

# The Owyhee Avalanche

## Reliving 2015's top Owyhee sports stories, Page 12

Something to do New Year's Eve, Page 6

Canyonlands monument, Page 4

MRW, Hwy. 78 CDR deal up fundraiser card tournament

County commissioners get behind Malheur's opposition efforts



VOL. 30, NO. 52

75 CENTS

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2015

### STORY OF THE YEAR



The Soda Fire consumed nearly 450 square miles of Owyhee County rangeland in August, including this butte near the ION overlook on U.S. Highway 95 above Marsing. Photo by Sarah Grossman / Freeze the Day Photography

## Soda Fire left scars on land, ranching operations

Over the course of 15 days in August, a lightning-caused fire that sparked near Cow Creek burned nearly 450 square miles of rangeland.

The Soda Fire started Aug. 10 and wasn't fully extinguished until Aug. 25. It broke out about eight miles northeast of Jordan Valley and would end up charring 283,686 acres across western Owyhee County.

More than 800 firefighters from two Bureau of Land Management incident teams, several local volunteer agencies and nearly eight dozen pieces of equipment were deployed during the fire.

Of 41 Bureau of Land Management allotments burned, 35 were in Owyhee County. The other six were in the BLM Vale District in Oregon. More

#### 2015: A LOOK BACK

Several other top stories captured headlines in Owyhee County this year.

See Page 2

than 40,000 acres of private ground burned.

Other resources damaged included:

- 12 structures downstream from the burned area
- 592 miles of fence

— See *Soda Fire*, page 5

## Man shot by officers in critical condition

Authorities have identified the man who was shot Saturday after brandishing a weapon in an altercation with a Homedale Police officer and Owyhee County Sheriff's reservist.

Gilbert Heredia, a Homedale man in his late 30s, remained in critical condition at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise, Canyon County Sheriff Kieran Donahue told

reporters during a Monday morning press conference in Caldwell.

Heredia was wounded after 3 p.m. Saturday after he displayed a handgun to law enforcement personnel on scene for a civil standby and welfare check at a home in the 300 block of West Montana Avenue. Donahue

— See *Man*, page 5

## LU-Joyce water decision could become state law

Organizers: Boise symposium important for all producers

Making sure livestock producers don't relive two Owyhee County ranching families' nightmare begins with a water rights workshop next Wednesday.

The Idaho Farm Bureau Federation is behind the "Reversing the Tide" symposium that will showcase possible state legislation to codify the Idaho State Supreme Court's landmark 2007 decision that prevented the federal government from stripping stockwater rights from cattle ranches owned by the Joyce Livestock Co., and LU

— See *Water*, page 5

#### Register by Thursday

**What:** Reversing the Tide: Restoring Water Rights to Ranchers and Reasons for State Management of Federal Lands

**When:** 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., next Wednesday

**Where:** Red Lion Downtowner, Boise

**Cost:** \$15, which includes lunch

**Deadline:** Registration and payment due Thursday

**Information:** Julie Araquistain, (208) 333-7084 or jaraquistain@idahofb.org

**Presenters:** Idaho Supreme Court Justice Daniel Eismann; Idaho Water Users Association general counsel Norm Semanko; Utah Farm Bureau CEO Randy Parker; and Nevada rancher Ramona Hage



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# New Year’s holiday closures announced

Stores, banks and government offices have varying closures for the transition into the new year.

**Emergency services** — All emergency service agencies, including Owyhee County Sheriff’s Office, Homedale Police, and various fire, medical and ambulance services will be in operation Friday, but the sheriff’s office administration building will be closed.

**County government** — All county offices will close at 3 p.m. New Year’s Eve. The offices will remain closed New Year’s Day.

**City government** — City Hall in Marsing will be closed New Year’s Eve and Friday. City Hall in Homedale and Grand View will be open New Year’s Eve and closed Friday. City Hall in Adrian will be closed New Year’s Eve and is always closed on Fridays. Jordan Valley City Hall is closed on Thursdays and Fridays.

**School districts** — Students in Homedale, Marsing, and Jordan Valley will return to class on Monday. Classes in Adrian and the Bruneau-Grand View School District will resume on Tuesday.

**Banks** — US Bank branches in Homedale, Marsing and Grand View will be open New Year’s Eve and closed Friday.

**Public libraries** — Eastern Owyhee County Library in Grand View will be closed New Year’s Eve and Friday. The Lizard Butte Library in Marsing will close at

2 p.m. New Year’s Eve and will remain closed Friday. Homedale Public Library and Bruneau Valley Library will close at 5 p.m. New Year’s Eve and will remain closed Friday.

**Senior centers** — Homedale, Marsing, and Rimrock senior centers will be open New Year’s Eve and are all typically closed on Fridays. The Marsing center will remain closed on Monday.

**Paul’s Market** — The grocery store in Homedale will be open with normal hours from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. New Year’s Eve and Friday. The pharmacy will be open with regular hours from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on New Year’s Eve and closed Friday.

**Logan’s Market** — The Marsing grocery store will be open with normal hours from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. New Year’s Eve and Friday.

**The Owyhee Avalanche** — The office will close at noon on New Year’s Eve and will remain closed Friday.

The display advertising deadline for the Jan. 6 edition is 5 p.m. today.

The letters to the editor and community announcement deadlines will be 10 a.m. Thursday.

Deadlines for legal publication (noon by Friday before the publication date) and classifieds (noon on Monday before the publication date) remain the same.

## 2015: A LOOK BACK



Jerry Anderson, seated at left, joined the Homedale City Council in December after his appointment to replace Kim Murray, who resigned after two years on the board. Anderson sits to the left of Mayor Gheen Christoffersen and Councilperson Vonnie Harkins. Standing are Councilmen Aaron Tines and Steve Atkins.

# Numerous changes marked the year that was in Owyhee

The year that’s closing was one marked by shakeups in city politics, events uplifting the Owyhee County ranching community and taxpayers throwing support behind various levies.

**City councils see change**

November elections served as just part of what made 2015 a tumultuous year for the three city governments in Owyhee County.

Earlier in the year, a faction of Grand View residents tried to launch a recall campaign against Mayor Franklin Hart. By November, the council had three new members and one holdover with Opal Ward and Linda Araujo losing re-election bids. Donald “Bill” Mead was re-elected, while John Morrison, Jon Pennington and Melvin Freckleton won seats.

In Marsing and Homedale city council elections, incumbents won new terms, but there was still change as former councilman James Ferdinand ended Keith Green’s eight-year run as Marsing mayor and Kim Murray would resign weeks after the election to be replaced by Jerry Anderson, who had finished third in a three-way race for two Homedale council seats against Aaron Tines and Steve Atkins.

Prior to the election season, Homedale Mayor Gheen Christoffersen had to cast the vote to decide whether he should get a pay raise after the city council deadlock, 2-2, on the issue. In Grand View, council members voted to establish salary

for themselves and the mayor for the first time in the municipality’s 40-plus-year history.

**Marsing, county sign law pact**

The Board of Owyhee County Commissioners approved an agreement between the City of Marsing and Owyhee County Sheriff’s Office for a new law enforcement contract in September.

The Marsing City Council gave preliminary approval for the \$35,000 per year contract on Aug. 12 and ratified the deal on Sept. 9.

The city will use \$15,000 from a law enforcement line in the Fiscal Year 2016 budget, and the remainder will come from the city’s general fund. The \$35,000 will be paid in quarterly installments of \$8,750 each.

The sheriff’s office agreed to provide a deputy to work 40 hours a week during the summer months and winter school break.

The agreement took effect Oct. 1 and lasts through Sept. 30, 2016.

Deputy Jaime Wood, who currently serves as the school resource officer for the Marsing School District, will handle the bulk of the summer and winter work.

**Homedale P&Z abolished**

The Homedale City Council disbanded the Planning and Zoning Commission in September.

— See Year, page 11

MRW Fire & EMS in Conjunction with the Highway 78 CDR Group

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For sign up information email [info@mrwfire.org](mailto:info@mrwfire.org)

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\$30 Buy In gets you 5,000 tournament chips, food & adult beverage or soft drinks included in buy in.

Bill Lacy Shop on the corner of Highway 78 and Wilson Creek Road (Between mile post 16&17) Across the street from the MRW Fire Station & Wilson School House.

All poker table courtesies will be observed. WSOP Texas Hold’em Rules apply. Seating will be by blind draw. Blinds will go up every 20 minutes. Add on and rebuys are available until the 3<sup>rd</sup> blind.

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# Jacks Creek Road closure issue returns

## Administrative error corrected; hearing slated

A public hearing more than three years in the making will be held Feb. 22 to determine the fate of Jacks Creek Road between Grand View and Bruneau.

The hearing will begin at 10 a.m. in the Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy.

In 2012, the J.R. Simplot Co. asked the BOCC to determine if the road is public or private, and requested that a section of the roadway be abandoned. The portion of the roadway runs adjacent to the old Bruneau Cattle Co., feedlot that Simplot purchased and later transformed into a confined animal feeding operation for Bureau of Land Management wild horses.

On Aug. 27, 2012, commissioners decided the road was public, but never scheduled a public hearing to address Simplot’s vacation request. The written determination on the status of the road was never finalized with elected officials’ signatures either.

County natural resources director Jim Desmond said that oversight only came to county officials’ attention a few months ago when Simplot again asked the BOCC to vacate the road.

“We realized that we hadn’t done the second part of the thing,

so that’s what we’ve set for the February date,” Desmond said.

When the commissioners conducted the process of determining whether Jacks Creek Road is public or private, there should have been written findings done on the decision.

“They were drafted and reviewed, but somehow never got signed by the commissioners,” Desmond said.

He added that the findings of fact that Jacks Creek Road is a public road included evidence that the U.S. Postal Service used the road, and that school buses have used it. Other findings included that it had been used as a bypass when the bridge was out on the highway, and there was evidence that there had been maintenance done with county funds.

Not signing the findings of fact meant the 2012 decision was never finalized. The error had to be corrected before the BOCC could issue the decision on Nov. 9 reaffirming that it is a public road.

District 1 Commissioner Jerry Hoagland and District 2 Commissioner Kelly Aberasturi reviewed the audio recording of the 2012 hearing, deliberated it in an open meeting on Nov. 9, and signed the findings, Desmond said.

The ruling issued that day stated, “The disputed portion thereof, is a public road on County maps of public county roads and on the map of roadways to be maintained

which is furnished to the Department of Transportation, and shall maintain the road.”

Simplot did not file an appeal in the 30-day review period after the Nov. 9 decision. With the appeal window closed, the board was able to schedule a public hearing on the company’s request to vacate the road. The hearing is required under Title 40 of the Idaho Code.

“A private property owner can also petition the county commission or highway district commissioners to abandon the road,” Desmond said. “And it says if that happens, the commissioners ‘shall’ schedule a hearing.

In September, Simplot consultant Ron Parks asked that the road be vacated because the company’s facility adjacent to a portion of the road is now a wild horse CAFO.

Vacating the road became a priority for Simplot after the county Planning and Zoning Commission granted a conditional use permit for the wild horse facility in May, weeks after a public hearing.

The southern end of the section of the road considered for vacation begins at the intersection of Jacks Creek Road and Davis Road.

It extends northeast where the section of road would end before it crosses into BLM land and intersects Idaho highway 78.

Only two people live on the section of road. Both are Simplot employees living separately in company-owned housing. — SC

# Benefit helps Homedale man fight leukemia

Friends are putting together a benefit for a 2012 Homedale High School graduate undergoing cancer treatments.

Zac Lowder was diagnosed with leukemia on Dec. 18, and is currently receiving in-patient chemotherapy in Boise.

His former ag teacher, Lori Idsinga, said that the diagnosis may result in Lowder’s medical discharge from the Air Force, and the reservist faces the possibility of losing his benefits.

Idsinga is an organizer for a beer pong tournament and silent auction that will be held at 8 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 9 at the Tango Saloon, 404 Hwy. 95, in Homedale.

The tournament entry fee is \$25 for a two-person team. Silent auction donations can be dropped off at the NAPA Owyhee Auto Parts location on East Idaho Avenue in Homedale. Call Rosie King at (208) 965-0772 to make



Zac Lowder, left, with his wife Megan and their daughter. Submitted photo

silent auction donations.

Lowder is married to Homedale Public Library youth coordinator Megan Lowder, and the couple has a daughter, and they are expecting a son next year.

For more information on the benefit, call Lauren Mavey at (208) 697-0397 or Idsinga at (208) 670-1427.

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# Current Soda Fire reseeding to continue through January

## More rehab slated in summer

Despite the onset of winter weather, rehabilitation efforts for lands scorched by the Soda Fire continue.

The blaze that broke out in August near the Cow Creek area about eight miles northeast of Jordan Valley burned 283,686 acres.

The Bureau of Land Management is currently focusing on aerial reseeding by a helicopter, which is launching from a parking lot of the recreation area at the turnoff on the upper section of Wilson Creek Road.

BLM Soda Fire project lead Michele McDaniel wants people to know that access to the parking lot will be restricted through late January or early February when this round of reseeding will finish.

“If we do reapplications then we could have a continued restricted access in there,” McDaniel said. “We also have herbicide treatments that we’re going to be doing in the spring, also through aerial applications.”

BLM Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation (ESR) lead Cindy Fritz said the next round of drill seeding will start in September, and another aerial herbicide application will happen in October.

The drill seeding will cover about 25,000 acres; it isn’t yet clear how much land the herbicide will cover.

So far, 24,000 acres have been seeded by tractors, and the aerial seeding is still in progress.

“The weather has definitely added some challenges for being able to put aircraft in the air,” McDaniel said.



A helicopter participates in reseeding efforts on public land scorched by the Soda Fire in August. Photo courtesy BLM

Aerial seeding has all been done by helicopter, but a plane was used for some of the herbicide treatments.

The BLM has put down 1.2 million pounds of seed by drill and helicopter so far. Drill seeding by the end of next year will be the last of the seeding the agency initially planned. After that, only retreatments will be conducted, McDaniel said.

While clarifying that lands being rehabilitated are not technically closed, McDaniel said the BLM is asking people to stay out of the burned areas.

Fritz said other rehab efforts have included removing hazardous materials and gathering wild horses, among other things.

“We’ve done some seedling planting this fall, and we’ll continue with that this spring, hand-planting the sagebrush and bitterbrush,” Fritz said. “Treatments for noxious weeds, that will be spring and fall, and of course, we’re out there doing fence repair, and road maintenance, and installing new culverts.”

McDaniel and Fritz did not have an estimate on how much money the BLM has spent on the rehab projects.

