

# The Owyhee Avalanche

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back at fairgrounds Sunday

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75 CENTS

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2015

### Soda Fire

• **Page 10** — Sage-grouse impact may not be as dire as reported.

• **Page 11** — Sunday spaghetti feed just one benefit to help ranchers.

• **Page 18** — County commissioners blame BLM policies for intense wildfire.

## Groups work to replant scorched earth

Money raised will seed about 10% of private ground

As damage assessment drags on, several organizations and businesses are reaching out to help restore rangeland devoured by the Soda Fire.

Scott Jensen said thousands of dollars have been donated to buy seed.

The University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Educator said there still are no firm numbers on how many cattle were lost in the 280,000-acre fire. He expects the needs assessment continues, but could be wrapped up this week.

The Elmore County Farm Bureau and Eastern Owyhee Cooperative Weed Management Area are

— See *Scorched*, page 11



### Things are looking up for Homedale's airport

Crews from Oregon spent last week rehabilitating the runway at Homedale Municipal Airport. For project information and more photos, see *Page 12*.

## Familiar faces seek city elective offices

Former councilman challenges current Marsing mayor

A former city councilman will challenge Keith Green for the privilege to serve at Marsing's mayor.

In all, seven of the eight incumbents whose terms expire at the end of the year have decided to seek re-election on Nov. 3.

James Ferdinand, who served on the city council from 2009 to 2013, and Green both filed to seek a four-year term as Marsing's chief executive.

Unless a citizen registers as a

write-in candidate, there won't be a contested race for two available Marsing City Council spots. Incumbent Chris Even and former council member Marie Herman submitted nomination papers before Friday's deadline. Incumbent Stella Bush decided against seeking a third term.

Both Homedale City Council incumbents — Steve Atkins and Aaron Tines — have thrown their

— See *Offices*, page 5

## County prosecutor clarifies, defends his budget requests

Emery sought to work from Homedale office

Owyhee County Prosecuting Attorney Douglas D. Emery has clarified what his budget request to county commissioners included.

In a Sept. 3 letter to The Owyhee Avalanche, Emery sought to clarify exactly what he requested for his fiscal year 2016 budget. He was responding to details reported in an Aug. 26 article regarding the approved FY 2016 budget.

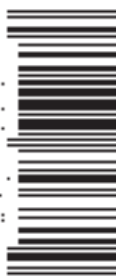
Emery said that he had asked commissioners to consider allowing him to work out of the Owyhee County Probation Office except for days that court was in

session in Murphy. Emery said the probation office is three blocks from his Homedale residence.

"I expressed the desire to work primarily from available space in (the) Owyhee County Probation Office in Homedale, which is more accessible to a larger number of Owyhee County residents, and to drive to Murphy primarily on Mondays, on alternating Fridays when the docket is being called, and as otherwise required," Emery wrote, adding that the commissioners denied the request.

Emery's budget worksheet reflects that he sought authorization to move his offices into the former Bachman house in Murphy. Commissioners have set

— See *Prosecutor*, page 5



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Grants to fund juniper study  
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## Federal charges filed in Homedale P.O. break-ins

A Homedale man jailed in Murphy on felony grand theft charges faces a federal case.

A U.S. Postal inspector accused Bobby Eugene Riley of mail theft in a U.S. District Court filing last Wednesday.

Riley, 20, was charged after recently installed cameras caught him allegedly breaking into mailboxes inside the Homedale Post Office



Bobby Riley

on North Main Street.

Homedale Police Sgt. Mike McFetridge confirmed that more break-ins were reported on Aug. 31, but wouldn't identify a suspect.

He did say authorities were close to making a break in the case, though.

Video equipment was installed after break-ins in June and July.

## Man jailed in Elmore for Owyhee DUI

A Mountain Home man has opted to serve time in Elmore County Jail after a driving under the influence conviction in Owyhee County.

Jason Donald Benzie, 40, was sentenced in Magistrate Judge Dan C. Grober's Murphy courtroom on Aug. 31 on an amended charge of misdemeanor DUI for his second offense in the past 10 years.

Grober ordered Benzie to serve nine days in jail, but stipulated

Elmore County was an option as long as Benzie picked up any expenses that might be incurred.

Benzie was credited for one day he spent in Owyhee County Jail after his June 2 arrest, and had the rest of a six-month jail sentence suspended.

He'll have to pay \$1,300 in fines and court costs, and Grober placed him on two years' probation.

Benzie's driver's license was suspended for 12 months.



*Above:* The 35-member Homedale Marching Band kicked off the season by playing the Star Spangled Banner at Friday's varsity football game. *Below:* Members are: **Front:** Emma McMichael (drum major). **First row, from left:** Jordan Stuart, Abbie Hill, Alyssa Emery, Kennedee Burright, Benjamin Holloway. **Second row, from left:** Jaired Riddle, Avery Volk, Connor Slater, Vera Venhuizen, Jason Buenrostro, Tell Morse, Elyzabeth Marsh. **Third row, from left:** Mauricia Villarreal, Ashlyn Sortor, Patrick McMichael, Emma Thornton, Gage Purdom, Jessica Tayler, Holden Kleppinger, Nicholas Puckett. **Not Pictured:** Enrrique Soto Aguilar, Jose Villa Ojeda, Fabian Baez, Julian Bedolla, Mason Rountree, Zachary Sakata, Corinth Scott. Submitted photo



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## Marsing school carnival set Friday

The Marsing PTO will present a school carnival Friday on the elementary school's playground.

School faculty and staff,

schoolchildren's parents and student organizations are coordinating the event, which will run from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The groups who have helped put together the carnival will run various games and booths.

Third- through fifth-graders will sell tickets for a raffle featuring, among other things, gift certificates to local restaurants and Roaring Springs water park in Meridian.

Students also will be able to buy tickets and/or silly string to participate in two activities—"Pie in the Principal's Face" or "Silly String the Superintendent."

A petting zoo, several games and rides will be available as well food.

Proceeds support Marsing schools.

For more information, contact the Marsing PTO at pto@marsingchools.org.

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# GV city council eyes greenbelt expansion

## P&Z continues comp plan review

Undeveloped Wood Street in Grand View may soon be a thing of the past to make way for expansion of the town's greenbelt.

According to City Clerk Tammy Payne, the city council will begin the public process to vacate the right-of-way intended for the platted street. The right-of-way runs between Roosevelt Avenue and Riverside Avenue just north of Agri-Lines Irrigation.

"It has never been developed and currently has a large, open drain ditch running down the center of it," Payne said of the right-of-way.

Public hearings on the proposed vacation will be held. If the proposal goes through, the ditch will be filled in and part of the west portion of the right-of-way will become an extension of the greenbelt along Roosevelt Street (Idaho highway 167).

Further discussion of the process could take place tonight when the city council holds its September meeting. The council convenes at 6 p.m. inside City Hall, 425 Boise Ave.

Other items on the agenda for tonight includes a work session on the city's geothermal project, a

review of the draft codification of city ordinances and an update on the sewer lagoon facility plan.

Payne said right-of-way vacation also would aid the cemetery in development of its new section adjacent to Wood Street. The cemetery section lies south of West Street and north of Agri-Lines.

The greenbelt has been an ongoing community project by several organizations and individuals, including the cemetery district, Grand View Lions Club, area farmers and the Mennonite community.

The greenbelt currently stretches north-south about four or five city blocks along Roosevelt Street. The expansion plan would add about two more blocks, Payne said.

The city's fledgling Planning and Zoning Commission continues work on a comprehensive plan, too.

Payne said the commission has hosted a series of public meetings and are currently reviewing the fourth version of the draft plan.

The goal is to hand the plan to the city council for adoption by the end of the year.

Payne said the P&Z will set the date for another public meeting when it gathers for its regular meeting on Monday, Sept. 21.

— JPB

# Woman's plea deal apparently wipes out majority of felonies

## Once facing 10 charges, Fritzler to be sentenced on three

A Wilson-area woman facing 10 felonies in connection with misusing her former employer's credit cards has reached a deal in her case.

Angela M. Fritzler faces sentencing at 9 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 23 before Third District Judge Thomas J. Ryan after her Rule 11 plea agreement in a court appearance last month.

Fritzler entered a guilty plea to three felony grand theft charges. Two counts were for unauthorized control or transfer of property with the intent of depriving the owner, and one count was for concealing receiving or possessing fraudulently obtained cash or goods.

The remaining felonies will be dismissed when Fritzler pays full restitution of approximately \$35,000. She has agreed to pay \$10,000 of that amount at the time

of her sentencing.

According to Owyhee County Prosecuting Attorney Douglas D. Emery, the victims in the case will be allowed to make any recommendations on punishment they wish.

"My recommendations are to be consistent with the contents of the pre-sentence investigation and the investigator's recommendations," Emery said.

The ultimate sentence is up to Ryan, and Emery said the veteran judge has the option to reject the plea agreement. If Ryan rejects the deal, then Fritzler can withdraw her guilty plea, which could result in a trial.

Fritzler's guilty plea came on Aug. 28, the same day she appeared in Owyhee County Court in Murphy for felony arraignment on a new case filed by county Prosecuting Attorney



Angela Fritzler

Douglas D. Emery that involved seven charges.

Overall, according to the Rule 11 plea agreement and order Emery provided The Owyhee Avalanche, Fritzler was charged with:

- Six felony counts of grand theft by unauthorized control
- Two felony counts of misappropriation of personal identifying information
- One felony count each of criminal possession of a financial transaction card and concealing, receiving or possessing fraudulently obtained cash or goods

Details about Fritzler's punishment, including any order of restitution, will come out in the sentencing hearing. A pre-sentencing investigation has been ordered.

Fritzler's case arises from allegations that she illegally obtained use of credit cards from an agricultural business in Wilson for which she worked as secretary. She allegedly used the cards to make purchases at several retailers.

— JPB

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## Homedale church plans outreach with car show

Nearly a ton of winter clothing will be given away at a Homedale church's community outreach event later this month.

The Homedale Assembly of God will sponsor a car show and chili feed on Saturday, Sept. 26 at Bette Uda City Park.

Originally discouraged from trying to park classic cars on the grass at City Park, the church's interim association pastor, Ivar Moore, said last week that city officials now have given the go-ahead to put cars in the park as well as around the park as was originally planned.

The outreach event will go from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with vehicle registration ending by noon, Moore said. There will be a \$10 registration fee for car show

entrants. Call Moore at (208) 412-2946 or Randy Friedley at (208) 859-6999 for more information on any aspect of the event.

Moore said proceeds will help pay for event expenses, and anything left over will fund the church's ministry and outreach programs.

The church will bring about 18 bags of winter clothing, with each weighing about 100 pounds. The clothes will be given away.

There will be food and beverages available and children's activities.

The car show is open to all makes and models as well as tractors and rock crawlers.

There will be several custom-made trophies awarded in different classes.

## Mtn. View church to host annual Family Fair & Round Up Sunday

Mountain View Church of the Nazarene's ninth annual Family Fair & Round Up is Sunday, running from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Owyhee County Fairgrounds in Homedale.

Admission, parking and door prize tickets are free.

During a 10:30 a.m., Cowboy Church service, pastor Chuck Ryan will speak on "For Such A Time As This."

Ryan thinks people often feel insignificant when life around them is challenging.

"When we're in God's hands, we are not insignificant," Ryan said. "We can be used to help create love and wholeness and holiness in our world if we're willing to allow God to use us."

Food will be available at noon after Ryan's sermon. All food vendors are church members, and items will include baked goods, homemade tacos, and the church's men's group will be selling tri-tip steak sandwiches.

"Everything is reasonably priced. I think it was \$5 a meal last year. We always try to keep it the same," Ryan said. "My overall goal is that we want it to be fun and affordable."

He encourages church members preparing food to charge only what it cost them to purchase the ingredients for their dishes.

The Chicken Dinner Road Bluegrass Band will perform during the dinner hour and again

from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Tum-bleweed Theatre.

For dessert, folks can head to the missions department's booth for \$1 pie and \$1 ice cream.

"It's all homemade, and the money will go towards a mission trip to Africa (scheduled for January)," Ryan said. "We're paying for all the materials. We're going over and help them build a building there, so that's what all the proceeds will go to from the mis-sions department."

Barrel racing and team rop-ing begins at 1 p.m. in the rodeo arena. The roping fee is \$15 for a chance to rope three calves. Bar-rel racing entry is is \$5, or \$15 for people who want to compete for a custom-made belt buckle.

People can sign up at the event.

Ryan said the roping fees cover the expense of holding the Fam-ily Fair & Round Up.

Two arts and crafts activities are planned for children. One is a leathercraft booth hosted by Ryan and Stephanie Etter of Wilder. The other is "Wagons Ho" with Cal and Marla Clev-enger of Caldwell.

"Wagons Ho" is a long-stand-ing educational project that tours elementary schools as part of a fourth-grade history curriculum.

"Kids learn to make wooden buttons, they learn to rope, they learn how to churn butter from milk, they teach them all kinds of things the way it was done in

the West," Ryan said.

There will also be a bounce house for children.

"Just something to let kids have fun and burn a little energy off, so the parents can enjoy the music and the dinner, and kids can play," Ryan said.

A quilt made by missionary president Eulah Dunn, who lives just outside of Homedale, will be one of several door prizes given away during the event.

This year the Family Fair & Round Up will host a pack-a-bag promotion for Love INC, or Love In the Name of Christ. The interdenominational organization helps a wide variety of churches feed the poor.

Bags with a list of needed items will be available for people to pick up at the Love INC booth near the main gate. Those who participate can fill the bags the next time they're at a grocery store and then return the bag to the Mountain View Church of the Nazarene, 26515 Ustick Rd., Wilder.

The church office is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. People can also drop off the bags during regular church services on Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to noon, or at the Wednesday night service from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

For more information on the Family Fair & Round Up, go to [www.mvcnazorg](http://www.mvcnazorg), or call the church at (208) 337-3151.

— SC

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# GV church starts after-school program

## Sunday Fun Day upcoming, too

Knight Community Church launches a months-long after-school program today in Grand View.

The church is located at 630 Idaho Ave., in Grand View. Pastor is Ivan Shetler. For more information on any church activity, call (208) 834-2639 and leave a message.

The after-school program will run from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. each Wednesday through Memorial

Day, and it's open to all youth from Grand View and Oreana. Jerry and Lot Shetler are the coordinators.

Indoor activities offered will include pool, ping-pong, foosball and board games, while the children can go outside for basketball, four-square and a variety of other games.

Knight Community also offers a Children's Church each Sunday during the adult services, which take place from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Fellowship and refreshment follow the service.

In a classroom setting with a

teacher, children ages 3-11 get to explore the Bible. The first two weeks in September will feature the first volume of the "What's in the Bible?" video series. In the series, Phil Vischer, who created Veggie Tales, and his friends will explain the Bible and how it's organized from being inspired by God to how Genesis sets the stage for the rest of the Bible.

The first quarter of the Children's Church ends in November by which time the children will have learned about Creation, Adam and Eve and Noah and the Ark.

Jerry Shetler also teaches a

class for junior high and high school students during this time.

Knight Community Church will hold a Sunday Fun Day in City Park on Sept. 20. The event will include worship and a children's carnival. Worship will begin at 10:30 a.m., followed by the carnival from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. Everything is open to the public and free.

There will be games and free prizes, and hot dogs, popcorn and soft drinks will be offered.

For more information on the Sunday Fun Day, contact Jerry Cunningham at (208) 834-2287.

## HFD dinner has raffle, too

A gun safe or a \$1,000 gift card will be given away at the fourth annual Homedale Fire Department benefit dinner.

The prime rib and oyster dinner is set for 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 26 at the Txoko Ona Basque Center, 333 S. Main St.

Dinner costs \$30, and raffle tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for five. Tickets are available from any volunteer firefighter or at NAPA Owyhee Auto Supply in Homedale between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

From page 1

## ✓ Prosecutor: Emery lobbied BOCC for more help in office, courtroom

aside money in the FY16 budget to remodel the county-owned property and convert Emery's old office in the courthouse into an attorney-client conference room and staff breakroom.

According to the budget request Emery provided the Avalanche, the second-term prosecutor also wanted to hire a full-time deputy criminal prosecutor and an additional full-time legal assistant.

"My stated willingness to move to the Bachman house was contingent upon the Commissioners approving the need for a full-time criminal deputy and an additional secretary," Emery wrote. "It was made very clear during the budgetary process that if my request for additional staff was not approved, I would have no need to move to the Bachman residence."

Emery said that he asked to lower the salary of deputy civil prosecutor Chuck Saari from \$27,000 to \$10,000. He requested

\$49,500 to create a new full-time deputy criminal prosecutor position and another \$30,000 to hire a second legal assistant. Additionally, he requested a raise of approximately \$1,100 for his current legal assistant, Shauna Sedamano. Commissioners approved a three percent raise (\$978) for Sedamano.

County Clerk Angie Barkell said she combined the deputy prosecutor salary requests into one line (reflected as a \$59,500 request from Emery) when she created the department-by-department budget worksheet, a copy of which was provided to the Avalanche prior to the Aug. 26 article. The commissioners approved \$27,000 for deputy prosecutors.

Emery recounted recent reports that county building permit application revenue has increased 700 percent and that law enforcement agencies are fully staffed and "actively working cases," yet "I am the only elected Owyhee County official who does

not have a full time deputy."

"This office prosecutes all felony crimes and handles all juvenile, child protection (and) mental health commitments arising in the county and all infractions and misdemeanors arising outside of the incorporated cities," Emery wrote. "Additionally this office is legal counsel to the elected county officials and department heads."

Emery said the "steady stream of serious criminal cases being routed" to his office led him to request the full-time criminal deputy and second legal assistant.

"The budget request for a criminal deputy and an additional secretary is consistent with the staffing in place and utilized by other Idaho counties with similar populations," Emery said.

He pointed out that Washington County, which Emery says has a similar population and lower serious felony crime rate, employs a criminal deputy prosecutor, a contracted civil deputy and "two or more" prosecutor secretaries in

addition to elected official Delton Walker.

"Washington County pays more than \$120,000 annually in prosecuting attorney salaries in addition to its fully staffed secretarial pool and contracted civil deputy," Emery wrote. "Those sums paid by Washington are significantly more than what is allocated in Owyhee County, yet my office has consistently handled a heavier, more serious felony caseload. There are multiple elected prosecutor and key criminal trial deputy positions in this state which pay more."

