliver the gifts to the children.

The idea began last summer when Megan watched a video on the Internet about St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. That was all it took to get her fired up.

“Mom, I just want to help the kids. I think it’s so sad they have to suffer like that,” she told her mother. Megan saw some of the difficulties children who suffer from critical illnesses go through.

Her mother told her it was an admirable thing, and if she wanted to, she should “got for it.”

“But, I didn’t think the idea would get so big,” said Dawn. “This is almost more than I can handle.”

Megan plans to involve everyone she knows at the school and in the Marsing community to reach the donation goal of 1,700 gifts. She will advertise her campaign at all the schools, and businesses in town. She will also go door-

She has a barrel full of physical, and emotional problems, but you would never know it from meeting her. She is not thinking about herself. She is thinking about the suffering of others and is willing to make sacrifices to help them. That’s a pretty lofty goal for such a young girl.

You would never guess that she just spent the past two weeks in a wheel chair.

Megan suffers from Psoriatic Arthritis, a condition that causes painful bouts of swelling in her feet, and soreness in her muscles. She used to play basketball, soccer, and volleyball, but she had to give them all up this year. She hopes to be able to participate in the color guard next fall, because it is not as difficult for her to do.

Megan dreams of being a professional singer. She has loved singing as long as she can remember. “I like anything I can sing to,” she said.

Some of her favorite songs are: “Read all about it,” by Emily Sande, “Battlescars,” by Lupe Fiasco, “Glass” by Thompson Square, and “On top of the world” by Imagine Dragons.

Her favorite subjects in school are English, choir, and science. She likes working on the computer. She enjoys reading history, dramas, fantasy and fiction, and is a big Harry Potter fan. She also enjoys snowboarding with her brothers and family.

For her senior project, Megan plans to compose a song and sing it at school. Her goals are to go to college, create music videos, have a singing career and eventually start a family of her own.



Story and photos by  
Karen Bresnahan



# Bruneau auction satisfies appetite for food, competition

## Saturday’s annual fundraiser starts off with free dinner

Saturday’s annual Bruneau Booster Club fundraiser promises to be an evening of family fun, food, and lively entertainment.

The event begins at 5:30 p.m. at the renovated American Legion Post 83 Hall, 32478 Belle Ave., with a free meal of Basque soup made from a local “secret recipe,” French bread, punch and coffee.

Homemade pie will be sold throughout the evening for \$1 a slice. Assorted pop and water will also be sold for \$1 each.

Veteran auctioneer Kyle Colyer will moderate lively bidding when the live auction gets going at 7 p.m. He’ll get assistance from Kirby Isaac this year.

Auction items include:

- The event’s signature item of a photograph of the Bruneau Cowboys donated by photographer David Stoecklein and framed by Tim Jess and Jess Lisle.
- A print by Jerry Kenke
- A ladies’ leather and beaded jacket from Aegis Renewable
- Jeremy Mink has a hand-forged steel knife with a handle of braided kangaroo leather, complete with a leather scabbard.

Among other items up for bid will be quilts, afghans, gift certificates for a variety of goods and services, a trailer hitch, western art, metal bling belts, sculptures, ropes, headstalls, breast collars and quilts, as well

as a variety of other horse tack.

Also on the block are photo sessions, a Made in Idaho gift blanket, and an assortment of gift baskets.

The list continues with fertilizer applications, fertilizer cart rentals, batteries, car care supplies, oil changes, tools, straw, hay, asparagus, wine, Hagerman Valley Spring Water, jewelry, cakes, candies, cinnamon rolls, honey, canned tuna and salmon, dinner and theater tickets for the Glenns Ferry Opera Theater, newspaper subscriptions for The Owyhee Avalanche and the Mountain Home News as well as a subscription to Idaho Magazine and live rabbits.

There are several handcrafted one-of-a-kind items, children’s items, jackets and much more.

Silent auction items will be available for bids before the dinner, and the bidding will end at 8:30 p.m.

“White elephant” items will also be on the docket for silent bids.

The evening also includes a raffle for a portable Traeger grills donated by Jace Prow of A to Z Lumber. Tickets cost \$2 each or \$10 for six and are on sale at Bruneau businesses and will be available at the door Saturday.

Auction donations will be accepted until Saturday. Drop off items at the American Legion Post 83 Hall from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday or from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday.

All ages are invited to the community event.

For more information, call (208) 845-2282.



A wide assortment of items will go up for bid Saturday night during the annual Bruneau Booster Club Auction. Submitted photo

# Artists lend their talents to make annual auction shine

## Ashley Merrick

One of the 2014 Bruneau Booster Auction’s premier local artists is Ashley Merrick.

Ashley’s donation to the auction this year will be a handcrafted household décor item with a piece of her vinyl artistry.

Ashley owns These Talking Walls, a self-created vinyl, crafting, and home décor business started in 2006 after she got married to Austin Merrick and needed a hobby to fill her free time.

Ashley had always had her hand in crafting, sewing, and

home décor projects, so after researching vinyl-cutting machines and software, she took the plunge and taught herself the art of vinyl creations.

In addition to being a crafter and creator, Ashley works as the preschool teacher at Bruneau Elementary and coaches Rimrock High School’s softball team.

She is also involved in many other community events.

Her time isn’t completely filled with these activities, though. She still has time for baking, crafting,

and spending time with friends and family.

What started out as a few vinyl orders here and there has grown into many adventures over the past few years.

As the business grew to cover more crafting-type projects and home décor items, Ashley realized that there are many people out there who wanted to make the craft themselves, yet they didn’t have the wood-cutting tools, vinyl machines, or places to buy supplies at a reasonable price.

Because of this, a few years ago Ashley started putting craft kits

together and forming craft groups where ladies come for a night out and a chance to create something for their home. With this, Ashley has traveled throughout southern Idaho and shipped kits from Oregon to Utah for women’s craft groups and get-togethers. The largest group she has organized was for a group of 150 girls ages 12-17.

Ashley says her business would not be successful without the support of her family. Both her husband Austin and in-laws, Allen and Carol Merrick, are knowledgeable about wood-working and have been spent hundreds

of hours chopping, cutting, and sanding wood to make an order deadline.

Ashley’s mother-in-law is a great resource for project designs and is of the people Ashley bounces ideas off of. They both love coming up with a project, seeing it come to life, and then sharing it with others.

Ashley’s business is a result of her love of crafting and creating, and desire to pass that on to others by watching someone sit down with one of her kits, create something, and then see their own accomplishment when it is complete.

### More auction artistry

Bruneau artisan Jeremy Mink’s handcrafted knife with kangaroo leather braided handle and leather scabbard is among Saturday’s items. Other lots include a hand-embroidered western horse baby quilt, beaded keychain and new, unfired brass bullet jewelry with cubic zirconia and sterling silver. Submitted photo

## Tyler Kunsky

Bruneau-area artist Tyler Kunsky will donate a creation from his business, Tyler’s Rustic Log Furniture, to this year’s Bruneau Booster Auction.

Tyler plans to donate a large log table centerpiece to this year’s auction, but there could be some surprises, too, if time allowed.

Tyler is a self-taught woodworker that grew up in Bruneau. He wandered the world a little, spending time in McCall, California, and North Carolina, then chose to move back to Bruneau and settle with his wife Heather and two sons, 6-year-old Gage, and 9-month-old Mason (9 months).

Tyler is a family man with strong family roots in the area, and his grandmother Pat Welsh is an active Bruneau Booster Club member.

Tyler works for Skyline Construc-

tion, a local company owned by Bruneau Fire Chief Stacey Buckingham.

Tyler is an outdoor guy who loves hunting, fishing, riding his dirt bike and racing on anything.

Years ago, when Tyler was helping his father-in-law build a log cabin in McCall, his interest was piqued about building and creating out of wood.

His rustic, one-of-a-kind style comes from thinking of a project, or seeing it and just building it. Using a plan isn’t his style, and Tyler prefers to build what is in his head that is “not something out of a store.”

He loves the unique, preferring to get his logs from the family woodcutting area in Cascade on the family firewood-cutting trips.

He finds the trees in this large, burned area that are full of cat eyes, knots, elk rubs and unusual designs that allow him to create his pieces.

Tyler’s supply of blue spruce slabs

comes from his father-in-law’s pile of “junk wood” that is excess from his personal sawmill in McCall. While his father-in-law was cutting up the pieces for firewood, Tyler saw potential for his many projects, and took a trailer load of the odds and ends home to build with.

Over the years, Tyler has built many different projects including gun cabinets, cribs, wood boxes, bookshelves, end tables, coffee tables, spice racks and log mantles.

Tyler is a creator, preferring to think up a project to build, and then give it away when it is completed.

Tyler creates and sells his pieces if asked, or when his wife requests something special.

But for the most part, he prefers looking at his incredible woodworking talent as a hobby, and is always ready to take on a new task, saying, “If it’s logs, I’ll build it”.



# Marsing FFA'ers get hands dirty for fun

## Horticulture class fills baskets with 400 plants

Marsing High School students got their hands dirty and didn't even get in trouble for it.

The students in Mike Martin's horticulture class had a first hand experience in dealing with live plant material earlier this month at the school's FFA greenhouse. Martin said the classroom effort this year was "fantastic, and the kids were all interested."

As part of that class, 16 students worked with members of the Owyhee Gardeners to place the plants into containers and baskets. Helping instruct the Feb. 6 exercise were Owyhee Gardeners Ellen Dines, Gay Young and Chris Harris.

The project encourages kids to get involved with digging, Dines said. They use plant "plugs" which are plants that have already been started and are about an inch high. Students are taught how deep to plant them, how to space them apart, how to loosen root balls, and proper watering techniques.

According to the Owyhee Gardeners, more than 80 hanging baskets were planted, along with decorative boxes. Each project will be for sale to the public. Interested parties can visit the greenhouse and place an order for the basket of their choice.

"They were excited to be in the



Marsing FFA member Zoe Kish gets hands-on experience in planting containers during a Feb. 6 exercise with the Owyhee Gardeners. Submitted photo

greenhouse," Dines said. "They worked well together and really wanted to jump in and do things."

Dines said the teaching experience was "very nice" and she liked how the students were "able to do something themselves and gain the reward of doing it the right way."

The school purchases plants every year for

the ongoing project, and invites the garden club to come.

"We tried something new this year," Martin said. "It's called a confetti mix."

The confetti mix is a combination of three plants which are color coordinated by plant experts.

"We used to worry about the colors, but these are already picked out and ready to go," he said.

The 400 plant "plugs" were purchased from the McHutchison company out of Salt Lake City. They were a variety of annual flowers, like petunias.

Ninth-grader Karl Isert thought the day was fun. He planted various kinds of petunias and a lilac bush.

This is the second year that Bryana Hampton has done the planting project. She enjoyed it and says she also plants flowers with her grandmother every year.

Zoe Kish is a ninth-grader in the class.

"This taught us a lot," said ninth-grader Zoe Kish. "I learned how to do plant spacing and what to do to make them survive." Zoe feels that students should keep doing it every year.

Rosalba Jacobo is another ninth-grader who participated in the project.

"It was hard," she said. "I was doing it wrong and putting them too close together and they helped me. It was really fun and interesting."

—KB

# Marsing celebrating FFA Week

Marsing's FFA chapter is going all out for FFA Week.

Today at noon, a breakfast is being held at the high school Ag shop. The students voted to have a breakfast, rather than hamburgers and hot dogs.

The meal was planned by the FFA officers. They are Tanner Fisher, president; Garret Briggs, vice-president; Courtney Rhodes, secretary; Les Loucks, treasurer; Morgan Hall, reporter; and Megan Bettleyon, sentinel.

Pancakes and biscuits and gravy will be served.

From 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday, the FFA and the school's National Honor Society chapter are co-sponsoring a Sadie Hawkins Sweetheart dance in the Ag shop. Admission price is \$3 per person for singles, \$5 for couples.

In other Marsing FFA news, advisor Mike Martin began a four- to six-week medical leave Tuesday.

Coach Jaime Wood will be filling in during Martin's absence.

—KB

# From page 1A

## ✓ Jewel: Many funding sources help Legion Hall remodel become reality

bar area.

"It is really a nice project," King said. "The community feels really fortunate that we were able to pull together the money to get the project done."

"The thing I'm most proud of is the fact that we have bathrooms that handicapped people can get into because the old bathrooms were pathetic."

The Legion pledged \$30,000 to the project to meet the matching requirements for a \$150,000 Idaho Department of Commerce block grant that supplied the bulk of the funding.

The Bruneau Boosters provided \$11,000 — half of the 2012 auction proceeds — to the project, and

**American Legion  
Post 83 details**  
  
**Commander** — Tom Hall  
**Vice-commander** — Bill Sullivan  
**Adjutant** — Bill McBride  
**Members** — 55 veterans  
**Meeting** — Second Tuesday of each month

King was able to secure a \$5,000 grant from the Home Depot. One of the most recent contributions

was an \$800 Helping Hands grant from US Ecology Idaho.

King said the Post always wanted to do something but lacked the funds — until 2011.

Along came Mona Noble, the widow of Bruneau native and World War II veteran Jack Noble, who provided a \$25,000 memorial "out of the blue," King said.

"Suddenly we had some money we could use as match money," he said.

Owyhee County served as the fiscal agent for the state grant, which added another bit of adventure for King, a 30-year Army veteran who grew up in Bruneau but now lives in Eagle.

"I'm kind of the Pony Express

on this thing," he said, because he would have to shuttled between Eagle, Murphy and Mountain Home to take care of the funding chain from the Department of Commerce to Owyhee County and the Post's bank.

