

The Owyhee Avalanche

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\$1

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2021



Mary Sonke (left) plays table tennis with Hunter Smith during last Wednesday's inaugural morning coffee at The Rock. Submitted photo

The Rock of Homedale gets off the ground at last

Activities have begun;
grand opening set Feb. 20

After 2½ years of planning, fundraising and building, teenagers hung out at The Rock of Homedale last Wednesday.

The non-denominational youth center opened its doors for the inaugural coffee hour from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m., at the 3,700-square-foot building in the 300 block of East Owyhee

Avenue.

Thirty-five high-schoolers sipped coffee, tea or hot cocoa, snacked on donuts and chatted or played games while waiting for the school bell to ring down the block at Homedale High School.

The building has a ping-pong table and a pool table. The Rock spokesperson Kathy Deal said organizers hope to obtain a corn

— See *The Rock*, back page

Out-of-county motorists now inundate Murphy's DMV office

Assessor to allow
Owyhee walk-ins
only in afternoon

Attempting to adapt and improve processes at Owyhee County Division of Motor Vehicles offices has been an ongoing and evolving situation.

Assessor Toni Gruenwald has proposed a change at the Murphy DMV office, begin-

ning Feb. 1, that she hopes will decrease the dominant impact out-of-county residents have on the schedule.

"I thought the scheduling would keep Ada and Canyon on their side of the river, but, alas, this was not so," Gruenwald said. "My scheduling for the DMVs is six weeks out, and 80 percent of the slots are being taken by (residents of those counties)."

The assessor unveiled her

new plan during the Jan. 11 county commissioners meeting.

Beginning Feb. 1, the Murphy DMV will accept no out-of-county walk-in business between 12:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m., each day. The Murphy office is closed for a 30-minute lunch beginning at noon.

Gruenwald made the changes to allow locals to get their

— See *DMV*, page 7A

Multi-family housing added to Marsing subdivision's plan

Plat changes
met with mixed
opinions

A long-discussed and planned Marsing housing project now will incorporate multi-family dwellings.

In a 3-0 vote, the Marsing City Council approved changes to the Meadow Brook subdivision's preliminary plat during its monthly meeting last Wednesday at City Hall. Council president Chris Even, who lives in the vicinity of the planned development, abstained.

Developers Les and Lavada

Loucks and project planner Peggy Breski asked to change 14 single-family lots to four-plex lots that would create 56 individual dwellings.

They also want to move the construction of seven proposed lots from Phase 1 of the development into Phase 2.

The four-plex units, which will all be built according to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards, will be built on Morning Dove Way, from Mountain View Drive to the proposed Kyla Way.

According to Breski, building four-plexes would help meet the city's need for more

— See *Subdivision*, page 5A

Commissioner Merrick back as BOCC chair

Elected officials
take oath to begin
new terms

There's a new man leading Board of Owyhee County Commissioners meetings.

Dist. 3 Commissioner Joe Merrick succeeded Dist. 1 Commissioner Jerry Hoagland as board chair when the BOCC reorganized during its annual meeting on Jan. 11 in Murphy.

Hoagland and Dist. 2 Commissioner Kelly Aberasturi began new terms on the board, taking the oath of office with Sheriff Perry Grant and Prosecuting Attorney Jeffrey Phillips.

Phillips begins his first elected term as prosecutor after being appointed to the po-

sition when Douglas D. Emery left in the middle of his third four-year term.

Grant, who started his third term, and Hoagland will serve four years. Aberasturi was re-elected to a two-year term.

The rest of the board's duties remain identical to 2020:

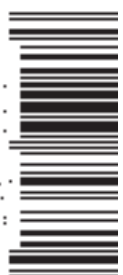
- Merrick will serve as the county's representative on the Third District Court's magistrates commission. Merrick also is department supervisor for Planning & Zoning, Road & Bridge District 3, and Solid Waste.

- Aberasturi continues as supervisor of the county probation and weed departments, and he will continue to serve on the boards for Southwest District Health and the

— See *BOCC*, page 7A



Joe Merrick



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City to ask judge, Pg. 2A: No vote for Homedale sewer bond
Marsing schools, Pg. 3A: New trustees receive oath of office
Owyhee drops to orange, Pg. 4A: Daily COVID-19 cases dip
He's back, Pg. 1B: Michaelson returns to coach HHS tennis
Death notice, 7A • Commentary, 12-13A • Looking Back, 14A

Atkins: Several sewer factors put Homedale “over a barrel”

City will ask judge, not voters, to approve \$10.5M bond

The City of Homedale must play catch-up after years of infrastructure neglect, City Councilman Steve Atkins said.

On Friday, the city announced its plan to petition for judicial confirmation to obtain a \$10.5 million bond for the repairs.

A public hearing to receive input about the city’s decision is set for 6 p.m., on Wednesday, Feb. 10. Public comment also can be sent to City Hall prior to the meeting.

By seeking a judicial confirmation with the public notice on Page 3 of this week’s Avalanche, the city signals the issue of obtaining a bond will not be put before the city’s voters.

Atkins said last week that the city council’s decision to seek funding for repairs and upgrades for the wastewater system is necessary for a couple reasons.

First, previous city leaders didn’t work to maintain the infrastructure. Case in point: The city’s engineering contractor has said the wastewater lagoon system probably should have been addressed and upgraded 20 years ago.

The second part of the equation was the Idaho Conservation League’s threat of a lawsuit

against the city if it didn’t improve the quality of treated wastewater discharged into the Snake River.

Now, Homedale is working to create a wastewater system that meets the tightening standards of a new discharge permit issued by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality.

The city is bound by a compliance agreement and has a set amount of time to get the work completed.

Atkins isn’t happy about what the project may mean for his neighbors’ utility bills, but he understands the importance of the upgrades.

“I’m concerned about keeping the fees as small as possible because of all the people in our community who are on fixed incomes,” Atkins said.

He understands that a rate analysis accompanies any grant or loan from the DEQ or U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development.

The rate analysis typically reveals that consumer costs must be raised in order to satisfy the lending agency that the money will be paid back.

“I’m super-concerned about the costs to our users, but I



Homedale officials hope more people will use an unwanted medications drop-off box inside City Hall instead of flushing drugs into the sewer system.

don’t know what to do about it,” Atkins said.

“We’re kind of over the barrel.”

Great West Engineering representative Andrew Kimmel was to file a letter of intent with DEQ in the days after the council’s Jan. 6 meeting to begin the process of securing funding support for both the lagoon rehabilitation and replacement of collection service pipe in

town.

Another issue the council wants to tackle is making sure that what goes into the sewer system won’t erode lagoons in the future.

City officials already are trying to discourage residents from flushing so-called “flushable” wipes that can clog wastewater aerators and damage lift station pumps.

Previously, Kimmel had said

prescription drugs and illicit drugs that make their way to the plant can kill good bacteria that helps the treatment lagoons do their job.

The loss of that bacteria means that the lagoons “die” and must be rebuilt by trucking in bacteria-rich sludge from neighboring municipalities’ treatment plants — a costly endeavor.

Mayor Gheen Christoffersen lamented that there wasn’t more widespread education on how flushing drugs — prescription and illicit — affects all sewer systems.

The Homedale Police Department has a drug drop box in the City Hall lobby, 31 W. Wyoming Ave., to make it easier for citizens to discard pills and other medication that is either outdated or unwanted and, hopefully, keep those drugs out of the sewer system.

The mayor and Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller want to take awareness of the problem to other governmental leaders in the area, too. Christoffersen said a meeting with other Treasure Valley Partnership officials would be helpful, and it was suggested that Homedale officials reach out to the Association of Idaho Cities.

“I agree with Jeff,” Christoffersen said during the Jan. 6 council meeting. “The more spread we get this campaign, the better off we’re going to be.”

— JPB

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Marsing welcomes new school trustees

Several school programs receive grants

Marsing’s school trustees embarked on a new era last Wednesday. Jason Sevy remained chairman when board reorganization was performed, but he also administered the oath of office to a pair of new colleagues. Luke Ankeny is the new Zone 3 trustee, and Caldwell resident O.J. Barber will represent Zone 5. The men were appointed during a Jan. 12 special meeting, and returned the next night to take the oath of office and begin their work.

Ankeny succeeds longtime trustee Betty Ackerman, while Barber takes over for former board chair Brad McIntyre. Ankeny resigned as a paid assistant on the Marsing High School boys’ basketball coaching staff, but will continue in a volunteer position. During the annual board reorganization, Sevy, who lives in Zone 1, was re-elected board chair. Zone 4 Trustee Deb Holzhey was named vice-chair. Barber will jump into responsibility immediately, taking on the board’s link to the Canyon-Owyhee School Services Agency. “I’ve asked O.J. to step up, and he has agreed to be the COSSA board representative,” Sevy said. The board will continue to meet at 7 p.m., on the second



Marsing school board chair Jason Sevy (right) administers the oath of office to new trustees O.J. Barber (left) and Luke Ankeny during last Wednesday’s meeting.

Wednesday of each month inside The HUB, 205 8th Ave. W., adjacent to the school district office. Lorraine Simonson was appointed district clerk and business manager. She succeeds Linda Troyer, who retired from the position. Trustees agreed to keep Jessica Showalter in the deputy clerk position. Her husband, Zone 2 Trustee Chad Showalter, abstained from the vote. Sevy and Holzhey will represent the district in 2021-22 school year teacher contract negotiations.

Student programs receive grants

The 21st Century Community Learning Center in Marsing and Husky Pups Preschool will receive grants to keep operating.

The preschool program will receive an annual grant of \$60,000 each of the next three years. The grant comes from the Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children, which has funded the Marsing preschool for the past 18 months.

- Through two other AEYC grants, the district will be able to send home literacy kits for kindergarteners. An online family literacy session will be presented in the future to help parents learn about the activities in the kit and how they can help their children.
- Also in his report, 21st Century CLC coordinator Ken Price said that the Friday UNITE! program began its latest run. The program will serve 35 second- to fifth-graders. Second-grade teacher Dorothy Hutchings will focus on art, cooking and

academic intervention with the youngest group. John Barenberg, who teaches third grade, will focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, and literacy with the older children. Price said that the UNITE! program funding has shifted to the schools 21st Century Community Learning Center grant after benefitting from the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation for the past three years.

- The district’s Marsing Middle School Academics has received a pair of \$1,300 grants from the Idaho STEM Action Center. The money will help students learn Blocksmith, which is a three-dimensional coding program. One grant will be used in a STEM elective course, and the other with sixth- through

eighth-graders in the after-school program. The Blocksmith program will also benefit Friday’s third-through fifth-graders.

- Several programs at the school will get help from a \$5,000 grant from the St. Luke’s Community Health Improvement Fund. The money will help purchase more food for The HUB pantry. A school nurse exam and waiting room will be funded. Equipment for the Husky Pups Preschool, which recently unveiled a new playground area, will also be purchased.
- The district recently received a batch of Chromebooks to replace elementary school machines no longer supported by Google. The next step is to replace outdated Chromebooks at the secondary school.

— JPB

CITY OF HOMEDALE

NOTICE OF HEARING TO CONSIDER THE FILING OF A PETITION FOR JUDICIAL CONFIRMATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, the 10th day of February, 2021, at 6:00 o’clock P.M., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, at the Homedale City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming Avenue, Homedale, Idaho, the City Council of the City of Homedale, Idaho (the “City”), will conduct a public hearing to consider the filing of a petition for judicial confirmation under the Idaho Judicial Confirmation Law, Title 7, Chapter 13, Idaho Code. The proposed project is to make immediate and necessary improvements to the existing wastewater system.

The proposed petition would seek judicial confirmation of the power of the City (1) to incur an indebtedness as an “ordinary and necessary expense” of the City authorized by the general laws of the State, within the meaning of Article 8, Section 3, of the Idaho Constitution, in a principal amount of approximately \$10,500,000, for wastewater system improvements and to pledge the City’s wastewater system revenues for the payment of such indebtedness for a term of years.

Interested persons are encouraged to attend the public hearing and to present comments. Comments may also be submitted to the City in writing prior to and at the hearing.

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Owyhee becomes only SWDH county in COVID orange

Agency shares vaccine update

Owyhee County became the first region to drop out of the red zone in Southwest District Health’s COVID-19 health alert system.

SWDH announced Owyhee had moved into the Orange level during its weekly update Thursday.

Meanwhile, the health district outlined who is eligible to receive the vaccine.

The health district said Owyhee County moved into the second-highest alert level because of a 30 percent decrease in community transmission. Officials described the county’s daily incidence rate of 3.69

cases per 10,000 people as “low and stable.”

The test positivity rate also continued to decline to 18.57 percent, while the percentage of people who can identify where they may have been exposed continues to climb.

The weekly SWDH report said epidemiologists are seeing cluster outbreaks in Owyhee County primarily from out-of-town visitors and exposure in households and the workplace.

Between Jan. 3 and Jan. 9, two students each in the Homedale and Marsing school districts were reported with COVID-19.

As of last Wednesday, nine staff and students in schools serving Owyhee County

were in quarantine after close contact with a suspected positive case.

Southwest District Health reported no schoolchildren or personnel were in isolation, indicating no new infections in that subset.

Vaccine is available for healthcare providers, including dental and pharmacy professionals who fit within the Phase 1 priority group and eligible individuals that are part of the current Phase 2.1 priority group.

The Phase 2.1 group includes first-responders and safety, education, and correctional and detention facility staff, according to Gov. Brad Little’s Jan. 12 announcement.

People in those groups who are interested in the vaccine can contact SWDH staff by email at COVIDvaccine@phd3.idaho.gov or by calling the Southwest District Health COVID-19 Hotline at (208) 455-5411. The hotline is available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. SWDH’s current vaccine

Overall Owyhee County COVID-19 cases:
835
Jan. 12 to Jan. 18 statistics:
New confirmed cases, 39
Probable cases, 116 (New: 16)
Deaths: 23 (New: 3)
People who recovered: 813 (New: 96)
Health alert level: Orange
Source: coronavirus.idaho.gov and Southwest District Health

Malheur COVID-19 cases:
3,118
New cases, Jan. 12 to Jan. 18: 160
Deaths: 51 (New: 1)
Negative tests: 15,086 (New: 975)
Source: govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19

supply outstrips demand, and when an increase supply will be available for other groups is unknown.

