

# The Owyhee Avalanche

VOL. 36, NO. 4

\$1

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2021

## BOCC declares Owyhee Bill of Rights sanctuary

Commissioners make statement days after Marsing takes no action

County commissioners have unanimously approved a resolution to naming Owyhee County a Bill of Rights sanctuary.

The vote came during a Jan. 19 meeting Murphy, six days after the Marsing City Council took no action when residents asked for Second Amendment

sanctuary city status.

According to the resolution, the commissioners declared "that Owyhee County is a sanctuary for the rights of citizens as enumerated within the preamble to the Declaration of Independence, the ... Bill of Rights, and the Idaho Constitution's Declaration of Rights."

According to Dist. 1 Commissioner Jerry Hoagland, one reason for board's declaration was a certain amount of uncertainty about where the county and country are headed politically.

"This nation is very split on what the

— See *Sanctuary*, page 5A

## Patrons face BGV levy vote

District seeks \$600K for needs over two years

by Mandi Boren

For The Owyhee Avalanche  
Bruneau-Grand View School District patrons will be asked to approve a two-year supplemental levy in March.

District trustees narrowly approved a ballot question with a 3-2 vote during a Jan. 18 special board meeting.

Voters will be asked to approve a \$600,000, two-year levy (\$300,000 per year) during a March 9 election. Citizens have until Feb. 12 to pre-register to vote. The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot is 5 p.m., on Feb. 25.

— See *Levy*, page 4A



### Burn, baby, burn

Roy Joiner flings a flare on top of the 10-foot tall pile of detritus during the Homedale tipping station's annual brush burn last Wednesday.

## Cattlemen to gather amid Biden EO flurry

Masks mandated for federal lands; state, local bureaucrats can't make decisions

President Joe Biden's executive order requiring face coverings at federal installations and on federal lands could be a topic of discussion in Oreana next week.

The Owyhee Cattlemen's Association has announced its winter meeting will take place beginning at 1 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 6 at the Oreana Community Hall.

During Biden's flurry of action after last Wednesday's Inauguration, the 46<sup>th</sup> president issued a proclamation

— See *Cattlemen*, page 5A

## Developers seek to add more housing in Homedale

Council to take comments at next meeting

With two residential subdivisions built out, developers are looking for every available lot in Homedale to add more housing.

Public hearings at the next Homedale City Council meeting will take up needed steps to free up more space for homebuilding.

Ideal Custom Homes, owned by Wilder residents Burke and Kathy Deal, is seeking a special use permit to build two townhomes at 11 N. 1<sup>st</sup> St. E.

Gem Capital, LLC, has already requested a lot split and will go before the council in a public hearing to seek a rezoning of a property at 125 W. Wyoming Ave., to build a single-family home.

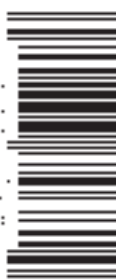
Both public hearings will take place after the council convenes at 6 p.m., on Wednesday, Feb. 10. The meeting will take place at City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming Ave.

If the special use permit is approved, Ideal Custom Homes plans to build two townhomes on North 1<sup>st</sup> Street East on a vacant lot between



Workmen make repairs to a house that is immediately west of a vacant lot on West Wyoming Avenue where a developer wants to build a residence.

— See *Homedale*, page 4A



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**Marsing SRO, Pg. 3A:** City to end support for special deputy  
**Auctions altered, Pg. 7A:** GV Lions online; Bruneau cancelled  
**Land exchange OK'd, Pg. 12A:** Water rights issue clarified  
**Wrestler nears 100, Pg. 1B:** HHS senior just three wins shy  
**Obituary, 7A • Looking Back, 4B • Commentary, 6-7B**

Overall Owyhee County  
COVID-19 cases:

845

Jan. 19 to Jan. 25 statistics:  
New confirmed cases, 10  
Probable cases, 120 (New: 4)  
Deaths: 23 (New: 0)  
People who recovered: 845 (New: 34)  
Health alert level: Red  
Source: [coronavirus.idaho.gov](https://coronavirus.idaho.gov)  
and Southwest District Health

Malheur COVID-19 cases:

3,201

New cases, Jan. 19 to Jan. 25: 83  
Deaths: 55 (New: 4)  
Negative tests: 15,634 (New: 548)  
Source:  
[govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19](https://govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19)

# BGV returns to face-to-face class as COVID-era grades fall

## Children must now get permission for online, blended model

*by Mandi Boren*  
*For The Owyhee Avalanche*  
Amid academic decline for online and blended learners in the Bruneau-Grand View School district, trustees have tightened the reins on their blended learning model.

During a Jan. 18 special meeting, the board voted unanimously to have all Bruneau-Grand View students return to face-to-face learning unless they have approval to continue as an online learner.

In a district-wide email, superintendent Ryan Cantrell told patrons “The preponderance of our online learners are not passing their classes (especially at Rimrock) ... our online and blended learners are failing at a rate of 2-to-1 compared to our face-to-face learners.”

The decision came after trustees were presented during their Jan. 12 regular meeting a letter signed by many district teachers. In the letter, teachers emphasized the importance of face-

to-face learning to better reach students in the rural district.

Cantrell’s letter went on to state that online learning will still continue to be the “norm” for students required to quarantine because of illness or exposure to COVID-19.

Parents who would like to have their student considered for online learning can contact their school principal.

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

# Vaccination information site launched; Owyhee red again

As Southwest District Health launched online COVID-19 vaccination resources, officials also downgraded Owyhee County back to the red health alert level.

The county had spent one week in the orange zone before last week’s change.

The health level change comes even as the county’s daily incidence rate remains stable at 3.56 daily cases per

10,000 people. According to the health district’s weekly update, though, the test positivity rate is on a dramatic rise up to 32.86 percent, which reflects the virus is more prevalent than district data show.

Between Jan. 10 and Jan. 16, one Homedale School District staff and one Marsing student were discovered to have confirmed or probable

COVID-19 cases. As of last Wednesday, two members of the Owyhee County schools community were in isolation with confirmed cases, and 14 were quarantined after close contact.

• The health district has launched a COVID-19 vaccine website at <https://phd3.idaho.gov/covid19/#Vaccine>.

People within the health district can visit the site for

updated vaccine information. Another website, <https://phd3.idaho.gov/covid19/region-3-covid-19-vaccination-sites/>, features a downloadable list and interactive map of vaccine providers.

Southwest District Health also has developed an online notification sign-up form at <https://phd3.idaho.gov/covid-19-vaccine-notification/> to

inform citizens the vaccine is available to their priority group.

Those who use the form will be notified either by email and phone when their priority group is eligible.

For more information on the COVID-19 vaccine, including a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section, please visit: <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/covid-19-vaccine/>.

# Retired teacher to read to Homedale Story Time children

A stalwart on the Homedale library scene will stand in Monday for Story Time at the Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library.

Retired first-grade teacher Steve Belknap will read two tales during the 10:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m., sessions of the preschool program.

A member of town’s Friends of Li-

brary organization, Belknap will read “Little Blue Truck” and “The Itsy Bitsy Spider.”

After the reading, Belknap and the children will undertake a counting activity and a coloring activity.

• At Thursday’s Teens & Tweens, boys and girls ages 10-17 are invited to take on an escape room challenge.

The program begins at 5 p.m., at the library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave.

If more than 10 youths show up, it is the library’s stated policy to split the group and utilize the Homedale Community Foodstead building next door.

The activity requires teamwork to solve puzzles to find clues to escape and unlock the treasure.

• The library’s Winter Reading Bingo contest for all ages continues through Feb. 6. Cards are available at the library.

Every time someone achieves bingo, they can bring the completed card into the library to collect a prize and get entered into the grand prize drawing, which takes place March 1.



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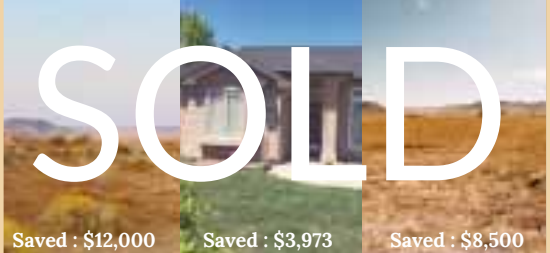


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# SRO on Marsing School District's dime next year

## City to stop funding position

The Marsing School District will have to hash out its own contract with the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office for a school resource officer on campus.

The City of Marsing has been in a month-to-month agreement with OCSO while officials analyze other possible avenues moving forward, which included getting significant financial help from the school district.

At its Jan. 13 meeting, the city council decided to fund an SRO eight hours a week for the remainder of the school year.

Upon the end of the school year, though, the district would be responsible for SRO funding.

City Clerk and Treasurer Jolyn Green said the city has not received the contract from the sheriff's office, so the cost of the SRO for the rest of the 2020-21 school year isn't known yet.

For the past 10 years, the city has paid \$35,000 annually for service calls for city ordinance violations and a school

resource officer. There wasn't an amount specifically spelled out in the contract exclusively for an SRO.

Having the SRO has been beneficial because it provided another deputy in the city limits while school was in session. The sheriff's office assured the city that whether there was an SRO at the school or not, a deputy would always be available to the city and school.

"The Marsing city deputy will be around to help firsthand with the city," Sheriff Perry Grant said. "We still have substations within the city limits, so a deputy will be there during off times, as well."

The city has also been looking into setting money aside to create its own police department several years down the road.

Marsing schools superintendent Norm Stewart said that several years ago, the Board of Owyhee County Commissioners told the district that it would share an SRO with the Bruneau-Grand View School District. The deputy would spend two days per week at each school.

The following year, the sheriff's office received a grant to

fund a resource officer at each school district. Deputies Jaime Wood (Marsing) and Lindsey Fuquay (Bruneau-Grand View) functioned in that capacity.

The grant money ran out for the SROs and the sheriff's office was unable to renew it. Stewart said during a meeting toward the beginning of the current school year, Grant told him that Wood would be used more as an off-highway deputy and would not be available to serve as the Marsing schools' SRO.

Now, Fuquay splits time between Marsing and Bruneau-Grand View.

Stewart said he didn't know until October that the city had been footing the SRO bill.

"To be honest, I was shocked that the city was even involved in the funding for a resource officer," Stewart said. "I thought the county was still covering it."

The notion that the city wanted the district to provide some SRO funding came up during a school board work session in the fall, he said.

"I knew that the city was negotiating with the sheriff's office about how much time the deputy was in Marsing, but I didn't realize that the SRO be-

ing at the school was linked to the city,” Stewart said.

School trustees eventually decided they could pony up \$3,500 out of the district's "Safe and Drug-Free Schools" funds to help pay for an SRO through the end of the school year. The city chose not to accept the school's money but will continue to function under the current hybrid contract with a deputy available to both the city and district until the school year is over.

Stewart said that the city's request for funds was received once the district was already locked into its budget.

Grant said he thought the school district had been in discussion with OCSO to create its contract to maintain a deputy, but Stewart said that those talks have not yet started.

"We were told that the city was working on its own contract with the sheriff's office and that we would have to work on one of our own for an SRO," Stewart said. "No meetings have taken place with them to see how this plays out for us."

"I was actually hoping that we could negotiate separately because it is definitely two different things. The whole situation

is still kind of hazy and confusing, but I'm looking forward to figuring out the details."

Bruneau-Grand View School District superintendent Ryan Cantrell said that the presence of an SRO in his district is a different relationship than it is in Marsing.

Bruneau-Grand View does not pay for the SRO, which is solely funded through the sheriff's budget.

"My understanding is that Marsing has a certain number of days that a deputy is present with them — we don't have that expectation," he said, adding the need is not as great because his district student population is smaller than Marsing's. "SRO Fuquay is present when we need her to be, or when we have a specific request.

"She does not have any set days that she spends in Bru-neau-Grand View and is very responsive to our needs when we have them."

Stewart said that no matter what happens and when the contract meetings begin, the district can't enter into any kind of contract until the district's next budget is hashed out.

— TK

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From page 1A

## ✓ Homedale: Two public hearings set at upcoming city council meeting

the Flahiff’s Funeral Chapel parking lot and the alleyway south of East Owyhee Avenue.

