

# The Owyhee Avalanche

## Grand View's Gus's Gas changes hands, Page 9A

Angel Walk prep continues, Page 2A

Election season begins, Page 8A

- City plans second cleanup day
- Fun run, car show entries accepted

Pointed exchanges mark first  
GOP primary candidates night



VOL. 31, NO. 17

75 CENTS

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2016

## South Canal allotment raised to near full level

Joint Board bases  
irrigation increase  
on anticipated flows

The Owyhee Project Joint Board has decided to bump the 2016 allotment for

producers reliant on reservoir water to 3.8 acre-feet.

The allotment for patrons who get their water from the South Canal, which flows out of the Owyhee Reservoir, was previously set at 3.0 acre-feet. The Joint Board approved the change during a meeting last Wednesday in Nyssa, Ore.

On Monday, the reservoir was 60 percent full with 429,946 acre-feet of water. Water was flowing in the Owyhee River above the reservoir at Rome, Ore. at a rate of 1,013 cubic feet per second. Water was flowing out at Nyssa, Ore., at a rate of 148 cubic feet per second.

This is the first time in four years that

patrons will receive a nearly full allotment, which is set at 4.0 acre-feet. In 2012 the allotment was set at that 4.0 measurement. As drought set in, water officials dropped the allotment to 3.0 acre-feet in 2013. The next year it decreased to 1.5 acre-feet,

— See *Allotment*, page 4A

## OWYHEEANS VS. THE FEDS

### Influential Dem backs motorized herding solution in Owyhees

Crapo, OI chief express dismay over  
administration's testimony

Legislation to ensure Bureau of Land Management policy doesn't trump federal law got a Senate hearing Thursday.

But the Obama administration is still balking at an idea that was solidified through the Owyhee Initiative consensus of ranchers and conservationists.

Sen. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) introduced the legislation after the BLM released its wilderness management plan (WMP) for Owyhee. The legislation also seeks to fix boundaries in the wilderness.

"We have worked extensively since the BLM essentially changed

its policy and refused to honor the Owyhee Initiative's intent with regard to motorized herding," Crapo told The Owyhee Avalanche on Monday afternoon. "We have had extensive work."

"This legislation is an effort

— See *Herding*, page 5A



Ron Wyden



With District 23 state Sen. Bert Brackett (R-Rogerson) looking on in the background, Oreana resident Robyn Thompson, center, explains how the co-preferred alternatives for Gateway West would impact her property Thursday in Murphy.

## Grinding Gateway West process frustrates officials, landowners

Gazing at the route the Gateway West power line could take across his Sinker Creek property, Paul Nettleton summed up the situation with gruff, Western common sense.

"When I'm in Washington D.C., and I go to the White House or the

Capitol, I don't tell them what to do with their landscaping," the fourth-generation Owyhee County rancher said Thursday.

"Why should they be able to tell me what to do with my land?"

Nettleton was one of more than 160 people who turned out for the

Bureau of Land Management's public meeting at McKeeth Hall in the Owyhee County Historical Museum in Murphy.

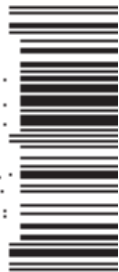
The meeting was the final public gathering at which folks could

— See *Gateway*, back page

"We have worked extensively since the BLM essentially changed its policy and refused to honor the Owyhee Initiative's intent with regard to motorized herding."



— Mike Crapo  
Idaho U.S. Senator (Republican)



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**Inside**

HHS on verge  
of top seeds  
**Page 1B**



# Homedale council vacancy saga could conclude Thursday

The vacant seat on the Homedale City Council could finally be filled Thursday during the board's second meeting of April.

After the council's April 13 meeting, Mayor Gheen Christoffersen told The Owyhee Avalanche that he would have a candidate to bring forward for the council's consent for the final meeting of the month. The meeting begins at 6 p.m., at City Hall (31 W. Wyoming Ave.), and the business of finding a successor for the late Vonnie Harkins is one of the first items on the agenda.

Former councilmen Tim Downing and Dave Downum pulled out of the running just hours before the April 13 meeting at which Christoffersen had been poised to make an appointment. The mayor said his one-time appointee, Michael Aebischer, was out of the running, but he wouldn't divulge who he has in mind for the spot.

The only other candidate whose

name has been made public and who has attended council meetings in the past few months is former mayoral candidate Samuel Page.

The council has been down to three members — council president Steve Atkins and members Jerry Anderson and Aaron Tines — since Harkins, who was 78, lost her battle with cancer midway through her first term in January.

Whomever is appointed will finish the two years left on the vacated term then will have to seek election in 2017 to continue on the board in January 2018.

After the appointment discussion and possible action, the council has a full docket of items to handle:

- Mike Parker from Bowen Parker Day CPAs will deliver the Fiscal Year 2015 audit report.
- Aebischer is scheduled to give an update on his plans to present a community movie night.
- Riedesel Engineering officials will discuss the municipal airport master plan and the water facility plan.
- The usual departmental reports from Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller and public works supervisor Bret Smith will be presented.

# As Angel Walk looms, officials hope cleanup weather improves

## Volunteers sought Saturday to spruce up Homedale

Rain may have hampered efforts to clean up Homedale on Saturday, but it didn't dampen the spirits of the folks who continue to prepare for Angel Walk.

The annual 5-kilometer fun run and classic car show will visit downtown on Saturday, May 7, leaving just one more Saturday for volunteers and city crews to spruce up the race course and other areas of town.

Saturday's rainstorm forced the cancellation of plans to remove vegetation and trash from the Snake River shoreline and parts of Riverside Park, but city employees, elected officials and volunteers were able to shift gears and help a few elderly residents clean their yards.

The second cleanup begins at 9 a.m. Saturday. Volunteers are asked to meet at the Homedale boat dock at Riverside Park. Call City Hall at 337-4641 for information.

The spirit of cooperation is part of the run-up to Angel Walk, which will raise funds to help with the medical needs of 2016 honoree Jonah Kissell.



**From left:** Volunteers Bret Smith, Shane Witt, Steven Lozano, Alice Pegram and Curtis Stansell help clean up Gene Ackers' yard near the corner of West Oregon Avenue and North 7<sup>th</sup> Street on Saturday.

Jonah is the 6-year-old son of Caldwell residents Tony and Mandy Kissell and he is living with Noonan's Syndrome, a condition that causes congenital heart defects, short stature, learning problems and other physical ailments. Jonah also has scoliosis and is deaf, but Angel Walk organizers say his cochlear implants work well and he is able to say a few words.

Angel Walk registration is available through [homedaleangelwalk.blogspot.com](http://homedaleangelwalk.blogspot.com), and a registration form for the car show can be found there, too.

Folks must register for the Angel Walk fun run by Thursday to be guaranteed an event T-shirt. Registration is \$15 for an individual and \$40 for a family. Additional T-shirts can be purchased for \$7 each.

Registration is available online at the Angel Walk page, too.

The Angel Walk fun run begins at 10 a.m. on May 7 at Bette Uda City Park, and the race course travels down to Riverside Park and makes its way back to Idaho Avenue where participants will run through the cars on display on the west side of town.

Car show entry fee is a \$10 donation, and there are door prizes available as well. Proceeds from the car show and the drawings benefit the Angel Walk medical fund.

Car show registration will be held between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. on May 7. Awards will be handed out before 1:30 p.m.

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# BOCC proposes new rules for Jump Creek Rec Area operation

People visiting the Bureau of Land Management Jump Creek recreational area near Marsing will soon notice new signage.

The Board of Owyhee County Commissioners approved a resolution setting specific hours of when the popular recreation spot can be accessed during the board’s April 18 meeting.

Jump Creek’s spring, summer and fall hours will be 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., each year from April 1 to Oct. 1. Winter hours will be 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. from Oct. 2 to March 30.

County Prosecuting Attorney Douglas D. Emery said Magistrate Judge Dan C. Grober recently told him that the generic reference to access being only during the hours from sunrise to sunset is not sufficiently clear. Sheriff’s Chief Deputy Lynn Bowman said the vague hours listed in the current usage ordinance has hindered prosecution of violators.

Bowman also said set hours are necessary to help keep emergency responders safe when they have to respond to incidents at the rec area. He pointed out that operations to extricate a stranded or injured hiker after dark are especially dangerous for the individual and responders alike.

Emery told commissioners that Grober said people should be able to ascertain precisely what “sunrise to sunset” means.

“What I’d ask is that the commissioners authorize the resolution for the creation of signs and posting of that, and then formalistically we need to get on a schedule to change the ordinance itself to recognize those specific timeframes,” Emery said.

The commissioners set a public hearing on the ordinance amendment for 10 a.m. on May 23 during their weekly meeting inside Courtroom 2 at the county courthouse in Murphy.

Emery told the commissioners that changing the signs is a “no-brainer.”

“I think that people in the community would like that clarification,” he said. “It’s actually a benefit for those that would access it, for precisely what the time is at issue,” Emery said.

If the ordinance is changed, the new signs at the recreation area will be posted in late May or early June.

“The violation of the Jump Creek ordinance is an infraction, punishable by a \$90 fine,” Emery wrote in an email.

— SC



**HHS ag department plant sale continues**  
*The Homedale High School agriculture department’s annual plant sale continues Friday and Saturday at the greenhouse. A variety of hanging baskets and 4-inch basket stuffers will be on sale from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. Plant sale proceeds help send FFA students to state and national competitions, and to complete greenhouse projects. Submitted photo*

# Letter carriers food drive on horizon

Letter carriers in Owyhee country and throughout the nation are getting ready to Stamp Out Hunger again.

The annual non-perishable food drive takes place throughout the county on Saturday, May 14.

Food pantries in the communities the local postal workers serve will receive the proceeds soon after.

Marsing Postmaster Sue King said postal customers merely have to leave a bag of non-perishable food items by their mailbox on May 14, and letter carriers will pick up the food.

Vision Community Church volunteers will pick up the Marsing food, King said.

In the past, the El-Ada Community Action Partnership’s Owyhee County office has benefitted from donations collected by Homedale’s mail carriers.

Postal customers in Murphy, Bruneau, Grand View, Jordan Valley and Adrian also will be able to participate in their respective communities.

Find out  
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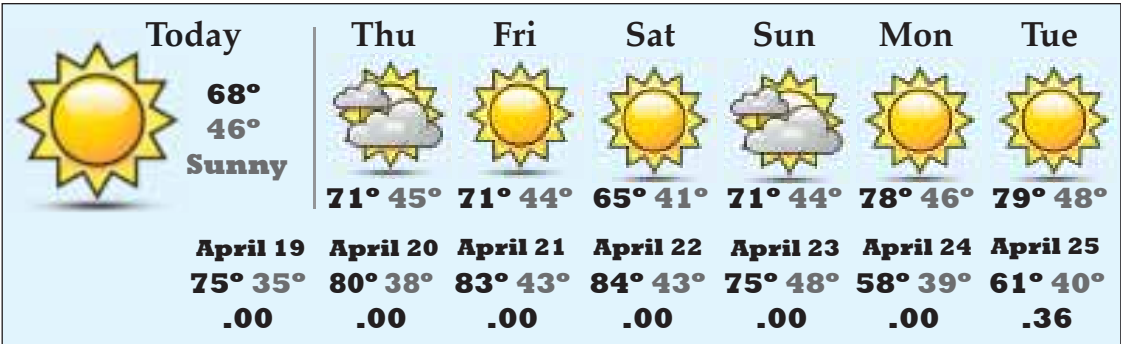


## Water report

The Bureau of Reclamation website showed that the Owyhee Reservoir was 60 percent full and that water was flowing in the Owyhee River above the reservoir at Rome, Ore., at a rate of 1,013 cubic feet per second. Water is flowing out at Nyssa, Ore., at a rate of 148 cubic feet per second. The reservoir held 429,946 acre-feet of water on Monday.

**Note** — SNOTEL statistics from the Natural Resources Conservation Service website were unavailable at 3 p.m. Monday.

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



## From page 1A

### ✓ Allotment: Old Gem users to receive 4.0

and the 2015 allotment was 1.4 acre-feet.

Owyhee Irrigation District manager Jay Chamberlin said that three years of drought led to a lot of new water conservation measures among patrons.

The new tactics include using drip lines, wheel lines, and pivots that are more efficient than flood irrigation.

“Those that have gone to micro-irrigation have stated that, ‘We could probably get by on a lot less water because we’ve done it for at least two years now,’ ” Chamberlin said. “ ‘At three foot, that’s something we can manage, and manage very well.’ ”

However, those farmers who still use flood irrigation need all the water they can get.

The Joint Board talked about increasing flows to the full allotment.

“There was some discussion whether inflows are going to hold up,” Chamberlin said. “That eight-tenths of a foot (allotment increase), that amount is based on what’s yet to come in the next

three to four months. That eight-tenths of a foot was something that was bargained amongst the directors.”

He further explained that 3.8 acre-feet was the “happy medium” of the possible allotment levels that were discussed.

Chamberlin added that the allotment will likely stay the same for the rest of the irrigation season, but the Joint Board can change it at any time based on water levels in the reservoir.

Gem Irrigation patrons receiving water out of Snake River through the pumping plant in Marsing are getting the full allotment of 4.0 acre-feet this year.

— SC

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From page 1A

✓ Herding: Committee hears resistance from Obama administration

to facilitate the administration’s willingness and ability to engage in this.”

Motorized herding was supposed to be grandfathered as an allowable use when the 517,000 acres of wilderness management areas became the Owyhee Wilderness with the 2009 Omnibus Public Lands Act.

But BLM wilderness policy created in the years after President Obama signed the 2009 bill denied a few ranchers such as Chris Black and others the ability to use ATVs or other motorized vehicles in wilderness to herd their cattle or repair improvements.

“This is being treated by some, who are just looking at the legislation without an understanding of the background (of the motorized herding issue), as some kind of break with the BLM policy or the Department of the Interior’s general policy on motorized herding,” Crapo said.

“Not only is it an exception in one piece of legislation, the exception is for two or three (ranching) operations. It is not broad.”

During Thursday’s Public Lands, Forests and Mining Subcommittee hearing, BLM acting deputy director of operations Mike Pool testified against the idea of motorized use in Idaho wilderness. He said the exception Crapo seeks to solidify with the Owyhee Wilderness Area Boundaries Modification Act (S. 1167) goes against the concept of wilderness as defined in the Wilderness Act of 1964.

“The Department (of the Interior) strongly opposes this bill because it proposes broad management changes that would lift essential protections from the wilderness area,” Pool said during his testimony.

Both Crapo and the Owyhee Initiative board, through a statement OI executive director Mitch Jaurena issued Monday, expressed deep disappointment in the administration’s staunch resistance.

Both the senator and Jaurena pointed out that allowing the continuance of motorized herding once wilderness study areas because wilderness was a linchpin issue in the agreement between Owyhee Initiative collabora-

tors and the federal government.

“The expectation from BLM documents in effect at the time and the congressional guidelines was that existing activities

In 2012 the BLM adopted revised wilderness management policies. The 2012 BLM wilderness management policy singles out and prohibits the use of motorized equipment for herding or routine inspections, regardless of whether or not they were occurring prior to wilderness designation:

The use of motor vehicles, motorized equipment, or mechanical transport is not allowed for herding animals or routine inspection of the condition of developments or the condition of the range. (BLM 6340 Management of Designated Wilderness Areas pg. 1-29).

A similar prohibition does not appear in the Forest Service wilderness management manual.

The BLM’s wilderness management plan for Owyhee County subsequently prohibited the use of motorized equipment to herd and gather livestock. This has developed into a major issue for the livestock operators who were part of the Owyhee Initiative collaborative. The expectation from BLM documents in effect at the time and the congressional guidelines was that existing activities would be allowed to continue. In reality, working ranches today regularly use ATVs or motorcycles as part of the “activities” of a livestock management operation. It cannot be logically argued that herding and gathering of livestock are not part of “grazing management.”

To now oppose fixing this inequity administratively imposed by the DoI [Dept. of the Interior] and BLM after years of collaborative efforts severely damages the efforts by all involved, calls into question future collaborative efforts and severely taints our view of the integrity of BLM and their senior leadership. This unilateral decision-making by political appointees far removed from the daily realities of ranching while ignoring the efforts of the Owyhee Initiative to protect our resources for future generations while allowing for common sense use further adds to the distrust and frustration felt out West and is highly counterproductive to future collaboration.

would be allowed to continue,” Jaurena

wrote in his statement, which appears in full today in The Owyhee Avalanche.

Crapo went as far as to say that the 517,000 acres of wilderness never would have been designated had ranchers and conservationists hashing out the Initiative known at any point in the eight-year process that the BLM would drop motorized herding from consideration.

Subcommittee chair Tom Barrasso (R-Wyo.) echoed Jaurena and Crapo when he told Pool that stakeholders were left with the impression that motorized herding would be allowed once the Owyhee Public Land Management Act of 2008 (which became part of the OPLMA) became law.

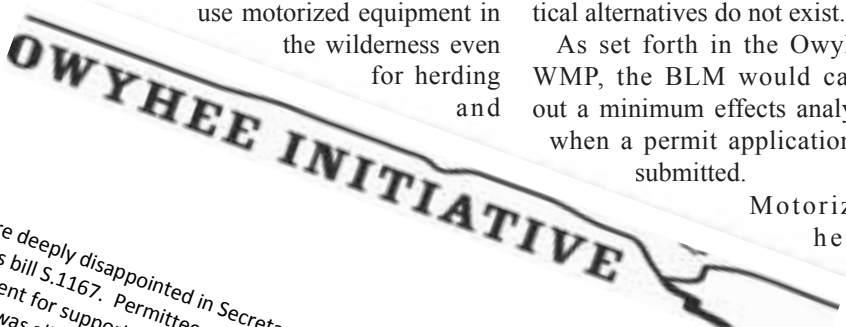
Barrasso then asked Pool why the BLM policy, which was established three years after OPLMA, deviated from that impression. The

Owyhee WMP requires permits to use motorized equipment in the wilderness even for herding and

motorized equipment when “practical alternatives do not exist.”

