

# The Owyhee Avalanche

VOL. 33, NO. 25 75 CENTS

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2018

## Library building expenses going up

The Homedale Public Library expansion project will cost more than originally estimated.

Mike Aebischer, a city councilman and a former library board member, revealed during last Wednesday's city council meeting that a rise in construction costs apparently will add about \$60,000 (or more than 14 percent) to the price tag for the new 3,600-square-foot addition.

— See *Library*, page 4

## Assessor: Check property notices

New software may have dropped exemptions

Owyhee County homeowners have received new-look assessment notices, and officials want them to call if they don't see an exemption on the form.

"On rolling out this new system, we noticed that it had randomly dropped homeowners exemptions on some parcels," Assessor Toni Gruenwald said.

The assessor's office and treasurer's office are part of a state-funded pilot program to replace the antiquated AS400

— See *Property*, page 5



### Leaping lizards

#### at the Homedale library

*Above:* A group of children hold up Ruckus, a Burmese python, during the Libraries Rock! summer reading program on Thursday at the Homedale Public Library. Ruckus measures about 12 feet long but, according to Tyler Messina (left) of Reptile Adventures, she will be about 20 feet long and weigh nearly 200 pounds when mature.

*Left:* Messina shows off a young alligator.

*Right:* Allie Bell tries her hand at handling the gator.



## Rezone opens door for new business in Marsing

### Council decides to sell Simpkin Lane property

The Marsing City Council held two public hearings last Wednesday at City Hall.

The first hearing concerned the re-zoning from residential to commercial property owned by Harvey and Patricia Grimme at 111 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. W.

Potential buyer for the property, Tim Steele, made an appearance to discuss his business. Idaho Tote has been

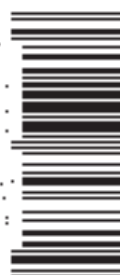
operating in the Lewiston area, and Steele wishes to relocate to Marsing.

Steele claimed there are two buildings on the property that have been used for commercial purposes. One of the buildings was built in the 1970s and a second, which is

planned for demolition, was built in the 1950s.

The principal purpose of the property will be to house Steele's business, which builds "extensions of motor coach, fifth-wheel or other

— See *Marsing*, page 5



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MHS grad loses home to lava, Pg. 2: Sister starts GoFundMe  
Grand View DMV closed, Pg. 2: Branch will re-open Monday  
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# Handmade bench memorializes Homedale K-9 cop

## Boy who helped with cancer benefit completes project

Hayden Garrison’s token of love and appreciation for a police dog now provides support for folks visiting Homedale’s magistrate courtroom.

The Homedale High School graduate unveiled a customized wooden bench in memory of Homedale Police K-9 officer Goose during last Wednesday’s city council meeting.

“For my senior project, I was thinking I wanted to do something for him,” the son of Tonya and Charles Garrison said, “so I thought this would be a good memorial to him and all the work he did.”

Hayden crafted the bench out of wood found in his grandfather’s backyard.

The bench, which will replace molded plastic seats near the entrance to the courtroom inside Homedale City Hall, is an extension of Hayden’s support of Goose as Officer Karl Kingston’s K-9 partner fought cancer last year.

“Goose, he did a lot of work around my school, and we lost him last year to cancer,” Hayden said.

“I wanted to do a fundraiser for him last year, and we raised over \$1,000 for him.”

Jayne Kingston, the wife of Goose’s HPD partner, presented Hayden with a photo array of Goose and the boy as a token of her appreciation for the bench.

“We want to thank Hayden for that,” Mayor Gheen Christoffersen said of the bench. “That’s an amazing, very touching memorial for Goose.”

— JPB



*Above: Hayden Garrison fights his emotions while describing the memorial bench. Left: Garrison stands with Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller, Goose’s partner Karl Kingston and Kingston’s wife, Jayne. The Kingstons presented Hayden with a token of appreciation, too.*

# Homedale Lions Club 37<sup>th</sup> Annual

# DEMOLITION DERBY

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 4 2018

### BUY YOUR TICKETS ONLINE NOW

Homedale Lions Club Facebook or Ticketbud.com



## INDEPENDENCE PARADE

Starts at 9 am - Downtown Homedale • Line up 8:30 am HHS Parking lot

## TRUCK PULL

At the Fairgrounds • Check in - 10 to Noon, Event at 1 PM

## CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT

At the Fairgrounds • 11 am - 2 pm • \$10 entry - 1st Prize \$100!

Proceeds to Benefit HHS cheerleaders and Basketball team

## DEMOLITION DERBY

Gates open at 3:30 • Mandatory Drivers meeting 4:30 • Grand Entry at 5:30

### POWER WHEELS DERBY FOR THE KIDS

### WE’VE BROUGHT BACK THE COMPACT CAR CLASS!

## FIREWORKS AFTER THE DERBY

## MANDATORY DRIVERS MEETING

Wednesday, June 20 - 7:30pm - The Bowling Alley, Homedale

To enter a car & get a rule book, call Jeremy Townsend at 337-4668  
Chester Conklin 989-2014 - Car Build Questions • Josh Love 880-8483 - Food Booths  
To place an ad in the program, call Kimber Curt 880-0667  
Parade: Ely Wass 208-991-7167 or Larry Wass 208-941-1813 • wass0401@gmail.com  
General Questions, call Will Pryor 866-2629  
“Like” Homedale Lions Club on Facebook!

# MHS grad loses home to Kilauea lava flow

## Sister starts GoFundMe page

Efforts are under way to help a former Marsing resident rebuild after lava destroyed his new Hawaiian home.

Will Caldwell, a 2003 Marsing High School graduate, bought his home on Kapoho Beach in Pahoehoe, Hawaii, four months ago, according to a GoFundMe page post by his sister, Andi Merritt Hansen.

Caldwell’s duplex was destroyed by a lava flow from the Kilauea volcano on the Big Island of Hawaii.

Caldwell has lived on the

island for five years.

According to the GoFundMe page, which folks can visit to donate, Caldwell’s insurance company informed him they wouldn’t issue new policies until after the lava flows had stopped. He had applied for insurance a week before the lava started down the volcanic mountain, according to the GoFundMe page.

Caldwell was using proceeds from an AirBnB rental of part of his home to make his mortgage payments.

People can visit <https://www.gofundme.com/wil-caldwell-lost-home-kilauea-lava> to contribute.

# Grand View DMV closed today, Thursday

The Grand View Division of Motor Vehicles branch will be closed today and Thursday.

Owyhee County Assessor Toni Gruenwald said the closure has been triggered by a lack of personnel to cover the

counter inside Grand View City Hall those two days.

City Clerk and DMV clerk Jodi Jewett is at a conference, and her backup, Lesli Hinton, isn’t available to cover the hours, Gruenwald said.

DMV offices in Murphy and Marsing will be open regular hours those two days, and the Grand View DMV office will open again on Monday.

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



# BLM sage-grouse meeting slated Thursday in Marsing

Plan changes to be outlined; public comment period open until Aug. 2

Bureau of Land Management officials will provide information and answer questions about planned sage-grouse conservation changes during a Thursday public meeting.

The first of three meetings around the state will be held at the Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center, 126 W. 2nd St. N.

All three open houses will run from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., and are designed to allow folks to drop in throughout the evening.

The BLM has developed a strategy to align federal objectives with the state sage-grouse plan, and the review of the draft Environmental Impact Statements is under way. The 90-day public comment period ends Aug. 2.

- Other meetings include:
- **Tuesday** — BLM Twin Falls District Office, 2878 Addison Ave. East
  - **Thursday, June 28** — Hilton Garden Inn, 700 Lindsay Blvd., Idaho Falls

Oral comments will not be accepted at the meetings, but computer terminals will be available for submitting written comments on-site.

## Rangeland firefighters see action outside JV

Jordan Valley’s landowners and ranchers helped battle a lightning-sparked fire.

The Jackies Butte Fire burned about 1,500 acres after a lightning storm 17 miles south-southeast of Rome, Ore., on Friday morning.

Jordan Valley Rangeland Fire Protection Association members helped Bureau of Land Management Vale District firefighters with the fire.

The fire was at 100 percent containment and smoldering by Saturday morning.

Thunderstorm winds pushed the fire through grasslands south of Rome throughout Friday, according to the BLM Vale District press release.

BLM sent four engines, a dozer and two water tenders to battle the flames.

The EIS series is comprised of draft amendments to BLM’s 2015 Greater sage-grouse plans.

In Idaho, 23 plans guiding management on 8.8 million acres of public land could be

revised under the amendments.

Plan amendments could affect up to 61 BLM land-use plans for about 53 million acres in the seven western states.

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

**A&S Lumber & Supply** 337-5588  
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8 am - 5 pm Saturday



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# ROOTED HERE

## Giving Future Farmers a Place to Grow

Monsanto’s business is grounded in growth that feeds the world, and makes sure that agriculture has a vibrant and sustainable future. So it’s fitting that Monsanto also donates funds to nurturing and growing the most important crop of all: future farmers.

For the past 20 years, Monsanto has donated to the vocational agricultural programs at southeast Idaho high schools in support of their mission to teach students the basics of horticulture and plant science.

For more information about what Monsanto is doing to support local communities, visit [Monsanto.com/community](http://Monsanto.com/community).



Thanks to Monsanto’s donations, seven southeast Idaho vocational agriculture programs have built greenhouses that ensure agricultural education can continue even in winter months.





## The Owyhee Avalanche

Your source for Owyhee County news and views since 1865

Phone (208) 337-4681 P.O. Box 97, Homedale, ID 83628 [www.theowyheecavalanche.com](http://www.theowyheecavalanche.com)







# Calendar

## Today

**Ladies Coffee Group**  
9 a.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

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

**Grand View Chamber meeting**  
5:30 p.m., Grand View Fire Station, 721 Roosevelt St., Grand View.

## Thursday

**Fit and Fall exercise**  
10:30 a.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

**Summer reading program**  
1 p.m., Homedale Public Library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228

**BLM sage-grouse public meeting**  
5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center, 126 W. 2nd St. N., Marsing.