According to the city’s Planning and Zoning ordinance, multi-family residential construction in a commercial zone requires only a special use permit.

Ideal Custom Homes built two townhomes in 2019 in the first block of North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street West, and another pair last year in the first block of West Owyhee Avenue.

Gem Capital, LLC was required to apply for a zone change because the lot on the south side of West Wyoming Avenue is in an industrial zone. The developer wants to rezone to residential to be able to build a single-family home. A lot split application has been filed, too, but that is not subject to a public hearing.

The lot split will allow the developer to build the new home on 45 feet of one lot and the entirety of a second lot.

Citizens are invited to provide comments on either request either at the meeting or by sending written comments to City Hall prior to the hearings.

Several residential builds have sprung up in Homedale on individual lots in recent years.

The Santa Fe subdivision at the edge of downtown and the Westwood subdivision south of West Idaho Avenue off Railroad Avenue have been built to capacity.

— JPB

## ✓ Levy: Several pieces of district’s budget committed to specific areas

According to the district’s Jan. 24 press release, the approved amount was recommended by Superintendent Ryan Cantrell’s Ad Hoc Supplemental Levy Committee, which is comprised of community members from each of the district’s five trustee zones.

Cantrell worked with the committee and trustees to ensure understanding of the district’s financial situation. A press release and the district’s 2020-21 budget confirmed a current fund balance of roughly \$2.1 million.

The release reported the district has approximately “\$900,000 saved for capital expenditures (such as a maintenance facility) ...,” the release stated.

“All other carry-over dollars are ear-marked for federal programs, bonds, etc., and must be spent on programs specified by the account restrictions.”

Cantrell also noted that within the past three years the district has received unexpected revenue that has contributed to a healthy fund balance:

- Solar farm on Strike Dam Road: Roughly \$350,000 over the past three years
- Federal Impact Aid: Roughly \$305,000 more than budgeted.
- Comprehensive School Improvement Grant (expires in 2022): Roughly \$584,000 to be spent on improving instruction and academic outcomes.
- CARES Act grants (expires in 2023): Roughly \$310,000 with an additional \$383,000 to be allocated in the coming two years.

Acknowledging the current fund balance and unexpected income, the levy committee presented a letter to trustees at the Jan. 12 board meeting recommending a decrease from the previous levy.

“Upon examination of the 2020-2021 budget and anticipated 2021-2022 budget, it is evident that the current levy amount is critical to support historical and planned spending ...,” the letter read.

The requested amount of \$300,000 per year for two years is a reduction from the existing levy of \$400,000 per year (\$800,000 total). Both amounts are lower than the 2017-2019 levy of \$500,000 per year (\$1 million).

The letter said the committee felt decreasing the levy would “engender community support while maintaining a partial contribution to current programs.”

The committee also recommended the district use some of the current fund balance to hire additional staff to enhance educational opportunities district-wide.

“Shoring up budget shortfalls with fund balance is, in the opinion of the committee, prudent and judicious use of those dollars,” according to the letter.

Trustees also heard from the superintendent’s community advisory group, which recommended the maintenance of existing facilities and school operations through 2024 while preparing for “various options thereafter.”

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

### Correction

Zone 2 Trustee Chad Showalter is Jessica Showalter’s brother-in-law and abstained from the Jan. 13 vote to retain her as Marsing School District deputy clerk. An article in the Jan. 20 edition of The Owyhee Avalanche incorrectly identified the trustee’s relationship to the deputy clerk.



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

From page 1A

## ✓ Sanctuary: Peace of mind for citizens

United States Constitution says,” Hoagland said. “One side has a view they are following the Constitution but refuse to recognize it when it gets in the way of their agenda.”

Hoagland and fellow commissioners Kelly Aberasturi (Dist. 2) and Joe Merrick (Dist. 3) all said that multiple county citizens approached them about the topic, and the commissioners felt that they should address it.

“The commissioners believe with the new federal administration, there are going to be actions not only to the Second Amendment rights but to other rights guaranteed by the Bill of Rights,” Hoagland said. “These are the rights our county’s citizens live by.”

“With over 70 percent of the land in Owyhee County federal, with a federal global warming agenda coming, with an ultra-liberal government focusing on controlling all aspects of property and businesses, we want to add another layer to obstruct those attacks on our liberties.”

The BOCC’s resolution came eight days before President Joe Biden’s inauguration.

Aberasturi said that the board had no interest in adding another law to the books when the rights laid out by the Bill of Rights are also guaranteed in the state’s constitution but

believed that a statement made by the commissioners would give citizens some peace of mind.

“We believe the whole Bill of Rights is in jeopardy,” he said. “I know I do. I’m very concerned that we’re going to be going down a socialist path.”

He also noted that with Democrats now having control of the executive and legislative branches on the federal level that they can potentially make new laws that go against what folks in Owyhee County hold dear.

“I don’t think they will, but we just worry,” Aberasturi said. “When it comes right down to it, state law and federal trumps the county, so we’re just reaffirming with our citizens how we feel.”

Merrick wanted to make it clear that what they chose to do was simply a resolution, not a change or addition to standing laws.

“It’s a resolution, and it’s not binding in a court of law,” he said. “We’re just making a statement that we uphold the Constitution, and we will do everything within our power to uphold it.

“We’re just reaffirming our support. We’re not passing more laws.”

— TK

## ✓ Cattlemen: Oreana meeting on Zoom

in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The executive order says that all federal employees and those visiting federal buildings should wear masks.

The order also covers federal lands, saying that masks “should” be worn on the nation’s public lands.

The order seemingly would impact ranchers who use Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service permits to graze livestock, and some ranchers have surmised that the order means ranch hands must wear masks when working — sometimes alone or several yards from their co-workers — on the range.

Department of the Interior press secretary Tyler Cherry forwarded a spokesperson’s statement regarding the executive order after The Owyhee Avalanche asked how it could affect conducting business or recreating on public lands.

“The President has taken quick action to begin an urgent, robust, and professional response to the growing public health and economic crisis caused by the coronavirus outbreak,” the spokesperson said. “His Executive Order is very clear that appropriate measures ‘with respect to wearing masks, maintaining physical distance, and other public health measures’ be mandated for all persons in Federal buildings or on Federal lands.”

The statement said the Interior Department will provide additional department-specific guidance “in the days and weeks to come.”

Meanwhile, ranch operators are left to wonder.

In another action from the new administration, Secretarial Order No. 3395

from Acting Secretary of the Interior Scott de la Vega temporarily suspends the delegation of authority for several aspects of Interior business, including RS 2477 claims and other natural resource permitting actions.

According to the order, which was issued last Wednesday, no one below a national department position can make decisions for the time being.

Next week’s OCA meeting could be an opportunity to ask local BLM officials for clarification, but it is unclear if any federal bureaucrats will make the trip to Oreana.

The winter meeting is the first general membership gathering new OCA president Scott Bunderson will gavel into session.

With ongoing concerns about COVID-19, attendees who have been exposed to the virus, are not feeling well, or are in a high-risk group are asked to stay home.

The OCA board plans to set up a Zoom link so the meeting can be watched remotely. To receive the meeting link, email OCA board secretary Scott Jensen at [scottj@uidaho.edu](mailto:scottj@uidaho.edu) by 5 p.m., on Friday, Feb. 5.

In his letter to membership announcing the meeting, Bunderson also included a reminder that annual membership dues are now due.

In another change because of COVID-19, Jensen said the University of Idaho Extension’s annual winter beef school won’t be held prior to the meeting. Instead, all the materials and presentations will be available online. Contact Jensen for details.

Likewise, no potluck dinner is planned this year. The after-meeting dinner will be fully catered by Cowgirls Catering, which is owned by Marsing resident Ginger Loucks.

— JPB

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# School menus

**Homedale Elementary**  
*Choice of milk and juice*  
*Vegetable and Fruit choices will be offered daily*  
Jan. 27: **Breakfast:** Apple cinnamon Texas toast **Lunch:** Orange chicken, steamed rice, broccoli, fortune cookie  
Jan. 28: **Breakfast:** Breakfast bites **Lunch:** Uncrustable PB&J sandwich, potato chips, baby carrots, Rice Krispie treat  
Feb. 1: **Breakfast:** Cereal. **Lunch:** Corn dog, tater tots.  
Feb. 2: **Breakfast:** Breakfast pizza. **Lunch:** Chicken patty sandwich, coleslaw.  
Feb. 3: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon pull apart. **Lunch:** Chicken filet, mashed potatoes with gravy, hot roll.

**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*  
Jan. 27: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon roll **Lunch:** Spaghetti and garlic bread, green beans  
Jan. 28: **Breakfast:** Mini donuts **Lunch:** Taquitos, corn, cookie  
Feb. 1: **Breakfast:** Mini waffles. **Lunch:** Pepperoni calzone, green beans.  
Feb. 2: **Breakfast:** Chocolate chip muffin. **Lunch:** Cheeseburger, French fries.  
Feb. 3: **Breakfast:** Apple cinnamon Texas toast. **Lunch:** Beef taco, corn.

**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. 27: **Breakfast:** Sausage plate or mini pancakes **Lunch:** Pulled pork sandwich, tater tots or hamburger or cheeseburger, tater tots  
Jan. 28: **Breakfast:** Breakfast pizza or pop tart **Lunch:** Chicken taco, corn or corn dog, corn  
Feb. 1: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon burst bread slice or Dutch waffle. **Lunch:** Boneless Buffalo wings, breadstick, corn or Taquitos, corn.  
Feb. 2: **Breakfast:** Waffle sandwich or BeneFit bar. **Lunch:** Chicken patty, French fries or hamburger/cheeseburger, French fries.  
Feb. 3: **Breakfast:** Biscuits and gravy or pancakes. **Lunch:** Cheese quesadilla, steamed carrots or cheesy chicken sub, steamed carrots.

**Marsing**  
*Each meal includes choice of milk, fruit juice, fresh fruit & vegetables*  
**Elementary School each day: Breakfast:** Cereal option  
**Middle/High School each day: PB&J sandwich option**  
**Cold Grab-n-go line: 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. 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.  
Feb. 1: **Breakfast:** Yogurt. **Lunch:** Corn dog, chocolate chunk cookie. Hot Grab-n-Go: Wild Mike’s pepperoni pizza.  
Feb. 2: **Breakfast:** Mini pancakes. **Lunch:** Spaghetti, green beans. Cold Grab-n-go: BBQ chicken salad.  
Feb. 3: **Breakfast:** Bacon scramble pizza. **Lunch:** Dutch waffle, sausage patty Cold Grab-n-go: Turkey bacon ciabatta.

**Bruneau/Grand View**  
*All meals: Milk and fruit offered daily*  
**Jr.-Sr. high school: Pizza offered daily**  
Jan. 27: **Breakfast:** Pancakes and Egg Patty **Lunch:** Chicken patty, mashed potatoes and gravy, steamed carrots  
Jan. 28: **Breakfast:** Breakfast wrap **Lunch:** Beef and bean burrito, tossed romaine salad, broccoli, chocolate chip cookie  
Feb. 1: **Breakfast:** Apple frudel. **Lunch:** Pizza, tossed romaine salad, corn.  
Feb. 2: **Breakfast:** Biscuits and gravy. **Lunch:** Chicken & noodles, tossed romaine salad, steamed carrots.  
Feb. 3: **Breakfast:** Waffle and hashbrowns. **Lunch:** Nachos with whole wheat chips, refried beans/salsa.

# UI Range Livestock Symposium presentations online now

The 2021 Idaho Range Livestock Symposium is now behind us. We had a great program with plenty of important information. If you missed it, each presentation was recorded and is available for viewing on the University of Idaho Rangeland Center website at <https://www.uidaho.edu/cnr/rangeland-center/events/idaho-range-livestock-symposium>. I will share a few highlights that might encourage you to view all or part of the recorded presentations.