As set forth in the Owyhee WMP, the BLM would carry out a minimum effects analysis when a permit application is submitted.

Motorized herding



We are deeply disappointed in Secretary Jewell and the BLM for their opposition to Senator Crapo’s bill S.1167. Permittees in wilderness study areas have routinely used motorized equipment for support of the livestock grazing program, and the BLM was aware of that routine use and was allowing it to continue. It was apparent that BLM did not find existing motorized use in WSAs to be inconsistent with the non-impairment standard of FLPMA [Federal Land Policy and Management Act]. This use had been occurring for decades in WSAs, the BLM was aware it was occurring, and did not find such use to be impairing the wilderness suitability of those areas.

April 25, 2016

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monitoring that should have been grandfathered by the 2009 law.

“We feel like using motorized equipment — ATV type applications — is not consistent with the purpose of the Wilderness Act or the values that are associated with that designation,” Pool said.

“We have worked with our permittees to continue to provide them as-needed authorizations to use motorized vehicles to get to their improvements, and I think we’ve been very reasonable. But when you start to use ATVs or motorcycles to herd cattle we believe that is inconsistent with the purpose of the Wilderness Act.”

Pool also said that possible motorized uses are analyzed on a case-by-case basis after Sen. Martin Heinrich (D-New Mexico) asked about the occasional use of

according to bill sponsor Sen. Jim Risch (R-Idaho).

As with the Owyhee motorized grazing stalemate, Risch said his legislation (S. 1777) would merely uphold a use that was agreed upon when the River of No Return Wilderness bill was passed.

Risch defended the grandfathered use of ATVs to gather cattle in the Owyhee Wilderness by educating the uninitiated.

“For those of you who don’t run cattle, I can tell you that every year we have to go out and gather the cattle. There are couple ways you can do it. One is on a horse, one is on a four-wheeler,” Risch said. “If you’re down in Owyhee County, you want to be on a four-wheeler because you can cover about 10 times the amount of ground on a four-wheeler as you can on a horse.”

Risch pointed out in his introduction that several environmental groups, which were on the ground floor of the Owyhee Initiative process 15 years, support motorized herding in the Owyhee Wilderness.

While the Obama administration stood behind the BLM’s rigid insistence that Black and other ranchers seek permission to use motorized grazing through the National Environmental Policy Act vetting system, Oregon Democrat Ron Wyden showed off the bipartisan support that Nothern said exists for S. 1167.

“I want to state, in wrapping up, my commitment to work with Sen. Crapo to thread the needle on this, find a solution that is consistent to the Wilderness Act and also with the grazing language that was included in the original Owyhee Wilderness bill,” subcommittee Ranking Member Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Oregon) said near the end of his opening comments Thursday.

Crapo said Wyden’s support of S. 1167 would be “significant” given the senator’s influence as a senior member of the committee and a man from the administration’s political party.

“Frankly, I think this is one of those situations where Sen. Wyden and others may be helpful in working with (Heinrich) and other members of the committee (to understand the issue),” Idaho’s senior senator said. — JPB

Homedale talent show slated for Friday

A number of acts will showcase the talent among Homedale’s middle school and high school students and faculty Friday.

A talent show will be held from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., in the old Homedale High School gym, 203

E. Idaho Ave. Admission will be \$3 for students and \$5 for adults.

Music teacher John Zieske said show proceeds will benefit the middle school and high school bands and choir.

“There are 16 acts, fifth-grade

through 12<sup>th</sup> and one faculty performance,” Zieske said. “There will be singing, magic, instruments, and comedy.”

A judging panel of five high school teachers will award prizes to the top three performers.

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# Death notices

**DAVID FRANKLIN LEES**, 84, who was born in Danner, Ore., died on Wednesday, April 20, 2016. A memorial service was held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at Deer Flat Church, 17703 Beet Road, Caldwell. Arrangements: Nampa Funeral Home, Yraguen Chapel. (208) 442-8171

**FRED O. PAYDEN**, 73, of Jordan Valley, died Sunday, April 24, 2016. Arrangements: Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Caldwell. (208) 459-0833

**GRANT LEROY ROBERTS**, 80, of Marsing, died Sunday, April 24, 2016. Arrangements: Nampa Funeral Home, Yraguen Chapel. (208) 442-8171

# School menus

## Homedale Elementary

*Veggie & fruit bar and milk served daily*

- April 27: Crispito, corn
- April 28: Pepperoni pizza ripper, tossed salad, fruit rollup
- May 2: Hamburger, french fries
- May 3: Chicken tenders, mashed potatoes/gravy
- May 4: Orange chicken, steamed rice, steamed broccoli

## Homedale Middle

*Fruit & salad bar and milk served daily*

- April 27: Chicken nuggets or corn dog, broccoli, cheese cracker
- April 28: Crispito or hot dog, potato chips
- May 2: Popcorn chicken or hamburger, baked beans
- May 3: Sloppy Joe or rib-b-que, green beans
- May 4: Pork chop or chicken tenders, mashed potatoes/gravy, roll

## Homedale High

*Salad bar, fruit choice and milk served daily*

- April 27: Crispito or BBQ chicken & hot roll, steamed carrots
- April 28: Chicken Parmesan w/pasta or corn dog, green beans
- May 2: Pepperoni pizza ripper or roast beef sandwich
- May 3: Beef taco or burrito
- May 4: Orange chicken or popcorn chicken, steamed rice, cookie

## Marsing

*Milk variety and healthy choice fruit & veggie bar offered daily*

- April 27: Spaghetti, breadstick or meat loaf, mashed potatoes, green beans
- April 28: Chicken fried steak or oven roasted chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, corn, roll
- May 2: Chicken nuggets, wheat roll, fish sandwich, mixed vegetable
- May 3: Spicy chicken & rice, wheat roll, super nacho, steamed carrots
- May 4: Rib-b-que sandwich, macaroni & cheese, Italian breadstick, buttered corn

## Bruneau-Grand View

*Fruit and milk served daily*

- April 27: Cook's choice
- April 28: Cook's choice
- April 29: Cheese burger salad wrap, celery stick & cauliflower, jello
- May 3: Mac attack, tossed salad, steamed broccoli
- May 4: Orange chicken, stir fry veggies, oriental rice

## COSSA

*Fruit and milk served daily*

- April 27: Chicken pot pie, carrots, sherbet, fruit
- April 28: Pizza pocket, salad & ranch, fresh broccoli, fruit, milk
- May 2: Chicken enchilada, corn, salad
- May 3: Sweet & sour chicken, oriental veggies, egg roll, broccoli
- May 4: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes w/gravy, corn



Caldwell resident Robert Fisher, left, accepts a Henry lever-action .22 rifle from American Legion Post 128 Cmdr. Darryl Burham after winning the door prize during the Post's gun show in Marsing earlier this month. Submitted photo

# Legion Post 128 elects officers

American Legion Post 128 in Marsing has elected 2016-17 officers.

Officers installed earlier this month included:

- Cmdr. Darryl Burham
- First Vice-Cmdr. Steve Carlin
- Second Vice-Cmdr. Herb Churruca
- Adjutant Kathy Barton
- Sergeant-at-Arms Garry Qualman

- Chaplain George Greenwood
- Service Officer Darrell Brown

The election took place during the Marsing-based post's April 12 meeting at the Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center.

Post 128 meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the community center.

# TVCC winter honor students announced

Local residents recently earned recognition as the Treasure Valley Community College winter quarter honor students.

**Honor roll (3.5 to 3.74 grade-point average)** — Madison Joy Purnell, Adrian; Katie Ann Walker, Adrian; Stephanie Carole Youren, Jordan Valley; Carrie Joann Baldwin, Marsing; and Shannon Clover, Marsing

**Dean's List (3.75 -3.99 GPA)** — Reese E Tulk Jr., Marsing

The college has campuses in Ontario, Ore., and Caldwell.

# Senior menus

## Homedale Senior Center

*Salad bar and milk available with each meal.*

*Salad bar is lettuce, tomato, boiled eggs, peaches, apricots, and dressing*

- April 27: Steak sandwich w/cheese & onion, California blend veggies
- April 28: Baked chicken, mashed potatoes, spinach, roll

## Marsing Senior Center

*Vegetable served every day*

- April 27: Baked chicken, potato
- April 28: Baked ham, sweet potato

## Rimrock Senior Center

*Milk and juice served every day*

- April 28: Lobster Newberg, broccoli rice melody, pineapple, chocolate chip cookies

# Kid's Club

Every Wednesday 4:00-5:00  
All school-age kids welcome

# TFC

## Teens For Christ

EVERY WEDNESDAY  
7:00 - 8:00 PM

# Crossroads Assembly of God

Corner of Hwy 19 & 95 • Wilder • 208-890-9132  
For more information, contact: Marla Burdine 208-789-3432

# Flahiff Funeral Chapels & Crematory

Caldwell 208-459-0833 Homedale 208-337-3321

Since 1912, Flahiff Funeral Chapels have been dedicated to providing the families of Canyon and Owyhee Counties with a caring and professional environment to celebrate the life of a loved one.

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

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

**Aaron Tines**  
Minister's Assistant  
Serving Families since 2006



# Fishing camps get 4-H youth ready for summer

University of Idaho Extension

With the school year winding down, the University of Idaho Extension Owyhee County 4-H program is gearing up for summer camps, and reflecting on the success of its spring break camps.

In June, the Owyhee County Extension Office will play host to a series of sewing projects camps that will dovetail nicely with county fair projects.

The camps will be held at 1 p.m. every Monday in June at the Extension Office in Marsing.

We will be making several projects including table runners and aprons. Registration information will be located on our website at <http://owyheecounty.net/extension/>

The sewing projects camps come on the heels of the spring break fishing camps, which brought fun to students' spring vacations in Marsing and Bruneau.

We would like to thank John Starr and Owyhee County Sheriff's Waterways Deputy Milt Greenwood for their huge con-



Georgia Goodwin



Robert Renteria, left, and Bentley McIntyre had a good time during last month's fishing at the Marsing Island Park.

tributions that helped make the camps a success.

John Starr sponsored all the camp fees in the name of his parents Purvis and Maripaul Starr.

The camp was also an opportunity to teach water safety.

Milt Greenwood talked to the kids about how to help someone who is in the water and needs assistance. He showed them several different types of life preservers. He gave the boys and girls backpacks, books, pencils, balloons and whistles. The whistles should be attached to a life vest. He told

the kids when you need help you do several short blows on the whistle to try and alert someone that you're in need of immediate help.

The children learned how to tie a clinch and Palomar fishing knot. They were able to successfully rig their poles with little to no assistance. We had several knot challenges. When the kids demonstrated they could tie the knot, they were awarded with fishing tackle. We played fish bingo and learned about types of fish and their characteristics and different



Ainsley Erwin from Bruneau Canyon 4-H made her fishing cap official with the jigs she earned from learning to tie the clinch knot during the CJ Strike camp. Submitted photo

types of tackle.

Mitchell Erwin from Bruneau Canyon 4-H is doing a fishing project this year in 4-H. He gave a demonstration to the group about how to tie a Palomar fishing knot.

— Georgia Goodwin is the 4-H coordinator for the University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office. She can be reached at (208) 896-4104, [ggoodwin@uidaho.edu](mailto:ggoodwin@uidaho.edu), or at the Extension Office, 238 8<sup>th</sup> 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
- Vision Church food distribution**  
2 p.m. to 4 p.m., donations welcome, Vision Community Church, 221 W. Main St., Marsing. (208) 779-7926
- Spring into Wellness Fair**  
4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Jordan Valley Lions Hall, 209 Bassett St., Jordan Valley. (208) 739-1989
- Homedale City Council meeting**  
6 p.m., City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4641
- TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meeting**  
6:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St. W., Homedale. (208) 337-3867
- Faith Riders horse riding**  
6:30 p.m., spring and summer session, Lucky 3 Arena, Idaho highway 55, Marsing. (208) 249-1595
- Adrian City Council meeting**  
7 p.m., Adrian High School library, 305 Owyhee St., Adrian. (541) 372-2179
- AA meetings**  
7 p.m. to 8 p.m., Homedale Friends Community Church, 17434 U.S. 95, Wilder. (208) 337-3464

### Friday

- Story Time**  
10:15 a.m., Homedale Public Library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228, afternoons Monday through Saturday
- Teens and Tweens program**  
4 p.m., Homedale Public Library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228 afternoons Monday through Saturday
- Homedale talent show**  
6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., \$3 for students, \$5 for adults, old Homedale High School gymnasium, 203 E. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4613
- Daddy-Daughter Dance**  
7 p.m. to 9 p.m., \$12 per pair, \$4 for additional person, Marsing Elementary blue gym, 8th Avenue West, Marsing. [pto@marsingschools.org](mailto:pto@marsingschools.org)

### Saturday

- Free lunches**  
Noon to 1 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St. W., Homedale. (208) 337-5419
- Sunday**  
**Jerry Nelson piano concert**  
10:30 a.m., free, will offering accepted, Mountain View Church of the Nazarene, 26515 Ustick Road, Wilder. (208) 337-3151

### Monday

- Board of County Commissioners meeting**  
9 a.m., Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy. (208) 495-2421
- E. Owyhee County Library book discussion**  
Soup lunch at 12:30 p.m., discussion at 1 p.m. Book is Ivan Doig's 'This House of Sky.' Eastern Owyhee County Library meeting room, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2785
- Adult book club**  
7 p.m., Lizard Butte Library, 111 S. 3rd Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690

THE OWYHEE AVALANCHE

SEQUICENTENNIAL SAMPLINGS

Vol. 1, No. 37, Saturday, April 28, 1866

IDAHO MINT – It will be seen that Congressional notice tending to secure a mint at Boise City is likely to be crowned with sureties. It is proposed to move the Charlotte (N.C.) mint to Boise. The resolution to effect the removal was introduced by Higby of California. This is the most sensible move made on the subject and the one that will likely secure to Idaho a mint. A mint at Charlotte is next to useless, and this fact is well known to Congress, as is the one that Idaho is now second to California, only, in the production of the precious metals. A mint would be a death-blow to dust swindlers, but the masses would hail their ruin with unutterable satisfaction. The people of Idaho, so far as they can collectively or individually, should use their influence with members of Congress to secure this valuable adjunct to our Territory. With the varied population of the Territory, some influence can be brought to bear upon M.C.'s [members of Congress] from nearly every state. Let every citizen do what he can to secure this feasible proposition of Higby's. If individuals will each consider themselves a committee of one to set in this matter, much good may be effected. It may be just within our reach by proper effort, and even should the effort be unnecessary, it would only cost a little time to make it anyhow. "God helps them who help themselves," is a pretty true maxim.

You can find a comprehensive listing of local events online at [www.theowyheeavalanche.com](http://www.theowyheeavalanche.com). Click on the "Calendar of Events" link on the left-hand side of the page.

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



# Primary season starts with a bang in Murphy

## Prosecutor candidates take gloves off in first meeting

Fittingly, the men who want the privilege to prosecute crime in Owyhee County faced off in a courtroom last Wednesday.

But the county GOP forum flare-up between incumbent two-term prosecuting attorney Douglas D. Emery and former two-term Owyhee prosecutor Ed Yarbrough wasn't the only philosophical differences aired inside Courtroom 1 at the county courthouse.

Nor will it be the last dust-up. The Republican Central Committee will host another forum at 7 p.m. next Wednesday at Rimrock Jr.-Sr. High School in Bruneau.

While Emery and Yarbrough argued about the law — and how it applies to each other's campaign signs — District 23 legislative incumbents also sparred with their challengers in the May 17 GOP primary.

Glenns Ferry's Rich Wills, who holds Seat A in the state House of Representatives, fielded audience questions along with challenger Christy Zito, and Seat B incumbent Pete Nielsen of Mountain Home did the same with Megan Blanksma and Marsing's Justin Freeman.

Zito and Blanksma live in Hammett.

County GOP chair Shawn Dygert of Guffey tried — in vain at times, it seemed — to keep the forum on course and hold candidates to their allotted times. He collected questions from the audience and fired them back at the hopefuls.

But the biggest fireworks emerged when Emery and Yarbrough squared off.

Emery told the audience that he has never been afraid to do what is necessary to win a case, and he also said he has never ignored a late-night call from law enforcement seeking a warrant.

"I intend to do a good job for this county as I have done before," he said.

Yarbrough touted his ability as a trial lawyer, both as a prosecutor and, more recently, a defense attorney.

"Doug is a great lawyer. He's a patriot, but I just think I'm a better trial lawyer," the challenger said.

That was about the extent of



Prosecuting attorney challenger Ed Yarbrough talks about his experience as a trial lawyer.

the good feelings between the two men, though.

Yarbrough, who said he was asked to run for office but didn't divulge who was encouraging him, told the approximately 40 people in the courtroom pews that he hoped to bring "winning and professionalism" to the office and that he would "follow the law."

Yarbrough contended on a couple fronts that Emery didn't follow state law, which triggered an impassioned defense from the incumbent.

Both men argued that their campaign signs violated state law because some were placed in the highway right-of-way.

Yarbrough also contended Emery is shirking the prosecutorial duties set forth in Idaho Code because he is not prosecuting lawbreakers in the Marsing city limits. Emery pointed out that Marsing has its own prosecutor to take care of city infractions and misdemeanors.

Yarbrough also accused Emery of double-dipping when he did prosecute Marsing cases. At one time, the county and Marsing had an agreement that the city would waive water service charges at the county substation on Reich Street to cover Emery's expenses for prosecuting cases.

"Doug tried to shake down the City of Marsing by making

them pay twice," Yarbrough said. "That's why I'm here. That's why I've been asked to be here."

Emery vehemently defended himself by outlining the definition of the public right-of-way on roads.

Emery also told Yarbrough that there was "no case law" to support his claim that the county prosecutor has to prosecute city cases.

Emery pointed out that Yarbrough's most recent experience has been as a defense attorney.