Courthouse report

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

Jan. 11
Macrichard Wleh, Phoenix — Misdemeanor motor carrier violation, fail to stop at checking station or submit to inspection, grading or weighting: \$118.50 in fines, \$160.50 in court costs

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Marsing council takes no action on 2nd Amendment request

Organizer suggests citizens carry guns to show support

The Marsing City Council decided it was best to take no action after citizens asked to make the city a Second Amendment sanctuary.

During last Wednesday meeting at City Hall, Marsing resident Rose Gress discussed her desire for Marsing to declare itself a supporter of the amendment, which guarantees Americans the right to keep and bear arms. Gress said that she believes the declaration needs to happen soon because Democrats who are coming into power on the national level want to take guns from Americans.

She said that she had discussions with the City of Kuna, which has identified itself as a sanctuary, and said that she knows the cities of Nampa, Melba, Star, Eagle, and Meridian have taken similar actions.

“Basically what it does is tell everybody that we believe in the Second Amendment,” Gress said. “It doesn’t give you any keys or anything, like going after guns or anything like that.

“It wouldn’t give you the right to

carry a gun if you are a felon. It’s not going to have people walking down the street saying ‘We’re a free gun city,’ none of those things.”

She also said 89 Facebook users voiced support for what she was doing after she announced on the social networking platform that she would be going to the council.

Pointing out that Second Amendment rights are guaranteed in both the U.S. and Idaho constitutions, council president Chris Even questioned what the purpose of Gress’s appearance.

“So what are we doing here?” Even asked. “We would just be putting a law on top of a law on top of a law. You’re just reiterating what everyone knows who goes through fifth-grade civics class.

”You’re asking us to put in something that already exists.”

He also pointed out that the state Constitution clearly states that it is illegal for the sheriff’s office to come to citizens’ homes and take their weapons.

Gress said that she was surprised at the number of people to whom she spoke that didn’t know what the Second Amendment’s purpose. Even said that it is up to those people to educate themselves.

Gress also said she specifically asked supporters to not show up at the

meeting with guns. Even questioned why she would tell people that if she supports the Second Amendment.

She said that she told people that they have the right to do it but requested that they not bring their guns out of respect.

Even is a U.S. Navy veteran and longtime sheriff’s deputy in both Owyhee and Malheur counties and said that he strongly supports the Second Amendment.

Gress had a petition in front of City Hall before and during the council meeting. There was also a petition at Armed Everyday LLC, a Marsing firearms training business at 7B Reich Street.

In a Facebook post on Sunday, Gress said, in light of the council’s inaction and Even’s strong opinion, “I am thinking perhaps it is a good idea we do exercise our 2nd Amendment legal right to carry our weapons at all times.

“Let’s show our support for that right and be seen carrying our firearms. After all, it is legal according to Chris.”

On Monday, Gress posted that additional petitions have been put in place at Marsing businesses Franklin Auto & Truck, 5591 Bruneau Highway, The Spot Pizza, 12 Sandbar Ave., and Sevy Auto Repair, 202 Main St.

— TK



Rose Gress outlines her argument for making Marsing a Second Amendment sanctuary city during last Wednesday’s meeting.

From page 1A

✓ Subdivision: 2 county commissioners, town market support changes

affordable housing within the city.

“The City of Marsing needs us to move forward with this,” Breski said. “Some needs for Phase 2 are still up in the air, but we didn’t want to hold up Phase 1.”

She also said that more housing availability will allow local families to most likely stay in the city limits as they expand and grow.

“Marsing is one of the few legacy communities left,” she said, referring to multi-generational families who stay in the same area.

There was no discussion of how the change in the plat — potentially quadrupling the number of residents in the same footprint — would affect the city’s water and sewer system capabilities.

The lots that will move into Phase 2 are on the west side of Kyla Way, running north to Bobwhite Street. The lots on the east side of Kyla Way were already part of Phase 2.

This isn’t the first change to the original preliminary plat.

The original plat reflected a more dense community with 265 units covering approximately half of the allotted land, Breski said.

Over time, she said, that plan evolved into 103 plots over its current layout of more than 104 acres. This allows for a more “rural feel,” particularly for Phases 3 and 4, she said.

Phase 3 covers properties that will begin north of Bobwhite Street and run up to the southern border of the Louckses’ property, which is not in the city limits. Phase 4 runs from west of Phase 3 and north to East Thompson Road.

Many people, some of whom do not live in the city limits, and at least one business sent letters and emails in support of the plat changes, including Owyhee County Commissioner Jerry Hoagland (Dist. 1) and Kelly Aberasturi (Dist. 2), Marsing School District superintendent Norm Stewart and M&W Market (formerly Logan’s Market) in Marsing.

Not all letters and emails offered glowing support, though, either for the changes or the project in general.

Morning Dove Way residents James and Jess Ferdinand expressed their antipathy for multi-family housing within the subdivision and wrote that they had serious concerns that appropriate in-



Horrocks Engineers representative Peggy Breski addresses the Marsing City Council regarding the Meadow Brook residential subdivision last Wednesday.

frastructure will be able to be met and maintained, including the increase in traffic and the condition of the roads.

The Ferdinands asserted that most of the support for the project comes from folks who don’t live in the city.

Floydene Egurrola’s letter contended that the city did not need to be more densely populated. She went on to suggest that the development will devalue her property, and that

the Louckses were making the changes strictly for financial reasons, not out of a desire to help the city.

Though project proponents and opponents were not allowed into the meeting en masse, folks were let in individually to have their voices heard.

Marsing resident Jason Germann, another Morning Dove Way resident, was concerned that he and his neighbors

would be forced to join a homeowners association. Breski assured him that, because his home is located outside the Meadow Brook borders, it would be unnecessary to join the HOA.

Germann also wondered how the population increase would affect the school system. Breski said that, according to Stewart, the schools have plenty of room to accommodate more students.

Mayor Chad Sevy said he had heard from multiple people currently living in senior housing who expressed a desire for more affordable housing (not government-assisted) to be available.

Even expressed concern that some of the property could be converted to Section 8 housing, though Breski and city attorney Stephanie J. Bonney assured him that the decision to incorporate that type of government-subsidized, low-income housing is typically made before construction begins.

Les Loucks said a final plat could be drawn up and agreed upon in the next few weeks, making ground-breaking possible by late March or early April.

— TK

University of Idaho
Extension

Reading a seed catalog with success

For many gardeners, now is the time seed catalogs are appearing in the mailbox. With all those new plant options, how does one choose? Consider these tips when selecting for the upcoming growing season.



Nic Usabel

Take the time to look around your garden beds, containers, or hanging baskets to identify the needs of the garden/landscape. Make note of how much room you have and what might work well in each location. Give thought to which locations will receive sun and which locations will be shaded.

Next, if you keep a garden diary, or other method of gardening notes, review the notes made from the past growing season(s). Take note of the varieties that did well, those you would wish never to have again, and those you might like to try.

Now you can begin reviewing the pages of the catalog, making a list of potential items you wish to grow. From there, complete your final order keeping in mind the space you identified as available for planting.

Seed catalogs provide a wealth of information and often have additional tables or keys to review prior to making plant selections. Here are some helpful glossary terms to review beforehand:

Days to Maturity. Typically found after the variety name, it will tell you how soon you can expect to start harvesting. For plants transplanted into the garden, days will start when transplanted into the soil. For those seeded directly into the garden space, the time for maturity starts at sowing.

Hybrid (F, F1, F2). These are seeds from a cross between two or more known varieties often grown for specific traits.

Saving seeds from hybrids and replanting will not guarantee the same plants in the future.

Open Pollinated (OP). This is a variety that will come true from seed and are pollinated by natural means. If you want to save seeds from year to year, search out these varieties.

Heirloom. Most commonly open pollinated varieties that have been grown for many years and exhibit distinctive coloring, flavoring, and many fascinating stories. They may lack resistance to disease.

Letters (V, F, N). These letters and many more refer to disease resistance codes. A good catalog should explain their disease abbreviations because without a key, the letters are useless. For example, VFN for tomatoes means resistance to verticillium wilt, fusarium wilt, and nematode.

Determinant/Indeterminate. Determinant plants grow to a certain size, fruit all at once, and stop growing. Indeterminate plants continue to grow and fruit until frost.

Number of Seeds. Indicates how many seeds you are getting. Some catalogs will even tell you the average seeds needed per area.

While seed catalogs vary and certainly provide more information than mentioned I hope this provides a place to start.

Interested in more information about planning a garden? Register for our upcoming virtual class “Plan the Garden, Preserve the Harvest!” scheduled for 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, Jan. 26. Register at <https://bit.ly/397ULcT>.

— *Marsing native Nic Usabel is a County Extension Educator in Horticulture for University of Idaho Extension based in Canyon County serving both Canyon and Owyhee counties. His areas of focus include urban horticulture, gardening with youth and Idaho Master Gardener volunteer management. He can be reached at nusabel@uidaho.edu.*

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Weekly weather recap unavailable

SNOTEL report, Owyhee County sensors

	Snow Equiv.	Snow Depth	Year-to-date Precip.	Previous day's temperature		
		(measured in inches)		Max	Min	Avg
				(measured in Fahrenheit)		
Mud Flat						
01/12	2.2	10	3.1	40	26	33
01/13	2.4	10	3.2	43	17	35
01/14	2.3	9	3.2	42	16	30
01/15	2.5	8	3.1	44	24	35
01/16	2.6	9	3.4	38	24	30
01/17	2.4	9	3.2	47	23	33
01/18	2.6	8	3.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Reynolds Creek						
01/12	2.7	8	6.4	n/a	n/a	n/a
01/13	2.9	8	7.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
01/14	2.3	5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
01/15	2.3	5	7.2	n/a	n/a	n/a
01/16	2.3	5	7.2	n/a	n/a	n/a
01/17	2.3	4	7.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
01/18	2.3	4	7.2	n/a	n/a	n/a
South Mountain						
01/12	6.4	24	9.5	41	33	36
01/13	6.6	24	10.1	41	26	34
01/14	6.6	23	10.1	44	26	36
01/15	6.5	23	10.2	50	33	41
01/16	6.5	23	10.3	42	29	36
01/17	6.5	22	10.3	45	28	36
01/18	6.5	22	10.3	n/a	n/a	n/a

Water report

The Bureau of Reclamation website showed that the Owyhee Reservoir was 47 percent full and that water was flowing in the Owyhee River above the reservoir at Rome, Ore., at a rate of 218 cubic feet per second. Water is flowing out at Nyssa, Ore., at a rate of 29 cubic feet per second. The reservoir held 339,356 acre-feet of water on Monday.

Calendar

Today

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

Thursday

Teens & Tweens

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

Friday

Idaho Foodbank drop-off

9 a.m. to 11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church of Homedale, 320 N. 6th St. W, Homedale. (208) 473-9331

Rising Light teen support group

6 p.m., Rising Light Farm Ministry, 5189 N. Old Bruneau Hwy., Marsing. (208) 807-0680

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.

Homedale Chamber luncheon

Noon, The Bowling Alley, 18 N. 1st 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

Thursday, Jan. 28

Food bank drop off

1 p.m., to 3 p.m., (weather permitting; holidays could change date), Jordan Valley Lions Hall, 902 Bassett St. (U.S. Hwy. 95), Jordan Valley. (541) 889-9206 or (541) 586-2562

Teens & Tweens

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

Friday, Jan. 29

Rising Light teen support group

6 p.m., Rising Light Farm Ministry, 5189 N. Old Bruneau Hwy., Marsing. (208) 807-0680

Monday, Feb. 1

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, Feb. 2

Writing group

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

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

Death notice

MARIAN “MARTY” ELLEN (PRICE) ROBB, 89, of Ontario, Ore., a 1949 Adrian High School graduate, died on Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021. A viewing was held on Friday, Jan. 15, 2021 at Lienkaemper Funeral Home, 207 Ehrgood Ave., Nyssa, Ore. Graveside services were held on Saturday, Jan. 16, 2021 at the Owyhee Cemetery.

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 available each day
Roll available each day except Jan. 20 and Jan. 27
Thrift store open from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Tuesday-Thursday
Jan. 20: Ham and beans, Brussels sprouts, cornbread
Jan. 21: Country-fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, mixed vegetables
Jan. 26: Beef and gravy, rice, broccoli
Jan. 27: Sausage and biscuit, mashed potato and gravy, peas and carrots
Jan. 28: Pork roast, mashed potatoes and gravy, spinach

Sandbar Community Room, Marsing

Noon to 12:30 p.m., inside Marsing City Hall
Milk available each day
Suggested donation: \$4 (60 and older), \$6 (59 and younger)
Jan. 20: Salmon, wild rice, snap peas, coleslaw, wheat bread
Jan. 22: Enchiladas, Mexican rice, corn, juice
Jan. 25: White chicken chili, broccoli, carrots, cornbread
Jan. 27: Roast beef with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, spinach salad, wheat roll
Jan. 29: Breaded fish, mac and cheese, peas, coleslaw, wheat bread

Rimrock Senior Center

All meals are served with milk & fruit juice
Curbside pickup from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or delivery only.
Call (208) 834-2922 between 7 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. to place order
Jan. 21: Pulled pork sandwich with whole-grain bun, baked beans, potato salad, berries, yogurt and granola
Jan. 26: Baked potato with chili, sour cream, onions, cheese, tortilla chips, green salad, cornbread, fruit, cottage cheese
Jan. 28: Chicken a la king, biscuit, Oriental vegetables, chow mien, noodles, fruit cocktail, yogurt

Homedale library activities incorporate Legos, pajamas

Lego Night offers several challenges for the Teens & Tweens at the Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library in Homedale.

The next Teens & Tweens session starts at 5 p.m., on Thursday at the library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave.

Build Blind and Theme Blind are two of the challenges planned for the Lego Night.