Scott Jensen

- Dennis Metzger from Superior Livestock Auction spoke about production and marketing practices that can add value to cattle sales. He stated that value can be added to your cattle to increase ranch profits through four categories: 1) animal health/vaccination programs and protocols; 2) the use of superior progressive genetics; 3) third-party

## University of Idaho Extension

verification programs; and 4) marketing. Dennis shared Superior Livestock Auction historical and current data detailing how each of these have added value to sales.

- Ben Eborn is a University of Idaho Area Extension Ag Economist whose programing focuses on farm and ranch management, production economics, and farm succession. Ben was recently asked by a producer from Southeast Idaho about which type of ranch management system would be most profitable. Ben compared a traditional cow/calf operation, an operation that uses only terminal sires and purchases all replacements, an operation that sells all cows as 6-year-olds to minimize cow depreciation, and a cow/calf operation that changes to running yearling stockers only. Ben discusses the potential benefits and disadvantages of each management option.
- Dr. John Hall, Extension Beef Specialist with the Uni-

versity of Idaho discussed his ongoing research comparing range-based and irrigated cow/calf systems. His discussion includes differences in weaning weights, compensatory gain on range calves, body condition changes in cows, and other differences. Dr. Hall also discusses where there may be opportunities in each production system.

- University of Idaho graduate student Kenny Randall presented some of the findings from his research looking at riparian management strategies in areas of sage-grouse habitat. His research focused specifically on how changes in timing and intensity of grazing influences plant communities preferred by sage-grouse. He also looked at the effect of timing and grazing intensity on soil moisture retention as well as yearling cattle growth.
- Owyhee County rancher Chris Black and Idaho State Department of Agriculture range program manager Thadd Strom spoke about the importance of rangeland monitoring. Chris shared many examples of his monitoring photos and

how they have benefited him in discussions with agency land managers. Thadd highlighted the help that is available to ranchers through his office in starting a range photo monitoring program.

- Dr. Derek Bailey, professor at New Mexico State University, discussed his cutting-edge research to use genetic markers found in DNA to select animals that are more likely to use upland terrain on rangelands rather than spending the majority of their time in the riparian meadows and creek bottoms. This research is still in its infancy; however, it has shown sufficient promise to continue forward. Further research could lead to development of a genomic breeding value that would aid in the selection of bulls and replacement heifers more likely to utilize upland terrain.
- Dr. Matt Garcia, beef specialist at the University of Utah, was the concluding speaker. Dr. Garcia has been conducting research aimed at using genetic testing/genomics in beef cattle selection. One piece of research

he highlighted looked at calf parentage. Results of parentage testing revealed that only six bulls sired calves during the 2018 breeding season. The ranch's bulls sired 72 (69 percent) calves (30, 16, 14, 10 and two calves, respectively). Thirty-two (31 percent) calves were sired by bulls from herds that grazed nearby. Most of their bulls were definitely not pulling their weight, and the neighbor's bulls were quite active! A second study that Dr. Garcia discussed involved the Igenity heifer selection index and comparisons to modern genomic tests.

If any of these topics and/or research is of interest to you, please go to the UI Rangeland Center website, click on the appropriate link, and enjoy!

— Scott Jensen is the University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension educator. He welcomes questions on livestock care. The U of I Owyhee County Extension office is located at 238 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. W., in Marsing and can be reached at (208) 896-4104. Contact at [scottj@uidaho.edu](mailto:scottj@uidaho.edu).

# 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. 6<sup>th</sup> St. W, Homedale. (208) 880-7070 or (208) 337-3464

**Public gospel meeting**  
7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Wilder Rural Fire Protection Station, 601 Patriot Way, Wilder. (612) 367-7984

### Thursday

**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

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

### Saturday

No activities scheduled

### Sunday

No activities scheduled

### 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. 6<sup>th</sup> 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. 6<sup>th</sup> St. W, Homedale. (208) 880-7070 or (208) 337-3464

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

**Public gospel meeting**  
7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Wilder Rural Fire Protection Station, 601 Patriot Way, Wilder. (612) 367-7984

### Thursday, Feb. 4

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

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

### Saturday, Feb. 6

**Owyhee Cattlemen's Assoc. winter meeting**  
1 p.m., registration, 1:30 p.m., meeting, Oreana Community Hall, 18092 Oreana Loop Rd., Oreana

**Owyhee Cattlemen's Association dinner**  
6 p.m., Oreana Community Hall, 18092 Oreana Loop Rd., Oreana. Catered by Cowgirls Catering

### Owyhee Cattlemen's Association dance

9 p.m., Oreana Community Hall, 18092 Oreana Loop Rd., Oreana. Music by Runnin' for Cover

### Monday, Feb. 8

**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. (208) 337-4228

**Story Time**  
11:15 a.m., Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228

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

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

### Tuesday, Feb. 9

**Writing group**  
9 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6<sup>th</sup> St. W., Homedale.

**Ridgeview Irrigation meeting**  
1 p.m., South Board of Control board room, 201 W. Wyoming, Homedale. Meeting available via Zoom, call (208) 337-3760 for link.

**Gem Irrigation meeting**  
1:15 p.m., South Board of Control board room, 201 W. Wyoming Ave., Homedale. Meeting available via Zoom, call (208) 337-3760 for link.

**South Board of Control meeting**  
1:30 p.m., South Board of Control board room, 201 W. Wyoming Ave., Homedale.

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

# Death notices

**LAFON HANCE**, 84, of Marsing, died Saturday, Jan. 23, 2021 at home of natural causes. Arrangements: Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Caldwell. (208) 459-0833

**ROGER GRAHAM YOUNG**, 86, who was instrumental in farming and irrigation in the Bruneau area, died on Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2021. A funeral service was held on Saturday, Jan. 23, 2021 at Rost Funeral Home, McMurtrey Chapel in Mountain Home. [www.rostfuneral.com](http://www.rostfuneral.com)

# Service notice

**BILLY KEITH O’CONNOR (BILL)**, 78, of Nampa, pastor at the Marsing Church of the Nazarene, died on Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2020 after a sudden illness. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 6, 2021 inside the Family Life Center at Karcher Church of the Nazarene, 2515 W. Karcher Rd., Nampa (corner of Karcher Road and Middleton Road). Face coverings and social distancing are recommended.

# 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. 27*  
*Thrift store open from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Tuesday-Thursday*  
Jan. 27: Sausage and biscuit, mashed potato and gravy, peas and carrots  
Jan. 28: Pork roast, mashed potatoes and gravy, spinach  
Feb. 2: Baked fish, hashbrown casserole, sweet potatoes  
Feb. 3: Ham and cheese on roll, potato salad, California blend vegetables  
Feb. 4: Lasagna, green beans  
Feb. 9: Salisbury steak with mushrooms and onions, mashed potatoes/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. 27: Roast beef with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, spinach salad, wheat roll  
Jan. 29: Breaded fish, mac and cheese, peas, coleslaw, wheat bread  
Feb. 1: Fiesta chicken, refried beans, mixed vegetables, citrus salad, tortilla  
Feb. 3: Crunchy tuna casserole, winter blend vegetables, stewed tomatoes, roll  
Feb. 5: Beef stew, brussel sprouts, spiced apples, cornbread

**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. 28: Chicken a la king, biscuit, Oriental vegetables, chow mien, noodles, fruit cocktail, yogurt  
Feb. 2: Spaghetti with meat sauce, buttered noodles, green salad, beets, mixed fruit, yogurt, garlic bread, cookie  
Feb. 4: Tuna casserole, beef ravioli, steamed vegetables, peaches, cottage cheese, roll

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# Obituary

## Bonnie Kay Rochester

Bonnie Kay Rochester, 65, of Homedale, Idaho, surrounded by her family, passed away on January 19, 2021.

Born on November 13, 1955, in Waco, Texas to Charles and Vernell Rochester, she was the 5th of 9 children.

She was best known as Momma, Grandma, & G.G. Always ready for a road trip or sleepover with any of her kids, grandkids or great grandkids. Her cooking, baking, and late night talks will forever be the memories missed most by her family. Time spent with her was never wasted. Her family was her whole world, and her, theirs.

She loved to sing and play the guitar and passed the love for music down to her children and grandchildren.

She loved a quick trip to Jackpot, Nevada and was always the first to be ready for a road trip to Texas.



Bonnie is survived by her three children; Wendy (Roba) Vaughan, Scott Osborn, Kim (Adam) Kent, all of Homedale.

Her grandchildren, Erica, Shaunna, Kayla, Kevin, Taylor, Kyle(Shelby), Colton, Dagan, Cortnee, Emily, Devin and Jaxson and great grandchildren, Dalton, Logan, Bryson, Leland, Austin, Kylin, Brooks, Robi, Carson, Ryker and Grayson.

Her siblings, Charles

Kent(Ethel) Rochester, Sandra(Ken) Gentry, Penny(Kenny) Flowers, and Roger(Billie) Rochester. Brother in law, Richard Barthels. Sister in law, Janell Rochester. And numerous nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Charles & Vernell Rochester, siblings, Jonell Barthels, Raymond Rochester, Cathy Scholtz, and John Rochester. And brother in law, Larry Scholtz.

# COVID-19 worries wash away Bruneau auction

**GV Lions take their benefit online**

Citing restrictions against large crowds, the Bruneau Booster Club has cancelled this year’s benefit auction.

The annual auction, which is typically held on the final Saturday of February, will return in 2022, organizers vowed.

According to a letter to the editor appearing on Page 6B of this week’s The Owyhee Avalanche, the club decided to forgo this year’s auction because of COVID-19 restric-

tions on gatherings as well as “the strain that it has placed on local businesses.”

A year ago, the auction raised a record \$42,500 during a night of food and fun at the American Legion Post 83 Hall on Belle Avenue.

“Your donations and financial support over the years have helped make our town what it is,” the organizers wrote in their letter.

“Our community is very thankful for your participation.”

This is the second community auction cancelled in Owyhee County this year. The Marsing Disaster Fund Com-

mittee decided in December to cancel the annual sale that had been scheduled for Feb. 6.

According to the Baker Auction Co.’s website, the annual Grand View Lions Club benefit auction, typically held in-person inside the town’s elementary school gymnasium, will be held online at [www.bakerauction.com](http://www.bakerauction.com) at 2:30 p.m., on Friday, Feb. 19.

The Bruneau Booster Club’s Community Auction was held on Feb. 22 last year, which was the fourth Saturday, and Feb. 29 was the final Saturday because of leap year.

— JPB

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Good for you. Good for Idaho.

# Moonshine on South Mountain

by Stan Soran

The Volstead Act, or Prohibition, was a government-enforced denial of human nature. Alcohol consumption has always been part of civilization, and legislation to ban it is doomed to eventual failure. Idaho was early to “go on the wagon” in 1916 along with several other states, and by 1919 enough states had ratified the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment that it became the law of the land.

By the time Prohibition became nationwide there were already several going concerns cooking hooch in Owyhee and Malheur counties. By the early 1930s, the making of moonshine was looked upon by some as a good way to make ends meet during hard times.

This story is about a still located about a half-mile past our cabin on Soldier Creek. Facts and details of what went on are hard to come by, but through several sources and drawing on my sometime faulty memory, I stitched together this tall tale.

Besides being in the sheep business some members of Pedro Arritola’s family had branched out into making “shine.” Nephew Rufus operated a still in his hand-dug basement at his home in Jordan Valley in the early 1930s. Pedro did not approve, and when he found his eldest son Eduardo’s still on his ranch, he made him move it. It was moved to a spring near the Arritola Trail into Owyhee Canyon where supposedly some of it remains.

Brothers Larry (Lorenzo) and Pasco (Pascual) homesteaded two sections on the southwest side of South Mountain in the early ’30s. On that land they located a spring with a nearby wood supply that was a perfect place to set up a still. Not only was the operation well off any travelled road, but the location was hidden from even the road that it was near.



**Above:** The 1920s Studebaker Big Six as the author found it 30 years ago in Soldier Creek. **Below:** The same Studebaker in the same spot in September 2019.



A short hike to the top of the hill behind the spring, and one could see all the way to Jordan Valley and thus had early warning of any intruders. The brothers had no trouble finding suppliers of casks, grain and sugar, but finding funding in the early ’30s was a problem. The brothers managed to talk John Telleria into investing some cash from a recent sale of sheep into making a batch of “shine” plus the use of his Studebaker and a garage for storage. After the sale of this nearly 300 gallons, all three did quite well.

