

# The Owyhee Avalanche

VOL. 34, NO. 17 \$1

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2019

## Vandenberg describes killing hitchhiker

Melba man becomes second alleged conspirator to change plea

The man accused of firing the gun that killed an Oregon hitchhiker in 2017 could spend life in prison.

Nicholas Blake Vandenberg entered guilty pleas to four of the five felonies he faced in the death of 17-year-old Hunter Allyn Smith

of Medford, Ore., in June 2017.

Vandenberg entered a Rule 11 guilty plea to three felonies — first-degree murder, use of a firearm during the commission of a crime, and destruction of evidence.

He entered an Alford plea to

felony conspiracy to commit first-degree murder.

Owyhee County Prosecuting Attorney Douglas D. Emery dropped a felony charge of failing to report a death as part of the



Nicholas  
Vandenberg

— See **Killing**, page 6

## Homedale youth urged to participate in city cleanup

Homedale's city leaders are making a pitch for high school seniors to help out with Saturday's community cleanup.

"This is your city," Councilman Mike Aebischer said near the end of the April 10 city council meeting. "I realize you're seniors, and you can't wait to get the heck out of here. But you will come back and visit. Your families are still here.

"It's good to have a little pride in your town. We could really use the help."

City officials took advantage of the captive audience earlier this month.

The seniors attended the city council meeting as part of their civics requirement. Each had agendas signed by City Clerk and Treasurer Alice Pegram to prove they had

— See **Cleanup**, page 7



### Easter, with a little help from his friends

Joe Mac Hernandez got a little assistance from his favorite superhero, Spider-Man, and his uncle, Jorge Hernandez, during Saturday's Homedale Chamber of Commerce Easter Egg Hunt at Sundance Park. For Easter photos from around the county and the Lizard Butte Sunrise Service, see **Page 12**

## Homedale fifth-graders decorate Owyhee Field Days T-shirts



Middle-schoolers Bertha Flores and Drake Jerome.

### Annual field trip held today, Thursday

When hundreds of area fifth-graders roam the grounds at the Owyhee Reservoir this week, they'll wear a T-shirt with artwork from two Homedale students.

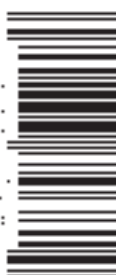
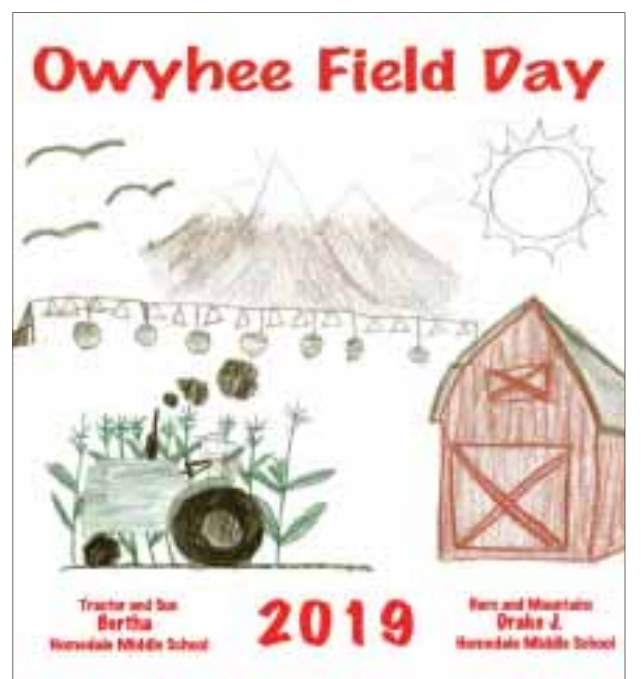
Middle-schoolers Drake Jerome and Bertha Flores, both 11 years old, developed drawings to be con-

sidered for the T-shirt that students wear during the annual Owyhee Field Days.

The T-shirts also are given to event sponsors, whose names appear on the shirt, and Field Day demonstration participants.

Officials from the Owyhee Watershed Council, which sponsors the two-day natural resources awareness event, chose both students' artwork.

— See **Field Days**, page 7



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**Trobots return, Pg. 3:** Homedale team competed in Houston  
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**Foreign exchange, Pg. 24:** Europeans adjust to Marsing High  
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A crane lifts a large girder in Island Park during the beginning stages of demolition of the old Snake River bridge in Marsing. Demolition started last week and is expected to take three to four weeks.

# Bridge demolition marks new phase of construction

The Idaho Transportation Department recently emailed a project update to Marsing businesses affected by construction on Idaho highway 55 (Main Street) and the Snake River bridge in Marsing.

Over the next couple weeks, citizens and motorists should expect the following:

- Work on the curb and gutter on the south side of the highway between the bridge and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue West
- Reconstruction of the road base and the paving of asphalt from the bridge to 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue West on the north side of Main Street. This work is expected to be completed by early May.
- Roadway patching by the school drain
- Repair of large potholes on the existing bridge deck
- Continued removal of the old bridge in sections. Bridge demolition is expected to take three to four weeks.

According to ITD public information specialist Jake Melder, Main Street from 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue West to 14<sup>th</sup> Street will be totally reconstructed over the course of the next four to six weeks.

He also said pavement rehab will occur on Idaho 55 from 14<sup>th</sup> Street to the U.S. Highway 95 junction later this year.

“This work involves milling up the existing asphalt, mixing in fresh material, and re-laying the material for a smooth surface,” Melder wrote in an email.

That part of the project will take place after the 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue West to 14<sup>th</sup> Street reconstruction.

Melder said that he expects the majority of the work to be completed by late July.

— TK

### Spring Garage Door Specials

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## The Owyhee Avalanche

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# From Homedale to Houston, Trobots take on world



### Tuning up for the competition

Mentor Tony Uranga checks the chassis of the Trobots' entry into the FIRST Robotics world competition in Houston.

**From left:** Daniel Uranga looks on, Mason Rountree assists, Nyelah Johnson and Ashlyn Miller confer, and Téa Uranga helps hold the robot up.



### Taking it to the field

Trobots team member Ricardo Hernandez (center) gets help from mentor Tony Uranga (left) and advisor Mark Thatcher, readying the team's robot for action. The rookie team placed 45<sup>th</sup> out of the 68 teams participating in the FIRST Robotics national competition Thursday through Saturday in Houston.



### Putting practice to work

Trobots pilot Daniel Uranga (center) checks the screen that he will use to navigate Homedale's machine through the field of competition.

## Homedale library book sale planned

### Friends group chips in on book grant

The Friends of the Homedale Public Library will hold its semi-annual book sale from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Saturday, May 4 at the library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave.

"We have a lot of great books for all ages," library director Sharla Jensen said.

Books will be sold for donations to the Friends of the Library group.

Proceeds from the book sale go toward helping fund programs and materials for the library.

Jensen said that so far this fiscal year, the Friends have provided money for:

- Supplies to paint the outside drop box
- A Noah's Ark Workshop during June's Summer Reading program
- Matching funds (\$300) to the Pilcrow Foundation grant

for children's books

"I just received word that we were approved for the Pilcrow Grant," Jensen said.

Jensen said she thinks the Pilcrow Foundation doubles the match, but she won't know for sure until she gets the official letter sometime this week.

The foundation was started in 2013, and its mission is to "provide new, quality, hardcover children's books to rural public libraries across the United States," according to its website.

— TK

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trade it, rent it...  
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\*Lost Arts    \*Raffles    \*Live & Online Auctions    \*Mustangs    \*Sheep Dog Demo    \*The Jr. Jammers

\*Horny Toad Races    \*Terry Rekow: Cowboy songs    \*Craft/ Food Vendors    \*10K Fun Run

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# Marsing FFA'er heading to nationals for speech contest

## New chapter officers introduced at year-end banquet

Marsing High School junior Cade Brackett's speech on "Cattle's Superpowers" has him flying off to Indianapolis in the fall.

Brackett won the FFA state championship for prepared public speech during the April 3-6 State Leadership Conference on the College of Southern Idaho campus in Twin Falls. As state champ, he qualifies for competition at the national convention in October.

Brackett and fellow junior Jessica Sevy were awarded their Idaho FFA state degrees.

Sevy, Ashley Loucks, Emily Thoene, and Regan Stansell participated on the floriculture team.

Amaya Mendoza, Annie Miller, and Carter Clay made up the horse evaluation team.

Delegates for the state convention were Alexis Loucks and Constance Bowers.

The state conference was just part of a busy past couple of weeks for advisor Nic Usabel's Marsing FFA chapter.

The chapter commemorated the events of 2018-19 and saluted FFA members, alumni and school faculty during the annual banquet on April 15.

The 2019-20 chapter officers were introduced, too.

Saydee Longhurst, the FFA state president from Shelley,

was guest speaker.

Marsing High teachers Daryl Lemos and John Lindley received Chapter Appreciation Awards for their outstanding service to the chapter.

The chapter also awarded 19 Greenhand degrees, and Annie Miller was presented with her chapter degree.

State degree recipients Brackett and Sevy were acknowledged during the banquet, too.

Idaho FFA pins were given out. Twenty-one members received first-year bars, 16 received two-year bars, 13 received three-year bars, and four received four-year bars.

Stansell and Zane Brackett were presented with Star Greenhand awards, and Annie Miller was acknowledged as Star Farmer.

Logan Stansell earned the DeKalb agricultural accomplishment award and the Marsing Lions Club scholarship.

The Taylor Sauer Workhorse Award went to Colton Brown, acknowledging his hard work ethic.

High Point awards went to Regan Stansell (first year), Alana Larrusea (second year), Cade Brackett (third year), and Logan Stansell (fourth year).

Larrusea was acknowl-



Marsing FFA's State Leadership contingent, **back row, from left:** Annie Miller, Emily Thoene, Jessica Sevy, Regan Stansell, Emily Loucks, Rylee Loucks, Ashley Loucks, Amaya Mendoza, and advisor Nic Usabel; **middle row, from left:** Jonathan Ineck, Colton Brown, Teagan Bennion, Anthony Sugai, Cade Brackett, Zane Brackett, and Justin Ineck; **front:** Carter Clay.

edged for highest sales in the chapter's produce sales, and Rodney Bibbey was cited after selling the most tickets for the chapter's donkey basketball game.

Honorary degrees went to Wendy Stansell and Stephanie Sevy for their dedication to the Marsing chapter.

At the end of the banquet, the 2018-19 officers stepped down from their positions to make way for next year's of-

ficers.

The new officers include Cade Brackett (president), Annie Miller (vice-president), Jessica Sevy (secretary), Regan Stansell (treasurer), Emily Thoene (reporter), and Amaya Mendoza (sentinel).

— Marsing FFA chapter reporter Emily Thoene provided information for this article.





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U.S.P.S. NO. 416-340  
Copyright 2019 — ISSN #8750-6823

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Published each week in Homedale, Idaho by Owyhee Avalanche, Inc. Entered as Periodical, paid at the Post Office at Homedale, ID under the Act of March 3, 1879. POSTMASTER: send address changes to THE OWYHEE AVALANCHE, P.O. 97, Homedale, ID 83628.

Annual Subscription Rates\*:  
Owyhee County..... \$37.10  
Canyon, Ada counties..... 42.40  
Malheur County (no tax)..... 40.00  
Elsewhere in Idaho..... 47.70  
Elsewhere (outside Idaho • no tax)..... 47.50  
\* Includes postage & tax (where applicable)

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Classifieds  
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Friday noon the week prior to publication

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Friday noon the week prior to publication

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






Today

75°  
47°


Partly  
sunny

Thu




79° 52°

Fri




76° 44°

Sat




72° 43°

Sun




71° 42°

Mon



62° 39°

Tue



72° 40°

April 16

April 17

April 18

April 19

April 20

April 21

April 22

55° 40°

54° 47°

N/A

73° 41°

84° 46°

66° 50°

67° 52°

.40

.12

.00

.00

.00

.00

SNOTEL report, Owyhee County sensors

	Snow Equiv.	Snow Depth	Year-to-date Precip.	Previous day's temperature		
	(measured in inches)			Max	Min	Avg
				(measured in Fahrenheit)		
<b>Mud Flat</b>						
04/16	0.0	0	12.6	48	34	40
04/17	0.0	0	12.1	53	32	43
04/18	0.0	0	12.4	64	34	51
04/19	0.1	0	12.9	70	43	56
04/20	0.1	n/a	13.2	61	40	50
04/21	0.1	0	13.0	53	38	44
04/22	0.0	0	12.8	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Reynolds Creek</b>						
04/16	0.0	0	16.0	45	33	39
04/17	n/a	1	16.1	52	37	44
04/18	n/a	1	16.1	61	40	52
04/19	0.2	0	16.2	71	51	61
04/20	0.3	0	16.3	56	37	46
04/21	0.2	0	16.4	51	36	43
04/22	0.1	0	16.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>South Mountain</b>						
04/16	14.3	34	27.6	46	31	37
04/17	14.0	33	27.6	51	35	42
04/18	13.4	31	27.7	62	40	51
04/19	12.4	29	27.8	65	49	56
04/20	11.2	26	27.8	57	36	46
04/21	10.3	24	28.7	50	33	40
04/22	9.2	22	28.7	n/a	n/a	n/a

Water report

The Bureau of Reclamation website showed that the Owyhee Reservoir was 84 percent full and that water was flowing in the Owyhee River above the reservoir at Rome, Ore., at a rate of 4,106 cubic feet per second. Water is flowing out at Nyssa, Ore., at a rate of 216 cubic feet per second. The reservoir held 598,672 acre-feet of water on Monday.

# Commissioners receive health district's FY 2020 budget request

Southwest District Health submitted its fiscal year 2020 budget proposal for consideration to the Owyhee County Commissioners during the board's weekly meeting on April 15.

If approved by the BOCC after its budget hearing on Aug. 19, the county would agree to pay \$56,066 — an increase of .26 percent, or \$145, from the \$55,921 FY 2019 obligation.

According to numbers compiled by SWDH, the total contribution for the district's six counties (Adams, Canyon, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, and Washington) amounts to \$1.34 million for the 2019 fiscal year. Canyon County accounts for 75 percent of that total (\$1.008 million).

The overall budget request for 2020, totaled from all six counties, amounts to a 3 percent increase (\$40,228 from \$1.34 million to \$1.381 million).

Southwest District Health has requested an increase in state funding, too, from \$1,399,100 to \$1,443,900 (3.2 percent).

SWDH funding sources for FY 2020 include:

- Fees (Immunizations, wellness checks, etc.) — \$1,705,615 (19 percent)
- State funds — \$1,443,900 (16 percent)
- County funds — \$1,381,174 (15 percent)
- Carry-over — \$170,000 (2 percent)
- Millennium Fund (smoking cessation) — \$129,000 (1 percent)
- Miscellaneous other — \$106,000 (1 percent)

Owyhee County Dist. 2 Commissioner Kelly Aberasturi (R-Homedale) is the Southwest District Health Board vice-chair. Other board members are:

- Commissioner Bryan Elliott, chair — Gem County
- Commissioner Viki Purdy — Adams County
- Commissioner Tom Dale — Canyon County
- Commissioner Georgia Hanigan — Payette County
- Commissioner Nate Marvin — Washington County
- Dr. Sam Summers — Physician representative

The Region 3 crisis center, dubbed the Western Idaho Community Crisis Center, opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Cornerstone Building in Caldwell on Monday.

It provides 24-hours-a-day behavioral health stabilization services and is a partnership between SWDH and Lifeways, Inc.

