

The Owyhee Avalanche

VOL. 35, NO. 53 \$1

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2020

ANOTHER SEASON OF GIVING



A volunteer shows her jubilation about another successful Hands Around Homedale food drive for some of the families in the school district. This year's distribution included hygiene car packages (sacked in paper bags) to cap another drive by Homedale High School graduate Megan Harper. Submitted photo. For news on the OHR gift drive, see **Page 3A**

Hygiene drive helps hundreds of people in several towns

Community's response delights collection effort's founder once again

The community got behind Megan Harper's latest hygiene collection drive, and she

won't forget it.

"We have the best community, and I am so lucky to know so many giving individuals," the Homedale High School graduate said after wrapping up her third biennial benefit.

"During this time, I was able to meet

— See **Drive**, page 5A

Public land swap threatens ranchers' grazing, water

State agency's open lease regulation could wipe out grazing, water rights

by Sean Ellis
Idaho Farm Bureau
Federation

A proposed land swap between the Idaho Department of Lands and federal Bureau of Land Management could threaten some Owyhee County ranchers' federal grazing preference and related water right.

One of the ranchers, Tim Lowry, is getting assistance from the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation in his latest fight to preserve his livelihood.

Lowry has asked the IDL to

send a letter to other ranchers who could be impacted by the swap asking for their written consent and explaining to them clearly what the effects of such an exchange would be on their existing grazing rights so they can make an informed decision.

A land swap between BLM and IDL, known as the Owyhee Land Exchange, was proposed several years ago. BLM manages federal land in the affected area, and IDL

— See **Rancher**, page 11A

State grant would help upgrade OCSO marine equipment

Money sought to buy two water-skis, trailer

Law enforcement contacts with boating enthusiasts have steadily increased in Owyhee County, so officials think it's time to upgrade equipment.

Deputy Bill Conger of the sheriff's office marine unit is in the midst of writing a grant in hopes of replacing a 20-year-old personal watercraft (PWC or jet-ski) that marine deputies use to contact folks on the waterways in the county.

Conger is seeking \$25,300 to purchase two jet-skis and a trailer. The county would have to match 25 percent or \$6,325, but Conger said part of

that amount would come from a \$2,000 trade allowance for the old equipment and the rest from the county vessel fund.

Conger plans to submit the application in a couple weeks. If the grant is awarded, he hopes to have the new water-skis in use by spring.

"The new PWCs would also be used for search-and-rescue operations on (C.J. Strike Reservoir and the Snake River) because of their ability to maneuver through narrow channels and small inlets, and operate in shallower water than most of our other watercraft," Conger said.

The grant money comes from the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Waterway

— See **OCSO**, page 10A



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Pandemic parallel, Pg. 8A: HHS grad finds UI 1918 flu history
Return to class, Pg. 4A: Area students start again on Monday
Rimrock rolls, Pg. 13A: Girls complete Homedale court sweep
A look back, B section: Recounting Owyhee's year that was
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County COVID-19 numbers dip again

School cases decrease, too

Owyhee County’s daily incidence rate continues to fall, but its COVID-19 health alert level remains red. Southwest District Health released its latest report last Wednesday, placing the county’s rate at 5.6 new daily cases per 10,000 people. A county remains in the red zone until the daily case count dips below 5.0.

The daily case count has been falling for about three weeks, and the test positivity rate of 13.66 percent is trending downward, too. Between Dec. 13 and Dec. 19, only one student case (either confirmed or probable) was reported in the county (Marsing School District). As of last Wednesday, two school staff members or students were in isolation, and 14 were in quarantine after close contact with a COVID-19 case.

Overall Owyhee County COVID-19 cases:

773

Dec. 22 to Dec. 28 statistics:

New confirmed cases, 17

Probable cases, 97 (New: 6)

Deaths: 19 (New: 1)

People who recovered: 659 (New: 100)

Health alert level: Red

Source: coronavirus.idaho.gov and SWDH

Malheur COVID-19 cases:

2,820

New cases, Dec. 22 to Dec. 28: 77

Deaths: 50 (New: 1)

Negative tests: 13,951 (New: 365)

Source: govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19



Homedale doctor among first to get coronavirus vaccine
Homedale resident Dr. Jocene Skinner receives her coronavirus vaccination Dec. 22 at West Valley Medical Center in Caldwell. Southwest District Health reported Thursday that vaccinations for front-line health care workers began last week after nearly 2,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine arrived. Submitted photo

Engineer to share grant info with Homedale council

With a deadline looming for needed grants, the Homedale City Council will meet a week early to start the new year. Typically held on the second Wednesday of the month, the council’s regular meeting will convene at 6 p.m., next Wednesday inside City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming Ave. City Clerk and Treasurer Alice Pegram said the first meeting of 2021 was moved up seven days because Great West Engineering liaison Andrew Kimmel has to discuss the city’s options for an infrastructure grant. Homedale officials want to secure grant money to help pay for what is sure to be a multi-million-dollar rehabilitation of the city wastewater treatment ponds northwest of town. No other details about next week’s meeting are solidified, but the council typically pays bills and hears departmental reports from supervisors like Pegram, Bret Smith of public works, and Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller.

— JPB

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OHR gift drive draws compassion

Owyhee Health and Rehabilitation Center staff presented a slew of gifts to residents just in time for Christmas.

The party at the Homedale care center marked the successful culmination of another OHR gift drive coordinated by The Owyhee Avalanche. Other gifts were also purchased with money raised through the Last Chance Saloon's annual auction fundraiser.

Staffers Kevin Beebe and Rosie Almaraz picked up gifts last Wednesday at the Avalanche office.

The care facility's 44 residents submitted their Christmas wish list, and community members set out to fill the orders that were published weekly in the Avalanche in December.

Clothing, sleepwear, cologne, aftershave, shoes and items needed for drawing and doing puzzles were unveiled during OHR's annual Christmas party for the residents. The residents opened their gifts Christmas Eve morning.



Above: Marsing resident Cade Brackett adds to the pile of gifts donated to OHR residents in the annual gift drive, coordinated by The Owyhee Avalanche.

Right: Homedale deputy city clerk and Marsing City Councilmember Rachael Percifield embraced the season of giving, donating bags of presents to OHR residents.



Owyhee Health and Rehabilitation staffers Rosie Almaraz (left) and Kevin Beebe picked up donations from The Owyhee Avalanche office last Wednesday morning.

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

2021

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From page 1A

✓ Drive: Organizaer already taking donations for 2022 collection effort

amazing new people as well. It makes my heart so happy. I always say it, and I will say it again — I am so lucky to be a part of the Owyhee County community.”

Those in need residing in six local communities benefitted from the 2020 collection drive. Donations Harper received went to families in Marsing, Homedale, Wilder, Grand View, Bruneau and Oreana.

Bags assembled with the donations for hygiene products went to 572 individuals in those communities.

“I also spent \$550 at local Homedale/Marsing businesses buying supplies with donated money,” she said.

Harper works with school counselors and community members in each town to coordinate the hygiene packs with food care packages that go out during the holidays.

“The hygiene bags are picked up at the same time, and they are personalized to the family,” Harper said.

Harper said the variety of products she receives amazes her, but she’s still surprised by a new item each time she puts on the drive.

“This year, it was laundry detergent and fingernail clip-pers,” she said.

New groups get involved, too, adding to individual contributions.

“I would not be able to do it without donations,” Harper said. “I greatly appreciate all the donations I receive.”

This year, the Marsing Mid-

dle School Leadership class challenged each homeroom group to come up with hygiene products.

The homeroom collecting the most items won the competition.

“This was a fun, creative way to collect hygiene prod-ucts,” she said.

At Alforex Seed in Homedale, Sheila Matteson and Sindy Cline organized a collection drive. The company matched products brought in by employees.

Harper wants to thank ev-eryone who got involved in the donation drive. She plans to make personal shout-outs for the donors on Facebook.

The list includes businesses, business owners, and several individuals from various com-munities.

Megan’s mother, Homedale Elementary teacher Melanie Harper, helped her daughter organize the contributions for distribution.

Although Megan Harper holds the hygiene collection drive every other year and plans the next one for 2022, she always accepts and appre-ciates donations.

“I want to thank everyone that donated, and let them know their donations are greatly appreciated. I really couldn’t do it without dona-tions,” Harper said.

“If someone finds a hot deal between now and (2022), I am happy to store donations any time of the year.”

— JPB



Members of Marsing Middle School’s Leadership class ham it up with some of the items classmates collected during a homeroom challenge for Megan Harper’s biennial hygiene collection drive. Submitted photo



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The Owyhee Avalanche

Owyhee County’s best source of local news!

University of Idaho
Extension

4-H’ers gear up for another trip to the Statehouse

The annual Know Your Government conference is held over the Presidents’ Day weekend, Feb. 13-15. It is held in Boise at our State Capitol. This conference is an opportunity for our youth to participate in legislative and judicial workshops.



Janelle Thompson

There will be a total of 175 eighth- and ninth-graders from all over the state.

In previous years, Owyhee County has been well represented by Audrie Miller.

The Marsing youth was selected as a third-year delegate, but had to step down because of other commitments, according to her mother Janet.

All 4-H youth interested in attending have submitted applications and gone through an interview process to be selected for the Know Your Government Conference. The selected delegates have also attended an orientation to learn proper table etiquette, hand write invitations to our local government officials and to further prepare them for this conference.

These 4-H members will learn:

- How the judicial system works
- What is involved in bringing a case to court
- How the state government decision-making process

works

They’ll also:

- Observe the legislative process in action
- Meet and share ideas with legislators, judges and other elected officials as well having breakfast with legislators and judges.

The Know Your Government Conference aims to improve communities through informing youth of our government and how it works.

Citizens who are informed about their government are better prepared to participate in the governmental processes.

Each 4-H member will set goals and determine the steps necessary to reach their goals. They will also practice critical thinking, and demonstrate responsibility, leadership skills, their ability to work effectively in teams, problem-solving skills and their knowledge of parliamentary procedures.

We look forward to hearing about the experiences and ideas these 4-H members will come home with and share with others.

Again, congratulations to all the delegates participating in the 2021 KYG conference.

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



Recreational repair biz opens in Marsing

Travis Wood of Wood Power Sports puts in a little work on a Yamaha dirt bike. Wood Power Sports has been operating out of its shop at 749 W. Main St., in Marsing for a month. Wood, who has more than 15 years experience, services and repairs any make, model, and year of off-road vehicle, generators, water pumps, and more. Wood is frequently in and out of the shop, but he can be reached at (208) 514-5207 for information and appointments.

Calendar

Today

No activities scheduled

Thursday

Teens & Tweens

5 p.m. to 6 p.m., Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228

Monday

Board of County Commissioners meeting

9 a.m., Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy. (208) 495-2421

Story Time

10:15 a.m., Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale.

Story Time

11:15 a.m., Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale.

Tuesday

Writing group

9 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St. W., Homedale.

Wednesday

Christian Life Club

4 p.m. to 5:15 p.m., non-denominational, kindergarteners through sixth-graders, First Presbyterian Church of Homedale, 320 N. 6th St. W, Homedale. (208) 880-7070 or (208) 337-3464

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)

Homedale City Council

6 p.m., City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4641

Thursday, Jan. 7

Owyhee County Fair Board meeting

7 p.m., Owyhee County Community Center, 423 W. Nevada Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3888

Teens & Tweens

5 p.m. to 6 p.m., Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228

Monday, Jan. 11

Homedale Library Board meeting

1:30 p.m., Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228

Homedale FFA chapter meeting

6:30 p.m., Homedale High School Ag shop, East Owyhee Avenue and North 2nd Street East, Homedale.

Board of County Commissioners meeting

9 a.m., Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy. (208) 495-2421

Story Time

10:15 a.m., Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale.

Story Time

11:15 a.m., Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale.

Tuesday, Jan. 12

Melba School Board meeting

5 p.m., district office, 511 Broadway, Melba. (208) 495-1141

Ridgeview Irrigation meeting

1 p.m., South Board of Control board room, 118 S. 1st St. W. Meeting available via Zoom, call (208) 337-3760 for link.

South Board of Control meeting

1:30 p.m., South Board of Control board room, 118 S. 1st St. W. Meeting available via Zoom, call (208) 337-3760 for link.

Gem Irrigation meeting

1:15 p.m., South Board of Control board room, 118 S. 1st St. W. Meeting available via Zoom, call (208) 337-3760 for link.

Writing group

9 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St. W., Homedale.