"We're just really, really pleased with the cooperation we've received with Owyhee County and the State of Idaho and the support we've received from the community and these organizations," King said. "And we're just actually proud of the end product."

Mountain Home-based Bideganeta Construction Inc., served as project contractor.

King said the company's original bid forced a change in plans, but the Home Depot grant and the contractor's willingness to go the extra mile made a huge difference.

"They worked with us way more than what I kind of expected and the nice thing is they didn't charge us," King said. "Bideganeta Construction did a really nice job."

The project began in mid-October and the county issued a certificate of completion on Feb. 7, King said.

Bideganeta Construction helped shore up the structural integrity of the century-old building, which wasn't part of the original plan. The big revelation came when crews began work on building a 9-foot-by-9-foot storage area on

the back of the building.

"When they got back there, it became apparent that the center beam off that old building looked like a swayback horse, and that wasn't in the contract," King said. "They went in and reinforced that and straightened it out and reinforced the building."

There were also a few lighting oversights and an extra kitchen that Bideganeta crews took care of without a change-order.

With \$40,000 needed for architectural fees and grant administration, the Legion didn't have enough funds to put a new foundation under the mess hall as originally planned.


And, King said, without Home Depot's commitment to veterans, the fleet of new appliances wouldn't have happened. The bulk of the \$5,000 Home Depot gift-card grant paid for two double ovens, two stoves and a refrigerator.

Now, the Legion Hall, which serves as a gathering place for wedding receptions, funerals, auctions, graduation parties and much more, can serve as the community's centerpiece for years to come.

"We think it will be (used more) simply because it's just going to be a much nicer facility," King said.

"The kitchen and the bathrooms are going to make a world of difference. I think they're going to sell themselves."

—JPB

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# Nominations open for BLM citizen advisory panels

A Murphy resident is among the citizens whose terms on a public lands advisory committee will end this year.

Biologist Karen Steenhof and others who have come to the end of their three-year terms on Bureau of Land Management Resource Advisory Councils can apply or be nominated to continue, but the federal agency also is seeking new applicants.

There are 22 open positions on four district RACs throughout Idaho.

Steenhof is one of three Owyheesans serving on the BLM Boise District RAC along with ranchers Brenda Richards of Reynolds Creek and Donna Bennett of Grand View.

Bennett and Steenhof also sit on the RAC's subcommittee tasked with finding a route through Owyhee County for segments 8-9

of the Gateway West 500-kilovolt electrical transmission line.

Richards and Bennett are Category 1 members of the RAC who represent industry. Steenhof, who is president of the Raptor Research Foundation, is a Category 2 representative. Category 2 includes conservation, dispersed recreation and environmentalist interest.

Other Boise District RAC members whose terms are ending include:

**Category 1** — Bill Walsh, DIRT Inc. and the Southern Idaho Desert Racing Association

**Category 2** — Gene Gray, RAC chair, certified arborist and member of several ad-hoc conservation committees; Gayle B. Poorman, retired chemist/engineer, equestrian interests, Washington County rancher

**Category 3** — Sara Braasch Schmidt, business owner, former

Idaho Cattle Association executive director; Kathy Alder, Canyon County commissioner

In addition to the appointments scheduled for later this year, it was recently announced that Rick Raymondi has been reappointed to the Boise District RAC in Category 2.

RAC nominations must be received at the respective district office by March 27. Appointments could be made by the end of September.

Individuals may nominate themselves or other candidates. Nominees, who must be residents of the state or states where the RAC has jurisdiction, will be judged on their training, education and knowledge of the council's geographical area. Nominees should also demonstrate a commitment to consensus building and collaborative decision-making.

All nominations must be accompanied by letters of reference from any represented interests or organizations, a completed RAC application, and any other information that speaks to the nominee's qualifications.

There are three RACs in the Owyhee country, including the Twin Falls District RAC and the Vale District RAC in Oregon.

Each of the RACs has openings in each category. Twin Falls District RAC coordinator Heather Tiel-Nelson explains that even though the people currently in the positions can be reappointed, the BLM classifies all expiring positions as "vacant."

In the Twin Falls District, there are two vacancies each in Categories 1 and 2 and one vacancy in Category 3.

In the Vale District, which is part of the Southeast Oregon RAC, there are three vacancies each in Categories 1 and 2 and two vacancies in Category 3.

Category 1 comprises public land ranchers and representatives of organizations associated with energy and mineral development, the timber industry, transportation or rights-of-way, off-highway

vehicle use, and commercial recreation.

Category 2 includes representatives of nationally or regionally recognized environmental organizations, archaeological and historical organizations, dispersed recreation activities, and wild horse and burro organizations.

Category 3 includes elected officials, representatives and employees of a state agency responsible for the management of natural resources, representatives of Indian Tribes, representatives and employees of academic institutions who are involved in natural sciences, and the public-at-large.

For more information on each RAC, contact:

- BLM Boise District Office, 3948 Development Ave., Boise, ID 83705 Attn.: Marsha Buchanan, email mbuchanan@blm.gov, phone (208) 384-3364.

- BLM Twin Falls District, 2536 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, ID 83301 Attn.: Heather Tiel-Nelson, hnelson@blm.gov, phone (208) 736-2352.

- BLM Vale District, Tara Martinak at (541) 573-4519 or tmartina@blm.gov.

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**idahopower.com/save**



## Homedale Basque dance slated in March

The community is invited to the 14<sup>th</sup> annual Txoko Ona Basque Dance next month.

The dance takes place at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 8 at the Badiola Arena, 406 Hwy. 95, in Homedale.

Admission is \$5, and the evening will include performances by the Herribatza Dancers and the Oinkari Dancers of Boise.

The Herribatza dancers are led by instructor Gloria Lejardi, a Homedale resident.

In addition to the dance performances, there will be Tug of War and weight carrying contests with cash prizes up for grabs.

The event also features live and silent auctions featuring many unique handmade and homemade items.

"Amuma Says No!" will provide music for dancing.

Chorizos, chili, pop, wine and beer will be available.

Ben Badiola is this year's dance chairman.



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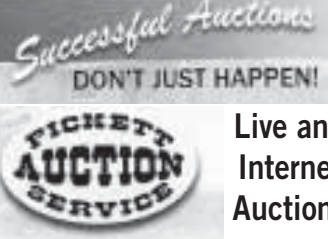
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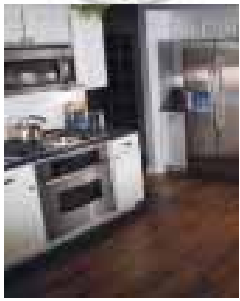

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## TROJANS TAKE TITLE



**Above:** The Homedale High School girls' basketball team poses with the 3A District III championship trophy after its Feb. 18 victory in Ontario, Ore. Photo by Tina Purdom. **Below:** Trojans coach Joe Betancourt gives instruction during the tense final minutes of the championship game against Parma. Photo by Jon P. Brown

## Girls solve Parma, end 15-year drought

### Trojans open second straight State appearance Thursday

Homedale High School's first girls' basketball district championship in 15 years didn't come without some nervous moments.

But the ball seemed to bounce the Trojans' way late the 3A District III Tournament championship game against Parma on Feb. 18.

Junior Elise Shenk's three-point goal with 40.1 seconds left was the last of several clutch baskets down the stretch that helped Homedale hold off Parma, 49-45, at Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, Ore.

Shenk's shot may have alleviated

fans' fears that the Trojans, ranked third in the state, were heading for a second consecutive district final disappointment against Parma, which won the 2012-13 title with a 55-33 blowout.

The district championship is the first for the girls' basketball program since Dan Tristan-coached teams ended a stretch of three consecutive A-3 district titles between 1996-97 and 1998-99.

More importantly, Shenk's jumper ended a tense stretch and gave the Trojans (17-5 overall) a 46-41 advantage

— See *Girls*, page 4B



## Mustangs repeat as district champs

### JV boys earn third straight State trip; Adrian end up 4th

Jordan Valley High School is on a big roll heading into the 1A Oregon boys' basketball state playoffs.

The Mustangs cruised through three opponents in three days last week to defend their 1A District 8 championship and earn a second-round home date March 1 in the state playoffs.

"The boys played exceptionally well, and I am very proud of all of them," Jordan Valley coach Clint Fillmore said.

This will be Jordan Valley's third consecutive trip to the state playoffs.

Seniors Ben Telleria and Wyatt Trautman earned first-team all-tournament honors after the Mustangs (21-4) stretched their winning streak to eight games.

**Saturday: Jordan Valley 65, Crane 48** — Telleria scored 22 points and snagged 10 rebounds, and Jordan Valley captured the district title with its 16<sup>th</sup> win in the past 17 games.

Jordan Valley stormed out to an 11-point first-half lead at Grant Union High School in John Day, Ore., en route to avenging its 43-34 road loss to Crane on Jan. 24.

Trautman led all scorers with 24 points. He connected on seven of nine field-goal attempts and

— See *Mustangs*, page 5B

## WRESTLERS READY FOR DISTRICT III TOURNAMENTS

## Trojans coach has high hopes

### Johnson anticipates at least 12 state qualifiers to emerge Saturday

Wrestling state tournaments are still more than a week away, but Saturday's 3A District III championship meet will serve as a strong preview.

Homedale High School is among four state-ranked teams heading to the tournament, which will take place in Fruitland.

The Trojans are ranked ninth in Class 3A in the IdahoSports.com standings. Fruitland is No. 1, Weiser No. 3 and Payette No. 4.

The Trojans gave 30 points in

forfeits in their 55-24 3A Snake River Valley conference dual-meet season finale loss Thursday in Weiser.

"We looked good at Weiser last Thursday," HHS coach Toby Johnson said. "If you take out forfeits and look at what really happened on the mat, it was 24 to 25. Not bad."

"Weiser has a lot of strong kids and are the defending state champions."

But Homedale's victories may

shed some light on what will happen in the brackets Saturday.

"We are looking to take at least a dozen to State," Johnson said.

District seeding takes place later this week, but Johnson expects top rankings for 98-pound sophomore Andy Montes (18-7) and junior Devin Fisher (11-2) at 145.

Senior Michael Deleon (14-5) should be a No. 2 at 120, and freshman Caleb Meligan, who is battling lingering effects of a concussion suffered Feb. 8 at the Husky Duals, could be second seed at 113 with an 18-7 record.

— See *Trojans*, page 6B

## MHS' Williams, Grossman poised for impact at district

Marsing High School may have a small wrestling squad this season, but there is a lot power packed into the roster.

The Huskies are in New Plymouth on Saturday for the 1A/2A District III Tournament.

Senior Austin Williams leads the way for coach Jon Nelson's team. The 160-pound

senior is the reigning district champion and is looking to make a return to the state tournament.

The state tournament takes place Feb. 28 and March 1 at the Ford Idaho Center in Nampa.

A year ago, Williams led four Huskies out of the dis-

— See *District*, page 6B



Noah Grossman



Austin Williams



Sports

Homedale boys continue one of best runs in school history

Trojans take 12-game winning streak into district semifinal vs. Weiser

For the first time in 16 years, Homedale High School boys' basketball fans have a No. 1-seeded team to cheer for in a district tournament.

The second-ranked Trojans notched their 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive victory, wrapped up an unbeaten conference schedule and cemented the next step in the program's best season since 1997-98 with a 60-33 Senior Night victory over Payette last Wednesday.

Top-seeded Homedale (18-2 overall, 8-0 3A SRV) will play No. 4 seed Weiser (11-9) in a 3A District III Tournament semifinal at 7:30 p.m. today at Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, Ore. Weiser edged Payette, 35-33, in Monday's district play-in game.

"Our team is happy about getting the No. 1 spot for the district tournament, but they know having the one spot doesn't mean you get to go to State," HHS coach Casey Grove said.

Tonight's semifinal will mark the Trojans' first competition since last week's regular-season finale.

"The week off is a double-edge sword in my opinion," Grove said. "It's nice because we can fine-tune some things and rest guys that are banged up a bit. "The other side of the coin is we haven't had a week off without a game since Christmas. At this point in the season, kids and coaches just want to play.

"This is the time of the year that everyone has been looking forward to. This time of year is why we have put so much time and effort into the offseason."

Homedale last won a conference championship — and, thus, earned the top seed in a district tournament — when Randy Potter coached the 1997-98 team to a 12-2 record in the A-3 Western Idaho Conference. That squad won the district championship and placed fifth in the state tournament, finishing at 20-6.

With last week's win, the current Trojans matched the win total of Potter's 18-8 squad that finished second in the 2A WIC and qualified for the 2003-04 state tournament with a district championship.

The 2013-14 Trojans' two losses are among the fewest totals in program history. Homedale's lone state championship team, coached by Daryl Kellum in 1968-69, posted a 24-3 record.

"Our kids are really excited at the chance to represent Homedale at the district tournament and hopefully the state tournament," Grove said.

"We also know we haven't played our best basketball yet. That is why our practices are so competitive. Everyone is fighting to get better and make each other better."

Perhaps that drive doomed Payette in the second half of last week's conference finale.

With the Trojans playing sloppy on the offensive end, the Pirates were able to hang around. Payette used a 10-2 run to get within four points, 18-14, on Zane Allen's offensive putback with 3 minutes, 12 seconds left in the second quarter. Allen led the Pirates with 12 points.

"The second quarter was ugly," Grove said.

Dillon Lowder hit one of his three three-point goals and finished a fastbreak with a layup for five of his game-high 19 points as Homedale regained momentum with a 7-0 run.

"Dillon had a really good game," Grove said.

The 6-foot-1 junior guard backed up his scoring with five rebounds and three steals.