## Friday

**Idaho Foodbank drop-off**  
9 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St. W., Homedale.

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

**Faith-based support group**  
2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Vision Community Church, 221 W. Main St., Marsing. (208) 455-3660 or songtobe@gmail.com

## Saturday

**Oreana church services**  
10 a.m., Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church, Oreana. (208) 466-7031

**Free lunch**  
Noon to 12:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St. W., Homedale. (208) 337-5419

## Monday

**Board of County Commissioners meeting**  
9 a.m., Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy. (208) 495-2421

**Faith-based support group**  
2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Homedale Friends Community Church, 17434 Hwy. 95, Wilder. (208) 455-3660 or songtobe@gmail.com

## Tuesday

**Book club**  
10 a.m., Homedale Public Library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228

**Crochet club**  
10 a.m., Homedale Public Library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228

**Fit and Fall exercise**  
10:30 a.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

## Wednesday

**Ladies Coffee Group**  
9 a.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

**County P&Z hearings**  
10 a.m., Owyhee County Courthouse Annex, 17069 Basey St., Murphy. (208) 495-2095. ext. 2

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

## Thursday, June 28

**Summer reading program**  
10 a.m., Eastern Owyhee County Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2785

**Fit and Fall exercise**  
10:30 a.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

**Homedale Chamber luncheon**  
Noon, The Bowling Alley, 18 N. 1st St. W., Homedale.

**Summer reading program**  
1 p.m., Homedale Public Library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228

## Friday, June 29

**STEM class**  
10 a.m. to noon, Eastern Owyhee County Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. Grades 5-12. (208) 834-2785

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

**STEM class**  
Noon to 2 p.m., Eastern Owyhee County Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. Adult class. (208) 834-2785

**Faith-based support group**  
2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Vision Community Church, 221 W. Main St., Marsing. (208) 455-3660 or songtobe@gmail.com

## Saturday, June 30

**Grand View Days parade**  
10 a.m., mz.katymarie@yahoo.com

**Grand View Days softball tournament**  
All day, town softball field, (208) 921-6096

**Grand View Days events**  
After parade, Centennial Park, cyndaray@hotmail.com or (208) 599-2790

**Free lunch**  
Noon to 12:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St. W., Homedale. (208) 337-5419

**Grand View Days horseshoe tournament**  
1 p.m., Centennial Park, (208) 599-0330 or (208) 834-2196

**Grand View Days Fireman’s BBQ**  
6 p.m., Lions Park

**Grand View Days scavenger hunt**  
7 p.m., Lions Park

**Grand View Days dance**  
8 p.m., Centennial Park, (208) 250-2600 or thejewetts6@gmail.com

## Sunday, July 1

**GV Days church and Lions breakfast**  
Morning, Lions Park

## Monday, July 2

**Board of County Commissioners meeting**  
9 a.m., Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy. (208) 495-2421

**Faith-based support group**  
2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Homedale Friends Community Church, 17434 Hwy. 95, Wilder. (208) 455-3660 or songtobe@gmail.com

**Adult book club**  
7 p.m., Lizard Butte Library, 111 S. 3rd Ave. W., Marsing. First monday of every month. (208) 896-4690

## Tuesday, July 3

**Fit and Fall exercise**  
10:30 a.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

# From page 1

## ✓ Property: Assessor says all instances may have been found, but double check

software system.

“The new system is great; however, we are still working out glitches,” Gruenwald said.

Gruenwald said her staff caught the problem on notices before they were mailed earlier this month, but she wants eligible homeowners to call her office if they don’t see their exemption in the “less exemptions” field on the form.

“We believe the problem was fixed; however, we are not sure we caught all of the ones that were dropped. That is why I

really want people to look at them,” Gruenwald said.

“I hate to see anyone lose this exemption for this mistake, and it would help us greatly to fix it now instead of at tax time.”

Call the assessor’s office at (208) 495-2817 to clear up on any exemption issues or if you have questions on your assessment notice.

“If (the exemption) is not there, they need to call us so we can get this fixed before we freeze the roll,” Gruenwald said.

— JPB

## ✓ Marsing: City will sell property at public auction

vehicle.” The brochure for the business claims that the items built are not trailers but are a solution for RV’ers to transport 4-wheelers and other recreational vehicles and eliminating the need for a second vehicle for transport.

Part of the fabrication of the totes involves powder coating, which would be done off-site.

Idaho Tote already rents the property from the Grimmes.

There was some conversation about whether a commercial re-zoning was appropriate or whether the property should be re-zoned to industrial, as the intended use would be for fabricating, not just sales and repair.

Ultimately it was decided that the property would be re-zoned to commercial, but the council ruled Steele would have to apply for a conditional use permit. The CUP will be decided at the council’s July 11 meeting.

The second hearing concerned the potential sale of city property located at 410 Simpkin Lane in Marsing.

As part of the discussion, the council decided that the property was not needed for city business.

The property in question will need to be made available at public auction.

City attorney Stephanie J. Bonney told council members that there were a couple ways the city could go about the sale of the property. There could be a minimum bid set for the value of the property or no minimum could be set, in which case the city would have to accept whatever bids were given.

“I recommend you set a minimum bid,” Bonney said. “If you don’t get your minimum bid from the auction process, then you can do whatever you want that you deem is in the best interest of the city.”

The city currently leases the property to AMVAC Chemical Corp., and the 2.5-acre parcel is zoned commercial/industrial.

AMVAC wants to buy the property outright. The company has operated at the property for a decade, making an annual lease payment of \$5,000 to the city.

The council voted to sell the property.

A minimum bid for the auction will be set during the council’s July meeting after comparisons to similar properties in the area have been received.

— TK

Read all about it

in

The Owyhee Avalanche

337-4681



# New county tax break policy aims to attract new businesses

## Rural Homedale rezone adopted

During its weekly meeting on June 11, the Owyhee County Board of County Commissioners voted to adopt an ordinance providing incentives for potential incoming businesses.

The ordinance, known as the Owyhee County Business Investment Incentive Ordinance of 2018, provides uniform procedures and criteria for determining tax relief incentives for potential businesses locating to Owyhee County.

The tax relief would be proportionate to the economic benefits produced by a proposed business or project.

The minimum investment to be eligible for an exemption for a project site within Owyhee County is set at \$500,000.

The ordinance also establishes the BOCC as the sole authority for determining the benefits of a proposed investment, according to public in-

formation provided by deputy county clerk Brook Russell.

The document offers a disclaimer that nothing in the ordinance should be interpreted as a creation or acknowledgment of any right or entitlement to receive a property tax exemption under Idaho code.

The ordinance states, “Because property tax incentives effectively shift the tax burden to other taxpayers, it is essential that significant benefits accrue to the public good.”

The commissioners also adopted the procedures for applications for the tax exemptions, pursuant to Idaho code and the business incentive ordinance.

### Homedale rural re-zoning finalized

On Monday, county commissioners approved new zoning in rural Homedale with Resolution 2018-18.

The new zoning map was finalized in the wake of a June 11 public hearing in Murphy.

— TK

# Obituary

## Vernita “Nita” Emily Lowry

Vernita “Nita” Emily Lowry passed away of natural causes June 16, 2018 in the presence of her husband, Bill and family. Nita was born in Redmond, Oregon on December 4, 1926 to Mary and Fay Hein. She was the second of six children. When very young, her family moved to Rumsey, Alberta where her father farmed. They moved back to Oregon and farmed in the little community of Elmira. Nita attended classes at Red Oak School. She and Winona, her older sister, looked out for their three younger brothers, keeping them safe from the older boys of the country school.

In 1940, the family moved to Prineville, where Nita attended and graduated from high school. While in school and during the summers, she worked at several different jobs. One job was being the cook’s helper at the Stearns’ Ranch where she met her husband-to-be, Bill Lowry. They married in July 1945, nearly 73 years ago! From this union came their two sons, Tim and Mike.

Tim’s family includes: his wife Rosa Maria, two daughters, Miren and Amaya, and a son Luke. Mike’s family includes: his wife Gaylene, daughters Micki and Melissa. In addition, Nita was blessed with nine great-grandchildren.

Nita grew up during the Depression of the ’30s, which



emphasized frugality, which influenced Nita’s habits for her life; especially cooking from “scratch.” She could make a wonderful meal from very little, most notably her pies and raised rolls! She loved to cook for a bunch of cowboys, who truly appreciated her tasty meals, as well as friends and “drop-ins” who were always urged to stay and eat.

The yard and garden were Nita’s special joy. The small “postage stamp”-sized garden produced a variety of vegetables all summer and fall. Trees, shrubs and flowers attracted birds large and small. She could identify most, with her well-thumbed bird book. Her favorite being the yellow “Wild Canaries” that nested in the shrub just under her kitchen window.

Up until the past two years, Nita made numerous baby quilts for the Lifeline Pregnancy Center. Many are the adults and young people of Jordan Valley who had Nita for a release time class or a Sunday

school teacher. She even filled in for the pastor a few times! Her faith was not the “Once a week go to church” variety, but 24/7 dependence and trust in Jesus, her Lord.

Before the disabling arthritis, Nita loved to ride with Bill and the boys, to work or move cattle. She was busy at brandings, helping with the calves, as well as providing a home-cooked meal with her signature strawberry pie!

On many a cold, nasty winter day, she would bundle-up to drive tractor, while Bill threw the hay off to the cows. In Heaven, I’m sure Nita’s Mansion will have a large kitchen table, ready to serve pie and coffee to her many friends.

She is survived by her husband Bill; sons and families of Tim and Mike; brothers David and Clarence “Slim” Hein; sister Karen Mackenzie, and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, sister Winona Nelson and brother Jim Hein.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, June 23, 2018 at the Jordan Valley Elementary gymnasium at 3:00 PM. A potluck dessert will follow at the St. Bernard’s Parish Hall. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations are made to Lifeline Pregnancy Center in Nampa, Idaho. Condolences can be given at [www.flahifffuneralchapel.com](http://www.flahifffuneralchapel.com)

# Graduation

## Marsing grad receives LCSC degree early



Audra Kendall

A 2015 Marsing High School graduate has earned a college degree in just three years.


Audra Kendall graduated from Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston on May 11.

The daughter of Marsing residents Barry and Heidi Kendall earned a bachelor’s degree in Psychology with a

minor in addiction studies.

Audra is granddaughter of The Owyhee Avalanche contributing photographer Dan Pease of Marsing. Her maternal grandmother, Barbara Rainey, lives out of state.

Her paternal grandparents are the late Chip and Loraine Kendall.



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**\$11.65 to \$20.05 plus \$6.50 federal end user charge for residential service, and**

**\$23.35 to \$34.85 plus \$6.50 federal end user charge for single line business service.**

These rates include unlimited calling within the defined local areas, access to 911 services, access to operator services and directory assistance, and interexchange carrier access.

Low income individuals eligible for the Lifeline and Link-up assistance programs may be eligible for discounts from these basic service rates through the Oregon and Idaho telephone assistance programs and may also receive toll call blocking service without charge.

For information on our services or to place an order for service, contact the Oregon-Idaho Utilities, Inc., business office at:

**(800) 624-0082**

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# Nevada man dies in rollover

A Nevada man was killed in a June 11 single-vehicle accident on Idaho highway 51.

Auston Jones, 29, of Owyhee, Nev., died when he was ejected from his vehicle when it rolled just after 2 p.m. near milepost 22.

Owyhee County Sheriff’s Chief Deputy Lynn Bowman said Jones was driving at an excessive speed travelling northbound when he lost control of his 2004 Chevy Silverado pickup.

A Bureau of Indian Affairs official pronounced Jones dead at the scene, Bowman said.

**Nampa man in one-vehicle truck and trailer crash**

Morgan Teel, 40, of Nampa,

damaged multiple vehicles when his truck crashed on June 11 on Idaho 45 near its junction with Idaho 78.

Teel told deputies a tire blew out on his car hauler, causing him to overcorrect and lose control of his 2004 Ford F-650. The truck and trailer both rolled over on to the driver’s side along the side of the highway.

Teel was not injured in the accident, but three vehicles he was towing were damaged, including a 2006 Dodge Ram 350, a 2001 Dodge Ram, and an ATV.

A dog riding on the trailer was killed in the accident.

No citations were issued.