No general public meetings

on the efforts will be held in the near future, but the agency does expect to hold permittee meetings within the next month or so, McDaniel said.

The BLM is still considering options for long-term grazing closures, but the agency’s land use plan automatically calls for ranchers to keep their cattle off burned lands for two growing seasons.

A document to further define the length of closure is currently being developed.

“It could be either through agreement or a formal decision,” McDaniel said. “We are anticipating (having it) before the start of the next grazing year, which would be the first of March.”

She added in an email that, “biological thinning through the use of cattle is identified in the ESR plan as a treatment for fuel reductions on the Owyhee Front: BLM is determining the level of NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act analysis) that would be needed for treatment.”

If ranchers have any questions at this point in the rehabilitation process, McDaniel said they should contact Owyhee Field Office manager Michelle Ryerson at (208) 896-5912.

# BOCC supports opposition to monument designation

The Board of Owyhee County Commissioners (BOCC) has united with Malheur County officials in opposition to the proposed 2.5-million-acre Owyhee Canyonlands Conservation plan.

The commissioners signed off on a letter of support that was sent to Idaho’s congressional delegation earlier this month. The correspondence was sent to Sens. Mike Crapo and Jim Risch, and Reps. Raul Labrador and Mike Simpson on Dec. 15. The BOCC asked for their support through language, drafted in the House, in the Appropriations Bill that was approved on Dec. 18.

Crapo and Labrador both put out press releases stating their general opposition to the spending bill, but did not reference the conservation plan.

The BOCC ratified their letter as Owyhee County Resolution No. 2015-35 during its Dec. 21 meeting in Murphy.

The letter states that the Malheur County Court (Oregon’s equivalent of county commissioners) contacted the BOCC asking for support in their efforts to prevent the possibility of President Barack Obama designating by executive order the area along the Owyhee River as a national monument. The

nearly-110-year-old Antiquities Act empowers president to designate monuments.

County commissioners also said they oppose unilateral presidential action on lands that are best managed by local governments with local decisions.

“We know from our years of often-contentious dealings with federal land management agencies, that Presidential Monument Designation serves the purposes of the special interest groups — many of which have no local ties to or stake in the lands designated,” the commissioners stated in their letter.

“We also know that such designation is adverse to the uses and interests of many local individuals, entities, and industries. We know that Monument designation has direct adverse economic impacts to rural western counties such as ours and Malheur County is in that same situation.”

Owyhee County ranchers and elected officials teamed up with conservationists more than a decade ago to form the Owyhee Initiative after rumors that a similar presidential order would create a national monument in the southwest corner of Idaho.

— SC

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The Owyhee Avalanche

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Letters to the editor  
Friday noon the week prior to publication  
(Limit 300 words, signed, with day phone number.)



From page 1

✓ Soda Fire: Community rallies during and after devastating wildfire

- 44 fenced springs
- 66 miles of highway
- 518 miles of primitive roads
- 49 miles of non-motorized trails
- 146 miles of trails used by ATVs, motorcycles and 4-wheel-drive vehicles
- Four day-use recreation sites
- 35 mining sites
- Three potential hazardous materials sites, including illegally dumped tires and appliances
- 208 springs with more than 1,350 acres of riparian area
- 140 streams with redband trout habitat
- 6,441 acres of riparian area
- 10 occupied sage-grouse leks and more than 240,000 acres of sage-grouse habitat (including 53,421 acres of priority habitat)
- 141,000 acres of bighorn sheep habitat
- Tens of thousands of acres of winter habitat for mule deer and

pronghorn

- 68 golden eagle nests
- Five watersheds
- 16 cultural sites
- Five Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

An emergency wild horse gather was carried out to remove hundreds of horses from the Hardtrigger, Sands Basin and Black Mountain Herd Management Areas. Officials say 100 percent of the Hardtrigger and Sands Basin HMAs were burned, leaving no forage for the animals. The horses are being housed in the BLM Wild Horse Corrals near Boise.

The fire also threatened homes southwest of Homedale. Residents said the actions of Homedale’s volunteer firefighters were instrumental in keeping the flames at bay before BLM aerial support powdered the area near the end of Graveyard Point Road with retardant as fire crept to within 300

feet of homes.

The Owyhee County Sheriff’s Office issued evacuation recommendations for those Homedale residents. People living near Murphy, China Ditch Road, Reynolds Creek and other areas would also receive evacuation requests as hot, windy conditions continued to push the fire through the northwest part of the county.

Smoke from the fire triggered several closures of U.S. Highway 95, and Silver City Road was shuttered to all but homeowner traffic when the fire approached the historic mining town. Other roads and trails were closed as needed.

State, federal and tribal officials were quick to issue pleas that folks avoid areas burned by the fire.

The BLM, Shoshone-Paiute Tribes, and Owyhee County asked residents and visitors to stay out

of affected areas as recovery efforts began.

The University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office in Marsing distributed seed to rehabilitate private lands scorched by the fire.

Between the Elmore County Farm Bureau and the Eastern Owyhee Cooperative Weed Management Area, \$35,000 was gathered to purchase seed. Private landowners then picked up the seed at locations including the Extension Office in Marsing and the Owyhee County Fairgrounds in Homedale. Almost 20 tons of seed were dispersed.

The BLM began reseeding public land burned by the fire in October. Rangeland drills were initially used to put the seed down but a helicopter was later brought in for aerial seeding. The BLM’s goal is to plant native grasses to try and weed out invasive grasses,

such as cheatgrass. The reseeding efforts will continue through at least September of 2016, but some reapplications may be needed.

A number of fundraisers were held in September to assist ranchers who lost property or valuable rangeland to the fire. They included spaghetti feeds in Caldwell and Marsing and all of the events raised at least \$65,000, which was donated for the ranchers in the form of contributions to the non-profit Owyhee Cattlemen’s Heritage Fund.

In November and December, volunteers branched out across the county to collect sagebrush seed targeted to help rehabilitate rangeland. Collected seed eventually will be scattered across the burned landscape in an attempt to re-establish sagebrush stands in critical areas, including sage-grouse leks and habitat for mule deer and other species.

✓ Water: Organizers hope to catch legislators’ attention ahead of session

Ranching.

Owyhee County ranchers Tim Lowry and Paul Nettleton were at the center of that battle in which the state Supreme Court ruled only entities that can put water to beneficial use are entitled to that water right. In his Supreme Court decision, Justice Daniel Eismann wrote that the Bureau of Land Management couldn’t put the water to beneficial use because it didn’t own cattle.

The state Supreme Court decision inspired a 2008 Utah law giving stockwater rights precedent to the producers because of the beneficial use. Idaho Dist. 9B Rep. Judy Boyle (R-Midvale), one of the organizers for next week’s symposium, said similar legislation finally is in the works to codify the Joyce-LU decision in Idaho statute.

She anticipates a bill to be

introduced when the Idaho Legislature convenes for its 2016 session.

“We’re finished with waiting,” Boyle said, referring to the nine-year gap between the court decision and the possibility of new Idaho law. “I think it’s pretty sad that Utah did it a year later, and we’ve been waiting a decade.”

Boyle said the delay came because it was believed best to wait for the Snake River Basin Adjudication water rights process to run its course before working on new law. After nearly a 30-year process, the final unified decree was signed in August 2014, according to the Idaho Department of Water Resources website.

Even if the Joyce-LU decision hasn’t been codified into law, it is still helping other ranchers in the state, Boyle said.

After the BLM and U.S. Forest Service filed for water rights in the Coeur d’Alene Basin, Norm Semanko, Idaho Water Users Association general counsel, apparently informed the Northern Idaho Adjudication director of the previous state Supreme Court decision about beneficial use. Soon after, Boyle said, the federal agencies withdrew their filings.

Both Semanko and Eismann will make presentations during the workshop, which will take place from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. next Wednesday at the Red Lion Downtowner in Boise. There’s a \$15 registration fee, and lunch is included. Thursday is the registration deadline.

Eismann will discuss the Joyce-LU decision during next week’s workshop, and Semanko is scheduled to discuss upcoming legislation.

Randy Parker, Utah Farm Bureau’s chief executive officer, will discuss his congressional testimony regarding what Boyle said amounts to federal extortion of water rights from permittees.

“Randy testified in Congress that in Utah and other states, the BLM was trying to get water rights away from the ranchers, saying, ‘If you want your grazing permit renewed, you have to sign over your water rights,’” Boyle said.

“I would say 99 percent of our Idaho ranchers have never heard that that had happened in other states.”

Ramona Hage will discuss her brother Wayne Hage Jr.’s Nevada stockwater court case against the federal government. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals finally resolved the case when it upheld a lower court’s assertion that water rights were equal to grazing rights

and permanent preference rights, dealing the feds another defeat.

“I think it would be extremely important for livestock people to be there to be aware of the decision and to be aware of what is going to be (attempted) legislatively to try to support that,” Lowry said.

“If it’s done correctly, the stock owner will be recognized as the owner of the stockwater right and the federal government will be out of it.”

The workshop also is scheduled to touch on the benefits of state-level management of federal public lands.

Lowry and Boyle both have worked to get as many state legislators to the workshop as possible in hopes of driving home the importance of the stockwater rights bill.

— JPB

✓ Man: Homedale resident refuses to drop gun, shot “multiple times”

said both the deputy and the officer fired their weapons. It is believed Heredia also discharged his firearm, but the sheriff said the Critical Incident Task Force investigation into specific details continues.

Donahue said the responding law enforcement personnel issued several verbal commands for Heredia to drop the weapon before shots were fired. Multiple shots were fired, and Heredia was wounded multiple times, Donahue said.

CITF investigators have secured video and audio footage from “at least one” body camera, but Donahue didn’t disclose who was wearing it.

Both the officer and the deputy, whose identities remain undisclosed, are on administrative

duty as the investigation is carried out. Donahue said that the Canyon County Prosecutor’s Office will determine if further action is warranted once the investigation is completed. Owyhee County Sheriff Perry Grant said Saturday night at the scene that his office is performing an investigation to ensure that OCSO policy and procedures were followed. Homedale Police Jeff Eidemiller declined to comment Saturday night, citing the CITF investigation.

Donahue said the personnel



Gilbert Heredia

involved have “multiple years” experience with their current agencies and other agencies.

Grant and Eidemiller were present at Monday’s press conference, but Donahue said neither man would have comment because of the ongoing CITF investigation.

On Saturday, Grant said a parent requested a civil standby at the residence where Heredia lived so law enforcement could oversee a child custody exchange. Authorities were called to the house two times earlier Saturday, including once hours before the shooting for a welfare check on Heredia.

Donahue said four children and an adult male were inside the house during the altercation. Neither the children, adult nor the

officers involved were injured. Heredia had exited the home and was speaking to the deputy and officer in the front yard when the incident escalated, Donahue said.

Grant said Saturday’s portion of the investigation included personnel using metal detectors and knives to search the snow-covered front yard for shell casings. Donahue said it’s unclear how many shots were fired, but both the officer and the deputy fired their weapons.

During the civil standby, Grant said another OCSO deputy was staged at the Family Dollar Store about two blocks away with other concerned parties, including Heredia’s father.

Although no charges have been filed yet, Heredia could face

charges for flashing the weapon at authorities, Donahue said. A subsequent search of the house turned up more weapons, he said. Heredia is a convicted felon. According to the Idaho courts repository, he was convicted of felony controlled substance possession in Canyon County 18 years ago.

Heredia was convicted on an amended misdemeanor count of disturbing the peace in June 2010 in Owyhee County. He originally was charged with misdemeanor injury to a child.

— JPB

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# School menus

## Homedale Elementary

Dec. 30-31: No school  
Jan. 4: Mini corn dogs, steamed carrots, veggie & fruit bar  
Jan. 5: Chicken nuggets, mixed vegetables, cookie, veggie & fruit bar  
Jan. 6: Crispito, corn, veggie & fruit bar

## Homedale Middle

Dec. 30-31: No school  
Jan. 4: Toasted cheese sandwich or crispito, taco salad, fruit & salad bar  
Jan. 5: Hot dog or chicken patty, fries, fruit & salad bar  
Jan. 6: Chicken nuggets or orange chicken, steamed rice, broccoli, fruit & salad bar

## Homedale High

Dec. 30-31: No school  
Jan. 4: Chicken taco or ham/cheese sandwich, corn, salad bar, fruit choice  
Jan. 5: Beef nuggets w/cheese stick & garlic mashed potatoes or pizza hot pocket, salad bar, fruit choice  
Jan. 6: Crispito or BBQ chicken, roll, steamed carrots, salad bar, fruit choice

## Marsing

Dec. 30-31: No school  
Jan. 4: Chicken nuggets or fish sandwich, roll, mixed vegetables, salad bar & soup  
Jan. 5: Spicy chicken & rice or nachos, roll, steamed carrots, salad bar & soup  
Jan. 6: Rib-b-que, macaroni & cheese, Italian breadstick, corn, salad bar & soup

## Bruneau-Grand View

Dec. 30-31: No school  
Jan. 5: Chicken wrap, steamed carrots, romaine salad, fruit  
Jan. 6: Spaghetti w/meat sauce, romaine salad, peas, breadstick, fruit

# Senior menus

## Homedale Senior Center

*Salad bar: Lettuce, tomato, boiled eggs, carrot salad;  
Milk served every day*  
Dec. 30: Ham & beans, carrots, corn bread  
Dec. 31: Salisbury steak w/onions & mushrooms, mashed potatoes/gravy, broccoli, bread  
Jan. 5: Hearty beef stew, roll  
Jan. 6: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes/gravy, California blend vegetables, roll

## Marsing Senior Center

*Milk served every day*  
Dec. 30: Pulled pork, potatoes, beets, fruit  
Dec. 31: Hamburger steak, gravy, potatoes, squash, apricots  
Jan. 4: Closed  
Jan. 5: Chicken, potatoes, green beans, pasta salad, fruit, roll  
Jan. 6: Meatloaf, potatoes, carrots, oranges, bread

## Rimrock Senior Center

*Milk and juice served every day*  
Dec. 31: French dip sandwich, fries, cole slaw, pecan pie  
Jan. 5: Chicken pot pie, mixed veggies, waldorf salad, donut bread pudding  
Jan. 7: Meat loaf, baked potato, green beans w/bacon & onions, roll, orange slices



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

# Obituaries

## Gordon Eugene Stanford

Gordon Eugene Stanford, age 51, completed his journey of life on December 23, 2015 in Jordan Valley.