"Yes, he is a defense attorney at heart," Emery said. "If that's where his desire is, perhaps you should apply for the public defender position in this county, sir."

When the district legislative candidates took the floor, the tone softened, but there was still a good amount of finger-pointing.

Blanksma contended that Nielsen hasn't brought forward any legislation since his successful attempt to modify the concealed weapons law to allow 4-inch knife blades without a permit. She said that the only reason Nielsen carried that legislation was because of a legal scrape his son encountered.

Nielsen said that his efforts on that bill were for his son but also to protect the rights of citizens from



Incumbent Owyhee County Prosecuting Attorney Douglas D. Emery gestures as he recounts his experience in Courtroom 1.

police who "pick and choose" what laws to enforce when.

Freeman was caught in the middle of the Blanksma-Nielsen battle, which began when an audience-generated question asked where the candidates stood on changing state law to support the "Castle Doctrine," which states a man's home is his castle and he has the right to protect it.

A former Marine, Freeman took a practical approach to answering the question. He said that the law would have to outline exactly what the boundaries of the "castle" are, taking into consideration the abode as well as property lines.

Blanksma pled "total ignorance" on the Castle Doctrine and pivoted to attack Nielsen on his lack of original legislation.

Wills saw a question about the Gateway West transmission line as an opportunity to shed light on property rights.

"The bottom line is we're going to do everything we can possibly to do to ensure that our rights are protected and that our property is protected," he said.

He pointed out that the Bureau of Land Management has set policy and then not followed it.

"The BLM seems to be the one who has nurtured a lot of laws and interests, and I think they've really gotten away from the intent of the law," he said.

Zito contended that local control of public lands was a way to combat the possible detrimental effects of the Gateway West power line.

"BLM is not the enforcing agency; the land belongs to the people," she said. "I feel our county commissioners are the ones that are closest to the lands and are in the best possible position to manage the lands."

— JPB



Megan Blanksma, 23B challenger



Justin Freeman, 23B challenger



Pete Nielsen, 23B incumbent



Rich Wills, 23A incumbent



Christy Zito, 23A challenger



# End of an era in Grand View

## After 47 years, Gus’s Gas to have new owners

Linda Gustavson says she’s ready to have some fun.

The longtime owner of Gus’s Gas in Grand View is calling it quits after 47 years, but the store isn’t going anywhere. The new owners will take over next month.

Gus’s Gas initially started out as Gus’s Barbershop and Grand View Laundry Mat in 1969 by Linda and her husband Richard, or “Gus” as most people knew him. Gus was a barber and Linda was a hairdresser.

“The building had been an electrical shop, and it was empty,” Linda said. “There was no place for anybody to wash clothes, so we put in a laundry mat.”

Linda was 29 years old when they opened the business, and Gus was 35.

There were three automotive garages in Grand View in 1969 where people could buy gas, but none of the businesses were open on Saturday afternoons or Sundays.

So — motivated by a need to make gas available on weekends — nine years after opening their business, the couple installed a regular and supreme gas pump in 1978.

From that point forward, the business near the intersection of Idaho highway 78 and Roosevelt Street (Idaho 167) was known as Gus’s Gas.

In 1979, Gus put in a car wash and expanded the store to include hunting and fishing supplies.

Linda closed the barbershop after Gus passed away in 1994. A week after Gus died, the self-service laundry was vandalized and the washers and dryers were destroyed. Linda couldn’t afford to replace the machines, so the laundry was shuttered.

Linda has formed friendships with many customers who have come in over the years.

“We have a lot of people from the Elko (Nev.) area that come up, and then I’ve got people that work in Elko that live in Nampa, Caldwell and the Homedale-Marsing areas that come through,” Linda said. “They always top off their tanks and get a snack in both directions.”

The business had been for sale for about a decade, but no deals were ever finalized until Jon and Sandy Skinner of Oreana came into the picture.

“I thought I’ve had it sold about eight or 10 times in the last 10 years,” Linda said.

The Skinners were farming 200 acres in New Plymouth when they bought the Spivey Ranch in Oreana two years ago. The Oreana ranch includes 80 acres of land that can be irrigated and a ranch house.

The Skinners closed the sale of their New Plymouth farm six months ago.

“We thought we were mostly retired, Jon was going to have a retirement farm out here in Oreana, but the store was for sale and we decided, ‘Well, maybe that would be fun,’ so that’s what we’re doing now,” Sandy said.

A friend of the Skinners, Megan Stillet of Boise, will manage Gus’s Gas during the week. Stillet used to manage a Stinker store location in Boise.

Sandy explained that she and Jon will run the store on the weekends and work occasionally during the week.

The Skinners were unaware that the store had been for sale for the past decade.

“I think Jon walked in and just asked Linda flat-out if the store was for sale,” Sandy said. “She said, ‘As a matter of fact, yes.’”

The contract to sell the business is set to close on Monday, but Linda said she’ll stick around to help out for about a month.



**From left:** Longtime owner of Gus’s Gas Linda Gustavson, new owners Sandy and Jon Skinner and the Skinners’ 9-year-old daughter, Joie. Submitted photo

After her last day on the job in early June, Linda will move to Nampa where her son Bart lives.

“I feel like I need to be there, a little closer to him in my old age if I have some health issues, or get old enough that I can’t drive,” Linda said.

Linda hopes to soon purchase a small motorhome and do some traveling around the U.S., but she doesn’t have any specific destination in mind.

“I just want to see the different states and what they’ve got,” Linda said.

A going-away party for Linda will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Saturday inside the store.

Gus’s Gas is located at 110 Idaho highway 78 in Grand View.

“They’re going to have hot dogs, and chili and cake,” Linda said.

Sandy wants people to know that signage at the business will remain the same, despite the change in ownership, so Gus’s Gas will be still around for a long time to come.

— SC

## OCSO issues Facebook plea in burglary case

The Owyhee County Sheriff’s Office wants to question a man about a burglary case out of Oreana.

The sheriff’s office posted photos of the person of interest and the vehicle he is possibly driving on the Owyhee County Facebook page Monday.

The burglary allegedly occurred Saturday, and the subject first visited the property on April 18.

The vehicle the man was driving is a 2002 or 2003 Chevrolet Cavalier with 2C license plates. A woman wearing prescription eyeglasses was spotted in the passenger seat and a child was riding in the back seat, according to the OCSO press release.

Anyone with information on this case can call the sheriff’s office at (208) 495-1154 and ask for Deputy Larry Kendrick.



The 2002 or 2003 Chevrolet Cavalier with 2C license plates driven by a person of interest the Owyhee County Sheriff’s Office is seeking in an Oreana burglary.





The new officers of the Owyhee Garden Club. **From left:** Marilyn Evans, president, Chris Harris, vice president, Julia Burham, 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president, Charlene Johnston and Dee Fillmore, co-secretaries and Marlene Bean, treasurer.

# Garden club elects new officers

New leadership is at the helm of the Owyhee Garden Club.

Former vice-president Marilyn Evans was elected president during the club’s April 14 meeting at the Lizard Butte Library in Marsing.

During the gathering, former president Chris Harris told Evans that as part of her duties, she shall preside at all club meetings, as well as the executive board and the executive committee meetings.

Harris is now vice-president. The other officers include:

- Julia Burham, 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president
- Charlene Johnston and Dee Fillmore, co-secretaries
- Marlene Bean, treasurer

Before the new officers were elected, Idaho Department of Fish and Game conservation education supervisor Vicky Runnoe gave club members some helpful advice on how to attract butterflies into their backyards.

“They’re so vitally important because they pollinate just about everything we like to eat, so anything we can do to make our yards welcome them would be a real plus,” Runnoe said.

She also spent several minutes talking about hummingbirds and different types of backyard feeders that can be purchased.

“There’s a ton of different styles of feeders. Whatever you think works best in your yard is good,” Runnoe said. “Some start leaking a little bit, and you’ll want to get a new one. I prefer glass, because you can clean it real well.”

The next big date on the club’s calendar is May 23 when the gardeners will head out for a tour of Leslie Gulch. A retired Bureau of Land Management employee and botanist, Jean Findley, will serve as tour guide.

“This time of spring it’s just gorgeous with wildflowers, and there’s a unique species of flower that doesn’t grow anywhere else in the world but in Leslie Gulch,” Evans said.

She didn’t know the name of the elusive flower, and explained that finding out everything about the species is the point of the trip. According to a Bureau of Land Management pamphlet on Leslie Gulch, there are actually two species of wildflowers found only in the area — Packard’s blazing star and Etter’s groundsel.

The gardeners are also planning to put in native plants around the Welcome to Homedale gateway sign, and planting trees at all of the schools in Marsing and Homedale.

Evans said she is still working on when the club members will tackle those projects, and the date for this year’s plant sale hasn’t been determined. — SC

# As rancher seeks to expand, county reduces CAFO fee

P&Z chief, commissioners decide old cost was “exorbitant”

The Board of Owyhee County Commissioners (BOCC) has asked Idaho State Department of Agriculture director Celia Gould to form a team to determine the suitability of a proposed confined animal feeding operation (CAFO) expansion.

As part of the process, commissioners reduced a nine-year-old Planning and Zoning fee for CAFO expansion by 10,000 head or more as much as 87.5 percent. P&Z administrator Mary Huff said she came up with the proposal after realizing the fee was too high, but not because of Reynolds Creek Calf Ranch owner John Hepton’s specific request.

Feedlot owners now will pay 25 cents per head for developing a large CAFO or expanding an existing facility.

Hepton wants to expand an existing 15,000-animal feedlot to enable the care of 35,000 head.

The CAFO would continue to specialize in calves and heifers.

The sites, totaling approximately 524 acres, are located on Bailey Road about 1½ miles west of the Snake River near the Idaho highway 78-45 junction.

fee reduction on April 11 when the issue had been formally placed on the meeting agenda.

Even though the old fee schedule was adopted in 2007, the county had never imposed the original CAFO fee.

“This is the first time we’ve used this fee schedule for anything that wasn’t 5,000 (head) or less,” Huff said. “I’m proposing a straight 25 cents per head more when you get over 10,000. Everyone pays the base fee of \$5,500.”

Huff added that Hepton would pay an additional \$5,000 over the base fee for his proposal.

In proposing the fee reduction, Huff reasoned that the \$2 charge for expansions over 10,000 head gave the appearance that the county disapproved of large feeding operations. Huff also told the BOCC that because she wanted to lower fees, not raise them, it would not be necessary to publish the proposed change in The Owyhee Avalanche, or hold a public hearing.

Commissioners asked if the lower fees would still cover Huff’s costs for preparing a conditional use permit.

“I say yes because really, for staff work for the work that the county has to do, whether it’s 5,000 or 10,000, or 35,000 like this one, our work is all the same,” Huff said.

# MES kindergarten signups set for August

Marsing Elementary School won’t hold kindergarten registration this month.

Instead, families will register their incoming kindergarteners prior to the 2016-17 school year.

Registration will take place Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 1-2, inside the school district cafeteria at the same time as all other grades will register for the new year.

**HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY!**

*Mother’s Day Special:*  
*Fresh Mixed Floral Basket: \$35*

*Order Early!* Lots of Great Gift Ideas for Mom!

Fresh Homemade Jams & Weiser Candy Available!

**Rubbles Ramblin Rose**  
437 Main St. • Marsing 896-9966

OPEN 10-6 • CALL FOR SPECIAL ORDERS

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**GREAT FOOD**

Highway 19 • Greenleaf  
(208) 453-1146

Hours: Monday Thru Saturday  
6:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Open For Mother’s Day Eve Dinner  
Saturday, May 7 Only

**Pre-Mother’s Day Dinner**  
**Saturday, May 7**  
**5:00 - 8:30 pm**

*Happy Mother’s Day*

**Cheesy Chicken & Shrimp or Nathan’s New York Steak - Soup or Salad, Sides, Bread & Dessert**  
**\$35<sup>95</sup> / Couple or \$17<sup>95</sup> Single**  
**Taking Reservations Now!**

Huff said reviewing Hepton’s proposal made her think it was time to lower one cost in the county’s fee schedule.

According to the old schedule, Hepton would have to pay \$40,000 for a conditional use permit.

The cost had been set at \$1 per head for expansions over 5,000 animals and \$2 per head for growth of 10,000 animals or more.

Huff said the old schedule was adopted about nine years ago, and she floated the idea to lower the fee when county commissioners signed off on the letter to ISDA during their April 4 meeting.

Huff explained that in 2007, the \$1 or \$2 fee more per head was put in place in lieu of a more complex fee structure that was proposed at the time.

Commissioners approved the

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District 2 Commissioner Kelly Aberasturi wasn’t convinced.

“If it becomes a contention with the citizens, I’m looking at the worst-case scenario, will that 25 cents cover our costs?” he asked.

County staff coordinator Jim Desmond chimed in to allay the commissioner’s concerns.

“I don’t think that’s what you’re anticipating when you set a fee schedule,” Desmond said. “You’re anticipating the costs to the county to process the action, not to defend the action.”

Huff assured commissioners that she put a lot of thought into reducing the fees.

“We don’t want it to look like we’re changing it for this one application, that’s not the case at all. But we also don’t want to charge so much that we’re going to get in a lawsuit over too high of fees,” Huff said.

Aberasturi made it clear that he didn’t oppose lowering the fee.

“I do have to say that I think \$2 is a little exorbitant,” Aberasturi said during the April 4 discussion.

He was not present at the April 11 meeting, but District 1 Commissioner Jerry Hoagland and District 3 Commissioner Joe Merrick approved lowering the fee.

— SC





Steve Calzacorta with Showalter Construction of Marsing tears down the old LDS church east of the Homedale Public Library last Wednesday.

# Library now has room to grow

## Youth to observe Arbor Day

The old LDS church east of the Homedale Public Library is no more.

Marsing-based Showalter Construction tore down the building last Wednesday afternoon.

The company bid a net cost of \$2,770 to raze the structure on the West Owyhee Avenue lot that the library board had purchased earlier for \$27,500.

The Showalter bid also included a \$500 donation to the library.

The concept for the expanded building would involve an additional 3,500 square feet.

The current building, which was built in the 1980s, is 1,375 square foot.

Library director Sharla Jensen has previously said that she doesn't want to use any taxpayer dollars for the building. Her intent is to use grants and donations, and hold a number of fundraisers.

In other library news, youth programs will focus on Arbor

Day on Friday. National Arbor Day is always celebrated on the last Friday in April.

Preschoolers attending Story Time will hear a reading of "The Giving Tree" by Shel Silverstein.

Jensen said she is working on ideas for an Arbor Day-themed activity during the 10:15 a.m. program.

Each of the children at the program will also be given a one-year-old blue spruce seedling to take home. The Idaho Forest Products Commission provided the 30 starts.

At 4 p.m., the Teens and Tweens group will be doing an Arbor Day project, Jensen said.

She added that the project for Teens and Tweens is also still being determined.

"If we have trees left over, we're going to maybe give some to those kids, too," Jensen said.

She also wants to get the word out about a fundraiser for the library scheduled for next month.

The Friends of the Homedale Public Library will hold its semi-annual book sale from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Saturday, May 21.

In addition to books, DVDs and magazines, a few computer desks and chairs will also be for sale, Jensen said.

She added that all proceeds go directly to supporting the library where needed.

Last month, the Friends group gave \$200 to the library to use as matching funds for a grant she received from the Pilcrow Foundation. The foundation doubled that contribution, giving the library \$600 to buy new children's books.

"(The grant) is good, but I didn't realize that I have to buy them from them," Jensen said. "So they sent me their book list, and I'm slowly making my way through it."

The library is located at 125 W. Owyhee Ave., and is open from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Call (208) 337-4228 for more information about the library and its programs.

— SC

# Husky PRIDE award

## Giorgia Comin, senior

**Host parents** — Pete and Teri Smit

**Business teacher Kim Freeman's nomination** — "Giorgia works hard in class and always exceeds my expectations with each and every assignment. She works well both in a group and as an individual and only produces high quality work. She has been a wonderful addition to our school and brings a very different perspective in which the students and staff appreciate."

**Note** — Comin is an exchange student from Italy studying in Marsing this year



The Husky PRIDE award is selected by Marsing High School staff or students and submitted to The Owyhee Avalanche each week. PRIDE stands for "Positive, Responsible, Integrity, Determination, Everyone/Everywhere."

# Marsing Ag Expo scheduled Tuesday

by Zoe Kish  
FFA chapter reporter

The Marsing High School Agriculture program will be host its annual Ag Expo from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Tuesday at the MHS Ag building on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue West.

Every year, students enrolled in the high school Ag classes put on the expo for Marsing kindergarteners and first- and second-graders. During the expo, these students have the opportunity to teach kids from kindergarten to second grade all about animals and other various things involved in agriculture. These youngsters will have the opportunity to pet different kinds animals and learn about flowers, among other things.

Marsing Ag students love putting the expo on each year.

"The expo is a great way to get the students involved with the younger kids in a way that both find fun," Marsing Ag teacher and FFA chapter advisor Mike Martin said.



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# Region’s fifth-graders prepare for Owyhee Field Day

## Watershed Council presents annual education

Local fifth-graders will spend some time learning at Owyhee Dam this week.

The Owyhee Watershed Council’s 15<sup>th</sup> annual Field Day at Owyhee Reservoir takes place today and Thursday.

Homedale, Adrian, Jordan Valley and Pleasant Valley students will attend the different educational stations today, while Marsing fifth-graders make the trip Thursday.

Several local organizations are involved this year, including University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office staff, the Jordan Valley Cooperative Weed Management Area and Adrian FFA chapter members.

Field Day has been around since 2002, providing fifth-graders with hands-on opportunities to learn about the diverse aspects of the Owyhee watershed.

Cooperative weed management area coordinator Eric Morrison will man one of the stations this

week in the continuing effort to control the spread of noxious weeds.

Morrison will talk to the students about some of the weeds such as puncture vine, whitetop and dandelions and how they are spread.