The Trojans owned a nine-point lead at the break despite several missed shots in the second quarter. Offensive rebounding kept possessions alive, but few shots fell.

The Trojans used a 14-8 third-quarter spurt to slam the door.

Senior Caleb Oviedo had eight of his 13 rebounds on the offensive end, and Lowder posted four offensive boards.

Oviedo scored 11 points to cinch his eighth double-double of the season and third in February.

Another senior, Talon Freelove, hit a three-point goal and was successful on six of his nine shots en route to 13 points.

Senior Lane Sale filled the stat sheet again with six points, seven rebounds, five blocked shots, three steals, three deflections and a team-high seven assists.




Homedale High School senior Lane Sale looks for a shot down low during last week's Senior Night victory. Photo by Jon P. Brown


Other seniors playing their final home games included: Guard Jesse Padilla (four steals, one assist and one defensive rebound), guard Trey Lane (two points, two steals and two deflections) and Angel Cardenas (five assists). Senior forward Britt Eubanks has


been sidelined with an injury. Seven of the Trojans' 10 players to see floor time had assists as the team racked up 21 on the night. "It was a good team win," Grove said. "Everyone contributed to the win."

— JPB




# Homedale Trojans







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## Athlete of the Week

### Tory Lane, so., girls' basketball

The Play — The shooting guard nailed three consecutive baskets to give the Trojans momentum at the start of the fourth quarter as Homedale won the school's first girls' basketball district championship since 1999. Lane finished with 19 points.

### Girls' Basketball

Varsity  
Thursday, Feb. 20 vs. Teton, 3A Real Dairy Shootout state tournament, Middleton H.S., 8 p.m.  
Friday, Feb. 21 vs. TBA, 3A Real Dairy Shootout state tournament, Middleton H.S., 3 p.m. or 8 p.m.  
Saturday, Feb. 22 vs. TBA, 3A Real Dairy Shootout state tournament (if nec.), Middleton H.S., 9:15 a.m. or 11 a.m. or Ford Idaho Center, Nampa, 3:50 p.m.  
Junior varsity  
3A Snake River Valley conference tournament runner-up  
Frosh-soph  
3A Snake River Valley conference tournament semifinalist

### Boys' Basketball


Varsity  
Wednesday, Feb. 19 vs. Weiser or Payette, 3A District III Tournament semifinal, TVCC, Ontario, Ore., 7:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Feb. 25 vs. TBA, 3A District III Tournament, Treasure Valley CC, Ontario, Ore., 6 p.m. or 8:30 p.m.  
Junior varsity  
Wednesday, Feb. 19 at 3A Snake River Valley conference tournament (if nec.), opponent, site, time TBA  
Frosh-soph  
Wednesday, Feb. 19 at 3A Snake River Valley conference tournament (if nec.), opponent, site, time TBA

### Wrestling


Saturday, Feb. 22 at 3A District III Tournament, Fruitland, 8 a.m.

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# Sports

## Huskies sputter against Pilgrims

Marsing boys can't rebound from slow start on Sr. Night

Marsing High School's second-lowest point total of the season sealed the boys' basketball team's fate to have to fight to get into the district tournament.

The Huskies (6-14 overall) played host to McCall-Donnelly in the 2A District III Tournament play-in game Tuesday after deadline. It marked the second time in six days that the two teams played. Last Wednesday, the Huskies traveled to McCall, rallied from a slow start and edged the Vandals, 45-44.

Marsing missed a chance to possibly squeeze into the double-elimination portion of the bracket, which gets under way today, with a 38-21 2A Western Idaho Conference season-ending loss to New Plymouth on Senior Night on Friday.

The game marked the first time since Dec. 17 that the Huskies had scored in the 20s.

Marsing finished the conference season at 4-8, one game behind No. 5 seed Cole Valley Christian.

New Plymouth got off to a fast start Friday, opening the game on a 13-2 run and holding a 13-point lead at halftime. Marsing also scored only two points in the opening quarter against McCall last Wednesday.

Despite holding the Pilgrims under 40 points as has been first-year coach Tim Little's defensive objective, the Huskies couldn't duplicate that success on the offensive end.

Dylan Breshears scored eight points, while Marsing's leading scorer, Jose Acuna, was limited to seven points.

Nate Woods and Kyler Harris scored 12 points each for the Pilgrims, which had lost, 55-40, to the Huskies in the first go-round of conference play on Jan. 21.

**Last Wednesday: Marsing 45, McCall-Donnelly 44** — Jose Acuna nailed four three-point goals for the bulk of his 19 points as the Huskies survived the dreaded trip to Valley County for a dramatic 2A WIC victory.

Early on, it appeared the long bus ride had doomed Marsing. The Vandals roared out of the gates, holding the Huskies to two points in the opening



Dylan Breshears soars in for a layup against nearly the entire New Plymouth team. Photo by Dan Pease

eight minutes to build a 14-point halftime lead.

Marsing emerged from the locker room with new vigor and broke out on a 19-6 run to pull within a point, 32-31, heading into the final period.

Marsing played defense with few fouls, which was key.

The Huskies committed only 10 fouls, but few in shooting situations as the Vandals managed just three trips to the free-throw line. McCall-Donnelly converted two shots.

Conversely, Marsing players slashed to the basket, resulting in 13 trips to the free-throw line on just 10 fouls by the Vandals.

The Huskies converted nine of 13 free throws.

Rodrigo Acuna scored seven points, and Breshears added five. Ben Isert, Skye Shore and Emmanuel Lagunas scored four points apiece.

McCall-Donnelly received 19 points from Jeff Borner.



Marsing's Destiny Reynolds battles for a rebound against three Nampa Christian players. Photo by Dan Pease

## MHS girls' season ends

**Huskies can't finish comeback**

Marsing High School couldn't come all the way back from a first-half scoring slump and saw its girls' basketball season.

The Huskies rallied from a 12-point halftime deficit but fell to Nampa Christian, 36-30, at home in a 2A District III Tournament elimination game Feb. 18.

Marsing (12-11) outscored the Trojans, 27-21, in the second half,

including a 15-8 run through the third quarter.

But Nampa Christian held the Huskies to three points in the first 16 minutes to build enough momentum to hold on.

Junior Destiny Reynolds led the Huskies with eight points, and Shannon Clover added seven in her final high school basketball game. Emily Tank, another junior, added five points.

Kelsey Castledine paced Nampa Christian with 13 points, and Katie Rhodes added 11.

# MARSING HUSKIES



### Athlete of the Week

#### Jose Acuna, sr., boys' basketball

The Play — Acuna averaged 13 points in the Huskies' final two 2A Western Idaho Conference games. Last Wednesday, he drained four three-point goals as part of a co-game-high 19 points as Marsing stormed back to beat McCall-Donnelly by a point on the road.



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### Boys' Basketball

Varsity  
Wednesday, Feb. 19 at Melba, 2A District III  
Tournament (if nec.), 7 p.m.  
Other games TBA  
Junior varsity A and B  
Seasons complete

### Girls' Basketball

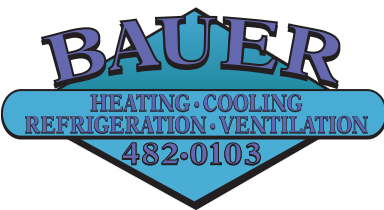
Varsity  
Season complete  
Final record, 12-11  
Junior varsity  
Season complete

### Wrestling

Saturday, Feb. 22 at 1A-2A District III  
Tournament, New Plymouth, TBA

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Sports

Rimrock girls still heading to State

Notus claims district, but Raiders are No. 2 seed in 1A, Div. I

Notus High School continued to be a thorn in the side for the Rimrock girls' basketball team Thursday.

One of only two teams to beat the Raiders during the regular season, the Pirates pulled off a narrow 44-42 victory to win the 1A, Div. I District III Tournament championship in Parma.

Rimrock (19-3) had a chance to win or tie the game in the waning seconds, but couldn't get off a shot.

The Raiders still move on to next week's 1A, Div. I Real Dairy Shootout state tournament at Columbia High School in Nampa as the No. 2 seed out of District III.

Coach Bobby Jean Colyer's

squad opens the state tournament at 3 p.m. Thursday against the winner of Saturday's play-in game between Lakeside and Genessee at St. Maries.

Notus will take on either Idaho City or Grace in the 8 p.m. game. Idaho City played Grace in the tournament's other play-in game Saturday in Mountain Home.

In last week's district championship game, Kyla Jewett hit a pair of three-point goals and poured in a game-high 17 points for the Raiders, who tied the game, 29-29, after three quarters.

Alana Riley led Notus with 12 points.

Angeles Lino had eight points for Rimrock, while Sami Bachman and Sakota Hall scored five points each.

The Raiders return to the state tournament for the second consecutive season. Colyer is in her first year at the helm after succeeding Mike Chandler, who retired after Rimrock's 0-2 showing in the 2013 tournament.

Rimrock boys fall in regular season finale

Old teammate leads Pilots to non-conference victory

Rimrock High School boys' basketball players closed the regular season against a former teammate last Wednesday.

Jared Lemieux scored hit a pair of three-point goals en route to 10 points as Glenns Ferry posted a 60-34 non-conference victory over the Raiders in Bruneau.

Hampered by ball-handling issues, Rimrock started the game in a 13-2 hole after only Andreas Ruiz could manage a basket in the first quarter. The Raiders committed 28 turnovers.

"Turnovers tell the story," Rimrock coach John Hannah said. "Taking care of the ball has been our problem all season."

The Raiders ended the regular season with a 3-15 overall record. The team went 2-6 in the 1A Western Idaho Conference.

Glenns Ferry, which was led by 13 points from Egan Bryant, held a 31-point lead, 52-21, after three quarters.

Cody Steele scored 10 of his game-high 15 points in the Raiders' 13-point fourth quarter. He and Sam Simper (eight points) took 10 of the Raiders' 12 foul shots, connecting six times.

"We did a much better job at

rebounding (but) we did not get to the free-throw line as much as I would like," Hannah said.

Ramon Salinas had seven of his eight rebounds on the Pilots' end of the floor. Ruiz and Simper grabbed six boards each, while Torsten Pearson came down with five. Steele and Zach Tindall corralled three apiece.

**Feb. 11: Notus 67, Rimrock 31** — The host Pirates lit off on a 25-12 run through the second quarter to blow open a close game in the Raiders' conference season finale.

"We played a good first quarter (and was) down 10 to 11," Hannah said. "After that, we fell apart."

The Raiders managed just two points in the third quarter, and Hannah said the team committed too many miscues and were unable to win the battle of the boards.

Rimrock had 22 turnovers to Notus' 13.

The Pirates also held a 32-19 edge on the backboards.

Ruiz grabbed five of his seven rebounds on the defensive end where Rimrock enjoyed a 14-7 edge. Notus, however, dominated rebounding on the Raiders' glass, holding a 25-5 advantage.

Steele and Ruiz scored 11 points apiece to lead Rimrock. Steele chipped in four steals.

Devin Krasowski connected on all five free throws and scored 15 of his game-high 21 points in the first half for Notus.



Homedale High School senior Riley Maggard-Qualls leads the student section in a cheer during a break in the second-half action Feb. 18 at the 3A District III girls' basketball championship game at Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, Ore. Photo by Jon P. Brown

✓ Girls: Milestone victory sends Trojans to opening-round game vs. Teton on Thursday

*From Page 1B*

that sparked Homedale to its second consecutive berth in the 3A Real Dairy Shootout state tournament.

The Trojans open their tournament at 8 p.m. Thursday at Middleton High School against Teton (11-10), which won its way into the final round of the postseason with a win over Marsh Valley in a Saturday play-in game.

Homedale was 0-2 in last year's state tournament, with Marsh Valley eliminating the Trojans in the second round.

This is Homedale's sixth state tournament appearance since a fourth-place showing in the 1996-97 tournament.

This year's 17 victories are the most for a Homedale squad since

the Trojans' 2A state runner-up team of 2001-02 went 21-7 under Mark Weekes. The five losses are the fewest for a HHS squad since Tristan's 22-2 state runner-up team in 1997-98.

The latest victory in that string — and third this season over the Panthers — didn't come without some nail biting, though.

Homedale clung to a 35-33 lead against Parma heading into the fourth quarter of last week's district final.

Sophomore Tory Lane popped three consecutive baskets within the 2½ minutes of the final frame to give Homedale a six-point lead. She finished with a game-high 18 points.

But things shifted after Parma called a timeout in the wake of Shenk's leaning jump shot for

a 43-37 lead with 3 minutes, 8 seconds left.

The Panthers got into the bonus on the free-throw line, began controlling the backboards and nailed a clutch three-pointer with 2:23 remaining to pull within 43-41.

Then Shenk struck after neither team was able to cash in on opportunities, paving the way for the Trojans' victory.

Shenk wound up with eight points. She and Lane drained two three-pointers each. Gardenia Machuca added seven points, while Tristan Corta and Morgan Nash scored five apiece.

Makayla Stockett scored 15 to lead the Panthers, and Deborah Blancet canned three treys for all nine of her points.



Homedale's Elise Shenk, left, looks for an opening in the Parma defense a few minutes before she iced the game with a clutch three-point basket. Photo by Jon P. Brown



Sports

Adrian girls rally for another state playoffs berth

Antelopes edge Jordan Valley for district's final ticket

It probably wasn't easy on coach Gene Mills, but the Adrian High School is heading back to the 1A Oregon girls' basketball state tournament.

The Antelopes bounced back from a last-second loss in the 1A District 8 semifinals in a hostile environment to beat Jordan Valley, 54-49, in overtime in Saturday's third-place game.

