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The Ownhee Avalanche

Trojans girls finish second at own meet, Page 13

Boat ramp on hold, Page 24

Another children's book, Page 5

BOCC pledges support, not money, to Grand View's Rio Lindo project

Remote SE Owyhee rancher pens latest Badger Thurston story



VOL. 30, NO. 15 75 CENTS

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

Water is on the way, but how long will it last?

Reservoir season begins Monday; allotment increased to 1.5 acre-feet

Irrigation water will start flowing out of the Owyhee Reservoir on Monday. Growers will have an allotment of 1.5 acre-feet of water this season. South Board of Control (SBOC) watermaster John Eells said water will be "in the tail end of the south system by Wednesday or Thursday." All ditches and canals should be full by April 27, or a week from Monday. Eells also said "most of those guys will be able to start irrigating by April 22 or 23."

By press time Monday, the Owyhee Reservoir was 28 percent full with 200,590 acre-feet of water. The 1.5 acre-feet allotment is another notch higher than projected allowances, but still two-tenths of an acre-feet below last year's allotment.

During last week's SBOC meeting, manager Clancy Flynn gave directors an overall update on the water situation.

"We're actually to the point

now where we have more storage than we did last year but that doesn't necessarily equal a higher allotment because of our inflows being so far down."

"March's snow water content typically increases during the

— See Water, page 4

READY FOR ROBIE

Homedale woman to run Saturday's half-marathon

Marilinn Batt won't say exactly how old she is but admits to being over 60. Despite her age, she's not afraid of what she'll be doing this weekend.

The Homedale resident will be running in the 38th annual Race to Robie Creek in Boise on Saturday. It begins at noon in Fort Boise Park on Scout Lane.

Batt started running in 1992 just for fun but said she likes the aerobic workout because, "it gets my heart rate up, it's an excellent stress reliever, and it makes you feel good."

This is her first Race to Robie, and she's only been in one other competitive race, the City of Trees Half Marathon in Boise three years ago.

Robie Creek is nine miles uphill and 4.1 miles

— See **Robie,** page 4

Homedale's Marilinn Batt trains for her big challenge: Saturday's annual Race to Robie Creek.



Taxing option sought to save ambulance

Marsing service's future could be in the balance

In a last-ditch effort to save Marsing's ambulance service, the formal process of forming a new taxing district has begun.

Ambulance commissioners say if it doesn't go through, the service will go bankrupt.

The Board of County Commissioners accepted a petition requesting the formation at last week's meeting. After a public comment process, the BOCC will decide whether to establish the district. A public hearing will be held May 11 at a time and location to be determined.

Marsing Ambulance's dilemma is that not enough people are volunteering to serve as emergency medical technicians (EMTs). With volunteerism dwindling, the service has started offering stipends to its staff. For a six-hour shift, a volunteer might make a couple dollars an hour, commissioners said.

The service lost \$19,000 last year, and projections — See Taxing, page 5

Simplot proposes wild horse feedlot near Grand View

P&Z hearing slated next week

County planners have been asked to consider the establishment of an animal feeding operation to include wild horses. The Owyhee County Planning and Zoning Commission meets on Thursday, April 23 to hear — among other applications — the J.R. Simplot Co.'s proposal to rebuild a confined animal feeding operation (CAFO) on 80

acres of ground 11/2 miles west of

the Idaho highway 78-Idaho 51 junction near Bruneau.

Simplot proposes remodeling an existing CAFO in order to house 3,500 head of animals, which would either be wild horses from Bureau of Land Management areas, cattle or a combination of the two species. The existing CAFO was built prior to 1990, according to Simplot's county application, and the proposed remodel will not expand the old development's boundaries.

The plan calls for an 80-acre facility on two larger parcels with a combined area of about 498 acres. The area used to be known as the Davis feedlot and was part of the Bruneau Cattle Co.

Simplot owns land bordering the proposed area on three sides.

— See Simplot, page 5

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Homedale P&Z board to convene Monday

There's plenty to talk about Monday when the Homedale Planning and Zoning Commission holds its April meeting.

According to an agenda sent to City Hall by the board's administrator, Sylvia Bahem, the P&Z will discuss the commission itself as well as the date of the May meeting and the city's sign ordinance.

No specifics were listed in the agenda on what will be discussed

regarding the commission, but the P&Z board recently lost two members and now is running with a slender quorum of three members — chair Jim Packer and members Reed Batt and Gypsy Jackson.

The commission also will review signed and approved building permits sign permits received to date this year. This is a standard item on the agenda and doesn't necessarily reflect any activity.

HPD poised to replace burned car

City cleanup planned ahead of Angel Walk

The Homedale Police Department apparently will get a good replacement for the patrol car that burned last month.

Last Wednesday, city council members authorized Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller to follow through with a find one of his officers made in Kansas.

The city's insurance carrier gave HPD full replacement value for the 2010 Dodge Charger that was lost to an electrical fire on March 19 on the west side of town

With that \$34,810, Eidemiller will buy a surplus patrol car from an outlet in Kansas. Eidemiller said Officer Andrew Arnold discovered the option.

During last week's meeting, the council authorized Eidemiller to spend no more than the replacement value settlement on buying, shipping and equipping the new patrol car, which is a 2013 Dodge Charger.

Eidemiller said the replacement Charger has 50,000 miles on it, and will cost the city \$18,000.

The chief said that's about \$5,000 less than other outlets want for the same car. A HPD officer will drive the car back from Kansas to save on freight costs.

The chief said the car comes with an emergency light package, but a backseat detainee cage will have to be installed. A radio, radar system and camera also must be put in.

Eidemiller said he was advised against recycling the cage out of Arnold's old patrol car because the fire's heat may have compromised the integrity of the metal.

The car will come with the remainder of its five-year, 100,000-mile factory warranty, too.

The Kansas company may be on HPD's shopping list in the future as Eidemiller continues to rotate older cars out of the fleet. He said a 50,000-mile car is a low-mile car for the HPD fleet and could last another five years in the city's service.

"Let's do it." Councilman Steve Atkins, a former HPD officer, said. "It makes financial sense to do this. We're not asking the taxpayers for money. We're using our insurance money to buy and equip it."

All three council members

present voted for the purchase. Kim Murray was absent.

Town cleanup planned

The council discussed city cleanup days on successive Saturdays (April 25 and May 2) ahead of the fifth annual Angel Walk 5-kilometer fun run and car show medical fundraiser.

As with last year, city officials are looking for volunteers to help with the cleanup, including individuals and groups looking to complete community service projects.

For more information, call City Hall at 337-4641.

Disc golf course ready

Public works supervisor Bret Smith told the council that tee signs for Riverside Park's ninehole disc golf course would be going up soon.

The city built the course with \$3,400 in economic development funds.

The course was designed by former councilman Dave Downum, who is a disc golf hobbvist.

Mayor Gheen Christoffersen welcomed input on the course from those who play it.

– JPB

Herbicide available in **NW Owyhee on Saturday**

All Owyhee County residents are being encouraged to spray for puncture vine this year.

The Northwest Owyhee Cooperative Weed Management Area (NOCWMA) is holding its spray day on Saturday. The free distribution runs from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the U.S. Department of Agriculture Service Center, 250 N. Bruneau Hwy., in Marsing. Spray will also be available from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Owyhee County Fairgrounds, 420 W. Nevada Ave., in Homedale.

NOCWMA is distributing Telar XP, a pre-emergent for puncture vine that stops the sprouting

American Legion Post 32 in

Homedale holds its annual bean

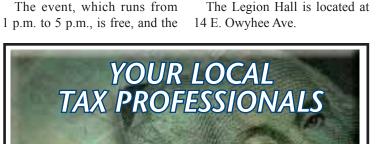
feed Saturday.

process. Safety classes on how to properly use the chemical will be held at 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. at the service center in Marsing.

Spray containers sized one gallon to 20 gallons will be filled with a liquid form of the chemical. County residents with containers larger than 20 gallons will need to ask about a dry form.

NOCWMA wants to make it clear that only spray containers approved to hold herbicide will be filled. That means no plastic jugs or plastic bottles.

For more information, call the Owyhee Conservation District at 896-4544, ext. 101.



Legion bean feed scheduled

George D. VanDerhoff public is invited.

There will be door prizes. Tickets cost \$1 each or six for \$5

The Legion Hall is located at

There are some challenging aspects to Homedale's new disc golf course at Riverside Park, including No. 8 on top of the hill, which leads to No. 9 nestled below between the trees in the background.







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Marsing street sign improvement bolstered by LHTAC grant award

Council donates to Breshears Fishing Day

The City of Marsing has received a \$30,000 grant from the state Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC).

The money will be used to replace all street signs through town, city engineer Amy Woodruff said during the city council's regular meeting last Wednesday.

The replacement program will include all stop signs, yield signs, crosswalk signs and street name signs among others. They should be installed in a few months, Woodruff said.

LHTAC connects local highway jurisdictions in Idaho with available resources for maintenance and construction projects.

During the meeting, council members also set a budget hearing date for fiscal year 2016 for Aug. 12, which is also the day of the council's regular meeting for August. The hearing date will now be sent to Owyhee County Clerk Angie Barkell for certification.

The council donated \$500 to the LeRoy Breshears Memorial Kids Fishing Derby, which will be held on June 6. The money



Banners featuring the City of Marsing's trademarked logo recently went up on utility poles throughout downtown.

will be used to purchase fish to stock the Marsing Island Park pond prior to the derby.

The Owyhee County Sheriff's Office, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Owyhee County Sheriff's Posse and several members of the community organize the derby.

The event was coordinated after the death of longtime hunting education instructor LeRoy Breshears. He passed away on April 7, 1999.

During last week's meeting,

Marsing public works superto the Owyhees.'

Jarboe also asked for \$4,000

-SC

intendent Jonathan Jarboe told council members that new flags had been installed on street posts through town featuring the city's trademarked logo of "Gateway

in city funds to remove two trees at Island Park. The council approved his request, and the work by Impressive Trimming should be complete in a couple weeks.

Joint public hearing on city P&Z regulations approaches

The Marsing City Council and the town's Planning and Zoning Commission will hear public comments Tuesday. It will be held at 7 p.m. in City Hall, 425 Main St., in Marsing.

The meeting will cover updating the town's official schedule of district regulations, more commonly referred to as the land use table.

The city could amend the rules to allow establishments such as bowling alleys, pet groomers, dry cleaners or dentist offices.

Marsing Deputy Clerk Annie Campbell said only a small turnout is expected for the gathering, about the same as an average city council meeting.

Written comments on updating the land use table can be sent to Marsing City Hall, P.O. Box 125, Marsing, ID, 83639, or delivered to Marsing City Hall.

Written comments must be postmarked or received by 5 p.m. Tuesday.

Man faces DUI, drug charges after crash

A man faces multiple charges after crashing his car in Owyhee County early Saturday morning. It happened on Opaline Road and Idaho highway 78 at 12:37 a.m.

Owyhee County Sheriff's Dispatch Supervisor Christine Ballard said 37-year-old Richard Allen hit a metal guard on the side of the road and bent it out of shape. Deputies responding to the crash found that Allen had a blood alcohol level that was above the legal limit to drive. At that point, he was arrested and taken to jail, Ballard said.

While Allen was being booked into jail, detention Deputy Shane Witt found a drug pipe in the suspect's pocket, leading to a narcotics violation.

Allen was the single occupant in the vehicle at the time of the crash and was not injured. He doesn't have an actual address and lives in a camper, Ballard said.

A judge released Allen from jail on Monday.

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-SC



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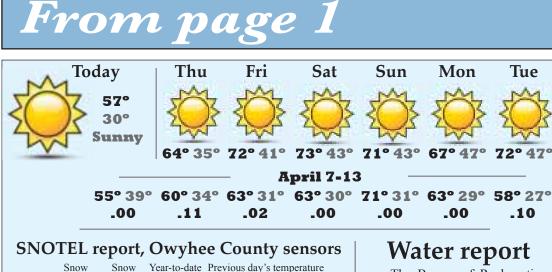
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	(meas	ured in inc	hes)	(measure	d in Fahren	heit)
Mud Flat						
04/07	0.0	0	10.1	48	34	38
04/08	0.4	3	10.6	44	30	36
04/09	0.0	0	10.9	48	26	38
04/10	0.0	0	11.0	58	34	46
04/11	0.0	0	11.0	50	33	41
04/12	0.0	0	11.0	51	26	39
04/13	0.0	0	11.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Reynolds	Creek					
04/07	0.2	1	14.0	44	31	36
04/08	0.4	2	14.1	43	30	35
04/09	1.0	7	15.2	48	33	39
04/10	0.7	4	15.2	57	34	47
04/11	0.3	2	15.3	48	30	39
04/12	0.2	1	15.5	48	25	36
04/13	0.2	1	15.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
South Mo						
04/07	0.0	1	19.8	40	30	35
04/08	0.7	10	20.7	43	29	33
04/09	1.5	10	21.7	48	30	38
04/10	1.4	6	21.7	56	38	46
04/11	0.8	3	21.7	44	27	37
04/12	0.7	2	22.0	47	25	37
04/13	0.3	0	22.0	n/a	n/a	n/a

The Bureau of Reclamation website showed that the Owyhee Reservoir was 28 percent full and that water was flowing in the Owyhee River above the reservoir at Rome, Ore., at a rate of 310 cubic feet per second. Water is flowing out at Nyssa, Ore., at a rate of 13 cubic feet per second. The reservoir held 200,590 acrefeet of water on Monday.

Note — SNOTEL statistics were gathered from the Natural Resources Conservation Service website at 3 p.m. Monday (Yearto-date precipitation is measured from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30.)

– Information compiled from the National Weather Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Natural Resources Conservation Service and Helena Chemical in Homedale

$\sqrt{\text{Robie:}}$ Batt won't be alone

downhill, and Batt has been training for the race by running Poison Creek. She said the first three miles of the trail outside of Homedale are straight uphill. She also has run sections of the Robie Creek course in the past few weeks.

The trick in training for this is preparing for both distance and for hills, Batt said. Her only concern is the problems she has with one knee, but she has heard that the downhill portion is worse on your body than the uphill climb.

Batt has family members taking part in the Race to Robie this year, too.

Her son Dustin got in right away after registering, while his wife and Marilinn Batt made the field in a second-chance drawing. This year's race sold out in 66 minutes on Feb. 16, and the second-chance drawing started immediately after the first wave of registration closed.

Batt said she's really happy that she got in because she's wanted to do it for so long.

"I'm going to finish it, that's my goal." However, Batt adds that she doesn't want to be a firstplace finisher.

"I just want to be a little respectable," she said.

She'll probably run most of Robie Creek, but will walk when it gets pretty steep.

"Before you get to the summit, which is 4,797 feet, almost anybody in the race walks that section," she said.

Batt put in a lot more work for Race to Robie than she did for the City of Trees Half Marathon. She's looking forward to it and thinks it's a real challenge from what she's read.

"I'm going to try to have fun," Batt said.

Batt intends to enjoy running as long as she can. When she's not training or competing in a race, you might find her at the Homedale Public Library. Batt describes herself as an avid reader and frequently uses the interlibrary loan program to borrow books of historical fiction.

She also likes to golf and sometimes serves as a substitute golf coach at Homedale High School.

The Race to Robie Creek is also sometimes called "The Long Climb to Aldape Summit," according to the race's official website. It has been proclaimed "The Toughest Race in the Northwest." Exactly 2,100 people will participate in Saturday's race.

-SC

Water: Silt mitigation law in effect July 1

month, but not this year," said Ron Abramovich, Natural Resources Conservation Service Water Supply Specialist. As a result, irrigation water shortages are expected across many of Idaho's central and southern basins."

Several basins across the state showed substantial decreases in snowpack or melted out well in advance of their typical dates. Basins from Weiser to the Mud Lake area are taking the hardest hit, Abramovich said.

During their regular monthly meeting, the SBOC announced that June 15 has been set as the last day for water transfers. Eells said there has to be a particular date on the calendar so he has

time to get water to the growers who transfers are made to.

The idea is to get farmers to plan ahead and the board "didn't want to go too late because we're not sure how long the water's going to last this year," manager Clancy Flynn said.

District attorney Al Barker informed the board that Senate Bill 1059 has been signed into law by Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter and will go into effect on July 1. The law empowers irrigation districts to charge producers who fail to mitigate silt problems that damage district facilities.

Flynn spoke about a new drought relief program being offered though the U.S. Bureau of

Reclamation. It will provide financial assistance through cooperative agreements that include a 50/50 cost share to develop or update drought contingency plans. The program also offers that same cost share for projects that build long-term resiliency to drought.

The bureau's regional drought coordinator is Megan Montague in Boise. For more information on the program, she can be contacted at (208) 378-5396.

At the April 7 gathering, Flynn suggested the SBOC begin reimbursing all of the district's ditch riders for a portion of their cell phone bill. The board will now give them \$20 a month during the irrigation season. Taking the reimbursement means that their phone number will be given out to any grower who asks for it, Flynn said.

Directors of the districts are



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still in the process of buying a used dump truck. Clancy said he will take one of the board members with him to look at a truck he has in mind in Canyon County.

The SBOC has also been wanting to buy a new four-wheel-drive pickup for Eells. Instead, board members decided to purchase a new pickup for Flynn and give his old one to Eells. The new rig will be delivered in six to eight weeks.

During the discussion about buying the pickup, division 5 director Chris Landa said it's important to have a logical rotation of vehicles the SBOC uses to make it easier to declare the oldest ones as surplus.

-SC

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Three Creek rancher finds an unlikely second career

The remote area of Three Creek in Owyhee County has a claim to fame from 1900 when Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid passed through the community. They robbed the Three Creek store while on their way to rob the bank in Winnemucca, Nev. However, now the area might have a new famous name — that of a rancher turned children's book author.

Gus Brackett is 39 years old, and his dad is Dist. 23 state Sen. Bert Brackett (R-Rogerson). Gus has been married to his wife Kimberly for 11 years and the couple has three daughters and one boy. He likes "to say I have three lovely children and then there's the other one, but I'll never say which one," Brackett said.

He got started writing children's books because he had a nephew who was having trouble reading, and his sister complained that there "wasn't any good cowboy stories out there," Brackett said. He then set about creating "gateway" books for 10- to 14-year-olds who could then move on to Louis L'Amour or other western authors.