— TK

# County 4-H members excel in annual oral presentations

The annual Owyhee County 4-H Oral Presentation Contest was held May 31 in Marsing and June 5 in Grand View. A total of 87 presentations were given by 4-H members, ages 5-18, in the four departments of Ag, Family Consumer Sciences (FCS) & Miscellaneous, Horse, and TV commercials.



Janelle Thompson

## Agriculture

In the Cloverbud division, ages 5-7, Maylee Astorquia of the Owyhee Silver Spurs gave a top-notch presentation titled “Different Goats for Different Folks!”

**Junior Division** — 1. Rhett Brackett, Wilson Butte 4-H, “Is This My Cow?”; 2. Tyler Thompson, Owyhee Silver Spurs; 3. Josie Showalter, Owyhee Silver Spurs.

Other Junior Division participants with mostly blue ribbons were Elsie Bachman, Cooper McKenzie, Hayden Higgins, Jayden Skinner, Kyndra Williams, Paisley Prow, Alex Williams, Jessily Vietti, Elias Jaca, Ainsley Erwin, Sierra Masmeyer, Landry Kukla, Rocky Aquiso, Kolton Jewett, Ryan Gasper, Alia Aquiso, Caelynn Short, Brody Bowers, Liam Aquiso, and Madison Magers.

**Intermediate Division** — 1. Chantry Brackett, Wilson Butte 4-H, “Is Chuck a’ Round Here?”; 2. Gene Showalter, Owyhee Silver Spurs; 3. Shailee Rutan, South Mountain Cowboys.

Other intermediate participants: Julianna Clair, Max Bearden, Hannah Moos, Cassity Gluch, Maialen Jaca, Matea Jaca, Kelsey Gluch, Kiana McFadden, Audrie Miller, Ivy Bretas, Jade Reisinger, Eli Aquiso, Taylor Gasper, Aden Aquiso, Rowdy Brown, and Makenzie Magers.

## University of Idaho Extension

**Senior Division** — 1. Josune Jaca, Wilson Butte 4-H; 2. David Cossel, Wilson Butte 4-H; 3. Lainey Keppler, Snake River Livestock.

## FCS and Misc.

Cloverbud Mackley Prow of Bruneau Canyon 4-H did an excellent job on her presentation titled “Puppy Love.”

**Junior Division** — 1. Ainsley Erwin, Bruneau Canyon 4-H, perfect score for “How to Make Deviled Eggs”; 2. Levi Loucks, Owyhee Silver Spurs, “Three Types of Soil.”

**Intermediate Division** — 1. Hannah Moos, Wilson Butte 4-H, “Oh My ... How Things Change”; 2. Shea Jensen, Barnyard Brigade; 3. Mitchell Erwin, of Bruneau Canyon 4-H

**Senior Division** — Holley Bretas of Snake River Livestock gave a wonderful presentation titled “The Origins and Influence of a Sheepdog.”

## Horse

**Jr. Division** — 1. Jessica Hipwell, Owyhee Outlaws, “Charming Horse Breeds”; 2. Emeline Hipwell, Owyhee Outlaws; 3. Claire Salutregui, Owyhee Silver Spurs; 4. Josie Showalter, Owyhee Silvers Spurs; 6. Karlee Leffler, Owyhee Sage Riders; 6. Mayleigh Carter, Owyhee Outlaws.

Other hard-working participants were Ainsley Erwin and Gracie Clay.

**Intermediate Division** — 1. Kate Hipwell, Owyhee Outlaws, “Plants to Die For”; 2. Trinity Nesser, Owyhee Sage Riders; 3. Deonna Barnard, Owyhee Sage Riders; 4. Gene Showalter, Owyhee Silver Spurs; 5. Audrie Miller, Pony Express; 6. Kaci Carter, Owyhee Outlaws.

Following closely behind were Elizabeth Whitehead, Max Bearden, Rowdy Brown

and Julianna Clair. They all did excellent!

**Senior Division** — 1. Annie Miller, Pony Express, “Who Needs Unicorns?”; 2. Fallon Wasson, Owyhee Sage Riders; 3. Montana Wasson, Owyhee Sage Riders; 4. Amber Allen, Owyhee Ruff Riders; 5. Merced Carter, Owyhee Outlaws; 6. Lauren Jensen, Barnyard Brigade.

Other senior presenters were Elizabeth Bearden, Allison Hubler, Carter Clay, Treytan Fisher and Cerar Hammock.


## TV commercials

The TV commercials were great fun to watch. Mila Astorquia and Llee Loucks from Owyhee Silver Spurs entertained us with “Idaho Milk Association” and earned first place. Following very closely behind was the Wilson Butte team of Colton Brown, Jacquelin Sotelo and Mikayla Sotelo. They presented a great commercial titled “Join 4-H!” Both teams earned blue ribbons for their hard work.

The Extension Office would like to thank the volunteer judges for their time and expertise not only in judging the presentations, but in taking the time to comment and give ideas to help the presenters improve as public speakers each year.

The awards for the contest will be presented at the 4-H Awards Ceremony on Friday, Aug. 11 at the Owyhee County Fair. Our Owyhee County youth put in hours of hard work on their Oral Presentations every year, please join us as we acknowledge their achievements.

— Janelle Thompson is the University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension 4-H coordinator. For more information, you can reach Thompson at the U of I Owyhee County Extension Office at (208) 896-4104 or [owyhee@uidaho.edu](mailto:owyhee@uidaho.edu). The office is located at 238 8th Ave. W., in Marsing.



## Reminiscing Owyhee memories

by  
Michael F. Hanley IV

# Change

I’ve always liked to work horses, but would never trade my swather for a team and mower.

After I just swathed a patch, the sickle bar would plug with mouse nests and/or come to a stop choked with “sickle grass.”

Instead, I passed through in air-conditioned comfort. So much for the good old days.

Change comes in many ways. I recall the time I was with my mother at Safeway in Caldwell.

Two Mexican ladies with a passel of little ones were passing down the aisle. Two old timers were observing. One said to the other, “They’re taking over.”

My mother whispered to me, “I wonder what the Indians thought when they saw those two?”

— Michael F. Hanley IV is a rancher, author and historian from Jordan Valley. If you have memories from Owyhee’s past and would like to share them in our Reminiscing feature, contact managing editor Jon Brown at [jon@owyheeavalanche.com](mailto:jon@owyheeavalanche.com) or (208) 337-4681, ext. 102 for more information.

# Senior menus

## Homedale Senior Center

Salad bar available with each meal:

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Milk available each day

June 20: Hot dog, chili, tater tots, carrots

June 21: Lasagna w/string beans, roll

June 26: Baked ham, macaroni & cheese, California blend veggies, roll

June 27: Baked chicken, mashed potatoes w/gravy, beets, roll

June 28: Roast pork, mashed potatoes w/gravy, peas & carrots, roll

## Rimrock Senior Center

All meals are served with milk & fruit juice

June 21: Lasagna, cauliflower & pea salad, melon, green salad, garlic bread

June 26: Korean BBQ chicken, Asian coleslaw, rice, cottage cheese, mandarin oranges, chow mien noodles, vanilla pudding

June 28: Hamburger w/bun, lettuce, onion, tomato, pickle, green salad, deviled eggs, baked beans, fresh melon, ice cream



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Jacksons rebranded

A crew from YESCO spent Monday fitting the Homedale Jacksons Food Stores location with Chevron branding, changing the long-standing affiliation with Shell. The sign was swapped out and new siding put on the awning above the fuel pumps.

Bruneau-Grand View gains new elementary principal

Northwest Nazarene graduate arrives from Kuna district

by Mandi Boren  
For The Owyhee Avalanche  
After an extensive search and interview process, Bruneau-Grand View School District trustees approved a new elementary principal last week.

Hired during the June 12 meeting, Josh Noteboom comes to the district from Kuna where he had 10 years of elementary teaching and administration experience.

The Northwest Nazarene University graduate earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in educational leadership from the Nampa college.

In his spare time, Noteboom enjoys running, hunting, hiking

and camping with his family. He loves to learn and said he "... finds great joy in celebrating success and learning with children."



Josh Noteboom

Noteboom said the thing that hooked him on the Bruneau-Grand View School District "was the synergy" that he felt from the first interview.

"I fell in love with the staff," he said.

"I am very excited to see so much of my own values represented in the work that this district is doing."

Noteboom likes the idea of working in and being a part of the small rural communities of Bruneau and Grand View.

"One of my goals this summer is to fall in love with this area. To get to know people, events

and the culture," he said. School board chair Scott McNeley told Noteboom, "We are excited to have you on board and look forward to the coming year."

According to superintendent Ryan Cantrell — whom Noteboom is succeeding in the principal position — the interview committee received 25 applications and interviewed 15 highly qualified candidates.

The district was very deliberate about what they were looking for, Cantrell said, adding that the interview committee was "focused on finding the right fit."

Previously Cantrell served as both the elementary principal and the superintendent. Last spring, the Board of Trustees approved a separate elementary principal to support the districts two elementary schools of Bruneau and Grand View.

Youth programs continue at Homedale Public Library

The Homedale Public Library will spin into action again for Story Time on Friday, reading stories and participating in craft activities.

Youth services coordinator Carol McMichael will read "Farmer Brown Goes Round and Round," written by Teri Sloat and Nadie Bernard Westcott, who also illustrated

the story. The children will create a tornado in a jar and make a farm animal craft.

During the continuation of the library's summer reading program, Libraries Rock!, the children will be learning about science in music.

Two science, technology, engineering, and math

(STEM) activities that will help the boys and girls learn about sound waves.

The youths will make spinning noise makers and ice cream in a baggie.

The library is located at 125 W. Owyhee Ave. Call (208) 337-4228 for more information on the library's programs.

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Gabriella Arriaga, a 15-year-old sophomore at the Eagle Fine Arts Academy, sang and played guitar during Thursday's Homedale Farmers Market.

# Market's Cultivate! program aligns with healthy Homedale

### Council donates \$900 to keep children's program going

The City of Homedale will give the Homedale Farmers Market \$900 to keep nutritional education going this summer.

Market manager Denise Dixon requested \$1 per child per week of the Cultivate! program to keep the market feature going in 2018.

The council voted unanimously to draw \$900 out of its High Five! Children's Health Collaborative grant money for the market's children's nutritional program.

Mayor Gheen Christoffersen, who said he is working on another \$10,000 allocation from the High Five! coalition, reported that there is approximately \$30,000 left over from the \$50,000 grant the city received through his participation in the annual Mayors Walking Challenge.

Christoffersen said the market's mission to teach children good eating habits lines up with the spirit of the children's health collaborative and the mission to make Homedale a healthier town.

Councilman Tim Downing, who has a long history as a fiscal conservative, supports the program, but worries about setting a precedent.

"That sounds like a good thought," Downing said of Christoffersen's idea to pull money out of the High Five! funding.

"I certainly agree that this project is a wonderful asset. But what we get into here, and I don't know what the city's policy has been as far as ac-

commodating requests like this because there are a lot of good causes out there."

The 12-week Cultivate! program is open to first- through sixth-graders, and Dixon said the class size is supposed to be capped at 25 boys and girls.

"We have 28 registered, but we won't turn them away," she said.