"The girls played hard," Mills said. "It was some of the best defensive basketball (I've seen) all year."

Adrian fell into the third-place game after two free throws from Prairie City's Kailey Kell snapped a 30-30 tie with 2.8 seconds left in Friday's semifinal on the Panthers' floor.

The Panthers converted a turnover with a buzzer-beating three-pointer to seal the deal on a 35-30 victory.

"We had an excellent game against PC and just let it slip away in the final 45 seconds," Mills said.

The Panthers lost to Crane, 38-34, in Saturday's district title game.

Prairie City and Adrian (16-8) will open the state playoffs with opening-round games Tuesday.

This is the Antelopes second consecutive appearance in the state tournament.

Jordan Valley (11-13) saw its season end, but not before taking home the sportsmanship award from the district tournament.

The Mustangs upset Monument/Dayville, 52-39, in Thursday's opening-round and dropped into the third-place game with a narrow 61-57 setback to Crane on Friday.

**Saturday: Adrian 54, Jordan Valley 49 (OT)** — The Mustangs rallied in the second half to force overtime, but the Antelopes prevailed with a 9-4 run through the extra period.

"Jordan Valley game was a good game. We played well, as did they," Mills said. "It was a hard-fought game, and we are glad to be moving on to State."

The Antelopes opened a 14-7 lead after eight minutes, but — paced by 14 points each from Andi Warn and Morgan Caywood — the Mustangs fought back.

Jordan Valley got to within a point, 33-32, with a 13-7 spurt in the third quarter.

Three Adrian players reached double figures with Quincy Pendergrass leading the way with

13 points. She hit five of seven free throws and grabbed seven rebounds.

Marike Frerichs added 11 points, and Alandra Hartley chimed in with 10.

**Friday: Prairie City 35, Adrian 30** — The Antelopes seemingly took control with an 11-3 third-quarter run, but the Panthers closed out the game on a 12-2 tear.

In a defensive struggle, the two teams combined for just 43 shots in 32 minutes. All but five of the Panthers' field-goal attempts came from behind the three-point line, and Kell and Amy Black delivered four treys between them.

Kell led all scorers with 14 points. Only four Panthers scored.

Adrian was 8-for-23 from the floor. Pendergrass scored eight points. Carlee Morton and Ciara Feldmann came off the bench to chip in seven and six points, respectively.

Prairie City took nearly twice as many foul shots, hitting nine of 17. Adrian was 5-for-9 from the free-throw line.

**Thursday: Adrian 55, Mitchell/Spray 29** — All but two of the Antelopes' 12 players got into the scoring column, and



Jordan Valley's Andi Warn, right, dribbles as Adrian's Alandra Hartley prepares to play perimeter defense in Saturday's 1A District 8 third-place game. Photo by Tara Echave

Adrian made quick work of its first-round opponent with a 20-4 run to open the game. Morton and Hartley scored 11 points apiece, and Pendergrass

threw in eight points. Adrian turned the lights out with another 20-4 spurt to open the second half and owned a 49-21 lead as the fourth quarter began.

✓ Mustangs: District championship means bye, nearly two-week layoff

From Page 1B

was 10-for-12 from the free-throw line.

Lee Stanford grabbed nine of his 11 rebounds on Crane's end of the floor and also scored eight points.

Corbin Hammond (14 points) and Tyler Opie (12) led Crane, which will open the state playoffs next Wednesday as the district's No. 2 seed.

**Friday: Jordan Valley 88, Adrian 38** — The Mustangs dropped 20 of 26 free throws and fired in four three-point goals to overpower their archrivals in a semifinal game in Prairie City.

Telleria buried two of his three three-pointers during Jordan Valley's 25-point third quarter. He finished with 19 points.

Lee Stanford scored eight of his 18 points in the first quarter as the Mustangs rolled out to a 21-6 lead.

Tratuman scored 15 points, Braden Fillmore added eight, and Nick Eiguren was 8-for-8 from the foul line for all of his scoring.

Wyatt Stanford hit Jordan Valley's other trey en route to nine points.

Adrian's offense woke up over the second and third quarters to tally 41 points.

Three players reached double digits in scoring, including Tyler Reay with 17 points and Emmanuel Dominguez and Jett McCoy with 10 each.

Lucas Pecoraro drained a three-pointer and scored all seven of his points during Adrian's 21-point second quarter.

Adrian (11-13) saw its season end Saturday in John Day with a 60-51 loss to Monument/Dayville in the battle for the district's third and final state berth.

The Antelopes opened the tournament Thursday in John Day with a 55-44 win over Prairie City.

**Thursday: Jordan Valley 69, Long Creek/Ukiah 41** — In the tournament opener in John Day, Wyatt Trautman buried the Mountaineers with a 12-point third quarter on the way to a co-game-high 23 points.

Already leading by 20 points, the Mustangs used a 26-9 run to open the second half and cement a 61-24 lead.

The big advantage allowed Clint Fillmore to play his reserves throughout the fourth quarter.

Telleria was 4-for-4 from the foul line and hit a pair of third-quarter threes as part of his 16 points.

Braden Fillmore came off the bench for eight points, and Lee Stanford scored all 10 of his points in the first half.

Junior Milan Ciba was a force for Long Creek/Ukiah, hitting four three-pointers and scored 23 points.

Another senior, Tyler Lynch added six.



Jordan Valley High School senior Wyatt Trautman, an all-tournament player, goes high for a jump shot against Crane in Saturday's 1A District 8 championship game at Grant Union High School in John Day, Ore. Photo by Tara Echave



Sports



Homedale High School wrestling coach Toby Johnson is hoping to see more success from Jovan Cornejo, left, on Saturday, much like he dominated a Columbia-Nampa wrestler during the Feb. 8 Husky Duals in Marsing. Photo by Jon P. Brown

✓ Trojans: Forfeits paint a distorted picture in Weiser loss

From Page 1B

Sophomore Jakobee Osborn (10-11) could be No. 2 or No. 3 in the 220 bracket, his coach said.

Johnson also sees No. 3 seeds for sophomore Nash Johnson (34-8) at 126, senior Jovan Cornejo (17-3) at 170 and senior Curtis Stansell (17-14) at 182). Colton Grimm (16-9), a junior at 195, could be a three or four seed.

“We have several other wrestlers with a chance to take that trip to the Idaho Center,” Toby Johnson said, referring to freshman Jacob Furlott (21-13) at 120 and junior Gavin Palumbo (11-16) at 195.

The top four wrestlers in each weight class will advance to the 3A state tournament, which will be held Feb. 28 and March 1 in Nampa.

The state rankings seem to back up Johnson’s handicapping and

show the strength of District III.

- Nash Johnson, a district runner-up a year ago, is the second-ranked 126-pounder in the state behind Fruitland freshman Sammy Eckart. The sophomore beat a reigning district champion, Shane Loughran, 5-2, in Weiser dual. Also a sophomore, Loughran is No. 3 in the state.
- Fisher is No. 2 at 138, although he is now wrestling at a bigger weight.
- Montes is the top-rated 3A Snake River Valley wrestler in the 98 standings at No. 7 statewide. Garrett Hinckley of Weiser is rated eighth at 98 although he received a bye as a 106-pound wrestler in Thursday’s dual.
- Montes pinned Weiser’s Alex Raby last week.
- Saturday’s 170-pound district bracket is loaded, too.

District runner-up last year, fourth-ranked Cornejo lowest-rated wrestler in District III. Fruitland senior Nik Fagen is considered the top wrestler in the state, and Weiser junior Ty Johnson is No. 3.

Johnson beat Cornejo, 6-3, last week.

- A bronze medalist at State last year, Stansell has an Idaho ranking of No. 5 at 182 pounds with Payette’s Colby Ransom (No. 3) and Fruitland junior Triston Zamora (fourth) ahead of him. Weiser’s Anthony Baker, another senior, is ranked ninth, but he wrestlers at 195 last week.

Thursday, Stansell pinned Weiser’s Andrew Williamson to close his final conference season.

- At 113 pounds, Weiser’s Chris Beltran is the top-ranked wrestler in the state. Meligan is ranked

seventh.

- Deleon is ranked ninth at 120 pounds, where Fruitland’s Robert Diaz, a sophomore, is ranked No. 2. Deleon finished third at district last season.

Johnson said Deleon was “flawless” in his 3-1 victory over reigning district champion Christian Oyervides on Thursday.

- Colton Grimm is No. 10 in the 195 rankings with Fruitland senior Chase Fiddler rated fourth and Payette senior Shad Allison at No. 7. Grimm lost by pin to Anthony Baker in last week’s dual against Weiser.
- Osborn looks to make a return to the state tournament Saturday to build on his third-place showing a year ago. He pinned Weiser’s Trei Walker last week.

— JPB

Antelopes medal at PE Invite

Three of the five Adrian High School wrestlers entered came away with medals Saturday at the Pine Eagle Invitational.

The team’s lone senior, 145-pounder Shane Miller had his team’s best showing in Halfway, Ore., pulling a second-place finish.

Miller lost in the championship match, 14-9, to Corey Jenkins from Crane, Ore. Miller received a first-round bye then pinned Vale, Ore.’s Colton Holloway in 55 seconds and defeated Pine Eagle’s Jeff Rice in a 13-5 major decision in the semifinal.

Adrian’s two other medalists also lost their medal-round matches.

Marcus Furtado was fourth at 106 pounds after James AhHee of Baker, Ore., pinned him 40 seconds into the third round. Furtado pinned Enterprise/Joseph wrestler Nate Anton in 71 seconds in a second-round match for his one win.

Ramon Dalla received a sixth-place medal at 160 when Melba’s Austin Warfield pinned him in 1:24 of the fifth-place match.

Luke Campbell (138) and Bryson Shira (152) also competed. Campbell received a first round bye then lost in the quarterfinals. Shira pinned Heppner/Ione’s Joe Garcia in the first round then suffered two losses by pinfall.

✓ District: Brad Labit also looking for return to state meet

From Page 1B

trict tournament and into the state championship meet. Noah Grossman, now a junior wrestling at 220 pounds, and Brad Labit, a senior at 170, also advanced out of last year’s district tournament. Both return to the district competition Saturday looking to improve on second-place finishes.

Grossman is one of the top 220-pound wrestlers in the state this season. According to Track-Wrestling.com, Grossman is 44-7 this season.

Williams has amassed a 38-8 record this year.

Another wrestler to watch Saturday is 98-pounder Edwin Gonzalez. Nelson has commented on the freshman’s growth all season long. He is 22-15.

Labit takes a 28-23 record into the district tournament.



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Sports

Huskies tune up for district with youth camp



Marsing High School senior wrestler Brad Labit, center, and his Huskies teammates sit among young participants at Saturday's Husky Wrestling Youth Camp inside the Commons Room at the high school. The MHS wrestlers served as coaches for the clinic.



**Above:** Dawson Parkins pulls off his best takedown move against the Huskies' Edwin Gonzalez. **Right:** Marsing coach Jon Nelson demonstrates lunges for the campers.



Photos by Sarah Grossman • Freeze the Day Photography



Sports

Desserts deliver money for Class of 2014



HHS Class of 2014  
benefits from  
cake auction

Auctioneer Rich Pickett, right, points out a bid while Chris Landa looks for the next bid during last Wednesday's cake auction. Proceeds helped fundraising efforts for the Homedale High School Class of 2014.



Fitting cake-bearer

Seniors Katie Deal, left, and Kaylee Rupp — a basketball player holding a basketball cake — show off two of the nearly two dozen cakes that were donated for the auction, which took place during last Wednesday's Senior Night boys' basketball game.

Photos by Jon P. Brown

Hunting antler sheds  
can help shake spring  
fever, bring in money

by Joe Alexander

When the late hunts are over, tags have been filled or not, and bird hunting has come to an end, most outdoorsmen only need one week of rest before we get restless. Anticipation of a spring bear hunt is not enough. As hunters and outdoorsmen, we cannot wait to get out again.

Shed hunting is the answer.

Watching big bucks and bull elk can pay off in more ways than just the hunt to fill a tag. I like to think of Super Bowl Sunday as the season opener for shed hunting in Idaho. Some elk wintering and feeding grounds are regulated as well, but that is towards the end of winter. Deer begin dropping their antlers towards the end of January, and if we've been watching the deer after hunting season — you have been post-season-scouting, right? — then we have a good idea where they will be spending the winter. When that big buck shows up in the binoculars sans antlers, it's game time; go find those antlers.

Hunting for sheds is a great way to stay in shape through the spring, even burn off all of the holiday goodies we enjoy. It keeps us sharp and blesses us with the chance to stay in our boots and hunting gear for another four months.

Deer look for warmth and food in the winter. This is where to start looking for those big antlers that didn't make it home with you during hunting season. Find a deery-looking, south-facing slope with feed, usually bitter brush. Standing on such terrain can be overwhelming when looking for sheds, so find a good vantage point from an opposite slope and set up to glass said south-facing hillside for sheds. Like hunting, this can take some time, but the payoff is grand — four points of chocolate antler in your hands.

When you are finished glassing the slope, a closer look will yield shed antlers as well. Start by making horizontal passes up the

slope. Antlers are often spotted easier through the underbrush by looking uphill 10 to 20 yards instead of looking down. Don't forget to look where you're walking either.

Come April, elk have begun to shed their beams. Again, if we know where they are wintering, we have a good idea where to start. Elk beams are heavy and usually land on the ground tines-up, but not always. Some hunters say elk sheds are found more in open country than thick forest because they believe the elks' antlers ache where they join their skull before they fall and the animals are irritated by low branches touching their sensitive antlers. I've found them in both environments, mostly tines-up, some down.