A phone message left at the Washington County clerk's office for more details on that prosecutor's budget was not returned.

According to the Owyhee County budget worksheet that became the FY 2016 appropriations, the total salary budget for Emery's office is \$156,246, which includes:

- \$89,362 for Emery
- \$27,000 for deputy

prosecutors

- \$39,884 for a legal assistant and part-time employee

Emery also pointed out that there are several public defenders that handle Owyhee County cases.

"In addition to standing public defender Bill Wellman, there are six or more contracted conflict or assistant public defenders paid at \$75 or more hourly at county expense," he wrote. "In multiple defendant cases, a separate public defender is assigned at county expense for each defendant."

"There have been several cases in which I alone, without assistance of a deputy, have had to proceed at hearing or trial against multiple defense attorneys. The annual criminal defense expenditures paid by Owyhee County greatly exceed my annual salary and compensation package."

Emery said, despite the disparity of resources used, his requests for additional staffing were denied.

— JPB

## ✓ Offices: No council race yet in Marsing

hats back into the ring. Longtime resident Jerry Anderson has filed as a challenger for one of the two four-year terms. The top two vote-getters win positions.

Atkins is seeking a second term, and Tines has been elected to the council twice before.

Green is in the hunt for his third four-year term as Marsing mayor.

An incumbent during the 2011 election, Herman lost a write-in bid to stay on the council when Bush won her second term and Even was elected for the first time.

Ferdinand lost a re-election bid by two votes to Cory Percifield in 2013 when Ferdinand was seeking his second term on the council. He won a four-year term in 2009 by just two votes.

All three Grand View City Council incumbents will seek re-election in November, including former mayor Opal Ward, who was appointed to succeed James

Burnett earlier this year. Burnett resigned midway through his four-year term to take a public works job with the city, and state law requires Ward to seek re-election in the next available balloting if she wants to continue.

Ward will face two challengers for Seat 1, which carries a two-year term — retiree Melvin Freckleton and John Morrison, who works as the Grand View Mutual Canal Co.'s ditch rider.

Incumbents Linda Araujo (Seat 3) and Donald "Bill" Mead (Seat 4) will be in a four-way race for two four-year terms available. The top two vote-getters will earn spots on the council.

Jon Pennington, who owns JC Landing, and Grand View Chamber of Commerce and PTA member Katy Hazlett will challenge Araujo and Mead.

Araujo is a small business owner and active in the community.

Mead, a retired cowboy who now owns a fence-building outfit,

is president of the Rimrock Senior Center board of directors and he is active with the city's Lions Club and Chamber of Commerce. He's seeking a second term.

Although the deadline to appear on the ballot passed Friday, prospective candidates still can file to run a write-in campaign. The write-in declaration deadline is Oct. 6.

Sept. 18 is the last day that any declared candidate can withdraw from the election.

The Owyhee County Clerk's office will start mailing ballots to those who requested to vote absentee on Oct. 2. Absentee mail-in ballots must be requested by 5 p.m. on Oct. 28, and pre-election absentee voting will end at 5 p.m. on Oct. 30. All absentee ballots must be returned to the county clerk by 8 p.m. on Nov. 3.

The deadline to pre-register for the Nov. 3 election is 5 p.m. on Oct. 9.

— JPB

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# School menus

## Homedale Elementary

Sept. 9: Chicken taco, corn, veggie & fruit bar, milk  
Sept. 10: Personal pepperoni pizza, tossed salad, veggie & fruit bar, milk  
Sept. 14: Mini corn dogs, steamed carrots, veggie & fruit bar, milk  
Sept. 15: Chicken nuggets, mixed veggies, cookie, veggie & fruit bar, milk  
Sept. 16: Crispito, corn, veggie & fruit bar, milk  
Sept. 17: Pepperoni pizza ripper, tossed salad, fruit rollup, veggie & fruit bar, milk

## Homedale Middle

Sept. 9: Spaghetti or corn dog, mixed veggies, salad & fruit bar, milk  
Sept. 10: Pepperoni pizza ripper or PB&J, tossed salad, salad & fruit bar, milk  
Sept. 14: Popcorn chicken or hamburger, baked beans, salad & fruit bar, milk  
Sept. 15: Sloppy Joe or rib-b-que, green beans, salad & fruit bar, milk  
Sept. 16: Pork chop or chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes w/gravy, cinnamon roll, salad & fruit bar, milk  
Sept. 17: Lasagna or mini corn dogs, steamed carrots, salad & fruit bar, milk

## Homedale High

Sept. 9: Lasagna or BBQ pulled pork, corn, salad bar, fruit choice, milk  
Sept. 10: Nachos or PB&J w/cheese stick, churro, salad bar, fruit choice, milk  
Sept. 14: Chicken taco or ham/cheese sandwich, corn, salad bar, fruit choice, milk  
Sept. 15: Beef nuggets w/cheese stick & garlic mashed potatoes or pizza hot pocket, salad bar, fruit choice, milk  
Sept. 16: Crispito or BBQ chicken/roll, steamed carrots, salad bar, fruit choice, milk  
Sept. 17: Chicken parmesan w/pasta or corn dog, green beans, salad bar, fruit choice, milk

## Marsing

Sept. 9: Teriyaki chicken bowl or corn dog, buttered corn, salad bar & soup  
Sept. 10: Lasagna w/Italian breadstick or assorted sandwiches, potato salad, green beans, salad bar & soup  
Sept. 14: Pulled pork sandwich or enchilada w/rice, baked sweet potato pie, salad bar & soup  
Sept. 15: Chicken parmesan or fish taco, steamed carrots, pudding, salad bar & soup  
Sept. 16: Cheeseburger or chicken nuggets w/roll, potato wedges, salad bar & soup  
Sept. 17: PB&J w/chips or pepperoni ripper, tossed salad, salad bar & soup

## Bruneau-Grand View

Sept. 9: Little smokies, scalloped potatoes, steamed broccoli, roll, fruit, milk  
Sept. 10: Chicken taco, black beans/salsa, romaine & tomato, fruit, milk  
Sept. 11: BBQ pork/bun, sweet potato fries, fresh cauliflower, orange smile, milk  
Sept. 15: Mac attack, romaine salad, steamed broccoli, fruit, milk  
Sept. 16: Orange chicken, oriental rice, stir-fry, veggies, fruit, milk  
Sept. 17: Nachos, tortilla chips, salsa, refried beans, fruit, milk  
Sept. 18: Corn dog, tater tots, baby carrots, apple wedges, milk



# FREE DINNER

Come enjoy food & fellowship

September 16

6:00 pm

## Kid's Club

Every Wednesday 4:00-5:00

All school-age kids welcome



## Crossroads Church

Corner of Hwy 19 & 95 • Wilder

For more information, contact: Marla Burdine 208-789-3432

# Lizard Butte has new artist display

Gene Gunderson is no stranger to the Marsing art scene, and his work is hanging in the Lizard Butte Library once again.

The Caldwell man will be the Friends of the Lizard Butte Library’s featured artist for the next three months. His artwork went up in the library, located at 111 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. W., last week and will be available for viewing through November.

The library is open from noon to 6 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from noon to 7 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

A juried artist, Gunderson is principally a landscape painter. As a university student in Tucson, he was inspired by Arizona’s beautiful mountains and Sonoran Desert landscape scenes. Mountains, forests, rivers and streams, and old buildings continue as his prime motivator to paint.

More of a “realist” in his art, Gene says, “I want to capture recognizable features with which people can identify and enjoy.”

Gunderson began “dabbling” in sketching and drawing as a teen. After high school, he worked briefly in commercial art in Minneapolis, receiving invaluable experience in perspective and layout and was introduced to hand-painting signs with camel hair brushes and oil paints.

In the mid-1990s, Gene became interested in painting with acrylics and “self- studied” this medium until his permanent retirement in 2008.

“Since retiring permanently in 2008, I have more time to paint

# Story Time starts again

The Lizard Butte Public Library’s Preschool Story Time starts a new season today.

The program will take place at 10:30 a.m. each Wednesday during the school year and includes crafts and songs.

After-school Story Time for kindergarteners through third-graders, held at 4:15 p.m. each Tuesday, will begin Sept. 29. The program includes special treats provided by a longtime library patron.

“Betty White makes cookies for all the kids, and they love that,” library director Janna Streibel said.

Game night at the library is held at 6 p.m. on the second Friday of every month. The program offers youth 12 and older a chance to play computer or board games.

Book club for adults is at 7 p.m. the first Monday of every month in the library. The next session begins Monday when the group will share their favorite books they read over the summer.

The library is open from noon to 6 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Hours are noon to 7 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

The library is located at 111 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. W., Marsing. For more information, call (208) 896-4690 or send an email to lizardbuttlibrary@yahoo.com.

and experiment. I still do a lot of self-study and take a few online classes,” he said.

Though he feels he has a ways to go to feel totally comfortable with acrylics, he states, “I am fully enjoying it, and continually learning new things is good for the mind.”

A self-taught artist, Gunderson admits to struggling early on to learn acrylic painting techniques, but he says the struggles are now less troubling and he enjoys the challenges of creating different realistic moods in his works such as mist, fog, lightning and gently falling snow. Now nearly all his

work is with acrylic paints where cleanup and thinning is done with water, which eliminates the need for petroleum-based paint products.

Gunderson’s work can be found in homes in Minnesota, Florida and Idaho and is continually on display at Caldwell’s Art on the Creek Gallery. He has also displayed at the Initial Point Gallery in Meridian, Marsing’s Art in the Park earlier this year, and the Caldwell Art and Wine Festival.

In the near future, a limited supply of signed, numbered prints of selected works will be available.

# Homedale library launches contest to draw new patrons

The Homedale Public Library is hoping to see some new faces coming in through the front door.

During the month of September, the library is offering a drawing for a \$25 gift card to Amazon.com. Anyone that comes into the library can enter his or her name into the drawing, but only one entry is allowed per day.

If someone clicks the “like” button on the library’s Facebook page, his or her name will automatically be entered into the drawing.

New library director Sharla Jensen said she purchased the gift card herself, and the drawing will be held on Oct. 1.

Jensen is also telling people to watch the Facebook page for upcoming contests, activities and prizes.

To find the library’s Facebook page, search for Homedale Public Library. However, there is also a Facebook page for Friends of the

Homedale Public Library, which is not involved with the contest.

Other programs at the library include Story Time, which is held at 10:15 a.m. each Friday.

This week’s featured book is “Don’t be silly, Mrs. Millie!” by Judy Cox. Children will hear Mrs. Millie’s attempts at classroom humor from the frog salute to getting out your paper and penguins.

The Teens & Tweens program, which is open to boys and girls ages 10 to 17, will resume on Oct. 9. It will begin at 4 p.m., but activities for the afternoon have not been announced.

The library is located at 125 W. Owyhee Ave. For more information, call (208) 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. Thursday, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

# Speaker series back in Bruneau

The Bruneau Valley Library launches its fall speaker program with Boise resident Max Black detailing his book “Diamondfield Jack: Finding the Real Jack Davis,” which is the result of years of persistent research.

The free Bruneau and Beyond luncheon begins at noon next Wednesday inside the library, 32073 Ruth St., in Bruneau. RSVPs are requested to ensure adequate space and that enough food is available. Call (208) 845-2131 or (208) 845-2282 by Monday.

A 20-year member of the Idaho Legislature, Black will detail Jack Davis’ story. In 1897, Davis was convicted of murdering two shepherders in an area south of Twin Falls. After others confessed to the killings, Davis was pardoned and freed in 1902.

Black has uncovered more evidence, and he will share his findings and research next week.

# Death notices

**JEFFERY ROBERT SNELL**, 45, of Marsing, died Friday, Sept. 4, 2015. Arrangements: Rost Funeral Home, McMurtrey Chapel, 500 N. 18<sup>th</sup> E. St., Mountain Home. (208) 587-0612

**VICTORIA JEAN STIMAC**, 69, of Marsing, died Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015 at a Boise hospital of natural causes. Arrangements are under the care of Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Homedale. (208) 337-3252



# Keep weaning calves stress-free

For many spring-calving herds, weaning time is just around the corner. Weaning time can be very stressful to calves. This stress can provide an opening for diseases to get a foothold in your calves.

Often, calves are placed into a dry lot or corral with solid fences to keep them in for the first few days. The calves will generally mill around for several days, creating dusty conditions that contribute to respiratory problems. Much of this stress and associated disease problems can be reduced with careful planning.

First, prepare calves for weaning with proper vaccinations. Calves should receive the recommended vaccinations for your area three to four weeks prior to weaning time. The goal here is to provide sufficient time for the animal to develop an immune response prior to weaning. Parasite control measures can also be stressful and should be done prior to weaning.

Second, provide for the calves'



Scott Jensen

## University of Idaho Extension

vitamin and mineral needs both prior to and during weaning. Research has shown that Vitamin A and Vitamin E play a major role in stress and disease resistance in cattle. Low levels of copper, zinc, selenium, manganese, and iron also increase the demand for vitamins A and E as well as compromise the response of the immune system. Weaning rations should be balanced to provide adequate levels of these vitamins and minerals.

Third, weaning location and method should be considered. Calves should be weaned at a site that is as dust-free as possible. As for method, there are basically three methods of weaning:

- 1) Calves are removed from the cows and placed in a different location.
- 2) Cows are moved to a new location and calves are left behind in the location they had been in with their mothers.
- 3) Cows and calves are separated but share a common fence-line.

Weaning by moving the calves to a new location is undoubtedly the most stressful method of weaning. Calves are stressed not

only by the separation from their mothers but also by being placed in an unfamiliar location.

Weaning calves by moving the cows to a new location and leaving the calves behind is slightly less stressful.

Fenceline weaning is the least stressful method. Studies have shown that during the first three days, fenceline-weaned calves bawled and walked less, and ate and rested more. After two weeks, fenceline-weaned calves had gained 23 pounds more than traditionally weaned calves. Even over a two-month period following weaning, fenceline-weaned calves outgained traditionally weaned calves by almost 0.4 pounds per day.

You have to plan ahead, build an immune system in the calf prior to weaning, save some standing quality feed in weaning areas on both sides of the fence. It takes management and advanced planning, but it can pay dividends over traditional weaning.

— For more information, contact Scott Jensen at the University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension at [scottj@uidaho.edu](mailto:scottj@uidaho.edu). Jensen is the U of I county extension educator, and he welcomes questions on livestock care.



## SEQUICENTENNIAL SAMPLINGS

Vol. 1, No. 4, Saturday, September 9, 1865

McDERMIT'S SUCCESSOR — Lieutenant Colonel Ambrose E. Hooker, Sixth California Infantry, has been appointed to the command of the Sub-District of Nevada, lately made vacant by the death of Col. McDermit. Col. Hooker was formerly stationed at Benicia Barracks, and has the reputation of being an able and efficient officer.

REMAINS OF COL. McDERMITT — The Virginia Union of August 16<sup>th</sup> says: "The body of this officer, late commander of this military district, will arrive in this city to-day or to-morrow from Fort Churchill, on route to California. The independent companies here will meet the funeral procession in Six Mile Cañon as it approaches from the Fort, and accompany it through our city and beyond as far as Silver City."

EXAMINATION OF HARGRAVE — Notice was made in last week's issue of the killing of Thomas Wilson, in a hurdy-gurdy house in Silver City on the night of August 29<sup>th</sup>, and that Tuesday, the 5<sup>th</sup> instant, was set for examination. Accordingly, on that day, the accused, James Hargrave, with his counsel, Judge R. T. Miller and Judge H. Martin, appeared. The prosecution was conducted by Judge Higbee and A. Huggan, Esq. The examination was quite lengthy, occupying some three days, the public being excluded by request of the defense. Considerable feeling and interest were manifested by the people, but no disposition of their part was shown to interrupt the due course and execution of the law. The prisoner was ordered to jail and held to answer to the charge of murder. The examination was conducted before James Lynam, Justice of the Peace, at Silver City.

EDITOR AVALANCHE: Knowing that your paper is devoted to the interests of this county, and particularly to our mining welfare, permit me to give a brief sketch of a visit to the cinnabar region, which is about twelve miles from Ruby City.

On last Friday, in company with Mr. J. B. Bailey, I started to that district, about which I had heard so much. I had a desire to satisfy myself, not only in seeing that section of the country, but more particularly the cinnabar therein deposited. The morning was cloudy, as considerable rain had fallen the night before, and, though there was every indication of having a wet day, still we thought the frowning elements would clear away; but in this we were sadly mistaken, for when we got on the top of War Eagle Mountain, the rain began to come down in torrents, and we started down the mountain on the double quick, soon arriving at five large trees, which are so arranged by nature as to constitute a splendid shelter for the wet, weary and fatigued traveler. After a lapse of half an hour the exasperated elements ceased hostilities, when we resumed our march, and arrived about one o'clock, p.m., at our long looked-for destination. At the district we found a considerable number of men at work and among them the men who first discovered cinnabar there; and here I regret not being able to give their names, having lost the paper on which I had written them; suffice it to say, they are very fine gentlemen, and know well how to entertain visitors, as they soon supplied us with a splendid dinner.

— M.