# Courthouse report

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

**April 15**  
**Valon Alin, Meridian** — Misdemeanor vehicle identifying markings violation: \$43.50 in fines, \$157.50 in court costs

# School menus

**Homedale Elementary**  
*Veggie bar, fruit bar, and choice of milk and juice each day*  
April 24: **Breakfast:** Waffle sticks **Lunch:** Chicken tenders, mashed potatoes w/gravy  
April 25: **Breakfast:** Donut, Mixed fruit, string cheese **Lunch:** Mini Calzones, green beans, cookie  
April 29: **Breakfast:** S'more oatmeal bites, peaches **Lunch:** Burrito, Spanish rice, corn  
April 30: **Breakfast:** Breakfast on a stick, pears **Lunch:** Hamburger, French fries

**Homedale Middle**  
*Fruit & salad bar, choice of milk and juice each day*  
April 24: **Breakfast:** Tornado or cereal, applesauce **Lunch:** Pork chop or chicken tenders, mashed potatoes/gravy, hot roll  
April 25: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon UBR or cereal, string cheese **Lunch:** Crispito or PB&J sandwich, taco salad, cookie  
April 29: **Breakfast:** Rolled taco or cereal, peaches **Lunch:** Chicken nuggets or mini corn dogs, steamed carrots, fruit choice  
April 30: **Breakfast:** Chocolate chip muffin or cereal, yogurt, pears **Lunch:** Cheeseburger or popcorn chicken, baked beans, goldfish crackers

**Homedale High**  
*Salad, fruit choice and choice of milk and juice each day*  
April 24: **Breakfast:** Biscuits & gravy or mini waffles or cereal **Lunch:** Beef taco or chicken taco, corn  
April 25: **Breakfast:** Pancake bites or fruit & grain bar or cereal **Lunch:** Chicken tender, mashed potatoes w/gravy, roll or grab 'n' go chicken wrap  
April 29: **Breakfast:** Breakfast on a stick or frudel or cereal **Lunch:** Popcorn chicken or Mini calzones, garlic toast, steamed carrots  
April 30: **Breakfast:** Croissant sandwich or bagel w/cream cheese or cereal **Lunch:** Hamburger or cheeseburger, tater tots, cookie

**Marsing**  
*Elementary: Veggie bar, fruit bar, fruit juice and choice of milk*  
*Middle/High School Grab-n-go line: Mon. & Wed.: Ch'burger, croissant sandwich; Tues. & Thurs.: Chicken sandwich, wrap; Every day: Pizza, salad w/breadstick*  
*All main entrees served with fries, milk & fruit/veggie bar*  
April 24: **Breakfast:** Maple pancakes, banana **Lunch:** Enchiladas & rice, baked sweet potatoes or PB&J  
April 25: **Breakfast:** Breakfast sandwich, grapes **Lunch:** Pepperoni pizza, pineapple, carrot sticks, jello  
April 29: **Breakfast:** Breakfast bar, apple **Lunch:** Chicken sandwich, green beans  
April 30: **Breakfast:** Mini cinnis, orange smiles **Lunch:** Taco Tuesday, Spanish rice, refried beans or PB&J, carrot sticks, snickerdoodle

**Bruneau/Grand View**  
*All breakfasts and all meals: Milk and fruit offered daily*  
*Jr.-Sr. high school: Salad bar, pizza offered daily*  
April 24: **Breakfast:** Pancakes and egg patty **Lunch:** Taco salad, whole wheat tortilla chips, refried beans/salsa  
April 25: **Breakfast:** Breakfast wrap **Lunch:** Hamburger on a bun, tater tots, baby carrots, Chocolate chip cookie  
April 29: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon frudel **Lunch:** Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes & gravy, steamed broccoli, whole wheat roll  
April 30: **Breakfast:** Biscuits & gravy **Lunch:** Mac Attack, tossed Romaine salad, baby carrots



From page 1

✓ Killing: Third defendant scheduled for May mediation

mediated deal.

Vandenberg’s plea came in a Murphy courtroom late Monday afternoon before Third District Judge Christopher S. Nye.

A life sentence is possible when Vandenberg goes before Nye on Aug. 27 for his sentencing hearing. Emery said the man must serve 30 years before being considered for parole.

During allocution, Vandenberg admitted that he shot Smith twice in the stomach, Emery said. When Emery pressed for more details, Vandenberg said he shot Smith twice in the head and face area, too.

Emery said Vandenberg testified that he first fired because Smith had pointed Vandenberg’s rifle at him and he feared for his life. But, Emery said, Vandenberg knew the rifle wasn’t loaded.

The 28-year-old Melba resident had faced the death penalty, but a plea deal was negotiated after mediation between Emery and defense attorneys with Third District Sr. Judge Ronald J. Wilper presiding.

Vandenberg also must tell investigators where he hid a second .45-caliber Ruger that is believed to be the murder weapon. Emery said the .45-caliber Ruger recovered has interchangeable parts with the missing gun, and it is believed Vandenberg swapped parts

between the weapons.

The Rule 11 plea on the conspiracy charge means Nye must follow the guidelines of the agreement when considering sentencing.

An Alford plea is entered when the defendant asserts his innocence but acknowledges that the evidence presented could lead to his conviction.

Meanwhile, another defendant in the case, Montanna Rae Reed, and her representatives will meet with the prosecution for mediation before Wilper on May 9.

Reed has been charged with two felonies — conspiracy to commit first-degree murder and failure to notify authorities about a death.

A third defendant, 35-year-old Willie Keith Rabey, reached a plea deal through mediation in late January.

Rabey pled guilty plea to three felonies: Accessory to first-degree murder, destruction of evidence, and failure to report a death.

His sentencing hearing is scheduled for Dec. 6.

The three defendants were arrested in the fall of 2017 after an investigation sparked when hunters found Smith’s remains in the Owyhee Desert outside Bruneau.

Prosecutors alleged that Vandenberg shot Smith, and that all three tried to destroy evidence by burning the boy’s clothing and hiding his body.

— JPB

Calendar

Today

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

**Senior bus to Mountain Home**  
9:30 a.m., Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (208) 834-2922

**Make-it class**  
4 p.m., open to school-aged children, Eastern Owyhee County Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2785

Thursday

**Genetic cancer screening**  
9 a.m. to 1 p.m., covered by Medicare, appointment necessary, Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

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

**Story Time**  
Noon, Eastern Owyhee County Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2785

**Pinochle games**  
After lunch, Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (208) 834-2922

**STEMCraft at the library**  
4 p.m., grade-school ages, Eastern Owyhee County Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2785

**Mennonite Youth Choir**  
7 p.m., refreshments served, Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View.

**HHS National Honor Society induction**  
7 p.m., Homedale High School main gymnasium, 203 E. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4613

Friday

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

**3D printer 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

**3D printer class**  
Noon to 2 p.m., Eastern Owyhee County Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. Adult class. (208) 834-2785

**Teens and Tweens program**  
4 p.m., Homedale Public Library, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228 afternoons Monday through Saturday

Saturday

**Homedale community cleanup**  
8 a.m. to 2 p.m., volunteers welcome, meet at Riverside Park boat dock, Homedale. (208) 337-4641

**Homedale Golf scramble**  
9 a.m., shotgun start, \$60 per person, River Bend Golf Course, Wilder. (208) 340-4611 or cgrove@homedaleschools.org

Catholic Mass

10 a.m., Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church and Oreana Community Hall, Oreana. (208) 466-7031

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

**Pinochle and dominoes games**  
1 p.m., Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (208) 834-2922

**Grand View city cleanup**  
1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Grand View riverfront. (208) 834-2700

Monday

**Jordan Valley CWMA meeting**  
7 p.m., Jordan Valley CWMA office, 508 Swisher Ave., Jordan Valley. (541) 586-3000 or jvcwma@qwestoffice.net

Tuesday

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

**Pinochle games**  
After lunch, Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (208) 834-2922

Wednesday

**All veterans coffee**  
9 a.m., Phipps-Watson American Legion Hall and Community Center, 126 W. 2nd St. N., Marsing

**Make-it class**  
4 p.m., open to school-aged children, Eastern Owyhee County Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2785

**Grand View Fire commissioners meeting**  
5 p.m., Grand View Fire Station, 721 Roosevelt Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2511 (call ahead to ensure the meeting will be held)

Thursday, May 2

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

**Story Time**  
Noon, Eastern Owyhee County Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2785

**Bingo**  
12:30 p.m., free, Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (208) 834-2922

**Pinochle games**  
After lunch, Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (208) 834-2922

**Rimrock Sr. Center board meeting**  
1 p.m., Rimrock Senior Center, 525 Main St., Grand View. (208) 834-2922

**STEMCraft at the library**  
4 p.m., grade-school ages, Eastern Owyhee County Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2785

**Lizard Butte Library board meeting**  
5:30 p.m., Lizard Butte Library community room, 111 W. 3rd Ave., Marsing. (208) 896-4690

**Owyhee County Fair Board meeting**  
7 p.m., Owyhee County Fair office, fairgrounds, 420 W. Nevada Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3888 or (208) 941-4522

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

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



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From page 1

✓ Cleanup: City will provide lunch for volunteers who show up on Saturday

attended the meeting.

Mayor Gheen Christoffersen joked that Pegram should have waited to sign off on the seniors' participation until the cleanup on Saturday.

"It would be really awesome to see a group this size with the same caliber of young people to help this year," Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller said of the teens in the gallery.

For the citywide cleanup,

community volunteers are encouraged to meet at the Riverside Park boat dock before 8 a.m.

The cleanup will last until 2 p.m., this year. Lunch will be provided.

There will be only one cleanup day in 2019. Previously, the city organized back-to-back cleanup Saturdays.

City officials urged residents to get involved by pitching

in with the cleanup of public spaces as well as taking the opportunity to tidy up their own property.

Curbside pickup at residences may be available depending on the amount of manpower available.

Call City Hall ahead of time to schedule pickup at (208) 337-4641.

— JPB

✓ Field Days: Plenty to learn at the lake

The fifth-graders' artwork has been melded into one illustration, and Melba-based Owyhee Design made the silkscreen for the T-shirts.

"We just thought they looked like they would go well together," the OWC's Michaelann Seiders said.

Drake's contribution features a barn with a tractor and an irrigation pivot with mountains as a backdrop. Bertha said she drew a tractor.

Drake and Bertha are students in Debby Turner's class at Homedale Middle School, and they jumped at the chance to participate in the optional class activity.

"I just like drawing," the daughter of Elaine and Andres Flores said as her reason for taking the challenge.

"I just wanted to do it," the son of Jeremy and Andrea Jerome said. "My sister was bored, so she helped me."

Drake's sister, Faye, now 13, also attended Owyhee Field Days when she was a fifth-grader.

Drake and Bertha will be part of 1,000 fifth-graders from 18 schools at the Owyhee Reservoir today and Thursday.

The Owyhee Watershed Council has presented Field Days each year since May 2002.

Adrian and Jordan Valley also will send fifth-graders on this year's annual field trip.

The students will mill through 28 educational stations covering a wide range of agricultural, natural resource, environmental and recreational topics. The goal is to help the students understand what the watershed is and the role it plays in our daily lives.

Many Owyhee country-based individuals and organizations are helping with the fun, hands-on stations:

Donations make Field Days run

The Owyhee Watershed Council credits generous annual donations from the local community for making Owyhee Field Days successful year after year.

Money received for the event helps schools without enough transportation budget send their students.

Donations also help with the cost associated with the free T-shirts each student receives.

Names of sponsors donating \$100 or more are listed on the back of the T-shirts, but organizers encourage donates under \$100 as well.

A lunch prepared at the Nyssa school cafeteria also is provided.

For more on helping out, call the OWC at (541) 372-5782.

- **Rafting** — Oreana resident Steve Boren and his crew
- **Owyhee crops** — Adrian FFA
- **Geology/mining** — DeLamar Mine Co.
- **Noxious weeds** — Jordan Valley Cooperative Weed Management Area, Eric Morrison, coordinator
- **Food Safety in the Backcountry** — Suriñe Greenway, University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office, Marsing
- **Happy Healthy Herds** — Jordan Valley FFA
- **Holey Cow** — Scott Jens-

en, U of I Owyhee County Extension

• **Dam tour** — Joint Board of Control, Owyhee Project (includes South Board and Owyhee Irrigation District)

• **Marine safety** — Malheur County Sheriff's Office

• **Freight wagon** — Kathy Ross

• **Vector** — Malheur County Vector District

• **Stream simulator** — Vale FFA

• **Beef byproducts** — Vale FFA

• **Predator and Prey** — Vale FFA

• **Water quality monitoring** — Malheur Soil and Water Conservation District

• **Irrigation** — Owyhee Irrigation District

• **The Incredible Edible Aquifer** — Owyhee Irrigation District

• **Wildfire management** — Bureau of Land Management Vale District

• **Backcountry safety and survival** — Malheur County Search and Rescue

• **Watershed/water cycle** — Nicole Sullivan

• **Got Milk** — Oregon Dairy Princess

• **Soils and erosion** — Erik Freibert, Oregon State University Malheur County Experiment Station

• **Invasive species** — Bethany Muffley, Idaho State Department of Agriculture, noxious weeds division

• **Rangeland ecology** — Lynn Larsen, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Ontario center

• **Idaho Fish Uncovered** — Trout Unlimited

• **Hunters safety** — Dave Stiefvater and Dale Wickert

• **Fly Fishing** — Idaho Anglers Association

• **Renewable energy** — Nickie Shira



Northwest Farm Credit Services relationship manager Jerry Wroten, a Jordan Valley resident, holds the \$1,000 grant check presented to the Pleasant Valley School District. The money will be used to make improvements on the school kitchen. Wroten is flanked by some of the district's students. Submitted photo

Pleasant Valley School receives grant

Northwest Farm Credit Services awarded the Pleasant Valley School District a \$1,000 Northwest FCS Rural Community Grant.

"The students, staff, parents and Board of Trustees of the Pleasant Valley School District thank Northwest Farm Credit Services for the Rural Community Grant for our project of updating and refurbishing our school kitchen," acting district superintendent Rene Maestrejuan said in a Northwest FCS press release.

Pleasant Valley is a remote, rural school district supported by the ranching and agricultural industry, the release reads. Its students come from the Idaho-Oregon border area near Jordan Valley, and they

matriculate to Jordan Valley High School.

"We appreciate Northwest Farm Credit Services and their support," Maestrejuan said.

According to the news release, Northwest FCS is committed to helping rural communities succeed. It has given more than \$91,000 to 75 projects across Idaho, Oregon, Montana, and Washington in 2019.

Since the program's inception in 2007, 1,067 grants totaling more than \$1.85 million have been awarded.

The next rural grant deadline is June 1. For more information and to apply for the grant, visit [www.northwest-fcs.com/Stewardship/Rural-Communities](http://www.northwest-fcs.com/Stewardship/Rural-Communities).



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# Jordan Valley noxious weed group to meet

Committee to discuss ongoing battle against whitetop, more

The next Jordan Valley Co-operative Weed Management Area meeting will include a public meeting regarding herbicide treatments in the area.

The meeting takes place at 7 p.m., on Monday at the CWMA office, 508 Swisher Ave., in Jordan Valley.

In addition to the public meeting about herbicide treatments, the CWMA steering committee will discuss grants for treating Idaho ground as well as whitetop treatment projects for Reynolds Creek and Jordan Valley.

During a March 25 meeting, CWMA members learned that the whitetop projects could benefit landowners in the Upper Reynolds Creek, Cow Creek and Hooker Creek areas in Idaho. A spray day in Squaw Creek also will be planned.

The Oregon whitetop effort may be affected by a lack of grant money to buy chemical, but officials continue to look for ways to help landowners. The CWMA continues to work with the Oregon Department of State lands on treatment.

Puncturevine treatment options also will be discussed Monday. Anyone with puncturevine control needs can call Jordan Valley CWMA coordinator Eric Morrison at (541) 586-3000 for more information.

Morrison urges landowners in the area to attend the meeting to provide vital input to advance the organization’s efforts.

In his most recent meeting announcement, Morrison shared information on whitetop as gleaned from the “Selected Noxious Weeds of Eastern Oregon” publication.

Whitetop, a k a Hoary cress, is a herbaceous perennial that spreads primarily by creeping rhizomes producing root shoots. Each plant produces hundreds of seeds.