Shake off cabin fever. Find some deer and elk sheds this year. It keeps us in shape, and only requires gear that we already have: a good pair of boots, gaiters, proper clothing, binoculars, spotting scope, and lots of water. Finding antler sheds requires making a lot of boot tracks. They make good decoration, and can bring in some extra cash if sold. Last year, deer antlers sold for around \$6 to \$8 per pound, elk \$10 or more per pound. Price is all relative to antler condition, and where they're cashed in. Matched sets and high-scoring sets can bring in some much more serious profit.

Keep up-to-date with shed hunting on websites like outdoorlife.com, tinesup.com, and hunthardcore1.com.

— Joe Alexander lives near Murphy. He grew up in southeast Idaho hunting and fishing as a young lad, and earned his English degree from Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston. Nowadays, he scours the Owyhee Mountains for animals, sheds, and a better view. Joe travels around Idaho throughout the year fishing, hunting, and hiking.

Homedale sports coaches hired

Homedale school trustees approved a handful of coaches during their Feb. 10 meeting:

• Julie Gregory will return next fall as the high school's varsity volleyball coach.

• Luke Ankeny has been contracted to serve as an assistant coach for the high school track and field team this spring. Ankeny's wife, Heidi, is in her first year as the Trojans' head coach.

• HHS graduate Hailee Aberasturi has been hired as the middle school cheer advisor.

• Zack Kimball and John Bittick will serve as junior varsity baseball coaches.

Seventh-grader 4<sup>th</sup> at  
state Elks Hoop Shoot

Homedale Middle School's Courtney Van Winkle finished fourth in the state during a recent free-throw shooting contest.

Her mother, HMS principal Amy Winters, reports that Courtney couldn't duplicate the

success that had sent her to the Elks Hoop Shoot state competition Feb. 8 in Moscow.

"Had she shot the way she did the previous week, she would have won," Winters said.

"She was disappointed, but it was a good experience for her."

The seventh-grader won the girls' 12- to 13-year-olds local and district championships to advance to the state tournament.

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A scenic sunset over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow in the sky and reflecting on the water. Two people are silhouetted in a small boat on the water, fishing. The background shows a line of trees on the shore.

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# Commentary

Baxter Black, DVM

## On the edge of common sense

### A gift of glasses



We have lots of folks come through our office and home. We try to be hospitable. While cleaning up the office, I found a pair of glasses. They were the frameless kind that make you look like Benjamin Franklin. I asked around the office, yet no one claimed them.

In the midst of all this, I had been trying to buy a pair of glasses on the Internet. I had actually bought several pair on Craigslist, but because I have astigmatism in my left eye it was hard to find one with my requirements. I did get a pair whose right lens was for astigmitites (or whatever optometrists call our handicap).

So my choice was to take out the right astigmatic lens, drill little holes on each side big enough to insert a rubber band, and be a one-lens left-eyed bandit ... which I did. The right lens looked good on my left eye except I had to get within 2 inches to get an object into focus.

But then, like manna from heaven, I found those glasses in the office! I can read with them a little out of the right eye and the left eye is fuzzy anyway, but the best part is I GOT THEM FOR FREE!

I wear good boots (Paul Bond) when I’m on the road, then they graduate down to my spur boots and that pretty much wears them plum out. But for everyday doin’ chores, I go to our local western store and look for work boots on sale. A hundred dollars is my top price. Obviously, since price and rubber soles are the biggest factors, the size is never quite right. But, it only costs me \$12 at WalMart to get plastic insoles that can change a 9½ double E to a 10 C. And I only limp for a week or two till I get them broke in! HECK OF A DEAL!

I like wearing my Wranglers when I’m dressed up, but for everyday workin’ jeans I get those no-name brands at Kmart. They aren’t pretty. They don’t fit. But it’s impossible to wear them out. They must be made of NASA asteroid repellent. They are like a pair of shark boots I bought one time (yes, second-hand) at Leddy’s boots in Fort Worth. The longer I wore them, them uglier they got. But ... I wore those boots for five years until I put them out of my misery. I’ve got jeans older than my son, and he’s old enough to vote! YOU CAN’T SAY I DIDN’T GET MY MONEY’S WORTH!

Every couple of years, I buy a new used vehicle. Since I buy on the low end, I usually have to buy more of them and buy them more often. IT’S HARD TO TURN DOWN A BARGAIN. I buy horses that way. Sometimes you have to trade in temperament for high mileage. Seems like if he’s old, he’s a plug and if he’s young, he’ll buck you off.

I guess life is a matter of give and take. Do you want to see well or look good? Like these glasses I found. See or be seen, I always say!

— Visit Baxter’s Web site at [www.baxterblack.com](http://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

### Celebration continues

### Austrians’ legacy of success

A big thank you to Karen Bresnahan, Jon Brown and The Owyhee Avalanche for covering the Austrian celebration.

Know Karen put in many extra hours to beat the deadline, working Sundays, even taking notes while eating lunch. Keep her in Homedale and Owyhee County.

Many thanks to Joe Demshar and his crew for creating a successful reunion — 2014.

There have been some doubts in the past 100 years.

1914 — Doubted immigrants could stay in Homedale in adverse conditions. They succeeded.

1964 — Doubted we could afford America’s Polka King, Slovenian Frank Yankovic, to play waltzes and polkas for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We succeeded.

2014 — Doubted we could afford monument in memory of the original immigrants. We had success. The monument inscribed with the names will be placed in Bette Uda City Park as soon as weather permits. Thanks to Homedale City Council for approval and location of the monument.


The two-night celebration was a huge success with all families represented.

Thank you so much  
Florence Paxton  
Homedale

### Abundance of moisture proves God’s sense of humor

What a wonderful corner of the vineyard we live in.

Three or four weeks ago, we were all talking about the possibility of a drought. Then, most of the churches were



Something on your mind?

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The Owyhee Avalanche

### Letter guidelines

- No longer than 300 words, signed and include the writer’s address and daytime phone number.
- Submission deadline is noon on Friday by:
- E-mail to [jon@owyheeavalanche.com](mailto:jon@owyheeavalanche.com)
- Fax to (208) 337-4867
- Mail to P.O. Box 97, Homedale ID, 83628
- Drop off at the Avalanche office at 19 E. Idaho Ave., in Homedale

praying for moisture.

Then we got moisture. (“Snow may mean turn in water fortunes,” The Owyhee Avalanche, Feb. 12, 2014).

Then we got flooding.

Now, some folks I talk to say we should be praying for a little less.

Who says God doesn’t have a sense of humor?

Ray Heidt  
Marsing

Sen. Mike Crapo

## From Washington

### Today’s politicians would do well to heed George Washington’s advice



With the help of Alexander Hamilton and James Madison, President George Washington presented his Farewell Address to the nation. According to the United States Senate Historical Office, the Farewell Address was written at a time when President Washington was worn out by burdens of the presidency and attacks of political foes. His principal concern was for the survival of the eight-year-old Constitution, and he believed that the stability of the new republic was threatened by the forces of geographical sectionalism, political factionalism and interference by foreign powers in the nation’s domestic affairs. It contains President Washington’s observations he envisioned being reviewed regularly to help ensure the well-being of future Americans.

In his Farewell Address, President Washington wrote, “The unity of government which constitutes you one people is also now dear to you. It is justly so; for it is a main pillar in the edifice of your real independence, the support of your tranquility at home, your peace abroad, of your safety, of your prosperity, of that very liberty which you so highly prize. But as it is easy to foresee that, from different causes and from different quarters, much pains will be taken, many artifices employed, to weaken in your minds the conviction of this truth; . . . The name of American, which belongs to you in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of patriotism . . . With slight shades of difference, you have the same religion, manners, habits, and political principles. You have in a common cause fought and triumphed together. The independence and liberty you posses are the work of joint councils and joint efforts — common dangers, sufferings,

and successes.”

President Washington’s devotion to the nation he long led and defended is clear in his message to our country. He aspired for our resilience as a nation of individuals who seek a common strength. President Washington recommended “frequent review” of this advice, and his recommendation has become a tradition in the U.S. Senate. For more than 120 years, Washington’s Farewell Address has been read in the Senate annually in observation of his birthday.

As we tackle our national challenges and recognize the Presidents’ Day holiday, we should reflect on the guidance of our Founding Fathers, who loved our country as we do and worked hard to build and preserve it. I share the frustration I hear from fellow Idahoans on the divisiveness in our nation’s capital. Today’s leaders should reflect on President Washington’s words and work to advance needed reforms without resorting to petty acrimony. We simply must work together for the betterment of our country.

We should follow the examples of the great Americans who have worked so hard on our behalf by joining together to strengthen our country. Honest debate is healthy, but we must not let our disagreements hinder progress. Then, we, as President Washington sought, can realize the “influence of good laws under a free government — the ever favorite object of my heart, and the happy reward, as I trust, of our mutual cares, labors and dangers.”

— Republican Mike Crapo is Idaho’s senior member of the U.S. Senate. Crapo is in his third six-year term and has served in the Senate since 1999. Prior to that, he was a three-term Idaho Second District congressman.



# Commentary

## Financial management

### Being on same page in marriage important for finances, too

**Dear Dave,**  
How can I get credit card companies to stop sending us preapproved offers? My wife continues to sign up for these, and now we have \$40,000 in credit card debt.

— Dan

Dear Dan,  
Chances are you'll never get credit card companies to stop sending stuff, but there a few things you can do that might help slow things down. Access your credit bureau report, and opt out of marketing offers. You can also freeze your credit report, and send direct requests to the credit card companies to take you off their mailing lists.  
I've been telling people not to use credit cards for 20 years and, believe it or not, even I get offers in the mail. The more mailing lists you get on, the more your mailbox

will fill up with junk mail. If you have magazine subscriptions and things like that, your contact information is circulating all over the place.  
The next thing I'm going to say may sound cruel, but I really don't mean it that way. You don't have a junk mail problem, Dan. You have a relationship problem. You two are not on the same page about money. Either she doesn't feel like you two have enough money, and she's resorting to credit cards for this reason, or she does this because she's a spoiled brat who thinks she should always have what she wants when she wants it. Her behavior is destroying your financial lives and driving a wedge between you.  
My advice would be to sit down and have a gentle, loving talk with her about all this. Try to find out why she feels the need to have all these credit cards, and explain



**DAVE Says**  
by Dave Ramsey • www.davesays.org

that you're worried about what it's doing to your marriage and your finances. That may mean having to spend some time with a marriage counselor, but that's OK, too. There's no reason to be ashamed of something like that. The truth is, most of us who

have been married more than 20 minutes could use a little help in that area of our lives!

— Dave

**Dear Dave,**  
I'm trying to pay off my credit card and get out of debt. Do you think I should transfer the balance to one with a lower interest rate while I do this?

— Kelsey

**Dear Kelsey,**  
I'm not against this idea, as long as you understand that you're not really accomplishing much. All you're doing is moving money around, and maybe saving a tiny bit on interest. If you were planning on keeping the debt around for 30 years it would become a big deal. But if you're talking about a few months, just until you get it paid off, it's not that much money.

The problem with balance transfers is that you feel like you took a big step forward when you really didn't. Lots of times this causes people to lose focus on other things they can do to get out of debt, like picking up an extra job or selling a bunch a crap they don't want or need. *That* kind of stuff, along with living on rice and beans and a strict written budget, is 98 percent of the battle when it comes to getting out of debt!

— Dave

— Dave Ramsey has authored four New York Times best-selling books: *Financial Peace*, *More Than Enough*, *The Total Money Makeover* and *EntreLeadership*. *The Dave Ramsey Show* is heard by more than 5 million listeners each week on more than 500 radio stations. Follow Dave on Twitter at @DaveRamsey and on the Web at daveramsey.com.

### Contacting elected officials

#### District 23

**Sen. Bert Brackett (R-Rogerson)**  
48331 Three Creek Hwy., Rogerson, ID 83302  
Phone — (208) 857-2217  
E-mail — bbrackett@senate.idaho.gov  
**Committees** — Transportation (chair); Agricultural Affairs; and Resources and Environment

**Seat A Rep. Rich Wills (R-Glenns Ferry)**  
P.O. Box 602, Glenns Ferry, ID 83623  
Phone — (208) 484-0403  
E-mail — rwills@house.idaho.gov  
**Committees** — Judiciary, Rules and Administration (chair); Education; and Transportation and Defense

**Seat B Rep. Pete Nielsen (R-Mountain Home)**  
4303 S.W. Easy St.  
Mountain Home, ID 83647  
Phone — (208) 832-4382  
E-mail — pnielsen@house.idaho.gov  
**Committees** — Education (vice-chair); Environment, Energy and Technology; and Judiciary, Rules and Administration

#### Governor

**C.L. "Butch" Otter**  
Office of the Governor  
P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720  
Phone — (208) 334-2100  
E-mail — see <http://gov.idaho.gov>  
**All terms expire December 2014**

#### County commissioners

**Jerry Hoagland, District 1 (R-Wilson)**  
Phone — (208) 318-8308  
**Term expires 2014**  
**Kelly Aberasturi, District 2 (R-Homedale)**  
Phone — (208) 249-4405  
E-mail — kraberasturi@yahoo.com  
**Term expires 2014**  
**Joe Merrick, District 3 (R-Grand View)**  
Phone — (208) 834-2641  
E-mail — jvmerrick@hotmail.com  
**Term expires 2016**

## Americans for Limited Govt. House GOP's debt ceiling punt squanders last great opportunity before November

by Robert Romano

Last August, before a partial government shutdown occurred in the ill-fated attempt to defund Obamacare, House Republican leaders were reportedly urging their conference to just wait for the debt ceiling — because that would be the time to achieve some concessions.  
On Aug. 13, National Review's Robert Costa reported, "Sources tell me the House GOP will probably avoid using a shutdown as leverage and instead use the debt limit and sequester fights as areas for potential legislative trades. Negotiations over increasing the debt limit have frequently been used to wring concessions out of the administration, so there may be movement in that direction."  
At the time, Americans for Limited Government board member Bill Wilson, writing in the Washington Examiner, called it "salt lick for suckers," warning that anyone who fell for the ruse would "be politically gunned down by those in their party who have no intention of doing anything serious."  
"Does anyone believe the powers-that-be would ever allow a debt ceiling increase to be blocked for any reason? Does anyone seriously think for one second the threat of default and the subsequent 'downgrading' by the ratings agencies would not swat away any demand for changes to Obamacare? Of course not," Wilson wrote, advocating that the continuing resolution be used instead.  
In the end, the continuing resolution was used, and a shutdown ensued, that is, right until the debt ceiling was hit in October and Republicans increased it — and reopened the government — without achieving any concessions.  
That lesson did not deter House leaders from again promising to use the debt ceiling to achieve concessions.  
In December, when the Ryan-Murray budget deal funding the government through fiscal year 2015 was announced, House Budget Committee Chairman Rep. Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) appeared on Fox making the same case, that the debt ceiling would be used to get something done for the American people.  
Appearing on Fox News Sunday on Dec. 15, Ryan said, "We don't want nothing out of this debt limit. We're going to decide what it is we can accomplish out of this debt limit fight."