Gordon was born on July 3, 1964 and was the oldest of three boys born to Jerry and Charlene Stanford. Gordon was raised on the ranch on Upper Cow Creek, and graduated from Jordan Valley High School in 1982.

After high school, Gordon worked as a ranch hand for various ranches in Nevada and Jordan Valley. Gordon was an excellent hand and made it his way of life for years to come.

In 1995, Gordon married Lindsey Gammett. Out of this marriage came three children: Zach, Charlie (Triston) and Connor. Gordon loved spending time with his kids. He loved taking them hunting, camping



and fishing even though he hated fishing. Together, they had lots of fun times and wonderful memories that will live on forever in their minds.

Gordon has influenced many people in one way or another throughout his life. Gordon may

have been a little rough around the edges, but inside he was a kind and loving man that both of his boys looked up to. If he knew you and liked you, then he would do anything to help you if he could.

Gordon is survived by his father Jerry (Mickie) Stanford, mother Charlene Stanford, brothers Kyle (Tonya), Kelly, David (Kandy) and Rob, grandmother Frankie Dougal, son Zach (Jacinta) and grandson Casey, son Charlie and daughter Connor along with many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and friends.

Preceded in death by his Grandfathers Chuck Dougal and Omar Stanford, Grandmother Lily Stanford and stepfather Frank Stanford.

Memorial services will be held in Jordan Valley. Time and date pending.

## Lillian M. Troxel

Lillian M. Troxel, 86, of Homedale, Idaho passed away peacefully in her sleep on December 26, 2015 in Caldwell, Idaho. She was born on April 28, 1929 in Anacortes, Washington to Orie A. Bassett and Elizabeth A. (Turner) Bassett, the fifth of six children in the family. She grew up and attended schools in the area graduating from Everett High School in 1947. She met her future husband Robert C. “Bob” Troxel in Manson, Washington and they were married on November 22, 1947. They moved with their young family of three children, to Homedale, Idaho in 1956. She worked at the Idaho Department Store in Caldwell, and Morfitt Stores in Homedale, before becoming a bookkeeper at Matteson’s Owyhee Motors, where she retired in 1992.

Lillian was very active in the Homedale Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and planned numerous programs, especially at Christmas time, and was Chairman of the Congregational Board of Directors for a time. She loved her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ



with every fiber of her being and what a blissful reunion it must have been when they met face to face. She was also active in the Homedale community, serving on election boards, the Homedale Public Library Board, and exercising regularly at the Homedale Senior Citizens Center. She was well known for her crocheting as evidenced by her children and grandchildren receiving her beautiful works of art, and also the wonderful pastries and rolls that she would make for special occasions. She had a green thumb,

producing garden vegetables and flowers that she would share with neighbors and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Bob, four brothers (Ray, Jack, Frank, and Art), and one sister (Doris). Surviving are her children, Nolene (Kerry) Johnstone, Rob (Barb) Troxel, Jr., Cynthia (Ross) Elder, grandchildren, Chris (Bryn), Jenny (Chris), Libby (Caleb), Joe, Melissa (Cort), great-grandchildren, Kit, Kate, JC, Ikaika, Kayla, Lane, Dagan, Justus, Rebel, and great-great-grandchild Alaina.

Services will be held on Thursday, December 31, 2015 at Flahiff Funeral Chapel, 27 E. Owyhee, in Homedale, with a viewing at 10:00AM and services at 11:00AM followed by interment at the Marsing-Homedale Cemetery.

The family wishes to thank everyone who gave medical and convalescent care to Lillian, especially Owyhee Health and Rehab in Homedale and Ashley Manor assisted living in Caldwell. Memorials may be given to the Homedale Christian Church, Homedale, or the Homedale Public Library.

## Charity card tourney slated Thursday

A New Year’s Eve Texas Hold ’Em fundraiser will help fire and emergency medical response volunteers and a community disaster fund.

The tournament — a joint effort of the Murphy-Reynolds-Wilson (MRW) Fire District and Emergency Medical Services agency and the Hwy. 78 Community Disaster Relief (CDR) Inc. — starts at 8 p.m. on Thursday in Bill Lacy’s shop in the Wilson community on the corner of Idaho highway 78 and Wilson Creek Road. The shop is across the highway from the MRW fire station and the Wilson schoolhouse.

MRW public information officer Louis Monson has wanted

to put on a benefit tournament for a while. The planning began before he served as blackjack dealer during October’s Hwy. 78 CDR family fun night fundraiser at the Owyhee County Historical Museum in Murphy.

Tournament seating is limited. The eight players who make it to the final table will earn D&B Supply gift cards, and Monson said other prizes will be awarded to the final three players. Email [info@mrwfire.org](mailto:info@mrwfire.org) to register.

The buy-in of \$30 will include tournament chips, chili dogs, beer or wine or soft drinks. Monson said the actual number of chips per player will be determined by the number of entries.

Rebuys of 5,000 chips will cost \$20 and there will be a \$10 add-on for 2,500 chips. Rebuys must be accomplished by the end of the third blind. Blinds will last 20 minutes each.

People not playing poker can buy food and drink for \$10.

Funds from the buy-ins will be split three ways: \$10 for food, \$10 to MRW, and \$10 to the CDR.

Monson said MRW will use its share of the proceeds for equipment and training for its Quick Response Unit.

Anyone consuming adult beverages must have a designated driver. Designated drivers will receive a \$10 discount on their tournament entry.



# Make life changes not resolutions

New Year’s Day is almost here, and as we all work up to celebrate the beginning of 2016, most will inevitably be creating New Year’s resolutions. While there is nothing wrong with making a few resolutions here and there, we need to really remember the purpose of creating these goals. It’s common that most start to consider things that they would like to change about their life — maybe organize their space to be more efficient, practice better time management so that they can enjoy more moments with their family, or even lose 10 pounds off that plumped middle.

In the moment of creating the



Surine Greenway

**University of Idaho Extension**

resolutions, the emotions can be positive, even empowering, but if we fail to follow through, it can actually lead to major demotivation in the future when we are once again faced with opportunity to make goals.

So how can you make sure you complete your resolutions this year? While there are steps that you can take to create solid resolutions that work for you, ultimately, there has to be the internal desire to work towards whatever goals are set. If you make a resolution to lower your sodium intake and increase your fruit and vegetable consumption, yet refuse to eat anything that comes from a plant and using the salt shaker during each meal is a must, then you might not have that personal motivation that will help you lead to accomplishing that

specific goal.

One major thing that can help in lending to resolution completion is thinking of no more than three things that you would like to change. After identifying the changes you would like to make, set simple tasks that could lend to their completion. While it may take away some of the immediate fun of making a New Year’s resolution that is just on a whim, it will definitely lend to a designated plan towards its successful accomplishment.

— Surine Greenway is the University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Family and Consumer Sciences educator. For more information, you can reach the U of I Owyhee County Extension Office at (208) 896-4104 or owyhee@uidaho.edu. The office is located at 238 W. 8th Ave. W., in Marsing.

## Calendar

### Today

- Coffee club**  
9 a.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020
- Preschool Story Time**  
10:30 a.m., Lizard Butte Library, 111 S. 3rd Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690
- 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

### 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
- AA meetings**  
7:30 p.m., Homedale Friends Community Church, 17434 U.S. 95, Wilder. (208) 337-3464
- Charity card tournament**  
8 p.m., \$30, Bill Lacy’s shop at Hwy. 78 and Wilson Creek Road. info@mrwfire.org

### Monday

- Board of County Commissioners meeting**  
9 a.m., Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy. (208) 495-2421
- Adult book club**  
7 p.m., Lizard Butte Library, 111 S. 3rd Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690

### Tuesday

- Blood pressure clinic**  
10 a.m., free, Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020
- 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
- Senior center bridge**  
1 p.m., Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (208) 350-7359 Tuesdays and Thursdays
- After-school Story Time**  
4:15 p.m., Lizard Butte Library, 111 S. 3rd Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690
- AA meetings**  
7:30 p.m., Homedale Friends Community Church, 17434 U.S. 95, Wilder. (208) 337-3464

### Wednesday

- Military veterans coffee**  
9 a.m., Phipps-Watson American Legion Hall and

- Community Center, 126 W. 2nd St. N., Marsing
- Coffee club**  
9 a.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020
- Water rights workshop**  
10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., \$15 includes lunch, Dec. 31 deadline, Red Lion Downtowner, Boise. (208) 333-7084 or jaraquistain@idahofb.org
- Preschool Story Time**  
10:30 a.m., Lizard Butte Library, 111 S. 3rd Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690
- Wilson Sagehens meeting**  
1 p.m., Wilson schoolhouse, 10427 Johnston Lane, Wilson.
- Marsing-Homedale Cemetery board meeting**  
2 p.m., Marsing-Homedale Cemetery office, Cemetery Road, Marsing.
- 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
- Christian Life Club**  
4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., kindergarten through sixth grade, Homedale Elementary School, 420 W. Washington Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4757, (208) 353-6024 or (208) 337-3464
- NOCWMA meeting**  
7 p.m., Owyhee Conservation District office, 250 N. Bruneau Hwy., Marsing. (208) 896-4544, ext. 101

### Thursday, Jan. 7

- Foot clinic**  
9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., free, appointments necessary, Marsing Senior Center, 218 W. Main St., Marsing. (208) 896-4634
- 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
- TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meeting**  
6:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St. W., Homedale. (208) 337-3867
- AA meetings**  
7:30 p.m., Homedale Friends Community Church, 17434 U.S. 95, Wilder. (208) 337-3464

### Friday, Jan. 8

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

THE OWYHEE AVALANCHE

SEQUICENTENNIAL SAMPLINGS

Vol. 1, No. 20, Saturday, December 30, 1865

COUNTY SEAT QUESTION – This subject is approaching culmination. It is the one generally discussed in all parts of the county. Parties are at work who will not rest until it has a local settlement. There is now a petition in circulation praying the Legislatures to enact a law authorizing a vote on the point of location; also, a remonstrance against the passage of such an Act. The only difference regarding location can be measured in any course from a given point by one-half mile. Inasmuch as the county buildings can occupy but one place, cannot this little matter of distance be harmonized? Why not Ruby and Silver unite in asking the passage of an Act incorporating both places under one name – say Owyhee – then agree upon the most eligible and convenient site for the public buildings? It will not be denied that the prosperity of Silver is that of Ruby, and vice versa. Neither will it be claimed that, should the county seat be definitely settled, with two names to what is really but one community, there would be an end to local wranglings, which could but retard somewhat the prosperity of each. Even now, when the elements of society are sparse and unorganized, social bickerings are heard. This is all wrong. To us, individually, the location of the county buildings is a matter of indifference – we came to Owyhee, or Owyhee mines – neither to Ruby nor Silver. We suppose others, in effect, did the same. We came here to advocate generally Owyhee interests – not any particular part. We plainly foresaw present events, and this was then the most annoying point to settle in our location, though, as matters shaped, had no influence in the premises. Truly and earnestly, we think the project – long since discussed – of consolidating Ruby and Silver under one name, and that name to be the county seat, is one, the consummation of which, will more certainly satisfy a majority, harmonize only apparently conflicting interests, and insure the general prosperity and average good of all. Two towns so nearly allied in everything but name, should be in that. As an instance of its good effect, take Austin and Clifton, Reese River, under the two names they were continually contending; under one, all is harmonious prosperity. Gold Hill and Virginia, in Nevada, which bear the same relation to each other as Ruby and Silver would if the space between were solid mass of business houses, are to this day spending time, money and bad temper over what would not be thought of if both places were under one name, as they are one in location and interest. Those who view Silver and Ruby as having attained their growth, we don’t expect will see the applicability of our remarks; but those who comprehend our growth two years hence, and which is sure to follow the general and reasonable expectations, we presume will accept our proposition as the true one for these now divided communities. We submit these hints for what they are worth, trusting that wherever the county buildings are located, the two places be incorporated by legislative Act under one name.

# Death notices

- KENNETH D. LINE**, 63, of Marsing, died Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2015. Arrangements: Dakan Funeral Chapel, Caldwell.
- CLINTON STOCKDALE**, 66, of Homedale, died Friday, Dec. 25, 2015, of natural causes. Cremation arrangements: Dakan Funeral Chapel.

# Eagle Court slated to honor Marsing Scouts

Marsing Boy Scout Troop 412 will hold an Eagle Court today. The event, which is open to the public, will recognize the efforts of Cooper Folwell, Alexander Heidt and Karl Isert. The Eagle Court takes place at 7 p.m. today at the Marsing LDS Chapel at the corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue West and Motzko Street. All three Scouts are successfully academically at their respective high schools. A Vallivue senior, Folwell is part of the school band. He and Heidt were 2015 American Legion Post 128 Boys’ State reps. Also a senior and in the top three academically in his class, Heidt is in the running for Marsing Class of 2016 valedictorian. He earned the Scouting Duty of God award from the Marsing LDS. Isert, a junior at Marsing, and the two other boys have been good friends throughout their Scouting careers, and all three will serve LDS missions after graduation, according to a press release from Heidt’s father, Stephen.



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**Homedale first-responders complete another orange sale**

US Bank teller Irene Valdez pays Homedale Ambulance administrator Lisa Rittenhouse for bags of oranges during the ambulance department's annual sale. Ambulance administrator Lisa Rittenhouse said members sold more than 450 bags of oranges Dec. 14. Ambulance members will decide how to utilize the \$2,000 in net proceeds during their January meeting. "We would like to extend our thanks to the community of Homedale for supporting Homedale Ambulance," Rittenhouse said.

**Homedale woman sentenced for DUI**

Sentencing has been carried out for a woman arrested for drunk driving after driving through a fence outside Homedale in late August. Cathleen Spears-Thompson of Homedale must serve 24 hours of community service as part of a sentence Magistrate Judge Dan C. Grober imposed on Dec. 16 in Homedale. Grober also placed the 51-year-old woman on probation for a year and suspended her driver's license for six months. She was given credit for her day in Owyhee County Jail in Murphy after an Aug. 25 arrest on a charge of misdemeanor driving under the influence. She must pay \$674 in fines and court costs. Grober suspended the remainder of a 180-day jail sentence. Spears-Thompson was arrested at around 2:20 a.m. after she had driven a 1999 Honda Prelude through a fence on Industrial Road east of U.S. Highway 95. Her blood-alcohol content measured .160 and .156 at the time of her arrest, approximately twice the legal limit of .08.

**Homedale church plans New Year's Eve service**

Homedale's Trinity Holiness Church plans a New Year's Eve service Thursday. Pastor Samuel E. Page said there will be a service followed by a meal and a fellowship meeting. The service begins at 8 p.m., and the fellowship meeting begins at 10 p.m. Page said folks will stay until midnight to mark the new year. Trinity Holiness Church is located at 119 N. Main St. For more information, call 337-5021.