Whether they continued to operate the still after this I don’t know and can’t find any further information. Possibly after making such a windfall on one batch, they made more. I do know that at the site of the still are a couple car hoods, some cask

rings and staves, some pipe and other metal items. Also, about three miles to the west in Soldier Creek is a 1920s Studebaker that was stripped down to just the running gear, which was not uncommon for bootleggers to use to deliver their product to market being that stealth was not always necessary in the closing days of Prohibition. It could be Telleria’s old car.

The 1930s were tumultuous years for the Arritolas. Both Lorenzo and Pascual had gotten married and started families. Prohibition ended in 1933, and in 1934 both their parents died. Larry and Pasco wanted out of the sheep business, and in 1935 sold all the lambs and ewes. The passage of the Taylor Grazing Act ending unlimited grazing on public land probably had a lot to do with that decision. They also sold



## Reminiscing Owyhee memories

by Stan Soran



*Savino Uberuaga, who wasn’t involved in bootlegging, owned a stripped-down car in the 1930s and 1940s that is believed to have looked similar to the rotting Studebaker.*

the pasture and homestead sections on South Mountain. Larry went to work in the DeLamar Mine. Pasco went to work for the state highway department helping to complete Highway 95 from Jordan Valley to Winnemucca. Brother Paul took over running the Arritola Ranch.

While there is a lot of information available about the making of moonshine during Prohibition, there is not much in the way of books pertaining to bootlegging in Owyhee and Malheur counties (one that I know of). Still (pun intended) with all the

short stories, books, excerpts and notes, it’s pretty clear that many chose to make some extra money this way as there was a ready market for it if one was willing to take the risk.

— Caldwell resident Stan Soran’s family has a long history of Owyhee County capers. Since the 1950s, the Soran Family has had a mine on Soldier Creek. Four generations of family and friends have hiked, hunted, played, panned, partied, mined, built, burned and rebuilt at the “Cabin.”

Have a news tip?

Call us!

337-4681

# BLM reaffirms states’ sage-grouse plans

The Bureau of Land Management reaffirmed Greater sage-grouse habitat land use plans in the final week of the Trump administration.

The decisions for habitat in seven states, including Idaho, affirms that no further planning or environmental analysis is warranted.

The decisions also brought to a close the collaborative process to develop sage-grouse plans that reflect the needs of western communities and sagebrush-steppe habitat.

The federal government decided against amending existing land use plans, so there is no appeal or protest

process, according to a BLM press release.

The decisions were the agency’s response to issues identified in October 2019 when the U.S. District of Idaho judge placed a preliminary injunction on the implementation on BLM sage-grouse plans in Idaho, Oregon, Nevada,

Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and northeastern California.

The 2019 plans had been adopted after months of coordination and cooperation with state governments to better align BLM plans for managing habitat adopted in 2015 with state plans for species conservation.





A plane sits on an airstrip near Grand View, ready to receive seed for Antelope and Jordan Fires rehab. BLM photo

# Fire-scarred areas in county re-seeded

The Bureau of Land Management carried out reseeded projects in Owyhee County last week.

Aerial reseeding took place in areas burned by last year’s Jordan Fire near Jordan Valley and the Antelope Fire outside Grand View.

An aerial operation was also conducted in the area of the Woodhead Fire near Cascade.

The Owyhee County reseedings took place on Jan. 18. Crop Jet Aviation from Gooding contracted for the work.

Sagebrush seed was applied in key locations within the BLM’s 2,176-acre footprint within the Jordan Fire, which burned eight miles southeast of Jordan Valley.

The fire rehabilitation aims to help speed the recovery of sage-grouse and big game habitat.

Aerial seedings often are carried out this time of year to take advantage of fresh seed collection and wintertime moisture, according to a BLM release.

Crop Jet Aviation spread sagebrush and bunchgrass seed mixes in the area of the Antelope Fire 18 miles south of Grand View.

The BLM wants to restore sage-steppe habitat that is utilized by wildlife and livestock and also fight against the spread of invasive grasses and noxious weeds.

# BLM streamlines red tape for fuels reduction

The Bureau of Land Management took another step in streamlining the continuing campaign to reduce wildfire risk.

In the waning days of the Trump administration, the federal agency released the record of decision (ROD) for the Fuels Reduction and Rangeland Restoration Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement in the Great Basin.

The plan will treat vegetative fuel loads across a 38.5 million-acre swath encompassing parts of Idaho, Oregon, Nevada, California, Utah and Washington.

An electronic copy of the ROD, the final programmatic environmental impact statement and associated documents are available on the BLM Land Use Planning and NEPA register at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/122968/570>

“From creating new administrative tools to completing environmental analyses allowing for strategic rangeland treatments, the Department has actively led the way in reducing fuel loads and the threat of catastrophic wildfires,” BLM principal deputy assistant secretary for land and minerals management Casey Hammond said.

The programmatic EIS released Friday analyzes the environmental effects of fuels reduction projects, invasive species treatments, and vegetation restoration work within important sagebrush communities.

Local BLM District and Field Offices will use the document to comply with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements when planning, analyzing and implementing fuels reduction and rangeland restoration projects using manual, chemical and mechanical treatments, including prescribed fire, seeding and targeted grazing.

This ROD will provide another tool in addition to the April 2020 plan to build and maintain up to 11,000 miles of strategically placed fuel breaks to control wildfires.

So far, the agency has completed more than 1,000 miles of the fuel breaks.

The sagebrush habitat plan is part of a larger national wildfire reduction strategy through which the BLM significantly reduced hazardous fuel loads in fire-prone areas by treating more than 782,000 acres using a variety of active management vegetation treatments including mechanical, biological, and chemical tools as well as prescribed fire.

The Department of the Interior has treated 5.4 million acres of land since 2017, including a 10-year-high 1.5 millions acres in Fiscal Year 2020.

# Local gospel meetings scheduled

A Wilder-based gospel fellowship will host a pair of guest ministers from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., every Wednesday from tonight through Feb. 24 at the Wilder Rural Fire Protection Station, 601 Patriot Way, Wilder.

Guest ministers Glenn Sparks and Brandon Forsyth will lead the meetings to help, according to information received from the fellowship, “inspire faith in God and in His power to do work in people’s lives today.”

The Bible is the only literature that will be used for the meetings.

No collections will be taken, and the congregation will lead in singing hymns. All individuals and families are invited to attend.

Masks and social distancing are encouraged during the meeting.

The fellowship typically meets every on Sunday morning in people’s homes.

For more information, call Sparks and Forsyth at (612) 367-7984.

# Courthouse report

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

**Jan. 19**  
**Aram Sarkisyan, Burbank, Calif.** — Misdemeanor motor carrier violation, fail to stop at checking station or submit to inspection, grading or weight-ing: \$118.50 in fines, \$160.50 in court costs

**Jan. 15**  
**Marco Antonio Canocar-rillo, Hesperia, Calif.** — Mis-demeanor commercial freight regulations violation, false log-book: \$43.50 in fines, \$157.50 in court costs

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## 24th Annual Sale

### Thursday, March 18, 2021

### Producer's Livestock

### Vale, Oregon 1 pm MST

*Selling sons of these elite bulls and more*

Werner Flat Top

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# Have a news tip?

Call us!

## 337-4681

## Homedale FFA plans prime rib take-out, online auction

With circumstances upending plans for its annual Harvest Auction, the Homedale FFA chapter has come up with a new strategy.

The fundraising will include selling tickets for a prime rib take-out dinner and an online auction through JBS Auctions ([www.jbsauctions.com](http://www.jbsauctions.com)).

The FFA Senior Scholarship Prime Rib Take-Out Dinner will consist of prime rib, salad, potatoes, baked beans, a roll, and dessert.

Tickets are \$25 per meal, and the dinner will be ready for pick-up between 4 p.m., and 8 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 27 at the Homedale High School Ag Shop.

The online auction will open in the first week of February and close Feb. 26.

Auction items included wood and metal items the FFA’sers have built in the school shop as well as some theme baskets.

Winning bidders can pay for an pick up their items at the Ag Shop.

The FFA chapter is also

looking for auction contributions, but right now auction baskets include:

**Kitchen** — Utensils, cookware, decorations, seasonings and other miscellaneous

**Spa Day** — Face masks, nail polish, candles, and other items

**FFA** — FFA merchandise, personalized Homedale chapter items, FFA metal cut-out, greenhouse vouchers and more

**Wine and Dine** — Wine, possibly restaurant gift cards, bottle opener, chocolates, cheese, cutting board, and more

**Automotive** — Car detailing kit, air fresheners, jumper cables, perhaps a gas gift card, and more

**BBQ** — Cooler, barbecue utensils, seasonings and more

**Garden** — Gardening tools, seeds, FFA greenhouse vouchers, garden wagon, gloves, and more

Contact Homedale FFA on Facebook for more information or to help out.

## Homedale garden meeting slated

With spring near, a planning meeting is set for the Homedale Community Garden.

Garden coordinator Denise Dixon announced Monday afternoon that the meeting will take place at 10 a.m., on Saturday at the community garden near the RV Park entrance at Riverside Park.

If interested in the meeting, RSVP to Dixon at (208) 840-0440 or by email at [dddixon2222@gmail.com](mailto:dddixon2222@gmail.com).

## Grand View Community Club seeks support to renovate church

### Brick sale ongoing; block grant sought

Fundraising efforts to convert Grand View’s St. Henry’s Catholic Church into a community center are ongoing.

The non-profit Grand View Community Club continues its sale of commemorative bricks.

Now the organization is reaching out to key figures in the local community to write letters of support for a \$225,000 Idaho Community Development Block grant.

The grant will help transform the church into a building to be used for community events, meetings, classes, after-school activities and private parties to mark weddings, birthdays and graduations.

“Our main goals are to encourage more unity within our community and to provide a beautiful place to hold our activities and special occasions,” the group wrote in a community letter requesting support.

“We welcome all organizations and families to participate and enjoy.”

According to the letter, the block grant will come with a matching requirement of

“around 20 percent,” which includes in-kind contributions (labor and material) as well as cash.

The block grant, if received, will help a remodel that would include:

- Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility, including adding a family restroom upstairs
- New flooring and sound system ins the second story
- New basement kitchen with new cabinets and appliances
- New heating and cooling system, new lighting and new windows throughout the building, which is located at 501 Idaho St.
- Landscaping
- The grant also would help purchase recreational items such as a pool table, mini bowling, a ping-pong table, electronics, and furniture

The request letter points out that the Idaho Department of Commerce, which is in charge of the block grant system, typically receives 10 applications each fiscal year. Only about four are awarded.

“One of the main determining factors is substantial community support,” according to the letter.

The application deadline is March 5, and letters of support should be emailed to [vcollett67@gmail.com](mailto:vcollett67@gmail.com).

Through the ongoing brick fundraiser, folks can have personalized bricks featured on a large accent wall that is planned for inside the main entry. That wall will memorialize the businesses, families and individuals whose generosity made the community center possible.

There are three brick sizes from which to choose:

- A 12-inch-by-12-inch brick costs \$1,000.
- An 8x8 brick costs \$200
- A 4x8 brick costs \$125

Contact Victoria Collett at [vcollett67@gmail.com](mailto:vcollett67@gmail.com) to submit an engraving and purchase a brick.

Proofs will be provided before the engraving is set in the brick.

— JPB

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# Owyhee Land Exchange protest period starts today

## Land Board OKs parcel swap between state, BLM

Reorganization of 51 parcels in and around the Owyhee Canyonland Wilderness took another step toward finalization last week.

The Idaho Board of Land Commissioners unanimously approved the Owyhee Land Exchange during a virtual meeting on Jan. 19.

The vote was one of the last hurdles for a deal in which the Bureau of Land Management and the Idaho Department of Lands traded ground to better suit both agencies' missions and objectives.

The exchange nearly 12 years in the making will close after a federally mandated protest period.

The 45-day protest period began today with the publication of a notice of decision, which BLM Idaho state director John Ruhs signed Jan. 19.