“I will have examples of some noxious weeds,” Morrison said. “We will discuss what they can do to decrease the spread of weeds and how ATVs can spread weeds.”

Extension office staffers will talk about food safety and protecting livestock against threats.

Surine Greenway will stress the importance of packing shelf-stable ingredients for food to be used on the trail or when camping.

She’ll discuss the “danger zone” for food temperatures (between 40 and 140 degrees) for certain foods and how to keep foods safe. Greenway also will share some alternatives to foods that must refrigerated, and the students will be able to make trail mix.

Owyhee County 4-H coordinator Georgia Goodwin will haul lambs to her station and talk about the types of predators that are

present in Owyhee County. She’ll also share the types of fencing materials and other strategies that people can use to keep their livestock safe.

Goodwin said one of the ways to protect backyard fowl from predation from wolves, coyotes and owls is building a coop framed in beams and covered with chicken wire. Hog panels attached to the first three feet from the ground on the coop can eliminate places where predators can dig under or push through.

Goodwin also suggested locking up the flock at night.

“We have seen wolves and coyotes in the early morning hours, so the longer you wait to let them out in the morning hours the better,” Goodwin said.

She also said that llamas and livestock dogs are good for protecting livestock.

About 25 Adrian FFA’ers will be on hand today and Thursday to man a few stations, according to chapter advisor Anna-Marie Chamberlain.

“They work in pairs and lead the different classes of fifth-graders to their stations and help to keep the kids in line,” Chamberlain said.

The chapter members will be active at three booths:

- Dairy — Chamberlain said that in previous years this booth has featured dairy product bingo and a discussion about the importance of milk and dairy products in a healthy diet. Children also have received cheese sticks.
- A Fuel Up to Play 60 grant will help pay for the costs of this booth, Chamberlain said.
- “This year we hope to have a jersey heifer on site for the kids to pet and talk about, and additional prizes have been finished by the Oregon Dairy Products Commission,” she said. “We will also do a milk mustache picture.”
- Beef byproducts — Fifth-graders will learn about the different cuts of meat and where different products come from. A relay activity will quiz students on what items contain beef or beef byproducts and what items don’t.
- “If there is time, kids will also learn about the different types of equipment utilized in beef production and why various procedures are done (syringe, dehorner, tagger, brander, etc.),”

Chamberlain wrote in an email.

She said each student will get a gummy candy that contains gelatin derived from a cow.

- Crops — Students will identify some of the advancements in technology and how they contribute to modern-day crop production and why these technologies are needed to feed the world’s growing population.

The students will further the discussion about genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and hear about the truths and myths of the crops. Chamberlain also said that there could be some free merchandise available from Monsanto.

- Streams and erosion

Chamberlain said she tries to encourage sophomores and juniors in her classes to be part of the 15-minute presentations because the Field Day outreach meets a qualification for the FFA Chapter degree.

Students in Chamberlain’s Ag Business and Leadership class have been helping create and develop educational stations as part of the Ag in the Classroom program, and some will take part in this week’s Field Day event.

## Driver’s ed slots open Pianist to play at Mtn. View Nazarene

Prospective drivers in Homedale and Marsing can still enroll in driver’s education through the Caldwell School District.

The Caldwell district is offering a summer class on behalf of Homedale and Marsing high schools.

Registration was held April 19, but about 11 spots are still available for the class that will be held at Marsing Middle School later this spring and into the summer.

All students must have a driver’s permit from the Division of Motor Vehicles in order to

enroll in the driver’s ed class, and proof of that permit must be sent to the Caldwell program. Students must be 14½ years old to purchase a permit.

The class fee is \$185, and checks and cash will be accepted. Make checks payable to “Caldwell School District.”

The payment is due on May 31, the first day of the class. The class runs through July 2.

For more information, visit [www.caldwellschools.org](http://www.caldwellschools.org), contact Bill Cooper at 371-8196 or Pam Howard at 880-9695 or email [driversed@caldwellschools.org](mailto:driversed@caldwellschools.org).

An internationally known pianist returns to Mountain View Church of the Nazarene on Sunday for the first time in four years.

Jerry Nelson will perform at 10:30 a.m. at the church located at 26515 Ustick Road between Wilder and Homedale.

Admission is free, but a freewill offering will be taken. For more information on the concert, call 337-3151.

Nelson has teamed up with Dino and Anthony Burger, and accompanied such artists as Glen Campbell, Sandi Patti, Tom Netherton and Steve Amerson.

Samples of his music can be heard at [JerryNelsonMusic.com](http://JerryNelsonMusic.com).

As a composer, arranger, conductor and studio producer, he has conducted orchestras from London and Tel Aviv to Nashville and Los Angeles.

His creative touch appears on over 500 recorded projects working with sons Scott and Brad. His publishing and arranging efforts include several dozen original songs and over 5,000 arrangements.

Nelson’s “official” assignment was playing piano at age 10 in a small Minnesota church. He began

his career in public school music also in Minnesota followed by more than three decades arranging and directing orchestra at Denver First Nazarene Church.

Proceeds from Nelson’s performances enable occasional trips to the Congo and Zimbabwe where Jerry performs concerts and his wife Rachel works with AIDS victims and training youth peer groups.

They also work with humanitarian programs including economical water purification and advanced education for promising youth.

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# Technology, technique can help ranchers

Local agricultural producers took lessons in resource preservation at the Idaho Range Livestock Symposium stop in Marsing.

Presenters during the April 19 symposium at the Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center focused on protecting pasture from the ravages of fire and permittees from the whims of government land managers.

But the symposium wasn't a vehicle to bash Mother Nature or bureaucrats, but to help producers understand the techniques and science that can help them improve their operations.

University of Idaho graduate student Chris Schachtschneider shared his work in the Reynolds Creek area that looked at how targeted grazing could reduce the intensity and duration of wildfires.

The effectiveness depends on the density of vegetation, he surmised.

"Statistical analysis revealed that grazing reduced fire behavior metric when shrub cover was low," Schachtschneider wrote in his introductory paragraph in the event program. "However, as shrub cover increased, the effects of cattle grazing for fine fuel reduction may be limited due to the wildfire's potential to carry through the shrub canopy."

Dr. Jim Sprinkle kicked off the event with a seminar showcasing



Bruneau rancher Chris Black unholsters his cellphone to demonstrate the simple tools that can be used in range monitoring.

how ranchers and federal land managers worked together through rangeland monitoring to improve pasture in Arizona.

Using slides that showed some of the same monitoring and documentation techniques that a group of Idaho State Department of Agriculture employees would encourage later, Sprinkle walked attendees through a successful program that reduced undesirable grasses and helped Arizona rangeland thrive by promoting "more preferred grasses," as Sprinkle put it.

Livestock was herded to a particular area to graze, and kept out of other areas to help facilitate the forage change.

The adaptive grazing management program was so successful that the area under study grew from 100,000 acres to 1.5 million acres during the program's lifespan.

"There is an opportunity to do this in Idaho with cheatgrass, but the trick is getting the animal numbers out," Sprinkle said.

But, Sprinkle and others at the symposium said, the key

to success in any program is monitoring the pasture.

"Ranchers should be experts on their allotments," Sprinkle said. "They should keep annual records."

He said monitoring sites should cover all soil types and ecological sites in a given allotment.

Brooke Jacobson and Tyler Hamilton from the ISDA educated attendees about the cooperative rangeland monitoring program launched by the stage agency and the Bureau of Land Management.

Ranchers agree to employ photo monitoring on their allotments, and the BLM and the ISDA help ranchers perform the monitoring. The data is used when grazing permit renewal time comes around.

"This sits everybody down at the table with the (U.S.) Forest Service and the BLM during allotment discussions," he said.

Hamilton walked attendees through the photographic pasture monitoring techniques and encouraged ranchers to get in the habit of keeping an annual (at least) photo log of their allotments even if they don't enroll in the program. Photographic evidence can help ranchers if they find themselves in litigation over an allotment, he said.

The program began three years ago with just four ranchers and six allotments covering 125,000 acres.

Hamilton said the program has grown to include 15 ranchers in 2016.

"The program is booming," Hamilton said. "We've got demand now, and we're trying to get resources in place."

Because of the demand, the ISDA needs more range conservationists to keep up with demand. Jacobson said the state agency is partnering with the Owyhee Conservation District and a soil conservation district in Lemhi County on a pilot program to train district staffers on range conservationist duties.

Jacobson said officials now are working on an MOU with the U.S. Forest Service as well as expanding the existing agreement with the BLM.

Bruneau rancher Chris Black is one of the producers who has enrolled in the program, and he encouraged his colleagues to get on board.

"If you're a public lands rancher, you can't afford not to do your own photo monitoring on your rangeland," Black said.

He said all a rancher needs is a cellphone camera.

"With technology, we have everything we need right here," Black said, holding up his phone. "It's so easy to get out there and get the information, and — as ranchers — it's what we need to do."

— JPB

## Mexican national sentenced for meth

A 45-year-old Grand View man will be deported after 27 months in prison on a federal drug charge.

Jose Antonio Diaz-Juarez received his sentencing in a Thursday hearing in Boise before Chief U.S. District Judge B. Lynn Winmill.

Sentenced on a charge of conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine, Diaz-Juarez also must forfeit \$8,200 in drug proceeds.

Diaz-Juarez entered a guilty plea on Jan. 14, and in the agreement admitted the he conspired to distribute meth between July 24, 2015 and Sept. 8, 2015.

Diaz-Juarez and his co-conspirators arranged for three separate deliveries of methamphetamine to the Boise area. An investigating officer discovered the conspiracy and was able to intervene.

The Owyhee County Sheriff's Office was among agencies investigating the case, joining the Drug Enforcement Administration, Ada County Sheriff's Office, Elmore County Sheriff's Office, and the Elko (Nev.) Combined Narcotic Unit.

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RVs from across Idaho were packed into the Owyhee County Fairgrounds in Homedale last week for this year's Good Sam Club Spring Fling.

# Good Sam Club converges on county fairgrounds

There was a lot of activity at the Owyhee County Fairgrounds late last week and over the weekend.

Members of the Good Sam Club parked their RVs at the fairgrounds for this year's Spring Fling meeting. The RVers last came to Homedale in 2001 for the group's Fall Roundup gathering.

The theme for the Spring Fling in Homedale was "Blue Owyhee" and included an Elvis impersonator.

John Lounsbury of American Falls is assistant director for Area 7 of the state organization, which represents southeast Idaho. He said each of the seven assistant directors take turns finding a location for the three yearly meetings.

Area 5 assistant director Cathy Mickelson of Boise started looking last April for a spot to accommodate 60 to 70 RVs at an inexpensive price. She chose the fairgrounds in Homedale in September.

Her first choice would have been Expo Idaho in Garden City.

"I'd hoped to stay in Boise, but I couldn't afford that. It was \$10,000," Mickelson said.

It only cost the organization \$500 to reserve use of the Armory Exhibit Hall in Homedale, which is operated by Owyhee County as part of the fairgrounds complex.

Other than the three meetings that were held, the organization didn't use the building much.

"We're having two meals here, that's all," Mickelson said. "Everything else you either eat in your rig or you go out."

The fee to park each camper at the Spring Fling was \$10 per night.

Mickelson made seven trips to Homedale in preparation for the gathering, and she was impressed

with the fairgrounds.

"They're wonderful. They're clean. There's a lot of power. They've done a good job," Mickelson said.

She also wanted to give special thanks to a familiar face around the fairgrounds.

"The person that has been the most helpful has been (fair manager and fair board secretary) Ginger Loucks," Mickelson said. "She has been very accommodating and very helpful. Anything I've needed, she just made it happen."

Mickelson stated that most club members like small towns such as Homedale.

"If we can get in an area like this, there's enough of us that we can help the economy," Mickelson said.

Owners of 77 RVs, from 28 chapters around the state, preregistered to attend the Homedale event. A total of 81 RVs ended up attending the gathering.

Last Wednesday morning, Lounsbury was optimistic about how the meeting would go.

"Hopefully we'll have a good cross-section of all the chapters," Lounsbury said. "If we have a meeting in the south, we lose some from the north and vice-versa."

Fourth-year Good Sam state director Joyce Barcus of Boise estimates club members spent at least \$3,000 at businesses around Homedale. She said about 150 people attended the Spring Fling.

"We had a few singles, but not very many," Barcus said. "They're mostly two people to a rig. There are some rigs that have three."

Barcus went to Subway and Albertsons four times and also ate at Owyhee Lanes Restaurant, as did other RVers.

"Linda (Tunnell) said that there were 20 people in one day for



Judy Manka of Kingston, which is near Kellogg, zeroes in on a double during a game of bean bag baseball during the Good Sam Club Spring Fling on Thursday at the Owyhee County Fairgrounds.

lunch," Barcus said.

Most of the RV owners filled their tanks at gas stations in town before they departed Sunday morning.

A number of the club members dumped their sewage tanks at Riverside RV Park, and paid \$5 donations for the service.

Barcus pointed out that everybody she spoke to enjoyed their time in Homedale.

"The location was really nice. They all seemed to have fun," Barcus said. "I didn't hear any complaints. They loved the fairgrounds."

Official business at the Spring Fling only took about 2½ hours to conduct between the president's meeting, the assistant director's meeting and the general meeting.

Discussions at the meetings don't just involve planning events for the next year.

"Things like mileage, because we pay state officers mileage to

come to these things, and whether or not we need new coffee pots. How to spend the treasury money," Barcus said.

Chapter presidents comprise the state committee and are the only members who can vote on how to spend funds in the treasury.

Outside of the meetings, Lounsbury said the campers try to keep themselves busy at the yearly gatherings.

"People put games on. We play swing golf. There's bean bag baseball. There's table games, card games, and we're supposed to have a casino night one night," he said.

Rain on Saturday didn't interrupt the activities.

"It didn't slow us down a bit. Some of them just had umbrellas," Barcus said.

The organization doesn't currently have a chapter in Owyhee County.

"If there's anybody in Owyhee

County that wants to belong to a Good Sam chapter, we can start one out here," Barcus said. "The only requirement for chapter members is that they be in good standing with the Good Sam Club, and that's \$25 a year to do."

There is no minimum number of members required to form a chapter.

New Good Sam members can receive a free one-year membership. They can join by contacting Barcus through [www.idahogoodsam.org](http://www.idahogoodsam.org).

The campers also have a "Samboree" celebration each June, but no official business is discussed then.

Barcus added that people don't even have to own an RV to join.

"You can have a tent if you want; a motorcycle and a tent and trailer," Barcus said. "We've got people with teardrops (trailers). We've got people with truck campers."

— SC

## Motorized use nixed on NCA roadway

The Bureau of Land Management has closed part of a roadway in the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area to motorized use perhaps until April 2018.

Non-motorized use is allowed. The closure, in response to last year's Celebration Fire, was announced Friday morning. Signs will be posted on the affected roadway and a map of the area

is available at the BLM Owyhee Field Office, 20 1st Ave. W., Marsing.

Four Rivers Field Office manager Tate Fischer explained the reason for the closure of a one-mile stretch of road through the Owyhee County part of the NCA.

"Remaining plants need time to recover from the effects of the fire," Fischer said in a press release. "Keeping motorized ve-

hicles off the road will aid their natural recovery and ensure the long-term viability of important wildlife habitat."

The two-year ban could be shortened if vegetation sufficiently recovers, the BLM said.

The road crosses public lands approximately five miles northeast of Murphy in an area where the Celebration Fire burned 6,900 acres last June.

Board of County Commissioners chair Kelly Aberasturi doesn't recall BLM officials discussing the possible closure in any of the county's coordination meetings with the Boise District.

"Coordination is better than it has been," he said. "Still, on certain things, they neglect to call us, and I'm sure they get wrapped up in doing their own thing."

— JPB



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## From page 1A

### ✓ Gateway: Local consensus remains in support of line through NCA

submit comments on the federal agency's draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for Segments 8-9 of the 500-kilovolt (kV) transmission line.

Comments will be accepted via email or postal mail or on the BLM website until June 9 on the alternatives presented in the document, which was released after the BLM Boise District Resource Advisory Committee full membership endorsed its Gateway West subcommittee's recommendation that the transmission line be sited through the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area. A final siting decision is expected by the end of the year.

The BLM included the RAC's recommended route — which is preferred by project owners Idaho Power and Rocky Mountain Power as well as Owyhee County commissioners and the Owyhee County Task Force — as Alternative 1 in the draft document.

However, the agency announced that Alternatives 2 and 5, which follow the West-Wide Energy Corridor (WVEC), would be the "co-preferred" alternatives for the purpose of the public comment period.

"They just arbitrarily came up with a line that they thought would have the least impact," District 2 county Commissioner Kelly Aberasturi said of the federal government's process in establishing the WVEC.

RAC members sent a letter to BLM Idaho state director Tim Murphy expressing their disappointment that Alternative 1 wasn't the preferred alternative in the draft SEIS.

In that letter, signed by chair Gene Gray, the RAC contends that the BLM was more concerned

with NCA encroachment than impacts on private property and Greater Sage-Grouse habitat.

There are eight alternatives in all, and the BLM said each of the first seven (No. 8 is, as always, a no-action option) will have some impact on the NCA.

But RAC members say the agency's rationale borne of the 2012 NCA guidance manual, the RAC said, runs contrary to the Birds of Prey NCA's namesake.

"Morley Nelson was the first to recognize the significance of what is now the NCA, and his life work was dedicated to demonstrating that raptor protection could be compatible with electrical power transmission and distribution," the RAC members wrote.

"The BLM's own data have shown that 500-kV transmission lines within the NCA can be compatible with raptors."

The RAC members also assert that the NCA manual is "contrary to the enabling legislation that established the Snake River Birds of Prey NCA as well as the wording of the 2009 Omnibus Public Lands bill."

Sen. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) likened the BLM's reluctance to prioritize Alternative 1 to the agency's stubborn stance on Owyhee Initiative elements that also were derived through a consensus.