American Legion Post 128 meeting

7 p.m., Phipps-Watson American Legion Hall and Community Center, 126 W. 2nd St. N., Marsing

Senior menus

Homedale Senior Center

Congregate meals suspended

Curbside pickup after noon

Phone ahead (208) 337-3020 to order

Dessert included in curbside lunch

Milk and roll available each day

Dec. 30: Beef burrito, rice and refried beans, California blend vegetables

Dec. 31: Pork roast, mashed potatoes with gravy, spinach

Sandbar Community Room, Marsing

Noon inside Marsing City Hall

Milk available each day

Suggested donation: \$4 (60 and over), \$6 (59 and younger)

Dec. 30: Beans and ham, potatoes, Brussels sprouts, juice, cornbread

Death notice

DIANA LYN GARDNER, 59, of Wilder, died Thursday, Dec. 24, 2020 in Wilder. Arrangements: Bowman Funeral Parlor of Garden City. 208-853-3131 www.bowmanfuneral.com

School menus

Homedale Elementary

Choice of milk and juice
Vegetable and Fruit choices will be offered daily
Dec. 30-31: No school
Jan. 4: **Breakfast:** Cereal **Lunch:** Corn dog, tater tots
Jan. 5: **Breakfast:** Breakfast Pizza **Lunch:** Chicken patty sandwich, coleslaw
Jan. 6: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon pull apart **Lunch:** Chicken filet, mashed potatoes with gravy, hot roll
Jan. 7: **Breakfast:** Mini donuts, string cheese **Lunch:** Pepperoni calzone, green beans

Homedale Middle

Choice of milk and juice, yogurt or string cheese
Cereal option and PB&J offered daily
Vegetable and Fruit choices will be offered daily
Dec. 30-31: No school
Jan. 4: **Breakfast:** Mini waffles **Lunch:** Pepperoni calzone, green beans
Jan. 5: **Breakfast:** Chocolate chip muffin or **Lunch:** Cheeseburger, french fries
Jan. 6: **Breakfast:** Apple cinnamon Texas toast **Lunch:** Chicken taco, corn
Jan. 7: **Breakfast:** Donut **Lunch:** Pepperoni pizza ripper

Homedale High

Choice of milk and juice, yogurt, string cheese or hard-boiled egg
Vegetable and Fruit choices will be offered daily
Cereal option, grab 'n' go items each day
Dec. 30-31: No school
Jan. 4: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon burst bread slice or Dutch waffle **Lunch:** Boneless Buffalo wings, breadstick, coleslaw or taquitos, coleslaw
Jan. 5: **Breakfast:** Croissant breakfast sandwich or BeneFit bar **Lunch:** Chicken patty, french fries or hamburger or cheeseburger, french fries
Jan. 6: **Breakfast:** Biscuits and gravy or pancakes **Lunch:** BBQ chicken sandwich, steamed carrots or cheese chicken sub, steamed carrots

Marsing

Each meal includes choice of milk, fruit juice, fresh fruit & vegetables
Elementary School each day: Breakfast: Cereal option
Middle/High School each day: PB&J sandwich option
Cold Grab-n-go line (variations of each daily):
Wrap, sub sandwich, salad
Hot Grab-n-go line (daily):
Cheeseburger, chicken sandwich (regular or spicy)
Dec. 30-31: No school
Jan. 4: **Breakfast:** Donut with sprinkles. **Lunch:** Hot Grab-n-go: Buffalo chicken nuggets, garlic French bread pizza, French fries, hot roll. Cold Grab-n-go: Turkey-bacon ciabatta
Jan. 5: **Breakfast:** Yogurt, Tornado (egg, sausage and cheese). **Lunch:** Classic: Super nachos, refried beans. Hot Grab-n-go: Wild Mike's pepperoni pizza, potato Gems
Jan. 6: **Breakfast:** Texas toast. **Lunch:** Classic: Pepperoni calzone, green beans. Hot Grab-n-go: Garlic French bread, potato wedge. Cold Grab-n-go: Taco salad with breadstick

Bruneau/Grand View

All meals: Milk and fruit offered daily
Jr.-Sr. high school: Pizza offered daily
Dec. 30-31: No school
Jan. 4: **Breakfast:** Apple frudel **Lunch:** Pizza, tossed romaine salad, corn
Jan. 5: **Breakfast:** Biscuits and Gravy **Lunch:** Chicken and Noodles, tossed romaine salad, steamed carrots
Jan. 6: **Breakfast:** Waffle and hashbrowns **Lunch:** Nachos with whole wheat chips, refried beans/salsa, broccoli

Obituary

Darlene Thomas

Darlene Thomas, 93, of Homedale, went to be with the Lord on December 20, 2020, at Autumn Winds Expressions in Caldwell, Idaho.

She was born Darlene May Godbout on May 7, 1927, to Lloyd and Clara Godbout in Enid, Oklahoma, and raised in Summerfield, Kansas. In the summer of 1943, her family moved to Wilder, Idaho, where she attended Wilder High School for her junior year, returning to Summerfield to graduate in 1945. The next year, she returned to Wilder where she later met and married Kenneth Evans "Jim" Thomas in 1948. They raised three children on their farm outside of Homedale.

Darlene was a happy homemaker and an active member of the Homedale Friends Church for over five decades, where she served on various committees and was a Sunday school teacher and a bible study leader until age 91. She enjoyed watching sports of all kinds, both from the couch and the bleachers. She was a fixture at her children and grandchildren's games and could not be pulled away from



the NBA Finals. Darlene loved her family, her friends, and her community, and she dearly loved the Lord all of her days.

She was predeceased by her parents, her younger brothers Norman and Kenneth Godbout, her husband Jim, and her great-granddaughter Tristen. She is survived by her three children and two daughters-in-law, Jimmy (Sarah) Thomas and Steve (Tracy) Thomas of Homedale, and Diane Thomason of Portland, Oregon; eight grandchildren, Kenny, Justin and Kade Thomas of Homedale; Allison Thomas of Bellingham, Washington; Amanda Fryer of Mariposa, California; Christopher and

Gregory Thomason of Bend, Oregon; Taylor Thomason of Portland, Oregon; nine great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

The family wishes to thank the staffs of Autumn Winds Expressions and Signature Hospice for the wonderful care they provided. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2020, at 1 p.m. at Homedale Friends Church, with a viewing at the church one hour prior to services. Interment will follow at the Wilder Cemetery in Wilder, Idaho. In lieu of flowers, please consider contributing to the Friends Church building fund in Darlene's name.

Deputies stay busy

A Marsing man was arrested on multiple felony charges Dec. 22 at Island Park.

James Lee Young, 33, was taken into custody after an Owyhee County Sheriff's deputy recognized him as the subject of an outstanding misdemeanor warrant, sheriff's Chief Deputy Lynn Bowman said.

A vehicle search turned up 7.6 ounces of marijuana, 1.1 grams of methamphetamine, and two syringes with a substance that tested presumptive positive for meth. Young also possessed checks that didn't belong to him, Bowman said.

Young remains in county jail on felony charges of possession of a controlled substance and possession with intent to deliver, and a misdemeanor count of possession of paraphernalia. Bowman said Young could also face charges for the checks.

Star resident Benjamin Bowers, 46, is out on bail after his Friday arrest on misdemeanors of driving under the influence (second offense), driving without privileges, possession of an open alcoholic container in a vehicle, and resisting or obstructing a peace officer.

Bowman said Bowers drove by moments after an OCSO deputy heard the Canyon County Sheriff's Office was looking for a 2004 Hummer that had been involved in a wreck earlier Friday.

The deputy made a traffic stop on North Edison Road outside Marsing after Bowers didn't maintain his lane.

Bowers failed a field sobriety test and refused to submit to a Breathalyzer test after being booked into jail.

Bowers admitted to being in the wreck, Bowman said. But Bowers refused to comply until the arresting deputy pulled out his Taser, which was not deployed. — TK

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Pandemic parallels

Diary, newspaper divulge quarantine, mandates struck raw nerves in 1918, too

by Riley Haun

The paper is yellowed, the binding cracked and split. Emerald handwriting, cramped and neat, fills blocks of text across the months. The font is reminiscent of a grandmother’s, but the sentiments contained in the loops of florid lettering are frighteningly familiar to a 21st-century reader.

“All schools closed now,” Esther Thomas wrote. “Forty cases of the flu at the university. Bum at home all day.”

As a home economics student at the University of Idaho, Esther kept a diary as part of her scrapbook. Every day of 1918 bears a line or two about what she’d done that day, how she was feeling or which friends she’d seen.

Esther’s years in Moscow had been busy, with a party on Greek Row or dinner at a friend’s house to attend whenever boredom struck. She filled her scrapbook with programs and tickets from fraternity dances and barn parties, noting the boys she’d danced with and the friends she’d gotten ready with beforehand. Now, the parties and dates were quickly drying up.

The Spanish flu, as it was then known, had already been circulating for months before it reached tiny, distant Moscow. The disease had popped up in military bases in the United States and on the European front as soldiers filled the trenches of World War I. Soon, it was in every corner of the Earth, eventually infecting up to one-third of the world’s population, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

It disproportionately sickened and killed the young and healthy, who on UI’s campus were encouraged to stave off the disease by avoiding crowds, keeping windows open, chewing their food thoroughly and avoiding tight clothing — shots in the dark against an unknown assailant at the time.

When it did come, in October 1918, three members of the Student Army Training Corps (SATC) were the first to fall ill on campus. The school gym where the student soldiers slept had its heat shut off in an attempt to “freeze out” the flu germs, The Argonaut wrote.

To prevent further spread of the sickness, UI’s campus would be quarantined from the outside world starting that October. Esther grew increasingly desperate. She’d been sick with the flu herself for a few days — only a mild case, she wrote, but the worst part was the doctor’s orders keeping friends away from her bedside.

Esther, who lived off-campus in her family’s home, found herself stuck inside even after her recovery. The white voile dress and black velvet jacket she’d just bought for the beginning of the semester would languish in her closet, she lamented.

“Still doing nothing,” she wrote Oct. 21. “I am almost desperate.”

She bided her time by sewing sheets for the SATC boys in the infirmary. But there’s only so much sewing one girl



Esther Thomas, shown in a 1918 photograph, shed light on how the Spanish flu pandemic affected Moscow and the University of Idaho campus.

can do in quarantine, after all.

“Made some more sheets,” Esther wrote Oct. 22. “Desperation increases. What will become of me?”

The next day, she took some flowers to the sick bay to cheer the boys up. Desperately short-handed, the Red Cross volunteers quickly put Esther to work as a nurse. By the end of the week, her quarantine boredom was a thing of the past.

“Gave my first medicine to the sick men today,” she wrote. “Didn’t kill any of them either.”

As cases began to pick up across Moscow — more than 200 cases were recorded among the SATC men alone — orders came down from the U.S. War Department that all student soldiers must wear a gauze face mask.

That mandate was unpopular from the beginning, The Argonaut reported in November. Soldiers had to wear masks at all times unless they were eating, so “many prolonged their eating periods until nearly every minute in barracks was spent with an apple or a Hershey,” the report stated.

Another soldier would let the mask slip below his nose, ready to pull back up if he was called out, because “he was afraid he’d breathed his mask full of germs and didn’t want to breathe them back in again.”

The mask mandate was rescinded within a week, reportedly because of countless complaints about being



A vintage sign from the 1918 pandemic that informed U of I students of dangerous areas that should be avoided.

unable to smoke, The Argonaut reported.

Those quarantined on campus were making the best of their boredom, according to a regular Argonaut section titled “Quarantine Notes.”

In Riden-

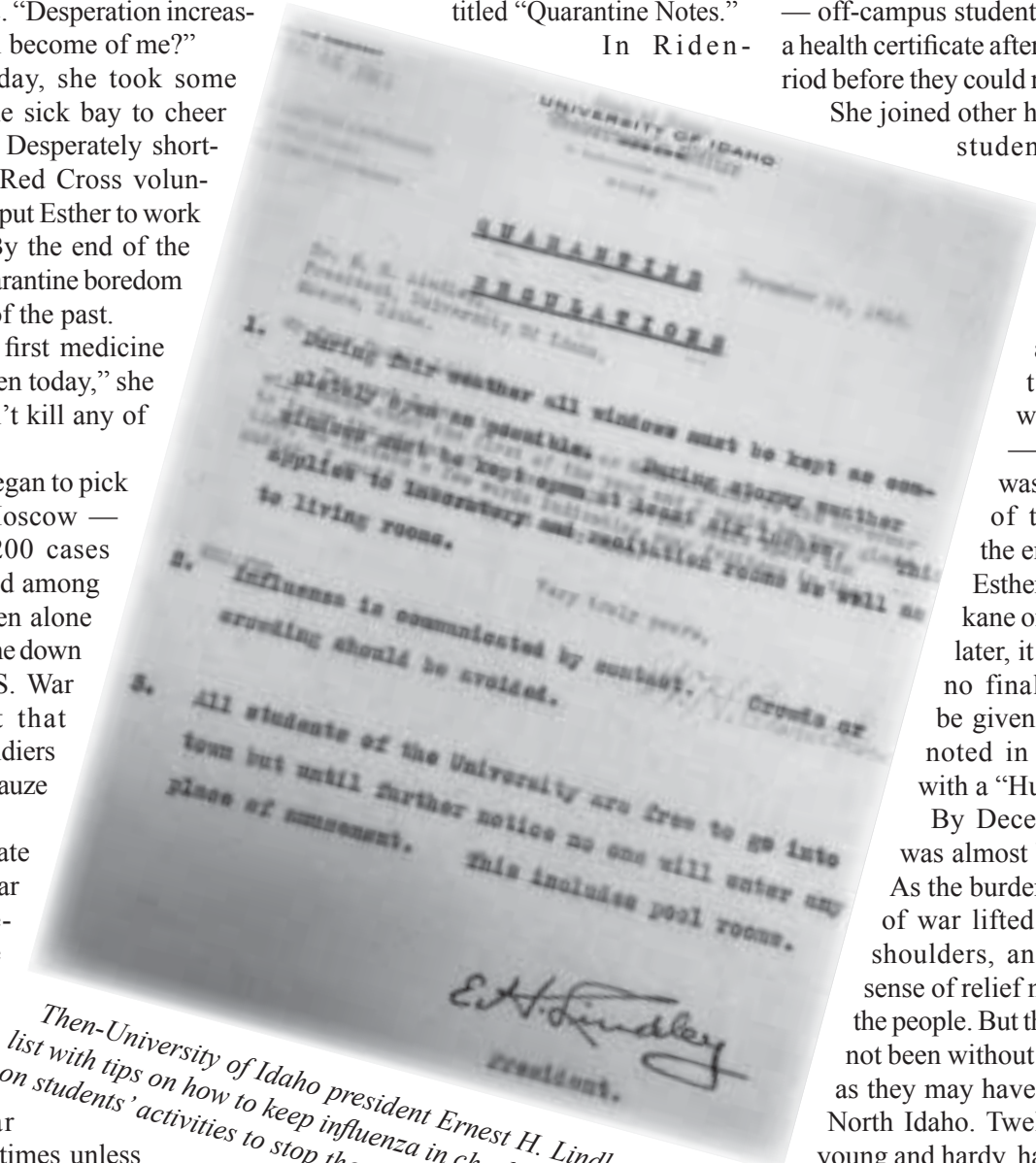
“the manly art of self-defense” one particularly boring evening resulted in a broken nose for one member.