**A warm prize just in time for winter's chill**

Homedale Senior Center board member and quilt creator Romona Andrus, left, presents Caldwell resident Noelia Morales with her prize for winning the senior center's Christmas bazaar quilt raffle.

**Senior center announces events**

The Homedale Senior Center's monthly benefit breakfast will return next month after a hiatus. The breakfast is one of the highlights for the senior center's January calendar of events. The senior center, located at 224 W. Idaho Ave., is open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Lunch is served at noon each day, and the center's thrift store is opened each day. The all-you-can eat breakfast takes place from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 16. The breakfast is held on the third Saturday every month of the year except November and December. The price is \$6 per plate. The senior center opens its doors to the public for a monthly fundraiser dance, too. The dance takes place from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 9. Admission is \$5, and people are encouraged to bring finger foods to share while they dance and listen to live music. The monthly foot clinic takes place on Tuesday, Jan. 19. Appointments are available beginning at 8:30 a.m., and a slot can be reserved by calling the senior center at 337-3020. The cost is \$12. The senior center board of directors holds a meeting open to the public at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 13. Free blood pressure clinics are planned on Jan. 12 and Jan. 26, which are Tuesdays.



Help support Zac Lowder's battle with Leukemia!

**Beer Pong Tournament  
& Silent Auction  
January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - 8p.m.  
Tango Saloon  
\$25 for teams of 2 entry  
Prizes for the top team.**

All proceeds will go towards medical costs for his battle. Questions? Call Laurien Mavey 208-697-0397 or Lori Idsinga 208-670-1427

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# Another OHR Christmas



Owyhee Health and Rehabilitation resident Connie Abrego receives a present from Santa (Kevin Bebe) on Christmas Eve. Each of the residents at the center in Homedale received several gifts from the annual gift drive sponsored by The Owyhee Avalanche.

# Crapo ready to return to Owyhee for town halls

Sen. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) has rescheduled town meetings that were postponed when the Soda Fire flared up in August. Spokesman Lindsay Nothern said Crapo will visit Owyhee County for three hourlong town meetings on Friday, Jan. 8.

The tour begins at 2:30 p.m. in Murphy, the second stop is at 4:30 p.m. in Marsing, and the day wraps up at 6 p.m. in Homedale. Information on the exact location for each town meeting will be released next week.

# HMS becomes Sources of Strength location

## School gets grant to join state’s suicide prevention protocol

A second Homedale school has joined the Idaho Lives Project, which strives for suicide prevention. Middle school counselor Brooke Winston found out that her grant application to become part of the Sources of Strength program was the only one Southwest Idaho to be approved. On Thursday, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Sherri Ybarra revealed that HMS and six other middle schools and high schools across the state were chosen to become part of the program. The middle school joins Homedale High School in the program. “The Idaho Lives Project and the Sources of Strength program is a great resource to create awareness of suicide prevention strategies, and to ultimately provide support and create community within a school,” Superintendent Ybarra said. “The schools that are implementing this program are taking a very positive step in providing support to students and recognizing that this effort is essential to ensure that students have trusted adults as well as peer support — the department will do all that we can to help these schools be successful.” Sources of Strength is an ongoing strength-based, comprehensive wellness program with a primary focus on suicide prevention; however, it also tackles other issues such as substance abuse and violence with an emphasis on team-building and mentorship. Winston will serve as adminis-

trator of the HMS program. The first step comes in January when Winston picks five to six adult advisers to for a selection committee to build a group of Peer Leaders. Comprised of about 10 percent of the student body, the Peer Leaders will feature sixth-through eighth-graders. “In February, our entire staff will participate in a two-hour suicide prevention training, and I will distribute, collect and submit Peer Leader and school staff surveys and pre-tests,” Winston said. March features an all-day training session for the Peer Leaders and adult advisers. “From there we will begin to infuse the Sources of Strength protocol into our school culture,” Winston said. The goal of Sources of Strength, according to an SDE press release, is educate staff, students and the community about how to build resilience and address the root causes of suicide. “I look forward to working with these schools to implement the Sources of Strength program, and to ensure that we as a state department are doing all that we can to cultivate supportive learning environments in these schools,” Matt McCarter, the state department’s director Student Engagement, Career & Technical Readiness, said. “I applaud the commitment of these schools to create a positive culture where all of their students are supported and feel like they belong.” — JPB



Penny Riley, left, and Dola MacLeod from Owyhee Health and Rehabilitation picked up the presents for residents on Dec. 22 to wrap up the community gift drive for another year.

# Silver Star wraps up Christmas giving

**Left:** Silver Star chapter members Gerry Hostetler, Deborah Arnold and Mary Baldwin sorted and boxed food and presents for two families prior to Christmas. **Right:** This Christmas quilt made by Mary Baldwin will be raffled Feb. 19 at Silver City Masonic Lodge No. 13 at 19 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. Funds raised from the raffle will benefit Silver Star’s adopt-a-family program next Christmas.





# 2015: A LOOK BACK

## ✓ Year: Several developments affected county’s ranching community

Sylvia Bahem, who had served as the city’s P&Z administrator for nearly 15 years, turned in her city-owned cellphone and files after the city council voted unanimously to repeal the sections of code that created the P&Z commission and the administrator post.

City staff now handles the responsibilities of the administrator, and the city council sits as the P&Z commission as necessary.

Councilman Aaron Tines said disbanding the volunteer advisory board would streamline the P&Z process.

The city council has the final say on P&Z permit requests. Any appeal would be filed with the Third District Court regardless if a P&Z board was in place or not.

The council made its decision after a public hearing at which two citizens gave testimony.

### Owyhee Initiative gets director

In a move that many saw as necessary in order to move the process along, former Bureau of Land Management Bruneau Field Office manager and land use consultant Mitch Jaurena was hired as the Owyhee Initiative Inc.’s executive director.

In his new role, Jaurena vowed to preserve the spirit of the agreement and serve as a voice for the united objectives of the varied interests that entered into the agreement nearly a decade ago.

### BLM difficulties continue

Even as Jaurena was hired to — in part — face down the Bureau of Land Management’s resistance to the spirit and intent of the Owyhee Initiative, the federal agency was doing things that undermined the wilderness established by the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009 and riled up county ranchers in the process.

The BLM released an Owyhee Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers Management Plan (WMP) that didn’t recognize the grandfathered allowed use of motorized herding in the wilderness and ignored the need for a comprehensive inventory of range improvements in the six areas that comprise the 517,000-acre wilderness.

Crutcher’s Crossing’s distinction as the only motorized crossing in a wilderness in the U.S. did survived into the WMP, though.

### Sage-grouse avoids ESA listing

Even when ranchers got some good news about the future of their livelihood there were dark clouds around.

In September, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced that the Greater Sage-Grouse would avoid Endangered Species Act designation, seemingly signaling the successful conclusion of years of conservation efforts on the part of several groups in Owyhee County and Idaho.

But the Board of County Commissioners voiced concern that the scores of land use plans released at the same time as the listing decision was announced would have a similar squelching affect on ranchers’ prosperity as an endangered listing would have had.

The state sued the federal government after it became apparent the feds’ land use plans didn’t incorporate enough of the state conservation plan that District 1 county commissioner Jerry Hoagland and others had worked 2½ years

to develop.

### School and cemetery levies pass

Voters in the Homedale, Marsing, and Bruneau-Grand View School Districts approved tax levies this spring.

Marsing-Homedale Cemetery Maintenance District patrons also voted in favor of a two-year temporary levy.

The Homedale School District’s patrons in Owyhee and Canyon counties renewed the district’s 10-year, \$150,000 plant facility levy as it passed with 78.8 percent of the vote. A super-majority of two-thirds of the vote was needed. An identical plant facility levy passed by only two votes a decade earlier.

Marsing school patrons approved a two-year supplemental levy to cover operational expenses within the district. The first operational supplemental levy the district had sought in at least 40 years will generate \$400,000 each school year for 2015-16 and 2016-17.

The ballot measure received 381 votes in the May 19 election, and 240 (62.9 percent) favored the levy.

Bruneau-Grand View School District voters narrowly approved a \$1.4 million supplemental measure March 10. The two-year levy replaces the one-year, \$600,000 supplemental that expired at the end of the last school year. The levy passed by a margin of 42 votes with 279 patrons (53.9 percent) supporting the idea.

Marsing-Homedale Cemetery patrons approved a two-year temporary levy after twice rejecting permanent levy overrides. The levy will provide \$30,000 per year in 2016 and 2017. It only needed a simple majority to pass and received 507 affirmative votes (73.3 percent) in the May 19 election. There were 692 votes cast.

In 2014, the district twice failed to achieve the super-majority to pass a permanent override levy.

District commissioners said if the temporary levy wasn’t approved expenses would have been cut, meaning less maintenance to the cemetery.

### County P&Z OKs wild horse lot

The Owyhee County Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously approved a wild horse feedlot in March.

The J.R. Simplot Co.’s confined animal feeding operation (CAFO) is on the property of an old feedlot near Jacks Creek outside Bruneau.

The approval came after a two-hour hearing in Murphy during which Idaho Cattle Association executive vice-president Wyatt Prescott testified that many in the ranching industry like the Bureau of Land Management’s idea of using feedlots to get wild horses and burros off precious rangeland.

Under a five-year agreement with BLM, Simplot will house no more than 3,500 equines on 80 acres of the former Bruneau Cattle Co. feedlot.

The feedlot has been in use for more than 50 years, a fact on which Simplot hinged an earlier argument that a new conditional use permit wouldn’t be necessary. County officials countered that the change of use from cattle to equines did require a new CUP application.

No wild horse advocacy groups were represented at the hearing, and P&Z administrator Mary Huff said no one wrote letters in opposition prior to the hearing.

Simplot later sought to close the adjacent Jacks Creek Road.

### Joyce Ranch marks 150 years

There was a good, old-fashioned family reunion a century-and-a-half in the making on Sinker Creek in June.

Several decendents of Matthew and Mary (Fahey) Joyce — and a total of about 450 people — gathered throughout a weeklong celebration for the Joyce Livestock Co.

Established in 1865, the ranch whas had only five sets of managing partners in that time — Matthew Joyce Sr., Jim and Matthew Joyce Jr., Maggie and Villo Nettleton, Hubert and Helen Nettleton, and Paul and Chad Nettleton.

### Homedale gateway sign completed

After years of work by the City of Homedale and the Chamber of Commerce, finishing touches were put on the Welcome to Homedale sign this summer.

A dedication ceremony was held on Veterans Day. The entire Homedale High School student body and a handful of military veterans attended the event.

The ceremony served as the official unveiling of the sign and a new 6-foot-by-10-foot American flag. The three flagpoles behind the sign also include POW/MIA and State of Idaho flags.

Matteson Family Trust directors agreed to cover the \$3,000 cost to erect the flagpoles.

The Owyhee Gardeners planted a variety of flowers under the sign and large pieces of petrified wood were placed around the flowerbed.

The rocks came from the Silver City area and were donated by former city councilman Tim Downing. They originally belonged to his grandfather, Walt Adams, who was a World War I veteran.

Work on the gateway sign began in 2012.

The structure sits in the middle of the grassy, triangular island separating the southbound entry lane from U.S. Highway 95 into Homedale and the southbound lane that carries U.S. 95 traffic off the Snake River bridge and into Owyhee County.

### Fishin’ Hole in Bruneau closes

In March, the longtime owners of The Fishin’ Hole in Bruneau called it quits after 19 years of business.

Denise and Mike Stewart opened The Fishin’ Hole on May 3, 1996 and had operated it ever since.

Mike said the idea for the business started when a fishing buddy of his suggested that he open a bait and tackle shop.

The Stewarts already owned a home in Bruneau and had been coming to the area for years to hunt and fish before they purchased it. The couple built the store next to their house.

Their busiest days of the week for fishermen passing through were always Friday and Saturday, but Mike said they also did a lot of business selling things like milk, eggs, frozen pizza and ice cream to residents of the town during the week.

The couple’s retirement plans include lots of traveling. Denise said they hope to see as many places around Idaho as they can.

## Homedale trustees salute teachers

One longtime teacher and a relative newcomer to the Homedale School District recently received Awards of Excellence from the school board.

Fifth-grade teacher Lesa Folwell was honored in November, and Homedale High School English teacher Bethany Updike received the award this month.

The teachers were presented with plaques during board of trustees meetings. The trustees meet on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at 116 E. Owyhee Ave.

This is Updike’s second year at the high school where she teachers 11th- and 12th-grade English and Speech and also serves as a Na-

tional Honor Society advisor.

“Mrs. Updike does a fantastic job of engaging the students in her classes,” HHS principal Matt Holtry said during his presentation at the Dec. 14 meeting.

“She creates a culture in her room in which all students in her class can participate and learn. Mrs. Updike sets high expectations for the students that she teaches and she puts in all the extra hours every day to hold students to these expectations.”

Updike’s colleagues commended her ability to enrich the school atmosphere and engage and challenge her students.

“Mrs. Updike is an incredible

asset to our school. As only a second-year teacher, she brings so much creativity, professionalism, knowledge and enthusiasm to our high school English department,” fellow English teacher Alex Willson said.

“She is quick to help where needed, collaborate with others and offer great teaching tips. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with Bethany, as she is one that makes everyone around her better.”

Middle school principal Amy Winters presented Folwell.

“Lesa is an awesome teacher and co-worker. She radiates happiness to everyone that surrounds her,” fellow middle school teacher

Debby Turner said.

“She has an uncanny knack for building positive relationships with her students. They know exactly what is expected of them, and they rise to the bar that she has set for them.”

Folwell recently completed an administrative internship, and she has taken the lead the past couple years on the fifth-graders’ annual gleaning project.

Winters said she has brought staff together and has built relationships within the community. She also keeps fellow staff members abreast of important events on a monthly basis.

Folwell also has developed a standards-based grading style from her own research.

“Despite no longer having the internship expectations, Lesa has upheld all of the practices she started last year,” Winters said.

“She has made a very positive impact on the fifth grade and the overall building.

“We are lucky to have such a talented teacher in our building.”