Of three species found in far Eastern Oregon, Draba is the most common.

Draba has heart-shaped seed

pods, and its leaves are 1 to 3 inches long with slightly toothed margins near the tip.

White flowers, each with four petals opposite, develop at stem ends and form a canopy.

The noxious weed is closely related to broccoli and actually has a similar taste but with a spicy heat. The plant is from the mustard family, and its seeds are hot and spicy.

The weed is found in disturbed areas and places with deep subsurface moisture. The weed will infest hay and pastures, but in recent years has encroached upon rangeland.

An effective way to prevent whitetop invasion is plant competition.

Spraying at the right time is vital to the control of the weed, aggressive reapplication is important.

There is no bio-control for general release, but Telar, Escort or MSM 60 is effect in the pre-bloom and bloom stages.

Cimarron X-tra and Chaparral have been effective herbicides, too.

Use Plateau from full bloom to plant desiccate, and 2,4-D before the bud stage.

Glyphosate is also effective.

Morrison urges applicators to always read and follow herbicide label directions.

Six people attended the CWMA’s March meeting, including Morrison, ranchers Dennis Stanford and Vern Kershner, landowner Chuck Schaffeld, Jared Bunker from Branch Enterprises and Lynne Silva from the Bureau of Land Management Vale District.

The committee discussed the progress in grant applications on both sides of the Idaho-Oregon border. Partial funding was received for Jordan Valley weed control, but efforts to fund a whitetop project in Oregon continue.

Morrison said the Idaho State Department of Agriculture funding picture should come into focus now that the Idaho Legislature has adjourned.

Once the ISDA grant amount is known, Morrison plans to email request for proposals to professional applicators in Southwest Idaho and Eastern Oregon to put another treatment project in motion.



Homedale School District music director John Zieske leads the concert band in its rendition of “Variation Overture,” by Clifton Williams, during the District III band festival on Thursday at Vallivue High School in Caldwell.

# HHS receives excellent grade at District III concert band festival

Two Owyhee County high schools performed at the District III Concert Band Festival on Thursday at Vallivue High School in Caldwell.

Homedale received an overall score of 28.33, which is rated “excellent,” while Marsing High scored 27, rated “good.” Both scores were provided by Homedale music director John Zieske.

Bands are rated on a five-point scale in each of eight different areas of concern:

tone quality, intonation, rhythm, balance and blend, technique, interpretation and musicianship, instrument-specific (strings, woodwinds, etc.), and other performance factors.

Schools that score from 36-40 (superior) are said to be outstanding in nearly every detail; 28-35 (excellent) have minor defects; 20-27 (good) lacks finesse and/or interpretation; 12-19 (fair) has basic weaknesses; and 8-11 (poor)

gives a poor performance.

Art and Music Night will be held Tuesday, May 14, at 6:30 p.m. at Homedale High School’s cafeteria and the old gym, 203 E. Idaho Ave. This event will feature the seventh-to twelfth-grade bands and choirs.

Homedale Middle School’s fifth- and sixth-grade bands will be performing in concert at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21, at the middle school gym.

— TK



Marsing band director Dawn Sandmeyer leads her small but spirited concert band during the District III band festival last Thursday at Vallivue High School.

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337-4681



# Obituaries

## Richard Deane Davis

*July 5, 1932 – April 8, 2019*  
Richard Deane Davis, longtime resident of Adrian, Oregon, died April 8, 2019 in Walla Walla, Washington. ‘Dick’ was born to Perle and Hilda Davis on July 5, 1932 in Kuna, Idaho. He was the youngest of their six children. When Dick was seven, the family moved to the Ridgeview area near Adrian to build a homestead there. Most of Dick’s childhood memories centered around various chores on the family farm and Huck Finn-style adventures in the nearby hills. He told stories of collecting lizards to color with his crayons and times of “running wild horses” with the Shenk kids. He also remembered riding, camping, and hiking in the Owyhee and Succor Creek areas.

During WWII, the family left the farm and moved to the Tacoma area for work. Dick became a “City Kid,” where he enjoyed bicycling on paved roads, having a newspaper route and playing with friends. With his paper route money, Dick acquired a BB gun with 500 BBs. When the family moved back to the farm, he traded them for one of those wild horses — a tall dapple grey he named Mouse. Dick attended grade school at Ridgeview and high school in Adrian where he met and later married Joyce McGinnis. They exchanged their vows just two weeks after their high school graduation. Their only son, Steve, was born the next year. During those first years, Dick farmed for both his Dad and his brother-in-law,

Laverne Hastriter. The young couple also spent a couple winters in the Juntura and Oakridge, Oregon areas where Dick worked construction. Although Dick’s love of farming never waned, he made a lifetime career of carpentry. Around 1954, he joined the building crew of his father-in-law, Jim McGinnis, along with Jim’s father, and two uncles. Later, when Steve was old enough to help with Dick’s passion for farming, Dick gradually took on more farm ground. Though farming was a favorite, Dick’s most successful work venture was the acquisition and management of two tanker trucks. He contracted with both the BLM and Forest Service for fire suppression and dust control. He loved

those trucks and did very well with them. In January of 2017 Joyce and Dick moved to Walla Walla to be near their son and daughter-in-law, Steve and Eileen. Dick is survived by Steve and Eileen; three grandchildren, Nicole (Sandy) Miller; Cami (David) Panther, both of Walla Walla; and Tim (Heather) Davis of Nashville, Tennessee; and seven great-grandchildren, all of Walla Walla. He is also survived by one sister-in-law Pat Davis; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Perle and Hilda Davis; four brothers, Bob, Don, Gene and Frank Davis, and one sister, Frances Newman. Dick’s last two years were spent in assisted living in

Walla Walla, WA. Always the optimist, he did his best to make a life in his new home, though he fiercely missed his Adrian friends and acreage. He learned the stories of many of the other residents and he told them his. He became quite famous as the ‘duck whisperer’ as he watched over a mother duck and her broods. A graveside service is planned for Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Owyhee Cemetery at 11 am. Following the service, a meal will be served at the Adrian Community Church. Memorial contributions may be made to Adrian Sports Boosters through Herring Groseclose Funeral Home, 315 W. Alder St. Walla Walla, WA.

## Joan Thomson

Joan Thomson passed away in her home in Homedale, Idaho on Tuesday morning, April 16, 2019. Joan is lovingly remembered by her husband, Bruce Thomson, her daughters, Ashley, Rebecca, and Yvonne, and her sons, Michael and Randy. Born in Brooklyn, New York on January 17, 1951, she married Bruce in 1988, with whom she relocated to



Idaho in 2001. Her love for her family and friends was

unwavering. Joan dedicated her career to providing unparalleled service to seniors in the community. When she wasn’t working, she played pool both competitively and leisurely, to the tunes of the Rolling Stones if she had anything to say about it. Joan’s celebration of life was held Tuesday, April 23 at 4:30 PM at the Homedale Senior Center.

## Death notices

**GENEVIEVE RUTH PUCKETT NICHOLSON**, 89, of Wilder, died Friday, April 19, 2019 in Homedale at her daughter’s home of natural causes. Arrangements: Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Homedale. (208) 337-3252  
**ERIC MICHAEL ROSE**, 32, of Nampa, died on Monday Feb. 11, 2019 near Silver City. Services are under the direction of Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Caldwell. (208) 459-0833  
**MARY FELCITAS SUAREZ**, 59, of Marsing, died Friday, April 19, 2019. Arrangements: All Valley Cremation, 1538 11th Ave. N. Ext., Nampa. (208) 899-9361

## Senior menus

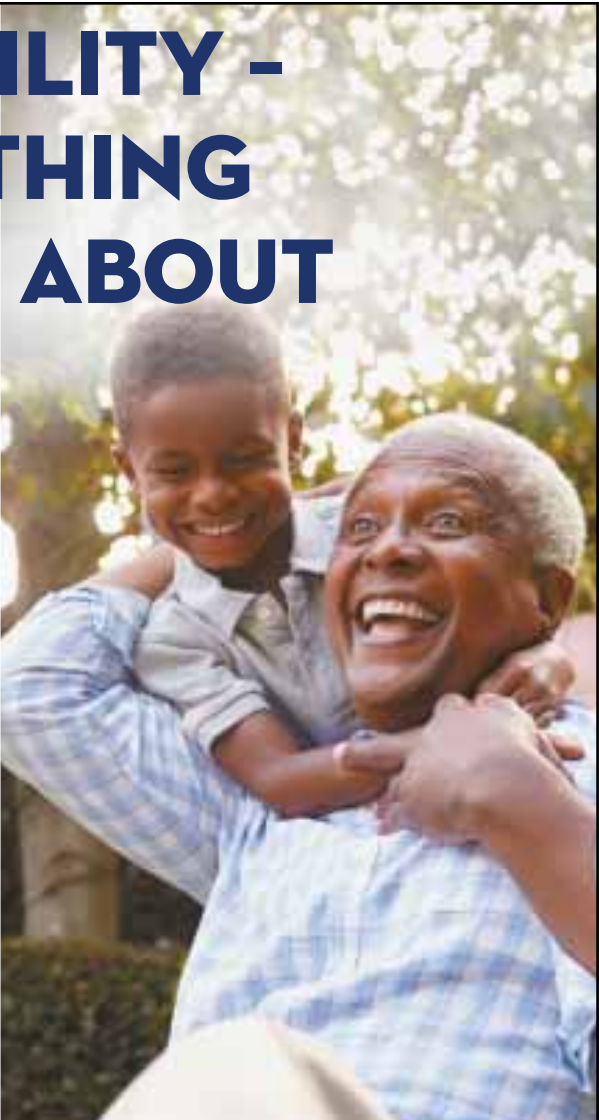
**Homedale Senior Center**  
*Salad bar available with each meal:*  
*Lettuce, tomato, boiled eggs, peaches, apricots, salad dressing*  
*Milk available each day*  
April 24: Sausage & biscuit, mashed potatoes w/gravy, beets  
April 25: Pork roast, mashed potatoes w/gravy, broccoli. roll  
April 30: Chicken patty on a bun, mac & cheese, Calif. blend veggies, roll  
**Rimrock Senior Center**  
*All meals are served with milk & fruit juice, Cook’s choice soup*  
April 25: Philly cheese stick sandwich, tater tots, green salad, fresh fruit salad, cupcakes

## Thursday meeting covers taxing district basics

Owyhee County will host an Idaho Counties Risk Management Program (ICRMP) presentation focused on taxing district officials, appointed boards and committees. The public meeting begins at 6 p.m. on Thursday at the Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Community Center, 126 W. 2nd St. N. meeting, called “Government 101,” include:  
• The role of elected officials  
• Ethics in government  
• Conflicts of interest  
• Risk management  
Officials interested in attending should RSVP to the Owyhee County Clerk’s Office at (208) 495-2421. Refreshments will be available.

## AFFORDABILITY - ONE LESS THING TO WORRY ABOUT

We’ve always been committed to providing quality burial and cremation services, but we’re equally committed to staying within your budget at Flahiff Funeral Chapels & Crematory. At a time when you already have enough critical details to consider, let us help make sure that unnecessary expenses never enter the picture.



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University of Idaho  
Extension

# Ensuring food safety in your meals

As we enjoy spring activities and head into the summer months, it is a great time to reflect on the practices we are using during food preparation in our home. There are four key things that are important when handling food for a meal.



Suriñe Greenway

**Clean:** Wash hands and surfaces often

**Separate:** Don't cross-contaminate

**Cook:** Cook to the safe internal temperature

**Chill:** Refrigerate promptly

While these four practices seem so simple, sometimes people neglect these very basic steps. Sometimes these steps are missed in error as large quantities of foods are prepared, or perhaps they are in a hurry to get the meal on the table for dinner as hungry mouths are begging for food. For whatever the reasons are that these practices are ignored, the outcome can be very dangerous, and yet, so easily prevented.

I know that when I am making dinner for my family, my goal is to provide a delicious meal with some nutrition tucked into the food, without dissuading my children from consuming it.

The easiest way to make sure the meals you are providing for your family are both delicious and safe is:

- Start with clean hands, surfaces and food sources
- Ensure you are not cross-contaminating by starting with fresh produce preparation before food that needs to be cooked is handled, and separate cutting boards can assist with this as well

• Use a thermometer to ensure that the food is reaching a safe internal temperature and remember that different meats have different recommendations

• Make sure to hold foods at room temperature for a limited amount of time (less than two hours) and make sure to refrigerate leftovers quickly.

With several get-togethers quickly approaching this summer, it is important to make sure you are dealing with foods appropriately, during preparation, serving time and when saving leftovers for future consumption.

— Suriñe Greenway is the University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Family and Consumer Sciences educator. For more information, you can reach Greenway 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 W. 8th Ave. W., in Marsing.

## Achieve the right food temperature

Below is a great resource from the Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) for making sure your meat is cooked to a safe internal temperature.

[https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/food-safety-education/get-answers/food-safety-fact-sheets/safe-food-handling/safe-minimum-internal-temperature-chart/ct\\_index](https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/food-safety-education/get-answers/food-safety-fact-sheets/safe-food-handling/safe-minimum-internal-temperature-chart/ct_index)

Product	Min. internal temp and rest time
Beef, Pork, Veal & Lamb Steaks, chops, roasts	145° F and allow to rest for at least 3 minutes
Ground meats	160° F
Ham	145° F and allow to rest for at least 3 minutes
Fresh or smoked (uncooked)	
Fully Cooked Ham	
If packaged USDA-inspected plants reheat to 140° F	
	All others to 165° F
All Poultry (including, giblets, and stuffing)	165° F
Eggs	160° F
Fish & Shellfish	145° F
Leftovers	165° F
Casseroles	165° F

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# Obituary

## David (Dave) Richard Downum

David (Dave) Richard Downum passed away at the age of 51, on April 16, 2019.

He was born on June 16, 1967 to Richard (Dick) and Sarah Downum, in Nampa, ID.

Dick later remarried his current wife Roxie in 1975. They then moved to Homedale, ID the following year to raise Dave and his brother John.

Dave attended school in the Homedale School District until he graduated in 1986. While attending Homedale High School, Dave met his high school sweetheart, Callie Packer. They were married in July of 1994, and in November of 1998, welcomed their only child, Hannah Michele.

For the last 27 years, Dave had worked at Owyhee Publishing as a pressman. He also took great pride in being a city councilman for the City of Homedale for several years.

Dave's proudest achievement



was his daughter, Hannah. Anyone who knew Dave knows how much he loved his daughter and that he loved to brag about how proud he was of her, as well as all of her accomplishments. She was his pride and joy in life.

In recent years, Dave was excited about helping put in the first disc golf course in Homedale, which he also occasionally held classes for.

His latest hobby was flying drones and taking pictures/videos of the City of Homedale, mainly along the Snake River. One of the pictures that Dave had taken, was recently featured on the cover of Idaho Magazine.

He is survived by his daughter Hannah Downum, his parents Dick and Roxie Downum, his brother John and his wife Jennifer, and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 24th, at the Mtn. View Church of the Nazarene, located at 26515 Ustick Rd, in Wilder, ID. There is a viewing open to the public from 1:00-2:00 p.m. Funeral services are under the directions of Flahiff Funeral Chapel. His daughter, Hannah, is requesting that everyone that attends the funeral to please wear forest green, if possible, as it was Dave's favorite color.

# DNA cancer screenings available at Homedale Senior Center

Genetic cancer screenings will be offered next week at the Homedale Senior Center.

The screenings will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., on Thursday.

People can sign up for the screenings, which are covered 100 percent by Medicare according to a handout, by visiting the senior center's

activities office.

The center is located at 224 W. Idaho Ave., or you can call (208) 337-3020 for more information.

The genetic DNA cancer screening involves a non-invasive cheek swab. The procedure tests for 39 common genetic mutations for cancer prevention and early detection.