Brackett came up with the idea of Badger Thurston, an ordinary kid in 1910 whose life is anything but ordinary. The three books published so far about Badger are "designed for today's kids but just old-time western stories," Brackett said.

The first book, "Badger Thurston and the Cattle Drive," was published in 2011. The second book, "Badger Thurston and the Runaway Stagecoach," came out in 2012, and the third volume, "Badger Thurston and the Mud Pits," was just released.

The stories about Badger are based on stories Brackett heard from his uncles and other relatives while he was growing up. A couple decades ago, his brother had a trap line set up for ground squirrels and caught a Badger, that's where Brackett said he came up with the lead character's name.

A lot of his life went into the first book.



Gus Brackett signs his latest release during last month's Spring Bazaar in Murphy.

"It's the insecure teenager, it's the overly confident 20year-old, it's the trail boss that's a little overbearing, and it's the old guy that's kinda figured out how to let life come to him," Brackett said.

He has plans for three more books about Badger, then he intends on starting a six-part series for girls.

He got into this purely as a hobby, not a money-making venture, but sales on the previous two books have been

steady, and he's even sold books in Germany through Amazon, Brackett said. He recently old books at the Owyhee County Historical Society spring bazaar in Murphy, too.

Brackett said his only training for writing is what anyone else would get from public schools because he went to Utah State University for a degree in animal science and also has a Masters of Business Administration from Northwest Nazarene University. That adds up to a lot of training in writing but not creative writing, he said.

His great-great-grandfather settled in Three Creek in 1886 and, Brackett said, in the 1940s his grandfather bought the place where his ranch is now. The area hasn't had a post office since the 1950s or 1960s, and the nearest incorporated towns are Jarbidge, Nev., and Bruneau, he said.

He went to a one-room schoolhouse in Three Creek for two years when he was a boy, and his children currently attend the same school. Brackett is chairman of Three Creek's school board.

As for the Butch Cassidy and Sundance Kid story, Brackett said there are some interesting tidbits that most people don't know. The claim was that Jim Duncan was owner of the Three Creek store when it was robbed.

"The problem with that theory is Jim Duncan used to ride with Butch Cassidy down in New Mexico, and that made folks wonder if they were in cahoots," Brackett said.

He went on to explain that Duncan didn't actually own the store before the Winnemucca bank was robbed. It was the Faraday store, which Duncan's wife Lizzy bought after the Winnemucca robbery.

"He was just a cowboy, and they don't know where he could possibly come up with that much money to buy a store and settle it. So there's a lot of curiosity that he may have been more involved (with the heist) than folks let on," Brackett said. — SC

From page 1

$\sqrt{\text{Taxing:}}$ Service teetering on insolvency as it struggles to keep crew

show it could be worse in 2015. Commissioners call it a dire situation and said the bottom line is they either get the district or shut down operations.

"What this all amounted to is, we're out of money," service board president Rich Dines. "So we've got to come up with a solution, and this tax levy was the only solution that we could even consider to come up with enough funds to pay personnel."

The only funds the service receives are from ambulance runs; it doesn't get any money from public entities. However, it doesn't get any compensation for runs to Canyon County, and no revenue is generated if volunteers respond anywhere for a call in which the patient isn't transported. Service secretary Rob Troxel said another factor to be considered is that they can't charge as much as other areas because they don't have paramedics. EMTs aren't even allowed to start an IV.

Other county EMS providers struggle, too

At one point last year, there was talk of creating two taxing districts to fund ambulance services in Owyhee County.

It "just got put on the back burner, I don't think we've ever gotten together to finish working on it," Donna Bennett, director of the Grand View Ambulance Service, said.

The Marsing Ambulance Service isn't the only one having trouble finding volunteers. "Young people don't want to contribute their time anymore," Bennett said. Bruneau Quick Response

missioner Pete Smit said. Creat-

ing a taxing district would mean

roughly another \$50,000 annu-

ally.

Unit administrator Mary Tindall agrees.

"All of the EMS units in Owyhee County struggle to provide emergency medical services to our friends and neighbors," she said.

"I am not sure what the answer is to the problem of not enough volunteers, but the formation of an ambulance district may at least be a means of providing some compensation for the many hours of dedication I know the
Marsing Ambulance has provided to the residents of their service area."

The district's boundaries would start at the Snake River and run to a point between Murphy and Silver City Road. It would encompass all of the Marsing Fire District's Owyhee County sector and the portion of the Murphy-Reynolds-Wilson Fire District to which Marsing Ambulance currently responds.

Ambulance commissioners say there wouldn't be any double taxation for residents living in the MRW district, which has its own levy for fire and Quick Response services.

While property owners in the MRW district would see a tax increase, those additional funds would go solely to the Marsing Ambulance District would like to have some informational meetings before the county's public hearing.

"After the public hearing, then the commissioners have 30 days to make their decision, whether it's yea or nay," Smit said.

If county commissioners sign off on the new district, the earliest property tax charge would be for the 2016 tax year. That means the district would see revenue in January 2017 for funding.

Dines said between now and then, if the district is approved, they will have to form a whole new board and determine how many members will come from the Marsing Ambulance Service and how many will come from MRW. They will also have to draft new bylaws. Owyhee County Clerk Angie Barkell said the service gave the county \$2,000 to pay for publication of a legal notice in The Owyhee Avalanche about creating the taxing district and the upcoming public hearing.

The service typically brings in about \$60,000 a year, com-

If approved, a property owner in the district would pay approximately \$40 per year on \$100,000 of net taxable value. Ambulance District.

Commissioners said the majority of people who signed the petition to create the district didn't know there wasn't already a taxing district for Marsing Ambulance. The petitioners needed 50 signatures to submit to the BOCC, and 80 were gathered. However, only 59 were deemed valid. Ambulance service officials

-SC

$\sqrt{\text{Simplot: CAFO}}$ hearing crowns full day of activity for county P&Z

The BLM manages grass land to the east, and privately held grass land borders the proposed area to the south.

According to the BLM, the facility is characterized as the "Idaho Short Term Holding Facility." The federal agency already has held a comment period to kick off the environmental assessment process.

The facility would be used to hold excess wild horses and burros, according to the BLM. Corrals and pens would be constructed to allow for the feeding and care of the animals

The county P&Z will hear Simplot's CAFO permit at 1 p.m. on Thursday, April 23 inside the county courthouse annex, 17069 Basey St., in Murphy. The hearing will be preceded by three residential permit hearings beginning at 9 a.m.

All four proposed projects are available for review at the P&Z office. Call (208) 495-2095, ext. 2 for more information.

The Board of County Commissioners recently asked the Idaho State Department of Agriculture to generate a site suitability determination for Simplot's proposed CAFO. — JPB

Obituary Florence Louise Aberasturi

Florence Louise Aberasturi (Louise) passed away peacefully on April $10^{\mbox{\tiny th}}$ after a long and courageous fight with COPD. Born on October 2, 1936 to Robert and Thelma Upham of Ashton, Idaho. The youngest of three, Louise adored her brother William (Bill) and sister Ruth (Blondie), remaining close to Ruth until the end. While very young, her family moved and settled in Wilder, Idaho, where Louise went to school, graduating from Homedale High School.

Louise met David Aberasturi while in school, and they married shortly after graduation. Their union produced five boys, Anthony (Tony), Kelly, Richard (Rick), Mitch and Julian. At the time of her passing. Louise had been blessed with 14 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren (with four more on the way!!).

Always good with numbers, Louise made her mark in banking,

working for First Security and later with Wells Fargo. She took great pride in her work, and the independence and security her work provided for her. Louise always dreamed of owning her own home, a goal she fulfilled when she purchased her home in Meridian. She saw the potential in the little house and turned it into a beautiful home with her vision, and a great deal of help from her boys, and nephew-in-law Ralph.

Louise loved her boys, even when we were young and wild. She watched proudly as we became men, welcoming daughters-in-law (Robin, Kathy, Sherry and Gayla), and each of her grandchildren (John, Ty, Cody, John, Rebecca, Chris, Emily, Sierra, Seth, Kristen, Ryan, Curtis, Carter and Gabby) and great-grandchildren (Madelynn, Logan, Faith, Destiny, Derek, Morgan, Katelyn, Matthew, William, Allie, Aiden, Oliver, Mikaiala, Roary, Elizabeth, Dominic, Skyler, Davin) with an open heart. Louise suffered the great loss of losing a child when Tony was laid to rest in Wilder.

Louise is lovingly remembered by her family and preceded in death by her parents, brother and son. It is Louise's wish to be laid to rest with her family in the Wilder Cemetery. Louise will be laid to rest with a graveside service at 11:00am on Friday, April 17, 2015 at the Wilder Cemetery followed by a remembrance luncheon at the Basque Center in Homedale.

The Aberasturi family would like to thank the staff of Alpine Meadows Assisted Living, and Legacy Hospice for the wonderful care they provided to Louise in her final days.

In lieu of flowers, being a lifelong dog lover, Mom would have appreciated your donation to the Idaho Humane Society in her name.

School menus

Homedale Elementary

April 15: Chicken burrito, corn, veggie & fruit bar

- April 16: Stuffed crust pizza, tossed salad, veggie & fruit bar
- April 20: Hamburger, french fries, veggie & fruit bar
- April 21: Pork chop, mashed potatoes/gravy, veggie & fruit bar

April 22: Orange chicken, steamed rice & broccoli, veggie & fruit bar

Homedale Middle

April 15: BBQ chicken or pork chop, mashed potatoes/gravy, salad & fruit bar, roll

April 16: Personal pepperoni pizza or turkey sandwich, salad & fruit bar

April 20: Beef or chicken taco, salad & fruit bar

April 21: Chicken nuggets or orange chicken, steamed rice, salad & fruit bar, goldfish crackers

April 22: Spaghetti or burrito, salad & fruit bar

Homedale High

April 15: Lasagna w/breadstick or rib-b-que, green beans, salad & fruit bar

April 16: Nachos or corn dog, salad & fruit bar

April 20: Pepperoni pizza ripper or ham/cheese sandwich, salad & fruit har

April 21: Chicken tenders or pork chop, scalloped potatoes, roll, salad & fruit bar

April 22: Crispito or hot pocket, salad & fruit bar

Marsing

April 15: Orange chicken w/rice or ham/cheese sandwich w/chips, steamed carrots, salad bar & soup

April 16: Chicken fried steak or oven roasted chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, buttered corn, roll, salad bar & soup

April 20: Chicken nuggets w/roll or fish sandwich, mixed vegetables, salad bar & soup

April 21: Spicy chicken & rice w/roll or homemade burrito, steamed carrots, salad bar & soup

April 22: Rib-b-que or macaroni & cheese w/breadstick, buttered corn, salad bar & soup

Bruneau-Grand View

April 15: Lasagna, spinach salad, steamed carrots, fruit

April 16: Haystacks, chips & salsa, kidney beans, romaine lettuce, fruit

April 17: Hamburger/bun, romaine & tomato, baked beans, fruit April 21: Pizza, romaine salad, baby carrots, fruit

April 22: Little smokies, scalloped potatoes, green beans, fruit, roll

A Marsing Elementary School teacher received a grant to buy supplies for her first-grade classroom.

Pam Sutton received a \$250 New Classroom Start-Up Grant from Northwest Professional Educators regional director Brenda Miller.

NWPE gives the money to help students learn organizational skills, creative expression and confidence in writing.

"Setting up a new classroom can be expensive and frustrating for the teacher," NWPE executive director Cindy Oslin said. "Northwest Professional Educators is happy to provide New Classroom Start-Up grants to support educators like Ms. Sutton who want to provide the best educational program possible."

NWPE awards \$500 teacher scholarships and classroom



Senior menus

Homedale Senior Center

Milk served with each meal

- April 15: Chicken salad, lettuce & tomato, carrot salad, bread
- April 16: Roast pork, mashed potatoes/gravy, broccoli, bread
- April 21: Baked ham, sweet potatoes, green beans, bread
- April 22: Ham/cheese on bun, potato salad, ambrosia salad

April 23: Baked chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, broccoli, bread April 28: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes/gravy, California blend veggies, bread

Death notices

VIRGINIA STEPHEN BELKNAP, 91, of

Marsing teacher receives grant

to pick up classroom supplies

Homedale, died Sunday, April 12, 2015. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, April 17, 2015 at the Marsing Community Center (American Legion Hall), Marsing. Services are under the care of Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Homedale. Burial will follow at Marsing-Homedale Cemetery.

JOLINDA COMMONS, 70, of Homedale, died Thursday, April 2, 2015. Arrangements are through the Cremation Society of Idaho.

BETTY JEANETTE PALMER, 71, of Homedale, died Thursday, April 9, 2015 at a Boise hospital. Cremation is under the care of Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Homedale.

grants twice a year. Teachers who are new to the profession or their classroom are also eligible for \$250 New Classroom Start-Up Grants.

All educators are eligible for the awards although NWPE members receive first preference. The next application deadline for the \$500 awards is Oct. 1. The application deadline for the \$250 New Classroom Start-Up Grants is Dec. 31.

Marsing Elementary School first-grade teacher Pam Sutton, left, accepts a grant from Northwest Professional Educators regional director Brenda Miller.



Since 1952, Flahiff Funeral Chapels have been dedicated to providing the families of Canyon and Owyhee Counties with a caring and professional environment to celebrate the life of a loved one.

We offer services that are tailored to meet the individual needs of each family.

Traditional & Alternative Services Canyon and Owyhee Counties' locally owned Crematory Pre-Arrangements by Licensed Funeral Directors



Aaron Tines Mortician's Assistant Serving Families since 2000

April 29: BBQ pork on bun, coleslaw, bread April 30: Baked fish, baked potatoes, peas & carrots, bread

Marsing Senior Center

Milk served with each meal April 15: Fish, or chef's choice, coleslaw, potato salad, green beans, bread, fruit cocktail

April 16: Spanish meatballs, rice, green beans, bananas

April 20: Breakfast special, omelet

April 21: Pork chops, scalloped potatoes, broccoli, pineapple, rice salad, roll

April 22: Hamburger patty, potatoes, peas, peaches, rice salad, bun

April 23: Kielbasa sausage, potatoes, green beans, mixed fruit, roll

April 27: Breakfast special, pancakes

April 28: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes/gravy, brussel sprouts, carrot raisin salad, bread, pineapple

April 29: Roasted pork loin, navy bean soup, spring vegetables, stewed tomatoes, oranges, cornbread

April 30: Chicken, potatoes, carrots, rice salad, pears, roll.

Gardening help awaits at Extension

have noticed her columns in The

Owyhee Avalanche last season,

Beginning April 30, "Plant

Clinic" will be open to the public

from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. each

Thursday at the Owyhee County

Extension Office in Marsing. If

that time doesn't work for you

to stop in, bring your sample or

question another time, and we will

get to it during clinic or sooner if

Forms are available at our office

when you drop your samples off.

If you are unable to come in, you

can email photos, and we will try

Guidelines on how to store your

sample and what information to

our best to accurately diagnose.

but stay tuned for more.

Extension

we are able.

Spring has sprung! Are you ready?

If you are like us, you are glad the weather has changed a bit

and the plants and trees are waking up. Along with all of the plants and trees we love, come the weeds, pests, diseases, and problems that

Sarah Perkins

a gardener can face. The University of Idaho Extension Office can help.

Did you know we have a resident Master Gardener? Sarah has received her Master Gardener certification and is ready to help this gardening season. You may

include: University of Idaho

- Place in a sealed container/ Ziploc bag
- Write name, Phone Number, and date on container
- Form filled out to best of knowledge

• Email/photos: photos as close as possible, and clear as possible

sent to: sperkins@uidaho.edu We look forward to meeting you and helping you this gardening season.

Happy Gardening!

— Sarah Perkins is the University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension 4-H coordinator. You can reach the U of I Owyhee County Extension Office at (208) 896-4104 or owyhee@uidaho. edu. The office is located at 238 W. 8th Ave. W., in Marsing.

Calendar

Today

Story time

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

Bruneau and Beyond speaker luncheon

Noon, RSVP by Monday, April 13, Bruneau Valley Library, 32073 Ruth St., Bruneau. (208) 845-2131 or (208) 845-2282

Christian Life Club

4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Homedale Elementary School cafeteria, 420 W. Washington Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4757, (208) 353-6024 or (208) 337-3464

Friends of the Lizard Butte annual meeting

4 p.m., Lizard Butte Library community room, 111 S. 3rd Ave. W., Marsing.

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 After-school program

4 p.m., open to kindergarten through fifth grade, Eastern Owyhee County Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2478 or (208) 832-1949

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meeting

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

Bruneau-Grand View School board meeting 7 p.m., Rimrock Jr.-Sr. High School boardroom, 39678 State Hwy. 78, Bruneau (unless otherwise listed at www.sd365.us). (208) 834-2260

Friday

Child Find screenings

8 a.m. to noon, Bruneau Elementary School, 25841 Benham Ave., Bruneau. (208) 834-2260

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

Saturday

Senior center fundraiser breakfast

7 a.m. to 11 a.m., \$6 per plate, \$1 for orange juice, Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

Owyhee Conservation District spray day

9 a.m. to 11 a.m., puncture vine herbicide, U.S. Department of Agriculture Service Center, 250 N. Bruneau Hwy., Marsing. (208) 896-4544, ext. 101 Friends of Homedale Public Library meeting

10 a.m., Homedale Public Library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale.

Free lunches

Noon to 1 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St. W., Homedale. (208) 337-5419

Owyhee Conservation District spray day 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., Owyhee County Fairgrounds, 420 W. Nevada Ave., Homedale. (208) 896-4544, ext. 101

American Legion Post 32 bean feed

1 p.m. to 5 p.m., free, door prizes \$1 per ticket, six for \$5, George D. VanDerhoff American Legion Post 32, 14 E. Owyhee Ave., Homedale.

Sunday

Young Life meeting

6 p.m., open to high school-aged youth, transportation available with notice, 15777 Quartz Lane, Homedale. (208) 764-1048 or (817) 229-6850

Monday

Board of County Commissioners meeting 9 a m Owyhee County Courthouse 20381 State



Tales of the I.O.N. Country

Fencing the public domain In the settling of the far west, it was common practice to fence in a little extra. As long as nobody rocked the boat, the federal Department of the Interior tended to look the other way.