Prizes will be awarded, and the boys and girls ages 10-17 who attend will have a chance to takes Legos home.

• Monday’s Story Time will be pajama day for children and adults. Attendees are also encouraged to bring their favorite stuffed animal.

Stories to be read include “Llama Llama Red Pajama” by Anna Dewdney and “How to Put Your Parents to Bed” by Mylisa Larsen.

The group will sing songs, play with a parachute and make a pajama craft.

• Winter Reading Bingo continues through Feb. 6.

The contest is open to all ages, and bingo cards are available at the library.

Every time someone achieves bingo, they can bring the card into the library to collect a prize and also are entered into the grand prize drawing.

The grand prize winner will be determined on March 1, and the more reading one does, the more chances to win.

The library is open from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., on Thursday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Friday, and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., on Saturday. It is closed Sundays.

Call (208) 337-4228 for more information on the library’s programs.

From page 1A

✓ Murphy: Make appointments online

business done in timely fashion.

“Hopefully, opening the Murphy office to Owyhee County business only in the afternoons will help with some of this,” she said.

And the changes may also mean some people won’t get help if they just drop in or arrive late in the day.

“I know there are going to be long lines, so be advised that if (the DMV clerk) opens at 12:30 and there are 40 people in line, some will not make it in,” Gruenwald said. “The clerk is going to close at 3:30.”

People who have to take a test should show up early because no testing will be started after 2:30 p.m., each day, Gruenwald said.

If the walk-in business continues to overwhelm the clerk after a month of the new policy, Gruenwald said she will look into extending the Owyhee-only business hours and shortening the time reserved for appointments.

Owyhee County citizens can still schedule an appointment in Marsing all day and in the morning in Murphy if they are able to wait. Currently, there is a six-week backlog on appointments.

Appointments can be made by visiting www.owyhee-county.net and clicking on the assessor’s tab. The scheduling option is at the bottom of the assessor’s page.

Gruenwald said the delays and citizens’ ongoing frustra-

tions with the process can be attributed to Owyhee County’s recent population explosion as well as Idaho Transportation Department DMV system upgrades.

The ITD upgrades are 80 percent of those difficult issues, Gruenwald said.

“It had so many flaws and kinks in it that the clerks are sometimes on hold with ITD for an hour to finish one simple transaction,” she said.

Simple registration renewals and title transactions can take three times as long as normal, she said. She reminds citizens that registration and regular driver’s license renewals (not Star cards) can be done online.

— TK

✓ BOCC

Treasure Valley Partnership.

• Hoagland is Road & Bridge District 1 supervisor Merrick becomes board chair after Hoagland had served for two years. Aberasturi led the board from 2016 to 2019. Merrick last chaired the BOCC six years ago.

OCSO part-timer re-hired

The sheriff’s office has re-hired Kelli Lathrop as an emergency dispatcher to allow other dispatchers to attend training.

Lathrop will work on a part-time, temporary basis for about a month, Sheriff Perry Grant estimates, and she’ll make \$17 per hour.

She left last fall, but returned to the fold on Jan. 12.

— TK

Homedale library book sale bursting at seams

The Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library in Homedale has seen an increase recently in the number of donated books and director Sharla Jensen says she’s running out of room.

The library at 121 W. Owyhee Ave., has an ongoing, in-house book sale, and the donated books have expanded from one small bookcase to multiple ones. Now, they are spilling out onto tables and other surfaces.

Jensen said there are 100s of great books for all ages, as well as several donated DVDs.

“We would love to see some of these great books to find someone to read them,” Jensen said.

The books and DVDs are sold by donation. Folks can come into the library, pick the items they are interested in and deposit their donation in the box provided.

All proceeds go directly to support the library and its programs.

The ongoing sale is separate from the biannual sale that the Friends of the Homedale Library holds, typically on the grounds in front and around the side of the building. Proceeds from these book sales are also used to fund the library and its programs.

— TK

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Shanley remains chair of Homedale trustees

District could seek elementary classroom construction bids soon

Kurt Shanley continues as the chairman of the Homedale School District board of trustees, but he has a new second.

The veteran Zone 1 trustee was re-elected to lead the board during the Jan. 11 annual meeting.

Zone 3 Trustee Dwayne Fisher was named vice-chair, a position formerly held by Zone 5 Trustee Shane Muir.

Muir will serve as the board’s Canyon-Owyhee School Service Agency representative.

The terms of three trustees will end at the close of the year, and their offices will be on the November ballot.

- Fisher
- Zone 4 Trustee Shelley Shenk
- Zone 2 Trustee Leslie Parker

A former Homedale Elementary teacher, Parker is finishing the term vacated by Stacy Woods.

Other elements of the annual meeting include appointments:

- Debbie Denney continues as district business manager.
- Faith Olsen returns as board clerk and district financial specialist.
- Karen Leibschwager

continues as assistant clerk and district treasurer

Trustees continue work on superintendent Rob Sauer’s annual evaluation. The topic of his contract has been moved to the February board meeting.

The board will meet at 7 p.m., on the second Monday of each month as has been the case for years.

Elementary expansion

Sauer said that construction managers are reviewing the site of the proposed four new elementary school classrooms.

The project could go out to bid for general contractors in the next few weeks, he said.

Plant facility levy revenue should be used to fund this project, which has been scheduled for completion before the start of the 2021-22 school year.

Sauer said that no school bond election is planned for May, and “the board hasn’t discussed the possibility of a bond in November.” A citizen at last week’s Homedale City Council meeting was worried that a municipal bond election could possibly accompany a school bond election this year, too.

— JPB

School menus

Homedale Elementary

Choice of milk and juice

Vegetable and Fruit choices will be offered daily

Jan. 20: **Breakfast:** Mini pancakes **Lunch:** Pork chop, mashed potatoes with gravy, hot roll
Jan. 21: **Breakfast:** Ultimate breakfast round **Lunch:** Popcorn chicken, mixed vegetables
Jan. 25: **Breakfast:** Filled cereal bar **Lunch:** Beef taco, corn
Jan. 26: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon burst bread **Lunch:** Pepperoni pizza ripper, tossed salad
Jan. 27: **Breakfast:** Apple cinnamon Texas toast **Lunch:** Orange chicken, steamed rice, broccoli, fortune cookie

Homedale Middle

Choice of milk and juice, yogurt or string cheese

Cereal option and PB&J and string cheese offered daily

Vegetable and Fruit choices will be offered daily

donut **Lunch:** Pork chop, mashed potatoes w/gravy, hot roll
Jan. 20: **Breakfast:** Tornado **Lunch:** Pizza hot pocket, steamed carrots
Jan. 21: **Breakfast:** Ultimate breakfast round **Lunch:** Nachos
Jan. 25: **Breakfast:** Mini pancakes **Lunch:** Mini corn dogs, mixed vegetables
Jan. 26: **Breakfast:** French toast sticks **Lunch:** Sloppy Joe, steamed broccoli
Jan. 27: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon roll **Lunch:** Spaghetti and garlic bread, green beans

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

Jan. 20: **Breakfast:** Waffle sandwich or mini waffles **Lunch:** Popcorn chicken, cheesy breadstick or pepperoni pizza ripper
Jan. 21: **Breakfast:** Little smokies with a muffin or apple breakfast bites **Lunch:** Nachos, Rice Krispie treat or baked potato, breadstick
Jan. 25: **Breakfast:** Tornado or mini donuts **Lunch:** Orange chicken, steamed rice, egg roll, fortune cookie or rib-b-que, chips, fortune cookie
Jan. 26: **Breakfast:** Homedale breakfast burrito or French toast sticks **Lunch:** Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, dinner roll or deli rollup, chips
Jan. 27: **Breakfast:** Sausage plate or mini pancakes **Lunch:** Pulled pork sandwich, tater tots or hamburger or cheeseburger, tater tots

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: Wrap, sub sandwich, salad

Hot Grab-n-go line (varies): Cheeseburger, chicken dish (reg./spicy sandwich; nuggets; bites), Pizza (varies), chicken rice bowl, potatoes (varies), bread (varies)
Pizza (varies), chicken rice bowl, potatoes (varies), bread (varies)

Jan. 20: **Breakfast:** Pop Tart. **Lunch:** Mac-n-cheese, green beans, snickerdoodle cookie
Jan. 21: **Breakfast:** Yogurt. **Lunch:** Hot Grab-n-go: Cherry chicken rice bowl.
Jan. 25: **Breakfast:** Donut with sprinkles. **Lunch:** Hot Grab-n-go: Buffalo chicken nuggets, ranch dipping sauce. Cold Grab-n-go: Turkey bacon ciabatta
Jan. 26: **Breakfast:** Yogurt, Tornado (egg, sausage and cheese). **Lunch:** Super nachos, refried beans. Hot Grab-n-go: Wild Mike’s pepperoni pizza. Cold Grab-n-go: Chicken bacon ranch wrap.
Jan. 27: **Breakfast:** Texas toast. **Lunch:** Pepperoni calzone. Cold Grab-n-go: Taco salad with breadstick.
Jan. 28: **Breakfast:** Breakfast sandwich. **Lunch:** Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes & gravy, corn. Hot Grab-n-go: Orange chicken rice bowl.

Bruneau/Grand View

All meals: Milk and fruit offered daily

Jr.-Sr. high school: Pizza offered daily

Jan. 20: **Breakfast:** PB&J sandwich **Lunch:** Chicken taco, tossed romaine salad, broccoli
Jan. 21: **Breakfast:** Cereal **Lunch:** Corn dog, potato wedges, baby carrots
Jan. 25: **Breakfast:** Muffins **Lunch:** Orange chicken, oriental rice, stir-fry veggies
Jan. 26: **Breakfast:** Biscuits and Gravy **Lunch:** Spaghetti, garden spinach salad, corn, breadstick
Jan. 27: **Breakfast:** Pancakes and Egg Patty **Lunch:** Chicken patty, mashed potatoes and gravy, steamed carrots

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Future City presentation takes a different route

Homedale Middle School’s Future City team is in uncharted waters as it prepares to submit its entry for the annual regional competition.

The contest typically takes place at Boise State University, but COVID-19 concerns prompted organizers to change the format this year.

Aspects of the competition include an essay, a video, a slideshow, and a project plan, all of which have been submitted.

Middle school science teacher and Future City advisor Kim Portwood’s team of 18 student designers will gather for the virtual presentation of various special awards from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., on Friday at the school.

On Saturday, team leader Carson Bingham, along with fellow eighth-graders Todd Thatcher and Tayler Trout, will join Portwood for the opening speech (again virtually) about this year’s project, a lunar city called “Laruna,” at 8 a.m. at the middle school.

From 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., the



Homedale Middle School’s Future City team gathers around its finished lunar city model.

presenters will field questions from the judges, and at 10 a.m., after the rest of the team arrives at the school, judges will announce more special awards (including Best Project Plan, Best Project Management, and Best Model).

After 7-minute videos from the top five teams are shown,

the regional championship team will be announced.

Team’s were challenged this year create a lunar city in which two resources can be obtained to keep citizens happy and healthy. In the case of Laruna, that means helium 3 (for power) and regolith (moon rock).

Bingham said the project went smoothly, considering the obstacles COVID-19 protocols and changing school schedules presented.

“Everything went pretty good,” he said. “It was tough when we didn’t have everyone around when the whole school was quarantined (prior

to Thanksgiving break).”
The model, which was built into a storage cabinet, consists of a surface level, with a landing pad and various buildings, and lower levels for agricultural, residential, commercial, and industrial zones.

Helping the students this year are engineers Don VanderBoegh, Bryan Fazzari, and Kasey Ketterling, as well as George Decker, who Portwood said was the team’s “train engineer.”

The 2020-21 Future City squad is:

Eighth grade — Bingham, Thatcher, Trout, Miguel Albor, Kinley Balkovetz (video), Addison Cussins, Charlotte Dawson, Melissa Gonzalez Villarreal (lead writer), Evelyn Koon (artist), Patrick Maxwell, Rachel Pawlek, Brandon Reynolds, Carsten Smith, Edgar Sotelo, and Brisa Valero;

Seventh grade — Stella Heck, Dawson Parkins, and Addison Truesdell (artist).

— TK

HHS drama brings love and laughter to the stage

The Homedale High School drama club will bring the story of a fictional American family to the stage.

The actors present “The Addams Family Young@Part” at 7 p.m., on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 12-13, inside the HHS old gym, 203 E. Idaho Ave.

The musical won’t be open to an in-person audience.

Instead, it will be streamed online on BookTix, and it will cost \$12.50 to view. To purchase tickets, visit <https://homedale.booktix.com/>.

For copyright reasons, the production will not be on YouTube.

The story is based on the classic 1960s television comedy/horror family headed up by Gomez and Morticia Addams.

“The Addams Family Young@Part,” written by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice, with music and lyrics by Andrew Lippa, is a story of young love and secrets, brought together by song and laughter.

Longtime drama club advisor DeAnn

Thatcher will again be directing.

The HHS cast includes:

- Kolby Fisher** — Gomez Addams
- Solstice Johnson** — Morticia Addams
- William Hollywood** — Fester Addams
- Amber McBride** — Wednesday Addams
- Grant Waltman** — Pugsley Addams
- Raquel Rich** — Grandma
- Heather Reynolds** — Grandma
- Jeremiah Montes** — Lurch

- David Peirsol** — Lurch
 - Rylan Love** — Mal Beineke
 - Katie DeVice** — Alice Beineke
 - Alex Zamudio** — Lucas Beineke
 - Corilynn Huskey** — Addams ancestor
 - Athena Agnew** — Addams ancestor
 - Chloee Mayers-Bondi** — Addams ancestor
 - Téa Uranga** — Addams ancestor
 - Stage crew** — LaRae Stewart, McKenzie Rountree, and Delyla Kester
- TK

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Marsing Chamber’s challenges continue

With little backup, president on brink of dissolving group

The Marsing Chamber of Commerce’s January meeting is cancelled, and the group’s president warns the organization could dissolve if new leadership isn’t in place soon.

Julie Franklin cancelled the meeting, which was to be held last Thursday, and is considering some reorganization.