There also is 60-day review through the governor's office.

A copy of the decision is available through the BLM Boise District Office, 3948 Development Ave., Boise, ID 83705 or by calling (208) 384-3300.

The state agency will honor existing BLM grazing permits with the issuance of land use permits covering the time remaining on the permits.

Written testimony and oral comments during the meeting reflected overwhelming support for the exchange.

The Idaho Conservation League was hopeful the exchange could be completed so other business related to the Owyhee Initiative could commence.

The Owyhee Initiative board

of directors voted unanimously on two separate occasions to support the exchange, which had been part of the OI process for more than a decade.

"The purpose of this exchange is to increase management efficiencies, lower management costs, enable more consistent management, and reduce conflicts for both agencies," OI board vice-chair Craig Gehrke said last week in prepared remarks.

"The exchange still provides appropriate access with routes identified and recommended by the Owyhee Initiative while maintaining the wilderness boundaries. The exchange also still allows continuation of livestock grazing in those area where it is currently taking place."

Another Owyhee Initiative member, rancher Chris Black whose ranching allotment covers an area that includes two wilderness areas, favors the exchange, too.

"I have faith in the (IDL) being able to do work through any other problems or issues that come up with it," Black said during his testimony.

Owyhee County commissioners also support the exchange.

"We were involved at the very beginning, and we were able to get the State to only exchange lands with the approval of the ranchers whose permits would be affected," Dist. 2 Commissioner Kelly Aberasturi told The Owyhee Avalanche.

"Our stance was ... it's up to the individual rancher whether they wanted to exchange one way or the other. This also took many acres off the land exchange."

Aberasturi and current BOCC chair Joe Merrick (Dist. 3) said the BOCC intervened directly with then-Gov. C. L. "Butch" Otter when it ap-

peared the state would go through with the exchanges regardless of permittees' preferences.

"That's when they agreed to only exchange lands next to wilderness and only with the approval of the permittee," Aberasturi said.

Aberasturi cautiously added:

"Only time will tell how it can or not affect the permittee. Since it is government, it probably won't be good if it does affect the permittee," he said. "I will not get in the middle of the exchange unless a permittee whose lands have been exchanged asked the commissioners to intervene, and no one has asked the commissioners to intervene at this time."

Deputy state attorney general Steven Strack testified about the AG's analysis of water rights and grazing preferences, which are chief concerns of Owyhee County rancher Tim Lowry.

The Idaho Farm Bureau Federation submitted a lengthy written comment opposing the exchange.

On behalf of Lowry and other ranchers who potentially could be affected, the Farm Bureau expressed concerns that the IDL conflict lease program will take over and jeopardize livestock producers' continued use of the land and the associated water rights on former BLM allotments.

Both Lowry and Farm Bureau's Russ Hendrickson said that without compensation the loss of a grazing preference (and, in turn, stock water rights) would amount to an illegal taking.

Strack, however, cited federal and state court decisions that affirmed that a grazing preference was a benefit provided by the government, and if the government agency decided to halt grazing, the benefit would cease.

Strack said Lowry would not lose water rights if he agreed

to the exchange. However, it is possible the water right would expire if Lowry is unable to reach an agreement to cross ground to access the water. But Strack called that possibility "speculation."

"As a practical effect, if Mr. Lowry was to lose his federal grazing permits, it may eventually prevent use of his state water rights, but it doesn't take away any part of his state water rights itself," Strack said.

"And since this is a grazing allotment, and Mr. Lowry would still hold permits to graze on the federal lands that are part of the allotment, he would not be fenced off from using those state lands at this point and time.

"He would still have access to the water sources to water the cattle that he is permitted to continue grazing within the allotment."

Later, in answering a question from Attorney General and Land Board member Lawrence Wasden, Strack said: "It's not the exchange that puts the water right at risk. It's the nature of the water right itself."

Unlike BLM grazing permits, which can be automatically renewed every 10 years if permittees adhere to agreement requirements, state grazing rights are put up for auction when leases expire.

During his Land Board presentation, IDL Bureau Chief-Real Estate Services Ryan Montoya pointed out solutions to concerns ranchers had voiced during outreach about the exchange. He said 145 letters were mailed, but only two ranchers responded:

- The current animal unit month and seasons of use would not be affected.
- For current BLM grazing permits that will convert to state management, the IDL will honor a permit with a term of more than five years left, and will issue permits of up to five years for those that may expire in the interim.
- For state lessees concerned about future BLMAUM reductions, the federal agency has agreed to incorporate current state lease terms into 10-year federal permits. Additionally,

IDL allowed state lessees to opt out of the exchange, which reduced the exchange by more than 10,000 acres.

Grand View-based rancher George Bennett testified he will have an easier time joining federal juniper eradication programs now.

Ninety percent of Bennett's permit is on state land, but IDL also manages his federal acreage because of the remoteness of the ground.

Bennett said the delay in the exchange has hampered his efforts to enroll in the juniper program. He said he has signed up at least twice and had to turn it down because of delay.

"We would like to sign up again," he said.

More than 31,000 acres of non-wilderness land managed by the BLM will be exchanged for nearly 24,000 acres of state endowment land. The equal value exchange is based on the appraised value of the lands, not parcel sizes. The state agency also has to cut a \$30,000 check to the feds to make the deal equitable.

The state land includes 40 parcels with 17 grazing leases that will now become part of the Owyhee Canyonland Wilderness. Nearly 16,000 acres of wilderness inholdings and 4.5 miles of Wild and Scenic River that will transfer to the feds.

The BLM side of the equation is 11 parcels with 18 grazing permits.

IDL will acquire parcels adjacent to existing endowment lands that have access, creating larger endowment blocks, reducing the expense of managing scattered parcels and increases potential revenue for trust beneficiaries, the press release stated.

Through the exchange, the BLM can provide consistent management within the wilderness area. The exchange also will enhance dispersed back-country recreation through access to wilderness. According to the press release, that will improve opportunities for hunting, camping, fishing and river floating.

— JPB

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## Army Rangers to train

The U.S. Army will bring personnel, equipment and weapons will be on the ground in Owyhee County beginning this week.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Ranger Battalion, 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment will train for seven days from Thursday to Feb. 4 in the vicinity of the Saylor Creek Bombing Range.

According to a letter from Capt. Caleb R. Anderson to Board of Owyhee County Commissioners, the U.S. Army Rangers will conduct routine training, and multiple fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft will transport personnel to and from the training site.

The exercises will also include a dismounted force of 13 personnel moving through joint-use land north of Saylor Creek.

The training will follow pre-designated routes and will not enter private land at any time, the letter states.

This is not a live-fire exercise, the Army said. Personnel training will use blank ammunition at all times.



Veterans of Foreign Wars Samuel C. Phillips Post 11065 Cmdr. Daniel Carlson (left) hands off a Mossberg rifle to drawing winner Ellen Boatman of Wilder. Submitted photo

## VFW names raffle winner

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Samuel C. Phillips Post 11065 plans another raffle to put a roof on its Wilder headquarters.

Post Cmdr. Daniel Carlson said the post is currently tracking down quotes for the project, but must bolster its building fund with the raffle.

Tickets for a Kimber American 1911 .45 caliber pistol will be sold until July.

Carlson said ticket prices are still being discussed and tickets aren't yet available.

Meanwhile, Wilder resident Ellen Boatman, who works in Homedale, was named the winner of the Mossberg rifle raffle.

For more information, call Carlson at (208) 649-7006.

Local schoolchildren will be honored this week in the local post's Patriot's Pen essay and Voice of America speech contests.

## Air Force: Exercises may disrupt Bruneau-area GPS

Bruneau-area ranchers and farmers are being warned about possible GPS service disruption because of another military training exercise.

The Idaho Farm Bureau Federation announced that Mountain Home Air Force Base officials announced possible impacts to GPS devices earlier this week.

The training will take place between Feb. 1 and Feb. 24 around the general Bruneau area and Air Force base area as well as the area surrounding the Saylor Creek and Juniper Butte Military ranges.

Military officials want farmers and ranchers to know that ag equipment such as tractors and other devices that rely on the Global Positioning System may malfunction during the exercises.

According to a Mountain Home AFB news release, possible malfunctions may occur between 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., on certain dates during the training schedule.

Air base spokesman 2nd Lt. Hank Fitzgerald told IFBF that the Air Force understands how important agriculture is to the state and wanted to do everything possible to minimize any potential impacts on farmers and ranchers.

"I come from a family of farmers and ranchers, so I know the impact a GPS interruption can have on agricultural enterprise," he said. "It is very important to our leadership that we be good neighbors and get the word out about the impacts of this critical training as soon as possible, in order to minimize any issues it might cause for our great community."

This is the third time in the past two years that Air Force officials have contacted the ag community about the exercises.

"That the U.S. Air Force views it as important to try to protect farmers and ranchers from any possible impacts of these training exercises speaks volumes about the men and women of the Air Force whose mission is to protect and serve this great nation," IFBF president Bryan Searle, a Shelley farmer, said. "We are more than happy to work with Mountain Home AFB to get the word out about these exercises."

The Farm Bureau said there are 578 farms and 749,000 acres of farmland in Owyhee County, according to the most recent Census of Agriculture data.

"We thank you for your patience and understanding as we undertake a critical training mission to ensure our readiness and national defense," the Mountain Home AFB news release states. "This training ensures that we are prepared for real-world combat and remain lethal and agile."

For more information about the exercises, contact the Mountain Home AFB public affairs office at (208) 828-6800 or by email at 366FW.PA.Public.Affairs@us.af.mil.

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**Idaho Fudge owner: “Owyhee County just got sweeter”**  
Brooke Lynes (left) and Janie Nafsinger opened Idaho Fudge Company, 111 Main St., in Marsing on Dec. 4. The business offers several types of fudge, including chocolate walnut, cookies and cream, blueberry cheesecake fudge, and more, available in bulk or individual boxes. The company also sells local and regional items like Dorothy’s Huckleberry, from Boise, and Tillamook ice cream. The business may begin beer and wine sales soon, too. The store’s hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, call (208) 800-8100, or visit <https://idahofudgecompany.com/>.

## Online meeting to address Malheur County resource conservation goals

A meeting analyzing Malheur County’s natural resource priorities is going online. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service will hold the annual meeting on Zoom from 1 p.m., to 4 p.m., on Thursday, Feb. 11. The Malheur County Local Work Group meeting has been called to gather input from farmers and ranchers, state and federal agencies, and agriculture and conservation organizations. Comments received will help NRCS prioritize natural resource conservation projects in the county as well as develop a road map on how to achieve collaborative investment in those works. All members of the public are invited to participate. The process includes:

- Joining the meeting online at <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1615086484?pwd=Nng5YnV0bEswcE81VU43MGcwa0t1UT09>
- Meeting ID is 161 508 6484
- Passcode is 514389

For more information, contact USDA NRCS Malheur County district conservationist Lynn Larsen:

- **By mail** — 2925 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., Ste. 2, Ontario, OR 97914
- **By phone** — (541) 823-5132
- **By email** — [lynn.larsen@usda.gov](mailto:lynn.larsen@usda.gov)



**Clockwise from the left:** Kyndra Williams, Ryann Skinner, Alex Williams, Stetson Mackenzie, Colby Starbuck, Colby Carson, Paisley Starbuck, Cooper Mackenzie, Mesa Mackenize, and Carlee Mackenzie. Submitted photo

## South Mtn. Livestock 4-H appoints officers

The South Mountain Livestock 4-H club kicked off another year with the election of officers on Sunday. The club now has 12 members. The 2021 officers are: Kyndra Williams, president and reporter; Jayden Skinner, vice-president; Cooper Mackenzie, secretary; Stetson Mackenzie, treasurer; Carlee Mackenzie, tail twister. In addition to officer elections, a discussion was held about upcoming events and new members were welcomed into the fold.