However as settlement progressed, pressure was brought to bear on the biggest operators who, because of their size, usually were the biggest offenders. Small outfits and homesteaders, often guilty of the same offense, complained, but they didn't create much of a stir until they locked horns with cattle barons in the Johnson County, Wyoming Range War. When a homesteader shot and killed Oregon's Peter French, five years later in 1897, over a fencing argument, the Interior Department began to look into the extent of the problem.

The old Rough Rider Theodore Roosevelt never wasted any time getting on top of it when he came to office as president in 1900. Most people felt that Roosevelt, who considered himself a westerner, would be sympathetic to the big outfits, but under his administration fences were taken down or put on line.

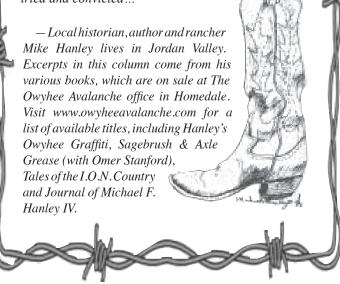
Southeastern Oregon and southwestern Idaho got the word in Harney County, Oregon when Henry Miller's PLS Company (The Wrench), managed by John Gilcrest, and the P Ranch, then owned by Henry Corbett and managed by William Hanley, became embroiled in a lawsuit over fencing of contested land. A Portland newspaper picked up the story and exposed both parties for fencing public land, coming down especially hard on Portland banker Corbett and livestock man Hanley.

Bill Hanley was found guilty in 1909 of fencing about 3,000 acres of Government land unlawfully and was sentenced to pay a fine of \$500 and meet the costs of the case, which in all amounted to \$3,230.96. Uncle Bill lamented the situation and was quoted in the Burns newspaper.

THE TIMES-HERALD Burns, Harney County, Oregon April 16, 1910:

"... the fences referred to had been built for from 15 to 20 years. (By Peter French) I had just taken charge of the ranch and had never seen the fences and had told Special Agent Stoner that I would ride the fence line with him any day and do whatever the Government said to do. But without further notice I was indicted, tried and convicted..."

- Local historian, author and rancher Visit www.owyheeavalanche.com for a



Homedale mobile food pantry

10 a.m. to noon, Homedale Elementary School, 420 W. Washington Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4033 **Story Time**

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

Child Find screenings

1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Grand View Elementary School, 205 First St., Grand View. (208) 834-2260

Teens and Tweens program

4 p.m. to 5 p.m., Homedale Public Library, 125

Hwy. 78, Murphy. (208) 495-2421

Homedale Planning and Zoning meeting 7 p.m., Homedale City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4641

Tuesday

Foot clinic

8:30 a.m., \$12, appointment necessary, Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

Foot clinic

9 a.m., call for appointment, Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (208) 968-5430

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

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

Marsing Music Boosters benefit moved to new time and place

A fundraiser for the Marsing Music Boosters set for April 25 has been rescheduled and renamed.

What was to be the "Party In The Park" will now be called the "Marsing Music Fest" and will happen on Thursday, May 14.

It was originally going to be held in City Park but has been moved to Island Park because of a scheduling conflict.

The music fest will run from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., and it will include a "March for Music," band and choir performances and food vendors.

For more information, call (208) 249-6098.

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The Ownlice Avolanche

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2015





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Better service means bigger bill

The effort to improve service at the Homedale Public Library may force some belt tightening.

Library director Margaret Fujishin said with the boost to the library's Internet capability comes a financial impact for the rest of the fiscal year.

CableOne technicians installed the new system and upgraded the building's broadband Internet on April 6. The library was closed for the work, and the system was up and running only after city information technology specialist Tom Grimes came out to fix a lastminute bug, Fujishin said.

The new Internet and phone service will cost \$104 per month, an increase of nearly 27 percent over what the library used to pay Frontier Communications. In order to get a 30 percent discount on the monthly fee, CableOne requires a three-year contract. There's also a one-time \$50 setup fee, Fujishin said, which will be paid out of the library's building maintenance fund.

The current budget for fiscal year 2015 is \$765 for telephone services. Fujishin said that line

FNP

Wilder

item will be renamed "Telephone and Internet," and the enhanced service will push the line over budget. The library expects to spend \$1,180 for the year for telecommunications.

Fujishin said the library will "underspend" on some of its line items for the remainder of FY 2015 to make up for the mid-year expense that will create an overage of \$415. No budget crunch is expected, though, she said, and the library will remain within budget overall for the year.

"We should be able to recoup some of the cost if we file for the U.S. government's E-rate refund program, which we are planning to do," she said.

The library board of directors discussed the plan during last week's monthly meeting.

"Our speed is very fast now, but there remain occasional problems that Tom is working on solving," Fujishin said, adding that more troubleshooting will take place this week.

Fujishin said the library has been struggling with slow and balky Internet connections since November.

The old 5-megabyte-per-second (Mbps) download speed was insufficient to handle all the demands, she said.

Staff and patrons experienced slowdowns and freeze-ups when they conducted online activities that use a lot of bandwidth. Additionally, people in close proximity to the library take advantage of the free wifi, which put more strain on the system.

"At any given time we may have all six of our computers in operation plus an unlimited number of other users on our free wifi, both inside and outside the building," Fujishin said.

"For example, we have patrons taking college courses, accessing our wifi with their laptops."

Grimes had replaced the system's router, Ethernet switch and cable modem in an attempt to improve speed, but problems persisted, Fujishin said. She said City Hall suggested upgrading the CableOne service.

The new deal boosts the library's download speeds to 30 Mbps. Upload speeds increased from 500 kilobytes per second to 2 Mbps.

Story Time.

"The Crazy Crawler Crane and Other Very Short Stories," by Mittie Cuetara is the featured book.

In Cuetara's short stories, children will hear about a variety of vehicles that are a part of their world each day.

The songs, refreshments and crafts will also reflect this theme

For more information on any library program, call 337-4228.

The library is open from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Library board changes meeting time again

The library board voted to move its monthly meeting times back 30 minutes during last week's meeting.

The board meets on the Tuesday preceding the first Homedale City Council meeting of the month.

Beginning with the May 12 meeting, the board will convene at 11 a.m. at the library.

Owyhee County news online - when you need it www.owyheeavalanche.com

stage Friday at the Homedale

The weekly program for boys

and girls ages 10-17 will hold

a reader's theater beginning at

4 p.m. at the library, 125 W.

Much like a drama class, the

Teens and Tweens will each be

given a script to read aloud and

Friday's script comes from a

chapter in "Bud, Not Buddy,"

which is a book available at the

In the book 10-year-old Bud,

a motherless boy living in

Flint, Mich., during the Great

Depression, escapes a bad foster

home and sets out in search of the

man he believes to be his father.

The chapter that included in

the script follows Bud as he goes

to the public library to seek the

help and advice of librarian Miss

A special seatbelt safety

segment will be featured at 10:15

Seatbelt safety lessons

slated at Story Time

— JPB a.m. Friday during the weekly

Public Library.

Owyhee Ave.

act out.

library.

Hill.

The Right Care at The Right Time WEST VALLEY MEDICAL GROUP **The Clinic** The Clinic at Wilder at Parma 482.7430 722.5147 124 5th Street 307 Grove Street See Me Same Day Hours: Monday through Friday 8 AM to 5 PM Hours: Monday through Friday 8 AM to 5 PM **Appointments**







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Honor roll Homedale Middle School

Third quarter Eighth grade

4.0 grade-point average - Brown, Carson R.; Deal, Drew J.; Downum, Courtney M.; Gonzales, Taylor D.; Hernandez, Monique J.; Rupp, Jenna D.; Soto Aguilar, Enrrique G.; and Taylor, Kelsey L.

3.99 to 3.5 — Grant, Alexandria K., 3.857; Hall, Josey L., 3.857; Kelly, Makayla G., 3.857; Rittenhouse, Colton W., 3.857; Rose, Jaegar L., 3.857; Zamora, Dazsha N., 3.857; Rupp, Reigan Y., 3.833; Carter, Paige D., 3.714; Schild, Randi D., 3.714; Villa Ojeda, Jose B., 3.714; Bauer, Madison B., 3.667; DeMark, Warren B., 3.667; Farrell, Nathanial J., 3.571; Denney, Ashton E. 3.556; Albor, Cindy, 3.5; Nash, Sophia, 3.5; and Rupp, Kyle L., 3.5

3.49 to 3.0 — Hernandez, Mellyssa J., 3.479; Vincent, Mi-

1 4 p.

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OVELS, HOES

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er Rental

Kelly Moo Paints

chael T., 3.462; Bigler, Peighton E., 3.429; Kraupp, Annie J., 3.429: Phariss, Lindy R., 3.429; VanWinkle, Courtney A., 3.429; Zamudio, Joseph C., 3.429; Cardenas, Olivia J., 3.333: Martinat, Jesse V., 3.333; Miklancic, Mathew L., 3.333: Monreal, Melanie, 3.333; Mitchell, Taylor A., 3.308; Carter, Amaya N., 3.286; Conant, Austin, 3.286; Cornwall, Nathan G., 3.286; Cortez, Ivan, 3.286; Dobler, Collin R., 3.286; Kent, Emily M., 3.286; Mikelson, Quinn M., 3.286; Morse, Tell R., 3.286; Navarrete, Edgar, 3.286; Vega Aguilera, Maria A., 3.286; Hernandez, Lorena, 3.182; Allen, Amber Z., 3.167: Alvor, Aalivah L., 3.167; Bowman, Morgan J., 3.167; Campbell, Gunner H., 3.167; Pigeon, Kelsie A., 3.167; Atkins, Lane S., 3.143; Mullins, Gwynneth K., 3.143; Tamura Obregon, Isabella M., 3.143;

Орен 7:30 ат - 6 рт

Monday - Friday

8 am - 5 pm Saturday

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Wolfe, Clayton D., 3.143; Buenrostro, Jose L., 3.0; Chase, Ethan S., 3.0; Granden, Thane G., 3.0; Parker, Zion E., 3.0; and Redburn, Noah J., 3.0

Seventh grade

4.0 GPA — Albor, Lisbed; Albor, Yuleydi; Beckman, Amaya L.; Butler, Kaitlyn L.; Dorsey, DeLaynie M.; Eells, Bryce D.; Farris, Isham B.; Fisher, Spencer D.; Franko, Lexus K.; Hernandez, Ricardo; Johnson, Maggie E.; Johnson, Nyelah T.; Larzelier, Juliette C.; Randall, Matthew L.; Tayler, Rachel D.; and Uranga, Daniel S.

3.99 to 3.5 — Buckley, Savana R., 3.833; Dines, Grace M., 3.833; Dorsey, Weston A., 3.833; Gomez, Julia D., 3.833; Guzman, Christina, 3.833; Llamas, Arnulfo, 3.833; Purdom, Gage C., 3.833; Schamber, Elizabeth R., 3.833: Trout, Brady J., 3.833; Vargas, Caleb I., 3.833: Albor, Cristina, 3.667; Aviles-Rodriguez, Ahtziri, 3.667; Brady, Kyler C., 3.667; Chase, Brandon M., 3.667: Flores, Jose M., 3.667; Freelove, Karsen R., 3.667; Infante, Bernardo, 3.667; Lomeli, Nelson, 3.667; Monreal, Graciela D., 3.667; Robinson-Hopson, Cheyenne J., 3.667; Simon, Zoie M., 3.667; Vega, Baldomero, 3.667; Zavala, Jazminne A., 3.667; Cardenas, Taiz C., 3.6; Conner, John A., 3.6; Beebe, Jake A., 3.5; Elordi, Garett C., 3.5; Garcia, Omar A., 3.5; Harmon, Elizabeth M., 3.5; Hernandez, Eleny, 3.5; Kerbs, Austyn E., 3.5; Mansisidor, Dustin R., 3.5;

FACILITY



Montejano, Nayeli V., 3.5; Orris, Keyana F., 3.5; and Wilkerson, Adison L., 3.5

3.49 to 3.0 — Waters, Natalia A., 3.429: Gibson, Torrence J., 3.4; Villarreal, Sarai, 3.4; Anderson, Auttm J., 3.333; Ankeny, Samuel J., 3.333: Collett, Jacob D., 3.333; Downum, Brandon M., 3.333; Fleming, William J., 3.333; Koberlein, Brandon L., 3.333; Navarro, Mia S., 3.333; Sanchez Linares, Joanna, 3.333; Tuckness, Nickolas L., 3.333; Valenzuela, Jaslin, 3.333; Corrales, Karina, 3.2; Albor, Noe, 3.167; Montes, Aliyah, 3.167; O'Dell, Stephen C., 3.167; Ramos, Marysol, 3.167: Rountree, Mason M., 3.167; Valenzuela-Rico, Carlos R., 3.167; Denney, Travis D., 3.0; Hoadley, Reagan J., 3.0; James, Wyatt D., 3.0; Milburn, Maicy L., 3.0; Parker, Zayn X., 3.0; Vincent, Jordyn C., 3.0; and Woodman, Kacey L., 3.0

Sixth grade

4.0 GPA—Breshears, John W.; Carter, LouAnn M.; Cline, Mayci E.; Muir, Shane T.; Pfost, Brooklvn M.: and Symms. Thomas K.

3.99 to 3.5 — Ankeny, Jacob D., 3.857; Bauer, Kylee E., 3.857; Cardenas-Ritzert, Entenecia S., 3.857; Christoffersen, Brayden A., 3.857; Salazar, Roberto A., 3.857; Smith, Ruger D., 3.857; Turner, Kaydince M., 3.857; Egusquiza, Joseph D., 3.714; Kraupp, Emma J., 3.714; McKay, Kenna M., 3.714; Miller, Madison G., 3.714; Nelson, Abigale M., 3.714; Pate, Caitlyn D., 3.714; DeWitt, Makenna R., 3.571; Mertz, Milo J., 3.571; and Young, Savanna L., 3.5

3.49 to 3.0 — Baez, Fabian M., 3.429; Campbell, Bowen C., 3.429; Jimenez, Francisco J., 3.429; King, Gwendolyn L., 3.429; Parker, Emma P., 3.429; Ruiz, Jaire, 3.429; Sosa, Yuridia G., 3.429; Turner, Savannah R., 3.429; Villa Ojeda, Eloisa, 3.429; Mendoza, Irma E., 3.4; Miller, Mackenzie M., 3.333; Baxter, Kaelah M., 3.286; Chavez, Chase A., 3.286; Christensen, Keagen and Vega, Delia, 3.0 B 3 286[.] Conant Emalie R

Martinez-Jimenez, Moises, 3.5; 3.286; Domme, Markus M., 3.286; Miramontes, Lizbeth, 3.286; Zavala, Jesus A., 3.286; Cole, RanDee L., 3.143; Figueroa, Marisela, 3.143: Grant, Slade F., 3.143; Jeppe, Meagan E., 3.143; Lowder, Jase M., 3.143; Mendoza Gonzalez, Donato, 3.143; Rojas, Miriam J., 3.143; Taylor, Paige M., 3.143; Atkins, Tye K., 3.0 Cornwall, Bryce D., 3.0 Garrison, Emilee F., 3.0 Jaramillo, Dulce N., 3.0 Neri, Uriel C., 3.0 Robinson-Hopson, Alexandra J., 3.0, and Sheley, Destiney A., 3.0

Fifth grade

4.0 GPA — Aberasturi, Amiya L.; Brown, Joshua D.; Durrant, Alexa L.; Farris, Aleah A.; Franko, Austin M.; Guzman, Cassandra; Henry, Abigail C.; Kincheloe, Hayden S.; Larzelier, Belisia D.; Lejardi, John M.; Martinez, Leonel d.; O'Dell, Michael C.; Parker, Zaria R.; Serrano, Daniela K.; Tejeda Marroquin, Katherine A.; and Uranga, Tea A.

3.99 to 3.5 — Criffield. Emma S., 3.857; Rose, Jayden D., 3.833; Stafford, Sheali A., 3.833; Haun, William G., 3.818; Heck, Eli J., 3.818; Hergesheimer, Elizabeth R., 3.804; Elordi, Hallie E., 3.8; Vega, Cristal, 3.737; Chase, Aaron C., 3.667; Diaz Hurtado, Daniela, 3.636; Aguilera, Christopher, 3.608; Flores, Rose J., 3.608; Johnson, Ryker K., 3.608; Suarez Neri, Enrique, 3.6; and Scott, Bailey M., 3.5

3.49 to 3.0 — Garcia, Maribel M., 3.455; Jeppe, Kaedan N., 3.455; Woodward, Tyler L., 3.455; Calderon, Cristian X., 3.4; Santana, Esmeralda, 3.344; Martinez-Hernandez, Michelle, 3.333; Martinez Jimenez, Natalia, 3.333; Jimenez, Diana, 3.273; Sheaffer, Domanique J., 3.25; Fry, Kevin L., 3.2; Lomeli, Jose A., 3.2; Ross, Whitney M., 3.2; Wilson, Landen J., 3.2; McBride, Amber L., 3.167; Cavford, Brianna N., 3.152: Liebschwager, Cody H., 3.111; Tuckness, Katerina B., 3.111; Vega Ayala, Brian A., 3.111; Fink. Breanna N., 3.098; Ashliman, Brooklyn T., 3.0 Fenimore, Rhys D., 3.0 Simmons, Marcus A., 3.0

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Short Term Rehabilitation • Long Term Care Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy

Recipient of the L. Jean Schoonover Excellence in Caring Award 18 years in a row



MES holds special program for incoming students

A kindergarten "Roundup" will be held Tuesday at Marsing Elementary School.

The event, which will feature a kindergarten readinesss program, will run from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. inside the school district cafeteria on 8th Avenue West.

Dinner for parents and students will be served at 5:45, and a kin-

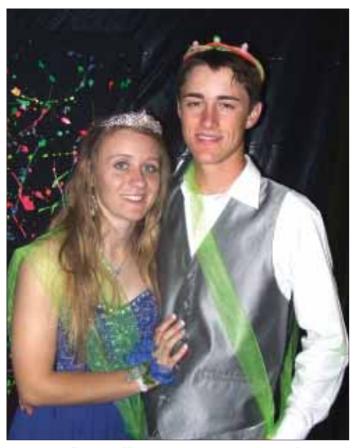
> Find out What's happening Read Calendar each week in the Avalanche

dergarten readiness presentation will start at 6:30.