"There was not an eight-year collaborative effort with legislation that came out with a different result (as with the OI), but we have had such unity here in Idaho and we've even had support of federal officials as well as state officials in terms of the approach that the people of Idaho would much prefer and which has no more significant impact than the alternatives that the federal gov-



Scott Flinders, a GIS analyst with Tetra Tech (right), helps a landowner find his parcel in relation to the digital map of the proposed Gateway West routes.

ernment is looking at as they make this decision," Crapo said.

"So am I very frustrated with the fact that we have once again worked so hard to develop the kind of consensus that helps us to move forward with broad-based support for these decisions only to see that essentially overturned in Washington D.C. at the national level."

John Chatburn from Gov. C. L. "Butch" Otter's Office of Energy Resources was part of the RAC collaboration that arrived at Alternative 1. He said Thursday that several state agencies will contribute to a comprehensive comment that will be submitted to the BLM.

"The governor was extremely disappointed in the fact that the BLM did not give more consideration to the consensus recommendations that the RAC suggested," Chatburn said, pointing out that Thursday's public meeting felt like the "second go-round" for the same routes proposed — and opposed — previously.

Alternative 1 co-locates the 500kV line next to a smaller,

existing line along Baja Road in the NCA, avoiding Owyhee County private property nearly altogether and keeping the power line away from sensitive sage-grouse habitat.

Alternative 1 proponents — such as Nettleton — contend (and maps unveiled Thursday show) that the BLM's inclusion of the co-preferred routes will lead to private property encroachment and also would endanger untouched sage-grouse habitat south of Grand View, Oreana and Murphy.

Task Force member Robyn Thompson, an Oreana resident whose property could be impacted by the co-preferred alternative routes, dug up a federal document that points out that the Gateway West and Boardman-to-Hemingway power line projects are exempt from the ground disturbances thresholds included in sage-grouse management plans, implying that the federal government has supported the southern route along the WVEC despite the threat to the bird.

Nettleton, though, was one of

the property owners who viewed interactive GIS maps Thursday night and discovered that either of the preferred alternatives would cut large swaths through his pastures and probably force him to relocate irrigation pivots. In one scenario, the power line comes close to he and his son Chad's homes.

It's the costly relocation of farm improvements on private land that has Aberasturi and others fuming about the lack of a socio-economic impact analysis for the co-preferred alternatives or the WVEC.

"They just go by the land value, but they don't look at what that might do to the whole operation," he said. "If they put the line out in a pasture with a pivot, you'll have to move the pivot, which is almost the same cost as putting one in, so is Idaho Power or Rocky Mountain Power going to pay to get the pivot moved?"

"It also lessens the (farm ground) value because if they can't work around that tower, you're not going to use that land."

— JPB

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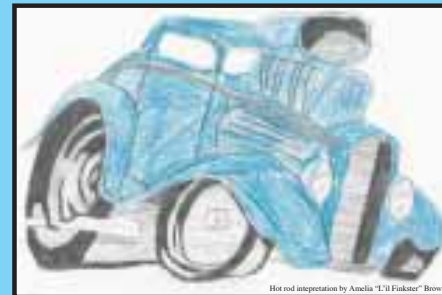
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Local track athletes  
hit stride at big meets

# Avalanche Sports

HHS prepares for  
annual youth camps

COMMENTARY, PAGES 8-9B

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2016

LEGALS AND CLASSIFIEDS, PAGES 10-11B

## Trojans in top form as season wraps up

### Baseball: Team flirts with No. 1

Homedale High School used one of the biggest innings in program history to continue its quest for the top seed in the district tournament.

The Trojans scored 20 times in the fourth inning Friday and trounced host Parma, 25-1, in a 3A Snake River Valley conference game ended after five innings.

Homedale (13-4 overall, 6-2 in conference before Tuesday's game against Payette) ends the conference season Friday on the road against conference-leading Fruitland in a game that could decide the No. 1 seed in the 3A District III Tournament, which begins Saturday, May 7 at John Jackson Field in Homedale.

The Grizzlies' only 3A SRV loss this season is a 1-0 loss on April 13 in Homedale. Wins against Payette after deadline Tuesday and Friday in Fruitland would give HHS the regular-season title and No. 1 seed in the district tournament.

The Trojans entered the final week of the conference season tied for second place with Emmett, one game behind Fruitland (7-1). Homedale beat Emmett, 7-2, in the two teams' first meeting before the Huskies returned with a 1-0 victory in the second half of the season.

Three pitchers — Nash Johnson, Drew Taylor and Kendall Freelove — held the Panthers to a hit Friday in the blowout victory.

Parma scored a run on a bases-loaded walk in the bottom of the third inning, but Homedale answered

— See **Baseball**, back page



Drew Taylor



Senior right-hander John Collett beat Weiser on April 19 for his fourth victory of the season as Homedale stayed in the thick of the 3A SRV pennant chase.

### Softball: District top seed achieved

Makayla Aberasturi and Dakota Kelly homered Friday to help Homedale High School lock up the top seed in the 3A District III softball tournament.

Kelly struck out 10 and spun a four-hitter as the Trojans hit the road and beat Parma, 10-1, in a 3A Snake River Valley conference game.

Homedale (17-2 overall, 8-0 in conference at week's end) took a 12-game winning streak into Tuesday's home game against Payette. The Trojans wrap up the 3A SRV season on the road against Fruitland on Friday before a non-conference doubleheader against the Oregon co-op of Baker and Powder Valley at Sundance Park on Saturday.

The district tournament begins Tuesday, May 10 in Weiser.

Aberasturi was 4-for-4 against the Panthers. She had a pair of doubles and crushed a grand slam in the Trojans' biggest inning of the game in the fourth.

Gardenia Machuca went 3-for-4 and drove in Aberasturi with a double ahead of Kelly's two-run homer in the first inning.

Sydnee Shanley was 3-for-4 with an RBI.

**Homedale 17, Weiser 5 (5)** — Kendall Nash drove in five runs on four singles, including a two-run hit during the Trojans' 10-run fourth inning on the road.

Homedale sent a dozen players to the plate in the fourth inning, and the first 11 reached base safely.

Aberasturi knocked in Tristan Corta with a double

— See **Softball**, back page



Dakota Kelly

## Trojans split golf honors with Fruitland

Despite fielding less than its full complement of golfers, Homedale High School forged a tie in last week's 3A Snake River Valley conference meet.

Only four HHS athletes — the minimum to field a scoring unit — took to the River Birch

Golf Course as the Trojans tied Fruitland for the nine-hole meet championship on April 19.

Both teams shot 184, which was eight strokes ahead of Weiser's third-place score of 192.

— See **Golf**, page 5B

### Adrian uncorks 3 Pepsi wins

Adrian High School's Shira brothers collected victories Saturday during the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Pepsi Invitational track and field meet.

The Antelopes' boys' squad finished third at Union, Ore., with Reagan Shira winning the 300-meter hurdles (15.94 seconds), Bryson Shira taking the 400 (51.34) and the brothers serving as half of the 4x400 relay championship squad.

Eduardo Muñoz ran the opening leg, and Wes White finished the final lap in a 3-minute, 31.66-second winning effort.

Senior Kylee Skerjanec won the girls' pole vault for Adrian,

clearing 8 feet.

Reagan Shira was runner-up in the 110 hurdles in 15.94, and fellow senior Mike Griffin finished second in the triple jump at 39-8.

White secured two bronze medals in the 100 (11.89) and the 400 (51.82).

Skerjanec was runner-up in the girls' high jump at 4 feet, 10 inches, and junior Selina Villarreal finished third in the girls' long jump at 14-3.

Freshman Zeke Quintero finished eighth in the boys' triple jump (36-5) and ninth in the long jump (16-11½) for Jordan Valley's only top-10 showings.



Marsing's Clay King kicks up dirt on his push-off as he fires a pitch during the April 18 non-conference game against Nyssa, Ore. Photo by Dan Pease

## NP negates Huskies' timely hits

Marsing High School's baseball team put together hits and runs Friday, but couldn't recover from New Plymouth's big first inning.

The Pilgrims scored eight times at home to erase the Huskies' early lead and forge a 15-8 2A Western Idaho Conference victory.

Dakota Hardy, who singled and scored in both of his first two at-bats, came home on Clay King's base hit for Marsing's 1-0 lead in the top of the first

inning.

Jake Wilson doubled after teammates reached on Marsing infield errors to fuel New Plymouth's eight-run first inning. Wilson also tripled and scored on a passed ball later in the game.

The Pilgrims' Riley Harris was 3-for-4, scoring four times.

— See **Huskies**, page 3B



Sports

Huskies endure tough stretch of softball games

Exchange student continues strong plate performance

Emma Heitz had half her team's hits and scored all its runs in Marsing High School's softball loss Friday.

New Plymouth took the lead in the bottom of the first inning and never looked back in a 21-2 2A Western Idaho Conference win at home. The game was halted after 3½ innings because of the mercy rule.

The Huskies surrendered 20 or more runs for the third time in the week.

Marsing took a 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning. Heitz and Kortnie Miller led off the game with singles, and Heitz came home on a groundout off Italian exchange student Gaia Cascapera's bat.

Alex Grant doubled to bring in Heitz in the fourth inning. Heitz led off the rally with a single.

**April 19: Cole Valley Christian 26, Marsing 22** — The Chargers scored 19 runs in the third inning then held on in the highest-scoring game in the 2A WIC this season.

The Huskies left 12 runners on base during the seven-inning game. Marsing mounted a comeback in the bottom of the seventh inning, scoring six runs before visiting Cole Valley ended the game.

Cole Valley cashed in on eight hits and 15 walks during the



Italian exchange student Gaia Cascapera chops a ball into the dirt during Friday's 2A Western Idaho Conference softball game against New Plymouth. Photo by Dan Pease

third inning. The Chargers batted around twice, sending 25 players to the plate against Grant and Lisa Stanberry. Grant actually exited the pitching circle then returned to the position during the uprising.

Grant, Cascapera and Louisa Metcalf had RBI singles in the bottom of the seventh inning for Marsing.

Grant and Metcalf also knocked in runs with singles in the fourth

inning when the Huskies scored four times. Metcalf was 3-for-4.

Stanberry laced a two-run single during Marsing's three-run third.

Hailee Bennett was hit by a

pitch with the bases loaded in the second inning to bring in Adrianna Salutregui.

Salutregui had a run-scoring single as the Huskies opened the game with a 7-1 lead after one inning. Salutregui and Bennett were the only players with hits in the opening uprising as Cole Valley's pitcher walked four and hit a batter before getting consecutive strikeouts to end the rally.

**April 18: Nyssa, Ore., 22, Marsing 12** — The Huskies maintained a lead in the non-conference game until the Bulldogs' consecutive six-run rallies.

Marsing owned a 9-3 advantage before Nyssa scored six times in the bottom of the third to tie the game.

The Huskies lurched ahead, 10-9, in the fourth inning when Alicia Barkell stole home, but the Bulldogs took control in the bottom of the frame.

Nyssa's go-ahead rally featured just one single — Asu Trujillo's run-scoring hit with two outs in the inning. Walks, errors, hit batters and a dropped third strike kept the Bulldogs afloat throughout the inning.

Only five of the 11 runs Marsing starter Alex Grant surrendered with earned. Salutregui and Stanberry also saw duty in the pitching circle.

Four players — Barkell, Heitz, Miller and Cascapera — had two hits apiece for Marsing. Cascapera and Stanberry knocked in two runs each.

MARSING HUSKIES Athletes of the Week



**Softball**  
**Kortnie Miller, sr.**  
Collected three hits, including two against Nyssa, Ore.



**Baseball**  
**Dwight Sevy, fr.**  
Reached base seven times in three games, and had four hits including two doubles



**Track and field**  
**Alexandre Heidt, sr.**  
Won 2A WIC meet long jump title, finished third in 100 and 200

Baseball  
Wednesday, April 27, home vs. Melba, 5 p.m.  
Tuesday, May 3 at Nampa Christian, 5 p.m.

Softball  
Friday, April 29, home vs. Melba, 1 p.m.  
Tuesday, May 3 at Nampa Christian, 5 p.m.

Track and field  
Thursday, May 5 at New Plymouth Invitational, 3:30 p.m.

Go Huskies!

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Bob Vaughn (left), a software engineer with Hewlett-Packard, chats with Lauren Jensen about her entry into last Wednesday's STEAM science fair at Marsing Middle School.

# Students learn science hands-on

## Fair features wide variety of projects

Constance Bowers ended up learning something from this year's Marsing Middle School science fair.

The fourth annual science fair involving 77 eighth-graders, re-branded STEAM, was held last Wednesday afternoon inside the school's gymnasium on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue West.

STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math.

Constance, 13, is the daughter of Ashley and Russel Bowers. Her project aimed to find out if dog saliva could kill bacteria.

In the end, she found out that dog spit does not kill bacteria.

"I'm guessing that it's because they do not share the traits that their ancestors had," Constance said. "All mammals, except for people, have something in their saliva called nerve growth factor, and that helps them heal their wounds."

She thought that if dog saliva did kill bacteria, it might aid in advanced microbiology research.

The biggest challenge Constance faced in conducting the experiment was when she ran into a scientific error that contaminated her work.

"Because my mom was trying to help me with it, and you're not supposed to expose the Petri dishes to air," Constance said. "She exposed it to the air, and she scratched the agar."

She added that she had fun with the project, even though her hypothesis was incorrect.

"I also learned that my dog does not like it when I stick objects in her mouth," Constance said.

Constance thinks that someday she might pursue a career in biology or microbiology.

T.J. Stanbery, the 13-year-old son of Jennifer and Tom Stanbery, tackled work examining

the effectiveness of two different types of shotgun ammunition.

T.J.'s project was to see if a shotgun slug or buckshot had greater penetration through a ream of paper at 20 yards. He got the idea for the project while he was hunting, and the result matched his hypothesis.

He found that the slug did have better penetrating power than the buckshot.

"The real-world application would be to help people choose their ammunition for proper penetration," T.J. said. "You wouldn't want to wound an animal."

He didn't encounter any challenges with the project, but thinks he might do things differently if he replicated the experiment.

"I might shoot it from a further distance, or use different types of ammo," T.J. said.

Cheyenne Caley, the 14-year-old daughter of Pamela and Mitch Singer, performed an experiment examining greenhouse gases.

Cheyenne's project was on climate change, and she got the idea for it after watching a program about the subject on television.

"I was wondering to myself, 'Is this real?'" Cheyenne said. "'Is this an actual thing, or are they just messing around with me?'"

Using two sealed glass containers, one with carbon dioxide that Cheyenne blew in through a straw, she wanted to see if carbon dioxide would cause the container to hold in heat more than the vessel only holding air.

Her hypothesis was correct. The container with the carbon dioxide held the heat created by a blow dryer longer than the other vessel.

"My experiment was very challenging, and the amount of time it took to do this experiment was really unexpected," Cheyenne said.

Bob Vaughn, a software engineer at Hewlett-Packard and a photographer, served as one of

the judges at the science fair.

Vaughn's former neighbor, Boise State University geology professor Pam Aishlin, asked him to volunteer for the fair.

One of the projects he judged was Lauren Jensen's work, which correctly hypothesized that charcoal would leave a longer smudge on paper than graphite from a mechanical pencil.

Vaughn was impressed with Lauren's project, saying that she explained it well and created a nice display. Lauren is the daughter of Sharla and Scott Jensen.

"I liked the fact that it was a practical thing for her because she's an artist. She likes to draw," Vaughn said.

Vaughn added that he thought the students put a lot of work into their projects.

"They have bar charts, data charts, lots of print and pictures, and you can tell that they're all following a formula," Vaughn said. "They start with a hypothesis, and have test questions, background research, variables, so they definitely followed the same methodology (as scientists)."

Vaughn also had some advice for students considering a career in a technology-related field.

"You've got to have a love of learning, because technology constantly changes," Vaughn said. "I think one of the great things about technology is that it's not a boring job. It'll never be the same."

— SC

# Public can learn about Presbyterian church

The public is invited to an informational session about the Presbyterian church on Saturday.

A free lunch will be served in conjunction with the event, which takes place at noon at the First Presbyterian Church of

Homedale, 320 N. 6<sup>th</sup> St. W. The Rev. Bruce Swanson, a retired Presbyterian minister from Nampa, will teach on the church's history, mission and structure. Call 473-9331 for more information about the church.

# Sports

## ✓ Huskies: Marsing keeps scoring down, but can't win

From Page 1B

Marsing's Dwight Sevy was 3-for-4. His single brought home Hardy in the third inning. Sevy and King ripped back-to-back doubles in Marsing's two-run seventh inning.

Hardy, King, Jaden Kinney and Tyler Wood collected two hits apiece as the Huskies put together one of their biggest hit totals of the season. Eight players participated in the 14-hit attack.

King and Connor Rhodes picked up RBI singles during a three-run fifth inning.

**April 19: Cole Valley Christian 9, Marsing 7** — The first-year program exacted revenge on its host as the Chargers picked up their first-ever 2A WIC victory.

In the teams' first meeting in Meridian, the Huskies slugged their way to a 19-17 victory.

Scoring lowered exponentially last week, and Marsing was unable to maintain Cole Valley's early torrid pace.

The Chargers broke out with six runs in their first at-bat and moved the lead to 8-3 after 1½ innings.

Rhodes' two-run single helped Marsing scored three times in the fifth inning to trim Cole Valley's lead to 8-7. The Huskies left runners at second and third in the fifth and sixth innings before the Chargers were able to retire Marsing's final five batters without incident.

Dwight Sevy reached base three times without a hit, and King singled twice. Brian Purtell notched an RBI single in the first inning as Marsing's first three batters — Hardy, Purtell and King

— reached on base hits. Hardy was 2-for-4 with two stolen bases.

King struck out eight and gave up three unearned runs in a complete-game effort.

**April 18: Nyssa, Ore., 5, Marsing 1** — King came off the bench and went 2-for-2, scoring the Huskies' only run on Kinney's sacrifice fly in the sixth inning.