The hourlong program begins at 5:30 p.m. each Thursday at Bette Uda City Park, and Dixon said it's very popular with the children.

"They just love it," she said. "They are just so excited about getting there. And then they're hands-on they just don't sit and watch."

Each child receives a \$1 token after the week's class.

"They go over to the market and buy fruits and vegetables, and hopefully they'll continue to eat vegetables," Dixon said.

Dixon said the request for city support was made necessary because it is getting more and more difficult to get grants.

She said that she's grateful for her staff of volunteers because the market didn't receive any operational grants this year.

"The market contributes time and money to keep the program going in terms of staff. We are all volunteers now because we haven't had a grant in the past year," Dixon said.

"We're so fortunate to have the community we have as the facilitators that come in

to teach these classes all give their time for free, so that's a big blessing."

Facilitators this year will come from the Homedale Public Library, Idaho Preferred and the Idaho Hop Commission.

Dixon said the hops group will help with the Cultivate! curriculum learning about Mason bees. Children will build sustainable Mason bee houses this year, she said.

"I think the Farmers Market has been a great program in Homedale," Councilman Aaron Tines told Dixon. "Yourself and everybody that participates in it ... it takes a lot of time and a lot of effort. It's just amazing how the whole farmers market has progressed over the years."

With the council taking up Fiscal Year 2019 budget negotiations, Tines asked if the market would make an annual appropriations request.

"I'm hoping not," Dixon said. "I'm having trouble writing grants and getting them myself, and I think that's because I not an expert in the area. Every year the need is greater."

"I'm thinking about finding a grant writer, and if I can and they can get the grants, I won't need to come back each year."

Dixon said 75 shoppers attended the first market on June 4 despite a rainstorm cutting the usual four-hour event to 90 minutes.

"We hope this market will go on forever and ever," she said. "We're doing great. We only had an hour and a half last week because of the rain."

— JPB

# Preschool permit provokes pedestrian safety discussion

### Homedale council OKs business, townhomes

A public hearing to analyze the request to establish a preschool/daycare turned into a discussion on pedestrian safety in a west-end Homedale neighborhood.

The city council unanimously approved a special use permit for the Kimberly Stebly's Teaching World location planned for the Presbyterian church, but some people raised concerns about the general safety of children that live in the blocks west of the elementary school near Railroad Avenue.

Christina Graves said she was worried about how children's pedestrian safety would be affected by increased traffic headed west from the church at 320 N. 6<sup>th</sup> St., toward Railroad Avenue because of a blind turn for motorists traveling south on Railroad Avenue near the Westwood Subdivision.

The turn of concern is nearly two blocks south of West Washington Avenue.

Graves' worries grow out of the fact that the six-home residential subdivision could double to 12 single-family residences, she said.

The council discussed several options to improve safety in the area. Situated immediately east of the Alforex Seed plant, Railroad Avenue serves as the terminus for the east-west avenues on the west side of town, funneling traffic south to West Idaho Avenue.

Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller said his officers will conduct a traffic survey in the area of Westwood Drive and Railroad Avenue to examine the traffic problem and come up with a solution.

"I would highly support a decision to put more signage up there," Eidemiller said.

Mayor Gheen Christoffersen suggested unique signage similar to that which he saw while traveling on the Oregon Coast recently — "Drive like your kid lived here."

In the end, though, Eidemiller said the issue of pedestrian safety must be addressed from the "bottom up" with preschool teachers educating children on the safest routes to and from the church and talking to parents about what they can do

when they are picking up their children from the preschool/daycare.

Stebly said she plans to start classes on Monday, Aug. 13. Preschool and pre-kindergarten classes will be held from 8:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. with an all-day daycare afterward.

Stebly also said there is the potential to build up an after-school program in conjunction with Homedale Elementary School, which is across West Washington Avenue from the church.

Church board member Margaret Fujishin spoke in favor of the daycare proposal, saying that the board was unanimous in its decision to allow Stebly to start her business in the 60-year-old church.

Fujishin also reminded the council that Stebly's operation wouldn't be the first daycare housed at the church. Robbie Busse, Kristie Garrett and Sandy Sarceda, among others, have also had childcare businesses there, she said.

"Having a preschool at that location is something that has been there in the past with minimal impact on the residential area," the former Homedale Public Library administrator said.

### Townhomes approved

The city council gave the green light to more residential development on the west side of Homedale.

The council unanimously approved a special use permit for the construction of a pair of townhomes in the first block of North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street West after a public hearing at which the applicant apparently didn't appear.

Each of four lots measuring 25 feet by 125 feet will be used in the project.

The lots are in the 300 block of West Owyhee Avenue, but the developer will rotate the lots, giving the townhomes immediately north of Family Dollar new addresses.

As a condition of the special use permit, the southern property will be granted a utility easement so a new sewer line can be installed to the alleyway.

Each townhome will adhere to existing city ordinance, which requires a dwelling of at least 1,000 square feet and an attached garage.

— JPB



# Citizens: Homedale City Hall could use some sprucing up

## Farmers market manager leads charge to seek Chamber grant

Some citizens think Homedale City Hall could benefit from the Chamber of Commerce’s beautification initiative.

With good-natured quips about the cinderblock government building resembling a prison or a fort, the city council and gallery engaged discussed how the Helping Homedale grant program could help.

The Chamber has \$22,000, received after the dissolution of the Homedale Development Co., available for the program.

“I would really like to see us do something with our City Hall in using some of these funds,” Homedale Farmers Market manager Denise Dixon said last Wednesday when she brought the idea before the council.

Dixon said newcomers who need city services started often seen City Hall as the first representation of the town.

“... and I think we can represent ourselves better by putting out some hanging baskets or some other beautification of the first building they see when they came here to sign up for things,” she said.

Mayor Gheen Christoffersen wondered how citizens would feel about the city using grant money available to all city businesses to spruce up City

Hall.

“I talked to (Chamber president Gavin Parker), and he said you’re a business,” Dixon said. “I think it would be fine. It’s a grant. It’s grant money.”

The Chamber’s matching funds program offers to match half of a beautification investment up to \$250. The first window of opportunity runs through Aug. 31, and businesses will only be able to get reimbursement for money spent on projects between June 1 and Aug. 31.

The Chamber has budgeted up to \$5,000 in grants for the first year of the program.

Homedale resident Tonya Garrison, who spoke up from the gallery when Christoffersen sought input, agreed the City Hall — and really the rest of town — needs something.

“We need to do something to place some more beauty in our city,” she said. “We have the flowers when we come into Homedale along the park, but we don’t see them in front of the business.”

“So what Chamber is trying to do is encourage the businesses, let’s put something out in front of your businesses to make it look nice.”

Public works supervisor Bret Smith echoed Councilman Tim Downing’s concerns while calling the idea feasible for City Hall.



Citizens at last week’s city council meeting expressed a desire to see a facelift at Homedale City Hall.

“I think making some effort to do it is feasible,” Smith said.

“Along what Tim was saying ... Even though it’s a grant, are we going to edge out a local business and slighting them for going after this money? Do we take the place of someone else who would have signed into this program?”

Later in the meeting, Councilman Steve Atkins praised the city’s work to cleanup the Riverside Park area.

“I’ve seen a ton of people come down to the river since the city cleanup,” he said. “It’s real good to see people using it.”

### Landa tournament to return next month

The city council signed off

on a request for Sundance Park to host the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Conner Landa Memorial Coed Softball Tournament on July 13-15.

Conner’s mother Virginia, and his younger brother, Kyler, made a presentation during last week’s council meeting.

No lights will be utilized this year, Virginia, as 62 teams compete during the three-day tournament.

Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller said a police officer will be on duty at the park constantly throughout the tournament.

City officials made sure that music would be turned off by midnight during the tournament, and they want spectators and players to be aware that glass containers are not allowed at any Homedale park.

### HPD car now surplus

The council agreed unanimously to surplus a 2008 Dodge Charger after the police department acquired a new vehicle.

The 2008 Charger patrol car had been out of commission since the engine failed. Eidemiller previously said repairing the vehicle would be cost-prohibitive.

### Rosy housing situation reported

City Clerk and Treasurer Alice Pegram told the council that two more building permits for new homes have been picked up at City Hall.

Pegram said her office is receiving news “almost daily” of homes being sold in town.

— JPB

## Livestock field days signal run-up to fair

### 4-H fair entries, record book registration open

Preparations for the Owyhee County Fair are under way at the University of Idaho Extension Office.

Fair entries and record book interview registration began Friday and will run through July 15.

The fair is scheduled to run from Aug. 6 to Aug. 11 at the fairgrounds in Homedale.

Several Owyhee County youths took part in the 4-H sheep and swine days held June 4 at the Canyon County Fairgrounds in Caldwell.

Owyhee County Extension educator Scott Jensen manned a station dealing with feeds and nutrition.

Other presentations included:

- Dr. Jim England, U of I Extension veterinarian, performed a sheep necropsy

- Joan Gill, Payette County 4-H program coordinator Payette

County, explained the differences between monogastric and ruminant digestive systems.

- Carrie Johnson, U of I Canyon County Extension educator, discussed how ethics and sportsmanship are applied in raising and showing livestock.

The Owyhee County youth who took part in the sheep field day included Owyhee Silver Spurs members Josie Showalter, Gene Showalter, and Tyler Thompson.

Several different Owyhee 4-H clubs were represented at the swine field day, including

- **Wilson Butte** — Hannah Moos and Kiana McFadden

- **Snake River Livestock** — Lainey Keppler, Caelynn Short, Joanna Short, Travis Schkade, and Jade Reisinger

- **Owyhee Outlaws** — Kate Hipwell, Braelyn Scott, Emeline Hipwell, and Carsen Scott

- **Owyhee Silver Spurs** — Tyler Thompson, Mila Astorquia, and Jaxon Astorquia

- **Barnyard Brigade** — Brogan Gebaure

**Shoo-Fly Livestock** — Heather Reynolds and Brandon Reynolds

Other dates to keep in mind as the fair approaches:

- **Monday, July 9** — A record book clinic will be held at 10 a.m. at the Extension office, 238 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. W., in Marsing.

- **Tuesday, July 10** — A pre-fair meeting for fair superintendents will be held at 6 p.m. at the Extension office, and the 4-H leaders pre-fair meeting will take place at 7 p.m.

- **Thursday, July 19** — Make-up record book interviews will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on at the Extension office.

- **Tuesday, July 24** — Record book interviews will take place at the American Legion Post 83 Hall in Bruneau.

- **Thursday, July 26** — Interviews for the western side of the county will be held at the Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center.

Call the U of I Owyhee County Extension office at (208) 896-4014 with any questions.

## Man gets work release for DUI

A Filer man has been sentenced on an amended driving under the influence charge.

Originally charged with misdemeanor excessive DUI, Glade Aaron Hall received his sentence on misdemeanor DUI on June 11 before Magistrate Judge Dan C. Grober in Murphy.

Grober ordered Hall to spend two days in jail, but said the man could fulfill the penalty through a work release program.

Grober gave Hall credit for the three days he had spent in Owyhee County Jail after his March 17 arrest at milepost 68 on Idaho highway 78. The balanced of a six-month jail term was suspended.

Hall must serve a year of supervised probation, and he had his driver’s license suspended for six months.