Afterward, ice cream will be served, and incoming students will be able to enter for a raffle item and take home a bag of supplies to prepare for the school year.

Parents can expect to do some paperwork during the event to pre-register their children for kindergarten. Incoming kindergartners need to be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1 of this year.

For more information, call (208) 896-4111, option 4.



Jordan Valley names prom royalty Jordan Valley High School prom queen and king, Andi Warn and Nick Eiguren, were crowned during the school's Neon Nights Prom. The junior class planned the event and decorated the hall. Photo by Erin Relk

Marsing Gun Club event helps MHS grad night party

Proceeds from a Marsing Gun Club event will benefit the Marsing High School senior class.

The Marsing Senior Class Gun Shoot will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 25. The gun club's range is located on Trap Shoot Road off Idaho highway 78 outside Marsing.

Contestants can shoot all day for \$25, and there will be prizes in every round. Shells can be purchased at the shoot.

There will be a silent auction for items such as a mini-refrigerator, cooler, quilt and camp chairs.

A free lunch of chili and chili dogs will be served.

A cut and wrapped hog and a barbecue grills will be raffled. Tickets cost \$1 each or six for \$5 and are available at Marsing Hardware on Main Street.

Proceeds will help fund the 2015 Senior Class Safe and Sane Drug- and Alcohol-free all-night party at Wahooz Family Fun Zone in Meridian.

For more information, see Danny Bowers at Marsing Hardware or call Jim Briggs at 880-9467.

El-Ada provides services

Free HIV screenings will coincide with Tuesday's monthly commodity distribution at the El-Ada Community Action Partnership in Homedale.

Confidential HIV screenings will take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Owyhee County office, oral sample from the gum line, and results are ready in 20 minutes.

Safer sex products also will be available at no charge.

The El-Ada HIV prevention program is a partnership with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare.

In a press release, El-Ada cites federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) studies indicating that the number of people in Idaho infected with HIV is on the rise. HIV is the virus that causes AIDS.

Labrador's new assignment could help Owyhee ranchers

Oversight committee could hold BLM accountable

One change ushered in with the 114th Congress could brighten the outlook for Owyhee County ranchers.

Third-term Rep. Raul Labrador (R-Idaho) is vice-chair for the new Natural Resources Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee in the House of Representatives.

"Our goal is to look specifically at the EPA, but any other agency that is affecting our natural resources here in Idaho, and look at how their regulations are affecting commerce or affecting the environment or affecting just the way of life of most Idahoans," Labrador said during an interview with The Owyhee Avalanche.

"It's something I'm pretty passionate about, and something I believe will yield some good fruit."

Formed at the behest of House Natural Resources Committee chair Rob Bishop (R-Utah), the subcommittee could be a tool to protect grazing interests against Bureau of Land Management actions

We've told all the members of the Natural Resources Committee that whatever they want us to investigate, that's what we'll do because sometimes the large committee spends most of its time on legislation and very little time on oversight of the agencies," Labrador said.

"So now we've started this new oversight committee, and our entire time will be (spent) checking up on the agencies to make sure they're following the law."

Labrador said grazing issues and the letter of the Owyhee Initiative are two areas that could benefit, although only new issues that crop up will be heard by the committee.

Motorized grazing in the Owyhee wilderness, however, Labrador said it's likely the interpretation. It will be a clear GIA would have passed on its definition in the (U.S.) Code. won't be something the - JPB subcommittee takes up because own merits.

Sen. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) has said he will introduce legislation to ensure that the BLM allows the practice. The Owyhee Initiative specifically allowed motorized grazing to continue in areas that became wilderness, which is unique among wilderness across the nation. But the federal agency's wilderness management plan didn't follow the Initiative language that became law in 2009.

"(Crapo's staff) communicated with us that they would like us to help lead on the issue (in the House) because it's in our district," Labrador's regional director and former D.C. natural resources staffer Brad Griff said.

Any Crapo-sponsored legislation that leaves the Senate would be introduced into the full House Natural Resources Committee, on which Labrador sits

The Grazing Improvement Act (GIA), a Labrador-sponsored bill, already has helped public lands ranchers breathe a little easier, even if politics forced the man who helped reintroduce the bill to vote against it when both houses of the 113th Congress passed it in December as part of the larger National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

Both the GIA and legislation that conveyed BLM acreage to Idaho County for the creation of a gun range were attached to the NDAA.

"Washington D.C. loves to do these omnibus bills," the congressman said. "They're usually pork-laden bills that have bad policy or something bad in it so they can force everybody to vote for it, and I'm not going to vote for those bad bills."

Even if it means ultimately voting against something that Labrador had supported from the beginning of the process.

"It is bittersweet," Labrador said of not being able to vote for the GIA and gun range. "It was something that I was very proud of. We had worked very hard to get both of those bills passed."

The GIA codified the rider that previously had exempted trailing permits from National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) scrutiny. The law also allows ranchers to continue under their current permit guidelines as they go through the renewal process in the event that the analysis backlog pushes BLM beyond the expiration date of the existing permit.

Labrador also hopes the GIA will help head-off future litigation such as that which currently involves Owyhee 68 ranchers and the federal government over drastic grazing reductions.

Labrador said even though Republicans control both Congressional chambers, the fight to turn natural resources legislation into law will be a difficult one because of a slim majority in the Senate and the presence of a Democrat in the Oval Office.

"It's still difficult because you have a Republican majority in the House and Senate, but still have only 54 votes in the Senate, so you're going to have to convince six Democrats to vote with you in the Senate," he said.

"We can pass anything we want in the House. In fact, I have passed lots of pieces of legislation in the House Natural Resources Committee and off the House floor, but it's actually getting the Senate to pass it. And even if you could get six Democrats to vote for it, then you have to have something the president won't veto."

That fight may loom in the issue of the EPA's Waters of the United States rule proposal as Labrador gets behind a bill championed by Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chair Bill Shuster (R-Pa.). The legislation, which had been introduced late in the 113th Congress last year, is characterized as a "legislative fix" to prevent the EPA's regulatory overreach.

"It will define what "Waters of the USA" is," Labrador said. "It won't leave it up to regulatory

15 W. Colorado Ave.

Commodity distribution will take place at the same time, and El-Ada currently is looking for items to include in its commodity pantry at the office.

Needed items include foodstuffs such as peanut butter, canned fruits and vegetables, spaghetti, cereal and tuna as well as hygiene and household items such as toothpaste and toothbrushes, diapers and other baby items, toilet paper, blankets, shampoo and conditioner, soap and combs and brushes.

Call the El-Ada office at 337-4812 for more information on the community commodity drive.

There are no needle sticks or blood involved in the HIV screening. A technician will take an

According to the El-Ada release, 16 percent of all Idaho residents infected with HIV are women and 84 percent are men. Twelve percent of infections were through heterosexual contact. Nationwide, 25 percent of people infected have not been diagnosed and do not know they have HIV.

For more information about the screening process, HIV in Idaho or safer sex practices, call Kituta Asimba or Marcos Preciado at El-Ada's Boise office (2250 S. Vista Ave.) at (208) 345-8994.

WICAP Head Start applications open

The 2015-16 school year application period has opened at WICAP Head Start.

The Western Idaho Community Action Partnership offers comprehensive preschool services for children ages 3-5 in various areas, including Wilder for Homedale-area families and at the Owyhee County Head Start location in Marsing for children from Marsing and the Sunnyslope area.

Services are also available for pregnant women and children from birth to 3 years old.

The preschool program provides health, nutrition and school readiness for children.

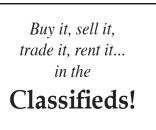
Children with disabilities are accepted.

There are income eligibility guidelines to qualify for the program. Priority is given to families who meet federal poverty guidelines.

To register, a family must provide documentation of income for the past 12 months such as a W-2 form or income tax information, a birth certificate or immunization record to document

the child's age and medical cards, which are optional.

For more information or to determine eligibility, contact the WICAP office in Marsing at (208) 896-6041 or Wilder (208) 782-7223.



Livestock symposium provides lessons for all

Ranchers, scientists talk about improving cattle industry

About 100 people turned out Thursday in Marsing to talk cattle, climate and rangeland health.

Most of the attendees were from some aspect of the cattle industry, but the lessons available might have been helpful to those outside the circle, too.

The daylong event at the Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center marked the third and final stop for the Idaho Range Livestock Symposium.

Ranchers and other interested parties toured several locations in the Treasure Valley on Friday to wrap up the week.

Trade shows and presentations were held April 7 in Idaho Falls, last Wednesday in Burley and Thursday in Marsing.

At each stop, local ranchers were chosen to discuss their specific operations.

In Marsing, ranchers Tony and Brenda Richards talked about their Reynolds Creek outfit as well as the job of juggling a business with being active in preserving the industry.

Brenda Richards is in the first year of a two-year stint as national president of the Public Lands Council, and she has been involved in the policy side of ranchers for two decades.

Brenda believes that its important to be active beyond the range in an effort to make sure people outside the industry understand what cattlemen mean to the American diet and food supply.

"It's really important that we're involved in different things because we're teaching that aspect to a larger community," Brenda said.

Later, she added: "We feel strongly that we have to get out and advocate for the things we're doing right."

The Richards operation relies on public land grazing, and Tony discussed what adaptations they've had to make because of Bureau of Land Management decisions such as changing the season of use.

The Richards have instituted a yearling time comes around, Tony said.



Part of Tony Svejcar's talk was a history lesson on the region's climate fluctuations.

program.

"One permit ends Aug. 1, so we started filling slots with yearlings to market in the summertime," Tony said, referring to how they kept the operation economically viable in changing times.

The Richards also have an agreement with Whole Foods, so they market a natural beef program. They didn't have to change their practices much to qualify for the program, though, Tony said.

The couple stressed the importance of ranchers' taking an active role in preserving their public land grazing permits. They are part of a cooperative monitoring program with the BLM and Idaho State Department of Agriculture, which was another topic of the symposium.

The objective of the cooperative monitoring program is to educate ranchers about their individual allotments so they can address range issues throughout the life of the permit, which will help when renewal

"It's not just business as usual," Brenda said. "You can't just stay home and take care of that aspect."

Understanding the effects of climate change also is important to modern range management.

Tony Svejcar from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service's Burns, Ore., location and David Bohnert from Oregon State University's Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center were on hand to give perspective and pointers on how to adapt even if the numbers show there hasn't been much change in the Great Basin in the past century.

Svejcar said the level of atmospheric carbon dioxide rose about 70 parts per million (ppm) to 385 ppm between 1958 and 2004.

'The trend is fairly clear, and that trend is going to continue into the foreseeable future," he said.

But there is good and bad with the rise

More carbon dioxide has meant more forage (50 percent more growth over the past 35 years), but Svejcar said that while healthy vegetation has increased so has the volume of cheatgrass and with it the fuel load and wildfire threat.

With the rise in CO2, the average minimum temperature has gone up, but the average month-to-month temperatures have remained the same, Svejcar said. And the variation in minimum temperature is more prevalent in the winter.

The more mild winter temperatures lend themselves to drier conditions overall. Snow melt and runoff comes earlier, and there are fewer summer storms to replenish the watershed.

Dealing with climate variability is where Bohnert stepped in.

He said that even if there is more forage, the health benefits and digestibility degrades, so producers should consider supplements to keep the health of their herds optimal.

Warmer temperatures also affect the way cows eat. Heat stress diminishes the animals' desire to eat, so ranchers may what to think about moving their herds to cooler climes.

Bohnert said the adaptivity and flexibility of a rancher's livestock management program is important in the face of changing conditions.

Adjustments in calving seasons, seasons of use and even what cattle eat are important tools, he said. Bohnert also discussed improving pasture utilization by drawing cattle away from old familiar grazing areas with the lure of water tanks or supplement blocks.

A diversified operation also can help combat the economic effects of climate change.

One option is creating a tourism aspect by inviting members of the public to take part in ranch tasks such as branding.

"You're showing what you're doing and why you're doing it and how you're doing it," Bohnert said. "(Through tourism), you can improve the perception of our industry."

— JPB

Semi knocks out power in Grand View

A one-vehicle accident led to a blackout in Grand View on April 6. The crash happened on Idaho highway 78 at 11:34 a.m.

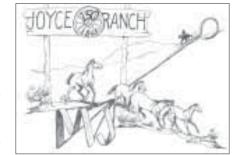
Owyhee County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Lynn Bowman said 27-year-old Robert Cook of Parma was driving a 2001 Kenworth semi pulling a trailer. Cook drifted off the road and slammed

into a power pole.

The crash snapped the power pole, causing the lines to fall, which created the outage. Idaho Power communications specialist Brad Bowlin said it was a clean break and a crew had to replace the pole.

Bowlin said. Sixty-one customers in the Grand View were affected by the outage. In that particular area, about half of those Idaho Power clients are irrigation customers, Bowlin said.

There was little to no damage



Bruneau's John Schutte designed the Joyce Ranch 150th anniversary celebration logo.

to restore power by 12:54 p.m.,

to the semi and trailer, Bowman Idaho Power crews were able said. Cook was not injured in the accident. -SC

anniversary party **B-GV** district tries to ID special ed students

Screenings will be held next week in the Bruneau-Grand View School District's effort to identify children who may be eligible for special education programs.

Child Find evaluations for preschool-age students will take place Friday, April 17 at the following times and locations:

• 8 a.m. to noon, Bruneau Elementary School, 25841 Benham Ave., Bruneau

• 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Grand View Elementary School, 205 First St., Grand View

Child Find activities are conducted to create public awareness for special ed programs, to advise the public that students who qualify for the services have the right to a free appropriate public education and to alert community residents of the process used to identify and serve children with

disabilities from the age of 3 through the semester in which they turn 21.

Anyone who knows of a child age 3-21 who may have needs because of disabilities or developmental delays who isn't in the school program can call district special education director Ryan Cantrell at (208) 834-2253. He'll set up an appointment for a confidential evaluation and meeting.

open to the public

Joyce Ranch's 150th

folks who want to help celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Joyce Ranch on Sinker Creek.

A five-day celebration is planned for June 10-14 at the ranch.

Organizers are seeking RSVPs to help in the planning process.

If you're interested in taking part in celebrating the ranch's anniversary, call Tiffany at (208)

Registration is now open for 834-2121 or Ann at (208) 583-2482 for information on how to register. Contact the organizers at joyce.ranch.reunion@gmail. com or visit them on Facebook, too.

> More information is available at http://joyceranchreunion. blogspot.com, which also provides information on reunion events, including field trips, dinners, a ranch tour and more.

Owyhee County news online - when you need it www.owyheeavalanche.com

Page 16 Homedale serves up win over Payette

Avalanche Sports

Home course can't help HHS golfers

Page 16



The Homedale High School baseball team celebrates after a last-inning victory over Emmett on Friday. Photo by Kelli Jenkins

Mixed bag in Trojans' Emmett trip Baseball team's 7th-inning Errors end softball team's rally ignites win streak perfect start to season

This time around, Homedale High School picked up a baseball victory after its opponent's miscues.

The Trojans peeked above .500 in the 3A Snake River Valley conference with a thrilling 8-6 win over host Emmett on Friday that was filled with drama.

The Huskies' catcher was tossed after he lowered his shoulder while running to home plate and colliding with his Homedale counterpart, Nash Johnson. HHS coach Burke

Deal said that adds to the "budding rivalry" between the two schools. Trojans fans also had to pay admission to the game in Emmett, which is unusual because Deal says the 3A SRV schools have agreed not to charge for spring sports.

Two days after errors led to a non-conference loss, Homedale was the beneficiary as Huskies errors in the sixth and seventh inning fueled four unanswered runs for the come-from-behind victory.

– See **Baseball,** page 15

Two runs in the bottom of the seventh inning ended Homedale High School's perfect softball season Friday.

Emmett scored the winning run with two outs in the seventh for a 4-3 3A Snake River Valley conference victory that ended the Trojans' 14-game seasonopening win streak.

Homedale (14-1 overall, 3-1 in conference) had taken a 3-2 lead with a run in the top of the fifth inning.

Three Huskies' runs were unearned as the Trojans

committed five errors. Tristan Corta also gave up eight hits and six walks. Ashleigh Yates' double was the only extra-base hit for Emmett. Jordyn Marquez was 3-for-4 with two RBI for the winners (8-1, 4-0).

Tori Nash led Homedale's hitters, going 2-for-3 with a double and three RBI. Michelle Castro singled and scored twice. The Trojans scored the game's first runs in the top of the third inning and led, 2-1, heading into the bottom of the fourth when

— See Softball, page 15

JV's Andi Warn tops list of local all-staters

Five local athletes were placed on the 1A Oregon all-state girls' basketball team.

The Oregon Basketball Coaches Association-sponsored honor roll featured three Jordan Valley athletes and two from Adrian.

Senior Andi Warn led the Mustangs' picks with a secondteam selection on the girls' roster.

Third-team selections included Adrian senior Quincy Pendergrass on the girls' list and Jordan Valley junior Wyatt Stanford on the boys' side.

Honorable mention picks included senior Lee Stanford (Jordan Valley) on the boys' roster and senior Andrea Catalan Velez from Adrian for the girls.

Coaches' votes seeded the all-state teams from players who had competed in the state tournament. First-teamers will receive personalized medals, and each all-state player receives a certificate.

Huskies rumble to first wins

37-run outburst ends 11-game skid

Marsing High School's softball team ended a 13-inning scoreless streak in decisive fashion Saturday to pick up its first victories of the

season. The Hus-



HHS girls narrowly miss Invitational title

Marsing's Heidt takes second in boys' 100 meters at Bell stadium



The hometown girls narrowly missed a championship during Friday's Homedale Invitational track and field meet.

Weiser swept team titles at Deward Bell Stadium, but the Wolverines squeaked past the HHS girls by seven points. Weiser's girls scored 129 points.