Sevy doubled to send King to third base ahead of Kinney's fly ball to center field.

Three of Nyssa's runs were unearned as Kinney and King limited the Bulldogs to three hits.

King and Sevy both singled to start the fourth inning, but they were erased before Kinney's double.

Wood, Riley Bryant and Boone Sevy had consecutive singles in the fifth inning, and Purtell added a two-out base hit. But Marsing was unable to score as Cole Valley was able to record two outs on the base path between second and third.

After three scoreless innings, Nyssa broke through for a 4-0 lead. The Bulldogs scored three runs in the bottom of the fifth inning.

Blake Cleaver had an RBI single in Nyssa's big inning. The team scored on three passed balls and a steal of home during the contest.

After loading the bases with two walks and a hit batter, Kinney wiggled out of the third inning with consecutive strikeouts and a tapper back to the mound. He fanned seven in five innings.

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# Homedale RV hosts not slowing down anytime soon

## Carpenters are in sixth year of volunteering for the city

There are times when Dolly Carpenter misses having her own piece of land like she did in Emmett. However, those moments aren't enough to give her any ideas of stepping down as host of Homedale's Riverside RV Park.

Dolly and her husband Jim have been volunteering as park hosts since 2010.

Jim grew up around the Treasure Valley but Dolly was born in Maine. The two met in California and have been together for 50 years.

The couple moved to Idaho about 17 years ago, and Dolly continued to work for Wells Fargo Bank for several years after Jim retired. Jim was a farrier for 35 years but had to cut his career short because of medical issues.

"He had to have a knee replacement, and he was getting tired real easily. He couldn't shoe anymore, and he had a hip problem," Dolly said. "They replaced his hip, he couldn't work, so we moved to Idaho."

After first settling in Emmett, the Carpenters moved to a home on Northside Road outside Homedale. They sold that property after five years and decided to travel. The couple stayed at Riverside RV Park several times in between trips.

Dolly said six years ago, someone at City Hall asked them if they wanted to be the park hosts because the host at that time had been volunteering for 19 years and was becoming too elderly to continue.

As park hosts, one of their jobs is to greet customers staying at the park when they come in.

"We take care of the bathrooms, making sure they're clean and stocked," Dolly said. "Jim does a lot of weeding; this place was full of goat heads. Now he's got every island clean, there's no

goat heads. He works like a 20-year-old."

Being a park host is a 24-7 job because the city relies on them in case something breaks or an emergency occurs. An RV at the park burned down a few years ago with a dog inside.

City public works supervisor Bret Smith appreciates the open line of communication he has with the Carpenters.

"They're quick to respond if something is going weird with a guest or if there's something wrong with the facility. It's a very open dialog there," Smith said.

Jim recently called Smith when it was discovered that a mirror and some cleaning supplies had been stolen from the RV park bathroom.

Jim said he's happy to have such a good working relationship with Smith.

"He tries to accommodate us to get what we need," Jim said. "I tell him I need a quart of paint; he brings me five gallons."

The park hosts are mostly left to their own devices, but Smith said a unique situation comes up once in a while that requires him to stop by and tell them how to handle it.

Jim had a memorable night a few years ago when Dolly woke him up about 1 a.m. saying a woman was screaming down by the bathroom.

Jim grabbed his shotgun and a flashlight and headed toward the bathroom where he found a man violently beating a woman.

"She was bleeding all over the place, I said 'Mister, you hit her one more time and I'm going to bury you,'" Jim said. "He said, 'You won't shoot.' I said 'It doesn't make any difference to me.' He got up and left."

Another one of his favorite stories involved a man who was



Jim and Dolly Carpenter work on a piece of yard art in front of their home at Homedale's city-owned Riverside RV Park near the Snake River.

dumping his RV's septic tank directly onto the ground, not into the underground tank.

"I said 'Well, your tube should be in the spare bumper in the back. Pull it out and hook it up,'" Jim said. "His dad said 'Look, son, there is a hose in here.'"

The son told Jim that he had been dumping his RV's sewage on the ground for years and never knew he had the tube to dispose of it properly.

As can be expected, people have left items behind at the park over the years. Jim recalled a man who lost a pocketknife.

The man said it was a real collector's item.

"We found it. Come to find out, it wasn't a collector's item, but we called the guy and he goes 'I found another one,'" Jim said.

On top of maintaining the park, Dolly said they have quite an active lifestyle.

"Jim likes to go to yard sales. We visit our friends either Sunday afternoon or sometime on Monday," Dolly said. "We just go places, sometimes just go for a drive or maybe up to Crouch."

She wants to give special thanks to Jack Ulrich with the parks maintenance department for helping Jim, and to Homedale Police for always being friendly.

"Everybody that I've met here in the city, they're good people," Dolly said.

Jim echoed those thoughts and explained that he loves being park host because of the different kinds of people he meets.

"This is a community with

a lot of loving people here, different people," Jim said. "It's Homedale. It's just kind of neat to have a community like this where people stick together."

The couple has a 47-year-old daughter, Sheri, and a 46-year-old son, John. The Carpenters have two dogs, a border collie named Baby and a heeler mix named Sammie. Someone abandoned Baby at the park a few years ago.

Smith is impressed with how well the Carpenters have worked out as park hosts.

"It's not the Hilton down there. We don't have five-star facilities, but they keep it very clean and I think they do their best to give people a five-star experience," Smith said.

— SC

# BLM extends land-use planning comment period

The Bureau of Land Management has listened to the public in regards to a proposed land-use planning rule.

Taking heed of citizens' requests, the federal agency has added 30 days to the comment period for the proposed rule that is supposed to make the planning process more collaborative, transparent and effective.

The public now has until May 24 to file comments on the proposed regulatory

change.

BLM says the proposed rule would empower its officials to more readily address landscape-scale resource issues such as wildfire, the demand for energy sources and habitat connectivity.

The rule is geared to further emphasize the role of science in the planning process and would stress the importance of evaluating various conditions when the planning process begins.

Best available science and information such as ecological knowledge and public views also will be emphasized under the new rule.

The project website, [www.blm.gov/plan2](http://www.blm.gov/plan2), contains the proposed rule, recordings of the past public webinar and meeting, and other resources.

Comments can be made in the following fashion:

- By mail — Director (630), Bureau

of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, N.W., Room 2134LM, Washington, DC 20240, Attention: 1004-AE39

- By personal or messenger delivery — U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, 20 M Street, S.E., Room 2134LM, Attention: Regulatory Affairs, Washington, DC 20003

- Via the Federal eRulemaking Portal (<http://www.regulations.gov>).



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Sports

Homedale youth sports camp registration opens

There's about a week left for parents to get their children signed up for Homedale High School's annual youth sports camp. The camp will cover football, basketball and wrestling and will be held from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. daily from Monday, May 16 to Thursday, May 19. The camps are open to incoming second-graders through incoming eighth-graders. The registration form and fee of \$20 is due Thursday, May 5. All campers will undergo two days of football then will have a choice of either two days of bas-

ketball or two days of wrestling instruction. The football camp will take place on the practice field behind the high school, while basketball will be held inside the main gymnasium and wrestling in the wrestling room across the foyer from the gym's interior entrance. For more information, contact HHS football coach Matt Holtry at mholtry@homedaleschools.org or 697-9286 or boys' basketball coach and co-athletic director Casey Grove at cgrove@homedaleschools.org or 340-4611



Junior Ben Holloway returned to the top spot in the Homedale High School boys' singles ladder last week and split his two matches in 3A Snake River Valley conference play.

✓ Golf: Lawsen Matteson returns after dad's transplant

From Page 1B Senior Noah Freelove paced the Trojans' effort, firing a 5-over-par 41, the second-lowest round of the day. "Noah played really well," HHS coach Casey Grove said. "Everyone else struggled to get through their round." Fruitland freshman Jake O'Neil snagged medalist honors again with a low round of 38. Kaden Henry carded a 46 for Homedale, while teammates Chase Martell (48) and Scott

Matlock (49) ensured all of the Trojans' varsity golfers finished the day below 50 strokes. Grove said senior Lawsen Matteson is back with the team this week after taking a leave to stay with his father, Mike Matteson, after the Homedale businessman underwent a liver transplant.

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

HHS boys extend Emmett in 3A Snake River Valley tennis loss

Three boys' ladder matches went three sets in Homedale High School's home loss to Emmett on Thursday. The Huskies swept every match in the 3A Snake River Valley conference dual meet, posting a 12-0 victory at Bette Uda City Park. Warren DeMark took Emmett's Hunter Higginbotham to three sets at No. 3 boys' singles. DeMark took the second set, but Higginbotham won the battle of freshmen, 6-3, 4-6, 6-3. The Homedale boys' doubles teams put up a fight against the Huskies. At No. 2, Dylan Phariss and Ryan Randall pushed Dylan Fox and Matt Pollard beyond the limit in the first and third sets. The Emmett pair emerged from a third-set tiebreaker with a 7-5, 1-6, 7-6 win. In the top boys' doubles match, Orion Cardenas and Jose Uriarte faded in the third set of an intense match, losing to Ben Rooks and Parker Grover, 7-5, 4-6, 6-1. The Trojans' mixed doubles teams also battled tough. At No. 1, Miller DeMark and Sarah Jones rallied from a quick first set before Uli Cardossa and Sydney Roehr pulled out the Huskies' 6-1, 7-5 victory. Homedale's second-seeded Austin Conant and Makayla Kelly pushed their second set to a tiebreaker before falling, 6-4, 7-6. April 19: Homedale 6, Payette 6 — No. 1 Ben Holloway and No. 3 Warren DeMark won their boys' singles matches in three sets as the Trojans boys beat the Pirates, 4-2. Holloway went 6-2, 4-6, 6-4 against Kyle Sandquist, and DeMark bounced back from a first-set loss to beat Matthew Morelock, 4-6, 7-5, 6-4. Ryan Randall and Dylan Phariss rolled in the second boys' doubles match, 6-0, 6-0. Payette won the girls' meet, 4-2, but Homedale scored with a sweep in mixed doubles (Sarah Jones and Miller DeMark, and Makayla Kelly and Jason Buenrostro) and a win from No. 2 girls' doubles team Jessica Evans and Isabel Hernandez.

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# Homedale Trojans

## Athletes of the Week

<p>Baseball John Collett, sr. Hit .750 with 10 RBI and picked up his fourth win</p>	<p>Softball Kendall Nash, so. Went 4-for-5 with 5 RBI and four runs vs. Weiser</p>	<p>Track and field Jacob Furlott, jr. Finished second in boys' 100 meters at 3A SRV meet in Fruitland</p>	<p>Tennis Warren DeMark, fr. Pushed his No. 3 boys' singles foe to three sets in 3A SRV loss to Emmett</p>	<p>Golf Noah Freelove, sr. Shot 41 to lead the Trojans' tie for first in the latest 3A SRV meet</p>
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Baseball  
Varsity  
Friday, April 29 at Fruitland, 6 p.m.  
Saturday, April 30, home vs. Melba, 2 p.m.  
Junior varsity  
Friday, April 29, home vs. Fruitland, 5 p.m.  
Saturday, April 30 at Melba, 2 p.m.

Softball  
Varsity  
Friday, April 29 at Fruitland, 5 p.m.  
Saturday, April 30, home vs. Baker, Ore., (2), 4 pm & 6 pm  
Junior varsity  
Friday, April 29, home vs. Fruitland, 5 p.m.  
Saturday, April 30, home vs. Baker, Ore., (2), 4 pm & 6 pm

Track and field  
Saturday, April 30 at Heinz Invitational, Ontario H.S., Ontario, Ore., 11 a.m.

Tennis  
Varsity  
Thursday, April 28 at Parma, 4 p.m.  
Tuesday, May 3, home vs. Fruitland, 4 p.m.  
Junior varsity  
Wednesday, April 27 at Weiser, 4 p.m.  
Thursday, April 29, home vs. Weiser, 4 p.m.

Golf  
Varsity and junior varsity  
Wednesday, April 27 at 3A SRV conf. meet (nine holes), Scotch Pines GC, Payette, 3 p.m.  
Wednesday, May 4, home for 3A SRV conference meet (nine holes), River Bend Golf Club, 2 p.m.

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# Celebrate a Sweet CINCO de MAYO

FAMILY FEATURES

Cinco de Mayo is, officially, a holiday celebrating Mexico’s victory over France in the 1862 Battle of Puebla. In the U.S., where it is actually celebrated with more gusto than in its native country, the holiday has become a celebration of Mexican heritage and culture.

The holiday also provides a great excuse to make irresistible Mexican-inspired recipes for entertaining and, of course, a big batch of margaritas to wash it all down. Fresh sweet corn is an essential component of many Mexican dishes and a cultural staple.

Luckily, Cinco de Mayo falls right in the middle of Florida’s Sunshine Sweet Corn season, meaning that the sweetest corn, available all year, arrives just in time to be a part of your Cinco de Mayo celebration. These naturally-bred varieties are grown by a group of family farmers who are committed to producing the finest sweet corn.

Get the fiesta started with this Fire Roasted Corn and Chorizo Dip and a big bowl of tortilla chips. Crunchy, spicy, sweet and creamy, this addictive dip will have your guests asking for more.

Next, be sure to serve Mexican Style Corn, a truly authentic and delicious Mexican street food. Crunchy ears of fresh sweet corn are charred to perfection then slathered with a mixture of cheese and mayo, sprinkled with chili powder and squirted with lime for simple flavor perfection.

Finally, no Cinco de Mayo celebration is complete without tacos. For a healthful twist on your typical taco, try this recipe for Charred Corn Tacos with Radish Zucchini Slaw that will have both vegetarians and meat eaters clamoring for seconds.

Incorporating more healthful whole foods and veggies into your Cinco de Mayo celebration this year makes it easier to justify one more margarita. No matter what you serve at your Cinco de Mayo celebration, make sure to incorporate the sweet and wholesome flavor of fresh spring sweet corn.

Discover more mouth-watering recipes for Cinco de Mayo and every time of year at [www.sunshinesweetcorn.com](http://www.sunshinesweetcorn.com).

Mexican Style Corn

Serves: 4

- 4 ears fresh Sunshine Sweet Corn, husked
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise
- 4 ounces Cotija or feta cheese
- 1 teaspoon chili powder
- 4 lime slices

Preheat grill or broiler. Grill or broil corn, turning occasionally until hot and some kernels turn golden brown, about 5 minutes. Using knife, coat each ear of corn with about 1 tablespoon of mayonnaise. Crumble cheese on one side of each corn ear. Sprinkle with chili powder, dividing evenly. Broil until cheese starts to melt, approximately 1 to 2 minutes. Serve with lime.



Six Global Spreads for Sweet Corn

- 1. North America: Maple Bourbon Butter** — Combine one stick butter, 4 teaspoons bourbon, 2 teaspoons maple syrup and pinch of salt.
- 2. South America: Lime-Avocado Crema** — In a blender, combine one avocado, 1/4 cup lime juice, one garlic clove, 1/2 bunch cilantro, 1/2 cup sour cream and pinch of salt. Blend until smooth. Add water if necessary.
- 3. Europe:** Combine 2 ounces goat cheese, 2 tablespoons butter, 1 tablespoon fresh thyme, and pinch of salt and pepper. Stir until smooth.
- 4. Asia: Sriracha Butter** — Combine 1/3 cup butter with 3 tablespoons Sriracha.
- 5. Africa: Harissa-Yogurt Spread** — Whisk together 1 cup Greek yogurt, 1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil, 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice, 2 tablespoons Harissa sauce, one crushed garlic clove and pinch of salt.
- 6. Australia: Honey-Ginger BBQ Sauce** — In saucepan combine 1 1/2 cup apple cider vinegar, 1/2 cup honey, 1/2 cup ketchup, 1 1/2 tablespoons hot sauce, 4 minced garlic cloves, 2 tablespoons minced ginger and 1 teaspoon salt. Simmer, stirring occasionally until thickened and reduced to about 1 1/4 cup, 20 to 25 minutes.



Fire Roasted Corn and Chorizo Dip

Serves: 8 to 12

- 3 to 4 ears Sunshine Sweet Corn
- 1 small onion, peeled and sliced into rings
- 1 small red bell pepper
- 1 cup cooked chorizo
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 pound spicy pepper cheese, like pepper-jack or habanero cheddar
- 1/4 cup chopped green onions

Preheat oven to 400°F and preheat grill to high heat. Remove cornhusks and corn silk, and place fresh Florida Sweet Corn, onion slices and red bell pepper on grill. Grill corn and bell pepper for 8 to 10 minutes, turning every 2 minutes until all sides are slightly charred. Grill onion slices for approximately 3 minutes per side. When veggies are cool enough to handle, cut corn off cob. Then chop onions and pepper, removing pepper seeds. In 8-by-8-inch baking dish or one-quart souffle dish, mix all ingredients together until well combined. Bake for 10 to 15 minutes until edges are bubbly. Serve warm with tortilla chips.

Charred Corn Tacos with Radish Zucchini Slaw

Serves: 4

- 4 ears Sunshine Sweet Corn
- Extra virgin olive oil, as needed
- Salt and freshly ground pepper, as needed
- 1/2 cup torn cilantro, parsley and mint leaves
- 1/2 small red onion, thinly sliced
- 2 1/2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
- 1 teaspoon maple syrup
- 1 cup radishes, cut into matchsticks
- 1 small zucchini, cut into matchsticks
- 1 jalapeno, seeded and thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup (2 1/2 ounces) crumbled Cotija or feta cheese
- 10 to 12 small (6-inch) soft corn tortillas

Brush corn with olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Over hot grill or open gas stove flame, char ears of corn until well blackened but not completely burnt. Remove from heat; cool. With large knife, shave off kernels into bowl. Add cilantro, parsley and mint; reserve.

In small bowl, combine onion and lime juice; let stand 10 minutes. Stir in maple syrup, radishes, zucchini, jalapeno and 2 tablespoons of oil. Season with salt and pepper; set aside.