Co-owner of Franklin Auto & Truck Repair with her husband, John, Franklin has been trying to step down as Chamber president for several months so she can concentrate on the Marsing Beautification project.

So far, she has had little luck getting anyone to step up. The only business owner in town that has shown interest in taking over is Brooke Lynes, co-owner of Idaho Fudge Company, the sweets shop that has opened at 111 Main St.

Franklin is also searching for a secretary/treasurer and online content coordinator to run the Chamber’s website and Facebook page.

The beautification project aims to make the city more aesthetically pleasing, with a possible bonus of attracting more business. Franklin chairs the committee that includes Mayor Chad Sevy, schools superintendent Norm Stewart, and others.

Franklin said Chamber meeting attendance and event participation has lagged.

“We’ve had so few businesses attending the meetings ... It’s been difficult to get any kind of

input or help,” she said.

Franklin said the Chamber’s future, including potentially discontinuing the organization if more leaders don’t step up, will be discussed at the next meeting (Thursday, Feb. 11 at the Sandbar Community Room inside City Hall).

“It’s obviously not what I want,” she said. “It’s just tough to have the energy and drive to continue (as president).”

She has more on her plate now, too, after Chamber treasurer/secretary Myra Huerta announced plans to move out of town.

Franklin said typically the same four people attend the Chamber meetings on the second Thursday of each month. Meetings have not been as consistent over the past nine months because of COVID-19 concerns.

The lack of involvement and leadership from Marsing businesses troubles Franklin. A small, core group has been responsible for all activities, so the prospects of more Chamber activities happening are low.

And, without activities, it’s difficult to justify membership dues.

“How can I charge people?” she asked.

Anyone interested in helping or wanting more information about the Chamber or beautification project can contact Franklin at (208) 859-2087.

— TK

More county schoolchildren return to in-person learning

Staff vaccinations could come in February

Local school districts have begun preparations to get staff members vaccinated against COVID-19, and more students are returning to the classroom.

Superintendents Rob Sauer (Homedale) and Norm Stewart (Marsing) discussed the situation with their district’s respective trustees last week.

Sauer said Southwest District Health ahs asked for the total number of the school staff members to prepare for possible vaccines.

He said the shots, which are not required, should be available next month.

Last Wednesday, Stewart told the Marsing board that there was a low response rate to a survey about the vaccine, but more than half of the teachers who did answer said they would get the vaccine when it’s available to them.

About 31.7 percent said they would not take the vaccine.

At the campus level, the pandemic has had varying impacts.

Homedale Elementary principal Tate Castleton, who is in his first year in the position, said there are COVID-19 related challenges.

“While we continue to take every precaution possible to prevent the spread of the virus and to keep all students and staff safe, we are able to operate normally,” Castleton wrote in the report submitted for the Jan. 11 trustees meeting.

He said that there were no isolation or quarantine cases at the time of the report.

“Our hope is that this will continue until the end of the school year,” he said. “We firmly believe that in-person learning is the best way for our students to learn, grow,

and progress.

“We will continue doing all we can to ensure we can keep our doors open and continue learning together each day.”

Castleton said the number of online learners is on the decline as students return to the physical classroom.

As of the Jan. 11 report, 26 children were learning from home, including a high of nine second-graders and a low of two fourth-graders. Seven kindergarteners also are still home.

There is one teacher at each grade level handling the remote learning.

“Our online teachers work so hard to make online learning meaningful and effective and do all they can to connect with these students and foster positive relationships,” he said.

At the middle school, principal Moss Strong reports about six percent of her 401 enrollees are learning online, but a few have returned to online learning after the Christmas break.

Ten fifth-graders are remote learners (11.2 percent) is the combined total of seventh- and eighth-grade home-learners (4.6 percent of 217 students). Only four sixth-graders (4.2 percent of 95 children) remain out of school.

At the high school, principal Matt Holtry said the coordination of online learning falls to student support specialist Debbie Flaming and attendance clerk Jennifer Levinski.

“... It creates a little more work on (them) as schedules get set and we get classroom sizes adjusted in the best interest of everyone involved,” Holtry wrote in his board report.

“We are lucky to have a strong veteran staff at HHS to help handle the load during these challenging times.”

The high school’s number of online learners actually

increased after Christmas break. Of the schools 363 students, 30 (8.3) are remote learners at the start of the second semester. Twenty-three students were home at the close of the first semester.

Holtry told the board it was difficult to pinpoint a definitive cause for the rise.

“Each student/family has different reasoning as to why they may be online,” he wrote. “Most I would say revolve around COVID concerns and for family members’ health.”

Holtry said he was just happy that school was in session and that families and students have to choose between online or in-person.

Holtry added the high school has a larger enrollment now than last January.

“That is something very few school districts can say. It is something that I am very proud of our community for providing,” Holtry said.

“I feel that students having access to in-person learning is critical not only to their academic success but to their mental health as well.”

In Marsing, first-year elementary school principal Tim Little told trustees that five more students have enrolled, including three from within the joint district’s borders.

Little said more students are returning to in-person learning.

He did point out that no out-of-district enrollments are allowed because of maximum student populations in kindergarten and fourth grade.

Secondary principal Nick Ketterling said five percent of the joint school’s 460 students (23) are learning from home.

There are three of the 228 middle-schoolers and 20 of the 232 high school students taking classes online.

— JPB



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Lightning strikes during HMS Academic Bowl contest

Academic Bowl team wins at home with final-round push

A prudent approach to the final round gave Homedale Middle School its second Academic Bowl victory of the season.

Competing on their home turf last Wednesday, the Trojans surged in the buzzer round to snap a three-way tie at the top.

Homedale has now won or finished runner-up in all three meets in the 2020-21 school year.

Homedale answered three questions in the final round and won with 100 points. The four other schools competing in the HMS cafeteria — Fruitland, Parma, Weiser, and Payette — finished with 70 points each.

“Once again, the team won the meet by playing smart in the buzzer round. No pun intended,” HMS Academic

Bowl advisor Michelle Parr said.

“They only buzzed in on the questions they were certain about and successfully answered three.”

Parma and Payette, which both entered the final round 10 points behind the three leaders, were the only other teams to give correct answers in the buzzer, or lightning, round.

Homedale’s final-round push to victory was bolstered by answers from sixth-grader Sophronia North and eighth-grader Carson Bingham.

Sophronia corrected grammar in the sentence: “Has Jerry came (come) back from the movie?”

Parr said Carson has always been the team’s U.S. presidents expert.

“He easily handled: Under which U.S. president did



Clockwise from left: Todd Thatcher, Carson Bingham, JaNae Boslau-Gammel, Sophronia North, Evalynn Larson and Lilly Mark (obscured) deliberate an answer during the second round of last Wednesday’s Academic Bowl.

former Indiana Sen. Charles W. Fairbanks serve as vice president from 1905 to 1909? He was our nation’s 26th president and promoted the

proverb, ‘Speak softly and carry a big stick.’”

Carson came through with the correct answer: Theodore Roosevelt.

Homedale scored 50 points in the first round and trailed Fruitland, Weiser and Payette by 10 points.

“The team never gave up even with a very challenging set of questions. All teams answered four to six questions correctly in Round 1,” Parr said.

In the second round, teams only answer one or two questions.

Homedale’s eighth-graders benefitted from their current civics studies in class.

“Just today (they) learned the answers to: System that gives each of the three branches of U.S. government a method of limiting powers of the other two. Answer: Checks and balances,” Parr said.

Lilly Mark led the team in an answer in the category Vocabulary: Words that end in “AT.” When asked to identify a small, biting or blood-sucking fly, Lilly answered “gnat.”

— JPB

REPORTING FROM THE STATEHOUSE

McClure interns ready to cover 66th Legislature for Avalanche

The start of the 66th session of the Idaho Legislature continues The Owyhee Avalanche’s relationship with the James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy’s internship program.

There are two University of Idaho students reporting for media outlets across Idaho this year.

Alexandra Duggan and Connor Swersey provided first-person bios to introduce themselves:

Alexandra Duggan

I am a senior at the University of Idaho studying psychology with a minor in journalism. I worked for Idaho Public Radio as an intern. I also hosted a crime podcast through the university before COVID-19 hit doing research into unsolved murders in Idaho.

I’m here to gain more experience and learn everything I can about the world of journalism.

When I’m not writing or in school, you could find me serving tables at a local barbecue restaurant or listening to ’80s hair bands.



Alexandra Duggan

Connor Swersey

I am a fourth-year senior at the University of Idaho. I am studying journalism and political science.

I grew up in Salmon and have worked as a wilderness river guide on the Main and Middle Forks of the Salmon River.

I am now undertaking the legislative internship through the McClure Center. I am very excited to be working in the Idaho Statehouse and covering the law-making that makes Idaho the great state that we all have grown to love and appreciate.

When I am not interviewing or writing, I am studying law to prepare for the LSAT test and law school in my future.

—Inspired by Sen. McClure’s legacy, the University of Idaho’s James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research conducts nonpartisan research, informs public dialogue and policy, and engages students in learning about public policy making.



Connor Swersey

Little’s \$4.2B budget focuses on relief from COVID-19, taxes

Infrastructure, education also at top of the list

by Alexandra Duggan
UI McClure Center intern

Idaho Gov. Brad Little’s State of the State address was not given on the House floor this year as it normally is, but rather streamed virtually from the Lincoln Auditorium, as he spoke to Idahoans in a 30-minute speech about past and future plans for the state, including a \$600 million surplus.

Little began the address in a way that reflects the unusual times Americans are living in — by condemning the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol in Washington D.C, and then observing a moment of silence for all those lost to COVID-19.

The primary focus of the speech was COVID-19 and how the pandemic has impacted jobs, education, and revenue. Because nearly all of 2020 was during a pandemic, Little’s goals aimed to address the hardships that coronavirus has caused Idaho with million-dollar investments while still keeping the state competitive.

“My budget leaves a prudent surplus, bolsters rainy day funds and reflects my continued priority on education,” Little said. His main goal with the surplus so far would be investing in education.

Learning from home amidst the pandemic has been harder on families from rural Idaho because internet in non-urban areas is mostly dial-up or broadband.

Little cited the \$50 million the state has invested into broadband infrastructure, and the 16 percent increase in safe education. He recalled a story about children in rural Idaho using their mother’s cellphone to do homework because they could not access internet speeds fast enough for their school conferences.

“We all play a role in choosing to protect our kids’ ability to continue learning in the classroom,” Little said.

The governor called Idaho’s students his top priority. The “Building Idaho’s Future” plan puts aside parts of the budget to combat learning loss, help with learning technology and support the higher education system to connect young people to successful careers.

Toward the end of his speech, Little introduced a “no frills” \$4.2 billion budget for fiscal year 2022.

Some of the proposals include:

- A \$250 million investment in the education career ladder.
- More than \$250 million into COVID-19 relief using federal funds.
- Investing into reducing wildfire risks and active land management.
- \$60 million in long-term water projects and agriculture.
- \$126 million in highway infrastructure.
- \$450 million in tax relief.

“Let’s continue to live within our means and make investments where they count,” Little said.

Little ended his speech by thanking the citizens of Idaho for their perseverance and kindness during these times of hardship.

“As Idahoans, we must choose to come out of this pandemic stronger and more resilient, more united than ever before.”

— Alexandra is a University of Idaho senior majoring in psychology with a minor in journalism. She previously interned for Idaho Public Radio and hosted a crime podcast through the U of I. Follow her on Twitter @dugganreports.

Commentary

Baxter Black, DVM

On the edge of common sense Rhino love



Dr. Fosse, once of Pretoria, told me about Martha and Arthur, two star-crossed rare white rhinos. In a governmental gesture of goodwill, South Africa agreed to ship Arthur to Tanzania to mate with Martha. Brilliant veterinarians, competent game management officials, long-winded reproductive specialists and the press discussed at length the procedures involved and the benefits that would accrue with these international relations.

They soon discovered that rhinos cycle according to the length of daylight hours. Martha, on Equatorial Daylight Time, was never quite synchronized with Arthur, on Tropic of Capricornical Time. When he was randy she had a headache, and when she was cuddly he was not in the mood.

However, our team of deep thinkers figgered a way around it. They'd artificially inseminate Martha! I can just see these characters squatting under an Acacia tree, breakin' out a case of Congo Lite and drawing their plans in the dirt with pipettes.

But since Martha wasn't cooperating anyway and no sweet smelling rhino geldings were around, they decided to collect Arthur's semen with an electro ejaculator.

Enlisting the aid of their agricultural engineers, they built a homemade ejaculator out of wire, copper electrodes, a hand crank and lots of electrical tape.

Arthur was quite tame so on the big day they led him out with a loop around the horn and tied him to a thorn tree. With proper lubrication, the head mogul inserted the prod and set the cowboys to crankin'. Alas, Arthur showed no response.

"He's probably packed with dry feces which is interfering with conduction of the current," interjected the rhino physiologist.

So they attempted to clean him out while he stood there compliantly. Then they tried again ... no luck.

"Being a desert beast, possibly there is a lack of internal moisture," observed the rhino hydrologist. "How 'bout an enema?"

They hung a 20-gallon container from the tree, inserted a hose, and the water disappeared like a Diet Sprite in the Sahara. "More water!" they cried. Another 20 gallons were fetched and inserted. Arthur stood unruffled.

Agreeing that should have certainly lubricated Arthur, the chief acting assistant veterinary cowboy technician strode forth and inserted his plastic-sleeved arm to evacuate the bowel. Arthur had had enough.

He clamped his powerful aft torpedo door shut just above the hapless white-smocked invader's elbow. They thundered off through the brush! The crew followed in the Land Rover, eating their sack lunches and videoing the chase.

A hundred yards down the track the offending appendage popped out followed by 40 gallons of pent-up colored water. The invader lay like a drowned muskrat left in the furrow. Arthur raced off to the other side of the game park.

"Yer right," I told Dr. Fosse. "We couldn't have done it better."

— 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.

Dist. 23A Rep. Matthew Bundy (R-Mtn. Home)

From the Statehouse Budget analysis begins



The session is fully underway, and I am thrilled to serve in this capacity.