He also has been ordered to pay \$800 in fines and court costs.

Hall was arrested after a traffic stop on St. Patrick’s Day. An Owyhee County Sheriff’s deputy made the stop after he observed a 1996 Dodge Ram flatbed pickup swerve into the oncoming lane on Idaho 78.

Hall’s blood-alcohol concentration was .215, nearly three times the legal limit.



# Marsing woman arrested twice in five weeks gets probation

A Marsing woman has been sentenced after two unrelated misdemeanor convictions.

Cera Ann Medina was arrested by personnel from different law enforcement agencies five weeks apart earlier this year.

After a Jan. 18 arrest by an Owyhee County Sheriff's deputy, Medina was charged with three counts of providing alcohol to a minor.

On Feb. 23, an Idaho State Police trooper arrested Medina for suspected marijuana possession.

Magistrate Judge Dan C. Grober executed sentencing on both cases on June 12.

In the case regarding providing alcohol to minors, Medina was given a 30-day suspended jail sentence and ordered to serve 18 months of supervised probation.

She also must pay \$300 in fines, and \$562.50 in court costs was levied.

Medina was sentenced for marijuana possession, too, although Owyhee County Prosecuting Attorney Douglas Emery dropped a drug paraphernalia possession misdemeanor.

Grober ordered fines and costs of \$297.50.

**Canyon man fined for pot**

Caldwell resident Christopher J. Candelaria must pay fines and court costs after his conviction on three misdemeanor charges, including marijuana possession.

Third District Judge Thomas W. Whitney sentenced Candelaria on June 12.

Candelaria was arrested on Sept. 12 by a sheriff's deputy and charged with marijuana possession, possession of drug paraphernalia and a driver's license or commercial driver's license violation.

Candelaria must pay fines and court costs of \$852.50.

## Courthouse report

A list of felony and misdemeanor dispositions completed at courtrooms in Murphy and Homedale. Infractions not included:

**June 12**

**Aldo C. Calderon, Homedale** — Misdemeanor driving without privileges (second offense): 20 days in jail, \$27.50 fine, \$247.50 court costs.

**Christopher J. Candelaria, Caldwell** — Misdemeanor marijuana possession, misdemeanor drug paraphernalia possession, and misdemeanor driver's license or commercial driver's license violation: \$300 fines, \$552.50 court costs.

**Cera Ann Medina, Marsing** — Misdemeanor dispensing alcohol to a minor (3 counts), and misdemeanor marijuana possession: 30 days in jail (suspended), 18 months supervised probation, \$400 fines,

\$760 court costs. Dismissed by prosecutor: Misdemeanor drug paraphernalia possession.

**June 11**

**Glade Aaron Hall, Filer** — Misdemeanor DUI (amended from misdemeanor excessive DUI): 180 days in jail (3 served, 175 suspended, remaining 2 days can be served on work release), 1 year supervised probation, 180 days suspended driver's license, \$597.50 fine, \$202.50 court costs.

**June 8**

**Pedro Castro, Homedale** — Misdemeanor battery: 34 days in jail (served), \$42.50 fine, \$307.50 court costs.

**June 6**

**Randy L. Hogmire, Caldwell** — Misdemeanor reckless driving: \$98.50 fine, \$56.50 court costs.

# Museum exhibit features Pleasant Valley World War II vet's words

## Bill Lowry on hand for D-Day dedication

With some commissioned embellishment, a classic observation by World War II veteran Bill Lowry has been immortalized.

Lowry and his family were on hand at the Warhawk Air Museum's commemoration of D-Day's 74<sup>th</sup> anniversary on June 6 in Nampa.

A poem inspired by Lowry's words is part of a display made possible by the Lowry family.

Cowboy poet Brian Arnold penned the poem "Too Young to Shave" after Dist. 23A Rep. Christy Zito (R-Hammett) contacted him.

The poem's title is drawn from Lowry, who is now 97, saying that some of the boys who tried to enlist — including himself — in the days after Pearl Harbor were "too young to shave."

Lowry and several other young men had their entrance into the service deferred because they were minors when they tried to enlist.



World War II veteran Bill Lowry (right) and his wife, Nita, sit next to the Warhawk Air Museum exhibit that features a poem inspired by Bill. Submitted photo

An Owyhee County rancher and a 1995 life member of the Owyhee Cattlemen's Association, Lowry lives in Pleasant Valley. His son Tim continues the family's ranching operation today.

"The Lowry Family is an inspiration to all who have the privilege of meeting them," Zito shared on Facebook.

According to Young Marines Capt. Art Jackson's Facebook page, Lowry deferred his enlistment for months because he was a minor. Eventually, Lowry served in the Army Air Force in an engineering group on Ascension Island,

according to Jackson's post.

The Young Marines were part of the D-Day plaque dedication at Warhawk.

"Thank you, Mr. Lowry, for your service! Thank you for inviting us out to dedicate this memorial," Jackson wrote on his Facebook page. "It truly was an honor to be there and to meet you."

## Too Young to Shave

His body was gnarled and twisted, like a wind-blown juniper tree  
He'd seen the sun rise and seen the sun set more times than two of me

Hobbling from his truck using two canes, so I stopped and held the door  
He said, "I'm here for the Town Hall meetin'. Is that what you're here for?"

I wondered aloud why a ninety year old man even cared about civic affairs  
He said, "Let me tell you a story." So I grabbed a couple of chairs

"When Pearl Harbor was bombed a bunch of us boys all went in to town to join up  
From the farms and ranches, and some from in town, we had an enemy to whup

They took down our names and gave us a number, then said they'd give us a call  
So many young fellers were signing up that they couldn't process them all

Was a whole lot of youngsters standin in line, see they was lyin about their age  
All ready to die for our country, while still too young to shave

It took a few months before they got to us all, 'cause so many wanted to go  
I was an infantryman in the Army, a regular G.I. Joe

Saw many a good man die over there, it was a special kind of hell  
We were all just tryin to do our part, for some it didn't work out well

Most are buried in those foreign lands, they never did come home  
They gave their all for freedom, across the briny foam

That war's long over and there's been some since, but I can never forget  
True comrades that I fought alongside, as they placed their final bet

So that's why I'm here, just to make sure, that as long as our proud flag waves  
I do my damndest to honor, those men too young to shave

Brian Arnold, 11/16/2016

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# Avalanche Sports

## Junior varsity coach promoted to HHS boys’ top job

A man who sat on the bench with his predecessor is Homedale High School’s new boys’ basketball coach.

Chris Vines has been hired to succeed Chad Mann, who resigned after his second season as varsity coach after the Trojans’ 2017-18 season.

District superintendent Rob Sauer confirmed that Vines had been promoted from junior varsity coach to the top job.

After graduating from San Marcos High School in 2009, Vines played college ball at his hometown Santa Barbara City College and The College of Idaho. The 6-foot, 2-inch Vines

played guard for the Coyotes.

The board of trustees also recently renewed contracts for athletic directors Casey Grove (high school) and Karen Liebschwager (middle school) as well as high school cross country coach Heidi Ankeny.

Joshua White, a new teacher who will split time between the middle school and high school, will serve as a junior varsity football assistant coach.

Other new coaching hires include Sean McCracken for the new middle school cross country team, and Robert Christensen and Travis Kerbs as seventh-grade football coaches.



The Homedale Lions Club president Will Pryor (second from right) accepted a \$2,000 donation from Farm Bureau Insurance agent Wayne Hungate (center) on Thursday, representing the corporate sponsorship for the 37<sup>th</sup> annual Fourth of July Demolition Derby. Also on hand were derby driver Mark Williams and Lions Club treasurer Jeremy Townsend and derby driver Mike Miller (at right).

## Farm Bureau jumps on board with Lions demo derby again

Parade, truck pull planned in run-up to Homedale Fourth

The start time has changed, and the car count could balloon, but there are plenty of constants for the 37<sup>th</sup> annual Homedale Lions Club Fourth of July Demolition Derby.

For starters, Farm Bureau Insurance is back on board as corporate sponsor. Owyhee County agent Wayne Hungate presented the Lions Club with a \$2,000 check Thursday afternoon.

Hungate said the second year of sponsorship is part of Farm Bureau’s new focus on being more involved and supportive of the communities where its customers live.

“These are my friends and people I insure,” Hungate said. “These are the people that, in bittersweet moments of a house fire or a car wreck, I’m there to help them put it

back together.”

Farm Bureau has helped out the Lions Club and the Homedale Fire Department, among other entities, in recent years.

“The Lions Club and the emergency responders, they are giving back to the community,” Hungate said.

Lions Club president Will Pryor said the Farm Bureau donation will help build the prize pool for this year’s derby — and it takes pressure off the club’s coffers.

“This will offset our prize money, for sure,” Pryor said. “It all goes into the prize money, so we’re able to put a little more back into the community.”

Pryor, club treasurer Jeremy Townsend and veteran derby drivers Mark Williams, who won last year’s Farm Bureau main event, and

Mike Miller joined Hungate during the presentation Thursday afternoon outside the insurance agent’s remodeled East Wyoming Avenue office.

Williams tuned up for the Owyhee County Fairgrounds event by winning the Emmett Cherry Festival demolition derby Saturday night. Another Homedale veteran, Justin Ensley, was runner-up.

The Homedale Lions Club demolition derby mandatory drivers meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. today at The Bowling Alley.

**Derby tickets on sale**

Tickets for the Homedale derby are on sale online either through the Homedale Lions Club Facebook page (click the “Tickets” link on the left side) or at Ticketbud.com (search for 37<sup>th</sup> annual Homedale Lions Club Demolition Derby). Ticket

— See **Derby**, page 14

## Rimrock bull rider captures state title

Anthony Herrera recovered from a slow start to his week for finish on top at the Idaho High School State Finals Rodeo.

After scoring just 15 points in the first go-rounds at Bannock County Fairgrounds, the Rimrock bull rider qualified for the championship short-go with 71 points on his third ride.

He then locked up the state championship and a trip to the national finals with an 81-point ride in Saturday’s short-go.

Herrera is eligible to compete in the National High School Finals Rodeo, which will be held July 15-21 in Rock Springs, Wyo.

The High School National Finals Rodeo takes the top four finishers in each state rodeo event. The rest of the top 15 finishers at the state finals are eligible to compete

in the Silver State International Rodeo, which will run June 30 through July 7 in Winnemucca, Nev.

Herrera is the first Owyhee County state champion since Marsing’s Austin Williams went back-to-back as Idaho’s top bareback rider in 2013 and 2014.

The District 2 champion, Herrera edged Tristen Hutchings by a half-point for the state championship. Hutchings had a 74-point ride in the second go, but came away with no scores in the first and third go-rounds. He was second in the short-go with 79 points.

Marsing’s Cade Brackett finished 11<sup>th</sup> in boys’ cutting and was 35<sup>th</sup> in the reined cow horse competition.

Homedale’s Sean Schnabele

— See **Rimrock**, page 14

## Locals eligible for Silver State rodeo

Three locals are eligible to compete in the Silver State International Rodeo after the Idaho Jr. High School State Rodeo Finals.

The state finals were held May 31 through June 3 at the Bannock County Fairgrounds in Pocatello.