The Homedale boys were fifth in the six-team field, scoring 50 points and finishing ahead of Marsing (14 points). On the girls' side, Rimrock finished sixth with 10 points, while the Huskies were seventh with six.

Jennifer Hernandez played a part in two of the Trojans' four girls' event victories. Freshman Eva Symms and sophomore Carlie Sawyer also came out on top in events.

The Trojans' Richard Symms won the boys' discus. The junior's best throw went 136 feet, which was a personal-best effort.

"It was a great meet, and we had many compliments from other schools on how smoothly it ran," HHS coach Heidi Ankeny said. "I had some pretty amazing volunteers out there who took their jobs seriously but had a lot of fun with it. We got some great PRs. too."

Junior Josh Tolmie competed

— See Invitational, page 14

Homedale High School's Jennifer Hernandez, right, hands off to fellow senior Rosio Juan to start the second leg of the 4x100 relay Friday. The Trojans won the race.

kies ended a season. opening 11game losing streak with a 20-0 nonconference shellacking of host Wilder.



Marsing start- Carey Dines

ed a winning streak by pounding the Wildcats, 17-0, in the second game.

The first game was halted after three innings, while the second game lasted 3¹/₂ innings.

The Huskies blew open the first game with a 10-run second inning.

— See Huskies, page 14

Sports

Huskies fall to Melba after forging a tie

Marsing High School played tough against Melba in 2A Western Idaho Conference baseball last week.

After the Huskies tied the home game with a four-run fifth inning, Melba erupted for seven in its ensuing at-bat for a 15-8 victory.

Defense was a key downfall for Marsing, which committed 10 errors. Only seven of Melba's runs were earned.

Dakota Hardy drove in three runs as Marsing scored six times over the fourth and fifth innings.

Clay King was 2-for-4 with a two-run double in the fifth.

Leadoff hitter Seth Hardy was 2-for-4 with a double. He gave Marsing a 1-0 lead in the first inning when he singled, stole third base and scored on a passed ball.

Junior Brett Grossman continued his impressive offensive performance, going 2-for-2 with a three runs scored and an RBI. He knocked in a run during the team's four-run fifth inning.

Grossman got the start on the mound. In 4 2/3 innings, he surrendered four hits, struck out two and walked no one. Melba scored seven runs against him, though, including five unearned.

Ty Stimpson was 3-for-5 with two runs and an RBI for Melba. Teammate Devin Edmiston doubled and knocked in two runs, while Nick Talbot scored three times. Holly Hobbs had two hits and two RBI and scored three times, while Britney Robison was 2-for-3 with three runs scored. Bailey Bowman, winning pitcher Audra Kendall, Ann Quiroz, Sheyanne Glorfield,

Thea Ugland and Kourtney Miller scored two runs apiece. Kendall pitched a three-hitter

and struck out six. Dines was at it again in the second game as she and Bowman combined to throw a three-inning no-hitter.

Dines was 2-for-2 with a double, three RBI and two runs scored. She also struck out a batter in relief.

Bowman started the game, striking out two in two innings. Lisa Hall scored three runs for the Huskies, while Kendall, Destiny Reynolds, De De Thompson and Angelina Noblet scored two runs each.

Thursday: Malad 15, Marsing 0 (4) — Hobbs was the only Huskies batter to get a hit in a game that was part of a non-conference doubleheader in Glenns Ferry.

Reynolds and Quiroz drew walks for Marsing's other base runners.

Malad took advantage of nine Marsing errors and broke the game open with eight runs in the third inning.

Winning pitcher Alex Ward, who surrendered Hobbs' single, went 2-for-3 with a triple and a home run and five RBI for the reigning Class 2A state champions.

Thursday: Wendell 17, Mars-

ing 0 (6) — In the other nonconference game played in Glenns Ferry, four Huskies got singles, including Dines, Reynolds, Glorfield and Robison.

Wendell jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the top of the first inning and went on to score 10 unearned runs as Marsing committed 14 errors.

April 7: Melba 21, Marsing 0 (5) — Kendall singled for the Huskies' only hit against Mustangs' pitcher Jordan Warfield.

Marsing struggled in the conference game, committing 11 errors. Kendall started in the circle and made it into the third inning. All but one of the 11 runs with which she was charged were unearned. She walked 10 batters.

The Mustangs' Mikayla Frost was 2-for-4 with a double, three runs scored and two RBI.

$\sqrt{$ Invitational: Rimrock's Perason 4th in girls' long jump

From Page 13

just hours after his grandmother's funeral and helped Homedale to two top-four relay finishes. He also took second in the 400 in a personal-best 51.43 seconds.

HHS' Eva Symms also notched a personal record to win the girls' discus at 100 feet, 7 inches.

Marsing junior Alexandre Heidt was runner-up in the 100 (12 seconds) and took four in the long jump at 19-6. Teammate Sam Galligan, a sophomore, was seventh in the shot put at 36-8. Angie Draper was third in the girls' 100 hurdles (18.69), seventh in the 300 hurdles (58.66) and ninth in the girls' 400 (1 minute, 10.28 seconds). Rimrock junior Hailey Pearson was fourth in the girls' long jump (13-8) and triple jump (29-5½), fifth in the 200 (29.52) and eighth in the 100 (14.37).

Top showings for HHS girls: • 200 — 1. Hernandez, 28.66 • 4x100 relay — 1. Hernandez, Rosio Ojeda, sr., Ashley Burks, fr., and Sawyer, 54.25

• Discus — 1. Eva Symms, 100-07; 3. Maddie Conant, jr., 94-4

• Long jump — 1. Burks, 16-1; 5. Sawyer, 13-4¹/₄

• Triple jump — 1. Sawyer, 31-

1¹/₂; 2. Burks, 30-10¹/₄; 5. Ember Christensen, fr., 28-6 • **Shot put** — 2. Kerigan Morris,

sr., 32-2; 4. Symms, 30-6½; 5.

Bailey Adams, sr., 29-11¹/₂

• 100 — 2. Hernandez, 13.74

• Sprint medley relay — 2. Hernandez (100), Sawyer (100), Burks (200) and Brianna McLay sr., (400), 2:10.56

• **4x200 relay** — 3. Rosio Ojeda, sr., Mia Sickinger, fr., Christensen, fr., and Mindy Padilla, fr., 2:10.28

• **4x400 relay** — 3. Symms, Elizabeth Vargas, jr., Conant, and Adams, 5:43.46

• **300 hurdles** — 4. Christensen, 57.65

• **3,200** — 4. Maya Correa, jr., 13:39.66

• **100 hurdles** — 5. MaKenzie Anderson, 19.78 Top results for HHS boys: • **3,200** — 3. Riley Portwood, sr., 11:11.64

• **4x100 relay** — 3. Brady Brown, sr., Colton Grimm, sr., Manny Baltierrez, jr., and Richard Symms, 50.46

• Sprint medley relay — 3. Mertz (200), Baltierrez (200), Tolmie (400) and Portwood (800), 4:08.12

• 4x200 relay — 4. Brown, Grimm, Jeffery Carrillo, jr., and Tolmie, 1:40.46

• Shot put — 4. Grimm, 38-¹/₂ • 800 — 5. Max Mertz, fr.,

2:20.48 • 1,600 — 5. Portwood,

5:24.68



Marsing's Sam Galligan was seventh in the shot put. Photo by George Decker

MARSING HUSKIES



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK Audra Kendall, sr., softball

The Play — Kendall was in the pitching circle for the Huskies' first victory of the season as MHS swept a Saturday doubleheader against Wilder. She struck out six and scattered three singles in a 20-0 three-inning win. She had identical batting lines (two runs scored and an RBI) in both wins, including a 17-0 triumph in Game 2. She also pitched in losses to Malad and Wendell on





$\sqrt{$ Huskies: Carey Dines carries hot bat

From Page 13

Carey Dines went 3-for-3 with a double, two runs scored and two RBI.

Thursday and went 1-for-2 from the plate while striking out six in an April 7 loss to Melba.

Baseball Varsity

Wednesday, April 15, home vs. Nyssa, Ore., 5 p.m. Friday, April 17, home vs. New Plymouth, 5 p.m. Saturday, April 18, home vs. Homedale JV, 11 a.m. Monday, April 20 at McCall-Donnelly, 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 22, home vs. Nampa Christian, 5 p.m.

Softball Varsity

Wednesday, April 15, home vs. Nyssa, Ore., 5 p.m. Friday, April 17, home vs. New Plymouth, 5 p.m. Saturday, April 18 at Homedale JV (2), 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Monday, April 20 at McCall-Donnelly, 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 22, home vs. Nampa Christian, 5 p.m.

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Track and field Wednesday, April 22 at 2A Western Idaho Conference meet, Nampa Christian H.S., 4 p.m..





337-4041

orts

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Teammates mob Homedale's Elise Shenk after her home run last Wednesday against Vale, Ore., at Sundance Park.

$\sqrt{\text{Softball:}}$ Homedale routs Fruitland before streak ends

From Page 13

Emmett tied the score.

Chauncy McMillan struck out seven and scattered five hits to get the victory.

Last Wednesday: Homedale 12, Vale, Ore. 2 (5) - Elise Shenk homered during a four-run third inning the Trojans used to blow open a close non-conference game at Sundance Park.

Shenk was 2-for-3 with two RBI and three runs scored.

Homedale built a 3-0 lead, but the Vikings scored twice in the top of the third inning to tighten the score briefly.

Freshman right-hander Dakota Kelly settled down after Vale's two unearned runs in the third inning. She struck out five and gave up only two hits and two walks to get the win.

Makayla Aberasturi was 2-for-2 with a double and two RBI. Corta and Tori Nash each scored twice.

April 7: Homedale 16, Fruitland 0 (5) — After several years as one of the premier battles for Idaho softball supremacy, the Homedale-Fruitland rivalry turned into a rout.

Morgan Nash made her first pitching start of the season, striking out five and spinning a three-hitter as the Trojans trounced the Grizzlies at Sundance Park.

More than half of Homedale's hits went for extra bases, including home runs from Gardenia Machuca and Elise Shenk.

Nash was 2-for-2 with two RBI and two runs, while her batterymate, catcher Tori Nash, was 2-for-3 with a double and three runs scored.

Makayla Aberasturi doubled twice and knocked in four runs, and Sydnee Shanley was 2-for-3 with two RBI.

Freshman Kendall Nash tripled and drove in two runs.

$\sqrt{\text{Baseball:}}$ Trojans get rare wins over NP

From Page 13

"We had lots of great individual efforts, but as a group we held together as a team and never got down," Deal said. "We put together some good executions, had John running on a squeeze bunt for (an insurance) run and their pitcher threw it in the dirt. It was a really fun game."

Blake Patton scored the gamewinning run on an error with no outs in the seventh inning. Nash Johnson led off the inning and scored the tying run after singles from Patton and Collett. Collett stole home for the insurance run.

Homedale (10-4 overall, 3-2 in conference) finished the week on a three-game winning streak after sweeping a non-conference doubleheader at home Saturday against New Plymouth. The victories were the first over the 2A Western Idaho Conference Pilgrims since the Trojans moved to Class 3A 11 years ago.

"We have been working real hard as a team on the mental side of the game and putting together great at-bats, playing big, and playing one pitch at a time, and in the Emmett game our efforts really showed up big and it carried over with NP," Deal said. "We had a number of great at-bats."

The Emmett game was a seesaw affair early before the Huskies snapped a 4-4 tie with an unearned run in the bottom of the fourth.

Gunnar Clapp led the Trojans' offense, going 3-for-4 with a pair of doubles and two RBI. Collett was 2-for-4 with a double and two runs scored.

Saturday: Homedale 10-2,

Trojans pitchers limited the Pilgrims to nine hits in a nonconference doubleheader sweep.

William Elordi's two-run double pushed Homedale ahead of New Plymouth in the bottom of the fifth inning of the first game. Colton Osborn's RBI triple later in the inning gave the Trojans an 8-5 lead.

Matt Thatcher struck out four and allowed just one run on two hits over the final 3 1/3 innings to get the win in relief.

Clapp had another strong game in the opener, going 4-for-4 with a double and two RBI. Connor Carter doubled twice and knocked in three runs, while Elordi also doubled and tallied two RBI.

Jake Deal was in control during the second game, spinning a fourhit shutout. He struck out nine and walked none, and only two Pilgrims reached third base.

Collett scored the only run Deal would need in the bottom of the first inning. He led off with a triple and scored on the first of three New Plymouth errors.

Nash Johnson started the fifth inning with a triple and scored on Collett's infield single.

Last Wednesday: Vale, Ore., 4, Homedale 2 — The Vikings made four unearned runs in the second inning stand up in a non-conference victory on the Trojans' field.

Homedale got a run back in the bottom of the inning when Elordi doubled with one out and scored on a wild pitch after Patton's single.

Two-out errors by Elordi in center field and Patton at third

New Plymouth 6-0 — Three base propelled Vale's four-run rally in the top of the second inning. Starting pitcher Collett struggled with his control and walked the bases loaded before Elordi mishandled Josh Schoorl's loud liner into the right-center field gap.

> Homedale, which out-hit Vale, 6-5, scored in the bottom of the fifth inning. Carter reached on an error by third baseman Gage Fortin, stole second and scored on Clapp's ground-ball single into left field

> April 7: Fruitland 13, Homedale 1 (6) — After hammering opponents through four games the week before, the Trojans couldn't muster any offense against the visiting Grizzlies in a 3A SRV game.

> Fruitland's Matt Murphy tossed a two-hitter, and the Trojans couldn't touch him until scoring an unearned run in the bottom of the sixth inning.

> By then, Fruitland had done all its damage with six runs in the fourth inning and five runs in the sixth.

> Collett opened the sixth inning with a single and scored when Fruitland right fielder Jacob Loomis dropped Clapp's fly ball with two outs.

> Jacob Falls doubled with two outs in the bottom of the second inning for Homedale's first hit against Murphy.

> > Find out What's happening Read Calendar each week in the Avalanche





Baseball

Junior varsity

Golf

Tennis

Wednesday, April 15, home vs. Melba, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, April 21, home vs. Parma, 5 p.m.

Thursday, April 16, home vs. Payette, 5 p.m. Saturday, April 18 at Marsing varsity, 11 a.m.

Thursday, April 16 at Payette Invitational (18 holes),

Tuesday, April 21 at 3A SRV meet (9 holes), River Birch

Saturday, April 18 at Payette, 11 a.m.

Wednesday, April 15 at Melba, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, April 21 at Notus, 5 p.m.

Scotch Pines GC, Payette, 1 p.m.

Thursday, April 16 at Weiser, 4 p.m.

Friday, April 17, home vs. Ontario, Ore., 4 p.m.

Tuesday, April 21, home vs. Parma, 4 p.m.

GC, Emmett, 3 p.m.

Varsity

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Softball

Varsity Thursday, April 16 at Payette, 5 p.m. Saturday, April 18, home vs. La Grande, Ore. (2), 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, home vs. Parma, 5 p.m.

Junior varsity

Thursday, April 16, home vs. Payette, 5 p.m. Saturday, April 18, home vs. Marsing varsity (2), 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 21 at Parma, 5 p.m.

Track and field

Thursday, April 16 at Middleton Invitational, 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 21 at 3A Snake River Valley conference meet, Emmett, time TBA

Go Trolans!





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Sports

Trojans tennis trumps Pirates

Homedale High School's tennis team got back on track Thursday with a slew of straight-set shutouts.

Seniors Kincade Kincheloe and Hattie Mertz rolled in their No. 1 singles matches as the Trojans trounced visiting Payette in a 3A Snake River Valley conference meet played at Bette Uda City Park.

Kincheloe and Ben Holloway led a 5-1 boys' victory with singles wins. Kincheloe blanked Tyler Aullman, 6-0, 6-0, and Holloway crushed Dillon Ovitt, 6-0, 6-1 in the No. 2 match.

At No. 3 singles, Coy Gardner beat Kyler Sandquist, 6-2, 6-3, to complete Homedale's sweep.

Andrew Randall and Orion Cardenas downed Payette's No. 1 boys' doubles squad of Brian Heleker and Julio Taberti, 6-4, 6-2.

On the girls' side, Mertz sprinted past Gabriela Sobierajslea, 6-0, 6-0, and Homedale picked up forfeits at No. 3 singles and No. 2 doubles for a 5-1 victory.

The top girls' doubles team of Pauline Pilz and Jessica Taylor beat their Payette counterparts (Kayde Evans and DK Cauley Hushey, 6-1, 6-4.

Delaney Phariss and Alec Egurrola beat Payette's top mixed doubles team of Josh Brown and Lauren Cummins. The 6-0, 6-0 triumph gave each HHS team a half-point. Homedale's No. 2 mixed doubles squad of Marissa Guzman and Dylan Phariss won by forfeit.

April 7: Fruitland sweeps Homedale — The Trojans managed just two victories in 12 matches in a home 3A SRV meet at Bette Uda City Park.

Homedale's half-point in the girls' ladder came as part of a come-from-behind victory in the No. 2 mixed doubles match.

Guzman and Orion Cardenas rallied from a first-set loss to beat Jessica O'Dell and Alek Farmer, 4-6, 6-2, 7-5.

Teams earn a half-point each toward their boys' and girls' scores for mixed doubles wins.

Fruitland's boys prevailed $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$, while the girls cruised $5\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$.

Homedale's only other point in the boys' meet came on Holloway's 6-2, 6-0 victory over Alex Becerril at No. 2 singles.

Host comes up short in SRV golf

With its ranks depleted by injury and eligibility issues, Homedale High School finished third in last week's conference golf meet.

The Trojans were able to field only four varsity golfers (just enough to qualify for the team scoring) during a 3A Snake River Valley



Young walkers hoop it up with HHS players

Trojans treat top club members to clinic

The top walkers in the Walking Talking Trojans Club were able to rub shoulders with athletes last week.

Students in the top 25 percent of each grade level in Homedale Elementary School's walking program during March attended a basketball skills clinic conducted by Homedale High School basketball players.

Elementary school physical education instructor Dan Moore calls the clinic for kindergarteners through fourth-graders "a party."

"This clinic is a great experience for both the elementary students as well as the high school athletes," Moore said.

"It is a great confidence builder for our elementary students."

About 100 children swarmed around the gym at different stations learning passing, dribbling and shooting skills.