## Conservation district still looking for scholars

With the application deadline approaching, high school seniors have yet to submit inquiries about the Owyhee Conservation District’s annual scholarship. The OCD board of supervisors are still accepting applications from soon-to-be high school graduates looking for assistance pursuing an agriculture-related future. Seniors from Marsing, Homedale, and Jordan Valley high schools can apply for a \$500 scholarship if they meet certain requirements. If no applications are received, this year’s \$500 will be applied to next year’s scholarship. Students have been able to apply for the scholarship since last fall, but according to OCD administrative assistant Debbie Abel, no applications have been received to this point. Besides attending the appropriate schools, all applicants must hold a grade-point average of 3.0 or higher (and be able to provide transcripts reflecting this), must submit a résumé and essay, and must be accepted into a two- or four-year college to pursue an Ag-related career. The OCD board of supervisors will review and make its selection at the district’s Feb. 11 board meeting. — TK

The résumé must include a list of school activities the student is involved with, community service they have performed, as well as specifics about ag-related interests. According to Abel, suggested essay topics include the student’s interests in agriculture or related fields, interest in the relationship between agriculture and the community, or the student’s future in agriculture. The submission deadline is Feb. 10, and applications can be mailed to the Owyhee Conservation District, 250 N. Old Bruneau Hwy, Marsing, ID, 83639. For more information, contact Abel at (208) 896-4544.

## Dean’s List College of Southern Idaho

For Fall 2020 semester Dean’s List at CSI in Twin Falls: Bridget Megan Black, Bruneau  
Valeria Lino-Araujo, Grand View  
Shalynn Brook Balls, Homedale  
Kari Jo Woods, Homedale

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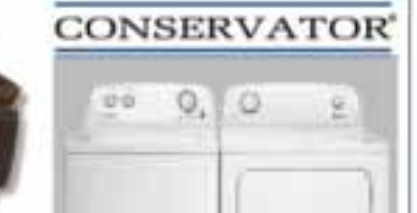
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COMMENTARY, PAGES 6-7B

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2021

LEGALS AND CLASSIFIEDS, PAGES 9-11B

## Huskies take a pair at home

For the first time in the 2A Western Idaho Conference high school girls' basketball season, Marsing cobbled together a winning streak.

The Huskies (4-11 overall, 2-4 in 2A WIC) beat up on Vision Charter, 50-30, at home on Saturday.

The Marsing coaching staff provided no other information.

**Last Wednesday: Marsing 43, The Ambrose School 40** — The Huskies picked up their first conference victory over a struggling group of Archers in Meridian.

"It's been a long road, and the girls played for each other and didn't let the game get too big for them," first-year Marsing coach Mike Swanson said. "It was the senior leadership that really helped us, but the entire team brought it home."

Sophomore guard Emily Vanosdall put up 17 points and pulled down five boards to lead Marsing.

Swanson was quick to praise Ambrose on its play.

"Ambrose is a very well-coached team, and those girls play until the buzzer," he said.

— TK



Marsing's Emily Vanosdall (right) shoots over Ambrose freshman Krystin Collingwood for two of her game-high 17 points.

## Egusquiza nears 100<sup>th</sup> wrestling win for Homedale

### Trojans win two duals in Gooding

Joseph Egusquiza is a good week of wrestling away from his 100<sup>th</sup> career victory for Homedale High School.

The senior enters tonight's home 3A Snake River Valley conference dual meet against Weiser at 97 wins in three-plus years of mat time with the Trojans.

Tonight's dual meet marks the first home action for

Homedale this season, and under new state guidelines the school is allowing 40 percent of the gymnasium's capacity for spectators.

Egusquiza moved closer to the century mark during the

— See *Wrestling*, page 3B



Joseph Egusquiza

### The 100 club

|                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Nash Johnson.....         | 154 |
| Jeremy Ensley.....        | 129 |
| Tyler Christoffersen..... | 119 |
| Adam Duryee.....          | 117 |
| Justin Ensley.....        | 110 |
| Bryan Martinat.....       | 107 |
| Ryan Nash.....            | 105 |
| Ron Hooker.....           | 102 |
| Joseph Egusquiza.....     | 97  |

## Scaled-down in size not significance, Nash girls' tourney returns

Participation may be down this year, but the second annual Ardis Nash Memorial wrestling tournament is no less important.

Homedale High School will play host to the girls' tournament, the namesake of which was a staunch supporter of HHS athletics and the mother to two state-caliber wrestlers — Steve Nash and Ryan Nash — mother-in-law of former Trojans coach Toby Johnson, grandmother of another HHS

state champion, Nash Johnson, as well as a respected educator in town.

"We will acknowledge who Mrs. Nash was and how she was a loved member of our community and school district," Trojans coach Jake Levinski said.

She died in 2009 at the age of 72. She taught at Nampa High School before moving to HHS in 1963. After an absence to

— See *Nash*, page 3B

## More fans can now watch games

The Homedale High School gymnasium was as packed as it has ever been this season Friday.

The girls' basketball game against Parma marked the first home contest since a new COVID-19 spectator protocol was adopted last week.

The Governor's Office and the state Department of Education developed the new plan.

Now, schools that agree to the new plan can fill gymnasiums to 40 percent capacity.

According to HHS athletic director Casey Grove, that's

600 people in the 1,500-seat high school gymnasium.

Marsing athletic director Brian Marshall said his school would figure out new parameters this week. But Facebook posts reflected that 40 percent of the new gym's seating capacity would allow 664 fans.

Previously, only two people per athlete could attend.

As of Monday, gymnasiums no longer must be cleared and cleaned between contests.

The Idaho State Board of Education's executive committee lifted the requirement

after receiving feedback from school districts. One complaint was a lack of safe space to wait while cleaning took place.

Masks must be worn if social distancing of six feet is unattainable.

While the spectator threshold has changed for basketball and wrestling meets, wrestling tournaments are still fan-less.

Pep bands and cheerleaders can now attend and won't count against the 40 percent rule.

Student sections are allowed, too, but under mask and social distancing guidelines. — JPB

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Sports

Homedale girls put up second-half fight vs. Parma

Team posts most consistent scoring so far in SRV

Homedale High School’s girls’ basketball team is showing signs of improvement as the 3A District III Tournament looms.

The Trojans broke the 30-point barrier for the third consecutive game Friday and stayed with powerful Parma for three quarters.

The unbeaten Panthers prevailed, 56-32, in a 3A Snake River Valley conference game. The contest was the first inside the HHS gymnasium for which a large crowd was allowed to watch since the COVID-19 restrictions were eased.

Homedale (2-15 overall, 0-7 in conference) lost its 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive game, but the Trojans were able to get more consistent scoring after falling into a 24-5 hole on a three-pointer by Parma’s Grace Jackson 1 minute, 42 seconds into the second quarter.

Jackson connected on five treys and led all players with 24 points. Teammate Austyn Harris finished with 14 points, and she and Jackson shared the team lead with six rebounds each.

Coach Kortney Ford’s team trails Payette for the fifth seed



Homedale sophomore Jacy Parker (left) fights for a shot against Parma freshman Sidney Jackson during Friday’s home game.

for the district tournament, and the Pirates own the tiebreaker thus far by virtue of their 32-29 victory on the Trojans’

floor earlier this month. The two teams meet in Payette on Friday. Parma’s pressing defense

and quickness caused problems for Homedale at home Friday, triggering five turnovers in the first quarter. Sophomore Taylor Kaiser stole an inbounds pass under her own basket and put in a layup to give the Panthers (12-4, 7-0) an 11-1 lead about 5½ minutes into the game.

The Trojans finally broke Parma’s pressure defense when freshman Olivia Asumendi hit a breakaway layup for Homedale’s first field goal with 2:40 left in the first period.

Asumendi scored six points on the night, and Amaia Aberasturi added eight, including a pair of three-pointers. Asumendi also paced Homedale with nine rebounds.

Homedale began showing some fight when Jacy Parker rebounded her own shot and scored to pull the Trojans to within 18-5 10 seconds into the second period.

Parker led the Trojans with 11 points on 4-for-14 shooting, and three of her five rebounds were on the home team’s side of the floor.

**Jan. 19: Fruitland 60, Homedale 40** — The Trojans slipped behind during a wild second quarter before the host Grizzlies took control with a 17-4 run to start the second half.

The teams were tied, 7-7, after one quarter then

combined for 43 points in the final eight minutes of the first half. Fruitland owned a 31-26 advantage at the break.

Homedale connected on just 13 of 57 shots (22.8 percent) and committed 27 turnovers.

Fruitland was 22-for-77 (28.6 percent) as both teams chucked 134 shots toward the basket in 32 minutes.

The Grizzlies, who kept their miscues down to eight, managed to win the game despite Homedale holding a 47-34 rebounding advantage, most of which was forged on Fruitland’s backboard (a 27-20 edge).

Parker and Mayci Cline dominated the glass. Parker had nine of her game-high 14 boards on Fruitland’s end, and Cline took down seven of her 11 rebounds on defense.

Aberasturi was the only Homedale scorer to reach double figures (14 points), while the Grizzlies had three players in double digits — sophomores Payton Fritts and Abbi Roubidoux with 15 points each, and senior Madi Fritts with 11 points, including three three-point goals.

Téa Uranga sank three of four free throws and scored nine points for Homedale, while Aberasturi was 6-for-7 from the stripe.

The rest of the team went 3-for-10.

HOMEDALE TROJANS

Athlete Spotlight

HOMEDALE  
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ADVISORS  
TAX AND WEALTH PLANNING  
208-337-3271

WILSON point2S  
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Wilder • Payette  
(208) 482-7565

208-337-4664



Boys' basketball  
Trenton Fisher, so., F  
3 points, 4 steals during week



Girls' basketball  
Jacy Parker, so., G, W, P  
Scrappy play vs. Parma



Wrestling  
Trinity Neeser, fr., 132  
Won exhibition vs. Fruitland

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

Girls' basketball  
Varsity  
Wednesday, Jan. 27 at Weiser, 7:30 p.m.  
Friday, Jan. 29 at Payette, 7:30 p.m.  
Junior varsity  
Wednesday, Jan. 27 at Weiser, 6 p.m.  
Friday, Jan. 29 at Payette, 6 p.m.  
Frosh soph  
Wednesday, Jan. 27 at Weiser, 4:30 p.m.  
Friday, Jan. 29 at Payette, 4:30 p.m.

Wrestling  
Coed  
Wednesday, Jan. 27, home for 3A SRV dual vs. Weiser, 5:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, Feb. 3 at 3A SRV dual vs. McCall-Donnelly, 5:30 p.m.  
Girls  
Saturday, Jan. 30, home for Ardis Nash Memorial, 11 a.m.

Boys' basketball  
Varsity  
Thursday, Jan. 28, home vs. Payette, 7:30 p.m.  
Friday, Jan. 29 at McCall-Donnelly, 7:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Feb. 2 at Fruitland, 7:30 p.m.  
Junior varsity  
Thursday, Jan. 28, home vs. Payette, 6 p.m.  
Friday, Jan. 29 at McCall-Donnelly, 6 p.m. (no fans)  
Tuesday, Feb. 2 at Fruitland, 6 p.m.  
Frosh soph  
Thursday, Jan. 28, home vs. Payette, 4:30 p.m.  
Friday, Jan. 29 at McCall-Donnelly, 4:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Feb. 2 at Fruitland, 4:30 p.m.

Cheer  
Saturday, Jan. 30 at Burley Invitational

Note: 40 percent gymnasium capacity allowed (apx. 600)  
Spectators not allowed for wrestling tournaments  
Games are available on www.nfhsnetwork.com. There is a fee.

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Sports

# Coach sees Trojans’ hardwood strides

## Boys use defense to battle prolonged slump

It has become a cultural cliché, but “Trust the Process” must be ringing through Homedale High School boys’ basketball practices.

Second-year coach Cam Long’s squad played its second low-scoring game of the week Saturday afternoon, losing, 37-31, to host Weiser.

But this 3A Snake River Valley conference setback had a different feel to it.

The Trojans (4-9 overall, 1-2 in conference) came out tenacious on defense, shutting out the Wolverines, 13-0, over the first eight minutes.

Weiser (4-10, 2-1) trailed by 15 points in the first half before roaring to life with a 21-point third quarter. The Wolverines scored 20 points off Homedale turnovers.