According to the official event website, one middle school student each from Marsing, Rimrock and Adrian qualified for the Silver State International Rodeo, which will take place June 30 through July 7 in Winnemucca, Nev.

• **Sydney Davis** from Adrian had the best finish among locals, placing seventh in breakaway roping. She also qualified for Silver State with a 14<sup>th</sup>-place showing in goat

tying. She just missed a spot in Winnemucca in barrel racing when she finished 16<sup>th</sup>.

Cowboys and cowgirls who finish fifth through 15<sup>th</sup> in a state event can compete at Silver State.

• **Zane Brackett** from Marsing Middle School finished 10<sup>th</sup> in the steer saddle bronc event at the state finals rodeo and can compete in Winnemucca.

• **Jayden Herrera**, a Rimrock student from Grand View, finished 13<sup>th</sup> in bull riding to punch his ticket to Winnemucca.

No locals qualified for the National Junior High School Finals Rodeo, set for Sunday through June 30 in Huron, S.D.



# Sports

## Youth football camp sign-ups end Thursday

Registration closes Thursday for the annual Homedale Youth Football Camp.

The three-day skills development camp will be held from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. between Monday and next Wednesday.

The camp is open to boys and girls entering the second through eighth grades and will be held conducted on the Deward Bell Stadium playing surface.

The entry fee is \$25, and a camp shirt is included.

Skills covered by the Homedale High School coaching staff include tackling, blocking, passing, receiving, punting, and kicking.

Contact HHS coach Matt Holtry at mholtry@homedaleschools.org or (208) 697-9286 for more information.

## ✓ Rimrock: Homedale team roper finishes in top 25

From Page 13

Wes Ireland of Marsing also and Emmett’s Lacy Yates were 21<sup>st</sup> in the team roping. The pair roped their animal in 14.4 seconds for one of the best times in the first go.

Wes Ireland of Marsing also competed in the bull riding, but did not achieve a qualifying ride, according to results posted on the Idaho High School Rodeo Association website.

## ✓ Derby: Williams warms up with Cherry Festival victory

From Page 13

prices (including service charges) range from \$21.97 for the covered grandstand (A section) to \$16.73 for the B section (grandstand side, uncovered) and \$13.58 for the C section (beer garden side).

Organizers have established an earlier start time for the derby (5:30 p.m.), and they’ve brought back the Power Wheels Derby for children, and the Compact Car class for drivers 16 years and older.

The gates will open at 3:30 p.m. with a driver’s meeting at 4:30 p.m. and the grand entry an hour later.

**Other events planned**

There are several other attractions outside of the derby this year, too.

- The parade returns with lineup at the Homedale High School parking lot at 8:30 a.m. The procession starts down Idaho Avenue at 9 a.m. Pryor said the parade is open to horse entries, classic cars, tractors and any floats as well as the trailered demolition derby cars. Call Elly Wass at (208) 981-7167 or Larry Wass at (208) 941-1813 or email wass0401@gmail.com for parade entry information.
- The inaugural Believe Pulling Sled truck pull will be held at 1 p.m. at the fairgrounds. Registration will run from 10 a.m. to noon, and there are categories for stock and modified pulling vehicles. Spectator admission will be free, and it’ll cost \$35 to pull plus \$15 per person for additional crewmembers.
- For more information, call (541) 212-4123.
- From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the grassy area between the fairgrounds midway and the rodeo arena, a benefit corn hole tournament will be held. The entry fee is \$10, and proceeds benefit the Homedale High School cheerleading and boys’ basketball programs. Cash prizes include \$100 for the champion, \$75 for second place and \$50 for third place.
- Call Johnny at (208) 965-4428 or Evonne at (208) 919-3919 for corn hole tournament information.
- Pryor said \$6,000 worth of pyrotechnics will rocket into the sky after the derby during the fireworks show, which is being sponsored by the City of Homedale.

— JPB

## Softball field, campus safety on Homedale school trustees’ minds

### Full teaching staff already set for 2018-19

The Homedale School District will spend \$365,000 in plant facility money to get the high school softball complex off the ground.

After no bids were received on dirt work for the proposed fields at the middle school, the board of trustees hired Caldwell-based Hatrock Excavation during its June 11 meeting.

Tim Elsberry’s company will do the prep work to transform the football field north of the Johnstone Road school into the foundation of a planned set of softball fields. Elsberry is the father of Homedale High School graduate Levi Elsberry.

District superintendent Rob Sauer said the work, which will be funded by money from the plant facility levy, will include removal of top soil, stub work, Diamond Dust for the infields, and creating dugout walls.

Grass for the fields is expected to be installed by September, Sauer said.

The superintendent said the price tag to which the board agreed last week was lower than the estimates project architect Design West had formulated.

Sauer said he hopes that members of the town’s softball community will come forward to raise private money for future aspects of the project.

**School safety work continues**

Another \$50,000 to \$60,000 in plant facility funds have been committed to upgrading vestibules at the elementary school.

Work to make exterior classroom doorways safer and more weather-durable already has been completed on the west side of the school, which services first-grade rooms.

Summer work includes the east side doorways servicing kindergarten rooms.

The old entry ways have drained poorly for years, and the work is aimed to make the doorway areas safer and shore up even concrete.

Sauer said there are plans to

create a covered walkway leading to the West Washington Avenue school’s main entryway.

District officials also are looking at the possibility of making the entry more secure with the construction of a dedicated door for the main office that could feature a buzz-in feature. Sauer said that aspect is still being analyzed and there are no firm plans at this juncture.

The focus on school safety could include a plan to remove trees from in front of the high school and the installation of a wrought-iron fence from the annex building to the main office building.

The fence design would “funnel” traffic to one perimeter entry point on East Idaho Avenue, Sauer said.

The comprehensive safety overhaul could include secure entry points and staff identification badges among other potential procedural, policy and staffing components, Sauer said.

As part of the 2018-19 budget changes, the board has decided to use some money to start building a school safety and curriculum fund.

Sauer said trustees agreed to cap the reserve fund used to purchase copiers at \$25,000 for each school and \$15,000 for the district office. Once the fund reaches that \$90,000 cap, all revenue would be put into a fund for school safety and curriculum.

If copier replacement isn’t required in a given year, Sauer said money set for that appropriation would be placed in the new fund.

In another budget-related decision, trustees have hired Quest CPAs of Payette as the district’s new financial auditor.

The firm replaces the Millington Zwygart firm from Caldwell.

The district will pay \$7,000 for the upcoming audit, which Sauer said is \$5 more than the final Zwygart contract.

The superintendent said the move was made because trustees feel it’s good to have new auditors who may have a fresh perspective about the district’s accounting books.

**Beginning of 2018-19 calendar changed**

After negotiating with the district’s teachers, the school board has approved a change to the upcoming school year’s calendar.

The first week of the school year, a non-student week that begins Aug. 13, will be reduced to four days, Sauer said.

Staff had been working five days in the run-up to the school year, but now employees will work only four days with a paid day off on Friday, Aug. 17.

**Personnel changes**

Sauer said trustees have filled all the certificated positions that became open after the close of the 2017-18 school year.

Six staffers have retired, including:

- Nancy Smith, longtime second-grade teacher
- Sally Gonser, high school English teacher
- Sue Poland, FFA advisor and ag teacher
- Lynda Zamudio, migrant family liaison
- Becky Forth, paraprofessional
- Young Ho Park, middle school food service

Gonser will return to teach one period a day in the 2018-19 school year.

New hires include:

- Elizabeth Renner, who is the only first-year teacher among the new employees.
- Renner will teach freshman science, and she succeeds Elena Dodge, who left the school district to attend medical school.
- Renner is a product of the Teach for America program.
- Rachel Rheuby will take over ag education duties at the high school, sharing the classroom and FFA advisor load with Logan Kotar.
- Joshua White — high school and middle school teacher
- Tina Uria — elementary school teacher
- Justine Mai — high school teacher
- Kristina Sitts — middle school teacher
- Shari Jamison — middle school library paraprofessional
- Yvonne McGuire — elementary school paraprofessional

— JPB

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# Looking back...

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

## 25 years ago

June 23, 1993

### Hearing set on land use plan

A public hearing is set up for 2 p.m. Thursday, July 1 at the courthouse in Murphy to hear comments on the proposed Owyhee County Interim Land Use and Management Plan.

Copies of the proposed plan are available for review at the county clerk’s office in Murphy; the Extension Office in Marsing; city halls in Homedale and Grand View, and the Bruneau Valley Library in Bruneau.

The plan has been developed by a committee appointed by the county commissioners last year. The proposed plan calls for “coordinated planning efforts by federal and state management agencies, the Owyhee County Land Use Committee and Board of Commissioners regarding planning and implementation of planning for the maintenance and revitalization of multiple use of the federal and state managed lands situated in Owyhee County”, the notice published by the board of commissioners stated.

The plan calls for coordinated planning efforts mandated by federal laws governing land management by the BLM and the Forest Service.

The document addresses primary planning guidelines, including the Taylor Grazing Act, Public Rangelands Improvement Act, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, and other pertinent laws.

Subjects covered include livestock grazing; irrigated and other intensive agriculture; vegetation management (livestock grazing, and juniper and sagebrush control); fire management; noxious weed control; water quality, riparian areas, floodplains and wetlands; recreational use; wilderness recommendations; National Wild and Scenic River Systems; threatened and endangered species; areas of critical environmental concern; wild horse management; water rights; land tenure; energy and mineral resources; cultural, geological and paleontological resources, rights-of-way; air quality; air space; and wildlife.

### Homedale police chief resigns

The city of Homedale has lost its second police chief in two years but both city and chief say this time around they part on amicable terms.

After 16 months on the job, police chief Bob Fitzgerald submitted his resignation early last week. He finished his last day as chief June 18.

Fitzgerald said Friday the deteriorating health of his parents and the pressing need for someone to run their Northern Idaho ranch prompted his decision to leave.

The resignation apparently caught Mayor Paul Fink by surprise. Fink said Fitzgerald had mentioned his father was sick, but didn’t know he would step down as chief.

Fink appointed Sherman Williams acting chief.

### Engagement announced

Tammy Aspiazu of Homedale and Lynn Bowman of Marsing announce their engagement and approaching marriage. The bride-elect is the daughter of Fred and Lela Aspiazu of Homedale. She graduated from Homedale High School in 1992 and is employed at Downey Chiropractic Clinic in Caldwell. Her fiancée, son of Jerry and Laura Bowman of Marsing, graduated from Marsing High School in 1989 and the College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls in 1990. He is employed at Bowman Produce, Inc., Marsing. The couple has chosen Friday, Aug. 20, as their wedding date at the United Methodist Church, Caldwell.

## 50 years ago

June 20, 1968

### Feasibility of 2 dams on Succor Creek discussed

Recently the Owyhee Soil Conservation District, the Adrian Soil Conservation District, the Soil Conservation Service, the Extension Service, the Agricultural Stabilization Conservation Service, the Farmers Home Administration and 18 farmers from Oregon and Idaho who are directly benefited from the dams met to discuss the possibility of building two dams on Succor Creek.