# Senior menus

## Homedale Senior Center

- Sept. 9: Pasta primavera, bread, salad bar, milk
- Sept 10: Liver & onions, baked potato, carrots, bread, salad bar, milk
- Sept. 15: Baked fish, baked potato, peas/carrots, bread, salad bar, milk
- Sept. 16: Meatball hero, carrot salad, macaroni salad, salad bar, milk
- Sept. 17: Roast pork, mashed potatoes/gravy, California blend veggies, bread, salad bar, milk

## Marsing Senior Center

- Sept. 9: Chicken al king, rice, carrots, peaches, roll, milk
- Sept. 10: Pot roast, potatoes, broccoli, apple salad, garlic bread, milk
- Sept. 14: Breakfast to order. Eggs, bacon or sausage, biscuits & gravy, fruit, juice, milk
- Sept. 15: Roast pork, potatoes, squash, applesauce, pasta salad, bread, milk
- Sept. 16: Beef stew, coleslaw, biscuits, milk
- Sept. 17: Chicken enchiladas, beans, rice, oranges, milk

# Calendar

## Today

- Coffee club**  
9 a.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020
- Board of County Commissioners meeting**  
9 a.m., Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy. (208) 495-2421
- Pre-school Story Time**  
10:30 a.m., Lizard Butte Library, 111 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690
- Homedale Highway District meeting**  
Noon, Homedale Highway District office, 102 E. Colorado Ave., Homedale
- Homedale Senior Center board meeting**  
1:30 p.m., open to public, Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020
- After-school program**  
3 p.m. to 6 p.m., Knight Community Church, 630 Idaho Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2639
- Kid's Club**  
4 p.m. to 5 p.m., open to all school-aged children, Crossroads Church, Idaho highway 19 and U.S. Highway 95, Wilder. (208) 789-3432
- Grand View City Council meeting**  
6 p.m., Grand View City Hall, 425 Boise Ave., Grand View, (208) 834-2700, Monday through Thursday
- Homedale City Council meeting**  
6 p.m., City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4641
- Marsing City Council meeting**  
7 p.m., Marsing City Hall, 425 Main St., Marsing. (208) 896-4122

## Thursday

- Fit and fall exercise class**  
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020
- Owyhee Gardeners monthly meeting**  
1 p.m., Community Room, Lizard Butte Library, 111 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. W., Marsing
- TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meeting**  
6:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th

- St. W., Homedale. (208) 337-3867
- Owyhee Conservation District meeting**  
8 p.m., 250 N. Old Bruneau Highway, Marsing. (208) 896-4544

## Friday

- Story Time**  
10:15 a.m., Homedale Public Library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228, afternoons Monday through Saturday
- Grand View Lions Club meeting**  
11:30 a.m., Grand Owyhee Restaurant, 230 Main St., Grand View.

## Saturday

- Rimrock Food Pantry distribution**  
9 a.m., Knight Community Church, 630 Idaho Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2419, (208) 834-5170 or (208) 834-3199
- Veterans of Foreign Wars meeting**  
9 a.m., Samuel Phillips III Post 11065, 208 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Wilder. (208) 896-4465
- Free lunches**  
Noon to 1 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St. W., Homedale. (208) 337-5419
- Senior center dance**  
6 p.m. to 9 p.m., \$5 plus finger food, Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

## Sunday

- Bruneau Valley Library board meeting**  
2:30 p.m., Bruneau Valley Library, 32073 Ruth St., Bruneau. (208) 845-2131
- Owyhee Watershed Council meeting**  
3 p.m., University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office, 238 8th Ave. W., Marsing. (541) 372-5782
- Soda Fire benefit spaghetti feed**  
6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center, 126 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. N. \$5 per person or \$20 for a family. (208) 999-8279



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# Emergency alert program useful during Soda Fire

## Dispatch chief happy with service so far

Owyhee County’s recently launched emergency alert system played a critical role in keeping residents safe during the Soda Fire.

County dispatchers sent out 14 alerts to the public during the wildfire, which scorched 285,000 acres. The service was made available free of charge to residents, and at no cost to taxpayers, shortly before the Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo.

Dispatch supervisor Christine Ballard is pleased with how it operates and thinks it was well worth the time and effort to establish the system.

“The feedback that we get from the fire, and EMS (Emergency Medical Services) in the county is just overwhelmingly positive,” Ballard said.

The first step in sending out an alert during the Soda Fire was when a firefighter from any agency told dispatch an area needed to be evacuated.

“Dispatch then confirms that with the on-call supervisor, and then they say yea or nay, and then we send it out,” Ballard said.

While only 14 alerts were sent to the public during the fire, many more were sent to emergency personnel, Ballard said.. Anytime the county dispatches fire or EMS, a private alert goes to the appropriate agency (Marsing Fire, for example) if assistance is needed.

Ballard explained that the public alerts are sent to very specific areas during an emergency.

“I open the map in the program, and I draw a polygon around the area that I want it to go,” Ballard said. “It automatically pulls every single phone number in that area. Then I just type in what I want the message to say.”

She admits that typing in the message can be the hard part because it has to be very specific, and she only has 135 characters of available space.

She points out that there weren’t any big problems with the emergency alert system during the Soda Fire.

“I know that some people felt like they should have received a notification and they didn’t, and there is a whole host of reasons that they did not receive that, of

which, 99 percent of it is out of my control,” Ballard said.

Those reasons could involve the type of cellphone a person has, settings within the phone, the cell service plan, or even whether a person is standing on the west side of a hill or the east side. Ballard only heard a few of those complaints during the Soda Fire.

The massive blaze wasn’t the only incident the county has used the alert system for thus far.

“We had a weather one that we sent out for potential flooding prior to the Soda Fire,” Ballard said. The flash flood warning was issued for the Guffey and Givens area on Friday, July 10.

Before the system was up and running, the county called state officials to send out a regional alert during the June 6-7 Celebration Fire outside Murphy. The county also reached to the state to let people know when a wildfire threatened homes in Sunrise Skypark off Idaho highway 78 in Givens on July 9.

So far, almost 200 people have signed up for the new emergency alert service.

“I think that’s good,” Ballard said. “I’d like to see a lot more, but that’s a good start.”

She added that it has been a steady rate of people signing up but there was a sharp increase of people registering during the Soda Fire.

There has been one stumbling block with the service.

“Apparently, on the website when you sign up, it is requiring an email address,” Ballard said. “If you do not have an email address, they’ll have to call me direct, and I can sign them up.”

Ballard says she has had to register approximately five people who do not have email.

If you would like to register with the service but don’t have email, call Ballard at the sheriff’s office, (208) 495-1154, ext.101.

The website to join the emergency alert call list is <http://public.alertsense.com/SignUp>.

To help people sign up with the service, Ballard intended to set up a booth at the fair where folks could complete the online registration using tablet computers. However, that plan fell through.

“Unfortunately, the person who was going to do that had a family member pass away, and had to be gone most of that week. So we just didn’t have the manpower to staff it,” Ballard said. — SC



## HHS Class of 2010 reunites

Members of the Homedale High School Class of 2010 recently gathered for a five-year reunion. **Top row, from left:** Dylan Kushlan, Ryan Ryska, Alex Mereness and Reece Landa. **Middle row, from left:** Kyle Abels, Alyssha Conant, Ciji (Christensen) Moore, Cynthia Rodriguez, Amalia (Cardenas) Jimenez, Ashlynn (Uria) Gabiola, Elizabeth Baltierrez, Drew Farwell and Carmen Zatica. **Bottom row, from left:** Megan Harper, Cassidy Cook, Alfredo Machuca, Jacy Grimm and Kortney (Stansell) Ford. Submitted photo

# State Bar honors public defender

Owyhee County public defender William H. Wellman has been honored by his peers.

Wellman, who has a practice in Nampa, collected the Idaho State Bar Professionalism Award during the organization’s annual meeting in Sun Valley.

The award acknowledges Wellman’s contribution to the profession and for his devotion to the legal needs of his clients.

Wellman has practiced out of his downtown Nampa office for 35 years. He practice areas in-

clude criminal defense, tort and family law.

He earned a Pro Bono Award in

1987 and has served as an Idaho State Bar commissioner including a one-year-term as president.



William Wellman

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Owyhee County Church Directory		
	<b>Golden Gate Baptist Church Wilder</b> Pastor Robert Potter, Jr., CLP Corner of Second and "B" Streets Church time is 11:00 am on Sunday Call (208) 880-4308 for information	<b>Our Lady of Tears Church Silver City</b>  For more information, call St. Paul's Church, Nampa 466-7031
<b>Iglesia Misionera Biblica Homedale</b> 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."	<b>Knight Community Church Grand View</b> Pastor Ivan Shetler 630 Idaho Street 208-834-2639 Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am	<b>Crossroads Assembly of God Wilder</b> Pastors Ron & Martha Hwy 19 & 95, 890-9132 Sunday School 9:30am Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am Sunday Evening Worship 6pm Wed. Bible Study 7pm
<b>Assembly of God Church Homedale</b> 15 West Montana, 337-4458  Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am Sunday Evening Service 6:00pm Wed. Bible Study 7:00pm Wed. Children & Youth Ministries 7:00pm	<b>Friends Community Church Wilder - Homedale</b> 17434 Hwy 95, 337-3464 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Services: 10:45 am Sundays Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 5:30 pm Wednesday CLC: 3:15 pm	<b>Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church Caldwell</b> 1122 W. Linden St. 459-3653 Mass: Saturday 5:00 pm Sunday 9:30 am Spanish Mass: Saturday 7:00 pm Spanish Mass: Sunday Noon
<b>Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church Homedale</b> 337-4248 Sunday Services 10am Pastor Sean Rippey Adult and Children Sunday School 9-9:45am Visitors Always Welcome! Call Church for Prayer requests	<b>Chapel of Hope Hope House, Marsing</b> Look for the Blue Church South Bruneau Hwy at the Hope House Welcoming Families, especially those with special needs children. Keith Croft, Pastor 880-2767 Jake & Alisha Henriouille, Youth Pastors 761-6747 Sunday Services at 10 am	<b>Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Homedale</b> 708 West Idaho Ave 337-4112 Bishop Mark Thatcher Bishop Robert T. Christensen Sunday 1st Ward 1pm Sunday 2nd Ward 9am
<b>Homedale Baptist Church Homedale</b> 212 S. 1st W. 841-0190 Sunday School 10am-11am Sunday Worship 11am-Noon Wednesday Evening 7pm Pastor James Huls	 <b>Wilder Church of God Wilder</b> 205 A St. E, 469-7698 Pastor Ray Gerthung Sunday School 9:45am Sunday Service 11am Sunday Eve. 6:00pm Wed. Eve. 7:00pm	<b>Mountain View Church of the Nazarene Wilder-Homedale</b> 26515 Ustick Road 337-3151 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:30 Adult & Youth Bible Class: Wednesday 7:00 pm Children's Caravan Program
 <b>MARSING APOSTOLIC ASSEMBLY</b> Asamblea Apostolica de Marsing 107 W. Main • Marsing, Idaho Pastor Jose Gutierrez 208-461-9016 or 880-6172 Sunday School 10:00 am Sunday Service 1 pm • Wednesday Service 7 pm Bilingual Services/Español	<b>Iglesia Evangelica Wilder</b>  317 3rd st., Pastor Ramiro Reyes 10 am Sunday School 11 am Service 482-7484 Bilingual	<b>St. David's Episcopal Church</b> 1800 Arlington Ave. Caldwell, ID 83605  208-459-9261  stdavids@stdavidscaledwell.org www.stdavid.episcopalidaho.org
<b>Christian Church Homedale</b> 110 W. Montana, 337-3626 Pastor Maurice Jones Sunday Morning Worship 11am Church school 9:45	<b>Bible Missionary Church Homedale</b> West Idaho, 337-3425 Pastor Ron Franklin Sunday School 10am Worship 11am Sunday Evening 7pm Wednesday Evening 7:30	<b>Assembly of God Church Marsing</b> 139 Kerry, 965-1650 Pastor Rick Sherrow Sunday School 10am Sunday Worship 11am & 6 pm
<b>Lizard Butte Baptist Church Marsing</b> Pastor David London 116 4th Ave. W., 859-2059 Sunday worship: Morning: 11am-Noon• Evening: 6-7pm Sunday school 10 am-10:55am Wednesday evening 6pm-7pm	<b>Nazarene Church Marsing</b> Pastor Bill O'Connor 649-5256 12 2nd Avenue West  Worship Services - Sunday 11am and 6pm Sunday School - 9:45am Mid Week TLC Groups	<b>Trinity Holiness Church Homedale</b> 119 N. Main Pastor Samuel Page 337-5021 Sunday School 10am Sunday Morning Worship 11am Sunday Evening 7pm Thursday Evening 7:30pm
<b>Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Marsing</b> 215 3rd Ave. West, 896-4151 Sunday 1st Ward, 1:00 p.m. Bishop Rowley Sunday 2nd Ward, 9:00 a.m. Bishop McIntyre	<b>Vision Community Church Marsing</b> 221 West Main Marsing, Idaho 208-779-7926 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Adult, Kids & Youth Meetings Wed. 7:00 p.m.	<b>United Methodist Church Wilder</b> <i>Exploring the Bible: Public Invited</i> 2nd & 4th Tuesday: 4-5pm Corner of 4th St. & B Ave. Pastor Dave Raines 208-880-8751 Sunday Service 9:30am
<b>First Presbyterian Church Homedale</b> 320 N. 6th W. Sunday Morning Worship 11am Sunday School 11am 208-473-9331	<b>Calvary Holiness Church - Wilder</b> Corner of 3rd St. & B Ave. • 208-989-0196 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m. Sunday: 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.  Food Pantry hours • 208-989-0226 2nd & 3rd Friday of month 2pm-4pm 4th Friday of month 12-1pm	<b>Seventh Day Adventist Homedale</b> 16613 Garnet Rd., 573-4574 Sabbath School Sat. 10:45am Worship 9:30am Wednesday Prayer Mtg. 7:00 pm
<b>Iglesia Bautista Palabra de Esperanza Homedale</b>  711 W. Idaho, 463-9569 Pastor Jose Diaz Servicios: Los Domingos 11:00 am	<b>Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church - Oreana</b> 2015 Mass Schedule - the following Saturdays at 10:00am Mar. 28 - Apr. 25 - May 23 June 27 - July 25 - Aug. 22 - Sept. 26 Oct. 24 - Nov. 28 - Dec. 26 All are welcome! For more information, call St. Paul's Church, Nampa 466-7031	<b>Amistad Cristiana de Wilder UMC</b> Esquina de 4 y calle B Domingos Servicio: 12:00 pm El Ropero (Banco de ropa) Miercoles 12- 2pm Martes y Jueves: 6:30 pm Ingles Sabados: 12:00 pm Arte Infantil Todo en Espanol, Inf. 989 7508

# SODA FIRE: THE RECOVERY

## Sage-grouse impact not as dire as thought

Fish and Game: Hunting still viable, but private land could be closed

Habitat damage and rehabilitation efforts in the wake of the Soda Fire were major topics at the Owyhee County Sage-grouse Local Working Group meeting last Wednesday.

Bureau of Land Management and Idaho Department of Fish and Game representatives briefed the LWG on the fire’s impact and the restoration outlook.

The BLM reports that eight active sage-grouse leks were burned during the fire, but Fish and Game biologist Michelle Kemner told the group that the fire burned a patchwork through the 53,421 acres of priority habitat that BLM said had been burned. She also said that many of the eight affected leks were located near areas left untouched by the fire.

Kemner alleviated concerns about the impact on sage-grouse, saying that media reports overemphasized the situation and adding that the burned areas weren’t premium sage-grouse habitat because of geography.

Kemner said the most devastating impact to sage-grouse likely is the burning of the Rock Creek lek. She noted it took 12 years for that lek to bounce back from a 2000 wildfire.

Kemner said that sage-grouse are loyal to geography and typically return to a lek a year after a fire and then shift location in subsequent years.

LWG member John Romero said the scope of the Soda Fire provides a unique opportunity to study sage-grouse at the leks that burned, and Kemner agreed saying long-term monitoring is crucial in understanding how the fire will affect the bird in the long run.

According to a Fish and Game press release, Kemner and Sr. Conservation Officer Craig Mickelson found three radio-collared bighorn sheep that survived the fire.

Two bighorn ewes were at Hemingway Butte outside the burn perimeter, and the other was in Reynolds Creek Canyon, which is traditional lambing and late summer habitat.

Kemner also said that an aerial survey of the Unit 40 hunting region revealed that only about 17 percent of the area was burned because of the patchwork pattern of the fire activity. The largest damage to hunting grounds was in Cow Creek where the fire originated.

Fish and Game said some of the best hunting areas, including South Mountain, Silver City, Bachman

Grade and Triangle were spared as were areas of the unit that lie south and east of the burn area.

The state agency has resisted calls to close the Unit.

“I empathize with people who want to close it,” Kemner said. “But there’s no reason to close the unit when there’s still so much habitat left to hunt.”

Reynolds Creek rancher Tony Richards hopes hunters will stay out of the burned area and allow the landscape time to rest.

He said many ranchers and other large landowners are posting their property this year, including some who allowed public access in the past. Richards said landowners are posting their land so it can recover.

“The hunting just isn’t there,” Richards said. “It’s all burned. It’s unbelievable.”

Another reason to avoid the area is because many fences and signs burned, and hunters traveling through burned areas may find old road beds and other routes without signs and have no way of knowing if they’re on public or private property, or on routes open to motorized travel.

TJ Clifford, a BLM official heading up the Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation (ESR) effort, said the team has been working out of the Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center. The ESR has been a partnership between federal, state and local agencies, including the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Owyhee County, the Idaho Department of Lands and others.

According to draft meeting minutes provided by LWG secretary Karen Steenhof, the LWG was informed that the ESR could take longer that the typical three-year implementation plan.

According to the minutes, ESR team members hope to use the fire to realign and improve the ecosystem by getting rid of annual grasses.

Tanya Thrift, the BLM Bruneau Field Office manager, said all treatment options will be considered, including biocides and herbicides to control the emergence of invasive species such as cheatgrass.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will turn over \$130,000 in seed money to the Owyhee Watershed Council.

— Portions of this article came from an Idaho Fish and Game news digest.



# SODA FIRE: THE RECOVERY

## Ranchers to benefit from Sunday dinner, auction

Organizer hopes to bring in at least \$7,000 for affected ranchers

The Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center could be a packed house Sunday evening.

A spaghetti feed to raise funds for ranchers who lost property or valuable rangeland during the Soda Fire will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., on Sunday in the center at 126 W. 2nd St. N.

Admission prices are \$5 per person or \$20 for a family (immediate members only). People can pay by cash or check, and donations will be accepted at the door. No advance tickets are available.

A silent auction will also be held Sunday night, and all proceeds will go to the Owyhee Cattlemen's Heritage Fund, which is part of the Owyhee Cattlemen's Association. The Heritage Fund Board will then distribute the money to ranchers impacted by the Soda Fire.

Collingwood hopes to rack up between \$5,000 to \$6,000 from the admission tickets, and

\$2,000 to \$3,000 from the silent auction.

The fundraiser is sponsored by Marsing's Vision Community Church, and members of the organization are donating their time and labor to cook, serve, and clean at the event. The benefit is also sponsored by the Nampa Sizzler location, which is donating enough spaghetti noodles, sauce, and meatballs to feed 800 people.