The party, which took place April 6 inside the HES gymnasium, also is a chance for many of the boys' and girls' basketball players to pay back the program that helped them on their way to physical fitness and athleticism.

"Several of the high school students shared the memories of how special it was to be in this activity when they were little," Moore said.

The Walkin' Talkin' Trojans program gets elementary school students out of the classroom and moving on the asphalt track on the school's perimeter. Moore began the program nearly 15 years ago.

— JPB



conference home event at River Bend Golf Course along the Snake River last Wednesday.

Kaden Henry led the Trojans with a 9-overpar 45, while Lawsen Matteson came in at 46. Homedale scored 206, which was 31 strokes behind meet champion Weiser's 175.

"As soon as we have a full team, we should be more competitive," HHS coach Casey Grove said.

Kyler Landa, who has been sidelined with an injury, was expected back for Monday's conference meet at Scotch Pines Golf Course in Payette. The meet was played after deadline.

The Wolverines' foursome fired 45 or lower, including medalist Justin Lundberg at 42.

Led by Ryan Matthews' 44, Emmett was second with 193.

Rounding out the Trojans' foursome were Chase Martell (53) and Matt Garrison (62).

All your business printing needs: Local and fast Call Owyhee Publishing: (208) 337-4866 **Top:** Kindergartener Daiana Linares Cornejo gets some air as Homedale High School girls' basketball player Makayla Aberasturi hoists her up for a slam dunk. Daiana, 5, is the daughter of Jose Linares and Herlinda Cornejo. **Above:** Homedale High School boys' basketball player Kincade Kincheloe helps first-graders Drake Jerome, left, and Immanuel Santiago-Garcia with their shooting form. Drake, 7, is son of Andrea and Jeremy Jerome, and 6-year-old Immanuel's parents are Isaac and Vanessa Santiago.

Legislators' last-minute bill raises gas tax, vehicle fees

by Jeff Myers The Owyhee Avalanche legislative correspondent A \$95 million transportation funding measure passed the Idaho Legislature in the final hours of the session.

The bill calls for a seven-centper-gallon gas tax increase as well as increased registration fees for all vehicles.

Light vehicles and passenger car registration will increase by \$21 while commercial trucks will be subject to a \$25 increase. Motorcycle registration will be raised by \$19. Under the plan, there will also be a \$75 fee for hybrid cars and a \$140 fee for electric vehicles.

The new money raised by the gas tax and registration fee increase will be distributed to state and local agencies. Sixty percent will go to the state and 40 percent to local districts.

In addition to the \$95 million raised by the gas tax and registration fee increase, the bill calls for a two-year surplus eliminator. The surplus eliminator will transfer 50 percent of Idaho's unallocated general fund revenue to the Idaho Transportation Department's Strategic Initiative Program for the repair and maintenance of the state's roads. After two years, the Legislature will likely have to reexamine the plan and determine if changes are necessary.

The bill is an attempt to address Idaho's \$262 million annual maintenance and repair shortfall on roads and bridges. In this year's State of State address, Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter identified the issue as one of his most pressing concerns.

"After education," Otter said, "investing in infrastructure is among the smartest, most costeffective and frankly essential uses of taxpayer dollars to promote the public's general welfare and sustain economic growth."

During his speech, Otter cited 785 bridges in Idaho that are more than 50 years old and "structurally deficient." The Snake River bridge carrying Idaho highway 55 into Marsing, which is slated for replacement in 2017, is one of those spans.

Poll results support move

In a 2014 poll conducted by the University of Idaho's McClure Center for Public Policy Research, 53 percent of Idahoans surveyed identified the condition of roads and bridges as one of the top three priorities they believe the Legislature needs to address. Of those surveyed, 71 percent characterized Idaho's roads and bridges as "very important" to Idaho's economy. In response to favorable revenue generation methods, seven percent of respondents strongly supported increased fuel tax, 10 percent strongly supported registration fee increases on passenger cars and light trucks, 26 percent strongly supported increased registration for commercial trucks and 28 percent strongly supported the use of current sales tax on automotive parts and tires.

The funding bill was passed in the final day of the 2015 legislative session after two days of debate over amendments in a special conference committee that included District 23 state Sen. Bert Brackett (R-Rogerson). Other committee members were state Sens. Dean Cameron (R-Rupert) and Roy Lacey (D-Pocatello), and there were three House members: Joe Palmer (R-Meridian), John Vander Woude (R-Nampa) and Mat Erpelding (D-Boise).

Senate's wish list

The Senate committeemen wanted less impact on the general fund and more funding for local districts' repair and safety needs.

"I don't want to use general funds," Cameron said, "because I don't want legislators involved in the process of pushing which roads should be built. I think that's inappropriate...

"If the general funds were being used, we wanted them to be split (60 percent to state projects and 40 percent to local districts)."

Reps. Palmer and Vander Woude were standing firm in not raising the fuel tax by more than five cents, instead putting forth the surplus eliminator fund and placing that money in the hands of ITD.

"I think it's necessary to have a general fund component in transportation funding for several reasons," Palmer said. "Obviously the main reason is the gas tax is going to continue to go backwards on us. No matter how much we add to it, it's still going to regress. It is the absolute regressive tax. It does hurt the people who are at the bottom end of the spectrum, when it comes to income, the most.

The money that has (come) in from gas tax really hasn't changed over the last 10 years. We're still using the same amount of gallons even though there's thousands more cars on the road."

The committee finally came to a reluctant agreement on the second day of debate and voted unanimously in favor of Vander Woude's proposal.

"In spite that it is not what we need it to be," Cameron said before voting to approve the amendments to the bill, "in spite that we have not fully resolved the issue, I think we are making a significant stride forward in addressing the transportation issues, management and maintenance of our current infrastructure.

"\$95 million is not enough money, but it's a lot of money. \$95 million plus potentially whatever can come from the surplus eliminator in a couple of years can make a significant dent in that infrastructure need."

Debate in the wee hours

In the early hours Saturday morning, with the end of the session looming, debate over the bill was held in both the House and the Senate.

Rep. Palmer opened the debate in the House.

"Though I don't agree with some of the funding mechanisms we use for other things that we do in the state and I believe more money should be given toward transportation," he said, "I do not see a way forward that is possible without going down this road and raising the tax formula that is used in the state of Idaho. Therefore I will support this bill."

Rep. Ilana Rubel (D-Boise) voted in favor of the bill.

"I don't think we're solving the problem. I don't know that anyone here thinks we are." Rubel said. "We know that there are 25,000 miles of roads in Idaho that need repair, so we're looking at fixing about 800 miles of that. That's better than none, and so with that I will vote for this bill given the late stage of our session ... I hope that we can maintain this momentum and do our job to completion next time."

Sen. Grant Burgoyne (D-Boise), who cast his vote against the bill, expressed his dissatisfaction with the time spent in development of the legislation and the fact that the public never had the chance to weigh in on the proposal.

"Now it falls to us to decide on that bill and on its merits and whether the best that the process could yield is good enough," he said, "and I think that I can't know that until the people who will pay this tax have a chance to chime in on it, and they don't have that chance."

Not everyone is happy

The bill also did not meet muster for Sen. Marv Hagedorn (R-Meridian).

"Ladies and gentleman, we have failed," he said, "We have failed this legislative session, and we have failed the last 10 legislative sessions to tackle this problem ... This bill brings us less money than we need to cover the debt service on our GARVEE expenditures.

"We are not raising enough money to do the maintenance on our roads."

Sen. Jim Guthrie (R-McCammon) "reluctantly" cast his vote in favor of the bill.

"I have a concern about the lack of cost-share with the locals," Guthrie said in explaining his vote, "(the) potential to use a great deal of general fund dollars, the unknown and unstable nature of the suite (surplus eliminator) component of the bill, which I don't think lends itself to good planning. It sunsets in two years, so in a sense we are kicking the can down the road, and finally we've waited three months and now find ourselves dealing with a very condensed timeline in a very late hour and I don't believe that's a good strategy for passing a 95- to possibly 140-milliondollar piece of legislation and it frustrates me to be backed into this corner with this bill."

Senate Majority Leader Bart Davis (R-Idaho Falls) expressed his sympathy for senators with concerns but laid out the Legislature's situation.

"You're about to have a motion to adjourn *sine die*. There isn't going to be a tomorrow to vote on it," Davis said, "so you can stand on the principles ... but at the end of the day you walk away with nothing."

The bill passed in the Senate, 26-9, and in the House, 51-19.

Owyhee 4-H'ers kick off horse year with judging event

The Owyhee County 4-H Horse members picked up awards during a horse judging event in Canyon County.

Members judged various classes of judging included: horses and gave oral reasons. Junior I - 1

In order to excel in the oral reasons.

available after fair project enrollment ends on July 15.

Results from the Canyon County udging included:

Junior I — 1. Audrie Miller, Pony Express: 2 Gene Showalter Silver Spurs 3. Llee Loucks, Silver Spurs; 4. Kate Hipwell, Outlaws; 5. Emma Nelson, Ruff Riders; 6. Julianna Clair, Ruff Riders Junior II — 1. Fallon Wasson, Ruff Riders; 2. Karly Griggs, Silver Spurs Intermediate — 1. Cheylah Volkers, Wilson Butte; 2. Madison Shields-McLeish, Dust Devils; 3. Jaiden Vincent, Dust Devils: 4. Annie Miller. Pony Express; 5. Halie Workman, Outlaws; 6. Montana Wasson, Ruff Riders Senior — 1. Janey Clay, Ruff Riders; 2. Morgan Monson, Wilson Butte; 3. Jaycee Engle, Outlaws: 4. Warren Dallev, Ruff Riders: 5. Samantha Woods. Dust Devils: 6. Tanner Fisher, Wilson Butte



portion of the judging, participants must present an organized statement that compares the horses judged by the member. Oral reasoning statements must be clearly stated in proper terms and must justify the placings assigned by the member.

County horse leaders point out that oral reasoning is a challenge beacuse members have to remember how and why they placed the class the way they did.

Owyhee County 4-H members spend many hours practicing, and reviewing in preparation for the judging event. Leaders say judging is a valuable skill that will help members during their lives in different decision-making situations.

The county 4-H Horse program currently has 38 members enrolled. Debbie Titus with the Owyhee County University of Idaho Extension Office in Marsing said a final number for the program will be **Other participants** — Riley Workman, Hannah Moos, Carter Clay, Katelyn Workman, Amber Allen, Kari Woods, Treylan Fisher, Jesse Hay-Smith, Caitlyn Line and Sydnee Murphy.

Owyhee County's 4-H Horse competitors gather for a group shot during the judging event held in Canyon County. Submitted photo

Commentary

Baxter Black, DVM

On the edge of common sense

Cow psychologist

"Doc, I've got a heifer that just had a calf. She's not accepting it very well. Can I bring her in for psycowlogical counseling?"

It all started with that call from the worried cowman. My veterinary specialty of cow psycowlogy has gained popularity since my article appeared. It was titled <u>Paranoia</u> <u>in Dairy Cows</u> (Doctor, somebody's always tryin' to take something from me!) I let the heifer get comfortable on the straw.

"Now, Miss Bo ..."

"Call me Char."

"Char, tell me why you feel uncomfortable with your new calf."

"It reminds me of my past."

"How did you and your mother get along?"

"Same as any cow-calf pair, I guess. Although she was pretty high in the peckin' order. It put a lot of pressure on me to achieve."

"Like at the branding. I had to be first! Unfortunately, they let the local banker and the vet rope first. Took forever!

"I remember when I first got my horns. A lot of other heifers hadn't started growing horns yet. They were jealous. It wasn't my fault the bull calves thought I was attractive.

"But everything turned sour when they ear-tagged me! Yellow! Can you believe it, yellow! I've never been so embarrassed!

"Then I got a 104 temperature! I felt so left out. I was hospitalized, intravenous injections and everything!

"Finally last spring I met this bull. We made plans. He had a future, had cute rounds, too! I was blind to what was going on around me. I didn't believe the rumors that he'd been seen with other heifers. Then it was too late!

"I had a tough gestation, morning sickness, strange cravings for mint silage and bone meal. Then I had little Billy.

"I don't know, I guess, I'm just depressed. Is this all there is to life ... eat grass, have a calf?"

"Char," I said, "You're a cow. You've got to accept it. You'll never run in the Kentucky Derby or hunt pheasant. You'll never dance on stage or sing like Miranda.

"Be satisfied with the bovine things you do well."

She looked at me and nodded, "Yeah, I guess you're right, Doctor," And she left.

As I reflected on Char and my unique veterinary

Jon P. Brown, managing editor

Eyes on Owyhee Compassionate capitalists

The compassion that Owyhee County citizens have for other life forms was on full display last week.

The caring goes beyond the human race when it comes to what local folks will do to pay it forward, but in the end all the hard work reaps rewards for the citizens of the county and those people who come to the county to enjoy its natural beauty.

Rancher Dave Tindall has had his share of heartache recently. His wife, Celia, lost her valiant fight with cancer last year.

But Tindall is one of those hardy Owyheeans who keeps on fighting.

Nowadays, he's pouring his energy into continuing the Bruneau Canyon 4-H club that had become synonymous with his wife. Club members recently collected nearly \$1,500 in their ongoing wooden pallet recycling program. The money will help the club continue its community service efforts.

But, like many of his fellow ranchers at last week's Idaho Range Livestock Symposium in Marsing, Dave Tindall also has an eye on his cattle operation.

While the bottom line in any business is making money, ranchers are a unique mix of capitalist and conservationist. Most folks probably figure that those two ilks can't cross paths because of general social labels affixed to both species.

But cattle ranchers are the original conservationists because preserving the land can help their capitalist side by improving the grasses on which their money-makers graze. And, in the case of public lands ranchers, good management can keep the Bureau of Land Management at bay and allow the cattlemen to continue their good work.

Tindall now is trying to work with Fish and Game officials on both sides of the Idaho-Nevada border to ensure that the burgeoning elk herd that roams pastures managed by he and his neighbors remains healthy while also reducing the animals' threat to the resource.

Yes, Virginia, it is possible for a cattleman to care about other four-legged critters.

Contrary to popular liberal thought, ranchers make some of the best conservationists. Look at Donna Bennett and Jerry Hoagland.

Both Owyhee County ranchers have done their part — and then some — to ensure the Greater Sage-Grouse population will thrive in Owyhee County and, by extension, other areas of the Great Basin.

Their efforts both as ranchers and as members of county groups (Hoagland as District 1 county commissioner and Bennett as the chair of the Owyhee Local Working Group for sage-grouse conservation) are a big reason why the states have been given the keys to drive the conservation objective that everyone hopes will keep the bird off the Endangered Species list.

— See Capitalists, Page 19

Sen. Mike Crapo

From Washington Preparedness essential when facing emergencies

As a Boy Scout, I grew up with the motto of "Be Prepared." As an adult, this enduring phrase is all the more meaningful. Thinking through and developing plans for emergency situations, including natural disasters or wildfires, can help with a timely recovery when problems arise. A number of resources and recommendations are available to help us get through and bounce back from tough situations.

Putting together an emergency supply kit is encouraged to prepare for disasters such as fire and storms. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recommends including the following items in a basic emergency supply kit: One gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation; at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food; battery-powered or hand-crank radio; flashlight and extra batteries; first aid kit; whistle to signal for help; dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place; moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties; wrench or pliers to turn off utilities; can opener; and local maps. FEMA provides recommendations on additional items to consider adding to an emergency supply kit at www.ready.gov. Families are also encouraged to prepare communication, shelter-in-place and getaway plans. Recognizing that family members may be in different places when an emergency occurs and that it may be easier to make long-distance calls, FEMA recommends consideration of "a plan where each family member calls, or emails, the same friend or relative in the event of an emergency." Additionally, the agency suggests preparing a getaway plan that includes several destinations in different directions and arrangements for assembling your loved ones. Emergency personnel also recommends staying informed of potential area-specific

threats. Information about potential emergencies, including information about signing up for emergency alerts, can also be accessed through www.ready.gov.

Additionally, we know that wildfires are going to continue to be a threat to Idaho communities. A number of resources, including some provided by the National Interagency Fire Center, are available that provide recommendations of ways homeowners can increase the chances of their homes surviving a wildfire. The U.S. Fire Administration and FEMA also suggest steps to take when a wildfire is immediately threatening your home. These include listening to a battery-operated radio for evacuation information, backing your car into your garage or in an open space facing the direction of escape, making plans for pet care, arranging temporary housing with friends or family outside of the threatened area, wearing protective clothing, taking your disaster supplies kit with you and much more. Being prepared for emergency situations can make a significant difference to families faced with natural disasters and other critical incidents. Steps such as having prescription medications accessible when cut off from pharmacies and other resources for periods of time can be instrumental in maintaining health and safety during difficult times. Hopefully, we will never need to utilize the plans and supplies prepared for emergencies. However, it does not hurt to plan for the worst. Establishing plans now can make an immense difference during urgent situations.





specialty, I realized how lucky I was to have a job that was so satisfying and so easy.

Yup, the world would be a kinder, gentler place if everyone had the IQ of a cow.

— Visit Baxter's Web site at www.baxterblack.com for more features and to purchase Baxter Black merchandise.

Election letters

The Owyhee Avalanche will accept letters to the editor pertaining to the May 19 elections until noon on Friday, May 8. The usual letters to the editor guidelines apply, including letters must be no more than 300 words and letters must include contact information, including a phone number, of the letter-writer. Submit by:

• Email to jon@owyheeavalanche.com

• Fax to (208) 337-4867

• Mail to P.O. Box 97, Homedale ID, 83628

• Or drop off at the Avalanche office at 19 E. Idaho Ave., in Homedale

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

- Republican Mike Crapo is Idaho's senior member of the U.S. Senate. He 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 Big-time gymnastics training impedes financial peace

Dear Dave,

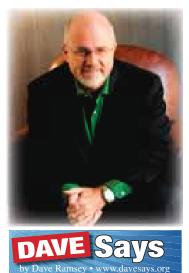
We have two girls in competitive gymnastics, and it's costing \$12,000 to \$15,000 a year at a professional gym to do all this. My wife and I both work, and we make about \$115,000 a year, but virtually all of her income goes toward paying the gymnastics bill. We're also trying to get out of debt and get better control of our money at the same time. Should we focus more on our finances right now?