By mid-November, Esther joined the girls of Ridenbaugh Hall in quarantine — off-campus students had to receive a health certificate after an isolation period before they could return to classes. She joined other home economics students in cooking meals for the convalescent soldiers. Her days settled into a blur once again — save the end of the war on Nov. 11 — until quarantine was lifted at the end of the month. By the end of that week, Esther was off to Spokane on a date. A week later, it was announced no final exams would be given that quarter — noted in Esther’s diary with a “Hurrah!!!!!!!!!!”

By December, Moscow was almost back to normal. As the burden of disease and of war lifted off the town’s shoulders, an immeasurable sense of relief must have swept the people. But the pandemic had not been without its losses, small as they may have been in remote North Idaho. Twelve SATC men, young and hardy, had died from the disease, their bodies sent by train from Moscow back home to Sandpoint, Coeur d’Alene and Montana.

Across the nation, more than 675,000 people died from the Spanish flu, according to the CDC. The virus’s origins, commonly traced to an Army cook in Kansas or an overcrowded field hospital in France, are still not clearly understood.

Americans of the early 20th century



Then-University of Idaho president Ernest H. Lindley published a list with tips on how to keep influenza in check as well as restrictions on students’ activities to stop the spread.

baugh Hall, the campus’s main dorm building at the time, students took to holding singing and dancing recitals in the common rooms, and compiled a small newspaper called the “Peek-a-Boo” to disseminate the dorm’s latest gossip.

At the Delta Gamma house, students held a fashion show one night where they served grape juice and popcorn balls. At Sigma Nu, brushing up on

— See *Parallels*, next page

Connecting across a century

Author’s research reveals personal pandemic parallels

by Riley Haun

People keep telling me how lucky I am to have stumbled across Esther Thomas’s diary, but I have to admit that luck was somewhat helped along by laziness. In the middle of my last semester at University of Idaho, with a million other commitments and projects to finish, my editor at Blot Magazine asked me to pitch her a pandemic-themed story. I threw out the idea of the Spanish flu of 1918 on a whim, not really knowing what I’d find — just that I was tired of doing interviews by Zoom.

So when I stumbled across a digital collection from the university library that documented how the flu had affected Moscow, I wasn’t expecting any bombshells. When Esther’s florid handwriting popped up on my computer screen, my first thought was that it looked like my great-grandmother’s. As I looked closer, I realized this scan of a century-old journal was jarringly relatable. Trapped in my Moscow apartment, wearing



the same sweatpants day after day, I felt like I knew just how Esther felt when she complained about not being able to wear her new velvet jacket and white voile dress to the first day of classes (though honestly I can’t say I share her sense of style).

I found I couldn’t stop thinking about those couple of scanned pages that night. I made an appointment to see the full diary at the library later that week, and in the meantime I wondered about Esther. Who had she been besides a bored 21-year-old stuck in Moscow just like me?

When the librarian brought the cracked, leather-bound

diary over to me in the Special Collections room, cradling it carefully in her white-gloved hands, I wasn’t sure I was worthy of Esther’s most private and personal thoughts. But as I turned the pages myself, scared of hurting the brittle paper, it became clear to me that Esther wasn’t precious about what was going on in her life during that weird, scary fall of 1918. She only wrote a line or two each day, and sometimes it’s clear she came to her diary as an afterthought when arriving home from a date (“Gamma Phi’s entertain a few of us girls at an informal party tonight”). Other times she worked through crushes and loneliness in her pithy, no-nonsense way, even as she was recovering from a mild bout of the Spanish flu herself (“I got up today. Kewpie, Ted and Mitchell brought me down some ice cream. Was Ted trying to flirt?”) Later, when her boredom became so bad she volunteered as a Red Cross nurse in the campus infirmary, Esther wasn’t bogged down by the dreariness and despair of what she’d seen — she was critiquing patients. (“James Bowman is some spoiled brat.” Emphasis Esther’s.)

The more I read, the more I felt like I could truly relate to this girl, who felt like she must be still my age and flirting with a Sigma Nu boy on the Admin Lawn though she was long-dead by the time I knew her. She, too, was a chronic complainer who didn’t like having her picture taken — I know we’d have gotten along fabulously.

And admittedly, I felt a little jealous — though Esther lived through World War I and the

worst pandemic the world had ever seen, it didn’t seem to get her down. By New Year 1919, the flu had left Moscow and Esther was already back to going on dates and shopping with friends. The war ended. By the next summer, Esther had graduated and was off on a train to Sugar City, where she became a teacher. Her trail goes cold there. I wish we’d been able to know each other better, but at the very least Esther gives me hope — this too shall pass. I just have to take it one day, one line at a time.

— Homedale native Riley Haun, an honor graduate with the Homedale High School Class of 2017, previously worked for The Owyhee Avalanche as an intern from the University of Idaho’s James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research during the 2020 legislative session. She graduated Dec. 12 from the U of I with Bachelor’s of Arts in Journalism and a minor in Political Science. Follow her on Twitter @RHaunID.

From previous page

✓ **Parallels:** Yes, even in 1918, the pandemic subsided and life resumed



Esther Thomas’ scrapbook provided a glimpse into some special moments from town, including Moscow High School’s 1917-18 state championship basketball team (top center).

grappled simultaneously with the death they’d confronted overseas during the Great War and at home in the war against an unseen attacker. They held their heads high, and they tried to carry on.

An Argonaut article that December looked back at the pandemic’s course through Moscow and wondered whether the precautions taken were the right ones, or whether they’d been made in time to

save enough lives.

“Because there was no assured knowledge of how to deal with the disease, the nation was not prepared in advance for the epidemic,” the article reads. “The result was that whatever was done was generally too late ... But modern science, even for the time being baffled, refuses to be helplessly passive. It knows a great deal about the disease, despite the beliefs of absolute

prevention or infallible cure.”

And Esther got right back into the swing of things. There were still dates to be had, dances to attend and friends to play cards with. That Christmas season, she emerged from quarantine to make candy with the other home economics students and went caroling with friends on First Street. She went Christmas shopping downtown and brought in quite the holiday haul herself



The cover of Esther Thomas’ scrapbook, which is part of the record of how the 1918 Spanish flu pandemic affected college life in Moscow.

— “Old Santa was very good to me this year,” she wrote on Christmas Day 1918.

As 1919 approached, it brought the promise of a clean slate. The snow falling on Moscow blanketed all in sight, and as it melted, maybe it would wash away the pain of 1918.

Esther rang in the new year surrounded by friends and family — no more isolation for her.

“Mama, Papa and I play

cards,” she wrote on December 31, 1918. “We make candy. Happy New Year.”

— Homedale High School graduate Riley Haun’s examination of Esther Thomas’ diary from a century ago was originally published in October by the University of Idaho’s Blot Magazine. It is reprinted with permission. All photos were provided by the U of I library archives.

Two P&Z commissioners begin new terms

PERSI retirees back in the fold at sheriff's office

Two familiar faces were re-appointed to the Planning and Zoning Commission on Dec. 21.

The Board of Owyhee County Commissioners approved new three-year terms for both P&Z commission chair Scott Jensen of Marsing and Rich Curtis of Homedale. Their terms will begin Jan. 1.

Jensen has been on the commission since 2011 and Curtis since 2015.

The rest of the commission consists of vice-chair Chad Nettleton, who lives in the Murphy area, Bob Thomas of Oreana, and Dean Young of Wilson.

Planning and Zoning commissioners are tasked with making decisions regarding land use according to the county's comprehensive plan. They are appointed to hear and decide all requests for conditional use permits and to recommend zoning ordinances to the Board of County Commissioners.

OCSO employees return

The Owyhee County Sher-

iff's Office has seen the return of a couple of old hands into its ranks.

Pat McCormack is back after a necessary break because of Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho requirements.

Under PERSI retirement conditions, anyone receiving benefits may continue to work fewer than 20 hours per week, or if your employment does not total five consecutive months.

McCormack will serve the sheriff's office part-time in a variety of ways a rate of \$19.53 per hour. McCormack will work as a deputy in the

off-highway vehicle and waterways programs and providing courthouse security. He began his latest stint of county employment on Monday.

Greg Bishop has also returned and will again serve as a patrol sergeant, earning \$25 per hour. He also began on Monday.

Bishop is a retired Nampa Police lieutenant.

Lucile Allen was hired as a part-time emergency dispatcher, effective Tuesday. Her rate of pay is \$16 per hour. Allen also formerly worked as a full-time dispatcher with OCSO.

— TK

Honor roll LCSC

Locals are part of the Lewis-Clark State College honor roll for the fall 2020 semester.

Homedale students were on the President's List (3.75 GPA or higher with at least 12 graded credits): Maria C. Bernabe and Maria C. Uriarte

Others are on the Dean's List (3.25 to 3.749 GPA):

- **Homedale** — Cortnee J. Smith.
- **Marsing** — Sydney M. Wood.
- **Melba** — Violeta M. Guevara.

From page 1A

✓ OCSO: Marine deputy seeks state funding to replace 20-year PWCs

Improvement Fund (WIF), which is funded by gas tax.

The county vessel fund receives revenue from watercraft registration on which owners designate Owyhee County (or No. 37) as the county of primary use. For years, county officials have urged folks to designate Owyhee County as the primary area of use because that means more county vessel fund revenue that can be put back into the waterways infrastructure for things such as boat docks and funding the OCSO marine unit.

In 2020, Owyhee County was designated for primary use on only about 1,300 watercraft.

"It would greatly help Owyhee County if those who

live out of the county but primarily boat in our county would name Owyhee as their designated county for funds, which they can do when they renew their registrations," Conger said.

The WIF receives about \$1.2 million annually.

Conger said jet-skis are ideal for contacting recreationists on the water in boats, kayaks and paddleboards.

Most contacts are for educational purposes, such as informing boaters about safety requirements.

"Waterways all across our state and in the country are seeing a huge increase in people enjoying the water with paddle craft, and many people are unaware of the



Owyhee County Sheriff's Marine Unit Deputy Bill Conger sits atop a personal watercraft stored in Murphy he would like to replace with a state grant. The jet-skis are also stored in Homedale, Marsing, and Grand View. Submitted photo

safety requirements for these watercraft," Conger said.

Conger said requirements include life jackets or personal flotation devices (PFD) and a sound-producing device or whistle.

He added that owners of all hard-sided kayaks or paddleboards or similar inflatable watercraft 10 feet or longer must purchase an annual invasive species sticker.

Those watercraft also are subject to inspection at all invasive species checkpoints, such as those in Owyhee County at the U.S. Highway 95-Idaho highway 55 intersection west of Marsing and the Idaho 78/Idaho 51 junction outside Bruneau.

Invasive species stickers are available through the IDPR website or at most places where hunting and fishing licenses can be purchased.

Conger said COVID-19 reduced the number of watercraft safety inspections OCSO marine deputies wrote in 2020. The deputies wrote about 740 inspections this year, down from the usual 1,000 to 1,200.

Conger said another 500 to 600 on-the-water contacts are made each year to check on safety equipment and/or discuss an unsafe action deputies witness.

"We do our best to offer safety education rather than just writing a citation," Conger said. "Our goal under (Sheriff Perry Grant's) leadership is to help people enjoy the waterways in a safe manner."

Rescue calls are less frequent. Conger said deputies tow between eight and 12 disabled boats on the reservoir each year.

The deputy is waiting for official rescue numbers from dispatchers, but said the average is about one emergency call-out per month for overdue, swamped or disabled boats either at C.J. Strike or on the Snake River.

— JPB

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From page 1A

✓ Rancher: Component of Owyhee Initiative could hurt rancher Lowry

manages state endowment land in that area.

The proposed swap of land in Owyhee County includes 11 parcels of non-wilderness federal land managed by BLM totaling 31,000 acres that would be exchanged for 40 parcels of IDL-managed state endowment trust land totaling 24,000 acres.

According to IDL officials, the exchange is based on the appraised value of the lands, not the size or number of parcels.

The exchange is necessary because the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, which made the Owyhee Initiative law, designated 517,000 acres of public land in Owyhee County — including IDL parcels — as wilderness. In a response to an Idaho Farm Bureau Federation inquiry, IDL public information officer Sharla Arledge said the state agency now manages endowment trust lands in Owyhee County that do not match the agency’s purposes.

She said the exchange would enable the department to acquire federal parcels adjacent to existing state endowment trust lands “better suited to our mission and objective for the endowment beneficiaries.”

“The new IDL parcels create larger endowment land blocks and reduce the expense of managing scattered parcels,” Arledge said. “The acquisition helps IDL to meet the Idaho constitutional mandate to maximize revenues for endowment beneficiaries, which is primarily public schools.”

According to IDL, 17 grazing leases on state land and 18 grazing allotments on BLM land would be impacted by the proposed land swap.

IDL anticipates the Idaho land board, which provides direction to the Department of Lands, will consider the issue during its January meeting. The land board normally meets the third Tuesday of the month.

Arledge said that livestock grazing “is and will continue as the primary and dominant land use on the federal and (state-owned) endowment trust lands. Both agencies worked closely with livestock grazing permittees and lessees to establish a clear path of transition when ownership changes hands.”

Lowry, however, points out



Tim Lowry finds himself in another fight to preserve his property rights. Idaho Farm Bureau Federation photo

that permittees who have BLM grazing preference rights, as he does, will have those rights extinguished when the BLM land becomes state land under the exchange.

Currently, as long as Lowry and other ranchers comply with BLM’s grazing regulations, federal grazing permits are renewed automatically every 10 years. This is known as a grazing preference right, which was granted by Congress in the Taylor Grazing Act in 1934.

But grazing permit renewals won’t happen automatically if the land is managed by IDL because at the end of a state grazing lease, anyone can submit a bid to graze there. Whoever the highest bidder is takes over the lease.