Organizer Don Collingwood is grateful to the restaurant for the donation.

"Thank you so much for all your support, God bless you and you can't say enough, you really can't," Collingwood said. "It's beyond belief that they would do something like that."

Local community members are donating garlic bread, salad, desserts and drinks for the spaghetti feed.

Collingwood came up with the idea for the fundraiser because he can relate to what the ranchers are going through.

### Benefit street dance, auction slated for Caldwell

A Caldwell restaurant has joined the fight to help ranchers recover from the Soda Fire.

All proceeds from the Indian Creek Steakhouse's street dance and auction on Saturday, Oct. 3, will benefit the Owyhee Cattlemen's Heritage Fund.

The fund is accepting donations for the relief of ranchers affected by last month's 280,000-acre wildfire.

The street dance and auction will take place in front of the restaurant, which is located at 711 Main Street in downtown Caldwell.

For more information on the event or to donate an auction item, call the restaurant at (208) 459-4835.

Grizzly Sports of Caldwell will provide a 2016 Polaris 570 Ranger for the auction. The UTV can be previewed at Grizzly Sports, 4220 Cleveland Blvd., in Caldwell.

"Back in 1979 my house burned down, and the community came together and helped us out, so I just wanted to pay it back," Collingwood said.

He was living in Fernwood south of St. Maries at the time and was 20 years old. Nobody was injured, but Collingwood did lose most of his belongings

in the fire.

The Marsing community center has a capacity of 700 people, and Collingwood isn't worried about overcrowding.

"I'm pretty sure that (for) three hours we'll be feeding pretty steady. I'm sure people will think like I do, 'Let's not all show up at once.' That's what I'm hoping,"

Collingwood said.

He has already heard from 345 people who say they will attend the fundraiser, and he's pretty confident that almost all of those people will show up.

Some of the donated silent auction items include a 100-pound lamb, photography sessions, Scentsy products, gift baskets, a toolbox, jewelry, a Frito-Lay party pack, and even a pony.

Collingwood said he was especially impressed with Canyon Honda, which donated three \$100 gift cards.

Auction donations will be accepted until the event begins, Collingwood said. He added that if someone would like to donate an item, but cannot attend the spaghetti feed, church members will be in the community center starting at 1 p.m. Sunday.

If you want to donate an item between now and Sunday or need more information on the fundraiser, call Collingwood at (208) 999-8279.

Donated items for the silent auction will continue to be accepted until the auction begins, Collingwood said. — SC

## From page 1

### ✓ Scorched: Farm Bureau, conservation districts step up to help ranchers

among the groups that have given money to help reseed some of the private property that was burned in last month's wildfire that cut a 438-square-mile swath across public, state and private land.

Elmore Farm Bureau and the EOCWMA has donated nearly \$35,000, which Jensen figures will buy nearly 41,000 pounds of seed in a mixture of four different wheatgrasses, small burnett and sanfoin.

That much seed should cover more than 4,300 acres, but it's only a drop in the bucket considering the Bureau of Land Management has estimated that the private property impacted by the fire is 10 times that size.

During last Wednesday's Owyhee County Sage-grouse Local Working Group meeting in Murphy, Art Talsma said there is an opportunity to seed private lands in the southern part of the Soda Fire impact area, which is the same general area of the 2006 Chubby Spain Fire

Some ranchers who lost rangeland — including 41 BLM grazing allotments — have found replacement pasture through private deals, Jensen said.

More than 300 tons of hay has been received or pledged, but Jensen said more could be on the way.

"Most guys are going to sit on it until we know exactly where it will go," he said.

The Owyhee Cattlemen's Heritage Fund has received more than \$25,000 in cash donations. Pledges can be made at any US Bank branch, or you can visit [www.owyheecattlemen.org](http://www.owyheecattlemen.org) for more information.

Marsing resident Stacy Fisher said her sister-in-law, Karen Keller, and family spearheaded the Nampa FFA chapter's fundraising efforts at the Western Idaho Fair last month. More than \$4,000 was raised for the heritage fund.

Jensen said ranchers seeking help from the burnout fund will have to submit a request to the disbursement committee.

Owyhee Conservation District board chair Chuck Kiester said the Northwest Owyhee Cooperative Weed Management Area and the Jordan Valley CWMA are also involved with relief efforts.

"All the different agencies along with the county commissioners are trying to work together and coordinate to help the ranchers and farmers who were impacted," Kiester said.

Kiester said that the NOCWMA board decided to donate \$500 to the reseeding effort during its meeting last Wednesday.

"When people call about donations, we're directing them to the (Owyhee Cattlemen's Association) through the University of Idaho (Extension)," Kiester said. "We're working in close coordination with them to try to coordinate everyone's efforts for Owyhee County."

The Board of County Commissioners also is working to ensure the various emergency response agencies will see some reimbursement for the resources expended while fighting the fire, which sparked on Aug. 10 and burned for nearly two weeks before containment on Aug. 23. BLM says the fire was controlled two days later.

County Clerk Angie Barkell said that the BOCC will get more information on reimbursement protocol and how much money will be available when they visit with state Bureau of Homeland Security recovery manager Don Taylor during their weekly meeting on Monday, Sept. 21. — JPB

### BID ON A 2016 POLARIS 570 FULL SIZE RANGER

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A crew from Eugene, Ore.-based Pave Northwest spreads slurry seal during a runway rehabilitation project at the Homedale Municipal Airport last Wednesday.



Jason White with CR Contracting of Bend, Ore. applies a fresh coat of paint to markings on the Homedale airport runway Friday afternoon.

# Homedale upgrades municipal airport runway

## Federal money helped finance rehab project

Homedale Municipal Airport got a \$240,000 pavement facelift last week. CR Contracting of Bend, Ore., was the general contractor for the project, which included pavement rehabilitation and stripping. The work took three days and wrapped up Friday before the brief afternoon rainstorm set in. A crew from Eugene, Ore.-based Pave Northwest began the slurry seal work on

the runway last Wednesday. CR Contracting was one of two companies to bid on the project, and the firm's \$135,200 bid was 15 percent lower than the \$159,000 estimate put together by Riedesel Engineering. The rest of the costs included:

- \$46,128 for engineering
- \$51,757 for Federal Aviation Administration-required Airport Geographic Information Systems (AGIS) work
- \$6,915 in administrative costs

The city contributed \$19,200 and the State of Idaho's Division of Aeronautics kicked in

\$4,800. That \$24,000 amounted to matching funds for the FAA's \$216,000 grant. Boswell Asphalt Paving bid \$136,400 for the project.

### City council meets tonight

City council members are scheduled to have a light agenda at 6 p.m. today for the first meeting of the month. The council met in executive session last Wednesday with former Planning and Zoning administrator Sylvia Bahem. No details from the closed meeting were released.

Another executive session for personnel matters has been scheduled tonight. The council repealed city code, ended the P&Z commission and terminated Bahem's position after an Aug. 27 public hearing.

### Bette Uda monument complete

With the last of the rock for the new configuration of the Bette Uda City Park monument in place, city public works employees Kent Curtis and Curtis Stansell on Friday removed the old pea gravel and railroad tie structure that used to house the engraved rock. — JPB



# Back to school for new teachers

## Homedale High School welcomes new music teacher

John Zieske begins first year teaching at a public school

Homedale High School’s new music teacher brings some Asian influences to his position.

John Zieske headed to Shanghai after graduating from the University of Idaho in 2013 with a bachelor of music and music education in instrumental.

During his first year in China, Zieske worked at Dynamix Performing Arts Academy. He then would spend the next seven months at the Concordia International School of Shanghai as a substitute teacher and choral accompanist.

Overall, he enjoyed his time overseas.

“The best thing’s definitely the food, not just Chinese food but any food imaginable,” Zieske said. “A bunch of different cultures, and it’s all delivered to your door for about \$2, which is



John Zieske

pretty nice.”

However, he did not enjoy the air pollution and said even smoke from the Soda Fire doesn’t compare to what he experienced across the Pacific Ocean.

“When you were evacuating Homedale, I went outside and it was smoky, but in the winter in Shanghai, it’s so much worse,” Zieske said.

He added that the communist political structure of China didn’t affect his teaching, and living in the Asian country isn’t as weird as some people might think.

“But it’s definitely something you’re aware of,” Zieske said. “One thing you notice, especially in Shanghai (is) no homeless really, like a noticeable difference because everyone has a job. Every block has a street sweeper.”

The 24-year-old Priest River

native is single. He currently lives in Nampa, and prior to his time in China, worked giving private music lessons.

His father started taking piano lessons while Zieske was still a young boy. Zieske followed dad’s lead, starting piano lessons in second grade.

“Over the course of a year, I got better than my dad and he quit, but I kept on taking piano lessons and then in fifth grade I joined my school’s band playing saxophone,” Zieske said.

He says Dad was his role model when he started playing piano.

“But that didn’t last long because I got better than him, mostly my teachers in public school were who I looked up to,” Zieske said.

His father’s name is also John and his mom is named Crystal.

The younger Zieske learned about the Homedale teaching position from his advisor at the U of I who had a list of school districts that were looking for teachers. Zieske’s predecessor

was Sam Stone who retired as music teacher at HHS after just one year.

Zieske said he didn’t pursue becoming a professional musician to get wealthy because of his love of teaching and working with students.

“I love seeing someone finally get a concept and their eyes light up,” Zieske said.

He’s still working on the performance calendar for the next nine months but knows his students will have five marching competitions this year. He also has something special in mind for next year.

“In the spring, I’m hoping to have a young conductors’ concert, students from the choir ensembles will be leading the band,” Zieske said.

He also has some thoughts on the school’s overall music program.

“Number-wise I’d like to see it grow, like jazz band. I’d like to see a larger group in the future,” Zieske said. “That’s why recruiting students is one of my main

goals for this year.”

For his first year teaching at a public school, Zieske has 28 students in the marching band, which encompasses seventh-graders through high school seniors, 16 choir students, and seven students in his music appreciation class. This is the first year that Homedale has had a jazz band class, which includes three students.

Zieske’s marching band will perform all three of the high school’s remaining home varsity football games. The games are set for Friday against Vale, Ore., Sept. 25 against Weiser, which is Homecoming, and Oct. 16 when the Trojans face Parma on Senior Night.

Zieske is quick to answer that his favorite instrument is the piano, and the dizi is, by far, his least favorite.

“It’s like a flute/kazoo, like if a flute and a kazoo had a baby,” Zieske said. “It’s a really high, shrill instrument sound, and very grating.”

— SC



From left: Kalynn and Carri Cooper of Homedale talking with Homedale Band Boosters treasurer Hollie McBride about a new fundraiser involving selling apples at the Homedale Farmers Market.

## Homedale marching band fundraiser under way

A new effort has been launched to gather funds for the Homedale High School band.

Homedale Farmers Market president Denise Dixon said the Homedale Band Boosters have been selling apples for the past week. Sales continue Thursday and for the next two Thursdays until the market concludes for the season on Sept. 24.

Homedale Band Boosters treasurer Hollie McBride says the group buys the apples at a discount from Symms Fruit Ranch in the Sunnyslope area northeast of Marsing.

Apples are available now. Prices are \$20 for 47 pounds and \$12

for half a box, or 23½ pounds.

The boosters are taking pre-orders for peaches and pears. There is a one-week turnaround for customers to pick up the fruit. McBride said prices and amounts for the peaches and pears have not been determined but will be about the same as the apples.

She added that the proceeds will be used to help purchase equipment and uniforms for the band, marching band and color guard, and to pay for travel expenses to competitions.

McBride said anyone with questions about the fundraiser can call Jerry Holloway at (208) 337-5889.

## Jordan Valley alum rescues high school Ag program

Annie Mackenzie also teaching science and health

Jordan Valley High School’s salutatorian for the Class of 2008 is now the school’s new Ag teacher.

Annie Mackenzie replaces Chelsie Fugate, who left after the last school year and moved north to Culdesac, Idaho, east of Lewiston, to teach Ag classes at Culdesac High School.

If not for Mackenzie, Jordan Valley might not have had agriculture in this year’s school curriculum.

“They’d been looking for an

Ag teacher, and I heard that they were having a hard time, and somebody had said that they weren’t going to have an Ag program,” she said.

“I thought, ‘Jordan Valley, of all places, should have one, but they can’t find anybody. Maybe I could help them out.’”

This is her first year teaching, and education is not in her professional background.

“I worked on my dad’s ranch for a while. I worked for my



Annie Mackenzie

brother-in-law’s excavation company. I worked for a construction company based out of Seattle,” Mackenzie said.

Her father, Mark Mackenzie, runs the Mackenzie Ranch on Succor Creek. Annie’s stepmother is Julie and her biological mom was the late Michelle Mackenzie.

Her brother-in-law, Jared Cox of Moses Lake, Wash., operates Central Washington Excavation. The Seattle construction company is named Scarsella Brothers.

Until this position in Jordan Valley presented itself, Mackenzie never really thought about being a teacher.

“I just think Ag is important, to Jordan Valley especially, and it was kind of a special opportu-

nity,” Mackenzie said. “I don’t think I would have gone into teaching for any other subject anywhere else.”

While she will run the Ag program at the high school and serve as FFA advisor, she also teaches seventh- and eighth-graders.

“They do online science, and online health. They proctor those classes,” Mackenzie said.

During high school, she was an all-league girls’ basketball player.

After graduation, she played one season of women’s basketball at Walla Walla (Wash.) Community College. Later she concentrated on rodeo at Walla Walla and, eventually, Eastern Oregon University in La Grande, Ore.

While at EOU, she competed in breakaway roping and served as National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association northwest regional student director in 2012.

Having graduated from EOU in 2013, Mackenzie’s degree is in liberal studies, and she had minors in English, anthropology, and sociology.

Looking ahead to the new school year, she hopes her students will walk away from her class with something useful.

“A lot of them, they’ll go back to the ranch and stuff, so I hope that something that I teach them can apply to what they’re doing every day, even if it’s in the summer when they’re working on the ranch,” Mackenzie said. — SC



Trojans volleyball splits week's matches

Antelopes win pool at volleyball tourney

# Avalanche Sports

## Rimrock football returns to field Friday

### Greenleaf Friends Academy co-op launched

Rimrock High School's football team is back in business after combining forces with a former rival.

Rimrock and Greenleaf Friends Academy will field a co-operative squad this season, according to Raiders coach Alex Meyers.

"We had our first joint practice (Thursday)," Meyers said. "We will practice with them on Tuesdays and Thursdays."

Rimrock was forced to forfeit its first two games of the season, including what was supposed to be a home game last Friday against Glens Ferry.

The Rimrock-GFA co-op era begins at 3 p.m. Friday in Fairfield when the team takes on Camas County.

Most games will be played in Greenleaf, and save for the Sept. 25 Rimrock Homecoming game against Horseshoe

Bend in Bruneau, every game after this week will take place in Canyon County.

All games except for this week's non-conference game in Fairfield will start at 7 p.m.

The revamped schedule includes:

• 3 p.m., Friday at Camas County (Fairfield)

• 7 p.m., Friday, Sept. 18 vs. Tri Valley in Greenleaf

• 7 p.m., Friday, Sept. 25 vs. Horseshoe Bend at Rimrock (Homecoming)

• 7 p.m., Friday, Oct. 2 at Notus  
• 7 p.m., Friday, Oct. 9 vs. Idaho City in Greenleaf (Homecoming)

• 7 p.m., Friday, Oct. 16 vs. Camas County in Greenleaf

• 7 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 22 at Wilder

Most of the matchups remain the same from Rimrock's original schedule except the Raiders no longer have home dates against Tri Valley and Idaho City. Rimrock originally was supposed to play Castleford this week.

## Runners take first big strides

### Homedale's Correa makes season debut

Local high school athletes jumped into their first large-scale cross country meet of the season last Wednesday.

Homedale High School senior Maya Correa made her season debut at the New Plymouth Invitational, carding the highest finish of any Trojans athlete in the field.

Correa ran a 24-minute, 10.7-second race, finishing 21<sup>st</sup> in the girls' meet. Sophomore Kendall Nash was less than eight seconds behind her teammate for 22<sup>nd</sup>. It was her first high school competition since finishing 25<sup>th</sup> in last year's 3A state meet.

Fourteen teams entered the meet, which featured schools from Idaho and Oregon ranging in size from as large as Class 4A (boys' champion Columbia) to Class 1A, Div. II (Council). Cole Valley Christian of the 2A Western Idaho Conference, won the girls' team title.

Homedale's boys finished 12<sup>th</sup> in a 14-team field, and Marsing was 13<sup>th</sup>. On the girls' side, Homedale was seventh out of eight teams. Marsing didn't enter any runners in the girls' competition.

— See *Runners*, page 16



Maya Correa



Landry Villa



Homedale senior Garret Carter comes down from making a leaping catch in the first half as Melba's Devin Edmiston tries to make the stop.

## Determined, deep Trojans trample Mustangs

### Defense holds Melba to less than 60 yards offense

Homedale High School's football team took a page out of Teddy Roosevelt's playbook Friday night.

The Trojans worked briskly, and whenever there was an obstacle against Melba, the players went either over, under or through it, but never around.

Josh Tolmie and Jakobee Osborn drove through the Mustangs' defense, and fellow senior Lawsen Matteson engineered the no-huddle offense and threw over his opponents during a 45-6 season-opening non-conference victory at Deward Bell Stadium.

"I think that is just a glimpse of the determination of these seniors and their desire to finish their last year as Homedale Trojans the right way," HHS coach Matt Holtry said of the hard-nosed running by Tolmie and Osborn.

"Their determination motivates the entire team."

Tolmie finished with 160 yards rushing, including touchdown runs of 16, one and 12 yards.

Playing H-Back, Osborn was a dual threat. His 15-yard run gave HHS a 45-0 lead with 5 minutes, 53 seconds left in the game. He also caught one



Homedale senior defensive back Chase Martell makes the play on a pass intended for Melba's Justin Trappet.

pass and dragged half the Mustangs' defense for the last half of a 10-yard reception.

— See *Trojans*, page 17

## Adrian extends winning streak

Reigning 1A Oregon state champion Adrian High School stretched its winning streak to 13 games Friday.

The Antelopes avenged a 2013 state playoffs loss when they beat Camas Valley in a 40-30 shootout in the Dufur Classic.