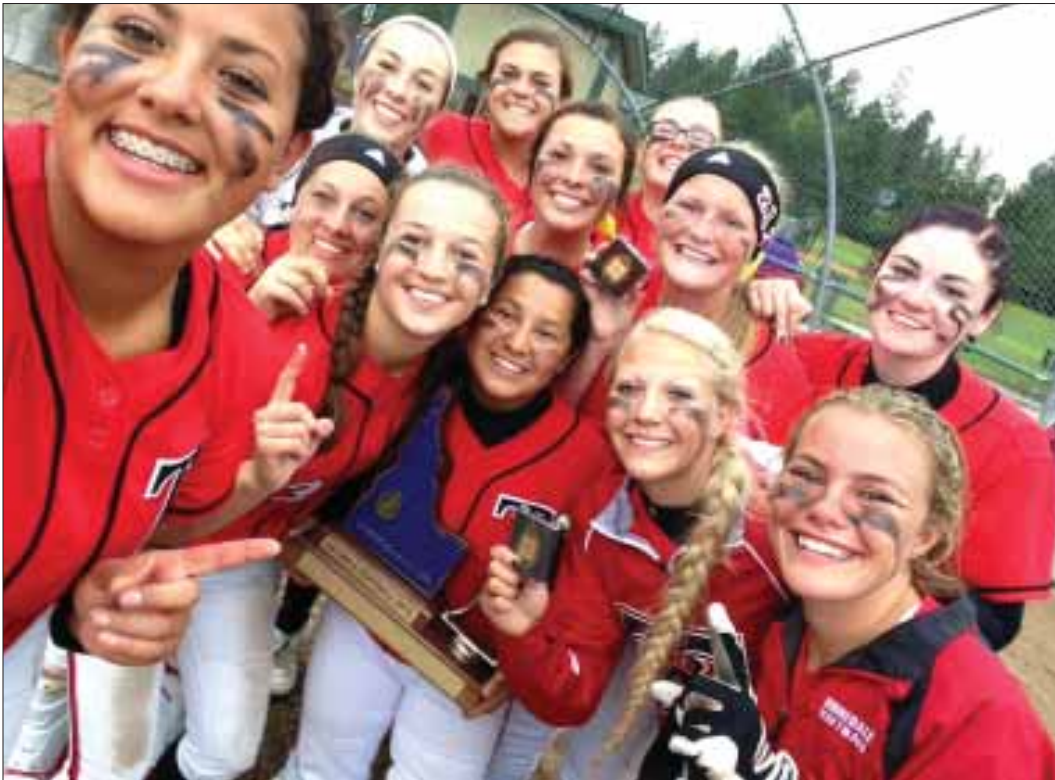
Folwell has two new colleagues on the fifth-grade teaching team in Angie Swallow and Rebecca Alamilla.

“I can tell that Lesa loves teaching,” Swallow said. “She has high expectations for her students. They respect her. She also knows how to have fun with the kids.

“I am grateful to be working with someone with her knowledge and experience.”



2015: A LOOK BACK



The Homedale High School softball team celebrated the program's fifth state championship — and second with coach Larry Corta at the helm — in May. Submitted photo

The year of the streak

There were familiar storylines and big-time performances during the 2015 sports year in Owyhee County, and several teams went on impressive winning streaks:

January

Junior Tory Lane's school single-game record-setting six three-point goals led to 22 points in the Trojans' 59-28 rout of 3A Snake River Valley conference foe Weiser.

February

The Homedale High School girls' basketball team played in a third straight state tournament. The Marsing High School girls qualified for the state tournament for the first time in two seasons. After finishing second in the district tournament, the Adrian

girls' basketball team grabbed fourth place in the 1A Oregon state tournament. The Adrian boys also qualified for the state playoffs.

Jordan Valley's boys' basketball team won the 1A District 8 Tournament championship to make the state playoffs.

Homedale linebacker Dayne Jacobs agreed to join The College of Idaho football team.

Homedale's girls' basketball frosh-soph team won the 3A Snake River Valley conference tournament championship with a come-from-behind win against Parma. The team was the top seed for the tournament. The school's junior varsity team finished second in the postseason tournament.

Homedale baseball player Bo

Jenkins signed to play at Treasure Valley Community College prior to his senior season with the Trojans.

Twelve wrestlers from Homedale and Marsing qualified for their respective state tournaments. Three Trojans wrestlers — Nash Johnson, Andy Montes and John Collett — and Marsing's Noah Grossman won District III championships. Johnson and Montes finished third at the state tournament.

Grossman became the first three-time state placer in nearly a half-century, and capped his career months later by committing to attend Bacone College in Oklahoma.

Florian Nieder, a sophomore

— See Year, page 13



Senior running back Bryson Shira and his Adrian High School football teammates amassed a 22-game winning streak before Crane ended the 2014 1A Oregon state champions' season in this year's state semifinals. AHS Yearbook photo

Trojans volleyball coaches step down

Diana Asumendi has resigned after two years as Homedale High School's volleyball coach.

The board of trustees accepted Asumendi's resignation during its Dec. 14 meeting. Junior varsity coach Erica Dines also stepped down.

Superintendent Rob Sauer said both women acknowledged a desire to have more family time as the reason for leaving the program.

Asumendi took over the Trojans in 2014 after Julie Gregory resigned after one year on the job.

The school board also approved four middle school boys' basketball coaches —



Diana Asumendi

Danny Abrego and Matt Shaffer for seventh-graders and Raymond Smith and former Homedale High School star athlete Austin Emry for eighth-graders.

High school wrestling coaching volunteers also were appointed, including Joe Egusquiza, Jake Levinski, Stephen Hansen and Mark Boothby, who was an assistant coach under Toby Johnson. Machele Randall was approved as the rally club advisor.



Marsing girls fall to Liberty Charter

LeAnn Garcia puts up a floater during Marsing High School's non-conference girls' basketball matinee against Liberty Charter on Dec. 22. The Class 1A, Div. I Patriots from Nampa pulled away in the fourth quarter for a 55-46 victory. The game was tied, 40-40, after three quarters. Marsing fell to 4-6 overall. No statistics were provided. The Huskies complete their three-day stay in the Parma Panther Holiday Invitational today. Photo by Dan Pease



# Sports

## 2015: A LOOK BACK

### ✓ Year: Longtime coaches leave their posts

*From Page 12*  
exchange student from Germany, competed for Adrian in Oregon's wrestling state tournament.

#### March

Homedale senior Bo Pickett signed a national letter of intent to rodeo at Sam Houston State in Texas.

Homedale softball player Elise Shenk signed to played TVCC

Trojans football player Brady Brown committed to play football at Eastern Oregon University.

Cheerleaders from Marsing and Homedale high schools reached the state championships.

Homedale Middle School's boys' basketball teams played for the 3A Snake River Valley conference championships.

Soon after the state tournament, Homedale wrestling coach Toby Johnson resigned after 17 seasons. His brother-in-law, former Trojans state champion and assistant coach Ryan Nash, was named the new coach, and Johnson returned as an assistant coach.

The Marsing spring sports teams welcomed new coaches, including Barry Kendall (softball), Travis Jarvis (baseball) and Scott Hill (track and field).

#### April

Homedale beat Fruitland for the first time in 15 years to highlight a baseball season that ended just short of a 3A state tournament. Trojans pitchers threw two no-hitters during a regular season in which Homedale had a 10-game

winning streak.

Several local players were named to the 1A Oregon basketball all-state teams, including girls Andi Warn from Jordan Valley and Quincy Pendergrass and Andrea Catalan Velez from Adrian. Boys' honorees included Wyatt Stanford and Lee Stanford from Jordan Valley.

Elise Shenk hit her 12<sup>th</sup> home run of the season as Homedale got its latest victory over new softball rival Emmett, 7-0, to clinch the top seed in the 3A District III Tournament.

Homedale golfers completed a season-long pursuit of Emmett in the 3A Snake River Valley conference season, grabbing second place in regular-season play. The Trojans wound up in the 3A state tournament as the district runner-up and finished seventh.

#### May

Coach Tony Sifuentes' Homedale junior varsity softball team won the 3A SRV championship.

It was a month of history repeating itself for Homedale's softball team. The Trojans won the district championship for the second consecutive season captured the program's fifth state crown and second under Larry Corta. Homedale posted a 30-2 record with both losses coming at the hands of Emmett. Tori Nash closed her high school career with the conference Player of the Year award, while pitcher Dakota Kelly started hers with the 3A SRV Rookie of the Year honor.

Adrian football players Jett Mc-

Coy and Tyler Reay signed to play for The College of Idaho about eight months after helping the Antelopes win the first 1A Oregon football state championship in school history.

Riley Portwood qualified for four events as Homedale sent 14 athletes to the 3A track and field state meet. The senior teamed with juniors Manny Baltierrez and Josh Tolmie and freshman Max Mertz to win the 3A District III sprint medley championship.

At the state meet, Portwood shattered the school record in the boys' 3,200 meters while finishing third. Junior Richard Symms won a silver medal in the boys' discus, missing the top mark by just 12 inches.

Marsing sent Sam Galligan and Alexandre Heidt to the 2A state meet, and Rimrock's Hailey Pearson qualified for the 1A meet. Heidt finished third in the 100 meters at State.

Seniors led the charge as six Homedale tennis players qualified for the 3A state tournament to close retiring coach Scott Michaelson's fourth and final season. Singles players Kincade Kincheloe and Hattie Mertz made it into the semifinals at State. Mertz was later named IdahoSports.com 3A girls' student-athlete of the year.

Matt Grenke and Bryan Grenke saddled up to win saddles at the Jordan Valley Big Loop Rodeo.

Adrian's male athletes repeated as 1A Oregon track and field

— See Year, page 14

## Notus drubs Adrian in basketball twin bill

Girls: Pirates shoot lights out;  
Boys: Antelopes trail big early

Hot-shooting Notus High School raced past Adrian in non-league girls' basketball.

The Pirates connected on 58 percent of its field goals during a 59-42 victory over the visiting Antelopes on Dec. 22.

Adrian committed 23 turnovers, and Notus was able to score 16 points off the miscues.

The Antelopes received 10 points and 10 rebounds from Anna Hutchings.

Morgan Bayes logged nine points and eight boards.

Notus' Gabby Okamura was 10-for-13 from the floor and led all scorers with 23 points.

Adrian's Lauren Barraza dished five assists.

Adrian shooters were 17-for-60 (28 percent) from the field and missed on all 12 of their three-point shots.

**Boys: Notus 43, Adrian**

**28** — The Antelopes ran into an opportunistic non-league opponent Dec. 22 on the road.

The Pirates made the most of second chances and Adrian turnovers.

Notus held a 14-2 edge on second-chance scoring opportunities and piled up 19 points off 21 Antelopes turnovers.

Adrian had 10 steals as part of Notus' 13 turnovers but couldn't score off any of the miscues.

The Pirates built an 18-point halftime, and the hosts' reserves outscored Adrian's bench, 19-0.

Mike Griffin led Adrian with 10 points and nine rebounds. Teammate Dennis Dick had seven points and five defensive rebounds.

Notus' Kobe Zimmerman led all scorers with 12 points, and teammate Caleb Zimmerman added 10 points.

## Homedale crab feed slated

Tickets go on sale next week for the fourth annual Homedale Booster Club crab and steak feed.

The fundraiser, which benefits Homedale school athletics, will be held on Saturday, Feb. 13 at the Txoko Ona Basque Center, 333 S. Main St.

Tickets are \$45 apiece or \$400 for a table that seats eight. Tickets

are limited; there are 22 tables available. The tickets will be sold once students return from Christmas break on Monday.

The event begins with a 6 p.m. social hour, and dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.

For more information or to buy tickets, contact Casey Grove at 340-4611 or [cgrove@homedaleschools.org](mailto:cgrove@homedaleschools.org).

# MARSING HUSKIES

*This Season's Statistical Leaders*



**Boys' BB Points**  
Dakota Hardy, jr.,  
8.5 ppg.



**Boys' BB Rebounds**  
Nick Lankow, jr.,  
4.9 rpg.



**Girls' BB Points**  
Sheyanne Glorfield, jr.,  
10.4 ppg.



**Girls' BB Rebounds**  
Mackenzie Farrens, so.,  
8.1 rpg.

**Girls' basketball Varsity**  
Wednesday, Dec. 30, Parma Panther Holiday Invitational, 10 a.m. or 1 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 2 at Homedale, 7:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Jan. 5, home vs. Melba, 7:30 p.m.

**Junior varsity**  
Saturday, Jan. 2 at Homedale, 6 p.m.  
Tuesday, Jan. 5, home vs. Melba, 6 p.m.

**Wrestling**  
Friday, Jan. 8 at Rollie Lane Invitational, Idaho Center, Nampa, 11 a.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 9 at Rollie Lane Invitational, Idaho Center, Nampa, 9 a.m.

**Boys' basketball Varsity**  
Wednesday, Dec. 30, Parma Panther Holiday Invitational, 11:30 a.m. or 2:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Jan. 5 at Liberty Charter, Nampa, 7:30 p.m.

**Junior varsity A**  
Tuesday, Jan. 5 at Liberty Charter, Nampa, 6:15 p.m.

**Junior varsity B**  
Tuesday, Jan. 5 at Liberty Charter, Nampa, 4:45 p.m.



896-4162



896-4815



896-4331



482-0103



337-4041

# Go Huskies!



# Sports

## 2015: A LOOK BACK

### ✓ Year: Lower-level championships abound for Homedale athletes

*From Page 12*  
champions. Reagan Shira won three championships, and Chase Walker repeated as the 100 meters champion. The Antelopes racked up a slew of titles earlier in the month to win the district crown. Freshman Morgan Bayes brought home the girls' 100 district crown and finished third in the 200 at the state meet.

Adrian's Paul Shenk (football) and Aimee Esplin (track and field) were named Oregon Athletic Coaches Association Coaches of the Year.

Adrian's Tyler Reay won the District 2 all around boys' championship as well as titles in steer wrestling and tie down roping to lead a slew of locals into the state high school finals rodeo. Meanwhile, 13-year-old Rimrock cowboy Anthony Herrera competed in the junior high school state finals rodeo in bull riding.

#### June

Jordan Valley athletes Braden Fillmore (football) and Andi Warn (girls' basketball) signed to play collegiately for Pacific University in Forest Grove, Ore., and Eastern Oregon University, respectively.

Deward Bell Stadium got a new football scoreboard, and an upgraded scoreboard was installed in the HHS gymnasium later in the year.

Bo Pickett qualified for the National High School Finals Rodeo after finishing third in the state rodeo with team roping partner Nick Eiguren of Jordan Valley.

Pickett also was fourth in tie down roping at the state level. Four other locals — Adrian's Quincy Pendergrass and Tyler Reay and Marsing's Ria Kent and Lorenzo Lankow — competed in the Silver State International Rodeo in Winnemucca, Nev.