The watershed planning party from Oregon led the discussion and gave a statistical report on the size and location of the dams and the cost of construction. The two sites under consideration are the Molly dam, which would be approximately 90 feet high and store approximately 9,000 acre-feet of water.

The other dam under consideration is Crifffield dam in Succor Creek Canyon. It would hold approximately 10,050 acre-feet of water.

The watershed planning group informed those in attendance that 8 out of 10 years the farmers and ranchers on the creek would receive 3 acre-feet of water per acre of stored water. They would receive their decreed amount up until the first of June.

The cost of the 3 acre-feet would be \$8.50 per acre. The total cost of the project was estimated at \$2,340,000. The payment schedule and other works of improvement would be over a 50 years.

### Marsing enrolls 62 students in summer class

Sixty-two students have enrolled in the Marsing Elementary Summer School program with more expected. This program is being sponsored by E.S.F.A., Title 1-Migrant Educational program. Students enrolled are from ages 6-16 years and have been placed in four educational levels stressing individual instruction.

### Grassmen tour ranch spread of Bus Cummings

The Owyhee County Grassmen tour for 1968 was held June 13 on the Earl (Bus) Cummings ranch at Reynolds Creek. Mr. Cumming represented Owyhee County as the Grassman for 1967.

Forty people attended this tour and observed an outstanding management program on both livestock and croplands. It is remarkable to observe the lush growths of grass and legumes on the Cummings ranch especially when this is one of the driest years Owyhee County has experienced in several years.

Under an excellent water management program, Mr. Cummings has utilized his water effectively and has covered an extensive acreage for the amount of water that has been available.

Many on the tour felt that Cummings has one of the most unique livestock programs in the area. His annual calf crop exceeds 90 percent.

Ray Pershall, chairman of the Owyhee Grassmen Committee, was very impressed with the tour and the work that Cummings is doing on his ranch. During the course of the tour the Agricultural Research Service explained moisture and crop programs that they have initiated on the Cummings farm. Dinner was served by the Wilson Sage Hens community club.

### New police chief

Roy Roland has joined the Homedale police force as acting chief of police, replacing Gene McAbee, who resigned. Roland was a Homedale city policeman several years ago and later served as Marsing Chief of Police for a number of years.

## 140 years ago

June 22, 1878

### INDIAN WAR NEWS

Avalanche Office, 4p.m., June 15<sup>th</sup>.

There seems to be some foundation for the report that two miners were killed by the Indians several days ago not far from Glenn’s Ferry. Mr. Duncan, of Bruneau, received the information from one of Robins’ scouts. He met the two men previously at Pixley’s Island, and thinks they got pretty well along to the ferry before they encountered the savages. They were well armed and equipped, and had also two saddle horses and a pack pony. They were Cornishmen, had come from Tuscarora, and were going either to Alturas or Salmon River. Mr. Duncan saw and conversed with Mr. Bascome, who was also on his way from Tuscarora, and was about twenty miles ahead of the miners.

A party hunting cattle in Jordan Valley on Thursday saw some stragglng Indians, one of whom fired at them. The people of the valley and vicinity have organized and employed five scouts, who will be expected to give them timely information in case of trouble.

Captain Egbert, with nine officers and 130 men, were at Cornucopia this morning. It was expected that they would reach Battle Creek in six days if not opposed. They will be stationed either at Camp Three Forks or Gusman’s.

General Howard has employed the Bannock who was released from jail here on Thursday as a courier.

A half-dozen rifles and a considerable quantity of ammunition consigned to Morris Oberdorfer were appropriated by the citizens of McDermit, while en route here, on the plea of military necessity.

The body of the stage driver, McCutchan, was found on Friday below the Owyhee Ferry about five hundred yards from the place where the stage was burned. The body was terribly mutilated, being beaten with rocks, one eye out and head severely gashed. The remains were brought to Sheep Ranch, and the funeral took place this morning.

Two Companies of Calvary are on the way from Walla Walla, and will soon be in this vicinity. They are under the command of Capt. Whipple and Lieut. Bomas. There are about 115 men in the two companies.

Princess Sal Winnemucca, reported in Jordan Valley a few days ago, was turned back to Sheep Ranch. She was accompanied by a tight-rope artist. Gen. Howard interviewed her and concluded to press her into the service. She was employed to go out and bring in the wayward Piutes, with whom she is supposed to have much influence. She is reported to be anxious to go to Washington.

### Indian War Notes

Sarah Winnemucca says that Buffalo Horn was killed in the South Mountain fight and that his body can be found in the brush near where the battle occurred. Who killed him? is the question now. The honor of this feat lies between Nick Maher, Piute Joe and the lamented O.H. Purdy. Many believe that Purdy was the man, and it would be a sort of grim satisfaction to know that he got away with one of the leading infamous fiends before he himself was laid low by their bullets.

French John, who was camped near Juniper Lake when captured by the Indians, owes his subsequent escape to the fidelity of Natchez.



# Commentary

Baxter Black, DVM



## On the edge of common sense

### A day to remember

It's funny how the world goes around. Francisco and I were checking cows, making a big circle early in the morning to beat the heat. It's peaceful out there. We've got grazing rights for 200 cows in 18 sections of Lowell Love grass, 20-foot-high mesquite and assorted cacti, canyons, arroyos and rattlesnakes, 40 miles north of the Mexican border in Arizona.

We were deep in the monte, "scrub land," when Francisco asked if I'd like to see where my son found the dead man.

Eight years ago when my son was 16, he and Francisco were making a "juelta," a big circle (as in "Dar la juelta" — Take a dally). I didn't speak English to my son until he was 10 years old, so he and Francisco communicated in Spanish. On that fateful day, Cindy Lou and I were visiting our friends in northern Idaho in the Whitebird Hill area. The cellphone rang ... it was my son ... he was stuttering ... he was looking at a dead man ... he wasn't sure the man was dead ... he had wheeled his horse to go find Francisco!

I stopped him and ordered him to retrace his tracks to make certain he could find his way back to the corpse after he found Francisco. They both had cellphones. Francisco phoned the local deputy sheriff, who knew the country, and went to meet them. My son posted guard over the body. That was June 20, 2010. So when Francisco asked if I'd like to see the spot where it all happened, I said, "Si."

I had no doubt he could locate the exact area eight years later because I've come to realize that many cowboys have an unbelievable ability to remember terrain, cows, horses, tracks, holes in fences, lock combinations, landmarks and incidents. They are like fish in their own aquarium, only their aquarium is 12,000 acres full! He crossed a couple of arroyos and bottoms, rock slides, 40-foot mesquite trees, tangles in the unforgiving scrub and then pointed.

I dismounted, worked around and tried to picture how the scene was when my son first arrived in this exact spot eight years ago. The victim was obviously an illegal alien, probably Mexican, traveling with a group. His compadres had taken his shirt, shoes and personal belongings. He had been dead a couple days.

Did he die quickly, assuming they stripped the body after he died? Did they say a few words over him? Did his family ever find out his ending? Who knows?

Francisco made a tight circle and found the remnants of a faded blue baseball cap snarled in the brush. I pulled it loose, walked back to the spot and buried it. We took off our hats. I said a prayer in Spanish.

The coincidence that we'd ever cross paths on that same date eight years later allowed us to pay due respect to another fellow traveler who was just lookin' for a home.

Vaya con Dios, Amigo. Which means, "Go with God."

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

## Americans for Limited Govt.

### Consolidations like AT&T-Time Warner merger could lead to one-party rule

by Robert Romano

A vibrant and healthy democracy depends on the free marketplace of ideas.

Call it what you want. Viewpoint diversity. Access to alternative views.

In today's media and information-driven society and culture, being able to find the opposing view on an issue, to compare the pros and cons of public policy matters or different products and services, is critical to how the American people make decisions about just about everything.

What to buy? Who to vote for? What to watch? Which music to listen to? What to wear? The plethora of choices we have today is owed entirely to the openness of the Internet and other media that facilitates and enables brand development.

But what if that process could become compromised or disrupted in a bid to control media? To control what messages were available to the public? This is the very real danger facing policymakers today in an environment increasingly moving towards mass media consolidation.

With federal judge Richard Leon's approval of the \$107 billion AT&T-Time Warner merger, allowing the two companies to combine, the floodgates are opening for content distributors like AT&T — which owns DirecTV — to also own much of the content that plays on those platforms.

Now, Comcast is expected to bid against Disney to buy much of Fox's media content properties.

So, what's the problem? Besides the antitrust laws that are invoked by monopolization in any industry, mass media consolidation has meant fewer and fewer companies controlling almost all major media in the country.

A comprehensive Free Press 2018 study on major media ownership finds that just 21 corporations own all the television broadcast stations, 21 own the radio broadcast stations, 13 own pay television channels, 11 own daily newspapers, and 18 own telecom and cable. That number keeps getting smaller every time there's another merger.

A chapter on the topic in Censored 2006 by Bridget Thornton, Britt Walters and Lori Rouse, "Corporate Media is Corporate America" noted the massive overlap of individuals who sit on the boards at major media outlets and those of non-media corporations.

Then there is the dominance in tech by Microsoft, Google, Amazon, Facebook and Twitter.

The number of separately owned options is dwindling rapidly.

Along with media consolidation, there is also a growing call for political consolidation in Washington, D.C. — and even one-party rule.

In April, Twitter co-founder and CEO Jack Dorsey

retweeted an article by Peter Leyden and Ruy Teixeira that called for "Democratic One-Party Rule" in the U.S. as a means of reconciling the nation's challenges and implementing the progressive agenda. You see, all that debate by Congress and disagreement over which direction to go in is getting in the way of that agenda, so democracy no longer functions the way they want it to. Today's captains of the information industry are getting impatient. They want to see Utopia in their lifetimes.

It will be anything but.

But leaving that aside, forget about competitive elections, Leyden and Teixeira warn: "America can't afford more political paralysis. One side or the other must win. This is a civil war that can be won without firing a shot. But it is a fundamental conflict between two worldviews that must be resolved in short order."

The resolution: "Democratic One-Party Rule."

Dorsey's comment was astonishing, writing briefly, "Great read." Really? What about the part where the authors called for one-party rule? What about the part where they called it a civil war? No?

Just, "Great read," as if having one political party control the most powerful country in the world to govern with no dissent as the climatic outcome of a civil war "without firing a shot" was just an afterthought for the billionaire.

Who needs alternate viewpoints when there are media empires to consolidate and an undemocratic agenda to implement? Just hurry up and work it into the afternoon schedule. Dictatorship by close of business. Can we get that yesterday?

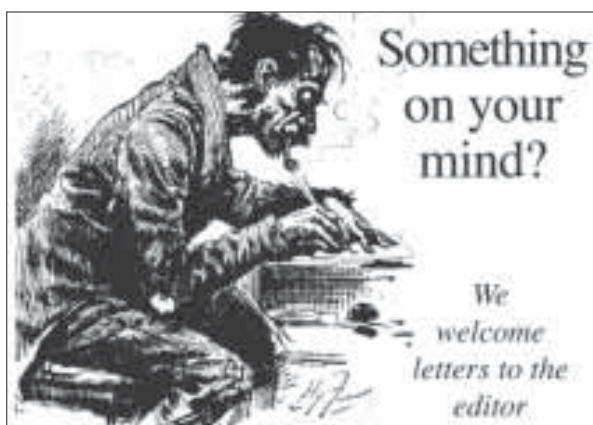
Twitter like other social media giants cast themselves as an open platform, a device for free speech basically and the marketplace of ideas. But what if big media doesn't live up to that and starts censoring political content of one of the two major parties in a bid for absolute power?