The swab takes about five minutes, and a comprehensive report returns in about two to three weeks.

The testing is recommended for anyone with a personal or family history of cancer.

A comprehensive cancer panel of tests for all solid tumor cancers is available for those who qualify.

### Caskets

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Standard size

Monuments - Benches

### Graveliners

(Required by cemeteries)

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Standard size

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We can also provide the set-up for our caskets at cemeteries where our graveliners have been approved.  
\$135.00 for local cemeteries within 20 miles from us.

# The Owyhee Avalanche

Owyhee County's best source of local news!



# EASTER AROUND THE AREA



### Special Easter message

Rev. Bill Roscoe of the Boise Rescue Mission looks out over the butte at the hundreds of people gathered for the Lizard Butte Easter Sunrise Service. Submitted photo



### Start of the sunrise service

Angels appear at the base of the Lizard Butte cross to signal the start of the sunrise Easter service. Submitted photo



### Vandals strike

Lizard Butte Association members preparing for the 82<sup>nd</sup> annual service were greeted by graffiti on the platform on Thursday. Volunteers chipped in to repair the damage before Sunday's event. Submitted photo



### Bunny sighting in Murphy

The Easter bunny greeted children at the Owyhee County Courthouse in Murphy on Saturday prior to that community's Easter egg hunt.



### Plenty to choose from in Marsing

Children in the 4- to 5-year-old age group run across a portion of the Marsing High School football field during the Marsing Lions Club's Easter egg hunt.



### Gleeful in Grand View

Darlin McPhaul jumps in the air to celebrate the Grand View Easter egg hunt Saturday at City Park. Also hunting eggs were Kenzley Fowers (left) and Reva Williams. Photo by Denim McPhaul



### Real eggs for Bruneau Easter event

Bruneau Canyon 4-H club members stand with their colored eggs ready for Bruneau's annual Easter egg hunt. Albertsons donated the eggs. Photo by Brooklyn Kunsky

See the online gallery — [www.owyheeavalanche.com](http://www.owyheeavalanche.com)



## Marsing student DAR award finalist

### Chapter's only Owyheean presents Good Citizen Award to Parma girl

A Marsing High School student was among area seniors recognized recently by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Emma Heitz joined three others at the DAR Good Citizen Award presentation on March 9 at the Caldwell Christian Church.

Amber Carpenter of Parma received a certificate and chapter pin as part of the Pocahontas Chapter's award.

The three runners-up were Heitz, Thalia Guajardo of Wilder and Cora Russell of Caldwell.

An essay was not required as part of consideration for the award, but all four submitted one anyway. The topic for the essay was "Our American heritage and our responsibility for preserving it."

Faculty at their respective schools nominated each student.

The qualities of good character vital to the DAR award are dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism.

The DAR Pocahontas chapter's only Owyhee County resident, Donna Tolmie, presented the Good Citizen award. She is the contest chair a former chapter regent.

Tolmie said being considered for this award is an honor for the four young women and looks excellent on resumes. The students also receive letters of recommendation.

The DAR was formed in 1890 and is a non-



Marsing High School senior Emma Heitz stands with Owyhee County resident Donna Tolmie at the DAR Good Citizen Award ceremony. Submitted photo

profit volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America's future through better education for children, the organization's website states.

Any woman 18 years or older who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution is eligible for membership into the DAR.

— TK



Fifty Rimrock Jr.-Sr. High School female students and their teachers attended the Micron Gives Foundation's Women in Technical Careers presentation last week. Photo by Jamie Metcalf

## Role models flock to Rimrock for Women in Tech lunch program

by Mandi Boren

For The Owyhee Avalanche

The Rimrock Jr.-Sr. High School library was filled with all girls on April 15 as the Micron Gives Foundation brought its Women in Technical Careers presentation to the rural school.

Fifty Rimrock students and teachers from grades nine through 12 were in attendance for the lunchtime event.

"The event was very successful," Rimrock counselor Jamie Metcalf said. "Many of the ladies asked questions to help them understand college life."

The three-hour lunch panel consisted of two women working in the engineering field: Cathy Ammirati, STEM Diversity Outreach Manager from the Micron Gives Foundation, and Emilie Murphy, a master's student at Boise State University.

Murphy spoke to the all-female audience about her experiences working as an engineer and her undergraduate college life at Idaho State University. She talked about how Boise State has given her the opportunity to explore career options while working.

According to Metcalf, Murphy's story impressed student Heidi Pearson, who aspires to join the Coast Guard.

"She was so impressed that Emilie Murphy is only in her 20s and is already working towards her master's and has been involved in cool, confidential projects along the way," Metcalf said. "The conversation helped Heidi to investigate more careers in the Coast Guard."

Panelists also discussed different career opportunities in engineering and stressed the importance of smart choices through all stages of academics.

Students had the opportunity to listen and ask questions of the panelists and were treated to a Subway lunch.

"I was excited to see that almost every one of our Lady Raiders chose to come to the event rather than use their free time at lunch," Metcalf said.

"There has been an amazing shift in our college and career readiness, and I can see that our future is open to many more welcomed and even sought-after presenters."

Rimrock's Positive Action teacher, Kelli Buckingham, organized the event.

— Mandi Boren, an Oreana resident, covers the Grand View-Bruneau-Oreana area for The Owyhee Avalanche. Send news tips to her at [mandi@owyheeavalanche.com](mailto:mandi@owyheeavalanche.com)

## BLM to burn juniper cuttings

The Bureau of Land Management plans to burn piles of juniper cuttings in the coming weeks.

The Trout Springs Jackpot Prescribed Burn on Juniper Mountain will take place sometime later this month or in May, according to a BLM Boise District press release.

The exact timing of the project depends on weather, fuel and ground conditions.

The public can expect to see smoke during the operation.

The burn area, 36 miles southeast of Jordan Valley, covers approximately 285 acres.

The federal agency wants to burn piles of heavy, dead tree branches — called jackpots — that result from juniper tree thinning projects in the area.

The thinning projects are designed to reduce the encroachment of western juniper trees into the grass- and sagebrush-dominated sage-steppe ecosystem, which supports wildlife habitat, grazing and recreation.

Fire managers will ignite jackpots when weather and fuel conditions that minimize fire spread are present. These conditions are marked by

snow, high fuel moisture and new grass growth. Containing the fire spread to individual tree debris zones reduces risk to live vegetation and allows for faster vegetation recovery.

Once conditions are favorable, fire managers will ignite piles over multiple days, with subsequent mop-up and patrol occurring for several days afterwards. Smoke will be visible during ignitions and mop-up.

For more information, contact the BLM Boise District Fire Information Line at (208) 384-3378.

## Donkey basketball set at Rimrock

Saturday's donkey basketball game will benefit various Rimrock Jr.-Sr. High School causes.

The Rimrock Boosters-sponsored event will start at 7 p.m., inside the school gymnasium, 39678 State Hwy. 78, in Bruneau.

Admission tickets purchased in advance are \$8 for adults, \$6 for seventh- through 12th-graders, and \$4 for students in kindergarten to sixth grade.

Tickets bought at the door will cost \$2 more.

Full concessions and dinner

will be available during the event.

Advanced tickets can be purchased at Bruneau Elementary (25841 Benham Ave., in Bruneau), Grand View Elementary (205 First St., Grand View), Rimrock Jr.-Sr. High School, Bruneau One Stop (45251 State Hwy. 51, Bruneau), and Grand View City Hall (425 Boise Ave., Grand View).

According to booster Karlee Aquiso, proceeds from the game will go to the Rimrock Boosters.

The Boosters help fund var-

ious student-related items and activities, such as:

- \$500 annual student scholarship
- One student's trip to Idaho State High School Finals Rodeo in Pocatello next month
- One student's trip to a choir competition
- Support for the FFA auction
- The purchase of cheerleaders uniforms

Aquiso said that the money received for concessions and dinner will go to Rimrock athletics.



Melba girls' win track meet in Weiser

Marsing rolls to rare softball victory

# Avalanche Sports

## Homedale baseball stalks district top seed

Trojans still have a Grizzlies game remaining

Homedale High School entered the week on the verge of a historic run through the 3A Snake River Valley conference baseball season.

With the Trojans seemingly steaming toward the top seed in the 3A District III Tournament, Mother Nature threw a bit of a wrench in the plans.

A rainstorm earlier this month bunched Homedale's home-and-home series against archrival Fruitland into a four-day span. With three games left in their conference season, the host Trojans (11-7 overall, 5-0 in conference) owned a 2½-game lead over the Grizzlies prior to Tuesday's game at John Jackson Field in Homedale. A result was not available at press time.

Fruitland (9-7, 2-2) will play host to a 5 p.m. ballgame on Friday.

The No. 4-ranked team in the IdahoSports.com Class 3A coaches poll, Homedale entered the week having

— See *Homedale*, page 18



Jordan Valley High School standout Regann Skinner signed a letter of intent to play basketball at Walla Walla Community College on April 15. **Front row, from left:** Father Silas Skinner, Regann, and mother Tracy Skinner. **Back row:** Mustangs coach Kelsi Skinner (left) and brother Kort Skinner. Photo by Tara Echave

## Jordan Valley girls' basketball standout signs with Walla Walla

Regann Skinner will graduate from Jordan Valley High School in less than a month, but she knows what she'll do afterward.

The daughter of Silas and Tracy Skinner last week signed to attend Walla Walla Community College and play basketball there.

Skinner signed her letter of intent in an April 15 ceremony attended by her parents and brother, Kort, and her high school coach, Kelsi Skinner.

Walla Walla Community College coach Bobbi Hazeltine said she has been aware of Skinner's interest in the Warriors program since the current 1A High Desert League player of the year was a junior with the Mustangs.

In fact, Skinner made a visit to the Washington state school last year.

"She was friends with one of our players on

last year's team, and so she practiced with us," Hazeltine said. "I think she liked the school and the athletic facility right away.

"We have an outstanding academic history here, and that was important to her also."

Skinner plans to major in Ag Business and was drawn to the school because of the successful basketball program and the fact that WWCC offers a four-year program in her chosen field of study.

"We have an outstanding academic history here, and that was important to her also," Hazeltine said.

The option to redshirt next winter is up to each individual player, Hazeltine said. She also said that Skinner picked Walla Walla with

— See *Standout*, page 16

## Trojans ride routs to No. 1 seed in softball

State's top 3A team nears district tourney

Homedale High School's softball team will play host to the district tournament as the top seed.

Dazsha Zamora had two big hits in consecutive at-bats as Trojans pulled away from Payette last Wednesday in a 3A Snake River Valley conference game on the Pirates' field.

Fellow senior Alex Grant scored on a Zamora's fourth-inning double and a sixth-inning home run as the state's top-ranked Class 3A team remained unbeaten in conference with a 9-5 victory.

The two-time reigning 3A state champions (13-4 overall, 6-0 in conference) clinched the No. 1 seed for the District III tournament, which will be played at Sundance Park in Homedale next month.

Homedale held a 3-2 lead when Amaya Carter scored on Jayci Swallow's base hit. Grant then scored on Zamora's double.

The teams then traded runs

— See *Trojans*, page 18

## Trojans sprinters round into form

Boys win four events during Weiser Invite

As the 3A District III championship meet nears, there seems to be little separation between the area's top three track and field teams.

Fruitland, Weiser and Homedale finished 1-2-3 in Thursday's running of the Weiser Invitational high school competition, and the Trojans' Caleb Smith served notice that there will be a fight for the district champion sprinter's

crown.

A junior, Smith finished ahead of two of his 3A Snake River Valley conference rivals in winning the boys' 200 meters and finishing as runner-up in the 100.

Smith was clocked at 22.71 seconds to win the 200 against a field that included Weiser sophomore Triston Kautz. Kautz was runner-up with a personal-record 23.84, but most of the rest of the top five was wearing the red and white of the Trojans.

Sophomore Erik Hernandez was third, and junior Jake Collett came in fourth.

In the 100, Smith was second at 11.07, and Collett finished third at 11.53.

Smith, Hernandez and Collett teamed up with Jose Ojeda to win the 4x100-meter relay in 45.05 seconds — more than three seconds faster than Melba's quartet.

The same four Trojans took the 4x200 relay in 1:33.1, or more than seven seconds faster than Melba.

Sophomore Thomas Symms won the discus with his longest throw of the year (148 feet, 6 inches). He was fifth in the shot put at 39-4, and fellow

— See *Sprinters*, page 18



Erik Hernandez (right) hands off to Caleb Smith, who starts the anchor leg of Homedale's victorious run in the 4x100-meter relay at the Weiser Invitational. Photo by Machele Randall



Sports

Homedale girls' doubles team's season-opening streak ends

Homedale High School's top girls' doubles team saw its season-opening winning streak end against Fruitland.

Playing for the first time since before spring break, Makayla Kelly and Mikayla Smith fell to the Grizzlies' Betsie Barlow and Lilly Richins on April 16 in Fruitland.

Barlow and Richins' 6-1, 6-3 triumph highlighted the Grizzlies' 6-0 3A Snake River Valley conference victory.

Austin Smith won the only boys' match of the day, beating Homedale's Joseph Zamudio, 6-0, 6-0, at No. 1 singles.

The Grizzlies also swept the other girls' matches, winning with unbeaten straight sets.

**Thursday: Payette 5, Homedale 2** — The Trojans swept the girls' doubles matches in a conference meet at the Bette Uda City Park courts.

Kelly and Smith routed Aubree Bradshaw and Megan McKenzie, 6-0, 6-0, at the top of the girls' doubles ladder.

At No. 2, Laney Swallow and Elizabeth Whitehead posted a 6-2, 6-2 win over Rosalie Rossman and Megan Bradshaw.

Payette won the girls' singles matches with three 6-0, 6-0 victories.

In mixed doubles, Homedale's Lindy Phariss and Austin Conant fell, 6-0, 6-3, to the Pirates' No. 1 team.

✓ Homedale: Big seventh inning sets up crucial extra-inning victory

From Page 14

won only two of its past five games. Both wins came against conference opponents.

**Last Wednesday: Homedale 18, Payette 12 (8)** — The Trojans capped a busy week with a wild win in Payette.

After Drew Deal's two-run single tied the score, 9-9, in the top of the seventh, Homedale erupted for nine runs in the extra inning to remain unbeaten in conference play.

The Trojans sent 12 men to the plate to seize control of the game.

Deal walked and scored on an error in the uprising to cap a day in which he went 4-for-5 with three RBI, two runs scored and a double and a triple.

Garrett Bettleyon singled and scored the go-ahead run on Karsen Freeloove's bases-loaded single in the eighth inning.

Clayton Wolfe went 2-for-5



Garrett Bettleyon steals second base in Homedale's loss to Ontario, Ore., at John Jackson Field on April 16.

with a double and two RBI, and Mason Kincheloe also knocked in two runs while scoring twice.

Freelove and Tommy Muir each had two singles and two RBI, while Jason Puri was 2-for-4 with an RBI.

Sparked by Wolfe's starting stint on the mound that saw the senior allow an unearned run and strike out five batters in three innings, Homedale built a 7-2 lead through 4½ innings.

The Pirates took advantage of Kincheloe's shaky relief pitching to take an 8-7 lead with a six-run fifth inning.

Even after Homedale had seemingly sewed up the win with a big eighth inning, the Pirates rallied in the bottom half for three runs before Ismael Garcia slammed the

door.

**April 16: Ontario, Ore., 5, Homedale 2** — The Trojans couldn't muster any offense against a strong Tigers starter, Seth Forsyth, in a non-conference loss at John Jackson Field.

Ontario scored the game's first five runs, including a four-run uprising against Brady Trout in the third inning. Homedale was hampered by four errors.

Forsyth struck out eight in six innings and also issued five walks, but Homedale could manage just single-run rallies in the fourth and seventh innings.

Tommy Muir's two-out double plated Freelove after Forsyth issued a pair of two-out walks in the fourth.