That means Lowry could lose his ability to graze on land he used to have the right to graze on as well as the associated in-stream stock watering rights he was awarded by the Idaho Supreme Court in the Joyce Livestock decision, which ruled that the federal government couldn’t hold those rights because it doesn’t own cattle.

In a letter that Lowry sent to then-IDL Director Tom Schultz in 2015, he said he believes the land swap makes sense.

“However,” he added, “we have long maintained and stated at meetings, that when BLM grazing land is exchanged for state (land), the existing valid and vested rights must be recognized and acknowledged, otherwise a ‘takings’ of private property will occur.”

Under IDL’s plan, Lowry would not be compensated for the loss of his grazing preference and water rights. These preference rights and water rights have a monetary value that is recognized by banks and are recognized as property rights in Idaho law.

Lowry has met with IDL

officials to try and come to a resolution, but no mutually agreeable solution has been reached.

“If it becomes state land and somebody else outbids him, he no longer has access to his water right and the state’s refusing to compensate him for that,” IFBF director of governmental affairs Russ Hendricks said.

IDL has known for five years that the loss of

grazing preference without compensation that would occur as a result of the land swap is an issue, Hendricks added.

“It should be no surprise to them that it is still an issue and it must be fully resolved before the exchange can move forward,” he said.

Hendricks said it’s unknown how many other ranchers oppose the land swap because of the grazing preference and compensation issue, but it’s still an important issue even if only one rancher objects.

“Whether it’s one person or 30 people, wrong is wrong,” he said. “They are essentially extinguishing Tim’s vested rights that have a monetary value. We would expect that of a government in Russia or China, but not in Idaho.”

Hendricks said IFBF will oppose the exchange moving forward “unless they’re willing to equitably compensate Tim for his property rights. The whole purpose of government

is to protect people’s rights, not take them away.”

BLM needs to get the approval of the state land board to move forward with the land exchange. That process would include an environmental assessment and comment period.

Arledge told IFBF that the department must follow the constitutional and statutory process for leasing endowment lands. One of those obligations is that when a grazing lease’s term ends, IDL must put the lease out to bid during a public auction.

IDL understands Lowry’s position that he is entitled to compensation for loss of his federal grazing preference, Arledge said. “However,” she added, “neither state nor federal law provides for such compensation.”

Hendricks said, “neither does the law prohibit it, which would be the moral thing to do.”

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Avalanche Sports

Raiders, Trojans face off in Homedale

Right: Rimrock High School's Sintia Varela launches one of her four three-point attempts during the Raiders' 56-28 non-conference girls' basketball victory Dec. 21 on Homedale's floor. One Varela poured in 25 points.

Below: Homedale sophomore Jacy Parker finds herself surrounded by Raiders Madie Macmillan and Sintia Varela after pulling down a rebound.

The game was a makeup of a contest postponed from earlier in December.

Read the game story on Page 13A



Marsing boys salvage seventh-place game in Truckstop.com

Ankeny continues impressive start

After the conclusion of its third game in fewer than 70 hours, the Marsing High School boys' basketball team was able to breathe a sigh of relief.

In the seventh-place game of the three-day Truckstop.com tournament, the Huskies asserted themselves on both ends of the court in a 50-27 victory over Liberty Charter last Wednesday morning.

The triumph came on the heels of disappointing losses on back-to-back days in New Plymouth.

"Overall, the three-day tournament provided us to see some teams that we rarely see and put us in positions that were challenging and difficult," Huskies coach Tim Little said. "Hopefully, in the long run it will pay dividends for us."

In contrast to disappoint-

ing losses in the first two games, when Marsing (4-4 overall) shot 29 percent each day inside the New Plymouth High School gymnasium, the Huskies rebounded with to convert 23 of 44 shots (52.3 percent), including 19-for-30 (63.3 percent) from inside the three-point line.

But Marsing did not knock down a single free throw, going 0-for-3.

Senior Jacob Ankeny reached double-double territory for the third time in as many tournament games. He asserted his will in the post against the Patriots, notching 25 points and 10 rebounds.

Sophomore Alejandro Barrera finished second on the team in both points and rebounds with 10 and seven, respectively.

Senior guard Roger Valadez scored seven and dished out five assists. He also led the team with three steals.



Alejandro Barrera

— See Marsing, page 13A

HOMEDALE TROJANS

Athlete Spotlight

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**PARKER**
ADVISORS
TAX AND WEALTH PLANNING
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TOWN & AUTO SERVICE

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**Molleson's**
337-4664



Boys' basketball
Sigmund Goode, so., G
14 points, 8 rebounds in past 5 games



Girls' basketball
Ainslee Evans, sr., P, W
4 points vs. Columbia on Dec. 18



Wrestling
Kaydince Turner, sr., 133
Won Wiley Dobbs Invite title



HOMEDALE
CHIROPRACTIC CENTER
J. Edward Perkins, Jr. D.C. 337-4900

**The Owyhee Avalanche**
337-4681

**Farm Bureau**
Insurance Company
337-4041

**Bryant**
WHATEVER IT TAKES.
482-0103

Girls' basketball
Varsity
Tuesday, Jan. 5 at Parma, 7:30 p.m.
Junior varsity
Tuesday, Jan. 5 at Parma, 6 p.m.
Frosh soph
Tuesday, Jan. 5 at Parma, 4:30 p.m.

Boys' basketball
Varsity
Monday, Jan. 11, home vs. Cole Valley Christian, 7:30 p.m.
Junior varsity
Monday, Jan. 11, home vs. Cole Valley Christian, 6 p.m.
Frosh soph
Monday, Jan. 11, home vs. Cole Valley Christian, 4:30 p.m.

Wrestling
Coed
Wednesday, Jan. 6 at Parma, 5:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 8 at Rollie Lane Invitational, Ford Idaho Center, Nampa
Saturday, Jan. 9 at Rollie Lane Invitational, Ford Idaho Center, Nampa

Note: No spectators allowed in HHS gym (Stage 2, COVID-19)
Games are available on www.nfhnsnetwork.com. There is a fee.
Schedules are subject to change

Sports

Raiders run past Trojans girls

Rimrock High School sprinted out of the gate to post another easy girls' basketball victory.

Sintia Varela connected on all but three of her two-point field-goal attempts Dec. 21 in the Raiders' 56-28 non-conference win over host Homedale.

Varela scored 25 points on 11 of 14 shooting, and the Raiders held the Trojans without a field goal in the first quarter.

Senior Ainslee Evans

knocked down a pair of free throws 26.9 seconds before the end of the first period for Homedale's only points of the opening stanza.

Rimrock (6-2 overall) converted 40.3 percent of its field goals (25-for-62), but Varela's basket was the only successful attempt outside the three-point line for the team (1-for-8).

Madie Macmillan chipped in 15 points for the Raiders in a game that had been postponed from earlier in the month be-

cause of a COVID-19 quarantine at the Bruneau school.

Varela corralled nine rebounds, including five on Homedale's glass as Rimrock owned a 15-8 edge on the Trojans' end of the floor.

Homedale (1-9) connected on 25.6 percent of its shots (11-for-43) in its eighth consecutive loss.

Jacy Parker hit half of her 14 two-point tries (and missed Homedale's only trey attempts in the game) and led the Tro-

jans with 14 points and eight rebounds. Seven of her boards came on Rimrock's end of the court.

Evans and Amaia Aberasturi scored four points each for Homedale, while Olivia Asumendi dropped in a pair of free throws and Mayci Cline and junior varsity call-up Cheyenne Kelly each converted a bucket.

Rimrock took advantage of 20 Homedale turnovers while committing just six miscues.

Coached by former Raiders standout Kyla Jewett, Rimrock has played in the past three 1A,

Div. I Real Dairy Shootout state tournaments, including taking a shot at the consolation championship twice.

The Raiders beat Notus, 48-32, on Dec. 11 to open the 1A Western Idaho Conference season. The team returns to conference play Tuesday at home against the Pirates.

Rimrock's basketball teams visit Greenleaf Friends Academy on Saturday, Jan. 9 for a varsity doubleheader. According to IdahoSports.com, the girls' game tips off at 4 p.m., followed by the boys' contest at 5:30 p.m.

From page 12A

✓ Marsing: Missed foul shots allow Declo to pull off double-overtime win

Sophomore guard Noel Quebrado had a team-high six assists.

Fellow junior backcourt player Dominic Enrico recorded three each of points, rebounds, and assists.

Dec. 22: Soda Springs 48, Marsing 36 — The Cardinals outsized the Huskies at most positions in a consolation semifinal.

"They big posts and big, solid guards," Little said. "We gave up some size down low versus their two big kids."

The Huskies were down some size after sophomore post Mikey Acosta sprained his ankle the tournament

opener on Dec. 21.

Another poor shooting performance necessitated the Marsing reserves seeing more floor time.

"Our bench came in for the most minutes this season and provided a spark for us in the start of the fourth," Little said.

With the bench players on the move, Marsing went on a 7-0 run to get the deficit below double digits with 4½ minutes left in the game.

From there, the Huskies missed a couple key shots, and a late defensive breakdown led to four quick points by the Cardinals, who never

looked back and cruised to the win.

Ankeny had another double-double. Half of his 16 points came on 8-for-10 foul shooting, and he collected 11 boards.

Quebrado nailed a pair of three-pointers and racked 11 points and three rebounds.

Going just 2-for-8 from the floor, Valadez had five points.

Dec. 21: Declo 45, Marsing 39 (2 OT) — Marsing used tough defense to hang in during a hard-fought opening-round battle, but the Huskies' offensive woes were too much to overcome in a double-overtime loss to the Hornets.

Marsing converted just 29 percent of its shots (16 of 55) and scored six first-half points.

"Our defense was able to keep us in the game and take it to double overtime," Little said.

The Huskies had multiple chances to pull ahead and win the game but missed several free throws at the end of regulation and the first overtime to leave the door open.

"Defensively, we were able to neutralize some of the poor shooting and allow us chances," Little said. "Now we just have to figure out how take advantage of those chances."

The teams finished the first 32 minutes tied, 30-30, and the score was knotted, 35-35, after the first extra period.

Ankeny recorded 11 points and 11 rebounds to go with a pair of assists and blocks.

Enrico led the team in field-goal percentage, hitting 50 percent on 4-for-8 shooting for eight points. He had five rebounds.

Valadez went for six points and five rebounds, while Barrera and Quebrado also scored six each.

Acosta collected seven rebounds before spraining his ankle.

— TK

MARSING HUSKIES

Athlete Spotlight

Boys' basketball
Jacob Ankeny, sr., P
Three double-doubles at Truckstop.com tourney

Girls' basketball
Mila Astorquia, so., G
Second year on varsity

Wrestling
Troy Miller, sr., 138
Runner-up at Justin Wolfe Invite

Girls' basketball
Varsity
Wednesday, Jan. 6, home vs. Compass Charter, 7:30 p.m.
Junior varsity
Wednesday, Jan. 6, home vs. Compass Charter, 6 p.m.

Boys' basketball
Varsity
Tuesday, Jan. 5, home vs. The Ambrose School, 7:30 p.m.
Junior varsity A
Tuesday, Jan. 5, home vs. The Ambrose School, 6 p.m.
Junior varsity B
Tuesday, Jan. 5, home vs. The Ambrose School, 4:30 p.m.

Wrestling
Saturday, Jan. 2 at Ron Johnshoy Invitational, Melba, 9 a.m. (livestream on Melba S.D. Facebook and www.nfhsnetwork.com)
Wednesday, Jan. 6 at Garden Valley Duals, 6 p.m.

Note: No spectators allowed in MHS gym (Stage 2, COVID-19)
Home Games are streamed for free on [Marsing Booster Club's Facebook page](#)
Road games livestream at www.nfhsnetwork.com
Schedules are subject to change

896-4162

896-4815

896-4331

482-0103

337-4041

Looking back...

from the files of The Owyhee Avalanche and Owyhee Chronicle

25 years ago

January 3, 1996



Wise guys

City crew member Will Pryor hauls one Wiseman off to storage. The Homedale City Park nativity scene is a Homedale tradition that will be tucked away until the 1996 holiday season.

Grazing bill waiting at Senate floor

After wholesale revisions and four months of delay the named Livestock Grazing Act — now the Public Rangelands Management Act, Senate bill 1459 — will go to the Senate floor soon with Owyhee County’s support.

Wary support, you might say. “This is the bare minimum I could be comfortable with,” Owyhee County Land Use Chairman Tim Lowry emphasized, “and I’ve got some serious reservations about it.” The Committee agreed, however, last week that the bill was better than nothing, and necessary to turn back Rangeland Reform ’94 regulations instituted in August by the Secretary of Interior.

But the bill is not perfect, and while the Committee voted to write Idaho’s Congressional delegation in support of the bill, “if they [Congress] go foolin’ with it, all bets are off.” Lowry said. “It would be a whole lot worse to have a bad law than the Rangeland Reform regs. We might beat the regs in court, but with a law it would be all over.”

Committee member Quey Johns commented that “the ESA (Endangered Species Act) is in the same boat. [Congress is] making compromises because of Clinton’s threat to veto.”

Officer receives commendation

Homedale Patrolman William “Griz” Garrison received the Chief’s Commendation for excellence and a job well done in 1995.

Garrison graduated from Session 105 at the POST Academy in Meridian in March.

Garrison started as a reserve office for the Homedale Police Department in the spring of 1989. He began working full-time for the department in 1994 and plans to continue working for the department indefinitely.

50 years ago

December 31, 1970



PEP CLUB OFFICERS at Homedale High School are, from left, Donna Basey, president; Lydea Farley, secretary; Eileen George, vice president; Janine Townsend, student council representative; and Kathy Parrill, treasurer. Photo by Bette Uda.