#### July

Homedale graduate Brett Shanley won the Homedale Lions Club Fourth of July Demolition Derby.

Homedale's Samantha Woods was named queen of the 2015-16 Vale Fourth of July Rodeo Queen.

Connor Carter threw a no-hitter as the Owyhee County Rivercats marched toward the American Legion Class A District Tournament. At districts, Austin Williams tossed a no-no, and the Rivercats secured the program's first-ever state tournament berth.

#### August

Marsing's volleyball team started a season with a new coach for the first time in 13 years as Jenny Carper replaced Loma Bittick.

Payette's Mandy Allison was named Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo Queen, while Cameron Craig ruled the rodeo with bull riding and bareback championships.

#### September

After losing his junior season to cancer, Marsing linebacker Connor Rhodes returned to the field in style. He practiced with former Huskies player Shea McClellin and the rest of the Chicago Bears defense in the days leading up to

a home game against the Arizona Cardinals.

Starved for athletes, Rimrock merged with Greenleaf Friends Academy for a football cooperative.

Two games into what would become a second consecutive 0-8 season, the Marsing School District made a change at the top of the football program, replacing Brad Hill with superintendent Norm Stewart on an interim basis. The position became permanent later in the year.

The Oregon School Activities Association presented Adrian with the Oregonian Cup in recognition of its academic and athletic success.

Quarterback Lawsen Matteson laid the foundation for his second consecutive All-State football season, throwing for 311 yards and five touchdowns in Homedale's 40-7 destruction of 2013 Oregon 3A champion Vale. A few weeks later, Matteson racked up 400 yards and five TDs as Homedale honored the perfect 1956 Trojans championship team by walloping Weiser, 48-3, in the teams' conference opener.

Homedale eighth-grader Daniel Uranga won the regional Drive, Chip and Putt golf skills championship at Chambers Bay near Seattle to punch his ticket to next year's national tournament in Augusta, Ga.

#### October

Honorary player Oseas Arriaga provided a gleam of glory for Marsing football when he was set up for a touchdown run prior to the

Huskies' Homecoming game.

Homedale Middle School's football teams won the seventh- and eighth-grade 3A SRV titles.

Rodrigo Acuña's 54-yard touchdown run ended a 13-quarter scoreless streak for Marsing in a 20-8 loss to McCall-Donnelly. Although the defense improved, the Huskies still ended the year on a 16-game losing streak.

The Homedale football team's 3A state academic championship was announced in the same week that the Trojans opened the 3A state playoffs after nailing down the No. 2 District III seed.

Homedale seventh-graders won the conference volleyball championship after a 6-4 season.

Funded by the school district for the first time since reinstatement, the Homedale cross country team placed a brother and sister — Nash and Lainey Johnson — in the 3A state meet. Landry Villa represented Marsing in the 2A meet. Melba's Cheylah Volkers, who has strong Owyhee County ties, won the 2A District III girls' championship and finished 10<sup>th</sup> in the state meet.

Adrian rolled past Jordan Valley, 60-28, for its 19<sup>th</sup> consecutive victory and the 1A High Desert League football championship. The Antelopes would thrash Wallowa, 46-14, the next week to snag a top seed in the state playoffs.

#### November

Adrian and Homedale made familiar runs deep into their respective football postseasons. The Antelopes' 22-game win streak

ended as did their bid for a state championship repeat when they lost in the 1A Oregon semifinals, 44-24, to league rival Crane. The Trojans made it into the 3A state semifinals for the second time in three seasons, losing, 43-34, to Gooding.

Left without a boys' basketball coach just days before the start of training camp, Rimrock High School announced that Will and Wylee Aquiso would lead the Raiders. On the girls' side, coach Bobby-Jean Colyer returned to the bench after a one-year hiatus.

Homedale's frosh-soph volleyball team won the 3A SRV championship and posted a perfect 17-0 record.

All-State football player Lawsen Matteson and fellow Homedale seniors Garrett Carter, Connor Carter, Jakobee Osborn and Dylan Adams helped the East to a 40-13 victory over Marsing's Connor Rhodes and the West in the Third District East-West Shrine All-Star Game.

#### December

Jordan Valley's girls' basketball team got a huge win early in the season, capturing the Horizon Christian Hawk Invitational championship in Hood River, Ore.

Homedale's Brayden Christofersen won a district and state championship in middle school wrestling. Also winning district titles were Joey Egusquiza, Mathew Randall and Michael Babcock as the Trojans finished just one point behind 3A SRV champion Ontario, Ore.

# Homedale Trojans



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### This Season's Statistical Leaders

 <p><b>Wrestling</b> Nash Johnson, sr. 12-1 with five pins</p>	 <p><b>Boys' BB</b> Connor Carter, sr. 12.49 ppg, 11.3 rpg</p>	 <p><b>Girls' BB</b> Tory Lane, sr. 16.1 ppg, 4.9 rpg</p>
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### Girls' Basketball

Varsity  
Saturday, Jan. 2, home vs. Marsing, 7:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Jan. 5, home vs. Weiser, 7:30 p.m.

Junior varsity  
Saturday, Jan. 2, home vs. Marsing, 6 p.m.  
Tuesday, Jan. 5, home vs. Weiser, 6 p.m.

Frosh-soph  
Tuesday, Jan. 5, home vs. Weiser, 4:30 p.m.

### Boys' Basketball

Varsity  
Tuesday, Jan. 5 at Cole Valley Christian, 7:45 p.m.

Junior varsity  
Tuesday, Jan. 5 at Cole Valley Christian, 6:15 p.m.

Frosh-soph  
Tuesday, Jan. 5 at Cole Valley Christian, 4:45 p.m.



J. Edward Perkins, Jr. D.C. 337-4900



337-3142



337-4041



482-0103



337-3474

## Go Trojans!



# Looking back...

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

## 25 years ago

January 2, 1991

### State snowplow overturns

Driving conditions have been so rugged in snowy Owyhee County of late, even a state snowplow overturned near Oreana last week. A dispatcher at the Owyhee County Sheriff’s Office said the driver was not injured when the snowplow crashed on its side.

Given sub-zero temperatures and hazardous road conditions for the last two weeks, the dispatcher reported that, “we’ve been really fortunate” accident- and injury-wise.

### Conservation award won by local districts

Representatives of the Gem and Ridgeview Irrigation Districts were on hand in Las Vegas last month when the South Board of Control headquartered in Homedale was awarded the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation’s 1990 Water Conservation Award “in recognition of outstanding water conservation achievements.”

It is one of only six such awards presented annually in the nation by the bureau, John W. Keys, III, regional bureau director in Boise, said Thursday.

Keys said the honor was bestowed for a variety of reasons, including “leadership and guidance in implementing a conveyance system improvement program.” About 178,000 feet of pipe has been laid in the last eight years in the Gem/Ridgeview districts to help modernize water delivery systems to area farmers.

But Keys said the award was also presented to SBC officials because of control structures put in place so that a lot of tail water is not lost, the SBC’s new hydropower project under development at Owyhee Dam, and the placement of lined ditches and laterals within the system.

“The Pacific Northwest Region is extremely proud of your district and the advancements that you have made in water conservation,” Keys told SBC Manager Clyde Hutton in a letter related to the award earlier this month.

The citation itself was presented to Gem and Ridgeview Irrigation District directors in attendance at the annual meeting conducted in late October and early November in Las Vegas. Among area irrigation leaders present were: Hutton, Dave Kushlan and Jim Hinton, Homedale; Roman Usabel and Frank Dines, Marsing; Kenny Price, Jim Thomas and Masa Nishahara, Adrian.

### “Sustainability” concerns farmers

High fuel prices are causing farms to consider “no-till” methods of planting one season’s crops in the stubble remaining from the previous season. Saving money is only one of many reasons why farmers are interested in trying no-till and other new approaches to farming, according to the 1991 Pacific Northwest Agricultural Situation and Outlook report, issued jointly by the University of Idaho, Washington State University and Oregon State University.

The old idea of “conservation farming” has been expanded into an exciting new concept of “sustainable agriculture,” the report says. Saving soil and other natural resources is a key element of the concept. Other important goals are maintaining the viability of farms and rural communities, safeguarding the environment and protecting human health.

“Current agricultural practices are increasingly being questioned by both farmers and consumers,” said contributing authors David Granatstein, WSU research associate in agronomy, and Douglas Young, WSU agricultural economist.

Farmers who are concerned about the future want to improve farming methods.

“Concerns focus on the long-term effects of soil erosion on agricultural productivity, the long-term environmental and human health effects of the use of pesticides and chemical fertilizers, and the economic viability of the agricultural sector and rural communities,” Granatstein and Young said.

## 50 years ago

December 30, 1965

### Trojans, Notus win in first round in Kuna tournament

Big Jerry DeGroat led Homedale to a 47-34 win over Marsing Tuesday evening in the opening round of the Kuna Invitational basketball tournament while Notus surprised Kuna 70-60 in the second game.

Notus played Homedale at 8:30 in the championship game last night (Wednesday) with Kuna and Marsing playing at 7 o’clock in the consolation bracket.

DeGroat, a 6-7 senior center, scored almost half of Homedale’s total as he hit 23 points. Ken Kushlan was the only other Trojan in double figures with 10.

It was a slow first quarter for both teams with Homedale taking a close 8-3 lead. After that things started perking up, but Marsing had another cold quarter, the fourth, to lead to its downfall.

### W. E. Bredy to represent Idaho in bake-off finals

W. E. “Bill” Bredy has been named one of the 100 finalists in Pillsbury Co.’s 17<sup>th</sup> bake-off to be held Jan. 23-25 in San Francisco, Calif.

Mr. Bredy, and his wife, Lucille, operate the Mayflower Furniture in Homedale. They have two sons, Myron, who is married and lives in Boise, and Roger, who is with the Air Force at Oxnard, Calif.

He entered a main dish recipe in the annual competition, which this year is emphasizing easily prepared foods to fit the changing pace of American life. He will go to San Francisco to compete in the \$100,000 contest with 99 prize-winners from throughout the United States in the grand ballroom of the San Francisco Hilton hotel. Grand prize is \$25,000.

Mr. Bredy is the only finalist from Idaho. As a finalist, he is already the winner of a \$100 cash prize, the all expense paid trip to San Francisco, and a mixer and range. The range was delivered Thursday in time to bake the Christmas turkey.

His recipe was submitted for judging on a nationwide basis earlier this year. Judges will be seeking recipes using convenient ingredients, few utensils and streamlined methods of preparation, in addition to flavor appeal. A panel of 11 food experts will judge the recipes at the bake-off finals.

### Owyhee bond sales total \$992 for the month

Cash sales of U.S. Savings Bonds in Owyhee County amounted to \$992 last month. Total sales for the state during November were \$516,250 as compared with \$626,406 for November of last year.

Nationally, cash sales of bonds during the month totaled \$338 million. Total E and H Bonds outstanding nationally has reached an all-time high of \$49 billion, 175 million.

### Eight from Owyhee enrolled at I.S.U.

Eight Owyhee County residents are among the record 4,390 students enrolled at Idaho State University for the fall semester.

From Homedale is Julie Egurrola. From Marsing are Doug Baalson and Harold Nakano

From Grand View are Sandra Whitted and Linda Beaman. Bruneau, Charles Bower, Ronald Deming, and William Glidden.

### Homedale Locals

Guests during the Christmas holiday week end in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bergeson were Mr. and Mrs. Kent Bergeson and children of Blackfoot, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Bergeson and daughter of Boise, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Hill and family of Nampa and Mrs. Mendoza Davenport, Homedale.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Transtrum and family of Eagle were callers during the evening of Christmas day in the home of her sister, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bergeson.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Brady spent Christmas day visiting in the home of their son, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Brady and family of Boise.

## 140 years ago

January 1, 1876

DEATH OF JUDGE WHITSON – A special dispatch to the AVALANCHE announces that Honorable W. C. Whitson, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Idaho Territory, died of paralysis at Omaha, Nebraska, on Christmas night. Judge H. E. Prickett was with him, they being on their way home from New York to Boise City. Deceased was probably not more than thirty-seven years of age, and leaves a wife and two children who are at present in Salem, Oregon. He had been a resident of Oregon a number of years at the time he was appointed by President Grant to the Supreme Bench of this Territory, a position that he has ably, honorably and faithfully filled during the past five years. He was a generous, kind and big-hearted man, an able lawyer and upright Judge. Of Judge Whitson it can be truly said that, “None knew him but to love him.” A host of warm personal friends everywhere throughout our Territory will deeply deplore his departure hence. The family of deceased have our most sincere and heartfelt sympathy in their sad bereavement.

CENTENNIAL HISTORIES – John L. Campbell, secretary of the United States Centennial Commission, Philadelphia has issued the following circular to all newspapers in the United States. It is self explanatory and to it we call the attention of our readers:

It seems proper that the local celebrations of the Fourth of July, 1876, which will be held throughout the land, should be made to contribute to a permanent historical memorial of the Centennial Celebration. In each county provision should be made for the delivery of an address tracing the history of that particular community for the past century, or from the time of its settlement, and including a sketch of its growth, its resources, industries, prospects, etc. These addresses should be published in a uniform size – that of the Congressional documents for instance – in order that they may be bound together by States. To competent persons the preparation of such addresses would not be an unduly burdensome task; but in the aggregate they would constitute an invaluable historical repository such as no nation has ever had the opportunity to collect.

Designations of the historians ought to be made without delay, in order that they may have time to accomplish their work. It is to be hoped that the press will give general circulation to the project, and that each journal will see to its consummation in its own locality, and that the slight expense involved be assumed by the county or town authorities.

MAIL SERVICE FOR BRUNEAU – Mrs. David Dorsey, of Fairview, has entered into a special contract with the Post Office Department to carry a weekly mail between Silver City and Bruneau Valley, and will commence the service on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January. This will enable our subscribers out there to get their paper regularly. In these days of retrenchment, there must be a respectable showing of business over the route to keep the service in existence; otherwise it will be discontinued. We expect every settler in Bruneau Valley, and also those along the route between here and there, to subscribe for the WEEKLY AVALANCHE. It is only \$5 a year in advance, and the new year is the best time to begin.

THE PRICE OF an egg in this market now is 12 1/2 cents, which high tariff prevents many from enjoying that old fashioned holiday beverage, eggnog. In view of the scarcity of eggs and the great deprivation undergone by many in consequence, it is of interest to know what will make hens lay more and get them down to their business. A thick mush made of ground Indian meal, hot water and a large seed pepper, fed to the hens will do the work. It must be cooked an hour or more and it is well enough to stir in a little horse-radish. It is said that this will ensure a bountiful supply of eggs. It compels the hens to lay even if it’s not an agreeable task.