No statistics were provided.

Adrian takes on non-conference foe Wallowa at home at 7 p.m. Friday.

## Grangeville grinds up Marsing

### Suspensions hurt Huskies on road

The climb got a little steeper Friday night for Marsing High School, but football coach Brad Hill hopes the experience will only make the Huskies stronger.

Grangeville took the opening kickoff to the end zone for a touchdown and didn't look back in a 49-6 non-conference victory over visiting Marsing, which played without two starters because of a suspension for missing practice. Other players are sidelined for academic ineligibility.

"We've got to get our full team



Brad Hill

— See *Marsing*, page 15



Sports

Marsing volleyball drops season opener to Adrian

Marsing High School showed some fight in its season-opening volleyball match.

The Huskies pushed Adrian beyond the limit in the second game before falling in four sets in a Sept. 1 non-conference tilt on the Antelopes' floor.

Avery Villa led the Huskies with eight kills, six assists and six service points in the 25-19, 29-27, 21-25, 25-21 loss.

Lauren Barraza blasted five kills and handed out five assists to help Adrian to the season-opening victory. Teammate Anna Hutchings served four aces and knocked down six kills, while Erin Nielson had three aces and four kills.

Marsing senior middle Holly Hobbs put down 10 kills and added two blocks on defense. She also served for nine points and had two assists.

Senior setter Adrianna Salutregui dished 13 assists, while Marsing teammate Jordan Goins kicked in seven kills, two assists and seven service points. LeAnn Garcia added 13 assists, while Alex Grant chipped in five kills and nine assists.

Marsing, which had posted a victory over Weiser during the Kuna Classic last month, rallied in the second set to put pressure on Adrian. Trailing 21-16, the Huskies scored 10 of the game's next 14 points before Adrian put the game away on its fifth set point.

Facing the end of its night, Marsing led wire-to-wire to win Game 3.

With the fourth set tied, 15-15, Adrian pulled away to seal the victory.

Rounding out the statistics for Adrian coach Aimee Esplin, Selina Villarreal posted five kills with two assists and an ace, and Carlee Morton doled out seven assists and had an ace and a kill.

✓ Marsing: Huskies can't keep up with seasoned Bulldogs' running game

From Page 12

together, and everybody has to commit to practice," Hill said.

Joseph Ineck got the start at tailback Friday and rushed for 17 yards on eight carries before tweaking his ankle and leaving the game. Hill said the sophomore will be back for the non-conference home game against Homedale on Sept. 18.

"We started five sophomores on the offensive side of the football," Hill said. "On offense and defense, we're playing anywhere from five to seven sophomores and freshmen."

With youth comes enthusiasm, though. Hill was impressed with the way his team bounced back from the TD return to start the game.

"We came right back and moved the ball down to the 20 and stalled," Hill said.

The Huskies (0-2 overall) couldn't find the end zone until senior quarter Brett Grossman ran 31 yards to pay dirt in the fourth quarter.

The Bulldogs (1-1) rolled up 295 yards rushing with senior Jack Lawrence running the ball four times for 64 yards, including a 20-yard touchdown run in the first quarter.

"We've got to be able to stop the run," Hill said. "If we can't stop the run, people are going to continue to just run it right down our throats. And that's what they did. They just went in two formations and ran the ball."

Lawrence had two receptions on the night, and both went for first-quarter touchdowns as Grangeville owned a 28-0 lead.

"They've been successful for so many years that they know how to play, and they know how to win," Hill said of Grangeville. "And they played hard from the kickoff to the final whistle, and we've got to learn how to play that way."

The Bulldogs also returned a Grossman interception for a score, the second time in as many weeks that an opponent carded a pick-six against the Huskies.


Taj Jacobi gained 35 yards on the ground for Marsing, and Grossman's touchdown run accounted for nearly half of his 66 rushing yards.

Grossman completed six of 13 passes for 56 yards, but he was intercepted twice. Marsing had five turnovers.


"We're still young. We've got a ways to go," Hill said.

"The goal is to go to the playoffs, and we're hoping that by the time we get around to league we'll be ready."

— JPB



Senior quarterback Brett Grossman looks for an open receiver during Friday's loss to Grangeville. Photo by Sarah Grossman / Freeze the Day Photography



# MARSING HUSKIES

## Athlete of the Week

**Holly Hobbs, sr., volleyball**  
*The Play — A middle hitter, Hobbs registered 10 kills and two blocks in the Huskies' four-set loss to Adrian, Ore., in a Sept. 1 non-conference road match.*

**Football Varsity**  
Friday, Sept. 11, bye  
Friday, Sept. 18, home vs. Homedale, 7 p.m.


**Junior varsity**  
Thursday, Sept. 10, bye  
Thursday, Sept. 17 at Homedale, 6 p.m.

**Cross country**  
Saturday, Sept. 12 at Roger Curran Invitational, West Park, Nampa, TBA


**Volleyball Varsity**  
Thursday, Sept. 10 at Cole Valley Christian, 7 p.m.  
Monday, Sept. 14 at Nyssa, Ore., 6 p.m.  
Tuesday, Sept. 15, home vs. Melba, 7 p.m.

**Junior varsity A**  
Thursday, Sept. 10 at Cole Valley Christian, 6 p.m.  
Monday, Sept. 14 at Nyssa, Ore., 5 p.m.  
Tuesday, Sept. 15, home vs. Melba, 6 p.m.


**Junior varsity B**  
Thursday, Sept. 10 at Cole Valley Christian, 4:45 p.m.  
Monday, Sept. 14 at Nyssa, Ore., 4 p.m.  
Tuesday, Sept. 15, home vs. Melba, 4:45 p.m.



896-4162




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Go Huskies!



# Sports



After the kill by Nyssa’s Mikkie Jensen, far right, Homedale’s Gardenia Machuca sends the block back over the net for the Trojan point. Photo by John L. Braese / The Malheur Enterprise

## HHS drops road match

Homedale High School’s volleyball team split its matches last week.

On Thursday, the Trojans (2-1 overall) hit the road and dropped a five-set non-conference decision to Nyssa, Ore. The Bulldogs prevailed 25-12, 23-25, 25-17, 18-25, 15-7.

No statistics were provided.

**Sept. 1: Homedale def. Melba, 3-1** — Madi Fisher delivered six more aces, and she and Sydnee Shanley combined for 25 assists in the Trojans’ 25-13, 25-8, 17-25, 25-8 non-conference victory over the visiting Mustangs.

Shanley had 10 assists and seven digs. The senior also added two aces.

Another senior, Gardenia Machuca turned in an all-around performance. At the net, she had six kills and three blocks, and she chipped in with six digs and three assists.

Three other players made big contributions on the front line, too. Liset Llamas had 10 kills, and Ashley Burks notched eight kills and a block. Tristan Corta served a pair of aces, while putting down five kills and digging six balls.

Libero Diana Contreras led the defense with 21 digs, and she served three aces.

## ✓ Runners: Nash Johnson, Landry Villa lead their respective teams

From Page 14

Senior Nash Johnson turned in the best finish among the Trojans’ boys. He ran a 20:15.3 race for 39<sup>th</sup>.

Landry Villa had Marsing’s best result, clocking the 43<sup>rd</sup>-fastest time among nearly 150 athletes in the boys’ meet. The sophomore finished in 20:30.2.

Other local finishers in the boys’ race were:

- **Matthew Lee, so., Marsing** — 53<sup>rd</sup> at 20:51.3
- **Jordan Van Es, jr., Homedale** — 69<sup>th</sup> at 21:27.9
- **Alex Beckman, jr., Homedale** — 73<sup>rd</sup> at 21:48.7
- **Anthony Beckman, so., Homedale** — 92<sup>nd</sup> at 22:40
- **Alexandre Heidt, sr., Marsing** — 96<sup>th</sup> at 23:04.2
- **Tristin Miller, jr., Marsing** — 102<sup>nd</sup> at 23:28.2

- **Dalton Withers, so., Marsing** — 115<sup>th</sup> at 24:43.8
  - **Nick Mulligan, sr., Homedale** — 133<sup>rd</sup> at 27:01.79
  - **Gavin Thorud, so., Marsing** — 135<sup>th</sup> at 27:11.7
  - **Landon Villa, fr., Marsing** — 144<sup>th</sup> at 33:04.79
- Local finishers in the girls’ contest also included:
- **Lainey Johnson, so., Homedale** — 34<sup>th</sup> at 25:37.4
  - **Hannah Egusquiza, so., Homedale** — 52<sup>nd</sup> at 27:33.3
  - **Ali Jeppe, sr., Homedale** — 66<sup>th</sup> at 28:44.7
  - **Abbi Gibbens, sr., Homedale** — 67<sup>th</sup> at 29:11.5
  - **Madison Smith, sr., Homedale** — 81<sup>st</sup> at 33:11.9
  - **Laurel Schroeder, jr., Homedale** — 83<sup>rd</sup> at 33:14.7
  - **Nallely Gonzalez, so., Homedale** — 87<sup>th</sup> at 33:53.8



Homedale High School senior Nash Johnson comes to the finish line during the New Plymouth Invitational last Wednesday. John L. Braese / The Malheur Enterprise

# Homedale Trojans

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### Athlete of the Week

**Josh Tolmie, sr., football**

The Play — Tolmie gained 158 yards total offense, including 160 yards and three touchdowns on 24 rushing attempts. On defense, he had two solo tackles and an interception that set up a Homedale touchdown in Friday's 45-6 non-conference win over visiting Melba.

**HOMEDALE CHIROPRACTIC CENTER**  
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**CAMPBELL TRACTOR CO**  
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**Football**  
Varsity  
Friday, Sept. 11, home vs. Vale, Ore., 7 p.m.

Junior varsity  
Thursday, Sept. 10 at Vale, Ore., 5 p.m.

**Cross country**  
Friday, Sept. 11 at Catherine Creek Scamper, Union, Ore., 3:30 p.m. MDT

**Volleyball**  
Varsity  
Thursday, Sept. 10, home vs. Nyssa, Ore., 7 p.m.  
Tuesday, Sept. 15, home vs. Fruitland, 6:30 p.m.

Junior varsity  
Thursday, Sept. 10, home vs. Nyssa, Ore., 6 p.m.  
Saturday, Sept. 12 at Weiser Tournament, TBA  
Tuesday, Sept. 15, home vs. Fruitland, 5:30 p.m.

Frosh-soph  
Thursday, Sept. 10, home vs. Nyssa, Ore., 5 p.m.  
Tuesday, Sept. 15, home vs. Fruitland, 4:30 p.m.

Go Trojans!



Sports

Adrian wins volleyball tournament pool

Mustangs fall

Antelopes complete busy first week

Adrian High School couldn’t capitalize on a successful run in pool play at the Prairie City volleyball tournament.

The Antelopes finished first in their pool against the host team, Cove and archrival Jordan Valley.

“I am pleased we are getting a lot of playing time for all our players, and this should help as the season progresses,” coach Aimee Esplin said.

Adrian lost to Joseph in a close three-set match, 25-23, 21-25, 16-14, in the first round of the single-elimination championship bracket.

“It was a great match, but we were unable to keep the edge at

the end,” Esplin said.

Carlee Morton, a 5-foot, 4-inch junior, served five aces and dished eight assists. Sophomore Morgan Bayes (5-9) led the way from the net with seven kills. Sophomore Laynee Walker (5-6) added five aces and two kills, and 5-4 junior Anna Hutchings carded three kills and two digs.

The Antelopes’ matches this week include a Friday home encounter against Wallowa and a trip to the Burns Tournament on Saturday.

**Friday: Powder Valley def. Adrian, 3-1** — The Antelopes stumbled in the first set of their non-conference home match and couldn’t recover against the Badgers from North Powder, Ore.

The Antelopes rallied for a third-set victory but fell 25-9, 25-14, 13-25, 25-12.

“We had a lot of service errors,

and it kept us out of the match,” Esplin said. “Powder hit well, and defensively at times we were slow to react.

“I was happy that in the third set we pulled together and made something happen.”

Lauren Barraza, a 5-4 junior, dished five assists, while Hutchings had four kills and served an ace. Junior Selina Villarreal (5-4) had two kills and two digs.

**Thursday: Notus def. Adrian, 3-2** — The Antelopes rallied midway through their non-conference match in Idaho, but couldn’t sustain the momentum in a 25-15, 23-25, 22-25, 25-13, 15-13 loss.

“Both teams had their ups and downs, and we ended up with a few more downs,” Esplin said. “I really like that the girls battled at key times and gave themselves chances during the match.”

Hutchings came through with

10 kills and two aces, while Morton, served three aces to go with six assists and three kills.

Sophomore Erin Nielson (5-8) notched four kills and two digs, and Barraza had six assists, an ace and one kill.

“We have a lot of youth that are getting some quality playing time and they will get there,” Esplin said. “We made some strides in areas but really need to focus on strengthening our serve receive.

“A five-set match gave us some good court time with a good defensive team.”

The Pirates received big contributions at the net from Sequoia Deason and Kenna Ireland. Deason had 14 kills, and Ireland put down 12 shots and served four aces. The pair also showed off the defense to which Esplin referred with Deason registering nine digs and Ireland blocking five shots.

Two-way players shone Friday in Jordan Valley High School’s season-opening football loss.

Jett Warn threw for 179 yards and three touchdowns and rushed for 75 yards and a TD in the Mustangs’ 36-26 non-conference loss to visiting Pine Eagle.

“Offensively, Jett did a great job running it, and is just starting to realize his potential at quarterback,” coach Bryce Kershner said.

Warn recorded 11 tackles and six assists. He also recovered a Spartans’ fumble, while JJ Echave and Wyatt Stanford had two quarterback sacks each.

Stanford (six catches for 98 yards) and Echave (seven receptions for 78 yards) both had TD catches, while TJ Davis picked up 67 yards on 13 rushes.

“It was a first game for us, and we gave up a lot of yards in penalties, which ended up being the difference,” Kershner said.

Opening kickoff TD fuels Trojans JV

Homedale High School didn’t waste any time in gaining momentum in its junior varsity football season opener Thursday.

Freshman Carson Brown returned the opening kick 75 yards for a touchdown to ignite the Trojans’ 40-14 non-conference victory over host Melba.

Homedale scored on four of its first six possessions before halftime and committed only one turnover — a Drew Deal interception — in the game.

The Trojans held a 26-0 lead before Melba capitalized on Deal’s interception with Timothy Reinertson six-yard touchdown pass to Dallin Forsgren with 4 minutes, 14 seconds left in the second quarter.

Homedale’s defense forced two turnovers and pinned Reinertson in the end zone for a safety after he fumbled the ball backwards eight yards in the third quarter. Homedale freshman linebacker Braydon Miller made the play.

Ninth-grader Mason Kincheloe scored four touchdowns, including the game’s final score with just over a minute left. After Brown’s 45-yard return of a Reinertson interception, Kincheloe capped his 140-yard rushing night with a 15-yard scoring run.

Kincheloe scored on a six-yard run in the first quarter and took it in from the 1-yard line in the second quarter. His third touchdowns was a 20-yard scamper with 5 minutes, 3 seconds

left in the first half.

Freshman Jesse Martinat’s 11-yard run gave Homedale a 32-6 lead in the third quarter.

Melba squeezed in a 31-yard TD pass form Reinertson to Kyle Svetich with 14 seconds left in the game.

Homedale’s defensive effort was spread around. Freshmen linebackers Jason Puri, Jacob Puckett and lineman Jaylon Hilton and linebacker Cobey Christoffersen — both sophomores — recorded three tackles apiece. Hilton also had a sack, and junior safety Drew Taylor recovered a fumble.

Deal, who is a freshman, and Brown hooked up three times through the air for 77 yards. The Trojans rolled up 17 first downs and 306 yards total offense.

Two HMS football home games left

Homedale Middle School’s football season is under way, and the Trojans will play two more home games.

The seventh- and eighth-grade teams started the season Tuesday after deadline with a doubleheader at Deward Bell Stadium against Weiser.

Other home games will be held on Sept. 22 against Parma and Oct. 6 against McCain of Payette.

Many of this year’s eighth-graders, who are coached by Tony Uranga and Darren Uranga, were on last year’s 3A Snake River Valley conference championship-winning seventh-grade team.

That squad rallied to beat Fruitland, 13-7, for the championship and finished the year 5-1. The only loss was a regular-season setback against Fruitland.

Jamie Mertz will coach this year’s seventh-graders, who will play the first game of each doubleheader. Kickoff is 4:15 p.m. for the home games, and the eighth-graders will take the field 15 minutes after the end of the early game.

Admission to home games is \$2 for adults and \$1 for school-aged children.

Last year’s eighth-grade squad also went 5-1, beating Ontario, Ore., 48-6, for third place in the conference playoffs.

The rest of the HMS schedule includes:

**Tuesday** — at Fruitland

**Sept. 29** — at Ontario, Ore.

**Oct. 13** — Conference playoffs, if necessary

Drones outlawed at JV, Adrian games

The Oregon School Activities Association Executive Board banned the use of drones at high school sporting events as of Thursday, one day before football season started for Jordan Valley and Adrian high schools.

Drones are prohibited throughout

the stadium from one hour before game time until one hour afterward.

If game officials spot a drone at a game, they can stop play and send the players to the sideline or locker room until safety concerns are allayed.

The policy doesn’t affect practices,

but OSAA urges people to check with their local school districts.

Idaho High School Activities Association executive director Ty Jones said no such ban is in place in Idaho, but that individual school districts may have their own policies in place.

✓ Trojans: Experience pays off in Homedale’s season-opening victory

From Page 14

The Trojans were unable to cash in on Osborn’s determination because the second-quarter drive stalled at Melba’s 5-yard line.

Homedale (1-0 overall) still managed to score, though, after the defense kept the Mustangs (1-1) inside the 5. Vallivue transfer Dylan Adams, a 5-foot, 11-inch, 195-pound defensive lineman, threw Melba quarterback Eli Bangerter for a 4-yard loss, and Mustangs running back Devin Edmiston was stopped a yard behind the line at the 1 two plays later to end the series.

Adams finished with five

tackles, including half a sack, two assists on tackles for loss and a total loss of 12 yards to the Melba offense.