On Friday, Jan. 8, I had the opportunity to visit Mountain Home Air Force Base, along with two other members of the House of Representatives. We met the Wing Commander and got a tour of the Base. I spent my last tour of duty stationed at MHAFB, and it was great to see the Base still has great leadership. We also saw plenty of improvements to the facility and were briefed on the ongoing water project that will help ensure the viability of the Base. We even got to climb the ladder on the side of an F-15E Strike Eagle and look around the cockpit. The base has a vital economic impact on Elmore County, Owyhee County, and Twin Falls County. I will strive to maintain a great working relationship between local communities, the State of Idaho, and the U.S. Air Force.

On the morning of Jan. 11, legislators were invited to a prayer service at the Cathedral of Saint John the Evangelist. It was great to see many legislators there, and I appreciated the community concern for this upcoming legislative session.

After the service, we headed over to the Capitol for the Governor's State of the State Address. The speech was different this year. Members of the Senate stayed in their Chamber and members of the House stayed in our chamber while Gov. Brad Little spoke to us via a broadcast from another location in the building. Private citizens were in the Statehouse, too, and many watched the speech with us from the House gallery.

On the morning of Jan. 12, I was in a committee meeting looking at how your tax dollars will be spent. As a members of the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee, we will get a thorough look at the budget this week. Starting next week, we will hear presentations from various agencies concerning what resources they need to provide services to the people of Idaho. I would love to hear from you and get your input on the issues and services that are impacted by budgetary decisions.

There are many serious issues that we're discussing at the Capitol this year, but there are also some fun projects. I am taking part in a walking program with Blue Cross of Idaho. If I can average 5,000 steps per day in the month of February, Blue Cross will donate money to a local school district. So, encourage me to take a very close look at the budget, but also encourage me to get my steps in for the school donation.

I have responded to more than 300 emails so far this session, and we're only a few days in. I still have a few in my inbox that I am planning on answering this weekend. But I want more emails. I want to hear from you. I want to know what you are thinking and what you would like the Legislature to do this session. Email me at mbundy@house.idaho.gov.

Have a great day and thanks for all you do in making Idaho awesome.

— *A Republican from Mountain Home, Matthew Bundy is the District 23, Seat A member of the Idaho House of Representatives.*

Letters to the editor

In-person learning gives Owyhee students a leg up

It is my understanding that all Owyhee County schools are conducting in-person learning.

If this is so, this means "No child will be left behind." I think this is wonderful and commendable, and congratulations should go to the parents who send their children to school, the teachers who teach as well as the school boards and superintendents who run the schools.

To the big-city schools that are conducting "virtual" learning, sorry, you are leaving many children behind, and they may never catch up. Owyhee County students will have a leg up on the job opportunities.

P. T. Rathbone
Marsing

Marsing council's plat vote disregards citizens

The Louckses and Mayor Chad Sevy have solicited support for row housing and for more multi-family housing in the first phase of their new subdivision between Morning Dove and North Bruneau Highway.

They made this expansion request without

Letters to the editor

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

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

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

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

regard for the actual consequences to the citizens that physically live within the city limits of Marsing. Not one single letter of support came from a citizen of Marsing city (at least made public). Facebook blew up with angry emojis and comments during the public hearing and after the council voted.

My family and I are very disappointed in the city leadership for this vote, and as Peggy Breski

— See *Letters*, page 13A

Commentary

Financial management

Help young child learn from small financial mistake

Dear Dave,

We just started teaching our 7-year-old about money. He's very eager to learn, and he seems to be grasping the basic ideas quickly. He's young, though, and of course he makes mistakes from time to time. Should we step in and fix things when a mistake he made means he can't do something he wanted to do?

— Ethan

Dear Ethan,

It's always hard on parents when they see their children suffer because of a choice the child made. But sometimes it's best to love them so much that

you'll let them make mistakes, and make sure they learn from them, while they're still under your protection. Reality can be a great teacher when it comes to learning how the world works, and sometimes one sting from a bad decision when you're young is all it takes to teach a kid a lesson that will last a lifetime.

As a parent, you're always looking for teachable moments. First, make sure you're giving him a chance to earn some money. That means *work*, no allowances. We're talking about kid-sized, age-appropriate tasks. There's a ton of value and self-esteem that go hand-in-hand with being paid for a



job well done. Once you pay him for the work he does, then you have chances for

more teachable moments about saving, spending, and giving — and the importance of each.

If I were you, I wouldn't run in and fix things. By this, I mean I wouldn't just hand him money he didn't earn so he can still get or do what he had in mind. But don't fuss at him or brush it off, either. Gently explain why things didn't work out the way he hoped. Then, talk through what he might have done differently to help make the situation better next time.

Kids are smarter and often have more understanding and comprehension skills than we give them credit for. My guess, Ethan, is you won't need to have this kind of conversation more than once or twice!

— 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.

The next president

Many factors build Biden's burden

Biden tells us he is going to be the president of all Americans. It is going to be a huge burden. It is also going to be a huge burden to his vice president to outlive the stolen election they foisted upon our nation.

Their first burden will be to somehow demonstrate to 75 million Trump voters that their votes were not stolen by the Democrat machine. Remember in the debate when Biden said, "I am the Democrat party!"? Indeed he is. I ask, how is he going to heal the steal? I don't think he can. It looks like he is simply going to trounce our ability to communicate and flood the airwaves with "fake news."

How could he handle these Biden burdens?

- The Biden Crime Family, as exemplified by his son Hunter?
- Black lives matter, but Trump supporters are, "Make no mistake they are THUGS"?
- Demonstrate to 74 million American voters that the news media is not corrupt to the core?



Jim Hyslop

- How flooding America with immigrants is good, but losing jobs held by citizens is OK?
- How voting machines programmed to benefit Biden are acceptable, but switching my vote or even a fraction of it is OK?
- How is ignoring dead voters not a burden?
- In the debate Biden said President Trump was a clown, but Biden was barely cognizant, and so mean-spirited.
- Biden's people say Trump supporters need cleansed, but Biden supporters will not even allow the truth to be investigated.
- Investigating President Trump for any number of fabrications is just, but Biden's conditioning a \$1.5 billion U.S. loan to Ukraine on Biden's requirement to fire the prosecutor is acceptable?

Your burdens, sir, are insurmountable. This list is but a start to the Biden burdens. His legacy will forever be the biggest burden the Biden name will face into eternity. But, he has a plan: If the going gets intolerable he will do as he said, "I will develop some disease, and resign." And America will be burdened with a trashed country.

— Jim Hyslop splits his time between Nampa and Silver City.

✓ Letters

From Page 12A

the city planner for Horrocks Engineers representing the developer stated, the mayor requested this change from the Louckses.

The mayor may have some back door deal with the Louckses, maybe a contract to paint the buildings? I don't know, but I do know that I have not talked to one single citizen that was in favor of this change in the preliminary plat.

I challenge the city council, the mayor and the city engineer to make sure that all of the "t's are crossed and all of the i's are dotted" when the final plat comes for approval because there are some big holes in the preliminary plat that were answered by a "we are working through how that will look," by Peggy.

James Ferdinand
Marsing

OHR praises community for brightening Christmas

Owyhee Health and Rehab would like to extend a huge thank you to the community, St. Al's and Last Chance Saloon for your generosity during the Christmas season for our residents.

It was a tough year, but all the kindness from everyone made the season a little brighter.

Special appreciation goes out to Ali Abbott and friends, The Owyhee Avalanche and many others in the community that took time to give our residents a very special day.

It is such a great honor to be part of such a thoughtful and giving community as we come together through difficult times.

Thank you again. We appreciate you all so much.

Penny Riley, CDM
Owyhee Health and Rehab

Contacting local officials

County commissioners

Jerry Hoagland, District 1 (R-Wilson)
Chairman
Phone — (208) 318-8308

Kelly Aberasturi, District 2 (R-Homedale)
Phone — (208) 249-4405
E-mail — kraberasturi@yahoo.com

Joe Merrick, District 3 (R-Grand View)
Phone — (208) 834-2641
E-mail — jvmerrick@hotmail.com

Mailing address
P.O. Box 128, Murphy, ID 83650

Municipalities

Homedale City Hall
31 W. Wyoming Ave., (208) 337-4641
Mayor — Gheen Christoffersen
City council — Mike Aebischer, Jerry Anderson, Steve Atkins, and Aaron Tines
Meetings — 6 p.m., on second Wednesday

Marsing City Hall
425 Main St., (208) 896-4122
Mayor — Chad Sevy
City council — Chris Even, Marie Herman, Rachael Percifield and Brandy Bennett
Meetings — 7 p.m., on second Wednesday

Looking back...

from the files of The Owyhee Avalanche and Owyhee Chronicle

25 years ago

January 24, 1996



Grade A kids

Homedale Elementary School’s December students of the month include: Left to right bottom row: Tommy Waters, Corey King, Trent McRae, Janette Aguilera, Jessica Ensley, 2nd Row: Shane Fox, Crysta Syme, Gilbert Obregon, Nick Mercado, Kyle Carson, Magdalena Vega, Carmella Gil. 3rd row: Adam Baham, Loretta Lane, Jessica Morris, Ryan Johnson, David Liddell, Jessica Ferguson, Bryan Martinat, Francie Comstock. 4th row: Rio Woodhall, Kendra Ensley, Corey Hall, Luis Escutia, Jacob McRae.

Bleachers, prosecutor discussed by commission

A contingent from the Owyhee County Fair Board, the Owyhee Rodeo Board and the Lions Club attended Monday’s commissioner meeting in Murphy to discuss the need for bleachers at the fairgrounds in Homedale.

An old set of wooden bleachers on the northwest side needs replacing, and all three organizations are scrambling to find the money to have new bleachers built before the Fourth of July. A brainstorming session with the commissioners presented many possibilities, and finally each group agreed to see how much money they could come up with for the project before attempting a loan for the rest.

As a rough idea, the Rodeo Board and the Lions Club could come up with enough money for a down payment on a loan, then the Fair Board could finance the loan from its yearly county budget. Fair Board members said they might be able to swing it if the commissioners could guarantee them the same budget for the next three or four years.

Rodeo Board president Fonce Salutregui said his organization could not put on a rodeo without the section of bleachers, which hold 800 paying customers both Friday and Saturday nights of the Owyhee County Rodeo.

Commissioner Hal Tolmie also suggested an auction to raise money for the bleachers, and Homedale Mayor Paul Fink offered to build the bleachers at his cost for both materials and labor.

Prosecutor

Prosecuting Attorney Lois Weston-Hart informed the commissioners Monday that her office has seen a 30% increase in case load from the two previous years, and she said her position really needs to be made a permanent full-time position.

Although Hart’s contract with the county says full-time, she said, it also needs to be defined that way in Idaho law so that future prosecutors can be held to it. Hart said Idaho law lists only the counties that have full-time prosecutors, and prosecutors in the other counties could legally take on private work as they wanted to.

50 years ago

January 21, 1971



It was a surprise and brought forth many old memories to Mrs. Veir Keller when she was shown a picture of her former home illustrating this year’s Super Thrift Drug Calendar. It is a picture of the old Wickahoney Stage Station located near Grasmere, Idaho on Highway 51. The old inn now abandoned, was built in the 1800s and was a stage stop between Boise and the Nevada mine fields in those days. Wickahoney is an Indian name meaning the crossing of two creeks, Mrs. Keller has been told.

When Mrs. Keller lived there it was the Arthur Tindall home on their cattle ranch located there and she and her first husband, Alvin Tindall, also lived there and were in the cattle business with his father, Arthur. This was from the later part of 1929 through 1933 when Alvin died. Their two children, Lorraine and Mildred, were born while they lived there. Even at that time it was still used as a stage stop. Famous western hospitality was most evident. Everyone was welcome to free food and lodging at the inn and often travelers would arrive in the night and the family never knew how many there would be for breakfast when morning came.

Kenne Metzger named to Homedale city council

Kenne Metzger was appointed to the city council at a special luncheon meeting held Thursday noon at the Owyhee Lanes Café, according to Mrs. Joyce Blackman, city clerk.

Metzger fills the vacancy on the council resulting when George Murray became mayor upon resignation of Les Carter.

Motion to appoint Metzger was made by Norman Tolmie, seconded by Andrew Warfield and carried unanimously.

The council has reappointed Mrs. Blackman as city clerk; Warren Stimmel, city superintendent; Charles Taylor, building inspector; John Matteson, fire chief; Richard Eismann, city attorney.

Larry Ryel was named chief of police replacing Roy Rowland. Russell Cornwell has been hired by the city as a patrolman and will begin work shortly. Cornwell, formerly of Wilder, has been serving as deputy sheriff of Owyhee County.

Improvement club members discuss events

Roll call was answered with current events, followed by a discussion of each one, when 11 members of the Homedale Improvement Club met Friday afternoon at the home of the president, Mrs. Alice Parvin. Dorothy Aldrich and Mrs. Alice Connell were visitors. Mrs. Connell who recently moved here from Payette, was a member of the club when she lived here several years ago.

Hazel Aldrich, librarian, reported on library meetings attended at Boise.

It was decided to have Pollyannas and names were drawn. A card was signed to send to Mrs. Fannie Shell who is now at the Homedale Nursing home. Iola Potter assisted with refreshments.

155 years ago

January 20, 1866

P.O. CARELESSNESS – The following letter, written by a man of honor, is only one of many similar complaints that reach our office:

IDAHO CITY, DEC. 13th, 1865.