# Commentary

Baxter Black, DVM



## On the edge of common sense It's the law

There is a state law on the books in Colorado that makes it illegal for a shepherd to abandon his sheep without notice.

A good law, really. Since herders are often left alone on isolated ranges with their entrusted band. The owner or boss checks on him once a week or so and brings him supplies. So, it would certainly create serious consequences were the sheep to be deserted and untended for any length of time.

But, to the uninformed — non-sheep people, that is — this law seems a little unclear.

It could be interpreted to mean that the herder must notify his sheep before leaving them. To prevent emotional trauma, possibly, social breakdown or obscure ovine behavioral disorders. To comply with the law, he might line them up and give a sort-of “going away” speech:

“My fellow ewe, lambs and bucks. I have called you together to make an announcement. At approximately noon today, I intend to abandon you.

“It has not been an easy decision. I lay in my camp pondering the effect it would have on the herd. I agonized over leaving something we’ve both worked so hard to establish. The caring and sincere bond we’ve formed that has made my job such a pleasure. The chuckles we’ve had and the times we’ve cried.

“I’ve asked a lot of you. At lambing, marking and shearing, not to mention the time you all got foot rot. Tough times. But you all gave it your best effort and survived. And, I think, y’all are better sheep for the experience.

“But people, just like sheep, grow and change. My needs are different. My horizons have expanded. I hope to enroll in a welding course at community college and follow my star.

“I’m leaving you in good hands, or hooves, as it were. Paulita, I expect you to take over. You’ve been a strong example to the other ewes. Always first to water, first to new grass, and always willing to listen to the baa’s and bleatings of others.

“Leadership is not an easy mantle to wear. And followers, you, too, must blindly trust your leader and follow her like ... well, sheep.

“You must work as a cohesive unit, sticking to the instinctive survival traits of prey, always remembering, just like in any bureaucracy, that the group is more important than the individual. It is your strength and will prevent you from becoming another fractionated, dysfunctional herd.

“In conclusion, it was just my job. To protect you from predators; coyotes, the BLM, deer hunters and the like. But your gratitude is humbling. That gratitude is what I will carry with me from this day forward. Words cannot express my thanks for your overwhelming display of affection. After all, how many of us can claim to have six hundred ram lambs named Juan, in their honor.”

— 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.

Jon P. Brown, managing editor

## Eyes on Owyhee Looking back, looking ahead



Several popular songs — and more than a few horror films — over the years implore us not to look behind us, but as another year draws to a close, it’s customary to take a peek back over our shoulder.

We’re doing that in *The Owyhee Avalanche* this week, but remember every look behind us can offer a glimpse of or some advice for the road ahead as well.

Lessons learned, we hope.

Along with resolutions — or intentions of changed behavior, shall we say? — the new year also brings an opportunity to wish our friends and colleagues good luck, good health and good fortune in the coming 12 months and beyond.

In our thoughts as the new year begins are Homedale city councilperson Vonnie Harkins and former high school athletic standouts Zac Lowder and Connor Rhodes. All three continue to battle personal challenges with dignity and determination.

Here’s hoping that Jackie Dines enjoys her retirement. Owyhee Lanes and Restaurant owner Vern Tunnell recently informed us that the affable waitress is calling it quits after 20 years at the Homedale eatery. Jackie was always attentive and friendly in an easy-going natural manner.

Well wishes are also in order for the crop of new and continuing elected officials who will run the three municipalities in Owyhee County for the foreseeable future.

One hopes that the friction has subsided in Grand View as John Morrison, Jon Pennington and Melvin Freckleton prepare to start their initial terms on the city council along with Donald “Bill” Mead, the only incumbent to survive November’s election. The town has the potential to be an emerging gem in southwest Idaho, and that growth can happen only in an atmosphere where elected officials and administrators are on the same page.

Marsing enters a new era with its first city council meeting of the new year on Jan. 13 when James Ferdinand takes over from two-term Mayor Keith Green. Ferdinand formerly served on the council with Green as the city’s chief executive, so the transition may be as smooth as can be expected. Hopefully, the sailing will be smooth as well with the city facing the potential of a major headache with the replacement of the 65-year-old Snake River bridge and related road construction throughout downtown looming on the horizon. The trepidation of a large-scale project, though, is tempered by the excitement of the ever-improving Island Park.

Hopefully the improvements will help attract candidates to fill the town’s major commercial vacancies, including The Spot and Sandbar restaurants.

The City of Homedale also is facing a major bridge construction project in the spring as Jerry Anderson begins

— See *Looking*, Page 17

Dustin Hurst, Idaho Freedom Foundation communication director

## Statehouse watch Idaho House must erase selective video recording rule



During the 2015 session of the Idaho Legislature, Reps. Gayle Batt (R-Wilder) and Brent Crane (R-Nampa) asked an activist to stop filming a House committee meeting.

It’s time for the Idaho House of Representatives to repeal a rule that prevents ordinary Idahoans from capturing video in House committee rooms.

The restriction, part of the House’s rulebook that outlines how representatives conduct business, flies in the face of open government and, with technological advances, will soon become entirely unenforceable.

Officially the restriction is known as House Rule 75, which says in part, “Except newsmen accredited ... no person shall tape record, film or transmit by other means, live proceedings of the House of Representatives or committees thereof without consent of the presiding officer or leave of the body.”

In short, credentialed media have free rein to record as they please, but visitors, activists and political bloggers must beg permission from committee leaders before every meeting.

To be sure, this isn’t like other outdated laws that no one knows about or enforces. On the contrary, Batt and Crane paused a House State Affairs Committee meeting during the 2015 session to shut down a local activist’s camera.

The activist, Tom Munds of Middleton, stopped filming and scribbled handwritten notes for the meeting’s duration. Meanwhile, a cameraman from a Boise-area TV station continued his filming unfettered.

Neither man disturbed the committee’s proceedings, yet legislators dropped the hammer on one — but not the other. The difference? The cameraman had government-approved credentials, the activist did not.

Not all chairmen would take the hard line Batt and Crane did. One committee chair told me if someone whipped out a phone or other recording device to film a meeting, he

wouldn’t stop proceedings.

That’s the right attitude, but Capitol visitors might not come out so lucky in the House’s 13 other committee rooms. Interestingly enough, House Rule 75 is unique even in the Capitol corridors. Across the rotunda, interested onlookers have the right to capture video as they please in Senate committee rooms.

Senate leaders deserve a pat on the back for keeping their committee rooms open to people who want to record government machinations.

The House rule, besides being unfair to the non-credentialed, conflicts with the reality of a digital, always-on society. With the rise of smart devices in every hand, House members are unwise to believe they can create closed, restricted spaces where only they say who can capture video and who can’t.

Plus, innovative devices may soon stymie legislators’ ability to recognize who is recording video and who isn’t. What happens in a few years when someone wears a pair of Google Glasses or Microsoft’s HoloLens to a committee room? Will legislators pause a hearing to inspect every attendee’s digital-eye apparatus?

As the next legislative session approaches, Idaho Freedom Foundation asks House members to take a look at this rule and examine if it’s in the spirit of government of the people, by the people, and for the people. Or, does the rule arbitrarily violate the American ideals of open, transparent government?

We hope lawmakers have that conversation in 2016 and conclude: it’s time for the rule to fall by the wayside.

— Dustin Hurst is the Idaho Freedom Foundation’s communication director. On the organization’s website, the IFF is described as a non-partisan educational research institute and government watchdog.



# Commentary

## Financial management With a little thought, side venture possible despite debt

Dear Dave,

I work as a software developer, and recently a co-worker approached me about starting a side business together. We would create apps for the legal community with advice from my wife, who is a lawyer. The only problem is that we're in the middle of Baby Step 2 of your plan, and we still have some debt to pay off. Do you think starting a business would be too risky at this point?

— Jeremy

Dear Jeremy,

It sounds to me like this is the kind of idea that would require more in the way of brain sweat and time than money. I would just think of it as a part-time side job and go for it. However, make sure you have a clear understanding of exactly how much — if any — financial support would be required. Set these financial boundaries, and also be clear on when you expect the business to make money.

One thing I would warn against is ending up in a partnership if this thing becomes a success. Partnerships are bad news in the business world, so I'd advise you to figure out a way to structure things where you each own different parts — something more along the lines of a joint venture.

But in terms of doing some side deals, creating some cool new apps, and making money in the process? Absolutely, I would do that. Just figure out an intelligent way to structure the business and finances so you don't get pinched!

— Dave

Dear Dave,

I haven't spoken to my mom and sister in more than six months. Over time, I realized we have a real clash of moral values that has led to arguments and hard feelings. Lately, with it being Christmas season and a new year just around the corner, I've found myself wanting to navigate things a little better and stop



avoiding them. It's been mostly just between myself and them, so my wife and kids are pretty insulated from the ugliness. Do you have any advice for handling situations such as these?

— Dave

Dear Dave,

Well, the good news is it doesn't sound like you've had to spend a lot of time with them. So their

influence over you and your household has been minimal. Still, things like this are painful. These are people you love, even if they are hard to get along with or understand.

I'm not a family counselor, but my initial advice would be don't try to change them. And don't take discussions too deep. If you get together, just keep things simple and on the surface. To the extent they try to invade your family, that's where you have to put up a good solid boundary. You have to protect your family and try your best to keep bad influences at a distance. But I don't think you're going to fix them. Probably the best thing you can do is model sanity and reason in front of them.

A friend of mine who has some crazy in-laws says he adopts the bobblehead deal. He just sits there like a bobblehead and smiles and nods, no matter what craziness is swirling around. And that's not a bad idea when you think about it. You don't want things getting ugly if you can help it, plus the chances

of you changing a lifetime of toxic behaviors in one brief interaction are very small.

Pray for them, too, Dave. Then, if they ask for help, maybe you could insert some gentle wisdom. Don't tell them what they're doing is wrong or that they're bad people. Just describe things you and your family have done and how you've handled similar situations. But until they bring it up, I wouldn't go there.

— Dave

— Dave Ramsey is America's trusted voice on money and business. He has authored five New York Times best-selling books, including The Total Money Makeover, which recently passed 5 million copies sold. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 8.5 million listeners each week on more than 550 radio stations. Dave's latest project, EveryDollar, provides a free online budget tool. Follow Dave on Twitter at @DaveRamsey and on the web at daveramsey.com.

## Americans for Limited Government Trump taps into long-simmering blue-collar frustration

by Robert Romano

"I do believe that the country is inexorably changing [demographically]... [and] when you combine that demographic change with all the economic stresses that people have been going through — because of the financial crisis, because of technology, because of globalization, the fact that wages and incomes have been flat-lining for some time, and that particularly blue-collar men have had a lot of trouble in this new economy, where they are no longer getting the same bargain that they got when they were going to a factory and able to support their families on a single paycheck — you combine those things, and it means that there is going to be potential anger, frustration, fear."

That was President Barack Obama in a candid interview with NPR published Dec. 21, pointing to demographic and economic changes in the U.S., alluding to waves of illegal immigration and globalization, that are making it extremely difficult for non-college-educated males in particular to get by in this economy to support their families.

Of the outrage, Obama added, "Some of it justified, but just misdirected. I think somebody like Mr. Trump is taking advantage of that. That's what he's exploiting during the course of his campaign."

Here, Obama is referring to Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump's blue-collar, working-class themes that simultaneously key up a Pat Buchanan tough approach against illegal immigration, and Ross Perot hard stance against bad trade deals that as a matter of design favor so-called developing economies overseas — called special and differential treatment — and hamper U.S. growth and the incentive to do business here.

Among voters with no college at all, Trump crushes the rest of the Republican field, taking nearly 33 percent of the vote, SurveyMonkey reports. His closest rival in that category is Ben Carson at 17 percent.

In other words, with the illegal immigration issue front and center thanks to Trump, plus imminent consideration by Congress of the global Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal with Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and Vietnam, it is 1992 all over again.

So, here, Obama is highlighting a grave danger to the traditional Democrat coalition that has always included blue-collar Americans — speaking to an angst that has been percolating for decades, a sense of disenfranchisement by what Richard Nixon used to call the silent majority.

In that sense, Trump's appeal as a candidate, if you're a Republican, is to eat a significant percent of the Democrat coalition — and potentially bring millions more previously disaffected voters to the polls.

Consider what happened in 1992 with Perot on the ballot. Voter turnout exploded by nearly 13 million to 104.4 million, a 12.27 percent increase from 1988. All that while the growth of the voting age population was slowing down — it had only increased 6.7 million that cycle. In addition to Perot's 19.7 million votes, Democrats increased their 1988 vote total by 3.1 million to 44.9 million, while Republicans lost 9.7 million supporters down to 39.1 million.

Perot's presence in the race may have brought as many as 5 to 10 million voters to the polls who would have stayed home if he were not in the race. He expanded the potential

voter universe with the direct economic populist appeal.

Throw in fresh concerns over terrorism and immigration thanks to Paris and San Bernardino, and what you have might be an electoral powder keg — more than 20 years in the making — ready to explode.

Is Trump exploiting these voters with his populist appeal? Or is he representing them? As a side note, even symbolically, why do you think he wears that red ball cap?

In 1992 the Perot campaign was controversial because it seemingly split the Republican vote. But lump the two constituencies together — as Nixon and Reagan successfully did in 1972, 1980, and 1984 — and the potential of another slaughter of Democrats at the polls emerges. That is actually the model that has produced the most success for Republicans in the past half century. Once again, Trump is onto something.

But it only works with blue-collar voters on the table, whom the Democrat President Obama is now denigrating as angry, frustrated and fearful. Does that elitist attitude, combined with support for unlimited immigration, open borders and global trade deals that are bad for American workers, backfire on Democrats in 2016? That is what Trump is betting on.

Perhaps that is what simultaneously scares Democrats like Obama and even the Republican establishment that cannot seem to beat Trump at his own game. That Trump's potent campaign strategy might actually work, and that should he win, they won't be able to control him.

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

## ✓ Looking: Cities face major task of maintaining prosperity in 2016

From Page 16

his immersion in the council as Kim Murray's successor. Anderson and Aaron Tines and Steve Atkins — the men who won re-election in November — and holdover Harkins must continue the important task of ensuring that taxpayer dollars are spent wisely.