Would that be "anti-competitive" enough for Judge Leon to say it might pose an antitrust issue under federal law?

That is why the AT&T-Time Warner merger today is so important for the media landscape of tomorrow, and why the Justice Department must appeal Judge Leon's decision, all the way to the Supreme Court if necessary.

It may not happen overnight, but we are witnessing the end of media. This is the age of medium. And if we are not careful, one day there may only be one-party rule, too. That will not lead to liberty and prosperity, but to tyranny.

— Robert Romano is the Vice President of Public Policy at Americans for Limited Government.



### Letters to the editor

All letters to the editor submitted to The Owyhee Avalanche must be no longer than 300 words, signed and include the writer's address and daytime phone number.

The deadline for submitting letters is noon on Friday. Letters can be submitted in these ways:

- E-mailed to [jon@owyheeavalanche.com](mailto:jon@owyheeavalanche.com)
- Faxed to (208) 337-4867
- Mailed to P.O. Box 97, Homedale ID, 83628
- Dropped off at the Avalanche office at 19 E. Idaho Ave., in Homedale

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# Commentary

## Financial management

### Where to fit home buying into your financial playbook

**Dear Dave,**  
When is the right time to buy a house when someone is following your Baby Steps plan?  
— **Samuel**

**Dear Samuel,**  
That’s a good question. Let’s start by going over the first few Baby Steps.  
Baby Step 1 is saving \$1,000 for a beginner emergency fund. Baby Step 2 is paying off all consumer debt, from smallest to largest, using the debt snowball. Baby Step 3 is where you increase your emergency fund to the point where you have three to six months of expenses set aside.  
Once you’ve done all that you can begin saving for a home. I’ll call it Baby Step 3b. For folks looking to buy a

house, I advise saving enough money for a down payment of at least 20 percent. I don’t beat people up over mortgage debt, but I do advise them to get a 15-year, fixed-rate loan, where the payments are no more than 25 percent of their monthly take-home pay.  
Doing it this way may take a little more time, and delay your dream of becoming a homeowner a bit, but buying a house when you’re broke is the quickest way I know to turn something that should be a blessing into a burden!  
— **Dave**

**Dear Dave,**  
My father died recently. He walked out of my life 25 years ago when I was a teenager, and he never wanted anything to do with me after that. His brothers,



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who have already paid for some of his final expenses, asked if I wanted to pay to have his body cremated. They didn’t ask for money, they just offered it as a chance to be part of things. I’m in good shape financially, and I could easily afford the cost. Morally, I wonder if I

have a responsibility to help with things. Do you feel I’m obligated in any way?  
— **Julie**

**Dear Julie,**  
I’m sorry for your loss. I’m sorry, too, about what happened with your father. I can’t imagine the mixed emotions you must have in your heart.  
When someone asks me a question like this, I try to put myself in their shoes. Under the circumstances, I don’t think you have any obligation whatsoever — morally or legally — to help pay for anything. If you want to help, and you can afford to do so, then follow your heart. At the same time, I don’t think you should lose one wink of sleep over this if you decide not to contribute.

Twenty-five years is long, long time. I don’t know your dad, and I have no clue about his situation or state of mind back then and in the time since. I can’t imagine doing that to a child of any age, though.  
Do what you feel in your heart is best. But in my opinion, there’s no obligation here. God bless you, Julie.  
— **Dave**

— *Dave Ramsey is CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored seven best-selling books, including The Total Money Makeover. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 14 million listeners each week on 585 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at [daveramsey.com](http://daveramsey.com) and on Twitter at @DaveRamsey.*

## Visions and Values

### Remembering 1968: A year of lost innocence

by Dr. Mark Hendrickson

Earlier this month, I celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my high school graduation with most of the surviving classmates of the Cranbrook School Class of 1968. They became accomplished men (it was an all-boys school then) whose greatest common achievement has been to be solid family men.  
Looking back, though, ours was not the typical exuberant graduation day. Our scheduled commencement speaker, U.S. Sen. Robert Griffin (R-Mich.), had to cancel at the last minute to attend the funeral service for a fellow senator — Robert F. Kennedy (D-N.Y.), who had been assassinated in California just two days earlier after having won that state’s Democratic presidential primary election. While we were all grateful to receive our diplomas from an extraordinary school, the tragedy of RFK’s murder cast a somber pall over the occasion.  
Indeed, 1968 was the year when many baby-boomers — and in particular all the high school classes of ’68 across the country — lost our innocence. Our class had grown up during one of the happiest times in American history. We weren’t quite old enough to remember the Korean War, and so growing up in the ’50s and ’60s, it seemed as though peace, prosperity, and carefree times were the normal, natural conditions of life on Earth. We were naive, of course, but it was, comparatively speaking, a glorious period.  
In the ’50s, we middle-class suburbanites never locked our house or car. The ’60s seemed to open up limitless, brighter possibilities — from black-and-white TV yielding to color to the giddiness ignited



by the Beatles to the breath-taking marvel of sending astronauts to the moon. There were occasional interruptions of the near-idyllic world of the Class of ’68 — the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in November 1963, periodic racial conflict, and the emerging tragedy of getting bogged down in a no-win military venture in Vietnam — but until 1968, hope, happiness, and optimism prevailed.  
1968 was the year that the illusory bubble of a carefree world was popped for the Class of ’68. That was the year we lost our innocence. I’m sure that the several older graduating classes of baby boomers, having outgrown the cocoon of high school and entering into the responsibilities of adulthood during the mid-’60s, had already left innocence behind, but for the Class of ’68, our naive, sheltered childhood came crashing down with a bang in that eventful year.  
On April 4, 1968, the country was stunned by the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. I had grown up believing that fair play, respect, and freedom were universally accepted as “the American way,” but King’s murder violently showed that prejudice, hatred, ignorance, and injustice were far from vanquished.  
Just two months and two days later, on June 6, 1968, RFK was also killed by an assassin’s bullet. For the second time in two months, a shocking and monstrously wicked deed battered the innocence in which I, and many of my contemporaries, had grown up. Those two assassinations were slaps in the face to the Class of ’68: Grow up, kids, the party is over, your society is coming apart at the seams, you’re getting your draft cards this year, and it’s now your turn to deal with the sometimes-grim challenges of adult life. (Please don’t feel bad for us. We all take turns grappling with difficult challenges. The ones

who really had it tough in ’68 were the Americans serving in Vietnam then. They had to experience the horrors of war while hearing about the apparent disintegration of the country they longed to return to.)  
In 1968, American society entered a grim period of discord and tumult. The assassinations were followed by such convulsive events as the counterculture’s clash with Chicago police at the Democratic National Convention that August, the increasing incidence (and in some cases appalling anti-Americanism) of antiwar protests, the explosion of reckless drug usage, the acceleration of the trend away from church attendance, the exploding sexual revolution that glorified casual sex and spawned a wave of broken families and an abortion holocaust, etc., etc.  
Indeed, 1968 was a pivotal year for me, for millions of my contemporaries, and for our country. Fortunately, I have learned a few worthwhile things in the decades since. I have learned that the USA, despite too often falling short of our highest values and ideals, is still the world’s last, best hope, and deserves our patriotic support. I have learned that this world will always be in a perennial battle between good and evil — the tares and wheat — and we owe it to ourselves and others to cherish and emphasize the wheat. Life in this world isn’t always easy or fair. But life gives each of us repeated opportunities to do things that make life worth living. Most importantly, I have learned that a merciful and loving God exists and will comfort us with a peace beyond anything this world can provide.

— *Dr. Mark W. Hendrickson is an adjunct faculty member, economist, and fellow for economic and social policy with The Center for Vision & Values at Grove City (Pa.) College.*







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# Island Park boat ramp now open

Engineer Amy Woodruff updated the Marsing City Council last Wednesday on various construction projects.

- The Island Park boat ramp project is completed and available for use.
- The City Park restroom had a minor setback during its completion.

“We had a little hiccup with the electrical inspection,” Woodruff said. “We’re working through that.”

She said that the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development inspected the bathrooms last week.

Woodruff also updated the council on the Idaho Transportation Department’s state highway 55 sidewalk grant. She said if the project cannot be completed by Nov. 25, ITD has agreed to refund the grant money back to the Local Highway Technical Assistance Council.

“If that happens, they will have to look into doing something different,” she said.

Woodruff’s Civil Dynamics

co-worker, Kirby Cook, and public works supervisor Philip Gibson have been heavily involved with the large-scale construction project happening at Marsing schools. They’ve been helping with inspection and helping to locate waterlines.

Cook and Gibson’s work ties in with the boring under Idaho highway 78.

“The bore is complete, and we did find the existing 4-inch main,” Woodruff said. “Not exactly the way we wanted to find it.”

Woodruff was referencing when the bore was being dug and the 4-inch pipe was accidentally cut, which forced water services to stop for several hours in May.

“Once the water main on the school property is (ready to go), the original 4-inch and 6-inch mains will be cut and capped and abandoned,” she said.

Woodruff also told city council that the contractor who won the bid for building the proposed Idaho 78 sidewalk began another project while waiting for school to get out for the year.

The sidewalk in front of the Marsing schools will be built later this summer.

— TK



A vehicle travels a rotomilled portion of Johnstone Road, showing how a roadway treated with a sugar beet byproduct (above) reduces dust compared to untreated (left).

## Sweet, sticky, dust-free

### Highway district slathers gravel roads with molasses

The Homedale Highway District has taken a novel approach to keeping dust down.

Last week, crews applied a sugar beet byproduct on two road segments that have been rotomilled into gravel in recent years.

In the simplest terms, the road workers sprayed molasses all over the road.

Dust Down, a concentrated separated by-product (CSB) produced by the Amalgamated Sugar Co., in Nampa, has been marketed as an inexpensive alternative to oil for dust suppression operations.

Director of Highways Stewart Constantine told

Homedale road commissioners about the CSB dust abatement project, which was carried out last week on Cemetery Road and the southernmost end of Johnstone Road.

The district paid \$1,320 for 2,000 gallons of the liquid. Constantine reported to the commissioners at last Wednesday’s monthly meeting that 11 tons of the material cost \$120 per ton.

“This will hopefully cover a segment on the east end and a larger segment on the west end of Cemetery Road,” he wrote in his report.

Constantine added that 5,740 feet of gravel at the end of Johnstone Road was treated.

Both sections of the road were

turned to gravel some years ago because the district couldn’t afford the cost of rebuilding the asphalt road surfaces.

Nielsen Lane south of Graveyard Point Road, which was rotomilled to gravel a few years ago, could be another candidate for CSB treatment.

“If other areas are treated, that would be up to the commissioners,” Constantine said in an email to The Owyhee Avalanche.

• Constantine and commissioners also discussed possible equipment needs for the district, including a larger water truck, a skidsteer, and a larger spray truck and a broom. No action was taken.

— JPB

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