ED. AVALANCHE – SIR: Some months since I was in your office and subscribed for the AVALANCHE, and since that time I have received six or seven numbers of it. I have spoken to other subscribers here, and they fare no better. We all miss the AVALANCHE very much. Other men here say they would subscribe for it, but it comes so irregular it will not pay. I think Uncle Sam has had some man sworn to do his duty as postmaster, and is paying him for it, yet he neglects it. I believe we have a right to inquire who this careless or incompetent official is. You say you made some inquiry at the Boise City office, and feel satisfied that the fault is not there, but that it must be at Idaho City. Now, I have *perhaps* made as much inquiry here as you did at Boise City, and am equally as well satisfied that the fault is not at Idaho City; but that it is at Boise City or Ruby. If you were to see the amount of mail matter coming from Boise City to Idaho City, which would have gone to other offices, or remained at Boise, you might think the mails were assorted in the dark, or not assorted at all. You exonerate the Boise City P. M. and charge it on the Idaho City P. M., so readily. Mr. Penney, P. M. here, says he receives mail matter by every mail from Boise City, with plain directions for other offices. Two or three mails since he had twelve such packages by one mail. Then, it is unreasonable to suppose that our papers are sent to Webfoot, California or Missouri, or some other place? I did not intend to complain at missing one once in a while, but I did not agree to go halves with postmasters.

Yours, &c., I. P. LAMBINO.

MINT MANIA. – Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Utah and Nevada, have all got it seriously – and, excepting the latter, all have it in its most malignant character. The *Post* of December 23d, has this declaration: “If facts and figures are not set forth this session of Congress to show that neither Oregon nor Idaho, but Montana, should have the Mint, then we will believe our Delegate derelict of duty.” So far as Oregon is concerned, she needs none; but if the Montana Delegate attempts to show more necessity for a Mint in Montana Territory than in Idaho Territory, he’ll fail, or succeed in showing a falsehood. Every argument that will favor a Mint in Montana will in Idaho. There is no place in America than can so consistently ask the construction of a Mint as Idaho. Our Judges are known to be as numerous and far richer than any others. We are further from navigable waters with as distant prospect of a railroad. Nevada will have the Pacific Railroad running to its center before their Mint can be completed – though it will probably be soon commenced. Utah has as much need of a Mint as a puny man has of two or more lusty wives, and Oregon as much as Owyhee needs more Indians. We don’t intend to offer any arguments now why Idaho should be preferred to all other places in the erection of a Mint, but to notice the mania. Editors and men generally talk of getting the government to furnish their localities a Mint with as much assurance and glibness as if they believed Congress had a million or so on lands and were seeking Mint sites. Mints are necessary adjuncts to rich mining sections far from commercial centres or thoroughfares, and on these grounds Idaho presents her claims with double the force of any other State or Territory now mintless.

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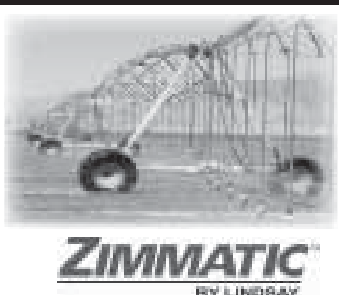
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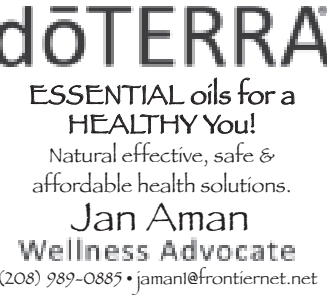
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From page 1A

✓ The Rock: Adult volunteers needed to coordinate, head up activities

hole game and other activities, too.

Another coffee was planned for this morning, and Deal hopes adult volunteers will step forward to staff a coffee hour on Wednesday every week.

During the school day, Deal leads her Christian education elective high school class at The Rock. The students used to meet at the Assembly of God church before The Rock was completed.

A community grand opening will be held at 2 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 20.

At that time, Deal said, the community will receive thanks for its support of the construction project. There will be a building tour.

Those on hand also will pay tribute to late HHS teacher Ken Olsen, for whom a memorial bench has been erected to be placed in a courtyard populated by commemorative engraved bricks. The brick sale was part of the fundraising effort for construction.

Last week's coffee hour was the first official happening at the center, coming one day after organizers received the certificate of occupancy from the city, Deal said.

The dream of a building for teenagers to have their own space to relax, commune and study started to pick up momentum in the summer of 2018 when land was purchased across the street from John Jackson Field. By the summer of 2019, construction had begun.

Throughout the process, the dream has been fueled by community donations. Deal said cash donations as well as the donation of games and other equipment for activities are welcome.

The Rock also needs volunteers to ensure the programs and the building remains available for the teens on a regular basis. Ten volunteers helped out during the first coffee, but Deal isn't naïve enough to believe that there will be that many adults available for every event. She also knows that burnout will happen quickly if more people don't get involved.

The Rock could be an after-school study hall or hangout for teenagers, too.

Deal envisions more than just youth programming at The Rock. Other community-minded programs will be considered as long as there are volunteers to either coordinate or initiate the activities.

Volunteer supervisors for the teen hours at The Rock must go through a background check and meet other requirements.

To donate or the get involved or just to get more information about The Rock, call Deal at (208) 794-1048.

The weekly coffee hour isn't the only event planned at The Rock.

The non-denominational teen program Young Life will begin meeting once a month at the building at 6 p.m., on Sunday, Jan. 24. The second Young Life gathering is set for Sunday, Feb. 21.

Young Life is geared toward high-school-aged boys and girls and formerly met at Deal's home off Homedale Road in Wilder.

Parents are welcome to attend this month's Young Life kickoff event, which includes a meal and a devotional. Each Young Life meeting includes a game or an activity, and this month everyone will learn line dancing.



The Rock coordinator Kathy Deal (right) provided a tour of the recently opened teen center Homedale Police officers, including (from left) Chief Jeff Eidemiller, Karl Kingston and Justin Herman.

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Marsing girls get
second victory

Avalanche Sports

Melba's all-time scorer
breaks sister's record

LEGALS, PAGES 6B

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2021

CLASSIFIEDS, PAGES 7B

Varela propels Raiders to fifth consecutive victory

Rimrock High School poured it on early at home and cruised to a non-conference girls' basketball victory.

Sintia Varela just missed a double-double with 21 points and nine rebounds as the Raiders blasted Glens

Ferry, 55-19, on Friday for their fifth consecutive victory.

The senior scored 12 of her 21 points in the first half to help Rimrock build a 25-8 advantage on its home floor. She also had five steals.

Mahlay Moore hit a pair of third-quarter three-point goals as the Raiders (10-2 overall) kept up the pressure. Varela, Sami Jewett and Dallyn Hipwell also connected on shots from long range.

Fabiola Gomez scored eight points with five boards, and Jewett added seven points.

Rimrock's Treau Smith grabbed five

— See *Raiders*, back page



Marsing's Troy Miller handles New Plymouth's Brock Cooper during their 138-pound match last Wednesday in Marsing's old gymnasium.

Miller, Wyman lead Huskies

Marsing High School's home wrestling meet last Wednesday was spoiled by a slew of empty slots.

The Huskies gave up 42 points on forfeits and fell to 2A Western Idaho Conference foe New Plymouth, 46-27.

The Pilgrims' only on-mat victory came with 145-pounder Sam Lettunich's 11-2 major decision over Jonathan Ineck.

Only two other matches were wrestled during the dual meet.

Marsing's Troy Miller shot out to an early lead then held off Brock Cooper, 6-3, at 138.

At 285 pounds, the Huskies' Kail Wyman needed just 50 seconds to pin Dylan Reynolds.

Marsing 18, Nampa Christian 15 — Forfeits

carried the Huskies to a narrow victory over the short-handed Trojans.

Sean Barton (182) edged Marsing's Harlee Liles, and Nampa Christian's Zachariah West pinned Wyman at 220 for the other points collected on the mat.

Marsing grabbed its 18 points as Troy Miller (138), Ineck (145) and Isai Arriaga (195) received forfeits.

Melba dominates Marsing at home

The Melba High School boys' basketball team has won eight of its past nine games, getting back on the winning track Thursday against visiting Marsing.

The Mustangs used a stifling defense and strong individual performances in a 2A Western Idaho rout of the out-of-sorts Huskies, 70-43.

"Coming off quarantine, not having a game since Dec. 29, and still missing Alejandro Barrera, we looked out of sync and had a difficult time

matching Melba's intensity and effort," Marsing coach Tim Little said. "Melba is a very talented team and played extremely well."

Melba (10-2 overall, 5-1 in 2A WIC at week's end) jumped out to an 8-0 lead 2 minutes, 27 seconds into the game. Senior guard Roger Valadez was responsible for the Huskies' first basket.

Just nine seconds later, junior guard Noel Quebrado nailed a three-point shot to pull Marsing (4-7, 3-4) to

within three points, 8-5.

The Mustangs regained control from that point, leading 21-10 after the first quarter and doubling up the Huskies at the half, 36-18.

Junior guard Joe Reiber led the Mustangs with 19 points, five steals, and four assists.

Sophomore guard Braden Volkers finished with 15 points, three boards and three steals.

Senior guard/forward Josh

— See *Melba*, back page

Michaelson back as HHS tennis coach

He has tried to retire before, but Scott Michaelson has been pulled back into the fold.

The former Homedale teacher will return as high school tennis coach in the spring.

The board of trustees approved Michaelson coaching contract during its Jan. 11 meeting.

Travis Kerbs will succeed

Kortney Ford as the Trojans' junior varsity softball coach.

Trustees accepted Ford's resignation at last week's meeting.

This will be Michaelson's 10th season as Homedale tennis coach, although last spring's campaign was cancelled because of the COVID-19 school closures.

Trojans' cold streak becomes losing streak

Homedale drops 3A SRV opener

A monumental shooting drought sent Homedale High School to its third consecutive boys' basketball loss Friday.

Fruitland used a height advantage to avenge its loss in last season's 3A District III Tournament championship game.

Hyrum Lindsey (6-foot, 5-inch senior) and Nolan Bower (6-7 junior) posted double-doubles in the Grizzlies' 64-41 victory that spoiled Homedale's 3A Snake River Valley conference opener.

The Trojans (3-8 overall, 0-1 in conference) missed 29 of their final 40 shots on their

home floor.

Fruitland (7-6, 2-0) held a 24-11 rebounding advantage on the Trojans' end of the court.

Lindsey and Bower cashed in on offensive rebounds throughout the first half, and the Grizzlies converted three of their first four shots.

Lindsey led all players with 24 points and 15 rebounds (nine offensive). Bower converted several close shots to finish 9-for-12 with 18 points and 10 rebounds.

Homedale went without a field goal in the game's first 4 minutes, 37 seconds. Reserve Sigmund Goode rolled in a layup to stem Fruitland's 14-1 start.

— See *Trojans*, back page



In a battle of big men, Marsing's Jacob Ankeny (right) puts up a short jumper over the outstretched hand of Melba's Henry Clark.

Sports

Trojans claim individual victories at Tiger-Grizz

Homedale High School wrestlers made the most of their second chance at the prestigious Tiger-Grizz Invitational in Idaho Falls.

Isaiah Stebly split his two matches for second place in the 126B division of the second chance tournament, including a 6-2 decision against Erik Tremayne from Idaho Falls.

Other HHS wrestlers finished third in the round robin tournament: Andrew Marston (132B), Keegan McKay (145B), and Noah Bowen (160A).

In the first-run tournament, Willie White won two consolation bracket bouts — a 13-0 major decision against Justin Jeppsen of Bonneville, and a 13-6 victory over Fruitland’s Ethan Skelly.

Willy Haun (195) posted two pins in the consolation bracket, taking down Christan Ortiz of Aberdeen (2:07) and Columbia’s John Davis (4:21).

Rhyalee Nix also won a consolation bout at 170, pinning Leo Nelson of Idaho Falls in 4 minutes, 35 seconds.

Trojans senior wins Rollie Lane girls’ gold

Savannah Turner picked up another championship to lead Homedale High School in the Rollie Lane Invitational girls’ wrestling competition.

Turner pinned Rocky Mountain’s Mia Furman in 1 minute, 57 seconds on Jan. 9 to win the 130-pound championship inside the Ford Idaho Center in Nampa.

Fellow Trojans senior, and

Savannah’s sister, Kaydince Turner wrestled tough in the 136-pound title bout before Caldwell’s Marissa Jimenez pulled out a pin with 18 seconds left in the match.

Homedale junior Elizabeth Hergesheimer finished sixth at 123 pounds after losing the fifth-place match to Payette’s Jordan Barrett. Barrett pinned Hergesheimer in 2:04.

Homedale stumbles in 3A SRV

Homedale High School’s losing streak stretched to eight games Saturday in a third consecutive home game.

McCall-Donnelly prevailed, 50-31, as the first half of the 3A Snake River Valley conference season ended.

Homedale (2-13 overall, 0-5 in conference) trailed by 10 points, 14-4, after the first quarter and was unable to recover.

The Trojans’ Jacy Parker posted a double-double of 12 points and 11 rebounds, while Laney Swallow (eight points) and Olivia Asumendi (seven) also chipped in on offense.

The Vandals’ Ashtyn Jones and Brooke Richardson shared the game-high scoring total with 13 points each.



Homedale’s Laney Swallow looks for room to shoot against Payette’s Kassandra Hernandez last Wednesday.

The two teams have yet to make up a game scheduled in Valley County in December.

Thursday: Payette 32, Homedale 29 — The Trojans’ fourth-quarter comeback try fell short in a conference loss on their home floor.

Homedale trailed by six points, 23-17, heading into the final eight minutes but couldn’t gain much ground on Senior Night.

Neither team was particularly successful shooting the ball in the first half, but Homedale was scrappy. Swallow hit a jump shot off a pass from Amaia Aberasturi to get the Trojans to within a point, 7-6, 22 seconds into the second

quarter. But Kendyl Parsons fueled Payette’s 5-0 run back to a 12-6 lead.

After Homedale had tied the game, 12-12, on Parker’s jump shot eight seconds before half-time, Katie Wakeman put the Pirates back on top with a buzzer-beating three-point goal.

Parker and Swallow scored six points apiece for Homedale, while Aberasturi put in four. Parker also grabbed nine rebounds.

Madisyn Collingwood led Payette with 11 points and seven rebounds.

Last Wednesday: Parma 48, Homedale 25 — The

Trojans kept pace in the first quarter, but the fifth-ranked Panthers eventually pulled away for a conference victory on the road.

Aberasturi scored 10 points to lead Homedale, which trailed, 14-10, after eight minutes.