Trojan quintet smothers Adrian Antelopes

Homedale’s height paid off at the basket last Tuesday night as the Trojans romped over the Adrian Antelopes 84-29. Coach Daryl Kellum’s lofty crew mounted a consistent offense while Adrian was lost without its leading scorer Jim Thomas.

In connecting for an inspiring 33 of 64 shots for 51 per cent, the Trojans ran their pre-conference record to 3-3.

From the midpoint mark on, the Trojans began getting the fast break to work in their favor and found it easier to locate the open man under the bucket for the easy tallies.

Previously, Homedale whipped the Antelopes, 70-42. So now it has swept the season series.

The Owyhee crew jumped to an early lead and led by 15 at 20-5 after one quarter and by 17 at 33-16 at the half.

New sheriff sworn in

Tim Nettleton has been sworn in as sheriff of Owyhee County, it was reported here last week. He was elected at the Nov. 3 general election, but was not scheduled to take office until the county commissioners meeting on Monday, Jan. 11. However, Jim Hileman asked to be released from the sheriff’s duties early to take a job with the Canyon County Sheriff’s office and is moving his trailer house from Murphy to Caldwell.

Nazarenes plan re-dedication of local church

Sunday, Jan. 3 the Homedale Church of the Nazarene will be re-dedicating their church. The service will begin at 3 p.m. with the guest speaker Rev. Grady Cantrell, District Superintendent of the Idaho Oregon District of The Church of The Nazarene.

Included in the service will be the dedication of the new section that has been added to the church, which includes a complete nursery, classroom-overflow room, choir room and pastor’s study. The sanctuary of the church has been completely remodeled with a new pulpit, communion table, altar. Also, new drapes and carpet have been added.

The Homedale Church has been growing, with the month of December having the largest attendance in the Sunday School in the past 10 years. The public is invited to attend the special service.

Succor Crik Sam Sez: “It’s a Happy New Year out here on the crik. The TV is busted and the mailman ain’t delivered no tax forms yet.”

150 years ago

December 31, 1870

Local Paragraphs.

Sam. Heidelberger, the Silver City news-dealer, has removed his place of business from Brooks’ store to the post office building.

Hon. W. R. Usher came over from the Capital to spend Christmas with his family, and returned to his seat in the Legislature on Monday.

Some disreputable scoundrel endeavored to get into the house of an estimable lady in town at the dead hour of night, not long ago. A coat of tar and feathers, or a dose of shot gun would probably teach the unprincipled blackguard better manners.

That polite and pleasant *hombre*, Frank Hunt, is now bar keeper in the Owyhee Exchange.

We are indebted to Hon. W. R. Usher for the Report of the Territorial Controller, and to Hon. W. H. Van Slyke for Report of the Territorial Treasurer.

The Christmas Ball, given by the Silver City Quadrille Band, at Hill’s Hall, on Monday evening last, was largely attended and passed off in the most pleasant manner.

The Elko and Boise stages now meet at Anderson’s ranch, on Sinker creek, 15 miles from here. Joe Tuttle swings in from that place with the Silver City passengers and mails, arriving about 5 o’clock in the evening, and departing at seven in the morning.

The annual installation of officers of Owyhee Lodge No. 5, A. F. & A. M., took place last Tuesday evening. After the ceremonies were concluded there was a social dance, which, we are told was a most agreeable and pleasant affair to all who participated.

In company with a number of invited guests, last Sunday we attended a magnificent Christmas dinner, given by John Catalow, the king of quartz haulers. All present had a good time, and it was an occasion long to be remembered.

Baron Von Molke is undoubtedly a great war strategist, but we’ll wager that he would be unequal to the task of planning a dinner campaign that would culminate in a lay-out equal to the one given by Dr. T. D. Beckett to a number of his friends on Christmas evening. The tables fairly groaned under the weight of the choicest of eatables and drinkables on that occasion.

Col. Coppinger and Dr. Davis, of Camp Three Forks Owyhee, were in town on Christmas.

We are indebted to our old friend, Dr. Colmache, formerly surgeon at Camp Three Forks Owyhee, for a large number of newspapers and magazines from the Old World. The doctor has been on a visit to Europe, but has again returned to America, and is expected to arrive here in a few days.

Business Directory

AYERS, ED-Boot and Shoe Shop, Washington Street

BROOKS, MAJOR-Lunch house, Washington Street

BROOKS, JOSEPH-Groceries and Provisions, Washington Street

BLACKINGER, V-War Eagle Hotel, Washington Street

BLAKE & CO-Assayers, Granite Block.

BISHOP, BINNEY & CO-Carpenters and joiners, east side Jordan Creek.

BIGELOW W. D.-General Merchandise, Washington Street

EASTMAN, H. B.-Idaho Hotel, Jordan Street

FLEISCHNER & CO-Merchants, Jordan Street

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Judge levies rider, probation for drug convictions

A Homedale resident also wanted on a drug possession warrant out of Canyon County has been sentenced on a felony methamphetamine conviction.

Jose Luis Buenrostro, 19, was placed on a rider when Third District Judge Thomas W. Whitney sentenced him on Dec. 18 in Murphy.

As part of a plea deal, Buenrostro can avoid up to three years in state prison if he successfully completes his program through retained jurisdiction.

He must pay \$175 in fines and \$557.50 in court costs.

Buenrostro was arrested after 11

p.m., on Feb. 22 when a Homedale Police officer received word that he was wanted on a Canyon County felony warrant for methamphetamine possession and was believed to be at a residence in the 400 block South 4th Street West.

The officer made contact with Buenrostro and took him into custody.

While performing a search of Buenrostro during his booking at the Owyhee County Jail in Murphy, the officer found a baggie containing meth inside the man’s wallet.

According to online Idaho court records, Buenrostro also has a retained jurisdiction disposition for an August arrest for driving under the influence and meth possession in Canyon County.

- A former Homedale resident must serve four years of felony probation after reaching a plea agreement and being sentenced for felony controlled substance possession.

At sentencing, Whitney suspended a state prison sentence of two to three years. He also ordered the woman to pay \$175 in fines and \$557.50 in court costs.

Andrea Nicole Deaugustineo, 33, whose residence is now listed as Hailey, was sentenced on Dec. 18 before Whitney.

The case stems from an Aug. 20, 2019 arrest by a Homedale Police officer.

At the time of her arrest near the Snake River, Deaugustineo was wanted on a warrant out of Elmore County.

During a search of a vehicle in which Deaugustineo was a passenger, the officer found paraphernalia and a crystal substance that tested positive for methamphetamine.

Homedale burglar gets probation

A Homedale man has avoided prison time, but must serve five years probation after his conviction for felony burglary.

Adrian Ojeda Albor appeared before Third District Judge Andrea Courtney for sentencing on Dec. 11 in Murphy.

Courtney suspended a state penitentiary term of up to 10 years and placed Albor on supervised probation. She also ordered him to pay \$1,316.50

in court costs. A little less than half that amount (\$624) is earmarked as restitution to Albor’s two victims.

Albor must submit to weekly drug testing for the first three months of probation, and his probation officer has the discretion to use up to 60 days in Owyhee County Jail for violations.

Owyhee County Prosecuting Attorney Jeffrey Phillips

dismissed a felony controlled substance possession charge and a misdemeanor count of drug paraphernalia possession as part of a plea agreement.

Homedale Police arrested Albor in the summer. He was accused of breaking into his next-door neighbor’s house and stealing items. Stolen property was recovered at Albor’s residence after a search warrant was served.

Courthouse report

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

- Dec. 22**
- Victor J. Brisenobeltran, Fontana, Calif.** — Misdemeanor commercial freight regulations violation, false logbook: \$43.50 in fines, \$160.50 in court costs
- Dean G. Hartwig, Nampa** — Misdemeanor motor carrier violation, over weight (4,001 pounds and over), exceed allowable gross loads: \$121 in fines, \$157.50 in court costs
- Dec. 21**
- Kathryn Megan Ball, Wilder** — Misdemeanor reckless driving (amended from misdemeanor driving under the influence), misdemeanor driving without privileges (plea deal): 90 days in jail (90 days suspended), 1 year unsupervised probation, \$228.50 in fines, \$480 in court costs. **Dismissed by prosecuting attorney:** Misdemeanor injury to child
- Dec. 18**
- Jose Luis Buenrostro, Homedale** — Felony controlled substance possession (plea deal): 1 to 3 years in state prison (retained jurisdiction), \$175 in fines, \$557.50 in court costs
- Andrea Nicole Deaugustineo, Hailey** — Felony controlled substance possession (plea deal): 2 to 3 years in state prison (suspended), 4 years felony probation, \$175 in fines, \$557.50 in court costs

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Where: The Old Homedale Library
located @
125 W. Owyhee Ave. in Homedale.
This building is now called The Foodstead.

Organizer: Anthony Hess - 208.559.1651
Facilitators: Scott Quigley - 208.761.5910
Jeremy Alspaugh - 208.337.1555

2020: The Year in Review

COMMENTARY, PAGES 8-9B

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2020

LEGALS AND CLASSIFIEDS, PAGES 10-11B

RESILIENCE IN REVIEW

County copes with COVID-19 cancellations, impacts

January

Jan. 1 — Homedale resident and L&L Meats LLC Kortney Bahem was named Mrs. Idaho Agriculture USA and would take part in the national pageant in June, where she finished runner-up.

Jan. 8 — Chad Sevy was sworn in as new Marsing mayor, succeeding James Ferdinand. Chris Even, Rachael Percifield, and Marie Herman also began new terms on the Marsing City Council, while Jerry Anderson, Steve Atkins, and Aaron Tines took their oaths in Homedale.

Jan. 15 — Danny Martinez began his first term as chief executive in Grand View, and Jon Pennington began a new term on the city council. Tom Payne was sworn into his first term on the council.

Jan. 16 — The Owyhee Conservation District renames its Conservationist of the Year award in honor of Homedale resident Ray Mansisidor.

February

Feb. 1 — 59th annual Marsing Disaster Auction brings in more than \$73,000 for assistance with medical bills, fire displacement, and other needs for citizens.

Feb. 6 — Marsing School District officials unveiled the newly remodeled community school concept, called The HUB, at a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Feb. 8 — Outgoing Dist. 23 state Sen. Bert Brackett (R-Rogerson) and his wife Paula receive an Owyhee Cattlemen's Association Lifetime Member Award.

Feb. 11 — Five months past its original completion date, the Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library in Homedale finally opened for business. It would close a couple of times later in the year for repairs and then during a COVID-19 shutdown.

Feb. 12 — Former Grand View Mayor Opal Ward is appointed for her second stint on the city council, filling the vacancy created when Daniel Martinez became mayor.

Feb. 17 — Several local politicians threw their hats into the ring for the May primary elections, including incumbent Owyhee County Sheriff Perry Grant, Idaho Senate hopefuls Brenda Richards and Christy Zito, and county commissioners Kelly Aberasturi and Jerry Hoagland. Grand View businesswoman Andrea Owens and Matthew Bundy, a Mountain Home teacher and city council president, would run for Idaho State representative, and Owyhee County Prosecuting Attorney Jeffrey Phillips



Aug. 1: Marsing High School seniors celebrated an unusual graduation with the traditional cap flip after receiving diplomas nearly three months later than planned — and outdoors — because of COVID-19 restrictions. Submitted photo



The U.S. Post Office in Homedale re-opened on Jan. 31, nearly four months after electrical and flooring work began.

sought his own four-year term.

Feb. 28 — A Marsing family lost their home to a fire on Main Street. Smoke from the fire caused the temporary closure of the city's post office and a neighboring early

childhood education center. The post office closure came just weeks after Homedale's reopened.

March

March 14 — Jordan Valley historian

Hazel Fretwell Johnson celebrated her 100th birthday at a ceremony in her hometown. Mrs. Johnson has written four books and has contributed significantly to the Jordan Valley ION Heritage Museum.

March 14 — Marsing High School's Academic Decathlon team finished second in the state competition.

March 16 — The Board of Owyhee County Commissioners met in a special meeting to outline a strategy to limit the spread of COVID-19. The plan included protocols devised by Southwest District Health and the federal Centers for Disease Control.

March 19 — Fred Kelly Grant, the man who helped put Owyhee County on the federal coordination map and helped steer the Owyhee Initiative process, died in Nampa at 83.

March 20 — Idaho State Board of Education issued operation guidelines, effectively closing schools across the state through April 20, in reaction to the spread of COVID-19. The closure would last until the end of the school year and disrupt Class of 2020 graduation ceremonies.

March 29 — State and Southwest

— See *Review*, next page

2020: The Year in Review

Sept. 25 — Crews worked under the cover of darkness — to keep traffic disruptions down — to move Homedale’s St. Hubert’s Catholic Church to its new home at Mansisidor Family Farms on East Market Road.



From previous page
District Health officials announced Owyhee County’s first positive test for COVID-19.

April
April 1 — Idaho Gov. Brad Little announced the May 19 primary election would be by absentee ballot only because of COVID-19 precautions.
April 8 — Marsing City Councilman Tony Malmberg stepped down from his position, citing “circumstances beyond his control.” Brandy Bennett would replace Malmberg at the council’s June meeting.
April 13 — Tate Castleton was named new Homedale Elementary School principal to replace the departed Terri Vasquez, who ultimately took the same position in Adrian before retiring again.
April 20 — The Marsing School Board mapped out the remainder of the district’s school schedule, including setting graduation for July 31. During a special meeting, the board also discussed changes to grading protocols.