Heat your tortillas one of two ways: Wrap whole stack in foil and place in warm 250°F oven for 15 minutes, or coat cast-iron skillet with thin layer of oil and heat over high heat; warm each tortilla 30 seconds to 1 minute each side, until lightly blistered.

To make tacos, fill each tortilla with 1/4 cup corn. Top with cheese and radish-zucchini slaw. Serve with lime wedges, if desired.



# Looking back...

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

## 25 years ago

May 1, 1991

### School board mulls regional vo-ed

Local trustees are mulling whether the Homedale School District should join a cooperative with other COSSA schools and Boise State University to create a Regional Vocational-Technical High School in the Nampa-Caldwell area that could grow to include additional schools.

The plan, and two regional vo-tech consortium arrangements developed with BSU and a larger number of school districts including Boise, were discussed with local trustees at a special school board meeting Thursday night.

Trustees here agreed to review two agreements forming the “Treasure Valley Regional Cooperative for Vocational-Technical Education” for consideration at their next meeting on May 13.

**Trojans to play Payette Thursday**

The formidable Homedale baseball captains launch a double-header assault on the Payette Pirates there tomorrow in their ongoing sail toward the state baseball tournament sea.

While results of yesterday’s double-header against Melba weren’t available before press time, the Trojans were still undefeated going into it. And they were buoyed up by two socko wins last week, 17-4 over Marsing on Tuesday and 12-2 over Wilder on Thursday.

Tony Uranga pitched the game against the Huskies, striking out 8. At the plate, Chris Hoshaw, Josh Hays and Mike Warwick hit home runs, with Hoshaw, Rich Zehr, Kevin Alambra, Frank Hendry all tallying extra-bag hits. Hays, Warwick and Hendry were credited with 3 RBI apiece, Hoshaw with 2 and Alambra with 1.

Against Wilder in another 5 inning game, Hoshaw pitched 4 innings, striking out 13 and collecting his 5<sup>th</sup> win of the season. Trent Galloway came on in relief.

Hays and Hendry hit home runs, Uranga and Mike Welmer smacked triples, and Alambra and Hoshaw hit two doubles each. Alambra was 4-4 at the plate, collecting 4 RBI for the day.

**Reenactment of crowning of HHS Jr.-Sr. Prom**

Jeremy Elliott, junior class president at Homedale High School, reenacted for the camera his crowning of Marci Carlston as Queen of the HHS Junior-Senior Prom held April 20 at the Nampa Civic Center. Chris Lemrick, scepter in hand, was crowned Prom King at the event. Both Carlston and Lemrick are seniors. Her parents are Joe and Dani Aman. His parents are Herb and Linda Lemrick.

**“Flags of Freedom” is a festival theme**

Marsing’s 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Festival sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce will be held Saturday, May 18 at the Marsing City Park. This year’s theme will be “Flags for Freedom” in honor of current and past soldiers of war with a special tribute to Herb Phipps, the oldest Marsing vet.

**Marsing Athletic Round-up**

**GIRLS SOFTBALL** – The Huskies had a long, productive week beginning with a 7-6 win over New Plymouth Monday night and an upset 10-8 victory over undefeated Fruitland on Tuesday. Coach Janet Cooney didn’t feel her squad played up to par Wednesday night despite a 14-11 win over Wilder and the toll of a long week was even more apparent as Homedale put a stop to the Huskies’ winning streak by defeating them 16-4 on Friday. Marsing still retains a good WIC record of 5-2 while Homedale is 4-3 for the league.

**BOYS BASEBALL** – While the girl Huskies were ending a winning streak Friday night the boys were chalking up a 10-5 win against Fruitland. Coach Labbe credited pitcher Benji Bowers for a great effort as Bowers only allowed one earned run and struck out seven players making the Huskies 3-8 for the season. Chad Showalter also hit the first home run for the season.

## 50 years ago

April 28, 1966

### Two Youths in stolen pickup arrested here Monday

Two youths who reportedly stole a pickup truck in Fallon, Nev., and drove away from a filling station in Jordan Valley, Ore., without paying for a tank of gasoline were arrested here Monday after a 56-mile chase over highway 95.

Arrested at about 11:30 a.m. by Paul Whaley, Homedale policeman, were Larry H. Williams, 19, and Donald S. Smith, 18. Williams told authorities he was from California, and Smith listed his place of residence as Montana.

**Chased in Pickup**

After the two youths drove away from the filling station in Jordan Valley, Malheur County Deputy Sheriff Ronnie Mallea and former Deputy Marvin Wilson, who picked up Mallea, chased the stolen vehicle into Idaho with Wilson’s pickup. The chase was at speeds up to 80 miles per hour, according to Mallea and Wilson.

Marsing Policeman Bert Spencer was summoned by radio in an attempt to stop the youths at the Highway 95 junction but he arrived at the junction too late to halt them.

The stolen pickup’s description and license number was then relayed by radio to Homedale.

Whaley spotted the pickup pulling into Owyhee Motor Sales, so he wheeled his patrol car into the garage driveway behind it and arrested the two youths. The stolen pickup had a flat tire, Whaley said.

**C of C hears report on cleanup week, plans for park**

Ray Pershall, 1965 Idaho Grassman of the Year, and Ed Mink, Owyhee County Agent, both of Marsing, were guests at the regular semi-monthly meeting of the Homedale Chamber of Commerce Tuesday noon at Biacandi’s.

A Grassman tour will be conducted to the Pershall range on South Mountain in June.

Don Shaffer reported on the successful cleanup drive conducted last week, sponsored by the city and three organizations, the Chamber, Kiwanis and Jaycees.

He thanked those who participated in the early-morning effort at 5 o’clock Saturday morning when alleys and vacant lots were cleared of trash and rubbish.

Membership window cards were distributed to those who are conducting the membership drive. A discussion was held on the Blue Card plan for checking on solicitors within the city.

The spring boat regatta has been re-scheduled for May 15, it was reported. Plans are to rope off the area next to the boat docks that day so that cars will be parked away from the unloading ramp. Help will be needed to set posts to furnish seating. Concrete blocks and cement needed to install restrooms at the boat docks will be donated as soon as sewer lines are available at the site, it was learned.

A plan has been submitted to the Bureau of Reclamation asking help of boys at the Marsing Job Corps camp in carrying out improvements at the Riverside Park.

**Philip E. Batt to seek state Senate nomination**

Philip E. Batt, Wilder farmer and businessman, today announced his candidacy for state Senator from District No. 11.

Batt, a Republican, was a member of the 38<sup>th</sup> Session of the Idaho Legislature serving in the House of Representatives on the Revenue and Taxation and Economic Affairs Committees.

He is 39 years old, is married and has three school-age children.

**Glenn Nichols named to the Nat’l Honor Society**

Glenn Nichols has been elected to membership in Phi Kappa Phi, National Honor Society, by the University of Idaho chapter of Moscow. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Wade Nichols, Homedale, and a Homedale High School graduate.

Selection was in recognition of his superior academic accomplishment and made from students in the upper one-tenth of the student body. Glenn, a junior, has a grade-point average above 3.6.

## 140 years ago

April 29, 1876

THE PRESIDENT has vetoed the bill providing for the reduction of the Presidential salary from \$50,000 to \$25,000 at the close of the present term. His reasons for this course are that the smaller amount is inadequate to the proper maintenance of the dignities of the position; that the salary was fixed at the sum when the country was sparsely populated, and that the growth of the country and circumstances generally justify the necessity for the increased salary. This line of reasoning may be consistent, but it is well known that some of President Grant’s immediate predecessors in office got along very comfortably on a salary of \$25,000 and laid up a considerable portion of that amount. We believe the dignity of the office can be well supported on such a compensation.

**SALUTATORY** – Changes which have been recently brought about in the career of the Avalanche justify a brief announcement to its readers. Our respected senior, with whom we have for more than a year been pleasantly associated in the journalistic harness, takes his departure soon for a more genial clime and the management of the paper and the new programme devolves upon the undersigned. During our sojourn in this Territory we have been brought to contact, more or less, with its people in the leading towns and mining camps, with whom the establishment of pleasant business relations and the many encouraging words spoken by them have proved a source of great satisfaction to us. We found it a pleasant task to be engaged in the work of building up a journal, which was everywhere recognized as doing her service in aiding to develop the interests of the Territory, and in the continuance of that work, we desire now to devote our best energies as hitherto. We shall greatly miss the companionship of the gentleman whose name has stood at the head of these columns and which has been as a household word in the country, not only from his many years services in conducting this journal, but, as well, from the trying times through which he has passed when the Territory was in its infancy and brave pioneers everywhere encountered dangers that stout hearts and strong arms only could battle with successfully. A new comer as we were, and believing that there was and still is a glorious future in store for Idaho, we have labored during our short career in journalism here to make the Avalanche a continued success and believe that our labors have not been in vain. We look to its numerous friends for a continuance of that support hither to so generously bestowed. On our part no efforts shall be spared looking to the consummation of the good work so auspiciously begun by this journal. The advocacy of whatever pertains to the advancement of the interests of our young and promising Territory shall be with us the foremost consideration. This is our starting point and we shall aim to make the paper a welcome visitor, upon such a basis as this, to every family in the Territory. The Avalanche will be the organ of no sect, function or party. As a journal conducted in the interests of the whole people, it will be, as far as our efforts can make it, a faithful and honest exponent of sound principles, denouncing corruption, fraud, dishonesty and rascality. We seek not the humiliating position incident to such a discharge of editorial labors as would countenance any fear to expose dishonest deeds at the hands of public officials. With a decided leaning towards independence in journalism, combined with an experience of some twenty years in a profession that we have a natural liking for and a desire to be of service to our fellow men by acting justly towards all, we hope to meet with favoring breezes on every hand. We hope, also, to be able to witness soon the dawn of a brighter era in the mining affairs of many sections of the Territory, and promise that so soon as business circumstances shall warrant, an increased issue of the Avalanche beyond that of a weekly, believing that the time may soon arrive to warrant improvements we hope to inaugurate. J. S. Hay



Commentary

Baxter Black, DVM

On the edge of common sense  
Lost (in Owyhee)



A source of pride amongst cowboys is knowin’ the lay of the land.  
And any poor fool that gets lost they figger ain’t much of a hand!

They said, “We’ll all meet at Bull Crick!” Then looked at me like a trainee!  
“Draw me a map and I’ll find it! Columbus had nothin’ on me!”

Daylight broke into my windshield, headed south and loaded for bear.  
I turned at the Grasmere station I should’a shot myself right there!

Nothin’ was like they described it, no mailbox where it should be,  
No coyote hide on the fence post, now where’s Mary’s Crick s’posed to be?

Their map showed tourist attractions including, I swear, Noah’s Ark!  
Little ol’ tricklin’ Sheep Creek was wider than Yellowstone Park!

I crossed the Cow and the Horse Crick and cricks named for Nickels and Dimes  
Through Nit Crick, Louse Crick and Crab Crick, Crossed Willer Crick twenty-eight times!

I drove demented and crazy! A’chasin’ my tail like a dog!  
Coursing through desert and mountain, brush thicket and cattail bog!

Fighting back panic, I’m thinkin’, “I could die and never be found!  
Worse yet, I’ll look like a gunsel who can’t find his way outta town!”

Harold was the boss of the truckers. I figgered he might set me right.  
So, I called him up on the two-way and explained my desperate plight.

He said, “Describe yer surroundings.” I looked for a landmark somewhere.  
“Ain’t nothin’ but rocks and sagebrush!” He said, “Sonny, yer almost there!”

— 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 Gateway to nowhere



Sometimes it takes a big effort for the small guy to make his point against the big guy.  
Involvement is the heartbeat of success and progress in small communities and — as it turns out — counties with small populations.  
The scores of people who turned out for Thursday’s Gateway West public meeting in Murphy may be one of the few positives that are visible right now for Owyhee County citizens.  
County folks can’t be blamed if they have a David vs. Goliath complex when it comes to dealings with the federal government. To paraphrase “Catch-22” author Joseph Heller, it’s not paranoia if they really are out to get you. And, based on some of the Bureau of Land Management’s moves in recent years, one can’t blame Owyheean for packing a hefty dose of paranoia in their satchels.  
Nearly 80 percent of the vast county is controlled by either the BLM or the Idaho Department of Lands.  
To some looking at that public-to-private ratio, the Owyhee County landowner would be a mere speck in an ocean of sagebrush. A beetle under the boot of a traveler who roams the West with a skewed idea of what the landscape he is only visiting should look like or how it should be utilized.  
Unfortunately, based on the majority of its dealings, the BLM seemingly has taken exactly that view of Owyheean: Insignificant, miniscule and of little consequence in the grand scheme.  
From reducing grazing in the Owyhee Field Office to siting the Gateway West 500-kilovolt electrical transmission line to closing a mile of road through the

Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area, federal officials have paid little to no attention to the folks who are closest to the ground in question.  
Lest we paint every federal official with a broad brush, it must be noted that county folks often do have the ear of local BLM reps.  
But the hearing isn’t so good in Washington D.C.  
Unfortunately, BLM’s national office is the epicenter for the majority of decisions that rankle ranchers and reverberate through the county’s coffee shops and public meetings and shake cattlemen and commissioners to the core with fear for the future of Owyhee County.  
Locals blame the D.C. office for the mess that has been regurgitated regarding Gateway West.  
Despite then-BLM Boise District manager Jim Fincher’s assertion to the contrary at the outset of the process, months of work by the district’s Resource Advisory Council’s Gateway West siting subcommittee was ignored when the national office didn’t follow the consensus recommendation that the Owyhee County portion of the 1,100-mile power line should be co-located with an existing electrical line through the Snake River Birds of Prey NCA.  
Instead, the draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Segments 8-9 put forth co-preferred alternative routes that threatened now pristine sage-grouse habitat and encroached on private farmground.  
By selecting the co-preferred routes — Alternatives 2 and 5 — as the focal point for the public comment period,

— See *Gateway*, Page 9B

Sen. Mike Crapo

From Washington Work continues to improve VA’s mission for veterans



Many veterans in Idaho share a need to be able to use local health care providers more easily, especially for specialty care. In this column, I outline efforts to improve veterans’ access to local health care providers through the Veterans Choice Program (VCP) and similar programs.  
The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has several programs that allow veterans to receive care in the community, or “non-VA care.” The VCP is one of these programs that is intended to allow veterans to receive care in the community as an alternative to long travel distances and wait times. Instead of working as intended, the program frequently causes additional hassle for veterans, VA employees and providers.  
Idahoans shared with me their VCP challenges through my town meetings and my 2015 Veterans Survey. Many people wanted to know why the VA could not go back to utilizing its other non-VA care programs outside of the VCP. In fact, 42 percent of the respondents to my 2015 survey said that their experiences with the VCP were “dissatisfying” or worse. I have taken their feedback very seriously and have worked to come up with a solution that makes it easier for veterans to use the VCP in the way it was intended.  
In March, I joined several senators in introducing S. 2646, the Veterans Choice Improvement Act of 2016. This bill seeks to fix many of the problems plaguing the VCP and the other non-VA care programs. Currently, the VCP and non-VA programs compete against each other. They have different reimbursement rates and different levels of red tape. S. 2646 consolidates the non-VA care programs into one program with one reimbursement rate and one set of governing rules. This consolidation makes the program

more transparent and accountable because it will be easier to see how the VA is managing its non-VA care resources. This change will also make it easier for veterans, providers and the VA to get veterans into the community for care.  
S. 2646 would also make it easier for non-VA care providers to enter into agreements with the VA to provide medical care and services by changing the legal mechanisms the VA has at its disposal. The VA will be able to enter into provider agreements, called Veterans Care Agreements, which will allow the VA to respond to local needs for specialty care. Additionally, the bill sets strict reimbursement timing standards to address hesitation by non-VA medical providers to work with the VA because of the VA’s past failures to reimburse in a timely manner. Overall, S. 2646 would make it easier for those who have honorably served our nation to receive the medical benefits they require. Should this legislation become law, I will continue to count on the input of Idaho’s veterans to let me know if the changes brought about by this measure are having a meaningful impact or if there are new problems that must be addressed.  
I will continue working on all fronts, including legislatively and directly with veterans and the VA, to fix the problems veterans encounter in obtaining quality medical services as we change the VA into the system our veterans deserve.

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



# Commentary

## Financial management

### Keep your financial edge: Never buy a new car

**Dear Dave,**  
My wife and I are following your plan, and we're in the middle of the Baby Steps. Do we have to wait until Baby Step 7 to buy a new car?

— Alan

**Dear Alan,**  
No, you don't have to drive a beater until you pay off your house. My advice is to drive the minimum car you can until you get past the first three steps. Remember, Baby Step 1 is a beginner emergency fund of \$1,000. Baby Step 2 is paying off all debt except for your house, then Baby Step 3 is fully funding your emergency fund with three to six months of expenses.

Once you've done all that, then you can move up to a nice car. I didn't say move up to a *new* car. I want you to save up cash and get a really nice, barely used car. I never advise buying a brand-new car unless you have a net worth of at least \$1 million. At that point, you've got enough assets in place to where you won't even feel the massive hit in depreciation that comes with buying a new vehicle.

But until then, drive good used cars. That's what the typical millionaire did, and I want you to model your financial behavior after people who are in the position you want to be in some day!

— Dave



**DAVE Says**  
by Dave Ramsey • [www.davesays.org](http://www.davesays.org)

**Dear Garrett,**  
I'm glad you're thinking about the future. But this is not my favorite idea, because you could end up with a loan.

In business, one of the things we look at is return on investment. If I can go to one place where tuition's \$34,000 a year, but I could go to another place that's in-state

for about \$7,000, the question becomes this: Am I going to get a five times better education — or is my income going to be five times greater — by going to the expensive school? I think most of us who have been walking around a while would say no.

Your income will not be based on where you went to school, and it won't necessarily even be based on your grade-point average. It will be based on your ability to take what you learned into the marketplace, kill something and drag it home. This has as much, if not more, to do with your initiative, your perseverance, character qualities and integrity as where you went to school.