Dear Jim.

If I were in your shoes, I'd be asking myself *why* the kids are in gymnastics. Unless you guys are trying to send them to the Olympics — and they're actually good enough to reach that level — teaching them things like discipline and to master their bodies through physical training can be done at a local amateur level. And at a much lower cost.

My son played ice hockey in local leagues for years when he was growing up. We did it as a family thing, and he had lots of fun and we all made great new friends. He even played some in high school, too, but he wasn't NHL material or anything like that. It didn't change his life that he didn't play on a traveling team or with professional trainers, so we had to ask ourselves, "What will it matter when he's 30 years old?"

You make good money, so that's not really the big issue. If you guys made \$50,000 or less, I'd be yelling at you. But with your income, the gymnastics thing probably isn't going to slow you down too much when it comes to getting your financial house in order. In other words, it's a parental thing. Ask yourself why you're investing so heavily in this,



and what the goal is when they're adults. I think that will help you make the smart decision.

— Dave

Dear Dave,

My husband and I have been living bicoastal since October.

He found a great job with great pay in Charlottesville, Va., after graduation, and we both agreed he couldn't pass it up. I'm still in Portland with a good marketing job making \$50,000 a year. We're trying to get out of debt. If I join him now, I won't have a job and we won't pay off our debt as quickly. But being apart is so difficult. Should I go ahead and make the move now?

— Danielle

Dear Danielle,

If he's making great money, and you guys can make it on one salary while you look for another job, then I'd say go for it. There are things in life that are more important than money, getting out of debt in a certain amount of time, or a particular job.

Have you talked to your company about the possibility of doing your job remotely? If that's not possible, maybe you could do some consulting on a remote basis. Even if you weren't a traditional employee, they might float some projects your way.

Talk to them about these ideas, and start shopping for a position in Charlottesville. It's a university community, if I remember correctly, so there are probably lots of opportunities in your field.

Go be with your husband, Danielle. You guys have been apart way too long already!

— Dave

— Dave Ramsey has authored five New York Times best-selling books. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 8.5 million listeners each week on more than 550 radio stations. Dave's latest project, EveryDollar, provides a free online budget tool. Follow Dave on Twitter at @DaveRamsey and on the web at daveramsey.com.

Americans for Limited Government High number of job openings could foretell economic stall

by Robert Romano

— Jim

You're a slacker!

That is Heritage Foundation economist Stephen Moore's apparent take on young people failing to enter the workforce — reminiscent of the depiction of Principal Strickland in *Back to the Future* — writing an op-ed in The Washington Times, "Young Americans opting out of workforce."

In it, Moore points to declining labor participation by young people at the same time job openings are plentiful. The question is why?

"The labor-force participation rate is falling fastest among workers under 30," Moore writes, noting "negative attitudes toward blue-collar work," and young people graduating college without "basic" and "useful" skills.

There are plenty of jobs for "skilled and reliable mechanics, welders, engineers, electricians, plumbers, computer technicians and nurses," Moore said, but he adds young people are not taking those jobs apparently because they don't want to.

What Moore does not tell you is that the employmentpopulation ratio for those aged 25 to 34 is as high as it was in 1986, at 76.8 percent. It peaked in 2000 at close to 82 percent and again in 2007 near 80 percent before it percent in December 2009 — slackers! — it has rebounded to its current level.

So, did 25- to 34-year-olds become less ambitious right at the same time the worst recession since the Great Depression occurred?

No, because this followed the same trend as 35- to 44-year-olds and 45- to 54-year-olds. More slackers, apparently. On the margins, 25- to 34-year-olds were no less likely to participate in the workforce as their older counterparts. Meaning, whatever the problem is, it is not unique to younger Americans.

Most of the drop-off in young people with jobs actually occurred in the 16- to 24-year-old demographic, from about a 54 percent employment-population ratio in 2007 to less than 45 percent by 2010. And the decline was not because they weren't signing up to be mechanics or electricians.

What Moore does not mention is that this is not at all unusual for young people in the periods that follow big recessions.

The employment-population ratios of 16- to 24-year_olds took by far the biggest hits in the recessions of the early 1980s, 1991, 2001, and 2007 through 2009. The number of jobs in this age group tended to drop by about 6 percent on average for each recession, compared to about 3.5 percent for 25- to

Why, it's almost as if during recessions, those youngest and with the least experience are the first people to be laid off.

Finally, Moore cites a high demand for blue-collar labor today, but fails to mention that demand for labor is up pretty much across the board, according to data compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey, which shows nearly 5 million job openings nationwide.

Moore also fails to note that the trend of job openings is cyclical. Previous peaks occurred in March 2007 at 4.66 million, and in January 2001 at 5.3 million.

All of which has nothing to do with a lack of ambition to work in blue-collar jobs. If anything, the number of job openings today could be a flashing light warning of an overheating economy.

So, it might be fashionable to chide younger people for being lackadaisical — when is that not fashionable? — and yet it ignores some of the important indicators of what labor markets are really telling us right now.

Namely, that young people and everyone else have barely begun to recover from the last recession, and it looks like the whole thing is about to pop again.

- Robert Romano is the senior editor of Americans for

slumped in the Great Recession. After bottoming at 73.7 34-year-olds, and less than 2 percent for everyone else. *Limited Government*.

$\sqrt{\text{Capitalists: Contrary to liberal belief, cattlemen care about the resource}$

From Page 18

I recently read on a radical conservationist message board (researching the good work done by Idaho U.S. Rep. Raul Labrador, folks) some views that actually blamed public lands ranchers for the decline of the western landscape. Those who posted in the days after the Grazing Improvement Act passed in December were irate about the natural resources-related items that were included in the omnibus bill.

It was pretty obvious that none of these people have taken the time to visit Idaho or most any other western state with rangeland to examine just exactly what cattlemen are up to.

Ranchers were blamed for all natural resource shortcomings in the West almost in a reflexive way. And,

yes, Labrador and other Idaho politicians were slammed for codifying policies to help keep those ranchers in business.

It's an old saw, but it's one that bears repeating: If cows aren't on the range to keep the fuel loads down, who will stop the massive fires that most assuredly will follow after lightning strikes or a careless ATV rider out for drive in hot, dry conditions on a range that hasn't been managed other than another motorized vehicle tearing through the brush (and likely setting a blaze because of its hot muffler or the lack of a spark arrestor).

I guess they don't call them trail blazers for nothing. Fortunately, it seems that common sense may be trickling into the proceedings.

The Grazing Improvement Act, although bundled in

a bill that went against Labrador's principles, is a step in the right direction to help ranchers continue their compassionate approach to capitalism.

Ranchers are feeding the world and also helping preserve the resource for those folks who want to enjoy nature while perhaps enjoying a picnic with beef as the centerpiece.

It really is symbiotic when you take a rational view of it.

Without the resource, there would be no ranchers. Without the ranchers, there would be no resource.

Get out and enjoy the resource responsibly, and if you happen to come across a rancher, be courteous to his craft and his cows.

If you get a chance, shake his hand and thank him for the role he plays in preserving Idaho's natural beauty.

Looking back...

from the files of The Owyhee Avalanche and Owyhee Chronicle

25 years ago

April 18, 1990

Jacksons makes donation

John Jackson, president of Jacksons Food Stores, presented a check for \$2,716.00 to Homedale school superintendent Ed Marshall during last Tuesday's Homedale Chamber of Commerce meeting. The check represents a one-cent-per-gallon donation from gasoline sales at the local store, and is to go towards an all-weather track at the school athletic field.

Teacher named "Champion of Classroom"

Homedale has its first designated "Champion of the Classroom." Mary Jo Pottenger, a veteran mathematics teacher at the secondary level, won the honor and \$2,500 after she was selected one of the 100 outstanding teachers of math, science or computer science in the nation by the Tandy Technology Scholars program.

She was the only teacher in Idaho to win the recognition, which included a two-page spread in USA Today featuring her photograph and that of the other 99 winners. Also pictured were 100 outstanding students in the nation in the math-science-computer field, all of whom won \$1,000 scholarships.

In announcing the awards, the organization noted, "Many of the challenges that face our nation will be conquered by great minds in math, science and computer science. The Tandy Technology Scholars program, funded by Tandy Corporation and administered by Texas Christian University, promotes academic excellence in these areas by rewarding outstanding achievement.

"By declaring Champions of the Classroom rather than of the playing field, we hope to motivate outstanding students and teachers across the country to strive for the excellence that exists within themselves ..."

Trojans shut out Fruitland 4-0; lose to Payette 12-8

An Idaho Statesman sportswriter in Boise took a fresh look at Homedale's baseball team yesterday after the Trojans shut out Fruitland Saturday, 4-0, and banged multiple hits off Marty Henry, the talented Fruitland pitcher the Statesman has been hurrahing and the Big Leagues have been scouting.

But the favorable publicity given the Trojans on the Boise sports pages did not help to ward off their first defeat of the season, 12-8, to Payette on Monday night. The loss left the locals 8-1 going into yesterday's game against Marsing, with results posted too late to report here. The team plays Wilder here tomorrow and goes against Melba here Tuesday.

The Payette crusher Monday came as a shock after the oh, so perfect, game results the Trojans have been chalking up, i.e.: a 7-1 win over Melba April 9; an 11-7 win over Parma April 10; and the sweet comfort of the Fruitland mound-decker.

Then came the ice cream game Saturday in which Trojan pitcher Tony Uranga, a freshman, swatted three hits and struck out six in his crucial duel with Henry. His industrious teammates, meantime, the young Messrs. Chris Hoshaw, Josh Hays and Kevin Alambra, helped out a bunch slugging triples, while Brad Dines banged out a double.

50 years ago

April 15, 1965

Mrs. Hutchins to head Improvement Club

Mrs. Marion Hutchins was elected president of the Improvement Club at a meeting held Friday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Fay Orr. Mrs. Christine Keith was elected vice president. Re-elected were Mrs. Orr, secretary; and Mrs. Grace Colley, treasurer.

Members decided to put a railing on the library steps and discussed a sandwich sale. Mrs. Orr gave a book report.

Tea and wafers were served to the 15 members and guests present. The next meeting will be June 18 at the home of Mrs. Verda Johnston.

Ambulance news

Ambulance Chief Johnny Shanley announced this week that two new drivers were voted in as new members at the last meeting of the ambulance drivers. They are Owen Stewart and Gail Tuttle.

Roy J. Winn serving on USS Ashtabula

Storekeeper Seaman Roy J. Winn, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph T. Winn, Grand View, is serving aboard the fleet oiler USS Ashtabula, taking part in the U.S. First Fleet training operation "Tee Shot" being conducted off the coast of Southern California April 3-8.

Chroniclings

Chronicle employees feel like orphans this week with the Old Scooper and the Missus gone on vacation to warmer climes...

Virginia Cook thinks herself lucky to get out of Succor Creek canyon last week — even if it was at the end of a rope...

Brown grass turned to green during the past week from the first irrigation and warm rains...

Succor Crik Sam Sez: "My heads still achin' from them income tax figgers."

Owyhee Co. students enrolled at Pocatello

Ten students from Owyhee County are enrolled at Idaho State University, Pocatello, this semester. The total enrollment this term is 3,830 students, a record for the spring semester.

The Owyhee County students are Donald J. Glidden and John Ray Sellman, Bruneau; Linda Kay Beaman and Laurie F. Burghardt, Grand View; Julie Ann Egurrola, Homedale; Doug Elliott Baalson, Fredrick G. Bicandi, Dennis W. Kincheloe, Harold Takeshi Nakano and Robert J. Walker, all of Marsing.

Trojans score 6-0 win over Kuna Tuesday

Homedale and Kuna might as well have stopped the ballgame after the first inning of play when the Trojans scored all their runs to take a 6-0 Snake River Valley B league win over the Kavemen Tuesday, April 13, on the Homedale field. Rod Hays led off the first with a single and then Johnstone, Carl Hays and Jim Townsend all hit back-toback triples to give Homedale three runs. Rick Kushlan added another single later in the inning to give the Trojans five hits during their big first. Carl Hays went the distance and claimed the win while Eric Lowe took the loss for Kuna. It was the Trojans' first win in conference play (1-1) while Kuna is 1-2.

140 years ago

April 17, 1875

BLOOD. A duel is said to be imminent between two young men of Silver City. We believe the difficulty originated in a dispute as to which of them should buckle on a certain young lady's skates at the Rink last Saturday night. Nothing but blood will satisfy them. It don't matter much to the young lady which of her admirers is killed, as she "can be happy with either," were t'other dear charmer away.

THE IDAHO HOTEL is undergoing some internal repairs and improvements. A new apartment is being fitted up and furnished in choice style, which is intended, we believe, to be used as a bridal chamber. There is a rusty old bachelor bossing the job who it is rumored will enjoy the honor with his bride of using the chamber first and getting it adapted to newly married folks.

CAPT. BLEDSOE, of Wells, Fargo & Co's Express favored us with a call last evening. He was en route to Boise. The Captain is one of the most faithful and energetic employees of that concern, and his numerous friends along the route over which he travels will be glad when the time comes for promoting him to a better position.

ODD FELLOWS' CELEBRATION. The approaching anniversary of the establishment of Odd Fellowship in America will be duly celebrated in Silver City. An oration will be delivered on the occasion by Prof. Butler. Other features of the programme will be announced in a few days. The Order embraces many members here to who its history is quite familiar. The first Lodge in this country was, we believe, organized in Baltimore in 1819. The original society which existed in the old country was known as the "Ancient and Honorable Loyal Odd Fellows." Their meetings then were principally for revival purposes and it was their practice thus early to lay aside a certain sum every week for the benefit of widows and orphans. The latter is now the leading characteristic of the Order and has made it famed and respected throughout the world. It has been denuded of its convivial character, although members are bound together by strong ties. There are now more than five thousand Lodges in this country, and each Lodge will average a membership of sixty of thereabouts.

"WHAT WOULD SILVER CITY be without the Avalanche?" Modesty prohibits us from giving a proper answer to the question. We know that there are many persons who would sooner live on one meal a day than be without their favorite journal. This speaks volumes on behalf of their good taste and judgment.

GONE TO CALIFORNIA. We are now a grass widower, Mrs. Avalanche having bundled up her baby and taken her departure for California by yesterday's stage. She will visit relatives and friends in Merced City, Plainsburg, San Jose, Oakland and San Francisco, expecting to return to Silver City sometime next June. Her old maid sister, Miss Tallula Peck, is keeping house for us and nothing has yet occurred to mar the harmony of the household, except a few scratches and a little hair-pulling concerning who should get up and build fires in the morning. It seems a little odd not to be called up last night to break our shins by stumbling over half a dozen chairs in the search for the paregoric bottle. But we hope soon to become accustomed to a quiet life, and, if we can persuade "aunt Lu" to make fires in the morning and let us sleep till breakfast is ready, we shall be happy.

Rangelands improving, BLM says

Public rangelands today are in better shape than ever before in this century, according to Bureau of Land Management Directory Cy Jamison.

Jamison's announcement is based on a report prepared for Secretary of the Interior Manuel Lajan. The report, titled "The Range of our Vision," also notes that the condition of the 87 percent of BLM public rangeland in 10 western states cam be categorized as "stable to improving."

"Public rangeland in what has been called good to excellent condition has doubled from under 16 percent in 1936 to 33 percent in 1989," Jamison said. "The percentage in what has been called poor condition has declined from over 36 percent to 16 percent during the same time, the lowest it's ever been."

Homedale locals

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Ellis of Nampa were dinner guests Wednesday evening in the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Barnett.

Mrs. Warren Cassens and son Mike, Idaho Falls, were guests Friday evening in the home of Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Barnett. Mrs. Cassens left Saturday morning for Brownlee Dam, where her husband is employed.

Mrs. Jim Winslow of Caldwell spent Monday visiting her mother, Mrs. Owen Stewart and Kelly.

IDAHO TERRITORY yields as choice fruit as can be found anywhere on the globe, and all who are the fortunate possessors of orchards bid fair this season to have a bonanza that will add to their happiness.

AMONG the recent sojourners at the War Eagle Hotel are, W. Mayes of Colorado, T. Crowley and M. Quirk of South Mountain, Joe Jemmison, Geo. Hicks and other prominent citizens of Fairview.

ublic notices

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On July 23, 2015 at the hour of 11:00AM, of said day, on the steps of the Owyhee County Courthouse located at 20381 State Highway 78, Murphy, ID 83650.

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

A parcel of land being a portion of the SE Quarter of Section 16, T5S, R3E, B.M., Owyhee County, Idaho, said parcel being more particularly described under Record of Survey Instrument Number 247412, records of the Owyhee County Recorder, Murphy, Idaho, said parcel being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the Aluminum Cap marking the 1/4 corner common to Sections 16 and 15, T5S, R3E, B.M., Owyhee County, Idaho; thence

S.00°13'00"E. 2660.71 feet to the Brass Cap marking the corner common to said Sections 16 and 15, and Sections 22 and 21; thence,

N.02°38'56"W. 1330.53 feet to an iron pin on the West right of way line of State Highway No. 67, and the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence along the following courses and distances to iron pins:

S.88°44'31"W. 987.37 feet; thence

N.00°19'30"E. 330.79 feet; thence,

N.88°49'07"E. 36.00 feet; thence

S.58°26'54"E. 26.69 feet; thence.

N.88°35'24"E. 904.74 feet to said West right of way line of State Highway No. 67; thence along said right of way the following courses and distances to iron pins:

S.00°09'14"E. 18.22 feet to a point of spiral curve; thence along a 2°30' spiral curve,

S.00°59'40"E. 101.74 feet to a point of curve; thence along a curve to the left, said curve having a delta of 01°41'41", a radius of 1185.92 feet and a long chord of 35.08 feet which bears

S.03°30'04"E. to a point of spiral curve; thence along a 2°30' spiral curve, S.06°00'29"E.

POINT OF BEGINNING.

THE TRUSTEE HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF A MORE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION OF THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED REAL PROPERTY, BUT FOR PURPOSES OF COMPLIANCE WITH IDAHO CODE, SECTION 60-113, THE TRUSTEE HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT THE STREET ADDRESS OF: 608 Roosevelt, Grand View, ID 83624, MAY SOMETIMES BE ASSOCIATED WITH SAID REAL PROPERTY.

Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the deed of trust executed by Albert L McGee Jr. and Patricia A McGee, husband and wife, as Grantor to Alliance Title & Escrow Corp., as successor Trustee, for the benefit and security of Kathy S Knight and Bennie L Stauffer as Beneficiary, recorded April 15, 2004 as Instrument No. 247443, Mortgage records of Owyhee County, Idaho. THE ABOVE GRANTORS ARE NAMED TO **COMPLY WITH SECTION 45-**1506(4)(a), IDAHO CODE. NO REPRESENTATION IS MADE THAT THEY ARE, OR ARE NOT, PRESENTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS OBLIGATION

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

Make principal and interest payments as set forth on said Deed of Trust and Promissory Note. The original loan amount was \$175,000.00 together with interest thereon at the rate of 6.0% per annum, as evidenced in Promissory Note dated April 13, 2004. Payments are in default for the months of April 2014 through and including February 2015 in the amount of \$1,476.75 per month and continuing each and every month thereafter until date of sale or reinstatement. The principal balance as of February 25, 2015 is \$61,526.81 together with accrued and accruing interest thereon at the rate of 6.0% per annum plus default interest at the rate of 5.00% per annum. The per diem is \$18.5423. In addition to the above, there is also due delinquent real property taxes for 2011, 2012, 2013 and part of 2014, together with penalty and interest, and any other real property taxes that may become delinquent during this foreclosure, any late charges, advances, escrow collection fees, attorney fees, fees or costs associated with this

foreclosure. The balance owing as of this date on the obligation secured by said deed of trust is \$61,526.81, excluding interest, costs and interest, the performance of which S.06°50'55"E. 62.44 feet to the expenses actually incurred in is secured by said trust deed, or including reasonable charges by

NOTICE OF FEE INCREASES

The Homedale Jt. School District #370, Canyon and Owyhee Counties, proposes to increase the following fee by an amount that exceeds one hundred five percent (105%) of the fee charged last year. The proposed percentage increase of the fees is listed below.

	Current (2014-15)	Next Year (2015-16)	Percent
Fee	Fee	Fee	Increase
Elementary Lunch	\$1.50	\$1.60	6.67%
M.S. & H.S. Lunch	\$1.75	\$1.85	5.72%

This fee is being increased due to Federal Regulations

All citizens are invited to attend a public hearing on the increased fees request. The hearing will be held on May 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Homedale School District Board Room, 116 East Owyhee, Homedale, Idaho

Faith K. Olsen, Business Manager 4/15,22/15

enforcing the obligations thereunder or in this sale, as trustee's fees and/or reasonable attorney's fees as authorized in the promissory note secured by the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

Dated: March 23, 2015

Alliance Title & Escrow Corp., By: Melissa Ambriz, Trust Officer, Phone 877-947-1553 File No.: 261757 / Customer Ref No. 10900110030440

This communication is on behalf of a debt collector and is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose. 4/1,8,15,22/15

TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE

Reference is made to that certain trust deed made by Luis R Oliveira, a married man, as grantor, to Lawyers Title as trustee, in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. (MERS), solely as nominee for Aegis Wholesale Corporation, as beneficiary, dated April 4, 2006, recorded April 11, 2006, in the mortgage records of Owyhee County, Idaho, as Document No. 255929, and assigned to Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as Trustee for Residential Accredit Loans, Inc., Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-QS5 by assignment recorded on April 30, 2013 in the records of Owyhee County, Idaho, as Document No. 280796, covering the following described real property situated in said county and state, to wit:

LOTS 6, 7, 8 OF BLOCK 81 OF THE HOMEDALE TOWNSITE AS SHOWN ON THE AMENDED PLAT THEREOF FILED AUGUST 9, 1911 AS NO. 7284 ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO.

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 102/112 East Wyoming Avenue, Homedale, ID 83628

There is a default by the grantor or other person owing an obligation or by their successor in by their successor in interest, with respect to provisions therein which authorize sale in the event of default of such provision. The default for which foreclosure is made is grantors' failure to pay when due the following sums: monthly payments beginning February 1, 2013 through February 1, 2015 in the total amount of \$18,972.91; together with title expense, costs, trustee's fees and attorney's fees incurred herein by reason of said default; any further sums advanced by the beneficiary for the protection of the above described real property and its interest therein; and prepayment penalties/premiums, if applicable.

By reason of said default, the beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by said trust deed immediately due and payable, said sums being the following, to wit: \$84,794.67 with interest thereon at the rate of 7.37500 percent per annum beginning January 1, 2013; plus escrow advances of \$2,915.46; plus other fees and costs of \$1,384.00; together with title expense, costs, trustee's fees and attorney's fees incurred herein by reason of said default; any further sums advanced by the beneficiary for the protection of the above described property and its interest therein; and prepayment penalties/ premiums, if applicable.

WHEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the undersigned trustee will on July 24, 2015, at the hour of 11:00 AM, at Owyhee County Courthouse Lobby, 20381 Highway 78, Murphy, ID 83650, in the City of Murphy, County of Owyhee, State of Idaho, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the interest in the real property described above, which the grantor had or had power to convey at the time of the execution by grantor of the trust deed together with any interest which the grantor or grantor's successors in interest acquired after the execution of the trust deed, to satisfy the foregoing obligations thereby secured and the costs and expenses of the sale,

the trustee.

In construing this notice, the singular includes the plural, the word "grantor" includes any successor in interest to the grantor as well as any other person owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by the trust deed, and the words "trustee" and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any

Robinson Tait, P.S., 710 Second Ave, Suite 710, Seattle, WA 98104

4/8.15.22.29/15

The following application has been filed to appropriate the public waters of the State of Idaho:

2-10512

JACOB BARNETT, CANDI BARNETT, 9395 FISHPOND LN, MELBA, ID 83641

Point of Diversion L1(SENE) S21 T01N R03W OWYHEE County Source SNAKE RIVER Tributary COLUMBIA RIVER

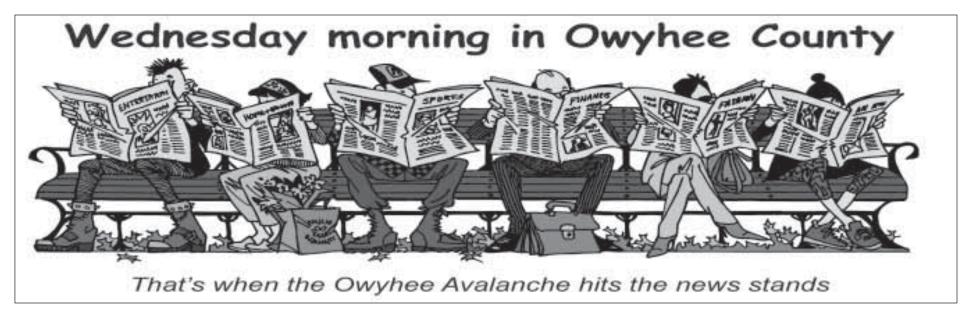
Use: IRRIGATION 03/01 to 11/15 0.15 CFS Total Diversion: 0.15 CFS Date Filed: 2/24/2015 Place of Use: IRRIGATION T01N R03W S21 L1(SENE) Total Acres: 5

Permits will be subject to all prior water rights. For additional information concerning the property location, contact Western Region office at (208) 334-2190; or for a full description of the right(s), please see www.idwr. idaho.gov/WaterManagement/ WaterRights/#New Listings. Protests may be submitted based on the criteria of Idaho Code § 42-203A. Any protest against the approval of this application 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 5/4/2015. The protestant must also send a copy of the protest to the applicant.

GARY SPACKMAN, Director

101.74 feet to a point of tangent; thence.

4/15,22/15



PAGE 22

Owyhee County Church Directory

	Golden Gate Baptist Church Wilder 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	Our Lady of Tears Church Silver City For more information, call St. Paul's Church, Nampa 466-7031
Iglesia Misionera Biblica Homedale Pastor Silverio Cardenas Jr. 132 W Owyhee • 337-5975 Servicios: Vier - 7pm - Oracion Mier - 7pm Predicacion Dom - 10am Esc. Dom y 6:30pm "Una Iglesia Diferente."	Knight Community Church Grand View Pastor Ivan Shetler 630 Idaho Street 208-834-2639 Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am	Crossroads Assembly of God Wilder Pastors Ron & Martha Hwy 19 & 95, 890-9132 Sunday School 10am Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am Sunday Evening Worship 6pm Wed. Bible Study 7pm
Assembly of God Church Homedale 15 West Montana, 337-4458 Sunday School 9:30am Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am Sunday Evening Service 6:00pm Wed. Bible Study 7:00pm	Friends Community Church Wilder - Homedale 17434 Hwy 95, 337-3464 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Services: 10:45 am Sundays Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 5:30 pm Wednesday CLC: 3:15 pm	Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church Caldwell 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
Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church Homedale 337-4248 Sunday Services 10am Pastor Sean Rippey Adult and Children Sunday School 9-9:45am Visitors Always Welcome! Call Church for Prayer requests	Chapel of Hope Hope House, Marsing Look for the Blue Church South Bruneau Hwy at the Hope House Welcoming Families, especially those with special needs children. Keith Croft, Pastor 880-2767 Jake & Alisha Henrioulle, Youth Pastors 761-6747 Sunday Services at 10 am	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Homedale 708 West Idaho Ave 337-4112 Bishop Travis Kraupp Bishop Robert T. Christensen Sunday 1st Ward 1pm Sunday 2nd Ward 9am
Homedale Baptist Church Homedale 212 S. 1st W. 841-0190 Sunday School 10am-11am Sunday Worship 11am-Noon Wednesday Evening 7pm Pastor James Huls	Wilder Church of God Wilder 205 A St. E, 469-7698 Pastor Ray Gerthung Sunday School 9:45am Sunday Service 11am Sunday Eve. 6:00pm Wed. Eve. 7:00pm	Mountain View Church of the Nazarene Wilder-Homedale 26515 Ustick Road 337-3151 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:30 Adult & Youth Bible Class: Wednesday 7:00 pm Children's Caravan Program
MARSING APOSTOLIC ASSEMBLY 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	Iglesia Evangelica Wilder 317 3rd st., Pastor Ramiro Reyes 10 am Sunday School 11 am Service 482-7484 Bilingual	St. David's Episcopal Church 1800 Arlington Ave. Caldwell, ID 83605 208-459-9261 stdavids@stdavidscaldwell.org www.stdavid.episcopalidaho.org
Christian Church Homedale 110 W. Montana, 337-3626 Pastor Maurice Jones Sunday Morning Worship 11am Church school 9:45	Bible Missionary Church Homedale West Idaho, 337-3425 Pastor Ron Franklin Sunday School 10am Worship 11am Sunday Evening 7pm Wednesday Evening 7:30	Assembly of God Church Marsing 139 Kerry, 965-1650 Pastor Rick Sherrow Sunday School 10am Sunday Worship 11am & 6 pm
Lizard Butte Baptist Church Marsing Pastor David London 116 4th Ave. W., 859-2059 Sunday worship: Morning: 11am-Noon• Evening: 6-7pm Sunday school 10 am-10:55am Wednesday evening 6pm-7pm	Nazarene Church Marsing Pastor Bill O'Connor 649-5256 12 2nd Avenue West Worship Services - Sunday 11am and 6pm Sunday School - 9:45am Mid Week TLC Groups	Trinity Holiness Church Homedale 119 N. Main Pastor Samuel Page 337-5021 Sunday School 10am Sunday Morning Worship 11am Sunday Evening 7pm Thursday Evening 7:30pm
	i	

\$50 REWARD

For the live return of my dog, Brindle. He got lost somewhere in the area north of the U.S. Bank in Marsing on Thursday, April 2. He likes to explore, however, and he could be many miles from Marsing by now.

Brindle is about the same size as a German Shepherd, and he has the same features. But, he is almost entirely black. He is wearing a chain choke collar around his neck with a dog license tag attached to it, although he could have accidently gotten out of the collar by now.

He does not bite and he is friendly with people. If you spot him, bend over and pat your knees while calling his name. He should come running to you. Take hold of his collar and hold him until you can get him tied up or confined in some way.

Then call me at 896-5541 or 896-5540. Or, call Marsing City Hall at 896-4205 and report your findings to Annie. She will then contact me. Thank you.

Frank Leonard e-mail: franklnrd2@aol.com





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Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	Vision Community Church	United Methodist Church Wilder	6,400 circulation Wrap-Up, increasing your coverage.		
<i>Marsing</i> 215 3rd Ave. West, 896-4151 Sunday 1st Ward, 1:00 p.m. Bishop Rowley Sunday 2nd Ward, 9:00 a.m. Bishop McIntyre	Marsing 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.	Exploring the Bible: Public Invited 2nd & 4th Tuesday: 4-5pm Corner of 4th St. & B Ave. Pastor Dave Raines 208-880-8751 Sunday Service 9:30am	Open rate/column inch: \$6 1 Page B&W: \$450 1/2 Page B&W: \$225 1/4 Page B&W: \$112.50	Inserts? No problem. Standard format tabloids: Up to 8-page tab: \$.05 ea. 12- or 16-page tab: \$.075 ea.	
First Presbyterian Church Homedale 320 N. 6th W. Sunday Morning Worship 11am Sunday School 11am	Calvary Holiness Church - Wilder 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	Seventh Day Adventist Homedale 16613 Garnet Rd., 573-4574 Sabbath School Sat. 10:45am Worship 9:30am Wednesday Prayer Mtg. 7:00 pm	Business directory: S40/mo. Add some COLOR! Each added color S2/column inch, minimum sizes apply.	Specialty work, mailers and other printing, too. Unusual layouts subject to rate adjustment.	
Iglesia Bautista Palabra de Esperanza Homedale 711 W. Idaho, 463-9569 Pastor Jose Diaz Servicios: Los Domingos 11:00 am	Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church - Oreana 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	Amistad Cristiana de Wilder UMC Esquina de 4 y calle B Domingos Servicio: 12:00 pm El Ropero (Banco de ropa) Miercoles 12- 2pm Martes y Jueves: 6:30 pm Ingles Sabados: 12:00 pm Arte Infantil Todo en Espanol, Inf. 989 7508	Call us at (208) 337-4681 Display ads and inserts: rob@owyheeavalanche.com Classified ads (\$5 first 20 words): jennifer@owyheeavalanche.com		

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2015

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Need experienced person to install rain gutters in Homedale. 208-250-5002





HELP WANTED

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YARD SALE

Multi-family yard sale. 9am-4pm. Saturday 1786 Nielsen Lane in Homedale. No early birds.

9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Friday & Saturday, ShopSmith wood lathe, children's outdoor playset, cookie jars, collectibles, much more. 19250 Quarter Mile Lane, Caldwell just west of Greenleaf. Turn east at Top Road and Middle Road.

THANK YOU

We want to thank Mt. View Church of the Nazarene, Canyon Hill Nazarene, Owyhee Health & Rehab, Homedale Senior Center, friends and family for your cards, prayers, food & donations in honor of the loss of our dear mother. With sincere appreciation and love the children of Grace Holton.

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Dad's Pro Painting. Lowest bid, highest quality guaranteed! Interior, exterior. No job too big or small. For your free estimate give dad's girls a call 208-859-5697

Foot Clinic @ Homedale Senior Citizens every third Tuesday of the month, 8am-Noon \$12, home visits \$15. Call Sharon for more info 337-5044 or 880-1762

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Lizard Butte Library Friends plan meeting

The Friends of the Lizard Butte Library will hold its annual membership meeting today.

The meeting takes place at 4 p.m. inside the library's Community Room, 111 S. 3rd Ave., in Marsing.

The Friends of the Library helps Lizard Butte with monetary help and hands-on support.

Money to support the library is raised through \$10 yearly membership dues as well as other donations

Homedale Sr. Center serves breakfast again

The Homedale Senior Center's monthly fundraiser breakfast will be held Saturday.

The all-you-can-eat meal with several menu choices will be served from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the senior center, 224 W. Idaho Ave

Prices are \$6 per plate and \$3 per plate children younger than 8, and orange juice is available for an extra charge.

Call the senior center at 337-3020 for more information on any of its programs.

The center is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and congregate luncheons are served each day.





Grand View still eyes boat ramp alteration

No county funds available to help right now

Community leaders in Grand View are working on plans to renovate the Rio Lindo boat ramp. They brought their ideas to the Owyhee County Board of Commissioners last week during the board's regular meeting.

Grand View City Clerk Tammy Payne asked commissioners to make the renovation of the boat ramp the top priority for their waterways budget. She said some boats that come in to the ramp are valued at over \$100,000 and the owners clearly have disposable income to spend in the community. "So in terms of economic development, we want to maximize that recreation source."

However, no money will be coming from the county any time soon to give the ramp a facelift. District 1 Commissioner Jerry Hoagland told Payne the county's waterways funds are already tied up with the Black Sands Resort project at C.J. Strike and that work will take several years.

District 2 Commissioner Kelly Aberasturi said they had Rio Lindo on their waterways to-do list but the project got delayed and the next time they tried, it didn't get coordinated. The money ended up going to the Bernard Landing sportsman's access to help with an upgrade

that the Idaho Department of Fish and Game was doing. The county would have lost the funding if it wasn't used in time, Aberasturi said.

He added that Rio Lindo will "absolutely" come back up once Black Sands is complete.

Payne said, "the way the water comes around the existing jetty, it beats the boats up, and it's not safe to get in and out of boats at the ramp."

She also said some city council members have seen people spend two hours trying to enter or exit their boats, especially when the water is low.

Compounding the safety issue is the fact that the sheriff's office can't launch a boat from the ramp. The project would remove the current ramp and replace it with a new one nearby where the water is less turbulent.

Aberasturi clarified that the board always prioritizes projects by what the sheriff's office needs.

"When we get done with Black Sands, if Perry (Grant) says this is the next big thing he wants taken care of, then that's what we'll do," Aberasturi said.

In the meantime, Payne said she will pursue grant money and asked commissioners and the sheriff for letters of support regarding the project. The grants would be used to get engineering and design work done, and the officials agreed to write letters supporting the project.

-SC







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