In the Trojans' final at-bat, Deal walked and eventually scored on an error.

Homedale stranded runners at third in four of the final five innings.

**April 15: Homedale 6, Weiser 1** — Deal fanned eight batters and worked through a walk and an unearned run during a four-hit complete game.

Homedale snagged a 3-0 lead in the second inning of the 3A SRV contest at Walter Johnson Field.

Freelove singled in a run and scored on an error in the second inning. He was 2-for-4 with an RBI and two runs scored.

Garcia, who has signed to play baseball at Blue Mountain Community College in Oregon, had a double and triple in four at-bats.

Garcia's two-out triple turned into a 4-0 lead in the third inning when Freelove came through with a base hit.

Kincheloe was 2-for-4 with two runs scored, and Deal helped his own cause from the leadoff spot, going 2-for-3 with an RBI.

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Baseball  
Ismael Garcia, Jr., SS  
Hit .333 with a double, triple,  
4 runs and RBI for week

Softball  
Dazsha Zamora, sr., LF  
Hit .667 with 2 doubles, HR  
and 5 RBI

Track and field  
Jake Collett, Jr., sprints  
Led off wins in 4x100 and  
4x200 relays, top-five  
finishes in 100 and 200

Golf  
Eli Heck, fr.  
Fired a 46 for team's second-  
lowest score

Tennis  
Laney Swallow, fr.  
Helped win the No. 2 doubles  
match vs. Payette

**Baseball**  
Varsity  
Friday, April 26 at Fruitland, 6 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 30, home vs. Fruitland, 5 p.m.  
Wednesday, May 1, home vs. Vale, Ore. (seniors finale),  
5 p.m.  
Junior varsity  
Friday, April 26, home vs. Fruitland, 5 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 30 at Fruitland, 6 p.m.  
Wednesday, May 1 at Vale, Ore., 5 p.m.

**Softball**  
Varsity  
Friday, April 26 at Fruitland, 6 p.m.  
Wednesday, May 1, home vs. Vale, Ore. (seniors finale),  
5 p.m.  
Junior varsity  
Friday, April 26, home vs. Fruitland, 5 p.m.  
Wednesday, May 1 at Vale, Ore., 5 p.m.

**Track and field**  
Wednesday, May 1 at Fruitland

**Tennis**  
Thursday, April 25, home vs. Weiser, 4 p.m.  
Friday, April 26 at Four Rivers Community School, Ontario,  
Ore., 4 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 30 at Parma, 4 p.m.

**Golf**  
Boys and girls  
Wednesday, April 24 at 3A Snake River Valley conference  
meet (9 holes), Scotch Pines GC, Payette, 3 p.m.  
Wednesday, May 1 at 3A SRV meet (9 holes), Rolling Hills  
GC, Weiser, 3 p.m.

**Boys**  
Monday, April 29 at Baker (Ore.) Invite (18 holes),  
2 p.m. MST

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Go Trojans!



Sports

Huskies pummel non-conference foe Wildcats to end week

The Marsing High School softball team closed out a tough week with an offensive explosion in a non-conference game against Wilder on Friday.

After scoring 13 runs in the top of the first inning, the Huskies cruised to a 29-9 victory on the road.

Marsing players crossed the plate all five innings in which they played. They put up two in the second, eight in the third, and three each in the fourth and fifth.

The Wildcats (0-11 overall, 0-5 1A Western Idaho Conference) knocked in four runs in the first and five more in the fifth, but it was too little too late.

Hailee Bennett and Destiny Wood chalked up five hits apiece, while Bennett knocked in eight runs for Marsing (3-9 overall).

Ashley Loucks accounted for four of the Huskies' 22 hits.

Marsing played another non-conference game against

Vale, Ore., after Monday's deadline.

**Thursday: Nampa Christian 19, Marsing 4** — The Huskies could score just single runs in the second, third, fourth, and fifth innings in 2A Western Idaho Conference matchup with the Trojans.

Marsing (0-6 in the 2A WIC) managed just two hits, a triple by Loucks and a single by Lauren Jensen.

Nampa Christian (10-6, 6-3 in conference) jumped out to an early 6-0 lead and pushed the advantage to 17-2 after three.

Loucks started in the circle for the Huskies, allowing 13 runs on nine hits in 2 1/3 innings pitched. She walked three and struck out three.

Bennett came on in relief and pitched 2 2/3 innings, giving up six runs on three hits, striking out two and walking five.

**Last Wednesday: McCall-Donnelly 25, Marsing 8** — The Huskies managed just six singles in their clash



Hailee Bennett swings for a single in Marsing's home loss to McCall-Donnelly last Wednesday. Photo by Dan Pease

with conference foe McCall-Donnelly.

Bennett slapped two of those singles and scored two of Marsing's eight runs.

Bennett, Wood, Ana Mantilla, Agnes Pelch, and Michelle Komakhuk knocked in one run each.

The Huskies struggled from the pitching circle. Bennett allowed four runs without recording an out. She walked three.

Loucks pitched five innings, giving up 21 runs, 13 earned, on 13 hits and six walks. She struck out one.

✓ Standout: Character, grades, talent make Skinner attractive to WWCC

From Page 14

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program.

"She looks forward to the challenge of competing against really good guards," Hazeltine said. "She will get better just playing against them every day in practice."

Skinner carries a 3.93 grade-point average at Jordan Valley.

She was also a second-team All-State player after the 1A Oregon girls' basketball tournament this year. Skinner helped the Mustangs to two consecutive Final Eight appearances.

The standout player also made an appearance in the

1A Oregon state playoffs in each of her four years on the Mustangs' varsity.

"Regann is a really good person who comes from a great family," Hazeltine said. "She will fit right in to our 'family atmosphere' here."

"She seems to be a team

player, and that's what we look for. She is positive, energetic and has a great work ethic."

The Warriors went 20-10 last season and qualified for the Northwest Athletic Conference tournament after finishing fourth in the East Division.

— JPB

MARSING HUSKIES



**Softball**  
**Hailee Bennett, sr., 3B/P**  
Five hits, eight RBI at Wilder on Friday



**Track and field**  
**Christopher Even, sr., throws**  
Season-best marks: 90 feet, 1 inch in discus; 27-4 in shot put



**Golf**  
**Dwight Sevy, sr.**  
Scored 49 at WIC tourney at RedHawk, April 16

**Softball**  
Wednesday, April 25 at Cole Valley Christian, Heritage M.S., Meridian, 4:30 p.m.  
Friday, April 26 at New Plymouth, 5 p.m.  
Monday, April 29 at Vision Charter, 5 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 30 at McCall-Donnelly, 5 p.m.



**Track and field**  
Wednesday, April 24 at 2A Western Idaho Conference meet, Nampa Christian H.S.-Orchard campus

**Golf Boys**  
Monday, April 29 at 2A WIC meet (9 holes), SpurWing CC, Meridian, 3 p.m.

**Boys and girls**  
Wednesday, May 1 at 2A WIC meet (18 holes), McCall

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Sports

Marsing's Villa ties for second on Nampa course

Marsing High School senior Landon Villa has turned in another strong round of golf.

The Huskies' No. 1 player carded a 3-over-par 39 on April 16 to finish in a four-way tie for the runner-up spot.

The nine-hole 2A Western Idaho Conference meet was played at RedHawk Public Golf Course, in Nampa.

Nampa Christian's Cole Wasson led the field with a 2-over-par 38. Villa,

Parker Wallace (Cole Valley Christian), Gavin Rodeghiero (North Star Charter), and Caden Yett (Nampa Christian) trailed Wasson by one stroke.

Beyond Villa, the Huskies got contributions from Dwight Sevy (49), Logan Stansell (55), Justin Ineck (58), and Carter Clay (65).

Marsing posted a 201 to finish seventh in the nine-team tournament, which also included meet champion Cole Valley (160), North Star, Nampa

Christian, Liberty Charter, Ambrose, McCall-Donnelly, Compass Charter, and Victory Charter.

Girls finish fourth

Grace Jensen finished tied for seventh with Cole Valley's Ellie Blackman in the girls' meet at RedHawk on April 16.

Jensen finished the nine-hole meet with a 49, putting her 13 strokes behind winner Grace Singpraseuth

(36) of Cole Valley.

Jensen, a sophomore, was the only Husky who collected conference points at the meet.

Jensen led her team to a fourth-place score of 226 in the eight-team meet. Cole Valley won the day with a 176, 50 strokes better than Marsing.

The rest of the Huskies' scorecard included Aubrey Villa (52), Reagan Stansell (57), Amaya Mendoza (68), and Chloe Heitz (72).

Short-handed golfers' performance impresses HHS coach

Boys one shot out of second place

Casey Grove got to see the depth of his Homedale High School golf team last Wednesday.

The Trojans boys and girls played 3A Snake River Valley conference meets at TimberStone Golf Course in Caldwell without a significant chunk of their rosters.

Even with four players missing — including the program's top two golfers — both HHS teams showed potential for grabbing runner-up finishes in their nine-hole

competitions.

Daniel Uranga and Ryker Johnson from the boys' squad, and Téa Uranga and Ashlyn Miller from the girls' team were in Houston for the FIRST world robotics competition.

"Taking that into account, we did pretty well," Grove said.

"Our boys finished one shot out of second place without Daniel. I also feel very confident that our girls would have gotten second place as well if Tea would have been there."

Fruitland won the boys' meet with a 143 score, but the three other full teams finished

within three shots of each other in second, third and fourth place.

Payette was runner-up at 194.

Led by Spencer Fisher's 8-over-par 44, Homedale was third at 195, edging Weiser. Fisher had the third-lowest score of the afternoon.

Eli Heck carded a 46 for the Trojans, and Garrett Elordi (50) and Arnulfo Llamas (55) wrapped up the scoring.

Homedale only fielded four varsity players.

Fruitland's Jake O'Neil sizzled with a 4-under 32 for medalist, and the rest of the Grizzlies (Jonas Bicknese,

Lucas Rynearson, and Anthony Vincent) tied for second at 1-over 37.

The Homedale girls' didn't have enough players to qualify for the team competition, but Grove was pleased with what he saw.

Emma Parker led the Trojans with a sixth-place 53, and Shanlee Swallow chimed in with 58. Brooke Pfost posted a 66.

Weiser ran away with the girls' competition, posting a 199 to beat Payette by 26 strokes.

The Wolverines' Sara Lundberg was medalist at 45, and Fruitland's Hannah Foss

took second at 48, one shot in front of Josi Grey from Payette.

Athen Belknap was the only junior varsity player to hit the course for Homedale. He shot a 63.

Homedale's varsity teams should be back to full strength for the final two nine-hole meets of the 3A SRV season. The 18-hole District III tournament is set for Monday, May 6 at Rolling Hills Golf Course in Weiser.

"I am looking forward to the next few weeks," Grove said. "There's a lot of golf in preparation for the district tournament."

Melba runs over Marsing softball

Top-ranked Mustangs get key win vs. Vandals

Melba High School remained unbeaten in conference softball play behind a one-hitter from Owyhee County resident Cindy Read.

Read struck out 10 and walked only one batter in the Mustangs' 18-0 win over 2A Western Idaho Conference foe Marsing on April 16.

She also slammed a two-run home run in the home-field victory.

The top-ranked Class 2A team in the state, Melba (12-1 overall, 7-0 in conference at week's end) closed the game out after five innings via the 10-run rule.

Melba's 18 runs came on just seven hits.

Hailee Bennett singled for Marsing's only hit.

Bennett allowed seven runs over three innings, while striking out four and walking five.

Ashley Loucks pitched one inning, with three strikeouts and seven walks.

Melba's Kylee Aldrich had two hits, had one RBI and scored one run.

Esther Riley, Camille Bangerter, and Madison Bunnell scored three times each.

Kennedy Mickelson scored twice and had two RBI.

**Friday: Melba 6, McCall-Donnelly 3** — The Mustangs took the first step toward locking down the No. 1 seed in the 2A District III Tournament by knocking off the second-place Vandals in a conference game in Melba.

McCall-Donnelly snagged 2-0 lead in the top of the second against Read, but Melba took control quickly with four runs in the bottom of the inning.

Only one of the Vandals' runs was earned as Read struck out eight and walked no one.

McCall-Donnelly drew to within a run, 4-3, in the fifth, but Melba got some breathing room with a two-run sixth inning.

Owyhee an Kennedy Mickelson knocked in a pair of runs, and Kylee Aldrich was 3-for-4 with an RBI for the Mustangs.

Another Owyhee resident,

Megan Bowman, also was had two RBI and a single. Ember Svetich doubled.

**Thursday: Melba 12, Vision Charter 2 (5)** — Read fanned 11 and spun a two-hitter against the Caldwell-based conference newcomer on the Mustangs' field.

She also blasted a home run to highlight at 2-for-3 day at the plate that included a double and three RBI.

Melba broke the game open with nine runs over the second and third innings to build a 10-0 edge.

Andrina Webster was 3-for-3 with a double, triple and four RBI to lead Melba's 10-hit attack.

Aldrich led from the top of the batting order with three runs scored.

Mickelson scored twice, and Svetich was 2-for-3 with an RBI and a run scored.

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Homedale golf benefit scramble set Saturday

The second annual four-person scramble to benefit the Homedale High School golf program takes place Saturday.

The tournament begins with a 9 a.m. shotgun start at River Bend Golf Course in Wilder.

Proceeds will help the golf team buy bags, balls, apparel and cover state tournament travel expenses.

The entry fee is \$60 per person to play in the tournament. Prizes will be awarded to the top three four-person teams.

Hole sponsorship levels include:

- \$500 Platinum, which includes free team registration
- \$250 Gold
- \$100 and \$50 honored donors

There are also other donations levels and gift levels that are accepted.

Sponsorship checks made payable to Homedale Golf can be sent to Coach Casey Grove, 203 E. Idaho Ave., Homedale ID, 83628.

For more information, contact HHS golf coach Casey Grove at (208) 340-4611 or cgrove@homedaleschools.org.

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# Sports

## Melba girls dominate day, run away with Weiser Invite

### Plenty of personal records for boys

Melba High School athletes won half the events Thursday to run away with the Weiser Invite girls' team championship.

The Mustangs racked up 172 points to cruise past the meet host in the standings.

Emma Clark had three championships and a runner-up showing, while Owyhee County athlete Jordan Dayley got two gold medals.

Senior Emily Oldham swept the throws, taking the shot put with a 32-foot, 10.5-inch effort and capturing the discus at 107-0.

A junior, Jordan Dayley won the high jump at 4-10, and she led off the 4x200-meter relay victory.

Dayley, Kate Clark, Telissa Christensen, and Kortney Trappett completed the 800-meter tandem effort

in 1 minute, 50.87 seconds.

Emma Clark's titles include a PR of 12 feet in the pole vault, a 17-6.5 mark in the long jump, and a 36-11.5 distance in the triple jump.

The senior finished second in the 100 in 12.31, while fellow Melba senior Hannah Hinderliter posted a PR of 14.19.

Senior Kylahn Heritage ran her fasted 800 meters of the year (2:24.74) to win that race. She was third in the 3,200 (12:21.26).

Sophomore Kate Clark was runner-up in the 200 at 28.09. Teammates Kortney Trappett (a junior) and freshman Erika Hunter were fifth and sixth, respectively with PRs.

Trappett ran at 28.58, .04 of a second faster than Hunter.

Trappett was fifth in the 400 at 1:05.63, while sophomore Faith Svedin checked in with a PR of 1:06.18 for eighth.

Christensen (ninth at 1:07.5) and

Hunter (10<sup>th</sup> at 1:09.9) also had personal records.

Marissa Cole took seventh in the 1,600 at 6:01.24, while freshman Lacey Leavitt was eighth with a PR of 6:11.54.

Dayley was runner-up in the 300 hurdles (49.24) and third in the 100 hurdles (16.23).