Parma took control with a 25-7 run over the second and third quarters.

Parker scored six points for the Trojans, and junior Téa Uranga grabbed six rebounds.

Grace Jackson notched 15 points, six rebounds and three steals for Parma, and teammate Austyn Harris added 10 points.

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HOMEDALE TROJANS

Athlete Spotlight

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Boys’ basketball
Milo Mertz, sr., F
6 points, 2 rebounds in return vs. Fruitland

Girls’ basketball
Mackenzie Miller, sr., G W
One of three seniors on squad

Wrestling
Willy Haun, jr., 185
2 wins at Tiger-Grizz Invitational

Girls’ basketball
Varsity
Friday, Jan. 22, home vs. Parma, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 27 at Weiser, 7:30 p.m.
Junior varsity
Friday, Jan. 22, home vs. Parma, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 27 at Weiser, 6 p.m.
Frosh soph
Friday, Jan. 22, home vs. Parma, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 27 at Weiser, 4:30 p.m.

Boys’ basketball
Varsity
Thursday, Jan. 21 at Parma, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 23 at Weiser, 3 p.m.
Junior varsity
Thursday, Jan. 21 at Parma, 6 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 23 at Weiser, 1:30 p.m.
Frosh soph
Thursday, Jan. 21 at Parma, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 23 at Weiser, noon

Wrestling
Coed
Wednesday, Jan. 20 at 3A Snake River Valley conference dual vs. Fruitland, 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 27, home for 3A SRV dual vs. Weiser, 5:30 p.m.
Girls
Saturday, Jan. 23 at J-Bird Tournament, Columbia H.S., Nampa

Note: Two spectators per player allowed in gym for each game. Spectators not allowed for wrestling tournaments. Games are available on www.nfhsnetwork.com. There is a fee.

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Sports

Marsing girls claim second win

The Marsing High School's girls' basketball team topped Compass Charter, 50-26, on the road Friday night.

The win helped the Huskies sweep the season series against the first-year 2A Western Idaho Conference squad.

The victories over the Aviators from Meridian remain the lone wins for Marsing (2-11, overall, 0-4 in conference) this year.

Although Compass is a conference member, its playing a junior varsity schedule against most 2A WIC teams. Marsing's victories will not count in the standings.

The Huskies coaching staff provided no statistical information on the game.

Jan. 12: Cole Valley Christian 61, Marsing 33 — The Huskies fell short to the conference leaders, who are ranked No. 2 among the state's Class 2A squads.

The Chargers (12-1, 7-0) lead second-place Melba by 1½ games at week's end.

Despite the Huskies' struggles, coach Mike Swanson continues to stress the importance of keeping a positive mind-set during the final stretch of conference play.

"Our coaching staff has been preaching 'stay the course' and reminding them that this is a process, and our girls played with heart and



Marsing's Jade Wainman drives through the lane against Cole Valley Christian.

trust," Swanson said. "Of course, I tip my hat to (Cole Valley coach Matt Beglinger) and (his team) for being who they are, but I am so proud of how we battled (Tuesday night)."

Sophomore guard Emily Vanosdall led the Huskies with nine points.

"If a fight broke out, there isn't a group I'd rather fight with than these girls," Swanson said. "We had senior leadership across the board, and the bench was engaged."

"The trick is to keep it going and that's what we intend to do."

— TK

Turnovers trip Huskies vs. 2A WIC's top club

The Marsing High School boys' basketball team dropped its first matchup with the team sitting atop the 2A Western Idaho Conference standings on Saturday.

A slew of second-half turnovers opened the door for Nampa Christian to rally from a halftime deficit for a 47-39 road victory.

The Huskies (4-7 overall, 3-4 in 2A WIC) held a 21-17 lead at the break.

The Trojans (11-2, 6-0) opened the decisive second half on an 8-0 run to take a four-point lead.

The Huskies pulled to within two at one point, but a season-high 26 turnovers triggered by Nampa Christian's smothering defense were too much to overcome.

"(It was a) competitive game against the top team in our league," Huskies coach Tim Little said. "They are a highly talented team and our kids executed the game plan well."

Senior post Jacob Ankeny notched another double-double, leading Marsing with 18 points and 15 rebounds. He added four steals, four blocks, and two assists.

Junior guard Noel Quebrado and senior guard Roger Valadez finished with eight points each, while Valadez added a team-high seven assists.

Sophomore point guard Dominic Enrico rounded out the scoring with his five points.

Sophomore post Mikey Acosta pulled down a pair of rebounds.

— TK

Pre-registration open for Marsing girls' softball

Marsing Youth Sports has opened girls' softball pre-registration.

The organization needs to determine how many teams will be created and coordinate with the GALS league.

No money is required at the moment to place a player on the list of participants.

Age groups available are 8U, 10U, 12U and 14U.

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MARSING HUSKIES

Athlete Spotlight



Boys' basketball
Roger Valadez, sr., G
8 points, 7 rebounds vs. Nampa Christian



Girls' basketball
Emily Vanosdall, so., G
9 points vs. Cole Valley



Wrestling
Isai Arriaga, sr., 182
Gold medal at Magic Valley Classic

Girls' basketball
Varsity
Wednesday, Jan. 20, home vs. The Ambrose School, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 21 at The Ambrose School, Meridian, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 23, home vs. Vision Charter, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 26, home vs. Melba (Senior Night), 7:30 p.m.
Junior varsity
Wednesday, Jan. 20, home vs. The Ambrose School, 6 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 21 at The Ambrose School, Meridian, 6 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 23, home vs. Vision Charter, 6 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 26, home vs. Melba, 6 p.m.

Wrestling
Wednesday, Jan. 20 at Melba Duals, 6 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, Jan. 22-23 at Padilla Invitational, Parma
Wednesday, Jan. 27 at Nampa Christian Duals, 6 p.m.

Boys' basketball
Varsity
Friday, Jan. 22, home vs. Cole Valley Christian, 7:30 p.m.
Junior varsity A
Friday, Jan. 22, home vs. Cole Valley Christian, 6 p.m.
Junior varsity B
Friday, Jan. 22, home vs. Cole Valley Christian, 4:30 p.m.

Note: Two spectators per player allowed in gym for each game.
Spectators not allowed for wrestling tournaments
Home games are streamed for free on Marsing Booster Club's Facebook page
Road games livestream at www.nfhsnetwork.com

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Sports

HHS boosters cancel this year’s crab feed

Other fundraisers brainstormed as sports revenues dip

Winter sports revenues have dipped, but the Homedale schools athletics fund won’t have a major fundraiser to fall back on this year.

The 2021 Homedale Booster Club steak and crab feed has been cancelled.

High school athletic director Casey Grove delivered the news during the Jan. 11 board of trustees meeting.

Grove said the boosters organization cancelled what would have been the ninth annual crab feed at Txoko Ona Basque Center because of the current restrictions on indoor gatherings because of COVID-19 concerns.

“They are working on an alternative fundraiser for this year,” Grove wrote in his report to the school board.

The event is typically held in the first part of February.

Grove reported last week that the high school’s winter sports programs lost \$2,040.80 in the 2020-21 school year because no fans were allowed to attend. In early 2020, the winter sports gate revenue showed a positive balance of \$1,136.83, he said.

With no paid admission before, and now limited gate receipts because of ongoing restrictions, the district still has to find money to operate each sporting event, including paying game officials, scoreboard operators and ticket takers.

Grove said with no fans, there hasn’t been the need for ticket-taker wages.

“Paying officials is by far our largest expense,” he wrote in his board report.

There may be a sliver of daylight with two fans per player now being allowed in the stands for most events.

“Allowing fans is going to be a welcome change for sporting events, which means fans in the stands and some gate revenue,” Grove said in his report.

He added: “It will be nice to have some revenue coming in each game. Hopefully we will be able to break even the rest of the year.

“Only time will tell.” — JPB



Marsing’s Solon LaFleur gains control against Lauren Henderhan of Filer. The junior won by pinfall. Photo by Kelly Ineck

Arriaga takes gold in Wendell

Marsing High School senior Isai Arriaga dominated his weight class during the weekend during a gold medal performance at the Magic Valley Classic in Wendell.

The 182-pounder ran the table with four straight wins by pinfall, including stopping Firth’s Brandon Richards in 3 minutes, 24 seconds in the title bout. He topped Malad’s Jaxon Thompson (3:12), Twin Falls’ Gabriel Martinez-Rodas (1:27), and West Jefferson’s Kurt Wright (1:32).

Troy Miller (138) lost the third-place match to Grace’s Rhet Jorgensen (fall, 1:38). His road to the medal round included wins over New Plymouth’s Brock Cooper (fall, 4:35) and Buhl’s Wesley Pearson.

After losing to Gooding’s Kayd Craig in the semifinals (fall, 39 seconds), Miller beat Cooper in a consolation-bracket rematch (fall, 3:39) to reach the bronze medal bout.

Junior Solon LaFleur (126) wrestled three times, beating Filer’s Lauren Henderhan (fall, 2:45) and losing to New Plymouth’s Kyle Rice (fall, 1:13) in the championship bracket. He lost to North Gem’s Jaden Thompson (fall, 1:13) in the consolation bracket.

In the consolation bracket, junior Jonathan Ineck (145) pinned Brayon Sanchez (2:49) and edged West Jefferson’s Bronson Kimbro, 4-3.

— TK

Marsing boys ready for M.S. basketball

The Marsing Middle School boys’ basketball season is about to start.

During last week’s school trustees meeting, athletic director Brian Marshall said he was examining the high school COVID-19 attendance protocol to see if it could be extended to the middle school gymnasium.

The Huskies start 2A Western Idaho Conference play at home against The Ambrose School on Thursday.

There are 18 eighth-graders in the program and 11 seventh-graders.

Mustangs make MV medal stand

Three of four Melba wrestlers won their medal round matches at the Magic Valley Classic on Saturday.

Senior Zane Helm wrapped up the two-day tournament at Wendell High School with an exciting 5-3 win over Malad’s Ruxton Tubbs in the third-place bout at 152 pounds.

Sophomores Jaxen Hackler and Grant Svedin finished fifth in their respective weight classes.

At 106, Hackler pinned Filer Alice Smith in 2 minutes, 50 seconds.

At 126, Svedin was a 9-4 winner over Malad’s Tayson Davis.

Another sophomore, Izzy Martin came home with a sixth-place medal after West Jefferson’s Kamren Wright posted a pinfall at 2 minutes, 35 seconds of the fifth-place match at 170.

Kate Clark sets Melba scoring mark

Mustangs slip to third in 2A WIC

Kate Clark set the school scoring record, but her team lost for the second time in its past 2A Western Idaho Conference games.

New Plymouth High School upset Melba, 33-29, in overtime on Friday when Clark scored 17 points to pass her sister as the Mustangs’ all-time career scorer.

Clark finished the week with 1,266 career points, six more than her sister Emma.

After the road loss, the Mustangs (14-2 overall, 4-2 in 2A WIC) slipped to third place in the conference standings behind the Pilgrims (11-4, 6-2) and frontrunner Cole Valley Christian (12-1, 7-0).

Ebony Shaw paced New Plymouth with 10 points.

Melba started last week ranked third in both statewide Class 2A polls (coaches and media).

Jan. 12: Melba 63, Tri-Valley 32 — A balanced scoring barrage helped the Mustangs end the 1A, Div. II Titans’ six-game win streak.

Kendall Clark posted a monster double-double with 14 points and 18 rebounds for the home team. She also notched four steals and four assists.

Melba teammate Hallie Arnold led all scorers with 18 points, while grabbing five boards.

Owyhee County’s Brooklynn Dayley added 13 points, while Keylee Wilson chimed in with 12 points and eight rebounds.

Tri Valley’s Josey Jones put in 13 points.

Balanced Melba boys push past Cole Valley

In its team-together way, Melba High School did what it had to do to set up a showdown for first place.

Two players had double-digit rebounding totals in the Mustangs’ 60-54 win over Cole Valley Christian on Saturday.

The 2A Western Idaho Conference victory in Meridian gave Melba (10-2 overall, 5-1 2A WIC) a shot at a share of first place when it visited No. 5 Nampa Christian (11-2, 6-0) after deadline on Tuesday.

Henry Clark and Cache Beus pulled down 13 rebounds each to help hold back the Chargers.

Melba’s Joe Reiber and Braden Volkers scored 14 points apiece. Reiber added seven rebounds and four steals, while Volkers grabbed six boards and dished four assists.

Clark scored 11 points, and Beus chipped in eight.

Hunter Gill scored 17 points for Cole Valley Christian.



Vegetarian Ramen Zoodle Bowls

New Year Nutrition

Take on 2021 with a sustainable, low-carb eating plan

FAMILY FEATURES

A new year brings with it new opportunities to better yourself in all kinds of ways, including your health. Start by evaluating your at-home menu to make sure it aligns with your nutritional goals.

These recipes for Vegetarian Ramen Zoodle Bowls, Broccolini and Bacon Egg Bites and Flourless Salted Peanut Butter Chocolate Chip Cookies from Atkins offer better-for-you options that fit within a low-carb lifestyle that can help you eat right and make smarter choices in your kitchen. Each option offers a balanced approach to eating comprised of high-fiber carbohydrates, optimal protein and healthy fats. Plus, they're easily personalized, allowing each recipe to help you meet your goals regardless of what eating plan you're following and whether you're looking to achieve weight loss, maintain your weight or achieve optimal health.

Vegetarian Ramen Zoodle Bowls

Recipe courtesy of "The Atkins 100 Eating Solution"
Total time: 30 minutes
Servings: 4

- 4 large eggs
- ice water
- 2 cups fresh water
- 1 quart vegetable broth
- 5 ounces (3 cups) broccoli florets, cut into bite-size pieces
- 10 ounces (4 cups) spiralized zucchini
- 5 ounces (5 packed cups) baby spinach
- 1 tablespoon, plus 2 teaspoons, white miso paste
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt, plus additional, to taste, divided
- 1 tablespoon toasted sesame oil, plus additional for garnish, to taste
- 2 cups mung bean sprouts, for garnish
- chili garlic sauce, for garnish

- 1 cup shredded raw carrot, for garnish
- 4 tablespoons crushed peanuts, for garnish

In large saucepan of gently boiling water, cook eggs 7 minutes then transfer to bowl of ice water.