The ploy then was to drum up support for the budget deal. Support the two-year budget, and we'll get something done on the debt ceiling later. See a pattern emerging?  
Apparently, what House leaders finally determined could be accomplished on the debt ceiling was in fact nothing.  
In the end, there were apparently not enough votes to use the debt ceiling to do anything about Obamacare. Or to stop IRS targeting. Or to rein in the EPA. Not even to fix military veterans pensions that got screwed up in the Ryan-Murray budget deal. Nothing.  
That is when the plan became to offer a clean debt ceiling increase until March 15, 2015 with no strings attached whatsoever. It passed 221 to 201, with only 28 Republicans voting in favor, requiring the vast majority of Democrats to vote for the bill.  
Americans for Limited Government president Nathan Mehrens expressed disappointment over the failure: "It is a shame that they couldn't find common ground among themselves around a desire to stop President Obama's IRS abuse of power."  
"The debt ceiling is the last piece of must-pass legislation during this session of Congress, and is the last opportunity for members to deal with IRS targeting before new regulations restricting 501(c)(4)s go into effect," he added.  
It was also the last opportunity to deal with Obamacare and everything else Republicans have promised to do.  
House leaders could have offered a variety of amendments to the measure dealing with these issues. Win or lose, at least constituents would have known where their representatives stood on using the power of the purse to achieve certain priorities.  
Instead, by punting on the debt ceiling, Republicans have punted on the remainder of this session of Congress, thus allowing Democrats attempting to hold onto the Senate in 2014 to avoid dealing with any real issues during the remainder of this election cycle.  
They might as well extend their upcoming two-week recess to the end of the year. Either way, the same amount of nothing will be accomplished.  
— 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

February 22, 1989

**Homedale school bids come in \$200,000 over budget**  
Members of the Homedale School Board met in a troubled special session Monday night to mull their next step after receiving bids for the renovation of local elementary school facilities that exceeded by hundred of thousands of dollars the cost estimated by the architect, Jim Coles of Design West in Boise.  
School district voters last August approved a bond levy of \$1,210,000 to pay for the addition/remodeling work at Lincoln and Washington schools this year, based on the architects cost estimate and the unanimous recommendation of school authorities. But the lowest bid for the job received last Wednesday totaled \$1,433,399 or \$223,399 more than the voter approved bond levy. It was submitted by Sundance Construction Management, Inc. of Boise.  
The most expensive of five bids submitted for the work totaled \$1,587,000 — some \$377,000 higher than the architect’s estimated cost.  
Despite the sobering outlook, Karl Klokkee of Sundance, the lowest bidder, told the school trustees that he thought the construction project “is viable” if cost-cutting steps along lines outlined by Coles at the meeting were adopted.

**International Smorgasbord ticket sellers**  
Top ticket sellers among Homedale sixth-graders in drawing a big crowd to the 28<sup>th</sup> annual International Smorgasbord held here in mid-January included Kasey Garrett, Stacey Stansell and Jessica Egurrola, Janelle Bates and Han Ung Park. Garrett placed first with \$830 in sales; Egurrola, second with \$240.50; Park third with \$237.50; Stansell, fourth with \$200 and Bates, fifth with \$196. Collectively, the kids rang up \$5,006 in pre-event sales out of \$12,000 in total sales. Garrett has extra incentive to come in first in sales, incidentally. His parents, Gary and Kristie Garrett, were chairmen of the community-wide event this year.

**Marsing had Wilder on ropes, but let them grab win**  
“It was the most devastating loss handed me as a coach,” Mark Owen, Marsing head basketball coach, told The Owyhee Avalanche after his team’s 59-54 loss to Wilder Thursday in the A-4 tournament.  
After this heartbreaking loss, the Huskies dropped their next game 76-60 to Rimrock to finish third in the A-4 district tournament.

In Thursday’s game, Marsing led the entire game until the last 55 seconds of the game. “We had them by 12 at one point in the fourth quarter. However, with two minutes left we unfolded our tent and left. During those two minutes, we turned it over eight times,” Owen said.  
Jaime Wood led the Huskies with 33 points and was their leading rebounder with 12.  
In the rematch with Rimrock, the emotionally drained Huskies jumped off to a 17-5 lead before Rimrock got untracked and took control of the game.  
Wood led the Huskies scoring attack with 19, followed by Jerrod Howarth’s 18.

**N.P. proves insurmountable obstacle for Trojans**  
The Homedale Trojans finished fourth in the A-3 district tournament after losing to New Plymouth Saturday night for the second straight time in the tourney.

Earlier in the week, the Trojans had beat Parma 63-58 to stay alive in the double-elimination tourney. However, Friday night they just couldn’t put the bigger New Plymouth team away and went down to defeat 55-48.  
“We were behind most of the game until the third quarter when we were able to build a six-point lead,” Dan Tristan, Trojans head coach, said, “then we hit a dry spell in the fourth quarter and they were able to pull it out.”  
Against Parma, where the Trojans match up well, the Trojans were able to keep Parma off-balance with their passing. “They weren’t able to get into their break,” he said.  
Chris Hoshaw led the scoring for the Trojans with 14 points, followed by Dusty Linder and Tony Lowder, who each had 13 points.

## 50 years ago

February 20, 1964

**Double wins give Trojans 3<sup>rd</sup> place in SRV-B, South**  
Two wins over the weekend gave Homedale undisputed possession of third place in the Snake River B conference, Southern division.  
Friday night the Trojans met the Notus Pirates and eked out a close 55-51 decision on the Trojans’ home court. Homedale was host to the Wildcat club of Wilder Saturday evening and the 52-40 victory was the clincher for the league’s third berth.  
In Friday’s game Notus held onto the lead for most of the game but relinquished it in the last quarter to the Trojans.  
Tony Maher, Homedale, led all scorers with 25 points, and Bob Whitmire, Notus, put in 21.  
Bill Cegnar scored 18 to lead Homedale’s Trojans to a 52-40 conquest of Wilder in Snake River Valley B Southern Division play Saturday night.  
The victory gives Homedale a 5-4 mark in the conference standings.  
Bill Cegnar was high-point man for the game with 18 points.

**Fair board, gun club to build at fairgrounds**  
President Louis Breshears reported to the Homedale Rod and Gun Club that the Owyhee County Fair Board is building accommodations this year to take care of expanding needs of the fair.  
The local sportsman club is offering assistance financially and through labor to help them build this building. It will be large enough to maintain an indoor .22 range, a classroom and restrooms.  
Donations will be solicited from members, parents of junior shooters, and any other interested group, to help pay for the project.

**Grizzlies trip Huskies, 59-55**  
Fruitland held onto its chance to still salvage a tie for the lead in the Snake River Valley B league Southern Division battle by edging Marsing, 59-55, in basketball action Friday night. The win keeps the Grizzlies one game away from the league-leading New Plymouth Pilgrims with an 8-1 mark, while the Huskies are 1-8 for the season.  
Greg Esplin led Fruitland with 17 points, but Marsing’s Tom Cortabitarte took game honors with 20. Dan Gibbons hit 14 for Marsing.

**DeMolay Gem chapter installs officers Tuesday**  
The Gem Chapter, Order of DeMolay installed their new officers Tuesday evening at the Homedale IOOF hall, according to Homer Anderson. Perry Andre, Caldwell, advisor, was in charge of the meeting. He also gave a talk entitled, “Who is the DeMolay Boy?”  
Those installed during the ceremony were: Craig Selders, master counselor; Floyd Breach, senior counselor; Jon Anderson, junior counselor; Mark Evans, treasurer; Barry Fujishin, scribe; Charles Shenk, chaplain; Terry Obendorf, senior deacon; David Batt, junior deacon; Dennis Robinson, senior steward; Steven Inouye, junior steward; Leland Bunch, marshal; Glen Miller, almoner; Ernest Metzger, standard bearer; Lewis Tucker, sentinel; Ross Nishihara, musician; Dan Eismann, orator; Mike Carter, seventh preceptor; Richard Salisbury, sixth preceptor; Dan Hamilton, fifth preceptor; Rick Orris, fourth preceptor; Brent Linder, third preceptor; Carl Paulsen, second preceptor; and Jack Matteson, first preceptor.

**Chosen for Girls’ State**  
The American Legion Auxiliary meeting was held Tuesday evening, Feb. 11 at the El Gavilan. During the meeting, the women chose two girls from Homedale and Wilder to attend Girls’ State this June at The College of Idaho, Caldwell. Chosen from Homedale were Janet Kinder and Elaine Eidemiller. Alternates were Doralee Jemmett and Linda Cegnar. Those chosen from the Wilder High School were Joan Nelson and Gayle Truesdell.

## 140 years ago

February 21, 1874

**DRAW POKER.** It was a Mr. Simmon’s deal. I was the oldest man, and the blind was three, calls seven Ike Raggies saw it; then it was risen by Jones to fifteen for to play. Brown came in, and also the dealer stayed. Then it took me twelve to make it good, which I put up, and I remarked to the society that it would cost only twenty more for to draw. Every last gentleman stayed, but it was not risen any higher.  
Then the dealer says to me, “How many will you take?” Says I, “A card.” I had aces and kings, and got an ace in the draw. He took three and Jones two, but Brown had enough, and told the dealer to help himself, which he took only five. There were now about 190 chips on the board. Then Raggies bet one, Jones went ten better and Brown raised it to twenty, because he stood pat. The dealer said that his was valued at twenty more.  
Then said I, “How may does it take me?” Some one said “forty chips,” which I invested likewise, with sixty better. Then all passed up to Brown, and I wanted him had to stay with his deal, but his hand give out, and he passed.  
Says the dealer to me, “How many did you draw?” Says I, “a card.” “Well,” says he, “I don’t want to lay down this hand: I will bet sixty more than you!” Now the dealer was a stranger like to our party. He was from the country, and didn’t know much about d. p. So I thought it was my charitable duty to let him down easy, and I only called him.  
“What have you got?” said I. “Two pairs!” said the Mr. Simmons. Then it was my time to be sorry that I had an ace full on kings. “But,” says the genial Mr. Simmons, “mine is two pairs of jacks!” Then I said, “O!” and put on my hat and went down in the street to look for Christmas. As I went out the door, Brown asked me “how many I took?” But Brown always was a person which will kick a man when he is down.

**DISTRESSING.** It is a distressing sight to observe the movements of a man who accompanies his wife into one of our stores to assist her in searching for a new style of bonnet or hat. When squealed to by his better half to express his opinion, he assumes his most sheepish attitude, and it requires but a glance at the numerous eyes inquisitively turned upon him to demoralize him utterly. He shifts wildly about in search of a vacancy to gaze into, and is brought to consciousness by the presentation of the bill, which he pays willingly to get out of the scrape. Women who play this trick on their husbands seldom succeed in it more than once.

**LOCAL MINING RECORD.**  
**IDA ELLMORE.** The main shaft is now down 65 feet for the 11<sup>th</sup> level, and the 10<sup>th</sup> level is still being driven north. Doubts have been entertained as to the practicability of sinking the shaft on account of water, but Superintendent Minear is confident of being able to accomplish the job successfully.

**EMPIRE.** The main shaft is now down 75 feet for the 5<sup>th</sup> level, and work in other portions of the mine is being vigorously prosecuted, as usual. The prospect is decidedly good for the Empire to develop into a dividend-paying mine.  
**MAHOGANY.** The main shaft is down 30 feet for the 9<sup>th</sup> level. The sinking is good, and they are making 10 feet per week.

**WAR EAGLE.** The 6<sup>th</sup> level drift, north and south of the shaft, has been run to an aggregate of 76 feet in splendid ore. Sinking for the 7<sup>th</sup> level will be commenced in a few days. At no time since the opening of this mine has it looked so well as at present.  
**GOLDEN CHARIOT.** Both the Golden Chariot and Minnesota mines are now well opened and ventilated, and Superintendent Clark expects soon to be able to take out ore enough to keep both the Ellmore and Owyhee mills constantly running.  
**SOUTH CHARIOT** continues to develop splendidly, and Red Jacket about the same as last reported.  
The Owyhee mill started up last Monday.