One of the great jokes in America today is that *where* you go to school matters. Some places may have better programs in certain areas than others, but is this particular college — which I'm guessing isn't a prestige school, since you didn't mention the name — five times better than a solid in-state school like Arkansas State or the University of Arkansas? No, it's not.

I don't think you're going to get a return on your investment overall in this picture, Garrett. Add to that this little student loan nuance, and the fact that they're not giving you enough “free money” to make this a good deal, I would have to say don't do it.

— Dave

— Dave Ramsey is America's trusted voice on money and business, and CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored five New York Times best-selling books. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 11 million listeners each week on more than 550 radio stations and digital outlets. Dave's latest project, EveryDollar, provides a free online budget tool. Follow Dave on Twitter at @DaveRamsey and on the web at [daveramsey.com](http://daveramsey.com).

## Americans for Limited Government

### Iran nuke deal helps decimate oil market, weakens economy

by Robert Romano

The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) still couldn't come to terms with cutting oil production during its latest meeting in Doha, Qatar.

This, despite months-long low demand for crude oil amid a weakening global economy that has led to a dramatic correction in oil prices — dropping more than 62 percent from its June 2014 high of about \$107 per barrel to its current level of about \$41 per barrel. Prices inched up after the meeting, but only because of a Kuwaiti labor strike that cut supply.

Before the strike, crude oil inventories hit another record on April 8 at 536.5 million barrels, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

The hang-up? U.S. and European sanctions against Iran have now been lifted thanks to the Iran nuclear deal, and now Tehran is saying that it intends to increase production, not decrease it. It is still trying to recover market share.

You can thank President Barack Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry, who foisted the deal upon the world in the first place. Now Tehran is hell-bent on flooding world oil markets even as prices are crashing.

To a certain extent, one can be relatively thankful that OPEC is in such disarray. After all, oil and thus gasoline prices are lower, right?

On the other hand, the nuclear agreement does nothing to stop Iranian enrichment of uranium, risking a nuclear arms race in the Middle East, the most volatile region in the world. When the agreement was reached in July, Saudi diplomats said the deal immediately green-lights initiating their own nuclear program.

So, not only is the agreement destabilizing the global economy, it is also destabilizing regional security.

Just one more reason to hate the Iran nuclear deal.

Certainly, Iran can produce as much or as little oil as it pleases, but the fact that the agreement reached between the Obama administration and Tehran is now playing a role in the global oil collapse — which is hurting U.S. producers, particularly shale, big-time — is undeniable. The irony is just too rich to ignore.

In the meantime, members of Congress continue to pretend they had nothing do with it when in fact it was Congress that overwhelmingly authorized the nuclear agreement via H.R. 1191.

The law provided that “any measure of statutory sanctions relief by the United States pursuant to an agreement [with Iran]... may be taken, consistent with existing statutory requirements for such action, if, following the period for review provided... there is not enacted any such joint resolution” by Congress disapproving of the deal.

The period of review was 60 days. Meaning, when Sept. 17, 2015 came and went, and Congress failed to disapprove the agreement, the Iran nuclear deal was sanctified by law. The next president will more or less be stuck with it.

And the next president will be stuck with the continued weakness in the U.S. and global economy, of which OPEC's failure to respond to sinking oil demand — in China, for example — plays a role.

The longer it takes oil producers to figure out they are producing too much to reach demand, the greater the final washout in oil prices and investors may end up being. The rest of the economic fallout will simply be collateral damage.

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

## ✓ Gateway: BLM puts no value in local input regarding line siting

From Page 8B

the BLM has wasted RAC volunteers' time and diminished the route eyed by Idaho Power and Rocky Mountain Power, the companies doing the work.

More importantly, the BLM's insistence on the co-preferred alternatives discounts local citizens' opinions and ignites the potential for a series of federal court battles with environmental groups worried about new threats siting the power line on the outskirts of important sage-grouse habitat would create.

Meanwhile, Idaho Power's completion schedule of between 2019 and 2024 seems as far away as the concepts of shuttles to Mars and common sense in government.

## Letter to the editor

### District 23B: Blanksma will look out for Owyhee values

As our federal, state and local elections draw near, it is imperative that we ensure that our elected officials take with them, the strong, conservative values that we hold in our county. Not only do they need to support our values and way of life, they have to be able and willing to seek out resolutions to issues that we face.

As we have met with many candidates at every level of government in the past months, it has become clear that we especially need to bring that drive and energy back into our representation in District 23B. We were fortunate to meet Megan Blanksma. After meeting with Megan one-on-one, we discovered that she is committed to keeping the federal regulators out of our state, maintaining our personal freedoms and has an understanding of the agricultural

ranching and rural way of life we value. We were most impressed with Megan's desire to fully educate herself about a topic before committing to an opinion.

Although she farms in both Elmore and Owyhee County with her husband and family, Megan has been attending meetings with Owyhee County Commissioners and the Bureau of Land Management. Being a representative for the entire district is important to her, and she has taken the initiative to be involved and actively engage our county elected officials. This coalition is necessary with state officials to preserve our Owyhee County values and freedom.

We are honored to support Megan Blanksma for District 23B.

Kelly and Robin Aberasturi, Homedale



# Public notices

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO OWYHEE COUNTY ORDINANCE, Section 5-3-1; regarding the permissible hours for access and use of the Jump Creek Recreation site**

NOTICE IS HEREBY PROVIDED that on Monday, May 23, 2016 at the hour of 10:00 am, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, at the Owyhee County Courthouse, Courtroom No. 2, Murphy, ID, the Owyhee County Board of Commissioners will call for public comment the proposed amendment of Owyhee County Ordinance, Section 5-3-1 and sub-sections. The proposed amendments, in pertinent part, specifies the permissible hours for public access and use of the Jump Creek Recreation site, Owyhee County; rather than the prohibited usage of the site between sunet and sunrise, as presently provided.

The proposed amendment to the Owyhee County Ordinance, in pertinent part, set forth below in **bold type** provides ---

**5-3-1 J U M P C R E E K RECREATIONAL SITE**

A. Hours Restricted: It shall be unlawful for any person to be within the area known as Jump Creek recreation site, otherwise described as T2N, R5W section 27, SE ¼ SW ¼ NW ¼, S ½ SE ¼ NW ¼, E ½ NW ¼ SW ¼, W ½ NE ¼ SW ¼, NE ¼ NE ¼ SW ¼ in Owyhee County, Idaho, ~~between sunset and sunrise on any day of the year~~ before and /or after the specified hours on the months referenced herein below, to-wit:

**Spring, Summer and Fall hours:** April 1<sup>st</sup> through October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, 6:00am through 9:00pm.

**Winter hours:** October 2<sup>nd</sup> through March 30<sup>th</sup> of each year; 8:00am through 6:00pm  
4/27;5/4,11,18/16

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS CASE NO. CV-2016-0919 IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF OWYHEE**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF William Burton Wright, Decedent.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Guy Heath Kennedy has been appointed personal representative of the estate of the above-named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent or the estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or said claims will

**REQUEST FOR BID**

The Eastern Owyhee Cooperative Weed Management Area Steering Committee is requesting bids for chemicals to be used in noxious weed control.

<b>Product</b>	<b>Package Size</b>
Basecamp	1 Gallon
Basecamp	2.5 Gallon
Garlon 4 Ultra	2.5 Gallon
Insist 90	2.5 Gallon
Opensight	20 Ounce
Perspective	20 Ounce
R-11	QT
R-11	1 Gallon
R-11	2.5 Gallon
Syltac	QT
Syltac	1 Gallon
Syltac	2.5 Gallon
Telar	Any
Glyphosate (Roundup) LV6	2.5 gallon jugs /Brand & Generic
Broncmax	

The lowest acceptable bid will be awarded the contract, the bid is not to exceed, \$57,000.00. Bids must be sent by email to: Rayola\_1@msn.com Bids will be accepted until 5:00 p.m., May 13th, 2015. The bid opening will take place May 17th at 6:00 p.m., in Bruneau, Idaho at the Idaho Power Company, Jacks Creek Facility. Notice of winning bid will be provided by May 20th to applicants. For questions or information contact: Rayola Jacobsen, email Rayola\_1@msn.com ; by phone: (208) 338-0019 or cell: (208) 249-0234. By mail, 248 E Bayview Ct., Boise, Idaho 83706.  
4/27;5/4/16

be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to the Personal Representative of the estate, at SHERER & WYNKOOP, LLP, P.O. Box 31, Meridian, Idaho 83680, or filed with the Clerk of the Court showing service upon the Personal Representative.

DATED this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016.

SHERER & WYNKOOP. LLP  
Stephen T. Sherer, of the firm  
4/27;5/4,11/16

**THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN FILED TO APPROPRIATE THE PUBLIC WATERS OF THE STATE OF IDAHO:**

57-11873, KATHLEEN SMITH, RICK SMITH, 5133 ROBISON RD, MARSING, ID 83639

Point of Diversion NESW S7 T02N R04W OWYHEE County Source UNNAMED DRAIN Tributary JUMP CREEK

Use: STOCKWATER  
10/01 to 04/15 0.05 CFS  
Total Diversion: 0.05 CFS  
Date Filed: 12/28/2015  
Place of Use: STOCKWATER  
T 02N R 04 W S 7 NESW L3(NWSW)

Source locally known as I.O.N. drain.

57-11867, KENTON DIRKS, 33386 MUD FLAT RD, GRAND VIEW, ID 83624

Point of Diversion SENE S3 T06S R03E OWYHEE County Source GROUND WATER  
Use: STOCKWATER 01/01 to

12/31 0.09 CFS  
Total Diversion: 0.09 CFS  
Date Filed: 9/15/2015  
Place of Use: STOCKWATER

T06S R03E S3 L2(NWNE) SWNE SENE L3(NENW) SENW

2-10515, GEM IRRIGATION DISTRICT, PO BOX 67, HOMEDALE, ID 83628

Point of Diversion L5(NWSE) S32 T04N R05W OWYHEE County Source SNAKE RIVER Tributary COLUMBIA RIVER  
Use: IRRIGATION 03/01 to 11/15 26 CFS

Total Diversion: 26 CFS  
Date Filed: 6/19/2015  
Place of Use: Irrigation use is for applicant's service area.

Total Acres: 22,603

Permits will be subject to all prior water rights. For additional information concerning the property location, contact Western Region office at (208) 334-2190; or for a full description of the right(s), please see www.idwr.idaho.gov/WaterManagement/WaterRights. Protests may be submitted based on the criteria of Idaho Code § 42-203A. Any protest against the approval of the application(s) must be filed with the Director, Dept. of Water Resources, Western Region, 2735 Airport Way, Boise ID 83705 together with a protest fee of \$25.00 for each application on or before 5/9/2016. The protestant must also send a copy of the protest to the applicant.

GARY SPACKMAN, Director  
4/20,27/16

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**Building lot for sale,** well, irrigation, utilities on property, fenced, 2904 Sagebrush Lane, Homedale. \$39,500. 208-649-5466

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

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**1 bdrm apartment** in Marsing. All utilities included in rent. Direct TV, internet, fridge, range, dishwasher, garbage disposal, washer/ dryer included. \$695/mo. \$300/dep. References & credit check. 208-850-2456

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

### YARD SALE

**Multi-famiy yard sale.** Friday & Saturday 8am. Rain or shine. 3695 Cemetery Rd in Marsing.

**Saturday, April 30th 8-3** Refrigerator-freezer, sofa, recliner, lovely bakers rack, TV stand, washer/ dryer, queen bed & dresser, kids toys, lots of household items, too much to list. Something for everyone. 24839 Hoskins Rd. Follow signs off of Homedale Rd.

**Tentique Sale.** Oldies but goodies. Home decor, vintage, as well as project pieces. Friday, April 29th 8am-5pm & Saturday, April 30th 8am-2pm. 100 N 4th St E, Homedale (across from baseball field). Weather permitting!

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# Classifieds!



Sports

Homedale athletes get two victories at 3A SRV meet

Eva Symms racks up a pair of runner-up finishes in throws

Victories from Richard Symms and Lainey Johnson led Homedale High School's effort at the conference track and field meet in Fruitland. Symms won the boys' discus with a distance of 145 feet, 6½ inches, and Johnson turned in a winning time of 1 minute, 4 seconds in the girls' 400-meter run.

Sophomore Eva Symms was runner-up in both girls' throws. She reached 33-10 in the shot put, and heaved the discus 106-8½. Junior Jacob Furlott was runner-up in the boys' 100-meter run, at 11.57 seconds. Homedale's boys' 4x200 relay team finished second in 1:35.31. The 4x100 relay was third in 46.58, and the 4x400 quartet



Richard Symms

was fourth in 3:49.26. Sophomore Max Mertz went 38-1 for third in the boys' triple jump. Josh Tolmie crossed the line in 54.73 to finish fourth in the boys' 400. Johnson finished third in the girls' sprints. She ran a 13.55 to nip teammates Carlie Sawyer (fourth) and Lexie Doss (fifth) in the 100. Johnson



Lainey Johnson

finished the 200 in 27.96, and Sawyer was fifth in 28.12. Senior Maya Correa grabbed fifth in the 3,200 meters, running in 14:58.78. Homedale's girls' 4x100 relay team was third in 53.36. Trojans seniors were fourth in the throws. Elizabeth Vargas' 31-10½ effort came in the shot put, while Maddie Conant went 92-10 in the discus. Junior Carli Swallow was fifth in the discus in 89-6. Sophomore Ashley Burks finished third in the girls' triple jump (32-3¾) and fifth in the long jump (15-5).

Huskies achieve personal records at WIC outing

Senior Alexandre Heidt's long jump championship highlighted a slew of top-10 finishes by Marsing High School athletes at the Western Idaho Conference track and field meet. Ten athletes established personal records during last Wednesday's meet at Dave Mangum Track in Melba, according to first-year Huskies coach Steven Morton. Heidt's 19-foot, 4½-inch winning distance in the long jump highlighted the best day of any individ-

ual Marsing athlete. He finished third in the shortest sprints, clocking 11.53 seconds in the 100 meters and 23.88 in the 200. Teammate Tre Ponce was 10th in the 200 (24.83). A junior, Ponce was eighth in the



Alexandre Heidt

400 in 56.75 seconds. Junior Sam Galligan finished third in the shot put with a 38-4 effort, and he finished seventh in the discus (98-0). Marsing's slew of sophomore distance runners began to hit their stride, too.



Sam Galligan

A week after a personal record in the 1,600 meters, Landry Villa posted a career-fastest 3,200 with a fifth-place time of 11 minutes, 59.8 seconds. Matthew Lee was less than three seconds behind Villa, and Dalton



Chloe Ramirez

Withers was seventh in 12:40.5. Withers was sixth in the 1,600 at 5:26.87, and Villa finished eighth in 5:30.06. Lee finished eighth in the 800 in 2:28.53. Italian exchange student Giorgia Comin finished sixth in the girls' 100-meter hurdles in 19.38. Freshman Chloe Ramirez burst on the scene in the girls' throws. She was seventh in the discus with an effort of 69 feet, 1 inch. She was 10th in the shot put at 22-3.

✓ Softball: Dakota Kelly continues to do damage with bat, pitching arm

From Page 1B during the uprising, which featured two singles from Nash and base hits by Machuca, Sophie Nash, Shanley, Faith Jacobson and Kelly. The 10-run rally gave the Trojans a 15-0 advantage, but Weiser cut into that lead with five runs in the bottom of the frame. Kelly, who was 3-for-4, allowed one hit in the first three innings to get the win. Corta pitched two innings of relief. Aberasturi also tripled and scored on Machuca's groundout in the second inning. Jacobson collected a pair of RBI.



Shown swinging the bat in less hospitable conditions earlier this year at Sundance Park, Makayla Aberasturi was pounding the softball again last week for Homedale High School.

✓ Baseball: Trojans' bats awaken in time for regular-season stretch drive

From Page 1B in dominant fashion in its next at-bat. Twenty-five batters visited the plate in the massive rally. John Collett was 3-for-3 with three doubles in the inning, and Matt Thatcher ripped a bases-loaded triple. Collett was 4-for-5 with a career-high eight RBI, while Thatcher knocked in five runs. Taylor and Wyatt Dorsey drove in two runs each, while Jesse Packer was 1-for-3 with a double,

an RBI and a three runs scored. Johnson scored five runs, and Collett and Taylor crossed the plate three times each. Thursday: Ontario, Ore. 12, Homedale 11 — The Trojans scored four runs in the bottom of the fifth inning at Jackson Field, but couldn't complete the comeback in a high-scoring game. Ontario led, 9-5, after two innings. The Tigers took advantage of eight Homedale errors, scoring only four earned runs.

Taylor managed only a single in four trips to the plate, but he knocked in four runs for the Trojans. He laced a two-run single in the bottom of the first inning, drove in a run with a grounder and also drew a bases-loaded walk. Collett was 2-for-3 with two RBI, and Connor Carter scored three runs. Mike Mejia was 3-for-4 with a double and three runs scored for Ontario, while teammate Javier Trejo was 1-for-4 with three RBI.

Carter pitched only one inning with Trojans teammate Jake Deal pitching six innings in relief. April 19: Homedale 11, Weiser 4 — After a string of close games, the Trojans broke through at Walter Johnson Field for a conference victory on the road. Wyatt Dorsey cleared the bases with a third-inning double to fuel the first of the Trojans' two four-run rallies. Four players — Collett, Taylor, Jake Deal and Matt Thatcher

— collected three hits apiece as Homedale notched a season-high 17 hits. All but Dorsey's double were singles. Collett endured Weiser's three-run fourth inning to pick up his fourth victory of the season, while Connor Carter allowed only an unearned run over the final 3 2/3 innings for the save. Taylor knocked in runs with two of his singles, and Jake Deal ripped a base hit to chase in Collett and Taylor with no outs in the sixth inning.



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