“We are blessed with four returning starters on the defensive line but also the addition of Dylan Adams. We have great depth at the D-line position, and they are all very athletic, which is not always the case with high school defensive linemen,” Holtry said.

“The trenches always set the tone for games, and we were lucky to be able to get the upper hand early in the game, which helped get the mojo going for us early.”

Junior defensive lineman Kendall Freelove led the effort with six tackles, including four solo stops and two for a loss.

Melba managed just 57 yards total offense, including 23 yards on the ground. The Mustangs had three first downs and didn’t score until Jared Rainboth’s 13-yard TD run on his team’s last possession of the game.

Matteson made sure the Trojans’ offense capitalized on the defense’s dominance.

After Melba’s offense was stopped three feet away from its own goal line, Tolmie drove through the line for a TD.

Earlier in the first half, Tolmie beat the receiver to a short pass from Bangerter, intercepting the ball at the Melba 15. Three plays later, Matteson hit senior wideout Connor Carter for the first of his two touchdowns. Carter dove through a pair of defenders to reach the goal line.

Carter caught six balls for 101 yards. His brother, Garret, hauled in five catches for 47 yards, including a four-yard score in the third quarter.

The Carter twins helped Matteson to a 251-yard passing night that included 20-for-28 passing.

“Connor and Garret give the offense two threats on the edge at all times. But so does Jake Deal, Wyatt Wolfe, John Collett, Chase Martell, Max Mertz and Kendall Freelove,” Holtry said. “All of our wide receivers and tight ends are threats to make big plays for our offense, and we feel blessed to have such rich talent all on one team this season.

“Connor and Garret being twin brothers makes it a pretty special combo, but they also understand that it’s about the whole team and not just about them, which makes them even more special.”

— JPB



# Commentary

Baxter Black, DVM



## On the edge of common sense Stop, look and listen

The sun had already set when Joe finally called home. Janie said, “Joe, where are you? We’ve got company coming!”

Joe sighed, dug another cinder out of his hair and said, “Sweetie, I’ve had a bad day.”

That morning at daylight, they unloaded their horses in the big Texas panhandle pasture to gather the steers. Joe reluctantly let his friends come on the gather in their helicopter but as the morning progressed he was learning to appreciate its value. It could zip up a draw, check the next rise and push ’em like a spatula in a pan full of Jimmy Dean sausages!

As they approached the tunnel that would take the cattle under the Santa Fe railroads tracks, Joe held ’em up, waiting for the train. It soon rattled through in the cool November fog. Knowing there wouldn’t be another train for a while he started the steers.

In a few minutes, he noticed that some of the steers had climbed through the fence and were casually socializing on the tracks above him. Cow shaped silhouettes in the mist.

Riding up, Joe saw that the fence had come down. He kicked himself for not checking earlier, but they’d come in a different way. He spurred his horse, Freckles, up the side of the roadbed, went down the tracks south and brought the steers back. The helicopter came in from the north, and they sandwiched the critters over the crossing.

A whole bunch was milling around on the tracks when Joe saw the helicopter suddenly rise straight up! A rotating beam shone through the mist. An eerie feeling shivered down Joe’s neck. There was no sound. Then, like a whale breaching out of your Grape Nuts Flakes, a locomotive burst outta the fog!

Joe pulled Freckles hard down the side! He tangled in an old fence at the edge of the cinders. Joe came off in the rat’s nest of wire! The horse panicked and ran straight at the onrushing train draggin’ several yards of wire and Joe!

The hysterical horse got sideswiped by a flatcar! Skipped him from hip to shoulder and tore the fender and stirrup off the saddle! Scuffed the seat up some, too. Joe’s boot came loose before he hit the crossties and rolled away from the roaring train.

No cattle were killed. Joe was black and blue for 10 days. They had to Pine-Sol the helicopter cockpit, and Freckles healed up. Although they don’t call him Freckles anymore. Now they call him Santa Fe!

— Visit Baxter’s Web site at [www.baxterblack.com](http://www.baxterblack.com) for more features and to purchase Baxter Black merchandise, including his newest release, “Cave Wall Graffiti from a Neanderthal Cowboy,” other books and DVDs.

### Election letters

The Owyhee Avalanche will accept letters to the editor pertaining to the Nov. 3 elections until noon Friday, Oct. 23.

Letters must be no more than 300 words and must include contact information, including a phone number, of the letter-writer. Submit by:

- Email to [jon@owyheeavalanche.com](mailto:jon@owyheeavalanche.com)
  - Fax to (208) 337-4867
  - Mail to P.O. Box 97, Homedale ID, 83628
  - Drop at the Avalanche, 19 E. Idaho Ave., Homedale
- For more information, call (208) 337-4681.

### Board of Owyhee County Commissioners



Jerry Hoagland  
District 1



Kelly Aberasturi  
District 2



Joe Merrick  
District 3 (chair)

## Soda Fire Citizens, resources suffer as history repeats itself under BLM’s failed management

The Bureau of Land Management’s management of fine fuel load to prevent catastrophic widespread wildfires in southern Idaho is not working. Change is needed in how federal land managers use the management tools they already have available to reduce fine fuel loads.

Analysis of wildfire history over the past several decades tells us federal land management efforts are ineffective in preventing large catastrophic fires. In fact, our experience in Idaho shows BLM management is aggravating the situation. BLM needs to change their biased and ineffective practices in dealing with fine fuel loads and employ all available options in fine fuel load management on Idaho’s rangelands.

In the late 1990s and early 2000s, the BLM began arbitrarily capping Temporary Non-Renewable (TNR) grazing in eastern Owyhee and Twin Falls county grazing allotments. This allowed large amounts of fuel to accumulate. In 2007, the Murphy Complex Fire burned an estimated 652,016 acres. By acreage, it was the third largest wildfire in the United States between 1997 and 2009. The fire affected Owyhee and Twin Falls counties in Idaho, and Elko County, Nev. Total reclamation costs of taxpayer dollars were estimated at well over \$11 million during fiscal years 2007–2010, with full recovery of the natural systems taking several additional years. (source: *Murphy Fire Complex – Wikipedia*).

When the Birds of Prey National Conservation Area (NCA) was established, the BLM began reducing springtime grazing, allowing fine fuels to accumulate. The result: Thousands of acres of the Birds of Prey NCA’s big sagebrush and salt desert shrub habitat have burned and is now replaced with exotic annual grasses (cheatgrass) and weeds. As these wildfires continue in southern Idaho at such large scales, research indicates a significant negative trend in other Idaho natural resources because of wildfires. The number of Golden Eagle pairs in the NCA, have had a 30 percent decline between 1971 and 2009, according to Michael Kochert, scientist emeritus with the U.S. Geological Survey in Boise. According to Kochert, “although various human uses have affected raptor populations, the loss of native plant communities, spread of annual weeds and the escalating fire cycle have probably

had the most significant and profound influences.” (source: *U.S. Department of the Interior, BLM website*).

Now the public land users in Idaho have to face the aftermath of the Soda Fire in Owyhee County, which burned approximately 284,000 acres. Some of the most productive sage-grouse habitat is now burned and blackened as a result of inadequate fine fuel load management. Despite the warning signs, BLM continued to dismiss the issue of high fuel loads on the public lands. BLM’s own data showed excessive fuel loads, and these same federal land managers received warnings of catastrophic fire events from state agencies. The Idaho Governor’s office recently protested BLM grazing decisions, specifically pointing out that the fine fuel loads significantly increased the possibility of catastrophic wildfires. Yet, the BLM seemed to ignore or dismiss those warnings. As recently as two to three years ago, examples of, and data on, the increasing fuel loads could be found in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents prepared by the BLM. Numerous examples of light forage utilization levels (reduced grazing) were identified in those documents, showing that light utilization is a cause of the increased fuel loads over the past two decades, which is at the heart of these catastrophic rangeland fires.

One of many examples is the final grazing decision issued on the Sands Basin Allotment (part of the Soda Fire), which has now burned. BLM documents show that utilization of a key grass species, bluebunch wheatgrass, changed from an average 47 percent grazing use prior to 1996 to an average of 11.67 percent grazed in 2011 in Pasture 3. On this same allotment in Pasture 4, bluebunch wheatgrass was an average of 50 percent grazed prior to 1996 but reduced to an average of 12.9 percent grazed in 2011. Yet in a final grazing decision issued to ranchers in recent years, BLM’s management prescription, for an allotment which was noted to contain large amounts of very flammable exotic plants, further decreased the livestock grazing in the allotment. These types of management decisions will continue to allow for fine fuel loads to increase over time.

— See *BLM*, Page 19

## Soda Fire letters to the editor Response of firefighters, community appreciated

A big thank you to all the firefighters, organizers and support people — both local and government — who came together to battle the Soda wildfire in Owyhee County. We’re especially grateful to those who labored diligently, notably through one particularly scary night for us, to protect Givens Hot Springs and surrounding homes and outbuildings from the fast-advancing fire.

Our sympathies are with those who have lost grazing growth, livestock, and some structures in our area. It has been gratifying, however, to see the community rally in support with offers of help to their neighbors, including care and pasture for displaced animals. This same effort was reflected in the financial success of the annual, regularly

scheduled Murphy-Reynolds-Wilson (Volunteer) Fire District fundraiser, held on Aug. 22. These funds helped greatly in restoring many of the much-needed emergency funds depleted in fighting the fire, which support the volunteer efforts of the selfless people in our community who watch over our emergency needs.

Our hearts especially go out to those in other areas of the West who are losing, or have lost, homes and even loved ones — as in the case of three firefighters tragically killed by the fires. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Nadine and Steve Givens  
Givens Hot Springs

— See *Soda Fire letters*, Page 19



# Commentary

## Financial management Find balance between giving, spending and saving

**Dear Dave,**  
I've heard you talk about extreme spenders and extreme savers. Exactly what do these terms mean?  
— **Marianne**

**Dear Marianne,**  
Some people have a tendency to live in the moment, while others think more about the future. Financially speaking, those who live in the moment tend to be spenders, while the other type tends to be savers. When you take these kinds of behaviors to unhealthy extents, you have extreme spenders or extreme savers. Either one can be an unhealthy thing.  
Extreme spenders may need to slow down, grow up and learn

the value of money by living on a budget, setting savings goals and working to meet these goals. Extreme savers often operate out of fear and uncertainty. In some cases, they may have an even worse spirit in their lives — greed. They have to learn that it's OK to have a little fun spending and to give generously.  
When it comes down to it, there are only three uses for money: spending, saving and giving. You have to do some of all three in order to have a truly happy and healthy life!

**Dear Dave,**  
My wife and I moved to Washington, D.C., about a year ago,



and we'd like to put our old place in North Carolina that we've been

renting on the market. We'll be asking around \$140,000 for it, so do you think we should consider professionally staging the home?  
— **Ben**

**Dear Ben,**  
It would make a lot of sense if you were talking about a million-dollar house, but with a less expensive home like that I'd just make sure it's really clean and neat and nice — especially the front area with the sidewalk and bushes. We're talking curb appeal here. Make sure the front door, trim and porch area are all cleaned or painted, too. All this is like a first impression on a job interview.  
There shouldn't be any bad

smells in the house, and everything inside should be crisp and clean as well. You can stage it yourself with a few pieces of nice furniture and such, if you have it available. And try this old realtor's trick to make things a bit more homey: Put a few drops of vanilla extract on an eye of the stove (the burner) while it's heated. It will make the whole house smell like you've been baking cookies.  
But no, I wouldn't pay to stage a \$140,000 house.  
— **Dave**  
— *Dave Ramsey is America's trusted voice on money and business. He has authored five New York Times best-selling books.*

## Letter to the editor CARE-ousel non-profit grateful to community

On Aug. 9, a benefit roping was hosted at the Badiola Arena in Homedale on behalf of CARE-ousel Therapeutic Riding, a non-profit organization in Marsing. The funds will be used to purchase a lift and wheelchair ramp, which will allow the transfer of wheelchair-bound riders to horseback.  
CARE-ousel Therapeutic Riding is a program that offers hippotherapy to mentally and physically challenged individuals. This amazing program opens a whole new world of physical and mental therapy to riders and their families.  
The bond between the horse and rider, as well as the gentle motion of the horse, which helps strengthen muscles and balance, has been recognized for many years as a valuable tool in the mental and physical therapeutic community.  
Ben Badiola and Pruett Tire Factory spearheaded this event with local sponsors joining the cause. The Whitehouse Drive-Inn, Logan's Market, Paul's Market, eMotorsWest, D&B Caldwell, Matteson's, NAPA Owyhee Auto Supply, Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center, CTI Foods (SSI, Wilder), just to name a few, as well as all the wonderful ropers who came out to participate.  
This was by far the largest fundraiser for CARE-ousel, raising over \$10,000 toward the lift and ramp. There are no words to describe the gratitude and thanks to everyone. Once again, the community rallied to support a cause that benefits so many people in so many ways.

Nancy Lapin  
Caldwell

### Contacting the BOCC

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**Term expires 2016**  
**Mailing address**  
P.O. Box 128, Murphy, ID 83650

## ✓BLM: Agency's policy decisions ignore science

*From Page 18*  
The BLM noted in their NEPA documents that a number of private, public and state agencies asked them to consider using grazing to reduce fine fuel loads to limit wildfires. Yet when the BLM issued the grazing decision, the BLM manager decided the "resource cost" was too great and grazing was reduced. The result of that decision, and dozens of like decisions over the years, is a blackened and charred landscape with no recreation value, no wildlife/sage-grouse habitat value, and no grazing value.  
Academic research and the science tell us that "livestock grazing is one management technique that has been shown to decrease fine fuel loading and subsequent wildfire severity (Archibald et al., 2005; Davies et al., 2010). Ungulate grazing reduces the standing herbaceous plant material available for burning; this in turn can potentially reduce the frequency, extent and intensity of fires in grass, shrub, and forest understory fuel types (Vale, 1974; Zimmerman & Neuenschwander, 1984; Tausch et al., 1994; Hobbs, 1996; Belsky & Blumenthal, 1997; Blackmore & Vitousek, 2000). In absence of livestock grazing, cheatgrass will likely increase to its ecological potential for the site (Journal of Rangeland Applications - Volume 1, 2014; pp. 35-57; ISSN: 2331-5512 - Livestock Grazing Effects on Fuel Loads for Wildland Fire in Sagebrush Dominated Ecosystems Eva K. Strand 1, Karen L. Launchbaugh 2, Ryan Limb 3, and L. Allen Torell 4).  
The Soda Fire's aftermath of 284,000 burned and blackened acres will have negative impacts for recreationists, ranchers, endangered species, and the

Owyhee County economy for many years to come not to mention the extremely high cost of suppression and rehabilitation that taxpayers will now pay. The Soda Fire burned 52,000 acres of priority sage-grouse habitat, 194,000 acres of important sage-grouse habitat, and 36,000 acres of general sage-grouse habitat. It has still far-reaching and yet-to-be-calculated impact to the livelihood of many ranches and the families who make their living on the range. Recreationists will not be able to use the lands for many years. Wild horse herds will be displaced. All of this, simply because of a BLM institutional bias against using livestock for fine fuels management except for other than an insignificantly small number of "targeted grazing" special project animals.  
History clearly shows us that BLM management practices have been a complete failure. Rather than preventing catastrophic fire, BLM's actions have ensured they will occur with regularity. Even "Smokey the Bear" understands that fuel is one of the elements of the fire triangle (<http://www.smokeybear.com/elements-of-fire.asp>). Yet the one tool the BLM refuses to use at its full potential in reducing fuel loads is livestock grazing.  
It is time for a change and for the BLM to discard their institutional biases and fully use the readily available tools at hand. If not, left to BLM's current management practices, a charred landscape and smoky summers will be the new "normal" for Idaho and the western states.  
— *The Board of County Commissioners includes chair Joe Merrick (District 3), Jerry Hoagland (District 1) and Kelly Aberasturi (District 2).*

## Soda Fire letters to the editor

*From Page 18*

### Litigious environmentalists add fuel for raging wildfires

Thank you Idaho Rivers United and organizations like yours for protecting our environment and our way of life. Thank you all for suing the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management and creating the conditions on our national forest and rangelands that allow for catastrophic wildfires.  
Thank you for caring so much that policies like yours are destroying critical species habitat, and millions of our wildlife perish every year because you think you know better how to manage these lands through litigation rather than the agencies and their trained personnel.  
Thank you for caring so much for our children. Your actions to prevent the Idaho Department of Lands from managing our timber has led to the reduction in funding Idaho's schoolchildren by \$1.6 million.  
Maybe you can make up the difference with the proceeds you collect through the American taxpayer using the Equal

Access to Justice Act. Out of the goodness of your heart, you can help rebuild the lives for those who have lost loved ones, those who were left homeless and help fund our children's education.  
This might help us to understand that your actions are really for our benefit.  
Because of actions like yours, raging wildfires cover the West. Firefighting crews are stretched thin, and when critical support is needed it is not available. Lives and property like those in Idaho County are put at risk that otherwise could have been protected. Today, 50 families are homeless, but you know best. Again thank you for caring so much.  
Jim Chmelik  
Idaho County commissioner  
Cottonwood



# Looking back...

*from the files of The Owyhee Avalanche and Owyhee Chronicle*

## 25 years ago

### September 12, 1990

#### Construction work at Homedale City Park

Construction work began yesterday at Homedale City Park on an overhead shelter that will cover the newly-built barbecue area. Working on the improvement are Homedale Mayor Paul Fink, and two city employees, Larry Bauer and Bill Watterson.

#### Assistant clerk hired

Lynda Freund was selected to serve as assistant city clerk by the Homedale City Council at its last regular meeting on Sept. 5. Freund assumed her new job on Monday, replacing Marsha Hays, who resigned to take a position at West One Bank here.

Freund had been working at Western World Trailer, Inc., in Caldwell, she said Monday. Her prior employment experience includes work as a legal secretary for about a year for Clayton Anderson, former Owyhee prosecuting attorney. She also operated a daycare center in Homedale for about three years.

Freund, born Lowder, grew up in Homedale and attended Homedale schools. She later undertook a period of general business training in Salt Lake City. Her husband, Dick Freund, is an Owyhee County deputy sheriff as well as current chairman of the Homedale School Board.

#### Beef carcass winners named

Tony Uranga of Homedale was the top winner among 4-H and FFA participants in the Owyhee County Fair Beef Carcass Production Award program, according to information released by Chad Gibson, county agent at the Owyhee County Extension Office in Marsing.