# Public notices

**LIEN NOTICE**  
Unit I-14, Sarah Asumendi, 15995 Sady Ridge Ct., Wilder, ID 83676. Contents include bicycle, air hockey table, stereo components, and other misc. items. Sealed bid will be accepted at Hwy 95 Self Storage located at 3685 Hwy 95, Homedale, ID 83628 on 02-22-2014 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. All payments will be in the form of cash only. All items in units are to be removed including trash.  
2/12,19/14

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
CASE NO. CV-2013-03129  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT OF THE  
STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND  
FOR THE COUNTY OF  
OWYHE**

In the Matter of the Estate of PAULA VALERIA HILL, Deceased.  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned have been appointed personal representatives of the above-named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent or the estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of the Notice to Creditors, or within 60 days after the undersigned mailed or delivered a copy of this Notice to such persons, whichever is later, or said claims will be forever barred.

Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the addresses indicated, and filed with the Clerk of the Court.  
DATED this 25 day of November, 2013.  
/s/Leslie Hill Warner, 4159 S. Bluebird Dr., West Valley City, UT 84120  
/s/Jamie Lea Hill, 2703 Ponderosa Drive, Boise, ID 83705  
2/12,19,26/14

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
CASE NO. CV-2014-019  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT OF THE  
STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND  
FOR THE COUNTY OF  
OWYHE**

In the Matter of the Estates of HOWARD P. SEUBERT and IRENE SEUBERT, Deceased.  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned have been appointed personal representative of the above-named decedents. All persons having claims against the decedents or the estates are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of the Notice to Creditors, or within 60 days after the undersigned mailed or delivered a copy of this Notice to such persons, whichever is later, or said claims will be forever barred.

Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the addresses indicated, and filed with the Clerk of the Court.  
DATED this 31<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2013.  
/s/Jeffery Hilton, 3515 E. Kings Gate Drive, Nampa, Idaho 83687  
2/12,19,26/14

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE**  
Idaho Code 45-1506 Today’s date: February 3, 2014 File No.: 7069.26711 Sale date and time (local time): June 4, 2014 at 11:00 AM Sale location: in the lobby of the Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State

Highway 78, Murphy, Idaho 83650 Property address: 5673 Country Estates Drive Marsing, ID 83639 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: John L. Allen, a married man as his sole and separate property Original trustee: Pioneer Title Company Original beneficiary: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. Solely as nominee for Homecomings Financial Network, Inc. successors and assigns Recording date: 06/02/2003 Recorder’s instrument number: 243722, and re-recorded June 20, 2003 as Instrument No. 243961 County: Owyhee Sum owing on the obligation: as of February 3, 2014: \$100,610.97 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: Parcel I: A portion of the Southwest Quarter Southeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 3 North, Range 4 West of the Boise Meridian, and is more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the Southeast corner of said Southwest Quarter Southeast Quarter; thence North 89 degrees 18’36” West along the South boundary of said Southwest Quarter Southeast Quarter a distance of 340.28 feet; thence North 00 degrees 35’54” East parallel with the East boundary of said Southwest Quarter Southeast Quarter a distance of 640.29 feet; thence South 89 degrees 13’58” East a distance of 340.28 feet to a point on said East Boundary; thence South 00 degree 35’54” West along said East boundary a distance of 639.83 feet to the Point of Beginning. Parcel II: A 50.00 foot road easement. This easement lies in the Southeast Quarter Southeast Quarter and in the Southwest Quarter Southeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 3 North, Range 4 West of the Boise Meridian, and is more particularly described as follows: Commencing as the Southeast corner of said Southeast Quarter Southeast Quarter; thence North 00 degrees 33’48” East along the East boundary of said Southeast Quarter Southeast Quarter a distance of 613.07 feet to the True Point of Beginning; thence North 89 degrees 13’58” West a distance of 2,186.48 feet; thence Southwesterly 28.91 feet along the arc of a curve to the left having a central angle of 82 degrees 49’43”, a radius of 20.00 feet and a long chord which bears South 49 degrees 21’27” West a distance of 26.46 feet; thence Northwesterly 275.05 feet along the arc of a curve to the right having a central angle of 262 degrees 38’53”, a radius of 60.00 feet and a long chord which bears North 40 degrees 43’35” West a distance of 90.12 feet; thence South 89 degrees 13’58” East a distance of 2,265.85 feet a point on the said East boundary;

thence South 00 degrees 33’48” West along said East Boundary a distance of 50.00 feet to the True Point of Beginning. The sale is subject to conditions, rules and procedures as described at the sale and which can be reviewed at [www.northwesttrustee.com](http://www.northwesttrustee.com) or [USA-Foreclosure.com](http://USA-Foreclosure.com). The sale is made without representation, warranty or covenant of any kind. (TS# 7069.26711) 1002.264168-File No.  
2/19,26;3/5,12/14

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE**  
Trustee’s Sale No. ID-MWB-14002677  
**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that, Pioneer Title Company of Ada County, dba Pioneer Lender Trustee Services, the duly appointed Successor Trustee, will on **May 19, 2014**, at the hour of **11:00 AM**, of said day, **ON THE STEPS OF THE OWYHEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF HIGHWAY 78 AND HAILEY STREET, MURPHY, ID**, 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 and personal property (hereafter referred to collectively as the “Property”), situated in the County of OWYHEE, State of Idaho, to-wit:

A portion of Government Lots 2 and 3 of Section 3, Township 2 North, Range 5 West of the Boise Meridian, Owyhee County, Idaho and is more particularly described as follows:  
BEGINNING at the Northwest corner of said Government Lot 2, a found 5/8 inch diameter rebar; thence North 89°56’24” East along the North boundary of said Government Lot 2 a distance of 425.14 feet 1/2 x 24 inch rebar set with a plastic cap stamped L.S. 3627; thence South 12°24’21” East a distance of 1293.25 feet to a point on the South boundary of said Government Lot 2, a 5/8 x 30 inch rebar set with a plastic cap stamped L.S. 3627; thence North 89°59’00” West along said South boundary a distance of 510.73 feet to a point on the East boundary of the parcel shown on the Record of Survey filed as Instrument No. 222656, a found 1/2 inch diameter rebar; thence traversing said East boundary as follows:  
North 17°01’48” West a distance of 587.38 feet to a found 1/2 inch diameter rebar;  
North 88°03’15” West a distance of 87.24 feet to a found 1/2 inch diameter rebar;  
North 00°34’44” East along said East boundary a distance of 697.92 feet to a point on the North boundary of said Government Lot 3, a found 1/2 inch diameter rebar; thence leaving said East boundary South 89°59’04” East along said North boundary a distance of 59.92 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above-referenced Property but, for purposes of compliance with Section 60-113 of Idaho Code, the Trustee has been informed that the address of 3695 CEMETERY ROAD, MARSING, ID 83639, 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 JAMES H. KING AND JACKY A. KING, HUSBAND

AND WIFE, as Grantor, to ALLIANCE TITLE & ESCROW, as Trustee, for the benefit and security of MOUNTAIN WEST BANK, as Beneficiary, dated 6/3/2008, recorded 6/5/2008, under Instrument No. 265250, modified under Instrument No. 277442, further modified under Instrument No. 277612, Mortgage records of OWYHEE County, IDAHO, the beneficial interest in which is presently held by MOUNTAIN WEST BANK.  
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 is sale is made is the failure to pay when due under the Deed of Trust Note dated 6/3/2008, FAILURE TO PAY THE MONTHLY PAYMENT WHICH BECAME DUE ON 11/1/2013, AND ALL SUBSEQUENT MONTHLY PAYMENTS, PLUS LATE CHARGES AND OTHER COSTS AND FEES AS SET FORTH. IN ADDITION, THE BENEFICIARY WILL REQUIRE AS A CONDITION TO REINSTATEMENT THAT YOU PROVIDE RELIABLE WRITTEN EVIDENCE THAT ALL PROPERTY TAXES AND HAZARD INSURANCE PREMIUMS ARE PAID CURRENT AS PROVIDED IN THE DEED OF TRUST.

All delinquencies are now due, together with unpaid and accruing taxes, assessments, trustee’s fees, attorney’s fees, costs and advances made to protect the security associated with this foreclosure. The principal balance is \$370,440.16, together with interest thereon at 5.000% per annum from 10/1/2013, until paid.  
The Beneficiary elects to sell or cause the trust property to be sold to satisfy said obligation.  
Anyone having any objection to the sale on any grounds whatsoever will be afforded an opportunity to be heard as to those objections if they bring a lawsuit to restrain the same.  
DATED: 1/10/2014.  
Pioneer Title Company of Ada County, dba Pioneer Lender Trustee Services  
Trustee Ronald W. Jantzen c/o Pioneer Lender Trustee Services, 8151 W. Rifleman Street, Boise, ID 83704 Phone: 888-342-2510  
2/19,26;3/5,12/14

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE**  
Idaho Code 45-1506 Today’s date: January 24, 2014 File No.: 7021.17976 Sale date and time (local time): May 27, 2014 at 11:00 AM Sale location: in the lobby of the Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Highway 78, Murphy, Idaho 83650 Property address: 605 East Selway Drive 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: Efrain Sandoval, a married man as his sole and separate property Original trustee: Transnation Title Original beneficiary: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. solely as nominee for Ampro Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns Recording date: 06/03/2005 Recorder’s instrument number: 252078 County: OWYHEE Sum owing on the obligation: as of January

24, 2014: \$78,793.91 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 2, Block 5, Big Sky Estates No. 2, City 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](http://www.northwesttrustee.com) or [USA-Foreclosure.com](http://USA-Foreclosure.com). The sale is made without representation, warranty or covenant of any kind. (TS# 7021.17976) 1002.263736-File No.  
2/12,19,26;3/5/14

**PROPOSED CHANGE OF WATER RIGHT(S)**  
Desert Farms Real Estate LLC c/o Dale and/or Jackie Van Es of 8222 Desert Dr. Marsing ID 83639 filed Application No. 78429 to transfer seven water rights with 1962 thru 1994 priority dates from ground water and the Snake River totaling 14.47 cfs. The purpose of the transfer is to authorize a permissible place of use for the rights surrounding the current place of use near Pascoe Lane between Hwy 95 and Hwy 78 approximately 3 miles south southwest of Marsing.  
For additional information concerning the property location, contact Western Region office at (208) 334-2190; or see [www.idwr.idaho.gov/apps/ExtSearch/WRFiling.asp](http://www.idwr.idaho.gov/apps/ExtSearch/WRFiling.asp) for a full description of the right(s) and the proposed transfer. Protests may be submitted based on the criteria of Idaho Code § 42-222. Any protest against the proposed change must be filed with the Director, Dept. of Water Resources, Western Region, 2735 Airport Way, Boise, ID 83705 together with a protest fee of \$25.00 for each application on or before 3/10/2014. The protestant must also send a copy of the protest to the applicant.  
GARY SPACKMAN, Director  
2/19,26/14

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happening.



You can, too.