“These growing pains hurt, but I am very proud of the Men of Troy,” Long posted on Twitter after the loss. “Our

kids compete and play their guts out.

“We are getting closer to being a complete product. Stay grinding.”

The disparity on either side of the intermission reflected a bugaboo that has haunted the Trojans this season — inconsistent shooting.

Homedale connected on seven of 19 shots (36.8 percent) in the first 16 minutes, but the Trojans missed all eight of their three-point attempts.

In the second half, Jaxon Dines, Mason Strong and Josh Brown connected from long range, but the team missed 10 other three-point tries and took only seven shots from inside the line. Homedale converted 25 percent of its field-goal attempts (5-for-20).

Weiser rebounded, knocking down half of its 18 shots, including a 42.9 percent clip (6-for-14) from the perimeter, in the second half.

Brett Spencer, Dines’ quarterback rival during the fall, led all scorers with 18 points. He had four three-pointers and shared game rebounding honors with teammate Tyler Pope. Both players pulled

down eight rebounds and combined for 13 of Weiser’s 20 defensive rebounds.

Homedale had few second chances with only five offensive rebounds.

Dines hit all five of his attempts inside the three-point line and three of four free throws and had team-high totals of 16 points and six rebounds (all on the defensive glass).

Strong was 2-for-12 from the floor for five points, and Brown and Ventura Martinez scored three points each.

**Thursday: Homedale 28, Parma 23** — Free throws and three-pointers helped the Trojans snap a three-game losing streak with a low-scoring victory up U.S. Highway 95.

Dines nailed both of his team’s three-point goals, and Hayden Kincheloe was 2-for-3 from the foul line for his only points of the night against the Trojans’ closest (geographically) conference foes.

Parma led throughout the game until Homedale went on a 10-4 run in the fourth quarter.

Dines tallied a game-high 13 points,

including a pair of treys, and was 3-for-6 from the free-throw line.

Fellow junior Strong was 3-for-4 from the charity stripe. He scored seven points and led the team with six defensive rebounds.

Kincheloe grabbed seven boards.

Homedale was 10-for-17 from the foul line, while Parma was able to knock down just two of 12 chances.

Neither team shot the lights out from the floor either. Homedale survived a 25 percent shooting night (8-for-32) with defense and despite a lack of rebounding on its own glass.

Strong, Dines and Trenton Fisher came up with three steals apiece as the Trojans forced the Panthers into 20 turnovers.

Josiah Larson led Parma (3-8, 1-3) with 10 points on 5-for-6 field-goal shooting. Jarod Krohn captured seven of his team-high nine rebounds on defense as the Panthers held a 23-4 edge on Homedale’s end of the floor.

The Panthers ended the week on a three-game losing streak.

## ✓Wrestling: Nix has big weekend during Gooding duals tournament

*From Page 1B*

Gooding Grapplers Duals on Friday and Saturday as the Trojans finished sixth.

The 152-pounder is on the cusp of becoming the ninth wrestler in HHS history to collect 100 wins, and is 10 wins away from tying Bryan Martinat, No. 6 on the list, at 107 wins. He’s five wins away from catching Ron Hooker.

Nash Johnson was the last HHS wrestler to reach 100 wins, and he holds the school’s all-time record with 154 victories.

**Saturday: Homedale 36, McCall-Donnelly 36** — Although the 3A SRV members finished deadlocked in the

scorebook, the Trojans got the upper hand through a tie-breaker.

The most exciting match of the dual came at 285 pounds as Owen Houser finally put Sawyer Kovis on his back 44 seconds into overtime.

Rhyalee Nix pinned Carter Tucker in 4 minutes, 22 seconds of their 170 bout for one of Homedale’s three wins on the mat. The rest of the points were scored on forfeits.

Brodie White pinned Jake Carr in 3:22 at 220.

**Saturday: Fruitland 66, Homedale 12** — The Trojans met the Grizzlies for the second time in the week with a result similar to Homedale’s

conference loss on the road last Wednesday.

Egusquiza shut out Ray-mundo Florez, 7-0, at 152, and Nix decisioned Carter Stowe, 9-3, at 170.

Willy Haun pinned Haiden Carroll in 3:47 of their 195 match.

**Friday: Buhl 48, Homedale 33** — The Trojans nearly overcome a huge deficit as the Indians built an advantage with pinfalls and forfeits.

Nix beat Kaleb Homan, 9-3, at 170, and Haun took down Spencer Gorrell in 41 seconds of their 195-pound match for Homedale’s only on-mat points.

**Friday: Homedale 48,**

**Kimberly 27** — Egusquiza made quick work of Ethan Coy, pinning him in 40 seconds, to highlight the Trojans’ triumph. It was one of four victories by pinfall in the match for Homedale.

At 132, Andrew Marston pinned his opponent in 1 minute, 47 seconds.

Willie White took out his foe in 32 seconds at 160.

Nix needed 65 seconds to stop Kimberly’s 170-pound wrestler.

**Friday: Gooding 39, Homedale 22** — Egusquiza pinned Wes Shaw one second before the end of the second period in the 152 bout, and White pinned Cole Anderson

in 20 seconds at 160.

Nix put Colton Miceli on the mat in 3:22 at 182.

Egusquiza picked up another victory in an extra match, pinning his opponent in 3:23.

**Friday: South Fremont 66, Homedale 24** — The only losses of the weekend for Egusquiza and Nix came in the setback against the Cougars.

White needed just 16 seconds to pin Max Clark at 160 pounds, and Haun put his challenger on his back at 3:29 juncture of their 195-pound bout.

Homedale’s other points came on forfeit victories for Isaiah Stebly (126) and Houser (285).

## ✓Nash: Trojans’ female wrestlers take spotlight at home Saturday

*From Page 1B*

raise her family, Ardis returned to teach at Homedale from 1983 to 2004.

The wrestling tournament, which under current state guidelines is closed to spectators, will take place Saturday at the HHS gymnasium.

The inaugural event was held at Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa last season and included a wrestling

clinic headed up by a Team USA coach.

This year’s event will feature 11 weight classes: 101 pounds, 109, 116, 123, 130, 136, 143, 155, 170, 191, and 250.

Levinski said the tournament will be bracketed. The bouts begin at 11 a.m.

The coach said he sent invitations to all Idaho high schools, and he’s not certain how many wrestlers will show up.

“I would be happy with 75

to 100,” Levinski said. “Last year, we had 106 wrestlers.”

But COVID-19 concerns and protocols will, of course, affect turnout.

“This year I expect a drop in attendance,” Levinski said.

“There will be no Oregon schools in attendance this year, and I suspect that there may be a few schools who will be unable to attend because of their district’s policy.”

But a full contingent of

Homedale wrestlers will be on hand for a tournament set in the final season before an Idaho High School Activities Association-sanctioned all-girls’ state tournament is staged.

“I’m excited to see where this season ends up with the girls as they transition into having their own female competition next school year,” Levinski said.

Homedale’s female wrestlers include:

**Seniors** — Anahi Cortez, Gracie Rotter, Kaydince Turner, and Savannah Turner

**Junior** — Lizzy Hergesheimer

**Freshman** — Trinity Neeser

“The girls are wrestling great. They are growing as individuals as well as a team. They are tough girls, and they compete fiercely,” Levinski said.

— JPB

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# Looking back...

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

## 25 years ago

January 31, 1996



### Essay writer

Megan Van Wassenhove, a 7<sup>th</sup> grade Marsing Middle School student, recently won a district Daughters of the American Revolution essay contest, and will now compete in a state meet. Van Wassenhove’s social studies teacher, Mr. Schamber, offered the essay contest as extra credit for any student that was interested.

### Jail is big business for county; \$169,000 income

After three years in the new jail, Owyhee County Sheriff Tim Nettleton has just completed a review of where he’s been and where he’s at and has pronounced that he’s “tickled to death.”

The jail is in better condition fiscally and from a law enforcement standpoint than it was three years ago, he said.

Nettleton remembers back to 1992 when the county was faced with rising crime yet only had eight bunks in the old jail which were never empty. The growth issue was addressed with the passage of a \$1,500,000 bond to build the current 30-bunk jail, which officials expected would satisfy the county’s needs throughout the 15-year term of the bond. Any extra beds could be filled with outside prisoners at \$35 per day, the county hoped, to bring in extra income.

In 1995 the Owyhee County jail brought in \$169,000 from outside prisoners, to be exact, while holding an average of 15.9 county prisoners per day.

That’s double the number of county prisoners the jail was holding just three years ago, plus an additional \$169,000 in revenue.

With the new and more efficient jail and the revenue from outside prisoners, Nettleton figures that the county is now saving \$6.24 per day per county prisoner from 1992. Back in the old facilities it cost \$34.26 to hold a county prisoner for one day, but now it costs just \$28.02, Nettleton figures.

### Cattlemen’s winter meeting Saturday

The Owyhee Cattlemen’s Association annual winter meeting is set for Saturday at the Murphy courthouse.

On the schedule for the afternoon industry reports are Jerry Kidd, BLM Boise District Manager; Joe Tugaw with the ICA President’s report; an NCA convention update; Tim Lowry with an update on the Land Use Planning Committee; and an update on the Snake River Basin Adjudication.

Senator Dirk Kempthorne and Representative Helen Chenoweth have also been invited to attend, as well as Case Visser of Caldwell, Rosemary Lowry, and General Peck with the Mountain Home Air Force Base, who will deliver personal messages about the United States of America.

## 50 years ago

January 28, 1971



CARROL AND LaVILA JOHNSTONE, Central Gem. Johnstone has been named by the Owyhee Soil Conservation District Board of Supervisors as conservation farmer for 1970.

### ‘Conservation Farmer’ title goes to Johnstone

The Owyhee Soil Conservation District selected Carroll Johnstone as the 1970 Conservation Farmer.

Johnstone operates 440 acres in the Homedale-Marsing area. He carries on a diversified system of farming. His 1970 operation consisted of 100 acres of sugar beets with 22½ tons per acre, 100 acres of alfalfa seed with 1,000 pounds per acre, 100 acres of grain at 85-90 bushels per acre, 80 acres of alfalfa at 6 tons per acre, 40 acres of corn for silage at 25 tons per acre and shelled corn at 100 bushels per acre.

The remaining acreage is in pasture with 3 AUMs per acre. He remodeled his feeding operation and can now feed approximately 350 head. He utilizes all of his own feed through the feedlot.

Johnstone has consistently improved his farm through the construction of concrete ditches and has done a considerable amount of land leveling. He follows an excellent crop rotation. He is now contemplating installing a tile drain to alleviate a high water-table problem in one of his fields. He relates that his success can be attributed to following a sound conservation program.

Johnstone is a World War II veteran and a member of the Marsing American Legion post. He recently completed a term on the Owyhee County FHA board. He is a member of the Owyhee County Selective Service Board.

The Johnstones have four children with their oldest girl attending Boise State College and the others attending Homedale schools.

### Homedale laces Capital JVs when Pearson hits 34

Big Paul Pearson and the Homedale Trojans atoned for an earlier loss to the Capital Junior Varsity Tuesday night by clamping a tight defense on the young Eagles and racing to an 86-55 non-conference basketball victory.

Pearson dumped in 34 points – hitting 18 points in the second half when the Trojans broke loose from the Eagles – and used his 6-3 frame to help control the boards as Homedale picked up its seventh win against five losses.

Dave Maffey topped Capital with 18 points while Tom McFarland hit 15. Alan Echeveria aided Pearson’s total with 10.