Drain cooking water from saucepan then add broth and fresh water. Bring to simmer over medium-high heat. Add broccoli and cook 3 minutes then add zucchini and spinach. Continue cooking until spinach is wilted and zucchini is crisp-tender, 2-3 minutes. Remove from heat.

Ladle about 1/2 cup broth from saucepan into small bowl. Add miso paste and 1/4 teaspoon salt; whisk to combine. Return mixture to soup, add sesame oil and stir to combine. Add additional salt, to taste. Cover to keep warm.

Remove eggs from ice bath; peel then cut in half lengthwise. Ladle 2 cups soup into four serving bowls. Top each portion with one egg and 1/2 cup sprouts. Drizzle with chili garlic sauce and additional sesame oil, to taste. Top each serving with 1/4 cup shredded carrot and 1 tablespoon crushed peanuts.

Nutritional information per serving: 10 grams net carbs; 17 grams total carbs; 7 grams fiber; 16 grams protein; 13 grams fat; 253 calories.



Broccolini and Bacon Egg Bites

Broccolini and Bacon Egg Bites

Recipe courtesy of "The Atkins 100 Eating Solution"
Total time: 45 minutes
Servings: 4

Nonstick cooking spray

5 slices (4 ounces) no-sugar-added bacon

5 large eggs

3 ounces cream cheese

2 tablespoons feta cheese

1 tablespoon hot sauce

1/2 teaspoon kosher salt, plus additional, to taste, divided

4 1/2 ounces broccolini (5-7 stalks), stalks and florets thinly sliced

1 tablespoon water

1 1/2 cups baby arugula

1 tablespoon lemon juice

1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil

freshly ground black pepper, to taste

1 cup fresh blueberries

Preheat oven to 350 F. Lightly coat eight silicone egg-bite mold cups or eight cups of standard nonstick muffin tin with nonstick cooking spray and set in large baking pan.

In large nonstick skillet, cook bacon over medium heat until golden, about 5 minutes per side. Transfer to paper towel-lined plate to drain. Chop bacon into small pieces.

In blender, puree eggs, cream cheese, feta cheese, hot sauce and 1/4 teaspoon salt until smooth.

Pour off all but 1 tablespoon fat from skillet. Add broccolini, water and 1/4 teaspoon salt. Cook over medium-high heat, stirring frequently, until broccolini is tender, 3-5 minutes. Remove from heat.

Fill each egg cup with 1 teaspoon bacon and 1 tablespoon broccolini. Top with egg mixture, filling cups to about 1/8 inch from top. Add just enough boiled water to baking pan to come halfway up sides of molds.

Bake egg bites until set, 20-25 minutes. Take pan from oven then take molds from water bath. Let egg bites cool then remove from molds.

In medium bowl, toss arugula, lemon juice, oil and salt and pepper, to taste. Place 3/4 cup salad, two egg bites and 1/4 cup blueberries on four plates and serve.

Nutritional information per serving: 9 grams net carbs; 11 grams total carbs; 2 grams fiber; 14 grams protein; 34 grams fat; 400 calories.

Flourless Salted Peanut Butter Chocolate Chip Cookies

Recipe courtesy of "The Atkins 100 Eating Solution"
Total time: 50 minutes
Yield: 24 cookies

- 1 cup sugar-free smooth or creamy peanut butter
- 2 teaspoons stevia extract powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 large egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup sugar-free semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 teaspoon flaky sea salt

Set oven racks in upper- and lower-third positions. Preheat oven to 350 F. Line two cookie sheets with parchment paper.

In medium bowl, use handheld electric mixer on medium speed to beat peanut butter, stevia, baking soda and salt,

scraping down sides if needed, until well combined, about 1 minute. Reduce speed to low, add egg and vanilla extract; beat until combined.

Shape dough into 24 balls (about 1 tablespoon each) and place 2 inches apart on prepared cookie sheets. Using tines of fork, carefully flatten each ball, creating crisscross pattern.

Bake, rotating cookie sheets from top to bottom and back to front halfway through, until edges begin to brown and cookies are set, 7-9 minutes. Cookies should not be browned. Let cool 10 minutes on cookie sheets then carefully transfer to cooling rack to cool completely.

In small microwave-safe bowl, add chocolate chips and microwave on high in 20-second increments, stirring after each, until melted, about 1 minute.

Dip dry fork into chocolate then drizzle over cookies. Sprinkle with sea salt.

Nutritional information per serving (1 cookie): 1.5 grams net carbs; 3 grams total carbs; 1.5 grams fiber; 3 grams protein; 6.5 grams fat; 79 calories.



Flourless Salted Peanut Butter Chocolate Chip Cookies

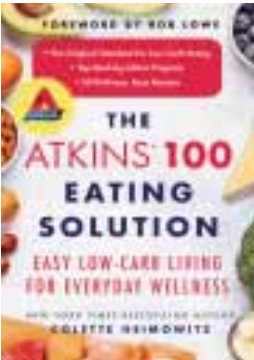
An Easy-to-Follow Food Guide

The latest science continues to support the many health benefits of a low-carb approach to eating beyond just weight loss. Simply reducing your carb and sugar intake by two-thirds over the "Standard American Diet" helps avoid the development of obesity, metabolic syndrome and type 2 diabetes.

While many eating approaches can be vague in their approach, "The Atkins 100 Eating Solution's" fan-favorite program provides a clear-cut way to control your carb intake with 100 grams of net carbs (the total carbohydrate content of the food minus the fiber content and sugar alcohols) and shows you how to make delicious and satisfying food choices that lessen their impact on your blood sugar. This personalized approach is a way of eating you can follow for life.

With cutting-edge research and delicious recipes, this book provides a variety of foods with plenty of room for personalization. This easy-to-use guide, written by Colette Heimowitz, the company's vice president of nutrition and education, can also show you how the plan can be modified to fit in with most ways of eating, including vegetarian, Paleo, Mediterranean and more regardless of food preferences, lifestyle or cooking abilities.

Visit atkins.com/atkins-100-eating-solution-book to purchase the book.



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For additional information contact the Contract Administrator:
Name: Shawn Strong
Phone: 208-830-3610
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Digital copies of the Plans, Proposals, and Specifications must be downloaded for a fee of \$15.00. **Bidders must appear on the plan holders list for their proposal to be accepted by the Department. Please contact QuestCDN.com at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdninfo.com for assistance in downloading and working with this digital project information.**
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01/13,20/2021

NOTICE OF HEARING IN THE MAGISTRATE COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF OWYHEE
IN RE: APRIL KRISTINE RAMIREZ
CASE NO. CV37-21-00004
A Petition to change the name of APRIL KRISTINE RAMIREZ, now residing in the city of Homedale, State of Idaho, has been filed in the Magistrate Court in Owyhee County, Idaho. Petitioner wishes to change her name to April Kristine Scott. Petitioner wishes to change her current last name because Ramirez is from her previous marriage. A hearing on the petition is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. on 01/13,20,27;02/03/2021

HOMEDALE HIGHWAY DISTRICT BALANCE SHEET – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS SEPTEMBER 30, 2020		
Assets		General
Cash and cash equivalents		519,644
Receivables:		
Property taxes	4,805	
Other	187,436	
Inventory	15,732	
Total Assets	727,617	
Liabilities and fund balance		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	13,733	
Salaries and benefits payable	5,082	
Total Current Liabilities	18,815	
Deferred inflows of resources		
Deferred inflows of future revenues	4,152	
Total Liabilities	22,967	
Fund Balance:		
Non-spendable	15,732	
Unassigned	688,918	
Total Fund Balance	704,650	
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	727,617	
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Governmental Funds For the Year Ended September 30, 2020		
Revenues		General
Local Revenue		
Property tax	77,197	
Interest income	6,017	
Other	12,576	
State Revenue		
Highway Users apportionment	674,369	
Sales tax	16,337	
Ag replacement	2,492	
Personal prop replacement	1,022	
Total Revenue	790,010	
Expenditures		
Labor and salaries	21,388	
Legal and accounting	4,850	
Repair and maintenance	20,573	
Gas, oil, and tires	14,786	
Construction materials	387,326	
General supplies and misc.	58,116	
Payroll taxes and benefits	49,689	
Telephone	1,797	
Utilities	3,114	
Equipment rental	901	
Signs	1,288	
Insurance – general	5,719	
Insurance – worker's comp	5,828	
Office expense	724	
Dues and publications	3,450	
Weed control	11,770	
Capital outlay	37,300	
Total Expenditures	728,619	
Excess of Revenue Over Expenditures	61,391	
Fund Balance Beginning	643,259	
Fund Balance Ending	704,650	

Publish 1-20-2021 by Terri Uria, Secretary/Treasurer
01/20/2021

February 8, 2021 remotely via Zoom.
Objections may be filed by any person who can show the Court a good reason against the name change.
Date: Jan. 6, 2021
s/: Lena Johnson, Clerk of the Court
01/13,20,27;02/03/2021

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

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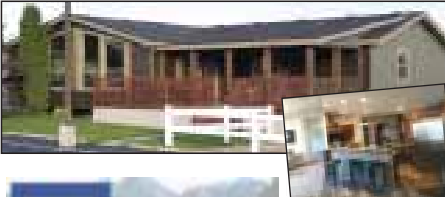
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This is currently a full-time, seasonal position effective immediately and guaranteed through April 15, 2021. However, there is the potential for longer-term employment and advancement after that date depending on performance and firm need. Competitive hourly rate based on experience. Benefits would be available if long-term employment offered.

Receptionist Qualifications / Skills:

- Telephone Skills
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Education, Experience, and Licensing Requirements:

- University/college degree is an asset
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Sports

From Page 1B

✓ Raiders: Balanced Rimrock squad rolls past Gem State Adventist

From Page 1B

of her six rebounds on Glens Ferry’s end of the court.

LeaBeth Hance drained three three-point goals and led the winless Pilots (0-15) with 10 points.

The Raiders are unbeaten in four 1A Western Idaho Conference outings including a 61-20 shellacking of North Star Charter on Jan. 11 in Eagle. No statistics were provided.

Last Wednesday: Rimrock 68, Gem State Adventist 16 — Four scorers reached double figures as the Raiders ran away from the Jaguars during a conference game in Caldwell.

Madie MacMillan spaced her scoring out throughout the game, finishing with 15 points to lead Rimrock.

Teammates Varela, Hipwell, and Jewett scored 12 points each.

Ashtyn Moore dominated the backboards with 10 of her 16 rebounds coming on the offensive end of the floor.

Varela added a team-high seven assists, and Jewett paced Rimrock’s opportunistic defense with six steals.

Hipwell also blocked four shots.

Chloe Iwasa scored five points for Gem State, which trailed 43-10 at halftime.

✓ Trojans: Tough teams topple Homedale

From Page 1B

Jaxon Dines and Mason Strong carried Homedale through the rest of the first quarter, but Fruitland maintained its edge.

Strong’s baseline layup with 50 seconds left in the first period pulled the Trojans to within six points, 17-11, but also marked Homedale’s last basket from inside the perimeter for the next eight minutes of game time.

Milo Mertz and Goode popped three-pointers, but Homedale missed nearly every other attempt in the quarter. Strong hit another layup 40 seconds before intermission.

Dines struggled from the outside, missing all six three-point tries, but led Homedale with nine points. Strong scored seven points, and Mertz hit another three-pointer in the second half.

Goode had a pair of treys to finish with eight points.

Hayden Kincheloe scored two points and grabbed five rebounds in his return to the lineup after nursing an injury.

The Trojans went 7-for-25 (28 percent) from behind the three-point line, and 8-for-26 (30.8 percent) inside the perimeter.

Homedale second-year coach Cam Long missed the contest while serving a one-game suspension. He was ejected from a Jan. 11 non-conference loss to Cole Valley Christian after receiving two technical fouls.

Jan. 11: Cole Valley Christian 61, Homedale 52 — Free-throw opportunities proved to be the difference in a non-conference game played on the Trojans’ floor.

The Chargers from the 2A Western Idaho Conference (4-4 overall) drained 14 of 19 chances to snap a three-game losing streak. Meanwhile, Homedale was 6-for-14. The teams committed 14 fouls each.

The teams came out in a shooting mood with Cole Valley holding a 16-12 lead at the close of the first quarter.

The clubs combined for 15 three-pointers.

Lakota Steele converted four of six chances to lead Cole Valley’s 7-for-15 effort from behind the line. He had a team-high 16 points.

The Trojans weren’t as successful from long range, going 8-for-29. Dines and Strong shared the top scorer mantle with 17 points each. Dines shot 33.3 percent overall (7-for-21), including missing eight of 10 attempts from downtown.

Strong was 3-for-7 from three-point range and hit four of five foul shots.

Cole Valley denied Homedale many second-chance shots, taking down 24 rebounds from the Trojans’ glass. The Trojans managed just five rebounds on their end.

Senior guard Ventura Martinez continued his emergence for Homedale with eight points, four rebounds and three steals. Goode added seven points.

David Howlett was 5-for-7 from inside the three-point line on the way to 13 points for Cole Valley.



Sophomore Jaxon Dines drifts in for a layup against Fruitland in Thursday’s home game.



Melba’s Tucker Lowber finishes off a layup inside Potter Gymnasium against Marsing.

✓ Melba: Another Ankeny double-double

From Page 1B

Leavitt added 10 points and five rebounds, while freshman guard/forward Cache Beus led Melba with 11 rebounds and scored five points.

Valadez hit two three-pointers in the first quarter and led the Huskies with 15 points. Senior post Jacob Ankeny recorded another double-double (11 points and 11 rebounds).

Quebrado finished third on the team with five points.

“Heading into the stretch, we are working on trying to improve, maintain a positive mindset and push through the last four weeks heading into the district tournament in hopes (of finding) a rhythm,” Little said.

— TK

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