May
May 1 — The Owyhee County Courthouse reopened to public business after several weeks of COVID-19 closure. With the reopening came a glut of court business and a laundry list of safety requirements for visitors, including a face coverings requirement.
May 1 — Work began on the Marsing City Hall remodel at the old Sandbar Restaurant with a Cause on Sandbar Avenue Work was completed in July.
May 11 — Organizers shut down planning for June’s annual Grand View Days because of COVID-19 concerns.
May 16 — Owyhee County moved back to Phase 2 of the Rebound Idaho COVID-19 plan, paving the way for the reopening of restaurants, bars and hair and nail salons.
May 20 — Following the purchase by Integra Resources, the DeLamar Mine northwest of Silver City resumed operations for the first time in three



March 8 — Area hot-air balloon owner Ron Cassidy delighted observers with a surprise trip over Homedale.

years. Integra met with local officials, including county commissioners and city councils in Homedale and Marsing to discuss the mining outfit’s plans.
May 22 — Mikal Christensen, one of three defendants who allegedly kidnapped a Homedale woman, was sentenced to between two and seven years in prison. Another defendant, who had been accused of the kidnapping and sexual assault of the defendant’s child, committed suicide while in state custody.
May 23 — The Owyhee County Historical Society officially cancelled the 51st annual Outpost Days in Murphy, scheduled for June 6-7, because of COVID-19 concerns.

June
June — COVID-19 concerns led to the cancellation of three prominent local events. The Txoko Ona Basque Club announced its annual picnic, scheduled for June 28, would not be held for COVID-19 safety purposes, and the 12th annual Conner Landa Memorial Coed Softball Tournament, set for July 10 to July 12, was also nixed. The Percifield Coed

Tournament, set for Marsing in late July, also was cancelled.
June 6 — Thwarted by Oregon’s COVID-19 restrictions, the small Jordan Valley High School Class of 2020 received its diplomas in a private ceremony at a local ranch.
June 9 — Bruneau-Grand View School District trustees and patrons met to discuss possible elementary school consolidation. During a July 6 meeting, the trustees voted to keep both Bruneau and Grand View Elementary schools open while continuing to look at future needs.
June 26 — Homedale High School seniors were finally able to celebrate graduation, more than a month late as the school district struggled with COVID-19 considerations. Diplomas were handed out during a rare outdoor ceremony at Deward Bell Stadium.
June 27 — The Owyhee County Courthouse vault in Murphy, which houses old county books and microfilm, was closed temporarily after a Kimmel Corp. employee tested positive for COVID-19. The employee had been scanning documents inside the vault on June 23.

July
July 6 — The Bruneau-Grand View School District board of trustees approved a short-term plan to keep Bruneau Elementary open after months of discussing possible consolidation.
July 11 — A group of volunteers pulls off the 25th annual Grand View Days two months after the Chamber of Commerce had decided to shut down the event because of COVID-19 concerns.
July 18 — Snake River Country Market, organized by local farmers Andi and Seth Hansen, begins its inaugural season at the The Spot Pavilion in Marsing.
July 25 — Honoring Life Members Richard and Connie Brandau is put on hold when the Owyhee Cattlemen’s Association summer meeting, scheduled for Silver City, is postponed to protect the health of aging OCA members.
July 28 — Motorcycle gang member Mark Wayne Warner receives a prison sentence of five years to life for his role in the November 2019 death of Marsing resident Rod St. Clair. With a rider program in place, it’s possible Warner could be released in June.
July 31 — A 55-year-old Marsing man is reported as the first fatality attributed to COVID-19 complications in Owyhee County.

August
Aug. 1 — After having their classroom time interrupted and graduation ceremony nearly eliminated because of COVID-19, Marsing High School seniors receive their diplomas in an outdoor ceremony.
Aug. 1 — Retired Wilson ranchers Richard and Connie Brandau lead the 2020 Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo Parade through Homedale as grand marshals.
Aug. 8 — Marsing High School student Hannah White is crowned 2020-21 Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo Queen.
Aug. 8 — The annual Owyhee County Junior Livestock Auction nets a record of more than \$500,000.
Aug. 17 — Schoolchildren

— See **Review**, next page

2020: The Year in Review



June — Construction of the Marsing Rural Fire District’s substation on Walker Lake Road in Canyon County was completed.

From previous page
throughout Owyhee County finally return to the classroom as the 2020-21 school year began. Most had been away from school since March when remote learning began at the tail end of the previous school year. Adrian schools were still seeing part-time in-person education at the end of the calendar year.

Aug. 17 — The school year started with new elementary school principals in three communities — Rimrock alum Alex Meyers became the elementary school principal for the Bruneau-Grand View district, and Tate Castleton took over at Homedale from Teri Vasquez. Vasquez came out of a short retirement to head up Adrian’s grade school, but she retired again for health reasons only months later.

Aug. 22 — Bette Uda, a Homedale community fixture and the namesake of City Park, died at the age of 95.

September

Sept. 1 — Bill Pastoor ends his 26-year ownership of Westowns Disposal Inc., when the Homedale garbage company transfers to Republic Services. Pastoor stayed on as part of the local management team.

Sept. 7 — Longtime Homedale insurance agent Dick Downum sold his business and began working part-time in Caldwell.

Sept. 9 — The City of Marsing and Owyhee County Sheriff’s Office decided to go to a month-to-month arrangement on law enforcement service after new contract terms weren’t established.

Sept. 5 — Longtime area rancher Eric Davis is honored as Bruneau Round-Up grand marshal.

Sept. 18 — Queen Karla Salazar and King Isai Arriaga lead Marsing High School’s 2020 Homecoming royalty.

Sept. 21 — Duncan Transue, the father in a felony child abuse case, changes his plea to guilty. He is scheduled for a Jan. 22 sentencing. His wife, Melissa Transue, is set for a March jury trial.

Sept. 24 — Jordan Valley ranchers Ann and David Rutan earn the 2020



May — General contractor HCD, Inc. began remodel work on the new Marsing City Hall, which would be housed in the old Sandbar Restaurant with a Cause. Work was completed in July.

Certified Angus Beef Commercial Commitment to Excellence Award.

Sept. 26 — U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development state director Layne Bangerter serves as keynote speaker and Ada and the late Pat Stanford receive a life member award as the Owyhee Cattlemen’s Association summer meeting is rescheduled for the Owyhee County Community Center in Homedale. Scott Bunderson also accepted the president’s gavel from outgoing board chair Paul Nettleton.

October

Oct. 3 — A joint open house celebrates the long-awaited opening of the Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library in Homedale as its new next-door neighbor the Homedale Community Foodstead also opens for business.

Oct. 9 — Queen Gracie Rotter and



May 21-22 — Midshipman Victoria Nash (Naval Academy) and Cadet Dylan Burks (U.S. Military Academy) become the latest Homedale High School alumni to graduate from the country’s service academies. Submitted photo

King John Breshears lead Homedale High School’s Homecoming royalty.

Oct. 14 — Homedale’s Rob Sauer is announced as the Idaho Association of School Administrators 2020-21 state superintendent of the year.

Oct. 16 — Madi Macmillan was named Homecoming queen and Justin Lindquist crowned king during Rimrock High School’s royalty ceremony.

November

Nov. 3 — Two of the county’s three state legislative seats changed hands during a general election the turnout of which was bolstered to high numbers by mail-in balloting. Dist. 23B Rep. Megan Blanksma (R-Hammett) earned another two years in her position, while Mountain Home Republican Matthew Bundy took over the Dist. 23A seat in the Idaho House of Representatives as Christy Zito (R-Hammett) became Dist. 23 state senator.

Nov. 5 — During a dinner in Marsing, a group of Owyhee County ranchers were honored by the Bureau of Land Management for their work on targeted grazing to reduce wildfire threat along the Owyhee Front.

Nov. 7 — What was supposed to be a two-day event only lasted half a day as the Owyhee Conservation District received an overwhelming response

to its inaugural tire recycling event in Homedale.

Nov. 11 — To keep crowd size down and reduce the health risk, Homedale and Marsing schoolchildren put their annual Veterans Day musical salutes online.

Nov. 11 — The Marsing City Council approved the sale of the old city hall on Main Street. Lamon and Melissa Loucks bid to pay more than \$125,000 for the building.

Nov. 12 — Grand View residents questioned management of the city’s sewer system during a public hearing to discuss potentially steep rate hikes.

Nov. 12 — The Homedale City Council learned of a \$135,000 Idaho Community Development Block Grant that will help the town begin development of a Riverside Park extension off West California Avenue and North Main Street.

Nov. 16 — The Marsing Disaster Fund committee announces that because of COVID-19 uncertainty the 2021 edition of the live auction will be cancelled.

Nov. 28 — The annual Homedale for the Holidays parade became the latest Christmas celebration in the county, but there was no formal tree lighting. A week earlier the Owyhee County Historical Museum held its

— See **Review**, next page

2020: The Year in Review

May 28 — Homedale code enforcement officer Lisette Llamas carries the Special Olympics torch with Jonathan Page as other community members and Homedale Police officers take part in the Law Enforcement Torch Relay through downtown to help kick off the Idaho Special Olympics.



From previous page first Murphy tree lighting, and a week later, the City of Marsing would have a parade and a public tree lighting.

December

Dec. 5—Longtime Marsing community fixture Jim Briggs is grand marshal of the town’s annual Christmas parade.

Dec. 8 — Three Creek School

seventh-grader wins Veterans of Foreign Wars Chapter 3001 honors in the annual Patriot’s Pen essay contest.

Dec. 9 — Two Marsing School District board of trustees, including the current chair, resign from their posts. Brad McIntyre stepped down because his family moved out of the district he was serving. Betty Ackerman resigned after

20 years of service to focus on family.

Dec. 12 — The Homedale City Council meeting moves outdoors as council members learn of a million-dollar problem with the sewer lagoons. Meanwhile, City Hall is closed to foot traffic indefinitely because of COVID-19 precautions.

Dec. 15 — Adrian patrons and

students take to the rural Oregon town’s streets to peacefully protest lawmakers’ decisions that have kept schoolchildren out of class on a full-time basis.

Dec. 18 — For the second time in a decade, ownership of Marsing’s grocery store changed as Logan’s Markets sold out to M&W Markets parent company Intermountain Food Stores.



July 31 — After 23 years at Homedale City Library, Diane Williams (left) retires.



June 18 — 1990 Homedale graduate Melanie Gagnepain was promoted to Clerk of the Idaho Supreme Court.



June — After a long-delayed opening, and two closures for mitigation of mistakes made during the construction process and COVID-19 concerns, Homedale’s Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library was back in business for good.



Oct. 17 — Mayor Chad Sevy snipped a red ribbon with oversized scissors to symbolically open the new Snake River bridge in Marsing, ending nearly two years of road construction in the small town.



July 25 — A small band of community members and Homedale Police family members walk through downtown to show support for law enforcement.

2020: Sports Year in Review

POTENTIAL INTERRUPTED Virus fears derail seasons or cancel them altogether

January

Jan. 15 — First-year Homedale High School girls' basketball coach Clay Hatfield steps down because of an "urgent medical matter," junior varsity coach and HHS alum Kortney Ford takes the reins to finish the season. She would return for her first full season as coach in the winter.

Jan. 15 — With a 3-0 vote, the Adrian School Board decided to end the combined Adrian/Jordan Valley cooperative football team relationship, citing travel distances and the desire to stay at the 1A level in Oregon. Jordan Valley is not expected to be able to field a team until at least 2023.

Jan. 25 — Bruneau resident Bobby Jean Jones Colyer finished third in the inaugural World's Greatest Horsewoman competition in Arizona. She won a headstall and cash for her efforts.

Jan. 29 — The Marsing School Board decided to keep the high school football program status quo after a special meeting in which players, parents and community members spoke. It had been discussed potentially playing a junior varsity-only schedule or even to completely cease playing because of concerns about consistently small rosters and safety concerns for the players.

Jan. 31 — The Rimrock High School girls' basketball team rolled into the 1A, Div. I District III Tournament with a 20-1 record. The team would ultimately win the district title to qualify for its third straight Real Dairy Shootout state tournament.

February

February — HHS seniors Spencer Fisher (University of Idaho), Karsen Frelove (U of I) and Jake Collett (The College of Idaho) signed letters of intent to play college football.

Feb. 7 — Marsing's boys' basketball team had an 11-game win streak snapped with a 52-37 loss to Nampa Christian, dropping the team to 15-4, but managed to win the 2A WIC title, the program's first in 30 years.

Feb. 8 — In the midst of dominant seasons, Marsing junior wrestlers Isai Arriaga (170 pounds) and Troy Miller (138) each won titles at the Marsing POD tournament. Both wrestlers would win gold at the 2A District III tournament in late February and qualify for the state tournament. Arriaga would claim a bronze medal at state.

Feb. 15 — Homedale wrestlers Savannah and Kaydince Turner took home a pair of gold medals at the Idaho Girls' Wrestling Invitational in Pocatello.

Feb. 22 — The Owyhee Judo Club hosted the 82nd annual Boise Valley



January and February — The Marsing High School boys' basketball team dominated much of its 2A Western Idaho Conference slate, thanks in no small part to Player of the Year Jacob Ankeny (left).

Judo Tournament, paying homage to legendary sensei Yamashita Hachidan, who formed the Boise Valley Judo Club and passed away in 2008.

Feb. 25 — The HHS boys' basketball team claimed the 3A District III championship after knocking off No. 1 seed Fruitland in a 61-60 thriller. There would be no state tournament appearance after Idaho prep sports were put on ice because of COVID-19 concerns.

March

March 7 — Marsing junior Jacob Ankeny was named 2A Western Idaho Conference boys' basketball player of the year, following in the footsteps of 2019 Huskies' designee Enrique Quebrado.

March 14 — Prior to its season

being shut down, the Homedale track team's 4x100-meter boys' relay team took gold in its first meet, the Kimberly Spring Opener.

April

April 30 — It's announced that the Jordan Valley Big Loop Rodeo, held nearly every year in May since 1962, had been cancelled because of COVID-19 concerns.

May

May — Five high school district rodeos were rescheduled into June because of COVID-19 worries. Later, the National High School Rodeo Association would cancel the Junior High School National Finals Rodeo.

May — Homedale golfer Daniel Uranga accepted an offer to take

his game to Duke University with a chance to become the first Trojans golfer since Jason Bideganeta to play NCAA Div. I nearly 25 years ago.