While some people are pleased with Homedale's

infrastructure and cosmetic improvements — the gateway sign, electrical upgrades at Bette Uda City Park — others are concerned that city leaders are in the opening stages of a spending spree — a pay raise for Mayor Gheen Christoffersen, new city maintenance equipment such as a UTV Mule that could be discussed at the Jan. 13 council meeting, more Christmas decorations, the implications of

the recent land purchase near the public library — that could wipe out what little cushion was created during the Great Recession, albeit on the backs of business owners who had to foot the bill for the Local Improvement District.

Prudence very well could be the name of the game in 2016.



# Public notices

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on March 1, 2016, at the hour of 11:00 o’clock a.m. of said day, at the offices of Owyhee County Courthouse Lobby, 20381 Highway 78, Murphy, ID, Trustee will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash in lawful money of the United States of America, all payable at the time of sale, the following described real property situated in the County of Owyhee, State of Idaho, and described as follows, to-wit:

**A parcel of land being a portion of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 16, Township 6 South., Range 5 East, Boise Meridian, Owyhee County, Idaho, as shown on Record of Survey filed for record in the office of the Owyhee County Recorder, Murphy, Idaho under Instrument No. 264576 and more particularly described as follows:**

**COMMENCING at a brass cap marking the South Quarter corner of said Section 16; thence along the West boundary of the said Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 16**

**North 00 Degrees 40’ 58” West 1352.28 feet to an iron pin marking the Northwest corner of said**

**Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 16; thence along the North boundary of said Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 16 South 89 minutes 34’ 49” East 601.14 feet to an iron pin marking the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence continuing**

**South 89 Degrees 34’ 49” East 733.25 feet to an iron pin marking the Northeast corner of said Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 16; thence along the East boundary of said Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 16**

**South 00 Degrees 55’ 01” East 863.89 feet to an iron pin; thence leaving said East boundary along a line North of and parallel with the South boundary of said Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 16**

**North 89 Degrees 35’ 46” West 454.28 feet to a point on the centerline of a certain existing ditch; thence along said centerline**

**North 38 Degrees 23’ 31” West 29.87 feet to a point of curve; thence continuing along the arc of a curve to the right 96.56 feet, said curve having a radius of 235.00 feet, a central angle of 23 Degrees 32’ 32” and a long chord bearing**

**North 26 Degrees 37’ 15” West 95.88 feet to a point of tangent; thence continuing**

**North 14 Degrees 50’ 59” West 287.46 feet to a point of curve; thence continuing along the arc of a curve to the left 59.59 feet, said curve having a radius of 250.00 feet, a central angle of 13 Degrees 39’ 23” and a long chord bearing**

**North 21 Degrees 40’ 40” West 59.45 feet to a point of tangent; thence continuing**

**North 28 Degrees 30’ 21” West 286.85 feet to a point; thence leaving said centerline**

**North 00 Degrees 25’ 11” East 171.65 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.**

The Seller has no knowledge of a more particular description of

the above described real property, but for purposes of compliance with Idaho Code Section 60-113, the Trustee has been informed that the street address of 43204 State Highway 78 Bruneau, Idaho, may sometimes be associated with said real property.

Said sale will be made, without covenant or warranty regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the Deed of Trust made and entered into on 08/18/2008, by and among Robin Jean Howard, a divorced woman, as Grantor, and Guaranty Title Inc., as Trustee, and Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. (“MERS”), as nominee for First Horizon Home Loans, A Division of First Tennessee Bank N.A., as Beneficiary; said Deed of Trust having been filed of record on 08/22/2008 as Instrument No. 265975, Official Records of Owyhee County, Idaho. The naming of the above Grantor(s) is done to comply with Idaho Code Section 45-1506(4)(a); no representation is made as to the responsibility of Grantor(s) for this obligation.

The default for which the sale is to be made is that no monthly installment payments under a Deed of Trust Note dated 08/18/2008, in the amount of \$1,021.27 per month for 02/01/2013 and each month thereafter have been made, together with accruing late charges, plus any other charges lawfully due under the note, deed of trust, and Idaho law.

The balance owing as of 05/27/2015 the date hereof on the obligation secured by said Deed of Trust is the amount of \$172,025.67; plus service charges, late charges, and any other costs or expenses associated with this foreclosure as provided by the Deed of Trust or Deed of Trust Note, or by Idaho law.

Date: 10/14/2015

Brian G. Sayer of Klatt, Augustine, Sayer, Treinen & Rastede, P.C., 925 E. 4th St., Waterloo, Iowa 50703 Phone 319-234-2530 Fax319-232-6341  
12/9,16,23,30/15

**TRUSTEE’S NOTICE OF SALE**

Reference is made to that certain trust deed made by Arthur Lee Pope, a married man as his sole and separate property as grantor, to Alliance Title and Escrow Corp as trustee, in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., solely as nominee for GreenPoint Mortgage Funding, Inc. as beneficiary, dated August 18, 2006, recorded August 25, 2006, in the mortgage records of Owyhee County, Idaho, as Document No. 257849, and assigned to U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Greenpoint Mortgage Funding Trust Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-AR6 on August 22, 2014 in the records of Owyhee County, Idaho, as Document No. 284651, covering the following described real property situated in said county and state, to wit:

LOT 8 AND THE WEST FIFTEEN (15) FEET OF LOT 7 IN BLOCK 73 OF CITY OF HOMEDALE, ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL PLAT THEREOF, OFFICIAL RECORDS OF OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO. PROPERTY ADDRESS: 20 E Oregon Ave, Homedale, ID 83628

There is a default by the

grantor or other person owing an obligation or by their successor in interest, the performance of which is secured by said trust deed, or by their successor in interest, with respect to provisions therein which authorize sale in the event of default of such provision. The default for which foreclosure is made is grantors’ failure to pay when due the following sums: monthly payments beginning February 1, 2014 through December 16, 2015 in the total amount of \$9,875.91 which includes a suspense balance of \$210.00; together with title expense, costs, trustee’s fees and attorney’s fees incurred herein by reason of said default; any further sums advanced by the beneficiary for the protection of the above described real property and its interest therein; and prepayment penalties/premiums, if applicable.

By reason of said default, the beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by said trust deed immediately due and payable, said sums being the following, to wit: \$58,533.51 with interest thereon at the current rate of 3.38000 percent per annum beginning January 1, 2014; plus escrow advances of \$2,599.01; plus late charges of \$121.73; less a suspense balance of \$210.00; plus other fees and costs in the amount of \$4,978.64; together with title expense, costs, trustee’s fees and attorney’s fees incurred herein by reason of said default; any further sums advanced by the beneficiary for the protection of the above described property and its interest therein; and prepayment penalties/premiums, if applicable.

WHEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the undersigned trustee will on April 13, 2016, at the hour of 11:00 AM, at Owyhee County Courthouse Lobby, 20381 Highway 78, Murphy, ID 83650, in the City of Murphy, County of Owyhee, State of Idaho, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the interest in the real property described above, which the grantor had or had power to convey at the time of the execution by grantor of the trust deed together with any interest which the grantor or grantor’s successors in interest acquired after the execution of the trust deed, to satisfy the foregoing obligations thereby secured and the costs and expenses of the sale, including reasonable charges by the trustee.

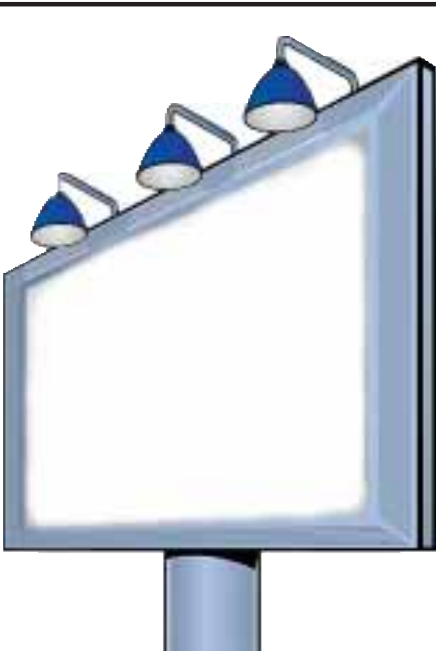
In construing this notice, the

singular includes the plural, the word “grantor” includes any successor in interest to the grantor as well as any other person owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by the trust deed, and the words “trustee”

and “beneficiary” include their respective successors in interest, if any.

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

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\* – Survey conducted by the National Newspaper Association and the Center for Advanced Social Research at the Missouri School of Journalism at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Researchers surveyed adults 18 years old and up in markets with fewer than 100,000 residents.

**LEGAL NOTICE: Unclaimed Capital Credits**

The following 10 electric cooperatives jointly notify the public of unclaimed capital credits quarterly and post their respective lists on the following websites:

- Clearwater Power Company**  
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- Fall River Electric Cooperative**  
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- Idaho County Light & Power Cooperative**  
[www.iclp.coop/content/capital-credits-0](http://www.iclp.coop/content/capital-credits-0)
- Kootenai Electric Cooperative**  
[www.kec.com/capitalcredits](http://www.kec.com/capitalcredits)
- Lost River Electric Cooperative**  
[www.lostriverelectriccoopinc.com/unclaimed-patronage-capital.html](http://www.lostriverelectriccoopinc.com/unclaimed-patronage-capital.html)
- Lower Valley Energy, Inc.**  
[www.lvenergy.com/my-lv-account/unclaimed-capital](http://www.lvenergy.com/my-lv-account/unclaimed-capital)
- Northern Lights, Inc.**  
[www.nli.coop](http://www.nli.coop)
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- Salmon River Electric Cooperative**  
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### HELP WANTED

**Homedale School District** will be accepting applications for full time custodian, with benefits. The District Office, located at 116 E. Owyhee Ave., Homedale will be open beginning January 4th to accept applications, also available at [www.homedaleschools.org](http://www.homedaleschools.org). The position is open until filled.



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**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

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# The Owyhee Avalanche

## OWYHEE COUNTY'S OFFICIAL SOURCE FOR LOCAL NEWS

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# Gospel quartet to visit Mtn. View Nazarene church

A Boise-area Southern Gospel quartet will appear at a Homedale-area church Sunday.

Liberty will be featured during the 10:30 a.m. Sunday worship at Mountain View Church of the Nazarene.

The church is located at the corner of Batt Corner Road and Ustick Road in Canyon County north of Homedale.

No admission fees are requested, but a love offering will be taken in support of their ministry.

Liberty is a full-time concert ministry composed of Royce Mitchell, bass; Philip Batton, tenor; Doug Wiley, lead/baritone; and Paul Ellis, baritone/lead.

The quartet travels an average of about 50,000 to 70,000 miles each year, ministering in up to 150 performances for church services,

nursing homes, prisons, and other ministries. The men also sing at large conventions, including the Great Western Southern Gospel Fan Festival, Pacific Gospel Music Association, and the Gospel Music Fan Festival in Canada.

They have had the opportunity to share the platform with groups such as Gaither Vocal Band, Legacy Five, Greater Vision, the Booth Brothers, the Hoppers, the Isaacs, the Collingsworth Family, and many others.

Liberty averages two recording projects each year.

For further information, contact Liberty Ministries, Inc., at 55 SW 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., Ste. 100, Meridian, ID, (208) 938-9364 or visit the group’s website at [www.libertyquartet.com](http://www.libertyquartet.com).

# MRW crews stay busy

Murphy-Reynolds-Wilson Fire and Quick Response Unit volunteers have a couple busy months coming up.

Public information officer Louis Monson said personnel will undergo training over January, February and March.

Wildland and structure firefighting training will take place at Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, Ore., and the emergency medical services personnel will train with St. Luke’s Medical Center folks.

Monson said December was a busy month for volunteers in the district, but he said many calls were false alarms because of patrons who failed to contact authorities when they began controlled burns.

On Dec. 13, QRU personnel helped rescue an injured chukar hunter up Rabbit Creek in the area of the Tiddie Springs turnoff.

On Dec. 8, the QRU was out again after a woman who was six months pregnant crashed into two steers on Idaho highway 78 at milepost 22 the old Blue Canoe restaurant in Guffey. Monson said the woman was uninjured.

Owyhee County Sheriff’s Sgt. Gary Olsen said the two steers died in the mishap.

Find out  
*What’s happening*  
Read Calendar each week  
in the Avalanche

# Progress possible in JV-ambulance land deal

## City council takes another step in water tank refurbishment

Though no formal contract has been presented, there seems to be some movement on the ongoing negotiations that could bring a new ambulance facility to Jordan Valley.

Ambulance service board secretary Evan Kriner presented the city council with a letter with new elements for the proposed land swap that ambulance board president Heather Phipps said is the first step toward construction of a new ambulance station.

According to city clerk and recorder Anne Stephens, the letter written by the ambulance service’s attorney and received at the council’s last meeting includes a timeline in which the ambulance service would pay rent on the portion of City Hall it utilizes today if a new hall isn’t completed by the end of 2019.

“The council members present thought that this proposal was more agreeable,” Stephens said, pointing out there are still some issues remaining, such as the fate of the current ambulance shed, which would sit on city property if the land swap is finalized.

The fact that the shed would be on city-owned property under the new agreement is complicated by the desire for the ambulance service to retain ownership of the

building. The service has proposed a 100-year lease on the property, but Stephens said the city would rather avoid that situation and possibly see the building moved to property wholly owned by the ambulance service if the land swap is completed.

Currently, the city and ambulance board are co-owners of three separate parcels in town, and the ambulance services is trying to trade interest in two parcels for sole ownership of a piece of land where the new ambulance shed would be built.

State law mandated an appraisal of all three parcels, and the land value revealed that the city would still own the ambulance service \$14,500 to make the swap equitable.

Stephens said the council will consider the new proposal at its Jan. 12 meeting, but officials are still waiting on a formal offer.

Also during the Dec. 8 meeting, the council also signed a contract with T-O Engineering to prepare a preliminary engineering report on a plan to refurbish the city’s downtown water tank. The city is waiting to finalize a \$30,000 U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development grant to pay for the engineering work.

Stephens said work by inspection firm LiquiVision Technology revealed some issues that must be addressed to ensure the integrity of the tank. This is a long-term project, Stephens said, as the city plans to refurbish the tank in the next five to seven years.

— JPB

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Idaho Supreme Court Justice Dan Eismann - the Joyce and LU livestock water rights Idaho Supreme Court Decision


Norm Semanko, General Counsel for Idaho Water Users Association - proposed legislation

Randy Parker, CEO Utah Farm Bureau - federal extortion of water rights from permittees

Ramona Hage - the recent Wayne Hage Jr. Nevada case finding that water rights equal grazing rights and permanent preference rights

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