Senior Lynae Richardson took fifth place in the 300 hurdles with a PR of 52.4, while she was fifth in the 100 hurdles with a season-fast 17.67.

Freshman Tayler McCoy finished fifth in the shot put with a 27-8 throw.

Sophomore Kayla McCoy took sixth in the high jump (4-6), while Kate Clark was runner-up in the long jump (15-0).

Christensen was third in the triple jump at 32-1.

**Boys**

A handful of personal records highlighted the Melba boys'

performance at the Weiser Invite.

Distance runner Reagan Manzer, a sophomore, finished fourth in both the 1,600- and 3,200-meter races, achieving a PR both times. He was clocked at 4:46.99 in the 1,600 and 10:37.01 in the 3,200.

Fellow sophomore Joshua Leavitt finished just ahead of Manzer in the 3,200, taking third in 10:30.54.

Leavitt PR'd in the high jump with a sixth-place mark of 5-4.

Another sophomore, Joey Bradshaw was fifth in the 100 at 11.73.

Owyhee County's Stewart Stears finished seventh in the 110 hurdles with a PR of 18.16.

Manzer finished fifth in the 300 hurdles, while Stears was 10<sup>th</sup> (48.24) and freshman Easton Draper took 11<sup>th</sup> with a personal-best 48.48.

Draper teamed up with Andrew Herman, Dillon Stosich and Zane Helm to finished third in the 4x200 relay (1:40.94).

## Mustangs dust three foes on the diamond

### Melba unbeaten in 2A WIC behind Owyheean

Melba High School's baseball team may be leading the conference standings, but chances are coach Jason Phillips' squad still has plenty to prove.

The Mustangs started the week with a seven-game winning streak and an unbeaten record in the 2A Western Idaho Conference.

Yet, Melba still held a ranking of No. 4 in the Class 2A statewide coaches poll. A team the Mustangs beat, fellow 2A WIC school Cole Valley Christian, maintained the top spot in the rankings.

Melba (14-3 overall, 6-0 in conference) has a chance to send a message Friday when the Chargers come to town. The Mustangs handled Cole Valley, 9-2, at Storey Park in Meridian on April 13.

Before the Cole Valley showdown, Melba played Nampa Christian on Tuesday after deadline and will take on 2A WIC newcomer Vision Charter in Caldwell on Thursday.

**Friday: Melba 10-12, McCall-Donnelly 0-1 (both in 5)** — Owyhee County resident Tim Reinerston closed a week with a hot bat in grand fashion at the tail end of a conference doubleheader in Melba.

Reinerston led off the

second game with a solo home run, which was followed immediately by John Reiber's round-tripper.

Reinerston then clubbed a grand slam in the fourth inning to ice the Mustangs' 12-1 win in five innings.

Reinerston was 3-for-4 with five RBI, three runs scored and the two homers. For the week, he hit .750 (9-for-12) with seven RBI and nine runs scored.

Winning pitcher Dillion Bodily gave up four hits over five innings and finished with six strikeouts.

In the first game, Mark Stradley had 10 strikeouts and gave up one hit over five innings in Melba's win.

Henry Clark and Reiber ripped doubles in the game, and Melba started quickly with six runs in its first at-bat.

Reinerston, Clark and Abe Riley collected two hits apiece. Riley also scored twice and knocked in two runs.

**Thursday: Melba 22, Vision Charter 1 (5)** — Trace Stimpson was 3-for-3, and Reinerston when 4-for-5 as the Mustangs rolled.

Reinerston and Caleb Storaci scored four runs apiece. Storaci, Clark and Owyheean Zayne Dayley ripped doubles to highlight a 19-hit barrage.

Stimpson and Reinerston pitched in relief of Michael Huntsman, and the trio combined on a one-hitter.

Jake Svedin went 3-for-3 with three RBI.

## ✓ Trojans: Powerful hitters crushing ball

*From Page 14*

before Zamora blasted her two-run homer to right field in the sixth inning.

In between Zamora's big hits, Carter doubled in the fifth inning to bring in starting pitcher Olivia Cardenas, who had singled with two outs.

Zamora was 3-for-4 with four RBI. DeLaynie Dorsey and Carter both went 2-for-4.

Senior first baseman Josey Hall pounded a run-scoring double in Homedale's two-run first inning.



Thomas Symms

### Correction

Online results from the Middleton Invitational were incorrect in regards to Homedale High School sophomore Thomas Symms. Corrected results on athletic.net show that Symms won the discus with a throw of 144 feet, 6 inches. He beat 3A Snake River Valley conference rival and runner-up Weston Jeffries by 7 feet, 7 inches.

The Pirates rallied in the bottom of the inning to tie the score, 2-2, against Cardenas.

**April 15: Homedale 17, Weiser 0 (5)** — Cardenas spun a three-hitter and Grant homered in the Trojans' 10-run rule conference victory over the host Wolverines.

Homedale took advantage of five Weiser errors to score seven unearned runs.

Hall was 4-for-5 with four RBI and three runs scored.

The Trojans rushed to a 12-0 lead with big rallies in their

first three at-bats.

Grant led off the game with a double to spark a four-run uprising. She scored on Sophie Nash's base hit.

Grant was at it again in the second inning, starting the frame with a solo home run. Nash and Kaitlin Missamore both doubled during the rally.

Zamora doubled to highlight the Trojans' five-run third.

Three consecutive two-out singles from Zamora, Nash and Hall capped a five-run fifth inning.

## ✓ Sprinters: With more PRs, Trojans may be peaking

*From Page 14*

sophomore John Breshears notched a PR at 33-2 for ninth place.

The Homedale boys were just five points behind Weiser in the team standings, while Fruitland ran away with the competition by a margin of more than 102 points.

Homedale junior Gage Purdom flashed to a personal-best time of 53.69 seconds to finish third in the 400.

Christian Schalk bettered his 800 time again, posting a 2:23.52 time.

Giovanni Aguilera achieved two personal records in the 1,600 (5:20.13) and the 3,200 (11:20.33).

Junior Matthew Randall had the seventh-fastest 3,200 at 11:01.58.

Sophomore Brayden Christoffersen had a PR in the

300 hurdles at 48.94.

Another sophomore, Bryce Cornwall, was runner-up in the triple jump with a PR of 38-8.5. He also PR'd with his seventh-place mark of 17-1.5 in the long jump.

Nathan Cornwall was eighth in the triple jump at 34-4.5.

On the girls' side, freshman Allison Whitehead continued to improve with a PR of 14.59 in the 100. She PR'd in the triple jump, taking 10<sup>th</sup> at 29-4.5, and she finished ninth in the long jump at 13-7.5.

Freshman Isabel Jacobs took bronze in the discus with a PR of 96-3.

Senior Kari Woods was seventh in the shot put at 26-6, and she PR'd in the discus at 75-11.

Sophomore Emily Craft cleared 4-4 for seventh place in the high jump.



# Looking back...

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

## 25 years ago

April 27, 1994

### Trojan Pride Day today

As they do for 1 day each year, students at Homedale Junior/Senior High School will be out and about today, sprucing up their school and the community.

Trojan Pride Day, as the school likes to call it, won't be all work and no play, however. In addition to completing several projects around the city and numerous chores on school grounds, the kids will have cheerleader tryouts and a lip-sync contest, among other things.

Some of the projects around town include cleaning up the upper and lower city parks and the city library, and washing the city fire trucks and ambulances.

### District will run \$2.5 million bond in June

Homedale School Trustees Thursday voted to run a \$2.5 million bond election on June 9, ending months of speculation over how the district would deal with crowded classrooms.

The decision followed two hours of discussion between the board and about 20 district patrons. If approved by voters, the bond would build two classroom annexes. Trustees said the additions would see the district through the next five to 10 years of growth.

Officials did not have an estimate of how much the proposed 15-year bond would raise taxes for district property owners.

The Board will meet again on April 27 to approve a bond resolution and ballot.

"It doesn't look like things are going to slow down," Homedale Superintendent Dick Peters said, outlining the district's need for more space. Three additional classrooms are needed this fall at the elementary school. The earliest new facilities could be ready for occupancy would be the 1995-96 school year.

Peters said the district may someday need a facility for grades K-3 and another facility for grades 4-6.

The \$2.5 million amount trustees agreed on Thursday is larger than the figure mentioned during previous School Board discussions. Earlier plans to build a total of 19 classrooms have been upped to at least 21 between the two buildings.

### Rimrock FHA prepares for national convention

Keri McBride, Katie Burghardt, Tiffany Simper, Sue Tindall, Sarah Davis, Amanda Oman, Laura Hipwell, Crystal Black, and Velma Pizarro, members of the Rimrock chapter of FHA, will be going to compete in the National FHA convention in Orlando, Florida on July 9-14. Keri was just selected as an FHA state officer, and the rest of the girls won the Junior Parliamentary Procedure contest at the State FHA convention in Boise.

### Becky Miller elected FFA district sentinel

The Rimrock FFA chapter is proud to announce the election of Becky Miller to the office of Boise Valley District Sentinel. Becky was installed in office on Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, at Notus High School.

Becky is the daughter of Paul and Jessie Miller of Bruneau, Idaho, and has been an active member of the Rimrock FFA chapter for the past three years. She is currently serving as chapter president, as well as the junior class president. She is also a member of the Rimrock rodeo team, the basketball team, and the volleyball team.

Mr. Alan Schoen of Rimrock will serve as the Boise Valley District advisor.

## 50 years ago

April 24, 1969



VIC URIA, left, president of the Homedale Basque group presents a check for \$650 to Duane Root, Homedale High School band director, to help finance the band's trip to Calgary, Alberta, Canada, where they have been invited to perform at the Calgary Exposition and Rodeo the first part of July. Watching Mr. Root accept the check are Teila Hill and Drucy Meininger, both members of the band. The money was part of the net proceeds from the recent Basque dance sponsored by the Homedale-Marsing Basques.

### HHS track team scores victory at BSC Invite

The big red and white of Homedale led the way to four first places and showed good depth to score 42 points and sweep to victory in the Boise State College Invitational track meet Saturday.

Only one B record fell during the windy but warm day. Homedale's Jeff Haylett cleared the bar at 12-8 in the pole vault to eclipse the old standard of 12-5½. Ruben Garcia followed with a second place finish to give the Trojans 10 points.

Paul Pearson scored a double for the Trojans as he won the shot with an effort of 46-3 and then picked up the blue ribbon in the discus by sailing the platter 151-2¾. The throw was the best in valley for the season.

The only other double winner of the meet was Fernley, Nevada's Mike Smith with a sweep of the hurdles. Smith skipped over the 120 highs in 15.2 and then came back to breeze to a 19.5 clocking in the 180 lows.

Homedale's other first came in the 880-yard relay when the Trojans chalked up a 1:35.7, which missed by five tenths of a second of tying the old record.

### Hurler fans 15 as Trojans retire Kavemen 6-4

Gary Fry fanned 15 and issued only four walks as he pitched Homedale to a 6-4 SRV-B victory over the Kuna Kavemen Friday afternoon at Kuna.

Paul Pearson and Allen Hays led the Trojan attack with two hits a piece, Pearson hitting a triple and single and Hays a pair of base knocks.

Gene Stroebel rapped a homer and single, and Bill Warnke added a four-bagger to the Kavemen's losing effort as Steve Young took the defeat.

**Succor Crik Sam Sez:** "Sunday is the day we turn the clocks up another hour and git farther behind than ever."

### High school news

The Homedale High School band will sponsor a special magic show Friday night, April 25, at 8 o'clock in the high school gym. Proceeds will be used by the band to help pay for their trip to the Calgary Stampede in July.

Jack Lythgoe, a magician, will present a complete program of magical tricks and hypnosis.

## 145 years ago

April 25, 1874

### THE AVALANCHE

-Is Published Every-

Saturday Morning

-By-

W. J. HILL

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Single Copy Per Year...\$10.00

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### Santa Anna

Santa Anna is in Mexico. Can't the old fellow give that country a rest? The miles he has traveled in going out of and returning to Mexico, in the course of his somewhat protracted life, defy computation. General Taylor sent him away and he returned. The people of Mexico kicked him out and he crept back. Maximilian welcomed him and Juarez expelled him. Back again, he was condemned to death and pardoned on condition that he would remain in perpetual exile. And now President Lerdo allows him on Mexican soil, upon his promise to behave himself. He is nearly 77 years old, but he can no more remain quiet than Vesuvius at eruption time. It will not be too long before he will again be on an outward-bound voyage or occupying about six feet of the soil of his native land.

### Veterans of the Mexican War

Some people labor under the impression that the present Congress has made an appropriation for the benefit of the surviving soldiers of the Mexican War, but such is not the case-no appropriations has yet been made. The Commissioner of Pensions estimates that out of the 73,260 total enlistments from the beginning to the close of the war of 1846-48, there are still living, in 1874, some 39,000 - considerably more than one-half of the whole number, which would call for so large an appropriation that Congress, in its present humor concerning the expenditures of public money, is decidedly adverse to passing the bill now for it. The friends of the measure, however, deny that there are anything like 39,000 survivors, and the National Association of Veterans of the Mexican War is making a thorough canvas of every State and Territory in the Union for the purpose of enrolling, as soon as possible, the name of every known survivor, or widow of a veteran of Mexico, the postoffice address, his rank, the company, regiment, commanding officer of each, term of service, when and where enlisted and discharged, in order, if possible, to prepare the rolls for the inspection of Congress before the close of the session. In this way a reliable estimate can be arrived at for appropriation, and it is thought that the actual number of survivors will be so small that Congress will promptly vote to cover the application thus presented. We have a package of blank enrolling forms from Washington, and will take pleasure in furnishing the same to any of the old veterans who will call at the AVALANCHE office.

### Cremation

One of the New York Cremation Society's members having died, opportunely, the organization have practically applied their idea of disposing of the dead. A blast of hot air turned upon the encased body soon reduced it to man's original chaos, and now the father of the dead man has the ashes neatly sealed in an urn and resting on his parlor mantle-piece. The expense of this manner of funeral and burial was less than five dollars.



# Commentary

Baxter Black, DVM

## On the edge of common sense Backwoods wisdom



“Age-in’ a cow is ’bout the thing I hate most. Seems like they can tell the instant you cross the line into the strike zone.”

We all nodded sympathetically with Jeff’s pronouncement. Each cowman in the circle of chairs could remember a blow to the ribs that ruined his day.

“Well your doin’ it all wrong,” spoke Gary, “Mouthin’em is easy. Just check ’em after you feed in the evenin’. Timing is critical. Wait till the sun is setting low and drive along the west side of the fence or feedbunk. They’ll look up to check you out, all of ’em chompin’ and chewin’ and curious. If you’ve planned it right, the sun will light up their dentures like you had a spotlight!”

“Such wisdom,” I thought as I sat in this group of Missouri cowmen. It was like sittin’ in with the Supreme Court justices, Solomon on one side, Ginsburg on the other.

“How ’bout preg checkin’,” I asked. “Is there an easy way to do that?”

“Sure,” Gary continued, “When I get an arm inside, first thing I do is sort according to how big the calf is.”

“You mean like 30 days along, 90 days along and so forth?” I said.

“No,” he answered, “Like squirrel, cat, beagle ...”

I looked blank.

“Big as a squirrel, big as a cat, big as a beagle ... like that. Lot simpler. And if it’s big as a coon dog you know she’s bred anyway ’cause by then she’d be showin’ on the outside. On the other hand. some just thump ’em.”

I could see myself as a vet out at some cowman’s place saying, “I won’t be using a plastic sleeve today, Mr. Henry. I’ll just be thumpin’ em.”

I admit workin’ cows would be easier if you could age and preg check them without grabbin’ their head or plunging up to the armpit. Then Gary told me he could sex the calves before they were born. I realized my vet training had been sorely lacking. Did he sex ’em somehow by smelling the cow’s breath? By tailhead elevation? By bag development, or sonar?