Owyhee County Church Directory		
	<b>Golden Gate Baptist Church Wilder</b> Pastor Robert Potter, Jr., CLP Corner of Second and "B" Streets Church time is 11:00 am on Sunday Call (208) 880-4308 for information	<b>Our Lady of Tears Church Silver City</b>  All are welcome! For more information, call St. Paul's Church, Nampa 466-7031
<b>Iglesia Misionera Biblica Homedale</b> Pastor Silverio Cardenas Jr. 132 E Owyhee • 337-5975 Servicios: Mar - 7pm - Oracion Mier - 7pm Predicacion Dom - 10am Esc. Dom y 6pm "Una Iglesia Diferente."	<b>Knight Community Church Grand View</b> Pastor Ivan Shetler 630 Idaho Street 208-834-2639 Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am	<b>Crossroads Assembly of God Wilder</b> Pastors Ron & Martha Hwy 19 & 95, 482-7644 Sunday School 10am Sunday Morning Worship 11am Sunday Evening Worship 6pm Wed. Bible Study 7pm
<b>Assembly of God Church Homedale</b> 15 West Montana, 337-4458 Pastor George Greenwood Sunday School 9:30am Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am Sunday Evening Service 6:00pm Wed. Bible Study 7:00pm	<b>Friends Community Church Wilder - Homedale</b> 17434 Hwy 95, 337-3464 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Services: 10:45 am Sundays Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 5:30 pm Wednesday CLC: 3:15 pm	<b>Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church Caldwell</b> 1122 W. Linden St. 459-3653 Mass: Saturday 5:00 pm Sunday 9:30 am Spanish Mass: Saturday 7:00 pm Spanish Mass: Sunday Noon
<b>Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church Homedale</b> 337-4248 Sunday Services 10am Pastor Sean Rippey Adult and Children Sunday School 9-9:45am Visitors Always Welcome! Call Church for Prayer requests	<b>Chapel of Hope Hope House, Marsing</b> Look for the Blue Church South Bruneau Hwy at the Hope House Welcoming Families, especially those with special needs children. Keith Croft, Pastor 880-2767 Jake & Alisha Henriouille, Youth Pastors 761-6747 Sunday Services at 10 am	<b>Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Homedale</b> 708 West Idaho Ave 337-4112 Bishop Travis Kraupp Bishop Robert T. Christensen Sunday 1st Ward 1pm Sunday 2nd Ward 9am
<b>Homedale Baptist Church Homedale</b> 212 S. 1st W. 841-0190 Sunday School 10am-11am Sunday Worship 11am-Noon Wednesday Evening 7pm Pastor James Huls	<b>Wilder Church of God Wilder</b> 205 A St. E., 469-7698 Pastor Ray Gerthung Sunday School 9:45am Sunday Service 11am Sunday Eve. 6:00pm Wed. Eve. 7:00pm	<b>Mountain View Church of the Nazarene Wilder</b> 26515 Ustick Road 337-3151 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:30 Adult & Youth Bible Class: Wednesday 7:00 pm
 <b>MARSING APOSTOLIC ASSEMBLY</b> Asamblea Apostolica de Marsing 107 W. Main • Marsing, Idaho Pastor Jose Gutierrez 208-461-9016 or 880-6172 Sunday School 10:00 am Sunday Service 1 pm • Wednesday Service 7 pm Bilingual Services/Español	<b>Iglesia Evangelica Wilder</b>  317 3rd st., Pastor Ramiro Reyes 10 am Sunday School 11 am Service 482-7484 Bilingual	
<b>Christian Church Homedale</b> 110 W. Montana, 337-3626 Pastor Maurice Jones Sunday Morning Worship 11am Church school 9:45	<b>Bible Missionary Church Homedale</b> West Idaho, 337-3425 Pastor Ron Franklin Sunday School 10am Worship 11am Sunday Evening 7pm Wednesday Evening 7:30	<b>Assembly of God Church Marsing</b> 139 Kerry, 965-1650 Pastor Rick Sherrow Sunday School 10am Sunday Worship 11am & 6 pm
<b>Lizard Butte Baptist Church Marsing</b> Pastor David London 116 4th Ave. W., 859-2059 Sunday worship: Morning: 11am-Noon• Evening: 6-7pm Sunday school 10 am-10:55am Wednesday evening 6pm-7pm	<b>Nazarene Church Marsing</b> Pastor Bill O'Connor 649-5256 12 2nd Avenue West  Worship Services - Sunday 11am and 6pm Sunday School - 9:45am Mid Week TLC Groups	<b>Trinity Holiness Church Homedale</b> 119 N. Main Pastor Samuel Page 337-5021 Sunday School 10am Sunday Morning Worship 11am Sunday Evening 7pm Thursday Evening 7:30pm
<b>Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Marsing</b> 215 3rd Ave. West, 896-4151 Sunday 1st Ward, 9:00 a.m. Bishop Jensen Sunday 2nd Ward, 12:30 p.m. Bishop Parry	<b>Vision Community Church Marsing</b> 221 West Main Marsing, Idaho 208-779-7926 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Adult, Kids & Youth Meetings Wed. 7:00 p.m.	<b>United Methodist Church Wilder</b> Corner of 4th St. & B Ave. 880-8751 Pastor Dave Raines Sunday Services 9:30am
<b>First Presbyterian Church Homedale</b> 320 N. 6th W., 337-3060 Pastor Marianne Paul Sunday Morning Worship 11am Sunday School 11am	<b>Calvary Holiness Church - Wilder</b> Corner of 3rd St. & B Ave. • 208-989-0196 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m. Sunday: 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.  Food Pantry hours • 208-989-0226 2nd & 4th Friday of month 2pm-4pm 3rd Friday of month 11am-1pm	<b>Seventh Day Adventist Homedale</b> 16613 Garnet Rd., 649-5280 Sabbath School Sat. 9:30am Worship 11am Wednesday Prayer Mtg. 7:00 pm
<b>Iglesia Bautista Palabra de Esperanza Homedale</b>  711 W. Idaho, 463-9569 Pastor Jose Diaz Servicios: Los Domingos 11:00 am	<b>Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church - Oreana</b> 2014 Mass Schedule - the following Saturdays at 9:30am Jan. 11 - Feb. 8 - Mar. 22 - Apr. 26 - May 10 June 14 - July 12 - Aug. 23 - Sept. 27 Oct. 25 - Nov. 22 - Dec. 27 All are welcome! For more information, call St. Paul's Church, Nampa 466-7031	<b>Amistad Cristiana de Wilder UMC</b> Esquina de 4 y calle B Domingos Servicio: 12:00 pm El Ropero (Banco de ropa) Miercoles 12- 2pm Martes y Jueves: 6:30 pm Ingles Sabados: 12:00 pm Arte Infantil Todo en Espanol, Inf. 989 7508

# The Owyhee Avalanche

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Display ads and inserts: rob@owyheeavalanche.com  
Classified ads (\$5 first 20 words): jennifer@owyheeavalanche.com

# 2014 SPRING EQUIPMENT & MACHINERY INTERNET AUCTION

## INTERNET ONLY BIDDING BEGINS TO CLOSE FEB. 26, 2014 @ 6PM MST

### THE AUCTION IS OPEN FOR BIDDING NOW & WE ARE ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS

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**PUBLIC HEARING**

Southwestern Idaho Cooperative Housing Authority (SICHA) has developed its agency plan in compliance with the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998.

The plan, attachments and support documents are available for review at the SICHA administrative office located at 377 Cornell Street, Middleton, Idaho 83644 between the public business hours of 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday thru Thursday. In Owyhee County, the plan and attachments can be examined at the El-Ada Community Center, 15 West Colorado, Homedale, Idaho. In addition, a Public Hearing will be held at the SICHA administrative office in Middleton at the address indicated above on April 14, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend.





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# WWII PILOT RECOUNTS NEAR DEATH EXPERIENCE

## RICHARD CROMWELL WAS IN THE LEAD SQUADRON OF THE LARGEST AIR ATTACK OF WAR

Story by Karen Bresnahan



Richard Cromwell is a daredevil and a hero. He has cheated death a thousand times and lived through some of the most dangerous situations any person could endure. At 94 years old, he is able to look back on an incredible record of experiences he had as a World War II pilot and recount how he survived, especially during an air battle that nearly took his life on Dec. 24, 1944.

A Marsing area resident, Cromwell is a 21-year US Army Air Force veteran and a decorated pilot. He possesses those rare qualities that allow some men to become leaders. Fear was never a part of his character. He was young and confident and strong. He knew what needed to be done to keep his men safe. His ability as a pilot to pay attention and to quickly assess the best possible course of action brought him and his men home alive on repeated occasions.

As a B-17 pilot, Cromwell put in an astounding 300 hours of flight time and survived 25 combat missions over Europe from June 1944 to March 1945. He also served overseas in the Far Eastern Air Force Command from January to June 1948, flew a 100 missions to Germany in the Berlin Airlift from August 1948 to March 1949, and in North Africa from February 1954 to August 1956.

Not many men can point to a record like that, but Cromwell is not one to brag about anything he has done. He believes he just did his job, and all that was expected of him. But, he did more.

Cromwell beat incredible odds, as he battled the obstacles of bad weather, faulty military headquarters decisions, aircraft with limited instrumentation and capabilities, and men who were trained too quickly.

The most harrowing of all his experiences that nearly took his life happened on Dec. 24, 1944.

The date was just past Cromwell’s 25<sup>th</sup> birthday. He was the pilot of the “Blonde Bomber,” B-17 No. 979.

On that day, he “led the charge” by participating in the largest full-scale air attack ever launched by the U.S. Air Force during the war.

In that campaign, the US Army Air Force dispatched more than 1,400 bombers, 2,000 B-17s and B-24s, with 700 P-51 fighter escorts which targeted airfields, rail yards and communication centers near Frankfurt, Germany. A large number of the Luftwaffe’s ace pilots were lost in the fight and German industrial centers crippled. Only 12 allied bombers were lost.

Lt. Richard Cromwell was there. In fact, he was part of the lead squadron in the Battle of the Bulge.

Cromwell remembers most of the whole day and can recount the sequence of events.

The first thing he remembers is how routine the day began. Someone shook him and said, “You’re going on a mission.” Breakfast was two real eggs, which was a warning that ‘it wasn’t going to be a milk run,’ he said.

The briefing commander, Brig. Gen. Frederick Castle, told them the fog was heavy, and some of the planes didn’t have instrumentation yet, but the pilots were told they would get instruments later.

The mission began before daybreak. Cromwell remembers how hard it was to take off and try to get up over the fog. Whole groups of planes were going up at once, flying blind into the weather.

The lead plane had to circle and shoot off red and green flares for the pilots in the group to spot, so they could fall into formation. The pilots homed in on a beacon for a few minutes and then flew a pattern for a few minutes, then returned to the beacon as a guide. Cromwell recalls how “unnerving” it was to fly up into the dark fog with little or no visibility.

The day seemed “pretty normal” for a little while. The formation Cromwell was part of was making its climb at about 20,000 feet.

Suddenly the tail gunner said he spotted about 30 Nazi fighters heading toward them at 6 o’clock. Cromwell looked out and estimated they were coming in at about 9 o’clock.

Then “all heck broke lose,” he said as three Luftwaffe fighters swarmed toward them.

“As a German Focke-Wulf 190 made a slow roll over our ship, the sky was filled with 20mm cannon shells exploding everywhere,” Cromwell said.

“It sounded exactly like several packs of fire crackers going off at once.”

The B-17 was hit on the first pass, but he doesn’t remember exactly where it was hit.

Then as the ball turrett gunner, Emmett McCaffee, was firing on a German plane, the enemy plane blew up right in front of them and the “Blonde Bomber” flew through the wreckage.

After that, another Nazi fighter came at them from “out of the sun” at about 2 o’clock high. The attack suddenly



took out engines No. 3 and No. 4 on the right wing.

His co-pilot, Lt. Wilton Fuerst, reported the wing was damaged and fuel was leaking out over it.

At that point, Cromwell spotted Castle’s plane (the lead aircraft), and it was unprotected. “I knew he didn’t have a chance alone,” Cromwell said. He decided he should go fly on the lead plane’s wing, but just then a German Messerschmitt 410 appeared, hit it, and the general’s plane went down.

“I didn’t see any parachutes,” Cromwell said solemnly.

Everything was happening so fast. Only about four minutes had passed since the fight began.

They were damaged beyond repair and going down fast. Cromwell had to make a quick decision, either land the plane or get out. He wasted no time in deciding. He knew the best chances of survival the men had was to exit the



Cromwell, second from left, and the crew of the Blonde Bomber.

plane. He flipped on the alarm bail-out signal. He ordered the bomb bay emptied. Four thousand pounds of bombs were dropped out of the plane as the bombbay doors swung open. It was the quickest escape route for the nine men aboard. He and the co-pilot quickly tied up the steering column with shoe laces to keep the plane stable.

Several of the men jumped out, but the ball turret operator, McCaffee was still firing at the Germans. Two crew members helped him get out of the turret.

Cromwell was standing on the catwalk, when LaSota, the bombardier, jumped onto Frank Kelso, the navigator’s back, and they both fell out together.

Suddenly, at 10,000 feet, Cromwell realized he was standing there alone on the plane, and he said to himself, “what the heck am I waiting for?” Then he jumped.

When Cromwell hit the ground, he landed in a frozen pig pen behind a rural farm house.

Luckily, he landed near Wavere, Belgium, which was 20 miles southeast of Belgium. It was friendly territory.

Many areas on the ground were unmarked at that time, as the lines of demarcation were being unraveled, Cromwell said. It was difficult to tell which areas were safe.

At 94 years old, Cromwell can still instantly plot his directions and research his memory, like reaching into a file cabinet.

He landed on the ground in friendly territory, but he was not out of danger. He was injured and couldn’t move his leg. The problem was, he was wearing a green suit, and German flyers also wore green clothing.

A Canadian soldier was nearby on patrol. He came over and pointed his gun at Cromwell. He asked Cromwell if he was British. Cromwell answered, “yes.” Then he asked him a riddle from a song. ‘What comes after Mares Eats Oats?’ the Canadian asked.

Fortunately Cromwell knew the answer, so he replied, “Does Eats Oats.” That phrase saved his life.

Then a man and a teenage girl came out of the house and picked Cromwell up. He couldn’t walk because his leg was torn up. “It was banged up pretty bad, but not broken” he recalls.

The people took him to a jeep and then the soldier drove him to “an underground hospital or aid station.”

Two of his crew members were already there. He later learned that the whole crew had survived, and it was later confirmed that Cromwell’s crew accounted for five Focke-Wulf 190s being destroyed or damaged during the brief confrontation.

He also found out later that the takeoff of a batch of P-51 fighters assigned to protect them had been delayed that day by bad weather. The 20-minute delay nearly cost him and his men their lives.

When he arrived at the aid station, the doctor asked Cromwell if he wanted something to settle his nerves. Cromwell said, ‘no, just give me a cigarette.’ But then he realized that his hands were shaking so badly, he couldn’t hold onto the cigarette. ‘Maybe you better give me that shot,’ he told the doctor.

On Christmas day, he was taken to Brussels and spent the night in a small hotel. During the night, people came in and wished him “joyeux Noel.”

Then the next day, as he and his crew members were carried out, about 100 people in the streets were cheering for them.

The Germans had just pulled out of the area to reinforce troops elsewhere. Cromwell was taken to a local hospital where the doctors warned him the Germans had booby-trapped the x-ray equipment, and even left their own men behind with booby traps hidden in their bandages.

A few days later, Cromwell and his men were flown back to their group, and after a short recovery time, he went up again and flew his 25<sup>th</sup> mission, before being sent home to the U.S.

Cromwell was honorably discharged from the military in 1963. Not only was he a distinguished pilot, but he served with the military police and was captain of the Air Force Police pistol team.

Twenty years ago, Cromwell went to a reunion in California and met with the crew members of the “Blonde Bomber” who all survived the Dec. 24, 1944 mission, thanks to his quick decision-making.

Cromwell has owned a home near Marsing for the past 15 years, and has been active in the Homedale Presbyterian Church.