May 13 — Marsing senior football player Caden Freeman signed a letter of intent to play for the Lewis-Clark Valley Loggers.

May 31 — Jordan Valley's Birch and Tayler Eiguren won the team roping competition at the District II high school rodeo in New Plymouth. Adrian's Sydney Davis finished first in barrel racing.

June

June 8 — Gracie Dines and Daniel Uranga were named Homedale High School senior athletes of the year.

July

July softball — Citing difficulty in scheduling teams because of the uncertainty of COVID-19 protocols, both the Conner Landa Memorial Coed Tournament in Homedale and the Percifield Memorial Tournament in Marsing were shelved for 2020.

July 4 — Mike Shenk captures the main event at the 39th annual Homedale Lions Club Fourth of July Demolition Derby.

July 5 — Marsing cowboy Zane Brackett is runner-up in boys' cutting, and Adrian's Celie Davis takes third in junior high school barrel racing during the Silver State International Rodeo in Winnemucca, Nev.

August

Aug. 26 — Evonne McGuire begins her one-year tenure as Homedale High School volleyball coach with a clean sweep of New Plymouth.

Aug. 27 — Clint Thomas sees his first meet as Marsing High School's new cross country coach.

Aug. 28 — Marsing began a new football season with a new coach, Mike Nunnelee, months after district trustees nearly shut down the program. The Huskies beat Valley, 39-14.

September

Sept. 20 — Jake Flint earns the all around championship at the annual Bruneau Round-Up rodeo.

Sept. 27 — Jordan Valley's Tayler Eiguren launches the high school rodeo season at the Owyhee County Fairgrounds by winning pole bending in one of the first Dist. II events of the season.

Sept. 30 — Ahead of her senior wrestling season at Homedale High School, Kaydince Turner learns that she is ranked in the national top 25 for 132-pound girls' wrestlers.

— See *Review*, next page

2020: Sports Year in Review



Feb. 7 — The Txoko Ona Basque Center hosted the eighth annual Homedale Boosters Crab and Steak Feed, raising money for the high school’s athletics programs.



Jan. 2-3 — The Marsing volleyball team ran a “Little Lady Huskies” volleyball camp to teach fundamentals and increase interest in the sport.

From previous page

October

Oct. 2 — Homedale pitches its fourth consecutive shutout to win for the 11th consecutive season in the Milk Jug football rivalry with Parma. The Trojans rolled, 42-0, on the road.

Oct. 14 — Homedale football players are crowned Class 3A academic state champions.

Oct. 16 — Melba won its first 2A Western Idaho Conference football championship in 16 years with an easy 47-12 victory over Nampa Christian. Owyhee County resident Trace Stimpson ran for 160 yards and four touchdowns.

Oct. 16 — In one of the most dramatic wins in program history, Homedale took one step closer to a third consecutive 3A Snake River Valley conference football championship by beating Weiser, 31-28, on a 4th-and-goal



Feb. 12 — The families of the late Stewart Rhodes (left) and Stephenie Sevy (husband Jason Sevy at right) accepted Lifetime Husky awards prior to a varsity basketball game.

play with 18 seconds left in the game.

Oct. 19 — Marsing Middle School came from behind to beat Nampa Christian, 20-16, for the 2A



Western Idaho Conference football championship.

Oct. 20 — Junior Christopher Aguilera is the only Homedale cross

country athlete to reach the 3A state meet after the district meet at Rolling Hills Golf Course in Weiser.

Oct. 21 — Both Rimrock cross country teams qualify for the state meet.

Oct. 21 — Melba’s girls win the 2A District III cross country championship. Josh Leavitt finished second to push the boys to the state meet, too.

Oct. 22 — Kayla McCoy fired 48 assists and Maddi Bunnell served six aces as Melba avenged a regular-season loss to beat Nampa Christian in four sets for the 2A District III volleyball championship.

Oct. 22 — Homedale’s junior varsity stifles Fruitland, 21-6, for its fifth consecutive victory and fourth straight 3A SRV football title.

Oct. 23 — Homedale edged Fruitland,

— See **Review**, next page



PHOTO (Feb. 19) Feb. 14 — The Rimrock girls cruised to the 1A, Div. I, District III girls’ basketball chamionship, beating Liberty Charter in the final.

2020: Sports Year in Review

From previous page
28-14, for coach Matt Holtry's third consecutive 3A SRV football championship and the top seed in the 3A state playoffs for the No. 1-ranked Trojans.

Oct. 24 — Four Owyheean were inducted into the Idaho Rodeo Hall of Fame during a ceremony in Twin Falls. Steve and Patti Kaufman of Murphy were honored as were Marsing's Teri and the late Sandy McLeod.

Oct. 31 — Ella Boren from Rimrock and Melba runners Rozzlyn Cazier, Brooklyn Dayley (Owyhee County), and Josh Leavitt earned medals in their respective cross country state championship races in Pocatello.

Oct. 31 — Local all-conference volleyball players included Homedale's Ainslee Evans and Jacy Parker (second team) and Katie Christoffersen and Laney Swallow (honorable mention), and Marsing's MarDee Hall (second-teamer) and Delaney Percifield (honorable mention).

November

Nov. 14 — Workhorse Hayden Kincheloe nearly reached the magical 350-yard rushing mark as Homedale crushed South Fremont, 48-28, to reach the 3A Milk Bowl state championship game for the third consecutive season.

Nov. 19 — As Owyhee County was placed in the red health alert level for COVID-19, decisions slowly evolved to bar spectators from indoor sporting events such as basketball and wrestling. All events were livestreamed on a variety of internet platforms.

Nov. 21 — For the third consecutive year, the Homedale High School football team finished as 3A state runner-up after Sugar-Salem pulled out a 34-28 overtime victory in the 3A Milk Bowl championship game in Middleton.

Nov. 23 — Two-way selection Gus Black led a group of four first-team All-1A Western Idaho Conference players for Rimrock football. Michael Nanney, Aden Aquiso, and Pedro Varela were also honored.

December

Dec. 2 — Isai Arriaga was Marsing's only All-2A WIC football first-team pick, while Melba was honored with conference Player of the Year Henry Clark, co-offensive player of the year Zane Helm, and co-defensive player of the year Donovaun Rose.

Dec. 2 — Matt Holtry was named All-3A Snake River Valley conference football coach of the year, and Hayden Kincheloe shared the offensive player of the year award with Weiser's Brett Spencer.

Dec. 5 — Marsing wrestlers hit the mat for the first time in 10 seasons with a new coach as Juan Garcia took over from Jon Nelson.

Dec. 5 — Homedale Middle School 82-pound wrestler Trey McFarlane won a 3A Snake River Valley conference championship.

Dec. 8 — The HMS seventh-graders won the 3A SRV girls' basketball tournament championship.

Dec. 9 — Homedale, Marsing and Rimrock girls' basketball teams had intra-county non-conference games

— See *Review*, Page 10B



March 14 — The Trojans' Dakota Gammel wings one home during the team's early-season victory over Filer. The remainder of Homedale's baseball season would soon be cancelled.



March 6 — Homedale's new high school softball complex on Johnstone Road was good to go after some last-minute touches by Crossfire Fencing on March 6. But the state's decision to shelf school and sports because of COVID-19 — first temporarily to April 4 then through the end of the school year — wiped out the spring seasons.



June 11-12 — With the hope of an uninterrupted football season on their minds, Homedale High School cheerleaders held tryouts.



May 31 — The rare outlet for sports entertainment over the spring and summer included the District II high school rodeo on May 31 at the Payette County Fairgrounds in New Plymouth. Photo by Cherie Rolland Photography

Commentary

Baxter Black, DVM



On the edge of common sense Pleasure horse

I consider myself, among other things, a former horse mechanic. The horses I did veterinary work on were ranch and feedlot beasts of burden. Workin’ animals from man’s point of view.

Up until about 50 years ago, that would describe most of the horses vets worked on. I was always a little vain about distinguishing that my patients worked for a living, earned their daily oats and made a contribution to the good of mankind.

Backyard horse practice sorta ranked with spayin’ cats and trimming Chihuahua’s toenails.

That same kind of “snobbery” still exists, I think. Somehow working on a valuable race horse, a Tennessee walkin’ show horse, an endurance Arabian, a Budweiser Clydesdale, Fred Whitfield’s ropin’ horse, Kathy Petersen’s barrel racin’ horse, a New York city policeman’s horse, a ranch horse, a rodeo buck, a Quarterhorse cutter, an outfitter’s packmule or a Lippizan performer is interpreted as doing something more worthwhile than floating the teeth on a backyard plug.

These working horses have a purpose. That dignifies your veterinary efforts, lends some value to your education and experience. All your acquired ability isn’t being wasted in frivolous endeavor on a horse that isn’t really “workin’ for a livin’.”

But, with all that being said, what’s work to a horse? Is it something they feel good about? Does it give them a sense of self-worth? Of course not.

“Well, my little mare, I better finish this hay. Crooked Jack will be comin’ to take me to the mall where I can walk in circles all day giving joy to little boys and girls.”

“I’m so proud of you, Geldy. You bring so much happiness into the world.”

Coyote Cowboy Proverb: Work to a horse is anything he does because you make him do it.

I tell people my horse likes to rope. Meaning, I guess, that he likes to chase cattle. But he spends a lot of time in the pasture with cows and calves. I’ve never seen him chase them on his day off.

Ah, but you good horsemen say, “This horse loves to run,” or “He was born to buck,” or “I can tell he loves to pull this plow. He can’t wait for me to crack this whip!”

I see them run and kick up their heels in an open pasture ... but not for long. Are they having fun? Can horses have fun? Are they bored? Can they get bored?

I’d be hard-put to argue that they can’t have fun, get bored or get mad.

Horses are domesticated animals — under the care of and at the pleasure of those who pay for their keep. It is not their choice. It is ours. Like teenagers, if we give them room and board we expect something in return. At our pleasure, even if our pleasure is team roping, showing Arabians or just a good companion.

But in the end, it’s all work to a horse.

— Visit Baxter’s Web site at www.baxterblack.com for more features and to purchase Baxter Black books, CDs and DVDs. His latest release is a collection of three audio books taking his usual humorous look at rodeo. Be sure to mention *The Owyhee Avalanche* when ordering.

Jon P. Brown, managing editor

Eyes on Owyhee New Year’s wishes



The calendar will turn again in two days
Providing a chance for new hope
Or a pull on the same ol’ rope
One wonders: Will some change their ways?

Grand View has a mess on its hands
Water and sewer systems need fixed
This time, grants shouldn’t be nixed
Hopefully the council understands

Homedale has its own issues
Lagoons repair won’t be cheap
Prompt action will help a heap
Stop flushing stuff other than tissues

Sevy begins Year 2 in Marsing
More organization, less flair
For the man in the mayor’s chair
It’s a wish that 2021 will bring

In Murphy, the county seat
On the commissioners’ plate is plenty to see
From septic to RS 2477 to those pesky RVs
Owyhee government is a special beat

Although COVID-19 is still on the scene
How nice a break would be
Spring could bring a chance to see
HHS softball new home’s christening

No new year should advance
Without a cheer to revere
Those folks who have been dear
Before time is up, take that chance

The first-responders, nurses, et al
Who worked hard and maintained
Public health and rarely complained
We salute those who heeded every call

And, lest we ever forget,
Teachers and daycares
Showing love of youth everyone shares
They’re the heart of every Owyhee hamlet

2021, it’s time, you’re on
Goodbye to the year
And everything we feared
Here’s to a grand new dawn

Facts of the matter Dems refuse to acknowledge extent of Barr’s independence as AG

by William Cooper

A common criticism among Democrats during the Trump era has been that Republicans simply don’t care about facts; that they live in an alternative reality where facts don’t matter.

Many of the same people, however, have shown a striking immunity to the facts when it comes to President Trump’s Attorney General William Barr, who announced his resignation Dec. 14. According to Democrats, Barr has shattered norms and rewritten rules at the Department of Justice, brazenly politicizing the DOJ to further Trump’s political ambitions.

This narrative depends upon the amplification and distortion of some facts and the diminution and nullification of others.

Barr has, of course, done things as attorney general that furthered the Trump administration’s interests. That’s what Senate-confirmed cabinet officials are expected to do. He has, for example, advanced Trump’s agenda on immigration reform, criminal justice and judicial confirmations. And Barr agrees with Trump and many others that the government’s investigation of the Trump campaign’s ties to Russia and associated prosecutions of Michael Flynn and Roger Stone included meaningful mistakes and irregularities.

But Barr has also, repeatedly, refused to further Trump’s most important political objectives.

Despite incessant pressure from Trump to do so, Barr did not indict a single Trump political opponent. Barr’s DOJ did, however, indict Trump’s

former campaign manager and senior advisor Steve Bannon.

Barr, moreover, has publicly pushed back against Trump’s tweeting about active criminal cases and openly and expressly rejected Trump’s advocacy for indicting Joe Biden and Barack Obama during the presidential campaign.

And in stark contrast to Trump’s personal attorney Rudy Giuliani, Barr has steered clear of numerous other major controversies. Unlike most Republicans, Barr did not openly support Trump during the impeachment process. He has not supported President Trump’s post-election litigation; to the contrary, he publicly refuted Trump’s claims of widespread voter fraud. And, we now know, Barr did not publicly disclose before the election that the DOJ has been investigating Hunter Biden’s financial dealings for the past two years. This is, of course, precisely the public disclosure that Trump so fervently sought from Ukraine that it led to his impeachment.

Barr has, indeed, consistently either refused to endorse or flat-out repudiated Trump’s most important political initiatives.

Despite the mountain of contradictory evidence, many Democrats persist, to this day, with the narrative that William Barr is simply President Trump’s political operative masquerading as an attorney general. The facts, apparently, don’t matter.

— William Cooper has written for the *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Examiner*, *USA Today*, *Orlando Sentinel* and *Washington Times*, among others.