“No,” he said, “Just a lot of feelin’ around. Under the tail, between the legs. ’Course it helps if the calf is pretty far along.”

“How far along?” I asked like the student I was.

“Oh, say ... big as a Miss’sippi channel cat.”

## From the Statehouse Looking back at the 2019 session

The end of the 2019 legislative session is a good time to reflect on the impacts to District 23.

It is an honor to represent Legislative District 23 and the good people who live here. At the end of the day, what makes it work for me is the input I get from the people who live in the district. The telephone calls, the emails, cards, letters and text messages from the good people from District 23 make me a better legislator and better able to represent your interests. It makes a difference in what issues I work on and plays an important role in developing policy and ultimately in the votes I cast.

Idaho is the fastest-growing state in the nation, and our economy continues to be strong. However, partially as a result of the federal tax law changes and the state’s effort to conform, we have experienced a lag in tax receipts. A string of monthly shortfalls through January led to a cumulative shortfall of \$128.3 million. It is felt that this is, in part, because of the failure to update W-4 withholdings, but it was anticipated that as April 15 passed these numbers would true-up. That may have started to happen in February when tax receipts were \$53.6 million higher than projected and brought the shortfall to about \$75 million.

March revenue numbers were slightly below projections, so there is now concern we will not meet projections and there will be no surplus. We may even have to give Gov. Brad Little authority to dip into the Budget Stabilization Account to close the books at the end of the fiscal year.

The problem that the Joint Finance and Appropriates Committee (the revenue projection committee) and budget setters faced was that they had to use real numbers. So they budgeted conservatively, which we always do, but it resulted in a tight budget.

**Education funding**

We did fund the fifth and final year of the career ladder for teachers and increased the discretionary funding for schools — funding growth in the number of students, plus a few other matters, such as K-3 reading, for an approximately \$95 million increase in K-12 funding.

**The Little Baby Says**

Please God hear my plea. What did we do wrong, some don’t want us to live?

God we do not get the chance to breathe, see, hear; never get to hear “I love you,” know a mom or dad, grandmother, grandfather, brothers or sisters.

We will never get to go to school, read a book, have friends, run or play, see a sunrise or sunset. Play in the rain, or see a rainbow, full moon or go to church.

God we will never get to have or play with a kitten or puppy, or ride a horse or hear a bird sing.

Oh God, I lost my hands, my legs, my voice, my arms and my heart. Please God hear my prayer and forgive me if I did anything wrong. I’m sorry.

God please save the other babies from being torn apart by the evil, evil people that don’t want us to live.

Thank you God for trying to give us life and a chance.

God please help me forgive these people that take our life in this evil way.

**Dist. 23 state Sen. Bert Brackett**  
*R-Rogerson (term expires 2018)*

**Contact him**  
48331 Three Creek Highway  
Rogerson, ID 83302  
Phone — (208) 857-2217  
E-mail — [bbrackett@senate.idaho.gov](mailto:bbrackett@senate.idaho.gov)  
**Committees**  
Transportation (chair)  
Resources & Environment (vice-chair)



To address concerns about the surplus eliminator in light of slow revenue receipts, I introduced, and the Senate passed S1126 by a 35-0 vote. That bill put a five-year sunset on the surplus eliminator, instead of the two-year sunset we have had in the past, and it also put a cap of \$100 million. That bill was amended in the House with what we call a “radiator cap.” That means it keeps the same name, but a whole new bill is put in its place. The new bill would set up an endowment called the Economic Reserve and Investment Fund. The money in that fund should earn a higher rate of return, and the earning would be dedicated to transportation through the Strategic Initiative Program. With the March revenue numbers below projection, the endowment concept as written was not feasible. We could not amend it, so the bill was returned to committee and no final vote occurred before adjournment.

Besides the sunset on the surplus eliminator, the two big issues in the session were the new school funding formula and implementing Prop. 2, or Medicaid expansion.

The new school funding formula has been a three-year work in progress by an interim committee. Its focus has been to go from the student attendance model

— See *Session*, Page 21

## Letter to the editor Prayer for innocent babies not given a chance to live

### Election letters

The Owyhee Avalanche will accept letters to the editor pertaining to the May 21 Grand View city council recall election until noon on Friday, May 10.

The usual letters to the editor guidelines apply, including letters must be no more than 300 words and letters must include contact information, including a phone number, of the letter-writer. Submit by:

- Email to [jon@owyheeavalanche.com](mailto:jon@owyheeavalanche.com)
- Fax to (208) 337-4867
- Mail to P.O. Box 97, Homedale ID, 83628
- Or drop off at the Avalanche office at 19 E. Idaho Ave., in Homedale

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

Thank you God for hearing my prayer and God please save the innocent babies.

Thank you God for letting me speak for those innocent babies not given a chance at life.

Marlene Ridley  
Grand View



# Commentary

## Financial management

### Emergency fund brings peace of mind for businesses, too

**Dear Dave,**  
I have my own small business. My annual sales are just over \$100,000, and I have a couple of months in administrative and general expenses set aside. Should I have an emergency fund for my company, too? If so, how much?

— Taylor

**Dear Taylor,**  
This is a great question! I like the idea of a small business having six months of expenses set aside in an emergency fund. A financial cushion like that provides peace of mind and options. Also, it eliminates the need for borrowing money. With that kind of cash sitting

around, you basically become your own line of credit. When it comes to personal finance, I usually recommend setting aside an emergency fund of three to six months of expenses — depending on a person’s overall financial condition. But the basic idea is the same, regardless of whether you’re talking about personal finance or the financial health of your small business. An entrepreneur has enough to worry about on a day-to-day basis. Having a fully funded emergency fund for your business can turn a disaster into nothing more than a minor inconvenience!

— Dave



**Dear Dave,**  
I’m just starting my debt-free journey and trying to lay out a budget. What are your

thoughts on budget billing for utilities?

— Ryan

**Dear Ryan,**  
I think it’s wonderful! There’s absolutely nothing wrong with it at all. For a lot of folks, especially those in your situation, it helps smooth out utility payments and make them a little more manageable. In most budget billing scenarios, they add up your utility bill for the past 12 months and divide that total by 12 to determine a fixed billing amount for the next 12 months. It can make things so much easier when

you’re first starting to live on a budget and you don’t have a lot of wiggle room where your finances are concerned. I’m glad you’re taking steps to get control of your money, Ryan. You can do this!

— 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 15 million listeners each week on 600 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at [daveramsey.com](http://daveramsey.com) and on Twitter at [@DaveRamsey](https://twitter.com/DaveRamsey).

### ✓ Session: Medicaid a dominant issue, but water, vets also get attention

From Page 20  
that we now have, to a student enrollment model. With the help of an outside consultant, a spreadsheet has been developed with every school district and charter school displayed. It is based on the concept that the money should follow the student so that a base amount is allocated to every student. Then adjustment factors are applied to help meet the needs of every student. For example, factors such as how many special-needs students, English language learners, low-income students, or students at risk receive an adjustment factor to compensate for the additional expense of educating those students. Another example is students that attend small and remote schools.

There have been up to about 15 adjustment factors raised and that is where much of the discussion has been focused. There is agreement that there should be a phase-in period, and, in so far as possible, avoid “winners” and “losers” with the new formula. My biggest concern and goal with the new formula is that smaller rural schools, like the ones in District 23, remain viable with the new funding formula. I have depended on our superintendents, teachers, and school boards to advise me on this issue. As we went through the session, we had multiple proposals and bills in both the Senate and the House come forward, but there was never a consensus or coalescing around one proposal, so by default, the interim committee will spend the coming year refining the formula and we will have another year of data to see how it might have worked.

#### Medicaid expansion

Implementation of Prop. 2, or Medicaid expansion, has been very divisive and has centered on whether the Legislature should place any sideboards on Medicaid expansion, and if so, what should they be. Last fall, I committed to honor the will the District 23 voters. The discussion has come down to work requirements. After considering several bills in both the Senate and the House, S1204aa,aaH was amended in the Senate and again in the House to add more work requirements. Meeting any combination of working 20 hours per week, volunteering at least 20 hours per week, or enrolled at least half-time in post-secondary education would meet the requirements. Also in the amendment were several exemptions such as under the age of 19, over the age of 59, physically or intellectually unfit for employment,

pregnant, and others. While some work requirement may sound like a good thing, I question whether the cost to administer the program would be worth it. It would expand and grow government with questionable return. So in the end, I voted no on S1204aa,aaH. Gov. Little signed the bill, and JFAC passed a bill to provide partial funding.

#### Water remains crucial topic

Water once again was an important issue. We started the session with H1, which addressed the water storage issue in the dams on the Boise River in Basin 63: Anderson Ranch, Lucky Peak, and Arrowrock Dams. H1 helps implement the settlement agreement to provide for a water right to account for floodwater being released from the reservoirs. It specifically allows for new storage up to 1,000 acre-feet, for hydropower, by allowing recharging under certain conditions, and authorizing the director to permit “upon conditions” applications for out-of-basin water diversions. The preliminary order has been issued that approves Elmore County’s permit to pump water out of the South Fork of the Boise River. A condition for approval is limiting diversions from the South Fork to times when water is being released for flood control purposes from Anderson Ranch and Lucky Peak Dams. Water bills that I carried include S1087, which deals with artesian wells and deleted some outdated language that was in current code. Uncontrolled flowing artesian wells result in the waste of water, comingling of aquifers, loss of artesian pressure in the aquifer, and lowering of the water table. This bill encourages well owners, with help from the Idaho Department of Water Resources, to repair or plug problem wells. It also suggests getting third-party help with funding and sources such as the state Department of Environmental Quality, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. S1050 allows for the use or diversion of groundwater for fire suppression. Currently, surface water can be used without a water right, and this legislation just includes groundwater. This is important for our Rangeland Fire Protection Associations (RFPAs) to be able to do their job because at times the closest source of water is from a well. If they are limited to a natural water source, it could mean many extra miles and loss of valuable time. The RFPAs have been very successful, and this will

be very beneficial to them to better do their job.

#### Honoring veterans

S1088 was one of the really gratifying pieces of legislation I was able to carry this year. The bill ensured that the most deserving disabled veterans receive Big Game hunting tags. It directs the Idaho Division of Veterans Services (IDVS) to screen applications for the five Big Game tags that are allocated to disabled veterans. The purpose of the legislation was to ensure the most deserving disabled veterans are prioritized for those tags. Two of the tags will be designated by the IDVS, while the Idaho Fish and Game Commission will designate the remaining three tags. This has been a very popular program, and we wanted to be sure that the most deserving disabled veterans receive the tags. It is just another way we can honor our veterans and show our appreciation for their service. H248 was brought in response to the Secretary of the U.S. Air Force’s request that states improve access, mobility, and portability to licensed occupations for military families and veterans. The bill recognizes applicable military experience, helps expedite applications, and offers reciprocity consideration of current occupational licenses held in other states. This bill will have a positive impact on our military men and women and their spouses, with the most impact in Idaho for those stationed at the Mountain Home Air Force Base. The Senate passed the bill unanimously, and Gov. Little signed it into law. S 1151 came about because this past year the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) received a depredation claim for more than \$1 million from a single agriculture producer of a specialty organic crop. The claim exceeded the total amount of the 43 other claims combined. S 1151 places a cap on the amount paid on any single claim not to exceed 10 percent of the depredation account appropriation. In addition to the single claim, it also applies to any pass-through entity and other household members. In 2017, the Legislature increased the depredation funds with a \$5 charge on each IDFG license sold. This program has had broad support from both sportsmen and landowners, with all claims being paid in full. This single claim drains the depredation account, undermines the integrity of the program, and threatens the viability of the depredation program. It could result in significant prorating of the remaining claims.



# Public notices

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised that a public hearing will be held before the Homedale City Council on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 6:00 pm at Homedale City Hall, 31 West Wyoming Ave, Homedale, Idaho. The subject matter of this hearing is the Application for a Kennel License filed by Suzanna Brockett requesting that she be allowed to operate a non-commercial dog kennel at the property located at 11 Kansas Ave., Homedale, Idaho. The public is invited to attend and offer input.

Alice E. Pegram  
City Clerk  
City of Homedale  
04/24,05/01/2019

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SPECIAL USE PERMIT

Marsing City Council will conduct a public hearing on May 8, 2019 at 7:00pm at Marsing City Hall, 425 Main St., Marsing, Idaho to consider a request by TV Group, LLC, applicant and property owner for a SPECIAL USE PERMIT to reconfigure 2 residential lots to face Edwards Street and be 68’ x 100’ using a lot line adjustment and special use permit. Parcels are located at 1013 Edwards Street, Marsing, Idaho 83639, and further described as follow: Lots 11 and 12 of Block 4 according to the Resurvey of Block 4 of Bosma’s Subdivision No. 2 to the Village of Marsing, Owyhee County, Idaho. The application for SPECIAL USE PERMIT is on file at the Marsing City Hall where it may be reviewed during regular business hours. The file will contain materials relevant to the request, the contents of which may change prior to the date of the hearing. All persons desiring to be heard should appear at this hearing. Written testimony may be sent to Marsing City Hall, PO BOX 125, Marsing, Idaho, 83639. Written testimony must be received no later than May 8, 2019 by 5:00 pm.

04/17,24/2019

### INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That the Board of GEM HIGHWAY DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS invites bids for the following: Furnishing road oil for approximately 7.95 miles of seal coating. Gem Highway District will furnish cover material in stockpile. Bids should state cost per mile. Work to be completed before September 1, 2018. All bids must be filed with the Secretary of the Board of Gem Highway Commissioners, P.O. Box 453, Marsing, Idaho 83639-0453, on or before 5:00 PM the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2019. The right is reserved to reject all proposals, or to accept the proposal or proposals deemed best for the Gem Highway District, and to waive any technicality. Bid packets are available by calling KEITH BERENDS, Road Superintendent, Phone 896-4581, Cell phone 860-6918.

Dated April 15, 2018  
Stella J. Bush  
Secretary-Treasurer  
04/24,05/01/19

### THE FOLLOWING APPLICATION HAS BEEN FILED TO APPROPRIATE THE PUBLIC WATERS OF THE STATE OF IDAHO: 57-12003

CITY OF MARSING PO BOX 125 MARSING, ID 83639-0125

CIVIL DYNAMICS PC C/O KIRBY COOK 305 CORNELL ST MIDDLETON, ID 83644-4742 Point of Diversion SWSE S34 T03N R04W OWYHEE County SourceGROUNDWATER Tributary Use: IRRIGATION 03/01 to 11/15 0.07 CFS Total Diversion: 0.07 CFS Date Filed: 3/13/2019 Place Of Use: IRRIGATION T03N R04W S34 NESW SESW NWSE SWSE Total Acres: 3.25

Permits will be subject to all prior water rights. For additional information concerning the property location, contact Western Region office at (208) 334-2190; or for a full description of the right(s), please see www.idwr.idaho.gov. Protests may be submitted based on the criteria of Idaho Code § 42-203A. Any protest against the approval of the application(s) must be filed with the Director, Dept. of Water Resources, Western Region, 2735 Airport Way, Boise ID 83705 together with a protest fee of \$25.00 for each application on or before 5/6/2019. The protestant must also send a copy of the protest to the applicant.

G A R Y S P A C K M A N ,  
Director  
04/17,24/2019

### LIEN SALE

Unit A-4, Tina Whitmore, 9074 West Java Ln. Apt. 101, Boise, Idaho 83704. Unit containing two refrigerators, fishing gear, totes and misc household items. Unit will be sold on 05-04-2019 by sealed bid auction. Unit will be available for viewing between the hours of 9:00am and 1:00 pm on that day. Cash only. Unit will need to be vacated that day. Unit will also need to be swept with no trash left behind. Unit is located at the Hwy. 95 Self Storage, 3685 Hwy 95, Homedale, Idaho 83628.