Uranga, of the Shoofly 4-H Club, won \$500 for the achievement.

The steer Uranga raised scored 107 points, based on factors like carcass weight, grade, maximum yield quality, trimness, muscling and other criteria.

Other money winners, based on the carcass production total points scored by their beeves, were: Alyna Malmberg of Marsing, 95.8, no sponsor listed; Kristie Thompson of Marsing, 95.6, Joe Churruca, sponsor; Kasey McBride of Bruneau, 95.0, Don Davis of Bruneau, sponsor; Suzanne Collett of Oreana, 94.9, Bob Collett of Oreana, sponsor; Sarah Davis of Bruneau, 94.90, Kenny Davis of Bruneau, sponsor; Justin Tindall of Bruneau, 94.6, no sponsor listed; and Kathy Thomas of Bruneau, 94.4, Walt Yarbrough of Grand View, sponsor. Each won \$71.43.

#### Middleton falls 40-14

The Homedale Trojans travel to Kuna Friday night for their third football game of the season, bolstered by a rollicking 40-14 win over Middleton on the Vikings' home turf. The local scramblers stand 1-1 going into the 7:30 p.m. confrontation with the Kavemen, who reportedly have 14 lettermen back from last year's team, but only about three experienced starters.

"That's just your basic, good Homedale football team," Middleton Head Coach Randy Lyons commented last week, after watching his hapless Vikings steamrollered by the hard-charging Trojans. "Good" was putting it mildly for a team that picked up five TDs before the game was half over — seven TDs in 24 minutes if it had been possible to count the two long-distance runs negotiated by senior wide receiver Kevin Alambra, who had his two goal-crossing flights cancelled crushingly by penalties.

#### JV beats Harper 36-18

The JV Mustangs defeated Harper, Oregon last Friday in their season opener, 36-18. Mike Eiguren passed for 274 yards and three touchdowns. The Harper team made only two interceptions during the clash. Eiguren dropped passes into the unerring hands of Rodney Derrick and Tracey Corta. Derrick took 4 catches for 99 yards and 2 TDs. Corta snagged 3 to garner 94 yards and 1 six-pointer. Matt Grenke also made a good accounting of himself, taking in two touchdowns via the overland route.

## 50 years ago

### September 16, 1965

#### Trojans to host Parma in first home game Friday

The Parma Panthers invade Homedale Friday night at 8 o'clock in the Trojans' first home game.

The Homedale pigskinners will be looking for their second win of the season after bringing home a 19-0 victory from Adrian Friday night in their opener.

Parma beat New Plymouth 12-7 Friday night and tied with Payette in their opener.

Despite 80 yards in penalties, the Homedale Trojans came away victors over the Antelopes in the two schools' non-league battle.

Ken Kushlan was the mainstay in the Trojan attack as he carried off top scoring honors of the night with two six-pointers to his credit.

Homedale started it off early in the first quarter as Kushlan went 25 yards with the extra-point attempt failing. Kushlan again was the stakes grabber as he was on the receiving end of a Jim Jackson aerial good for 35 yards. Jackson came through with the extra point, making it 13-0.

The final score of the game came when Jackson carried the pigskin three yards through the middle. The PAT attempt was blocked.

#### '65 tax levy lowered by county commissioners

A total county tax levy of \$2.77 per hundred was set by the Owyhee County commissioners Monday at Murphy, which added to a levy of .25 for the state building bond sinking fund, makes the total state and county levy \$2.795 per hundred for the year. This compares to \$3.323 for last year.

Only .025 state building bond sinking fund levy was retained, with the other to be met by sales tax income this year.

Last year's state levy included ad valorem .268, state building bond sinking fund .027, teachers' retirement .102 and teachers' district Social Security payments .196, for a total of \$0.593.

Last year's county levy was \$2.73. Current expense levy was increased from .80 to .85 this year (up .05); indigent and charity from .30 to .35 (up .05); road and bridge .10 (same); road bond sinking fund .36 (same); county school .87 (down from .96); weed eradication .05 bond (up from .03); board of health .04 (up from .03); war memorial .01, pest control .02, county airport .02, and county fair .10 (all same).

#### City levies \$4.10

City of Homedale levy was set at \$4.10, with \$2.50 general fund, .20 fire dept., .30 recreation; .60 street lighting and .50 bond sinking fund. Last year's levy was \$4.00. Marsing's levy of \$5.85 remains the same.

## 140 years ago

### September 11, 1875

THE SALARY OF the president of the United States is equivalent to about \$137 per day, each day of the year. This is equivalent to \$5.70 an hour, or 9 1/2 cents compensation for each and every minute of official existence. Every second foots up a trifle less than the one-six of a cent — not a bad thing to take in, and probably there is a big crop of patriots throughout the country who should agree to "run the machine" at a much lower figure.

JUDGE KEY, THE successor of the late Andrew Johnson in the United States Senate, is said to be a lawyer of considerable ability. He is a native of Tennessee. He was the Democratic nominee for Congress in his district in 1872 but was defeated by William Crutchfield. During the war he was on the Confederate side, and was a Lieutenant in Gillespie's East Tennessee Regiment. His age is about 50 years.

MILWAUKEE HAS A population of 100,000. During the month of June 28,827 barrels of beer were consumed in that city, equivalent to 14,050,192 glasses. This amounts to considerably more than one glass a day for each resident.

THE DUEL BETWEEN the two members of the editorial fraternity of St. Louis did not result in loss of life. It took place in Winnebago County, Illinois, the section of the country recently so liberally advertised in connections with the invitation extended to Jeff Davis to lecture there. Both combatants fired too high, each being patriotically inclined to demolish the pate of one other and render impossible and abortive any further attempt to say bad things in their respective journals. They did not come to second shots although the plucky Edwards insisted upon it, and the affair terminated thus. If all the St. Louis editors should engage in this little pastime occasionally, and there should now and then be some killing done, we do not think that society or the literary world would be serious sufferers thereby.

GENERAL W. T. SHERMAN and a portion of his family were at Montreal, Canada a week ago. The General seems almost to be an omnipresent personage. It is less than a month since we heard of him at Omaha, and during the summer he has been "swinging around the circle" in various other directions. It is a fine thing to be a big army officer, travel around and be the recipient of big ovations from the country people. The people are supposed to foot the bills and should not, of course, complain. It matters not whether military attention is demanded to regulate affairs on the Rio Grande or elsewhere. All such matters are of secondary importance.

## 50 years ago



*Members of the Homedale High School football squad are: front row (left to right), Ken Kushlan, Ron Roland, Manuel Aberasturi, Tom Morris, Steve Larzelier, Jim Jackson, Jeff Glanzman, Ken Hunt, Kelly Curtis, Louis Uranga and Le Royce Ethington. Second row, Coach Marsh Jones, Eddie Fisher, Jim Ross, Fred Levanger, Steve Fisher, Blaine Pearson, Rich Kushlan, Richard Stansell, Gary Garrett, Craig Nash, Rick Echevarria, Lonnie DeVore and Steve Higgins. Back row, Mike Kelly, John Cook, Ken Parker, Doug Larzelier, Mike Pearson, Bob Felty, Ruben Garcia, Gary Roland, Terry Arrizabalaga, Eddie Louder and Jeff Haylett. Not pictured are Dale Dickson, Frank Leavitt, and Coaches Ken Kellum and Ken Langdon.*



# Public notices

**NOTICE OF ELECTION**  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to IDS 43-201 to 43-207, inclusive, the election of one Director from Division 2 of the Gem Irrigation District, will be held on November 3, 2015 to elect Directors for a term of two (2) years from the first of January 2016, and until their successors are elected and qualified.  
Nomination for Director may be made by Petition, signed by at least twelve (12) electors of the District qualified to vote for the candidate nominated and filed with the Secretary of the District not less than 40 days nor more than 60 days before the date of the election. Petitions may be obtained from Connie Chadez, Secretary of the District, 118 S.W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Homedale, Idaho. (Petition due date is September 24, 2015)  
In the event more than one (1) candidate is nominated within a Division, notice of the time and place of election will be posted as is required by IDS 43-206.  
Dated: August 13, 2015  
**G E M I R R I G A T I O N**  
**D I S T R I C T**  
Connie Chadez, Secretary  
9/2,9/15

**NOTICE OF ELECTION**  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to IDS 43-201 to 43-207, inclusive, the election of one Director from Division 4 and Division 5 of the Gem Irrigation District, will be held on November 3, 2015 to elect Directors for a term of three (3) years from the first of January 2016, and until their successors are elected and qualified.  
Nomination for Director may be made by Petition, signed by at least twelve (12) electors of the District qualified to vote for the candidate nominated and filed with the Secretary of the District not less than 40 days nor more than 60 days before the date of the election. Petitions may be obtained from Connie Chadez, Secretary of the District, 118 S.W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Homedale, Idaho. (Petition due date is September 24, 2015)  
In the event more than one (1) candidate is nominated within a Division, notice of the time and place of election will be posted as is required by IDS 43-206.  
Dated: August 13, 2015  
**G E M I R R I G A T I O N**  
**D I S T R I C T**  
Connie Chadez, Secretary  
9/2,9/15

**NOTICE OF ELECTION**  
**GRAND VIEW IRRIGATION**  
**DISTRICT**  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to IDS 43-201 to 43-207, inclusive, the election of one Director from Division 1 of the Grand View Irrigation District, will be held on November 03, 2015 to elect a Director of the term of three (3) years from the first of January 2016 and until their successors are elected and qualified.  
Nomination for Director may be made by Petition, signed by at least six (6) electors of the District, qualified to vote for the candidate nominated and filed with the Secretary of the District, not less than 40 days nor more than 60 days before the date of election. Petitions may be obtained September 4, 2015 from Dixie McDaniel, Secretary of the District, 645 Idaho Street, Grand View Idaho. (Petition due date September 24, 2015 by 3:30 p.m.)

In the event more than one (1) candidate is nominate within a Division, notice of the time and place of election will be posted as is required by IDS 43-206.  
Dated August 25, 2015  
Grand View Irrigation District  
Dixie McDaniel, Secretary  
9/2,9/15

**NOTICE OF ELECTION**  
**OPALINE IRRIGATION**  
**DISTRICT**  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to IDS 43-201-201 to 43-207, inclusive, the election of one Director from Division 2 and one from Division 5 of the Opaline Irrigation District, will be held on November 3, 2015 to elect a Director of the term of three (3) years from the first of January 2016 and until their successors are elected and qualified.  
Nomination for Director may be made by Petition, signed by at least six (6) electors of the District, qualified to vote for the candidate nominated and filed with the Secretary of the District, not less than 40 days nor more than 60 days before the date of election. Petitions may be obtained from Dan H. Birmingham, Secretary of the District, Ph. 896-5273 (Petition due date September 24, 2015.)  
In the event more than one (1) candidate is nominated within a Division, notice of the time and place of election will be posted as is required by IDS 43-206.  
Dated: August 28, 2015  
Opaline Irrigation District  
Dan H. Birmingham,  
Secretary  
9/2,9/15

**LEIN SALE**  
Mellissa Casey, Unit E-19, PO Box 982, Marsing, ID 83639; Avalon bicycle, two mattresses, half extension ladder.  
Shantell Williams, Unit F-14, PO Box 224, Juntura, OR 97911; Table top swamp cooler, clothes, dryer, dresser, bed, milk can.  
Units will be auctioned by sealed bid on September 19, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. at Hwy 95 Self Storage located at 3685 Hwy 95, Homedale, ID 83628. All sales are cash only and all sales are final.  
9/9,16/15

**NOTICE OF SHERIFF’S**  
**SALE**  
**OF REAL PROPERTY**  
**CASE NO. CV14-3994**  
**IN THE DISTRICT COURT**  
**OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL**  
**DISTRICT OF THE**  
**STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND**  
**FOR THE COUNTY OF**  
**CANYON**  
RED SIERRA, LLC, Plaintiff, vs. SHIRLEY DeAUGUSTINEO, KENNETH RILEY, JOHN STEPHEN RILEY, TIM RILEY AND NICHOLAS J. RILEY, Defendants.  
Date of Sale: **09/22/15**  
Time of Sale: **10:00 A.M.**  
Place of Sale: Owyhee County Courthouse Lobby, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy ID 83650  
Under and by virtue of a Judgment issued on July 18, 2014, and pursuant to an Order of Sale issued on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015, out of and under the seal of the above-entitled Court, in favor of the above-named Plaintiff, I am commanded and required to proceed to notice for sale and to sell at public auction the property described in said Order of Sale and to apply the proceeds of such sale to the satisfaction of said Judgment, with interest thereon, and my fees and costs.  
The property directed to be

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING PROPOSED BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 AND PROPOSED AMENDED BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 OPALINE IRRIGATION DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR NOVEMBER 1, 2015 TO OCTOBER 31, 2016			
Notice is hereby given that the Directors for the Opaline Irrigation District will meet October 6, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. for a budget hearing Pursuant to the Idaho Code 42-3229 at 7300 Opaline Rd., Melba, ID 83641. The proposed Budget may be examined at the home office of Secretary Dan H. Birmingham, 8563 Quail Run Dr., Melba, call for appointment 896-5273			
The following is a copy of the proposed budget including the 2014-2015 fiscal year budget and 2014-2015 proposed amended budget.			
EXPENSES:	2014-15 BUDGET	2014-15 AMENDED	2015-2016 PROPOSED
ITEM			
Insurance	\$3,500.00	\$3,400.00	\$3,300.00
L&P Fees	3,000.00	2,900.00	3,000.00
Maintenance	35,000.00	41,980.16	35,000.00
Office	716.16	700.00	1,500.00
Phone	2,160.00	2,100.00	2,225.00
Power	178,143.00	178,050.00	178,050.00
Soc.Sec.	6,050.00	7,000.00	6,850.00
Wages	32,555.60	32,450.60	32,500.00
Mileage	250.00	200.00	50.00
Reserve Fund	26,946.12	18,946.12	30,001.12
TOTAL	\$288,320.88	\$287,726.88	\$292,476.12
INCOME:	2014-15 PROJECTED	2014-15 PROJECTED	2015-2016 ANTICIPATED
ITEM			
2011 O&M	87.39	87.39	\$0.00
2012 O&M	87.39	87.39	0.00
2013 O&M	198.64	198.64	0.00
2014 O&M	1,891.34	1,891.34	0.00
2015 O&M	249,480.00	248,886.00	3,095.00
2016 O&M			251,400.00
Office Fee	2,580.00	2,580.00	2,580.00
Late Fees	400.00	400.00	100.00
Interest	150.00	150.00	300.00
Refunds	5,000.00	5,000.00	3,500.00
Rental	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
LGIP Fund	26,946.12	26,946.12	30,001.12
TOTAL:	\$288,320.88	\$287,726.88	\$292,476.12
Dan H. Birmingham, Secretary-Treasurer, Opaline Irrigation District, PO Box 331, Marsing, ID 83639			
9/9,16/15			

sold is situate in Owyhee County, State of Idaho, and is described as follows, to-wit:

Lot 15 of Block 10 of the Amended Townsite Plat of HOMEDALE, Owyhee County, Idaho, according to the official plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the Recorder for Owyhee County, Idaho.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2015, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock a.m. at Owyhee Courthouse Lobby, I will attend, offer and sell at public auction all or so much of the above-described property thus directed to be sold as may be necessary to raise sufficient funds to pay and satisfy the Judgment set out in said Order of Sale to the highest bidder therefor in lawful money.

The judgment debtor or redemptioner may redeem the property from the purchaser within six (6) months after the sale if the real property sold consisted of a tract of land of twenty (20) acres or less, on paying the purchaser the amount of his purchase with interest thereon at the rate allowed in section 28-22-104(1), Idaho Code, from the date of sale to the date of redemption, together with the amount of any assessment or taxes which the purchaser may have paid thereon after the commencement of the action and which are not included in the judgment, and interest at the rate allowed in section 28-22-104(1), Idaho Code, on such amount; and, if the purchaser be also a creditor having a prior lien to that of the redemptioner, other than the judgment under which such purchase was made, the amount of such lien with interest at the rate allowed in section 28-22-104(1), Idaho Code; provided, in mortgage foreclosure proceedings, the amount necessary to redeem the property sold under execution shall not include any sum for attorney's fees greater than the fee actually paid by the judgment creditor or which the judgment creditor has by written instrument become unconditionally obligated to pay to his attorney for prosecuting his claim to judgment; and provided, further, the amount of such fee shall be proven by affidavits of the attorney who has received and the person who has paid the fee or by other competent evidence to be presented to the sheriff for his guidance in carrying out the provisions of law relating to redemption; and, provided further, that such redemptioner shall not be required to pay any attorney's fees unless such fees shall have been paid within six (6) months after the sheriff's certificate of sale shall have issued, or within such time the judgment creditor has become unconditionally obligated by written instrument to pay such fees.

The Sheriff will give possession, but does not guarantee clear title or continued possessory right to the purchaser.

DATED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2015.