Commentary

Financial management

Get business, and finances, in order before buying home

Dear Dave,
My husband and I just bought a small business with cash. My sister let us live with her while we saved up the money for it, but things are starting to get a little cramped for everyone. The other day, my sister offered to co-sign on a house for us. Do you think this is a good idea?
— Cari

Dear Cari,
OK, so you just bought a business. I love your entrepreneurial spirit *and* the fact you saved up and paid for it with cash. But at this point, you don't know if the business is going to be successful or not. On top of that, you told me you'd need a co-signer for a home. If you need a co-signer for anything, it means you're

not financially ready for that purchase.
I know you don't want to hear this, but you guys need to just forget about buying a house for a while. If I were in your shoes, I'd find a decent, inexpensive place to rent, and spend two or three years getting the business up and running. Pay off any debt you have, while saving as much money as you can in the process.
I want you and your husband to have a nice house someday. But right now, it would be a burden instead of a blessing.
— Dave

Dear Dave,
I've been following your plan, but recently I experienced a medical emergency. I'm about halfway through Baby Step 2 and paying off my debts



using the debt snowball system. Considering the circumstances, should I stop doing the debt snowball for now?
— Brooke

Dear Brooke,
That's exactly what you

should do. But make sure you're only pressing the pause button on paying off debt. I'm talking about *temporarily* stopping the debt snowball, and making only minimum payments on all non-mortgage debt for now.
Cash is your umbrella when it rains, and you never know just how long the rain will last. Even if you have great health insurance, you might end up paying a chunk out of pocket. That's why it's important to save up and have plenty on hand.
Things like this are often just a bump in the road, so don't get discouraged. They can be expensive, and they're part of life, but taking care of these kinds of issues doesn't have to mean giving up on getting control of your finances. Emergency issues, especially a

medical emergency, come first. Then, go back when things are better and pick up where you left off knocking out debt using the debt snowball system.
You can do this, Brooke. God bless you!
— Dave

— Dave Ramsey is a seven-time No. 1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert, and host of *The Dave Ramsey Show*, heard by more than 16 million listeners each week. He has appeared on *Good Morning America*, *CBS This Morning*, *Today Show*, *Fox News*, *CNN*, *Fox Business*, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions.

From Washington

Nez Perce-Clearwater Forests highlight success of collaboration

I recently had the opportunity to speak on the Senate floor about important progress underway on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests to improve the health of the forests that is a great example of the benefits of collaborative efforts. The following contains parts of the speech, and a video of the full speech can be accessed through my website at www.crapo.senate.gov.

I have been a longtime champion of collaboration to address public lands management disputes, as collaborative processes are good for the environment and good for natural resource-based economies. Collaborative problem-solving is a key way to ensure all voices are heard and long-term solutions are crafted.

The work on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests is a great example of the benefits of collaborative efforts. The Clearwater Basin Collaborative (CBC), which was officially launched 12 years ago, has had an important role in furthering discussions about the management of the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests.

A total of 536 miles of streams have been restored on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, resulting in the forests being ranked fourth nationwide in miles of streams restored. The forests have a strong partnership with the Nez Perce Tribe, which contributes greatly to its watershed accomplishments. At the same time, priorities of much-needed restoration of landscapes, including water quality improvements, are also providing a supply of raw materials to our local mills.

More work is underway to address significant challenges, but this is the direction we need to continue to go in delivering long-term results.

U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo
Republican (term expires 2022)

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Fax — (202) 228-1375
E-mail — <http://crapo.senate.gov/contact/email.cfm>

Committee assignments — Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs (chair); Finance; and Budget
Chief deputy whip



I commend all those involved in this effort for their hard and exemplary work improving our treasured landscapes.

Other collaborative efforts have laid strong groundwork, or follow in the footsteps of, cooperative work such as this. In Idaho, we have succeeded with public lands projects, such as the Owyhee Initiative, and are hard at work on others, such as the Kootenai Valley Resource Initiative, the Payette Forest Coalition, the Boise Forest Coalition and others, including the Governor's Shared Stewardship Task Force. I also look forward to the soon-to-be-completed recommendations of the Governor's Salmon Workgroup.

We must continuously work to ensure federal statute and policy empower collaborative efforts and forest health projects. Bipartisan legislation pending in this Senate would increase active

management of federal forests, cut red tape, reduce frivolous litigation and advance fire risk reduction. Senators Steve Daines of Montana and Dianne Feinstein of California worked across party lines for months to negotiate the details of the bipartisan S. 4431, the Emergency Wildfire and Public Safety Act.

Enactment of sensible, bipartisan legislation such as this, which is also co-sponsored by my fellow Senator from Idaho, Jim Risch, can better enable land managers to reduce wildfire risk and respond effectively to an increasingly virulent wildfire reality. This will build on the successful enactment of bipartisan legislation to enable federal agencies to respond to wildfires as they would other natural disasters and end fire borrowing.

Forests make up 39 percent of the land in Idaho. They are key to air and water quality and sustain wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities. They support communities through wood and paper product jobs and recreation dollars. They are the backdrop and means for an unparalleled quality of life. Their vitality hinges on their effective management.

I am encouraged by the achievements on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, and I urge continued collaborative efforts to address often contentious, natural resources challenges and the enactment of federal statute that bolsters these collaborative efforts for the betterment of all our communities.

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

Public notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Requested changes to Approved Preliminary Plat for Meadowbrook Subdivision

Please take notice that a public hearing before the City Council of the City of Marsing will take place at the City Council meeting on Wednesday, January 13, 2020 at 7:00 pm at Marsing City Hall located at 18 Sandbar Ave., Marsing, Idaho to consider the requested changes to approved preliminary plat for Meadowbrook subdivision, located on N. Bruneau Highway.

All persons desiring to be heard concerning the proposed changes should be in attendance at the hearing. The file relating to this proposal is available for review in the office of the City Clerk at Marsing City Hall. Written comments may be submitted prior to the Council meeting, but must be received by the City Clerk no later than Monday, January 11th, 2020 in order to be considered as part of the record. Written comments can be mailed to Marsing City Hall, PO Box 125, Marsing, ID 83639 or emailed to office@marsingcity.com.
12/30/2020,01/06/2021

NOTICE OF HEARING IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT FOR THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF OWYHEE IN RE: MICHELLE ANN RAMIREZ CASE NO. CV 37-20-452

A Petition to change the name of MICHELLE ANN RAMIREZ, now residing in the City of Marsing, State of Idaho, has been filed in the District Court in Owyhee County, Idaho. The name will change to Michelle Ann Ineck. The reason for the change in name is: returning to maiden name.

A hearing on the petition is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Feb. 1, 2021 at the Owyhee County Courthouse. Objections may be filed by any person who can show the court a good reason against the name change.

Date: Dec. 21, 2020
s/: Lena Johnson, deputy clerk
For Angela Barkell, Clerk of the District Court
12/30/2020; 01/06,13,20/2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS CASE NO. CV37-20-00427 IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUTY OF OWYHEE

Magistrate Division
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DENISE C. FINLEY, Deceased. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that SEAN W. FINLEY and ANNE M. FINLEY were appointed Co-Personal Representatives of the above-named estate. 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 the Notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated and filed with the Clerk of the Court.

Dated: Dec. 17, 2020
s:/Todd A. Rossman ISB #4023
Todd A. Rossman, P.A.
Attorney for Personal

CASPER J. RANKIN (SBN 9107)
SYDNEY K. LEAVITT (SBN 8933)
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Attorneys for Plaintiff SUN WEST MORTGAGE COMPANY, INC.

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

Case No. CV37-20-00327

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION ON COMPLAINT FOR JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE AND DECLARATORY RELIEF

SUN WEST MORTGAGE COMPANY, INC.,
Plaintiff,

v.

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, ASSIGNS AND DEVISEES OF GORDEN J. MAXWELL; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, ASSIGNS AND DEVISEES OF BONNIE J. MAXWELL; RODGER MAXWELL; KENNETH MAXWELL; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; AND DOES 1 THROUGH 20, et al., Defendants.

TO: **DEFENDANTS THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, ASSIGNS AND DEVISEES OF GORDEN J. MAXWELL; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, ASSIGNS AND DEVISEES OF BONNIE J. MAXWELL; and DOES 1 through 20**, inclusive, including all parties with an interest in and/or residing in real property commonly known as **1674 RIVER ROAD, HOMEDALE, ID 83628**:

You have been sued by Sun West Mortgage Company, Inc., the Plaintiff, in the District Court in and for the County of Owyhee, Idaho, Case No. CV37-20-00327.

The nature of the claim against you is an action for declaratory relief and judicial foreclosure of the real property currently known as **1674 RIVER ROAD, HOMEDALE, ID 83628** and legally described as

A TRACT OF LAND SITUATED IN A PART OF GOVERNMENT LOT 5, SECTION 24, TOWNSHIP 4 NORTH, RANGE 6 WEST, BOISE MERIDIAN, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID GOVERNMENT LOT 5, SAID CORNER MONUMENTED WITH A 5/8 INCH DIAMETER IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 89°55'46" WEST A DISTANCE OF 198.00 FEET ALONG THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID GOVERNMENT LOT 5 TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, SAID POINT MONUMENTED WITH A 1/2 INCH DIAMETER IRON PIN; THENCE CONTINUING SOUTH 89°55'46" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 428.00 FEET ALONG THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID GOVERNMENT LOT 5 TO A 1/2 INCH DIAMETER IRON PIN; THENCE NORTH 1°14'56" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 253.26 FEET PARALLEL WITH THE WESTERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID GOVERNMENT LOT 5 TO A 1/2 INCH DIAMETER IRON PIN; THENCE NORTH 89°55'46" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 205.97 FEET, PARALLEL WITH THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID GOVERNMENT LOT 5 TO A 1/2 INCH DIAMETER PIN; THENCE NORTH 89°55'46" EAST, 15.17 FEET TO A 1/2 INCH DIAMETER IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 77°32'50" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 136.75 FEET TO 1/2 INCH DIAMETER IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 19°26'06" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 236.96 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

Any time after 21 days following the last publication of this summons, the court may enter a judgment against you without further notice, unless prior to that time you filed a written response in the proper form, including the Case Number and paid any required filing fee to the Clerk of the Court at P.O. Box 128, 20381 State Hwy 78, Murphy, ID 83650, (208) 495-2421, and serve a copy of your response on the Plaintiff's attorney, Sydney K. Leavitt, at ALDRIDGE PITE, LLP, 13125 W. Persimmon Lane, Ste. 150, Boise, ID 83713.

A copy of the Summons and Complaint can be obtained by contacting either the Clerk of the Court or the attorney for Plaintiff. If you wish for legal assistance, you should immediately retain an attorney to advise you in this matter.

Dated: 12/4/2020
CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT
By: s/ R Fahey
DEPUTY
12/16,23,30/2020,01/06/2021

Representative
5660 E. Franklin Road, Suite 220
Nampa, Idaho 83687
Tel: (208) 475-3150
12/23,30/2020;01/06/2021

2020: Sports Year in Review



Nov. 21 — Homedale High School co-captain John Breshears accepts the program's third straight 3A football state runner-up trophy after Sugar-Salem collected a 34-28 overtime victory for its third consecutive championship.

From Page 7B
postponed because COVID-19 quarantines in the schools.

Dec. 10 — Melba continued an unbeaten start to its girls' basketball season with a 64-39 win over reigning 3A District II champion Parma behind a double-double from Kendall

Clark.
Dec. 19 — Kaydince and Savannah Turner won girls' championships for Homedale, and Zane Helm (Melba) and Isai Arriaga (Marsing) won boys' titles during the Wiley Dobbs Invitational wrestling competition in Twin Falls.

Back page

More photos from The Owyhee Avalanche's Sports Year in Review.



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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

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HELP WANTED
Immediate opening for Administration Assistant. Duties will include receptionist, bookkeeping, trucking search, and other administrative duties. Seasonal hours - Full-time (Sep through Mar) and Part-time (Apr through Aug). Call 208-337-4025

City of Homedale has an opening for a full time Maintenance Worker in the Public Works Dept. Requires a maximum of 30 minute response time. Must pass a pre-employment drug test. Full job description available with application at Homedale City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming, Homedale. Open until filled.

Beekeeper year-round, good driving record, pay DOE, will train right person, paid holidays, vacation and bonus (208) 899-2914

Owyhee County has a part-time position open in Grand View at the DMV and driver's license office. The principal function of this position is to provide effective customer service in processing a variety of vehicle related transactions including titles of ownership, new and renewal registrations, issuing license plates and issuing driver's licenses and star cards. This position also performs Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) inspections which are performed outdoors and include exposure to inclement weather conditions. This position is 22 hours per week. A high school diploma or equivalent is required for this position, plus one year of office experience or equivalent combination of experience and training which provides the knowledge and abilities required to perform the work. Applicants will be subject to a background check. Job descriptions and applications are available on the Owyhee County website at owyheecounty.net. They are also available in the Assessor's Office located in the Owyhee County Courthouse in Murphy, ID. Applications will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on January 8, 2021. Owyhee County is an equal opportunity employer.

Seeking field/farm supervisor and general labor for research farm near Sunnyslope. Call 208-250-0937 to request further information.

WINTER FARM & HEAVY EQUIPMENT AUCTION

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2020: Sports Year in Review



***Sept. 11** — Rimrock High School cross country coach Melissa Raymond completes her virtual Boston Marathon run in Grand View. She had qualified for the 124th running in New England, but the event was cancelled because of COVID-19.*



Aug. 8 — Marsing cowboy Austin Williams was among the Idaho Cowboys Association professional champions at the Owyhee County Rodeo in Homedale. Williams won the bareback championship, while Cody and Rossin Baldwin brought home the local team roping title. Chase Hansen of Homedale and Clayton Hansen of Weiser won the ICA team roping championship for the Homedale meet. Photo by Amy Ritchie / Amy Lee Photography

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