04/24,05/01/2019

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF OWYHEE

#### CASE NO. CV37-19-00097 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Roger Eugene Allan, Deceased. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that James Kirk McGee has been appointed general personal representative of the estate of the above-named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent or the estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to the Personal Representative of the estate at SHERER & WYNKOOP, LLP, P.O. Box 31, Meridian, Idaho 83680, or filed with the Clerk of the Court showing service upon the Personal Representative.

DATED this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2019.

SHERER & WYNKOOP, LLP  
David E. Wynkoop, of the firm  
04/17,24,05/01/2019

### NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE

To be sold for cash at a Trustee’s Sale on August 7, 2019, 09:00 AM at the Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 Highway 78, Murphy, ID 83650, the following described real property situated in Owyhee County, State of Idaho (“Real

Property”): Parcel I Beginning at the Northeast corner of Lot 1 Block 1 of the Pattons Subdivision to Marsing, Idaho, running thence Southwest along the North line of Lot 1 Pattons Subdivision, 90 feet; thence Northwest 90 feet; thence Northeast 90 feet; thence Southeast along road right-of-way 90 feet to point of beginning, all located in Section 3, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, Boise Meridian, Owyhee County, Idaho. Parcel II

Lot 1 of Block 1 of Pattons Subdivision according to the Official Plat now on file in the office of the Recorder of Owyhee County, Idaho. Excepting there from: Beginning at the Southwest corner of Lot 1 Block 1 Pattons Subdivision to Marsing Townsite; thence Southeast 25 feet; thence Northeast 60 feet; thence Northwest 25 feet; thence Southwest 60 feet to the point of beginning Commonly known as: 113 Canal Street, Marsing, ID 83639 James F. Natale and Charlotte U. Villarreal, as Trustors conveyed Real Property via a Trust Deed dated December 27, 2005, in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., its successors and assigns as Beneficiary, in which Countrywide Home Loans was named as Trustee. The Trust Deed was recorded in Owyhee County, Idaho, on January 11, 2006, as Instrument No. 254781, of Official Records. The Deed of Trust was assigned for value as follows: Assignee: Ditech Financial LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company Assignment Dated: July 27, 2018 Assignment Recorded: July 27, 2018 Assignment Recording Information: Instrument No. 296755 Shelly M. Espinosa is the Successor Trustee pursuant to a Substitution of Trustee recorded in the office of the Clerk and Recorder of Owyhee, State of Idaho on March 20, 2019 at Instrument No. 299178, of Official Records. The Beneficiary has declared a default in the terms of said Deed of Trust due to Trustor’s failure to make monthly payments beginning May 1, 2018, and each month subsequent, which monthly installments would have been applied on the principal and interest due on said obligation and other charges against the property or loan. By reason of said default, the Beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by said Trust Deed immediately due and payable. The total amount due on this obligation is the principal sum of \$34,112.65, interest in the sum of \$2,900.73, escrow advances of \$780.06, other amounts due and payable in the amount of \$2,351.65, for a total amount owing of \$40,145.09, plus accruing interest, late charges, and other fees and costs that may be incurred or advanced. The Beneficiary anticipates and may disburse such amounts as may be required to preserve and protect the property and for real property taxes that may become due or delinquent, unless such amounts of taxes are paid by the Trustors. If such amounts are paid by the Beneficiary, the amounts or taxes will be added to the obligations secured by the Deed of Trust. Other expenses to be charged against the proceeds of this sale include the Trustee’s fees and attorney’s fees, costs and expenses of the sale, and late charges, if any. Beneficiary has elected, and has directed

the Trustee to sell the above described property to satisfy the obligation. The sale is a public sale and any person, including the Beneficiary, may bid at the sale. The bid price must be paid immediately upon the close of bidding by certified funds (valid money orders, certified checks or cashier’s checks). The conveyance will be made by Trustee’s Deed, without any representation or warranty, including warranty of title, express or implied, as the sale is made strictly on an as-is, where-is basis, without limitation, the sale is being made subject to all existing conditions, if any, of lead paint, mold or other environmental or health hazards. The Trustors, successor in interest to the Trustors, or any other person having an interest in the property, or any person named in IRC § 45-1506, has the right, at any time prior to the Trustee’s Sale, to pay to the Beneficiary, or the successor in interest to the Beneficiary, the entire amount then due under the Deed of Trust and the obligation secured thereby (including costs and expenses actually incurred and attorney’s fees) other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred and by curing any other default complained of herein that is capable of

being cured by tendering the performance required under the obligation or to cure the default, by paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation and Deed of Trust with Successor Trustee’s and attorney’s fees. In the event that all defaults are cured the foreclosure will be dismissed and the foreclosure sale will be canceled. The scheduled Trustee’s Sale may be postponed by public proclamation up to 30 days for any reason. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder’s sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Successor Trustee and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The above Trustors are named to comply with IRC § 45-1506(4)(a). No representation is made that they are, or are not, presently responsible for this obligation. This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Dated this 27th day of March, 2019. Shelly M. Espinosa

Substitute Trustee 376 East 400 South, Suite 300, Salt Lake City, UT 84111 Telephone: 801-355-2886 Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8AM-5PM (MST) File No. 54503

04/10,17,24,05/01/2019



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**www.IdahoPublicNotices.com**



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### NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION OF IDAHO

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# Classifieds

Reach Thousands of Readers Every Week in the Owyhee Avalanche  
In Print & Online as low as \$5.00 • Call 337-4681 or email ads to kara@owyheeavalanche.com

### FOR SALE

**2x4's #2 BTR** 10'-16' .45/ft. 3/8 & 1/2 OSB \$7 & \$9/each. Nails \$1.30/lb. TRTD posts. Jacuzzi Tub, Fence insulators, misc. hardware. Parma 208-371-2485.  
**King Size Bed** and headboard \$200. Whirlpool washer and dryer \$200. 1995 Ford Aerostar van \$900 OBO. 208-570-9302.  
**Roll ends:** Great for packing material, building fires, lining birdcages or for your kids to doodle on. The Owyhee Avalanche, Homedale

### FOR RENT

**Marsing Storage Inc.,** Hwy 55 & Van Rd. 10x10 units available, trailer spaces. Call 208-830-1641  
**Commercial Rental** Two room, ideal for office or beauty/barber shop. (208) 337-4444. Call for details.

### THANK YOU

**The Family of Jody Nilan** would like to thank all the friends and neighbors who helped with food, cards and support. A special thanks to those who helped with setting up and helping in the kitchen.

### HELP WANTED

**Owyhee County Road and Bridge District 1** is accepting applications heavy equipment and truck mechanic/operator. Must have minimum five years' work experience performing skilled maintenance and repairs of various types of machinery. CDL is required. Must be able to pass background check and drug/alcohol test. Starting wage \$14.76-\$18.00/hr. Position will remain open until filled. Please contact the Owyhee County Clerk's office for an application and job description or from the website [www.owyheecounty.net](http://www.owyheecounty.net) Owyhee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

### HELP WANTED

**Keeper/Handyman** Experience preferred. Snake River RV Resort in Homedale. (208) 337-3744.  
**Full Time Mowing Manager.** Duties will include mowing, trimming, leaf blowing and basic lawn maintenance. Paid depends on experience. Call Kelly Landscaping (208) 919-3364.

### FARM AND RANCH

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

### SERVICES

**Trees & Shrubs,** trimmed and removed. Prompt, experienced, free service estimates. Licensed and insured. I live in the area! Call (208) 941-5134.

**Chad's Lawn Care.** Mowing, trimming, and all your lawn care needs. Free estimates. 208-695-9950.

**Weekly Lawn Mowing,** Call Tyrone Shippy for a free estimate @ 208-880-8466

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**LOCATION:** From Burns Oregon 12 miles East on Hwy. 20 to Crane Buchanan rd., then South on Crane Buchanan rd. 11 miles to, 27724 Crane Buchanan rd. Burns Oregon. Auction signs will be posted.

**TERMS:** Cash or bankable check on sale day. We will load sale day.  
**SALE TIME: 11:00 A.M. PACIFIC TIME**

**TRACTORS:** Ford 7740 Powerstar SLE, MFWD, power shift trans, 2 hyd. remotes, 18.4x38 rubber, w/ Du Al 255 front loader mounted, 4600 hrs., 150hrs. on engine overhaul • JD 8640 Quad trans., 3 hyd remotes, dual 18.4x38 rubber, 50 series engine, 8k hrs • MF 275 stdn trans., 2 hyd remotes, 15.5x38 rubber, roll guard canopy

**TELEHANDLER:** Gradall 534 B telehandler, 8k lb. cap., 34' reach, Perkins diesel (we will reserve the use) • 7' man basket • 1- set of 14.9x28 front tractor tires • 1- set of 16.9x38 rear tractor tires

**VEHICLES:** 2002 Dodge 2500 4x4 pickup, extended cab, Cummins engine, auto trans., new steel flatbed, Laramie SLT 180k miles • 1998 Chevrolet 3500 4x4 pickup, crew cab, V8 auto trans, steel flatbed • 1972 GMC 6000 single axle truck, V8 5spd, 16' combination bed and hoist • 2000 Yamaha 600 Grizzly 4x4 4 wheeler low miles

**TRAILERS:** 1997 Walton 24' tandem axle gooseneck flatbed trailer, 7k lb. axles 14 ply tires • 1994 Hillsboro 24' tandem axle gooseneck stock trailer • 24' semi flatbed trailer (field use only NT) • 10'x5' single axle flatbed trailer

**EQUIPMENT:** IHC 315 12' roller harrow • Midland 20' tandem disc hyd. fold dual packer wheels recent new bearings and blades • Farmhand 21' foldup soil conditioner • Miller 12' tandem disc • Morris Challenger II 40' spring shank cultivator pull type w/ Morris coil tine conditioner recent new Sunflower shanks • Northwest hyd 3pt pivot track filler (new) • Dandl 15' shredder dual packer wheels • JD 450 double disc grain drill w seeder • bulk spin spreader trailer dual fan pto tandem axle • Woods 5' pto gyro mower • Brush Hog 7' gyro mower • Ace 14' cultipacker • Howard 5' rototiller • Dunham 20' pull type harrow hyd carrier wheels • Dunham 20' pull type harrow • Bison 240 XHD 8' hyd 3pt blade • IH 10 5 shank ripper new points • 24'x15" channel brush rail • Lilly 3pt cyclone seeder • 3pt pto post hole auger • Grainovator pto grain cart • 6' flail mower • 100 gal pak tank 3pt sprayer • Mayrath 6'x35' grain auger

**HAY EQUIPMENT:** New Holland 1048 self propelled stackwagon V8 4spd • Case IH 8830 self propelled swather w/12' head and conditioner Cummins diesel engine • Hesston 8200 self propelled swather w/14' head and conditioner Fiat diesel engine • Case IH 8830 14' swather head • New Holland BR 780 pto round baler w/net wrap less than 7k bales • several rolls of net wrap • Case IH 8550 pto inline baler 16"x18" recent overhaul • Highline Pto round Bale feeder • Hesston 3986 14 wheel hay rake • Anderson round Bale pickup squeeze for front loader (like new) • Farmhand 8 bale hay fork • Luco big bale hay head • 2- 22.5x16.1 swather tires (new)

**IRRIGATION:** Greenfield 3 tower mini pivot • Aeromotor windmill head w/pump • 33- jts of 6"x40' aluminum main line with valves • New elec. 50 hp pump motor • rebuilt elec. 24 hp pump motor • 60 hp elec. pump motor • 30 hp elec. pump motor

**GRAINERIES:** 2- 24' graineries disassembled

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**Saturday, 4/27, 9-3pm** 24839 Hoskins Rd. Follow signs off Homedale Rd. Side by side refrig-freezer-electric cook stove-computer, craft supplies and much more.

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# Diverse exchange students fall in love with Marsing

Marsing could be a shock to someone who is not used to small-town life.

The high school's four foreign exchange students have met and embraced that fact with the grace of which maybe only youths are capable.

Isabel Faenger, who hails from Stuttgart, Germany, a city of about 670,000 people, said she was a little surprised about the culture she found herself in, particularly the little town she has called home for the past nine months.

"The American way of living is very different to what I am used to in Germany," the junior said. "Especially since I am from a very big town, Marsing is completely different from my home."

"I was surprised how welcoming people here are and how well everyone knew each other."

Others already came from small towns and didn't put much thought into moving to a little burg like Marsing.

"To be honest, I didn't really have any expectations before I came here because I didn't even know where Idaho was," Rike Schernikau said. She is from a small German town called Goldbeck.

Rike's mother works in an investments bank, and her father is the "Verbandsgemeindebuergemeister," or mayor, of her community.

Agnes Pelch comes from a small Danish town called Taarbæk, near the capital of Copenhagen.

"Actually, I wasn't that surprised by the American culture," she said. "My family prepared me pretty well and told me what



Marsing High School exchange students — (from left) Rike Schernikau, Ana Mantilla, Isabel Faenger, and Agnes Pelch — are facing the end of their time in Marsing coming soon.

to do and what not to do."

Being ready for American culture is a little different than being ready for Marsing culture, however.

"When I first came here, I was kinda in shock," Pelch said. "I knew it was a small town, but Marsing was so different than from what I was used to."

"But it only took me a couple days to get used to, and now I couldn't wish for a better place."

Ana Mantilla is from Vigo, Galicia, Spain.

She said: "When I first saw Marsing, I was shocked of how small it was. I thought I was not going to like living in a small town, but after months, I started to see that I actually loved it and the people here welcomed me and my foreign friends with open arms."

"I think it was the best decision I've ever made in my life."

Agnes has some ties to America. She said that although she had never been here before, she had heard a lot about it from family.

Her grandfather moved to America when he was 17 and

joined the Army. He thought he would never see his family again. After his time in the Army, he went to Georgetown University and studied medicine, eventually becoming a physician.

Her mother moved to America to become an *au pair* in San Francisco for two years when she was 17.

Two years ago, her brother Lars spent an exchange year in Washington state.

"They all love America and talk a lot about it," she said. "That made my decision (easier) to move here for a year."

Rike said that she has really enjoyed the school spirit at Marsing High School. She has competed for the Huskies in varsity cross country and varsity softball.

"I really like to play so many different sports," she said. "I like how everyone is so supportive of each other."

She said she has really enjoyed the trips she's taken with her host family as well.

"I saw so many different things and met great people," she said. "I love to meet new

people and see different places, and that's what we did. I enjoyed and am still enjoying it a lot."

Isabel said she is very grateful for the memories she has made here that she will be taking back to Germany with her.

"The last eight months I have spent here have been amazing, and it has been a great experience," she said. "I am so thankful ... for all the memories and friends I have found and my host family who I grew close with."

"I have experienced so much and learned a lot."

Ana has made herself very busy this year and has loved every minute of it, she said.

"I was a cheerleader during football season and have played volleyball, basketball, and softball," she said. "I thought I wouldn't like softball, but I ended up loving it. I would really like to have softball in Spain."

All four students have different goals for where their next steps will be. They all have more schooling ahead of them. Each must complete an extra year of high school because of

**Isabel Faenger**  
Country — Germany  
Age — 16  
Grade — Junior  
Host — Patty Russell

**Ana Mantilla**  
Country — Spain  
Age — 16  
Grade — Junior  
Host — Claire family

**Agnes Pelch**  
Country — Denmark  
Age — 16  
Grade — Junior  
Host — Patty Russell

**Frederike Schernikau**  
Country — Germany  
Age — 17  
Grade — Junior  
Host — Scott and Sharla Jensen

the year spent in the exchange program.

Rike says she wants to go to university after graduation but does not yet know what she will study.

"Maybe physics," she said. "I also want a job where I help people, especially kids."

Agnes said that after graduation she would like to travel the world and then go to college.

Isabel said she also sees more travel in her future. Ultimately her goal is college to become a therapist for children.

Ana said she plans on going to college and study design.

Four young ladies from four different places, with one goal in mind: improving their life and their world. — TK

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