PERRY GRANT, SHERIFF  
Owyhee County, Idaho  
By: Teri Naito, Civil Clerk

**STEPHEN T. SHERER, SHERER & WYNKOOP, LLP,**  
730 N. MAIN ST., P.O. BOX 31, MERIDIAN, IDAHO 83680  
(208) 887-4800 FAX (208) 887-4865 I.S.B. #3605, Attorneys for Plaintiff  
9/2,9,16/15

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**(I.C. 15-3-801)**  
**CASE NO. CV-2015-638-A**  
**IN THE DISTRICT COURT**  
**OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL**  
**DISTRICT OF THE**  
**STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND**  
**FOR THE COUNTY OF**  
**OWYHEE**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE**  
**ESTATE OF CLEO JEAN**  
**KUBOSUMI, Deceased.**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative of the above-named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent or the estate are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or said claims will be forever barred.  
Claims must be presented to the undersigned in care of Russell G. Metcalf, Metcalf Law Office, P.O. Box 385, Homedale, Idaho 83628, and filed with the Clerk of the Court.  
DATED this 23 day of July, 2015.  
Kim Kubosumi c/o Russell G. Metcalf, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 385, Homedale, ID 83628 (208) 337-4945  
8/19,26,9/2,9/15





# Public notices

## NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE

On December 9, 2015, at the hour of 11:00 o’clock AM of said day, in the lobby of the Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Highway 78, Murphy, ID, JUST LAW, INC., as Successor Trustee, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, the following described real property, situated in the County of Owyhee, State of Idaho, and described as follows to wit:

**That part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter, Section 9, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, Boise Meridian, Owyhee County, Idaho, lying between the McDowell ditch and the section line, described as follows:**

**BEGINNING at a point 412 feet East of the Southwest corner of Section 9, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, Boise Meridian; thence East 883 feet to the Southeast corner of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter; thence North 260 feet; thence in a Westerly direction along the McDowell Ditch 878 feet; thence South 1° 56’ West 200 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.**

**AND COMMENCING at the Southwest corner of Section 9, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, Boise Meridian, Owyhee County, Idaho and thence running on a course East 412 feet; thence running on a course North 1° 56’ East to the centerline of the McDowell Lateral; thence in a Westerly direction along the center line of the McDowell Lateral to a point in the West boundary line of Section 9; thence on a course South, to the Southwest corner of Section 9, the POINT OF BEGINNING.**

**EXCEPTING THEREFROM any portion lying within the boundaries of the McDowell Lateral.**

The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above referenced real property, but for purposes of compliance with Section 60-113 Idaho Code, the Trustee has been informed the address of **3432 Pioneer Rd., Homedale, ID**, is

sometimes associated with the said real property.

This Trustee’s Sale is subject to a bankruptcy filing, a payoff, a reinstatement or any other conditions of which the Trustee is not aware that would cause the cancellation of this sale. Further, if any of these conditions exist, this sale may be null and void, the successful bidder’s funds shall be returned, and the Trustee and the Beneficiary shall not be liable to the successful bidder for any damages.

Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possessions or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the Deed of Trust executed by Tyrel Stevenson, a married man as his sole and separate property, as Grantor(s) with MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. (MERS) is a separate corporation that is acting solely as a nominee for America’s Wholesale Lender as the Beneficiary, under the Deed of Trust recorded May 31, 2006, as Instrument No. 256603, in the records of Owyhee County, Idaho. The Beneficial interest of said Deed of Trust was subsequently assigned to The Bank of New York Mellon fka The Bank of New York, as trustee for the Certificateholders CWALT, Inc., Alternative Loan Trust 2006-19CB, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-19CB, recorded November 24, 2014, as Instrument No. 285301, in the records of said County.

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 the failure to pay the amount due under the certain Promissory Note and Deed of Trust, in the amounts called for thereunder as follows:

Monthly payments in the amount of \$1052.30 for the months of September 2014 through and including to the date of sale, together with late charges and monthly payments accruing. The sum owing on the obligation

secured by said Deed of Trust is \$133494.28 as principal, plus service charges, attorney’s fees, costs of this foreclosure, any and all funds expended by Beneficiary to protect their security interest, and interest accruing at the rate of 6.875% from August 1, 2014, together with delinquent taxes plus penalties and interest to the date of sale.

The Beneficiary elects to sell or cause the trust property to be sold to satisfy said obligation.

Dated this 4th day of August, 2015.

Tammie Harris, Trust Officer for Just Law, Inc., P.O. Box 50271, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83405 (208) 523-9106 FAX (208) 523-9146

**For information concerning this sale please contact Just Law, Inc. at [www.justlawidaho.com](http://www.justlawidaho.com) or Toll Free at 1-800-923-9106, Thank you.**  
8/26;9/2,9,16/15

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
CASE NO. CV-2012-02669  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT OF  
THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN  
AND FOR THE COUNTY OF  
OWYHEE  
MAGISTRATE DIVISION**  
In the Matter of the Estate of **AARON F. SALISBURY**, Deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that MARGARET P. SALISBURY has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named Estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must both be presented to the Personal Representative of the Estate at the law offices of White, Peterson, Gigray & Nichols, P.A., 5700 East Franklin Road, Suite 200, Nampa, Idaho 83687, and filed with the Clerk of the Court.

DATED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2015

WHITE PETERSON  
By: Wm. F. Gigray, III, for the Firm  
Attorneys for Personal Representative  
9/9,16,23/15



## HELP WANTED

**Flat Iron Steakhouse** in Jordan Valley, Oregon is looking for a full time chef/cook. Employment could start immediately. Salary negotiable. For more info contact us at 541-586-2800

**Wanted:** Looking for ranch hand for NE Oregon commercial cow/calf operation. Must be honest, responsible, conscientious, and have a passion for ranching. Duties include, but are not limited to: feeding, calving cows/heifers, flood irrigations, and doctoring. Good animal husbandry skills and horsemanship required. Must be a motivated self-start with effective communication skills. CDL not required, but a plus. Salary and compensation DOE. Long-term employment for the right individual. Must have knowledge of loaders, tractors, backhoes, and equipment repair and maintenance. Please call (541)-403-1368. Email resume and references to brokenbarw@outlook.com or fax to Mackenzie Ranch 541-523-4790.



## HELP WANTED

**Sub Bus Drivers Needed!** Homedale School District is accepting applications for substitute bus drivers. CDL with passenger endorsement required. Will help train for CDL. Applications available at [www.homedaleschools.org](http://www.homedaleschools.org) or at the District Office, 116 E. Owyhee, Homedale or call 337-4611.

**Now Hiring** 4-H Program Coordinator for the University of Idaho Extension-Owyhee County Office. This position is responsible for providing leadership in developing, planning, and conducting 4-H youth educational programs within Owyhee County. This includes coordinating county 4-H clubs and recruiting and training leaders/volunteers and 4-H members. 4-H is the nation’s largest youth development program that is run through the land-grant universities within the state. 4-H is focused on hands-on, research-driven youth programming that provides youth leadership skills and empowers young people to reach their full potential. This is a full time position with benefits. For complete job description, requirements, and application, email Scott Jensen [scottj@uidaho.edu](mailto:scottj@uidaho.edu), call 208-896-4104, or stop by the Owyhee County Extension office in Marsing. Application deadline is 9/18/15.

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**Firewood by the cord in Parma.** Redfir/ pine mix, \$200; or Juniper, Cherry & mixed hard woods, \$225. Will deliver for fee. 208-880-4425

**2002 Buick Rendezvous,** white, 158k miles, runs great, all leather interior, 6-disk changer, everything works good, we just wanted something bigger, \$4500; and a 16-ft 1969 Oasis camper, needs new holding tank & work on the floor inside, interior good shape \$500. OBO. Call Bodie 989-8635

**1987 22-foot Kit Companion,** good condition, new fridge & toilet and several upgrades. \$3800 OBO. Call for more info 484-6858

**92 Toyota extended cab** 4x4. \$1250. OBO Call 405-3517

**1986 Jayco Travel trailer,** 34 foot, full awning for nice shade. I am unable to go camping any more. The tub is extra large. There is a picture on craigslist, \$3500. OBO Call John 208-482-6136

**Affordable piano,** guitar, violin, fiddle & ukulele lessons. Private and fun. All ages & levels. 208-283-5750

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



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**Mobile Aluminum Irrigation Pipe Repair.** Call Benson 989-2457 or 989-7068

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

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**Building Lots For Sale.** .8 acre view building lot south of Wilder, \$39,900; 4.8 acres, view building lot w/irrigation water, off Rodeo Ln., south of Parma, \$49,900. Call Clay @ 880-1623 Clayton L. Brown RE, LLC



FOR RENT

**Office/ Commercial space** in Marsing. 1200 sq/ft, 2 restrooms, 2 exterior doors, paved parking \$550/mo. water/garbage included. Deposit, references. 850-2456 or 466-6142

**Marsing Storage Inc.,** Hwy 55 & Van Rd. 10x10 units available, trailer spaces. Call 208-830-1641



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

For more information and prices, call Mike at Greenleaf office:  
**208-649-5296**  
Cell: 208-573-0376  
Bliss office: (Jody) at 800-727-9931



YARD SALE

**Yard Sale, Thurs-Sat** from 9am-5pm. 201 S 6th St W, Homedale. Misc. tools, healthcare items, furniture, dressers, jewelry.

**Friday & Saturday, Sept. 11-12.** 18420 Marsing Rd. between Chicken Dinner Rd. and Riverside. 9am-? Old oil lamps, dolls, old bedspreads, household, and some bazaar things. Elec. stove and blue set in bath tub. Lots of stuff.

**Owyhee Health and Rehab** is having their annual yard sale Thursday, September 17-19 from 8-? 108 W. Owyhee Ave, Homedale. We are currently taking donations for our sale. The sale will take place in the back of the building. Please donate clean, useable items.

**THANK YOU**

The family of Bill Shenk wishes to Thank Everyone for the great support following Bill Shenk's death. The food, flowers, the attendant of the service; so many acts of kindness were so appreciated by us all. The Family of Bill Shenk

The family of Opal Cossel would like to thank the Marsing Community for all your kind thoughts and words during this difficult time. It is hard to express how much your kindness and support means to each of us. The Family of Opal Cossel



SERVICES

**Trees Trimmed, Topped & Removed.** Cleanups and stump removal available. 50 years experience. Evening & weekend calls ok. 337-4403 leave msg.

**Carol's Flying Service.** Aerial seeding, grass seed applications. Call Jeff 208-880-5885

**Steel Buildings & Pole Barns.** Shops, Airplane Hangers, AG Buildings, Hay Covers, foundations and concrete slabs & excavation. Vist [millwardbuilders.com](http://millwardbuilders.com) 208-941-9502

**Grindstaff Fencing.** Fencing of all types. New & Repairs. Call Larry 208-283-8056

**Heartwood Tree Care.** Trees getting out of hand? We can help! Pruning, removals (any size) & more! Free estimates 965-6174

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**Tractor for hire** - small custom farming, disking, mowing, spraying, ripping, 6 ft. backhoe & loader work, pasture seeding, free estimates, call Dave 249-1295

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**Daycare available,** all ages, ICCP approved, all meals provided, 2-full time staff. Call Donna 337-6180

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**ONE-OF-A-KIND** - 4/bed 2.5/bath+shop w/ 5 bath, 2+ ac., Hdale Sch Dist, VIEW, close in - **\$299,000**

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**TOTALLY RENOVATED** -5/bed 3/bath, 2.5 ac. w/shop, pasture, hay barn & more - **NOW \$329,900**

**BUNGALOW CHARMER** - d/t Hdale, 3/bed 1/bath, carport, new roof, paint & more - **SOLD!!**

**RARE FIND** - 1 ac. lot, Hdale Sch Dist, CUP req'd for bldg. permit, Owyhee Co. - **NOW - \$27,500**

**PRICE REDUCED** - Pkg. includes two 1-ac bldg. lots, Hdale Sch Dist, w/irrig - both for total of **\$35,000**

**RESIDENTIAL BLDG LOTS** some w/city services, view or acreage, many choices!! - **\$9,200-89,500**

**Patti Zatica** 208-573-7091  
**Tess Zatica McCoy** 208-573-7084



## FALL INTERNET FARM & EQUIPMENT AUCTION

### ONLINE - INTERNET BIDDING

**BEGINS TO CLOSE SEPTEMBER 16, 2015 6PM MST**  
**Official Preview: Monday-Tuesday-Wed. Sept 14-15-16 9am to 5pm**

**Partial Listings, adding daily:**

**Tractors:** \* '07 John Deere 8530 MFWD Tractor \* '04 John Deere 7920 MFWD Tractor \* '08 John Deere 6330 MFWD Tractor \* '02 John Deere 6320 MFWD Tractor \* 'John Deere 7830 MFWD Tractor \* '99 Ford NH 5635 Tractor \* '95 John Deere 9500 Combine w/ Grain Header \* Several other small tractors

**Heavy Equipment:** 86 Caterpillar D4H LPG Dozer\* Cat 307 Excavator\* Cat D7 Dozer\* Cat 12 Motor Grader\* JD 710B Backhoe\* Wacker Hydraulic pump & Hammer\* Bobcat T300 Skid Steer \* Bobcat 763 Skid Steer

**Equipment:** Highline XL-78 Rock Picker\* JD 995 6 bottom on-land plow\* (3) Oklahoma Pride offset discs different sizes\* Wil-Rich beet topper\*

**Trucks:** 91 Kenworth T600 Dump Truck\* 07 Peterbilt Tractor Truck\* 94 Pete 378 Tractor\* 99 Freightliner\* 97 American General Duce & 1/2

**Trailers:** (2) 2008 Western 48x102 spread axle flatbeds\* 99 Wilson 52x102 Livestock Trailer\* Interstate 40K lb. tilt deck\* Pintle hitch equipment trailer\* Several Camp Trailers\* Titan 3 horse slant load\* Cargo Trailers\* Many utility Trailers\*

**Irrigation:** 2012 Valley 8000 Series 665' Center Pivot\* Big Gun Tripods\*

**Items of Interest:** 74 MCI bus conversion to coach, NEAT\* BBQ concession trailer Complete\* 01 Freightliner conversion to coach\*

**Other Items:** Several unused skid steer attachments\* Polaris Ranger\* Several Diesel generators\* 2013 Kawasaki 4 Wheeler\* (2) PTO drive manure spreaders\*Shop Tools\* Several riding lawn mowers, Commercial & Home\* Unused steel shelving\* Unused portable shelters\* Tennant Street Sweeper\* Many, many 3 point implements\* Silt Fence Plow\* Several Transits & Builders levels\* Lots of great shop equipment & tools\* Livestock equipment\* Many nice truck boxes\*

**\* Heavy Equipment \* Machinery & Power Shop Tools \*Farm Equipment \* Tractors \* Farm Implements \* Vehicles & Trailers \* Shop Tools \* ATV's \* RV's \* Firearms**

**Lot Location: 20550 N Whittier Dr. ~ Greenleaf, ID**  
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Homedale Elementary School counselor Randee Garrett accepts backpack donations from Sam O'Donnell.

# Boy brings backpacks to Owyhee schools

Some elementary school students lugging books to class in brand-new backpacks can thank Sam O'Donnell.

For his latest community service project, the 12-year-old Meridian boy amassed enough backpacks and school supplies to help two students in each grade from each of the four elementary school schools in the Homedale, Marsing and Bruneau-Grand View school districts.

O'Donnell and his parents, Ken and Tessa, dropped off the supplies at the Owyhee County Probation Office in Homedale where his grandmother, Doris Jewett, is chief probation officer.

"He likes to organize and buy stuff and give it away," Sam's father said. "He doesn't like to play with it that much."

In addition to the eight backpacks for the Owyhee County elementary schools, Sam also

provided a couple of backpacks each for children in Jordan Valley and Adrian.

He also collected school supplies geared to each school's specific curriculum.

Sam finances his philanthropy through yard sales and donations. Proceeds helped him buy Christmas gifts for 48 children in five counties one year. The Christmas gift drive is something Sam has been doing since he was 9.

Sam is helped by a service dog named Galba, so his next big project is to get up a team to participate in the Canine Companions for Independence DogFest Walk 'n' Roll on Sept. 27 in Boise.

Sam also recently raised \$3,000 for Dustin's Paw through the sale of raffle tickets. Dustin's Paw is a non-profit that is in its 15<sup>th</sup> year of providing therapy dogs and learning activities for disabled children.

— JPB

# BOCC secures juniper study grants

## Goal is to determine potential markets for harvested trees

The Board of Owyhee County Commissioners (BOCC) has obtained two grants to further efforts to reduce invasive juniper trees.

The BOCC has a three-part plan for the \$20,290 project.

- A study into the marketability of juniper harvested from the Owyhee Mountains.
- A feasibility study on the modification of existing equipment that will be used to harvest the trees.
- An awareness campaign aimed at policymakers and stakeholders to magnify how juniper encroachment affects natural resources and how those problems can be mitigated through harvest.

Tina Wilson, executive director of the Western Alliance for Economic Development, has been working with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development's (USDA RD) Boise office.

The agency OK'd an \$8,000 grant, which will pay for a feasibility study commissioned to help determine potential and existing markets for juniper harvested from the Owyhee Mountains.

The goal is to find economic benefit for the entire harvested tree. That could include opportunities related to bio-energy, bio-char (both types of fuels), or wood products such as furniture, fence posts or landscaping bark.

The BOCC and Wilson also secured a \$7,500 Idaho Department

of Commerce Gem Grant. Of that amount, \$1,000 will be used to match the USDA RD grant, bringing the feasibility study to a cost of \$9,000. The rest will help fund an equipment study.

The process is now under way to find project managers to conduct the feasibility study, and the goal is to have it complete in three months.

The second part of the plan involves an equipment study. The grant application states that decreasing the cost of harvesting, processing and transporting juniper is necessary for business development.

A team of professionals has designed a modification of existing harvest equipment that needs to be field-tested. The design team has donated its time, the equipment and supplies to create the prototype. The design process is currently under way.

The equipment study will cost \$6,790. Of that, \$6,500 will come from the Gem Grant. The other \$290 will come from the county commissioners' budget line, County Clerk Angie Barkell wrote in an email.

Ed Leavitt of Homedale's Specialty Inc. Wood Products hopes to conduct the equipment study at the end of September.

"My part of it's only one weekend. We started building equipment and stuff already once we knew there was approval," Leavitt said. "So we're working on the prototype right as

we speak, but to actually go up and see if that works, it'll take a weekend."

The third part of the project is to educate stakeholders and policy makers. The grant application stated that increased awareness can bring support to accomplish the goals of the Southwest Idaho Juniper Utilization Working Group, as it seeks additional funding from federal and state sources.

District 1 commissioner Jerry Hoagland and Wilson will organize the education effort. They will set up a physical tour showing the current effects of juniper encroachment, examples of control methods being used by the Bureau of Land Management, and a discussion of potential market developments.

The county commissioners will spend \$2,000 to finance the education effort, which could include a tour in October.

Wilson thinks the three-part plan will pay off for the county in the long run.

"Even though the Soda Fire was devastating to the rangeland in Owyhee County, juniper is still an issue that affects Owyhee County rangeland for sage-grouse and other animals," Wilson wrote in an email.

"These two grants awarded simultaneously will hopefully aid the county in finding an economic benefit to go along with the environmental benefit of the juniper removal."

The matching funds also included in-kind services valued at \$2,500 as Barkell served as grant administrator and Wilson wrote reports for both grants.

— SC

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