## 155 years ago

January 27, 1866

SALE OF THE MINERAL LANDS. – Everything pertaining to the disposition of the mineral lands is of peculiar interest to Idaho. That an effort will be made to have them surveyed and sold, there is no doubt. We have before us a bill introduced in the U.S. Senate, by Senator Sherman, for that purpose. The bill must have been drawn prior to the assembling of Congress, as it was introduced on the second day of the session. This shows a deliberate purpose to effect the object. The right of Congress to do this is not questioned, but if done, will be ruinous to the interests the Government should foster. The main features of the bill are: To be sold at public auction after six months’ notice, said notice to give a full description of the location of the lands, the character and quality of the minerals, the nature of the deposits, &c., &c. Sales not to remain open over two weeks, and, with stated exceptions, sales made to highest bidder. Purchases made by combinations are made void. Only citizens, or those who have declared their intention to become such, are allowed to purchase. After close of sales, lands unsold shall be sold at minimum price. During time of sale private entries are prohibited. The purchase money to be paid in gold and silver. Lands to be surveyed in rectangular lots, and must be in one-eighth, one-sixteenth, and one-thirty-secondth parts of sections. May be still further divided but in the same manner. No party can purchase at private or public sale more than forty acres. Sec. 6 prohibits a party from entering “a second tract until he has shown to the satisfaction of the land officers and geologist that he has worked the mineral out of said lands, and that it will no longer pay for working;” and, also, must sell the tract, “at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash, which he proposes to abandon.” There is much more of it equally ridiculous, senseless and injurious. It is impossible to conceive a more crazy act, and as General Sherman established his sanity, John Sherman must be the lunatic. The only merit the bill possesses is its plain absurdities and damaging policy for the Government, thus making it comparatively easy for the Pacific delegation to oppose it successfully.

That portion relating to the timber and salt lands is worse – if possible – than that relating to gold and silver. If men ever attempted “to kill the goose that lays the golden egg,” this lunny Sherman is the Chief. Should this bill become a law, with its leading provisions, it will be the most detrimental ever enacted, both to Government and to individuals. It is wrong in conception, and especially so in construction. It is one of those self-condemning acts, and needs no special argument to oppose it with any man having the most limited knowledge of mining.

THE POPULATION OF THE WORLD – At the present time the population of the world is estimated to amount to 1,000,000,000 persons, speaking 3,064 languages, and professing 1,100 forms of religion. The average duration of human life is estimated at 33 years and 6 months. A quarter of the children born die before their seventh year, and one-half before their seventeenth. Out of the 1,000,000,000 living, 33,000,000 die each year, 91,000 each day, 8,730 each hour, 60 each minute, and consequently 1 every second. These 33,000,000 deaths are counterbalanced by 41,500,000 births – the excess being the annual increase of the human race. Calculating one marriage for every 120 persons of both sexes and of all ages, 83,000,000 are celebrated annually.

Sports

Marsing boys struggle to field full squad

The Marsing High School boys' basketball team's struggles continued after dropping three 2A Western Idaho Conference games last week.

The Huskies played host to Cole Valley Christian on Friday and, despite a better showing than the previous two games, fell to the Chargers 50-40.

It was the fourth straight loss for Marsing (4-10 overall, 3-7 in 2A WIC) and sixth setback in the past seven games.

"Five games in eight days has been a tough stretch," Huskies coach Tim Little said. "We made some steps in the right direction tonight and hope to build on that as we close up this second half of league."

Senior post Jacob Ankeny added another double-double with 15 points and 11 rebounds. He also blocked five shots.

Senior guard Rogelio Valadez put in 11 points, and junior guard Noel Quebrado added six.

Returning from a two-week COVID-19 quarantine, sophomore Alejandro Barrera scored five points and hauled in three boards.

Sophomore post Mikey Acosta also recorded three boards to go with a field goal.

**Jan. 19: New Plymouth 72, Marsing 39** — The Huskies



Nico Acosta jumps uncontested after a fast break against Cole Valley Christian, while Sam Roberts helplessly trails.

have coped with injury and illness in recent weeks, dealing with a few men down, and those difficulties were on display on the Pilgrims' floor.

The health issues and playing on back-to-back nights — and four games in six days — proved to be too much to overcome.

"We're still a little short-handed, but it is what it is," Little said.

The Huskies learned they will be without the services of starting point guard Dominic Enrico into February for an undisclosed reason.

Ankeny and Valadez led the way with 15 and nine

points, respectively. Ankeny pulled down a game-high five rebounds and Valadez had three.

Quebrado scored eight, including five free throws.

**Jan. 18: The Ambrose School 60, Marsing 25** — The shooting woes continued as the Huskies hit just eight of 35 shots (22.8 percent), and lost by the largest margin of the season against the 2A WIC top dog Archers in Meridian.

"We struggled with our third game in five (days)," Little said. "Unfortunately, this stretch saw the top three teams in league, and we had very little left in the tank tonight."

Little said the team faced tough pressure on every shot and struggled in all aspects of the game.

Valadez led with 11 points. He also had two each of rebounds and assists. The senior went 6-for-8 from the foul line.

Ankeny struggled with his shot, hitting just one field goal and scoring a season-low three points. He continued to make his presence felt on the boards, however, pulling down nine rebounds. He also dished out a team-high three assists.

Quebrado scored five points, Nacho Margarito four, and Enrico two.

— TK

Melba girls still have shot at DIII second seed

Kate Clark added to her school-record career point total Saturday in Melba High School's easy girls' basketball victory.

The senior scored 20 points and the Mustangs blasted The Ambrose School, 67-10, in a 2A Western Idaho Conference game played in Canyon County.

Kendall Clark added 18 points for the home team, while Kinley Spence tossed in nine points.

Melba (15-2 overall, 5-2 in 2A WIC at week's end) entered the final week of the regular season one game behind New Plymouth for the No. 2 seed in the 2A District III Tournament. The Mustangs have a firm grasp on the third seed.

The Mustangs traveled to play winless Marsing on Tuesday after deadline and will close the conference campaign on Friday in Meridian against frontrunner Cole Valley Christian (14-1, 9-0).

The Archers from Meridian (1-11, 0-5) managed their lowest point total of the season against Melba.

MARSING HUSKIES Athlete Spotlight



Nacho Montes, sr., G  
First varsity start vs. Ambrose



Girls' basketball  
Llee Loucks, so., P  
First year on varsity



Wrestling  
Troy Miller, sr., 138  
4th at Padilla Invitational

Boys' basketball  
Varsity  
Thursday, Jan. 28 at Compass Charter, Meridian, 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 30 at The Ambrose School, Meridian, 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, Feb. 3, home vs. Vision Charter, 7:30 p.m.  
Junior varsity A  
Thursday, Jan. 28 at Compass Charter, Meridian, 6 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 30 at The Ambrose School, Meridian, 6 p.m.  
Wednesday, Feb. 3, home vs. Vision Charter, 6 p.m.  
Junior varsity B  
Thursday, Jan. 28 at Compass Charter, Meridian, 4:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 30 at The Ambrose School, Meridian, 4:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, Feb. 3, home vs. Vision Charter, 4:30 p.m.

Girls' basketball  
Varsity  
Friday, Jan. 29 at Nampa Christian, 7:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Feb. 2 at 2A District III Tournament  
Junior varsity  
Friday, Jan. 29 at Nampa Christian, 6 p.m.

Wrestling  
Wednesday, Jan. 27 at Nampa Christian Duals, 6 p.m.  
Wednesday, Feb. 3 at New Plymouth Duals, 6 p.m.

Note: Two spectators per player allowed in gym for each game (as of press time, school had not decided on updated protocol).  
Spectators not allowed for wrestling tournaments  
Games livestream at [www.nfhsnetwork.com](http://www.nfhsnetwork.com). There is a fee.

Schedules are subject to change

Marsing Hardware & Pump  
896-4162

NAPA AUTO PARTS  
896-4815

SHOWALTER CONSTRUCTION  
CAN YOU DIG IT?  
896-4331

BAUER  
482-0103

Farm Bureau Insurance Company  
337-4041

Commentary

Baxter Black, DVM



On the edge of common sense  
If Herefords Were Black

If Herefords were black and Angus were red  
would breeders of Herefords breed Angus instead?  
I mean, would the people who bred Herefords first  
be now breeding Angus if things were reversed.

Or would they be loyal to red, white and true  
To color of cowlick be always true blue?  
If such were the case would they dis all the blacks,  
Tell jokes about prolapse, compare them to yaks

More suited for saddle or wearin' a yoke  
Than stubbornly breeding until they go broke.  
And those of the Aberdeen Angus cartel,  
would they tout maternal endowments, as well,

Promoting their native resistance to thorns,  
while cursing as mutants those not sprouting horns.  
Just draggin' their sheath through the cheatgrass and burrs  
like leaky ol' bass boats nobody insures.

Debate would rage on like it does anyway  
if South had worn blue or the North had worn gray,  
Or if Henry Ford had been Hank Chevrolet  
You'd still be a Ford man ... or would you, today?

So if Herefords were black and Angus were red  
would breeders of Herefords breed Angus instead?  
The question begs deep philosophical thought  
but don't get disgruntled or get overwrought

The breeders of purebreds run true to the grain  
And efforts to change them would just be in vain  
And not 'cause they think other cattle are bad  
"I'm stickin' with this one, 'cause that's what Dad had."

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

Letter to the editor  
Bruneau Boosters  
auction postponed

Happy 2021 from the Bruneau Booster Club.

With the current restrictions in place due to COVID-19 and the strain that it has placed on local businesses, we feel it best to postpone our regular fundraising auction until February 2022.

We would like to take this time to express our appreciation and gratitude to each of our loyal donors. Your donations and financial support over the years have helped make our town what it is. Our community is very thankful for your participation.

We hope you are well and surviving this difficult time in our world. Wishing you the best in 2021 and looking forward to working with you again in the future.

The Bruneau Booster Club



Something on your mind?

We welcome letters to the editor

**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. Submitted letters by:

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

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

Gov. Brad Little

Emergency response  
Legislature threatens vaccine rollout, Idaho's prosperity



Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, I have worked hard to protect lives and critical health care capacity for the entire state while keeping families safe and businesses and schools open.

Every decision has been a balancing act, and while the pandemic response has not been perfect, I do believe we achieved a balance.

How can we tell?

Because we have managed to prevent a crisis in our hospitals, and we have kept our state open longer than almost every other state.

Because now, thanks to quick action during the pandemic, Idaho has the strongest economy in the nation and the most financially solvent state budget.

With our record budget surplus, we are poised to provide Idahoans historic tax relief and make strategic investments in "Building Idaho's Future," for us and our children.

Few states can claim that kind of success.

We are in the final lap of the pandemic fight and the finish line is close. We are so close to returning to normal.

But all that success is threatened by the actions taking place in the Legislature.

Every single state has active emergency declarations in place to respond to COVID-19.

President Trump's two emergency declarations remain in effect today.

As with the Teton Dam break in 1976, the 1996 Panhandle Flood, or a devastating wildfire, we initiate an emergency declaration at the request of local communities to access critical federal resources — resources we all pay for.

An emergency is "a serious, unexpected, and often dangerous situation requiring immediate action."

— See Prosperity, Page 7B

From the Statehouse  
Agriculture among several issues important to District 23

The second week of the session was busy and productive. The House of Representatives took action in putting forward a potential amendment to the Idaho Constitution allowing the Legislature to call itself back into session in extraordinary circumstances.

Currently, Idaho is one of only 14 states where the Legislature does not have the ability to call a special session of the Legislature. This issue will be taken to Idaho voters for the final decision. It is important that the Legislature has the opportunity to represent constituents and to exercise the power of the people in dealing with issues that affect our daily lives.

There are many great economic drivers in the

state of Idaho, and last week I met with constituents, producers and legislators that focus on the economic impact agriculture has on our state. Agriculture is a driving economic force in all three counties that I represent. Twin Falls, Owyhee and Elmore counties all have major agricultural producers. Here are a few things I wanted to share about agriculture in Idaho:

- Food and beverage processing equals \$16 billion yearly with \$2 billion worth of products being sold worldwide.
- We are the No. 1 national producer of potatoes,

**Dist. 23A Rep. Matthew Bundy**  
*R-Mountain Home (term expires 2022)*

**Contact him**  
1735 Castle Way  
Mountain Home, ID 83647  
Phone — (208) 332-1181  
or (208) 587-0602 (message)  
E-mail — [mbundy@house.idaho.gov](mailto:mbundy@house.idaho.gov)

**Committees** — Appropriations; Business; Local government



— See Agriculture, Page 7B

Commentary

Financial management  
Three good uses of money tap our emotional center

Dear Dave,  
I was talking to a friend the other day, and I couldn't remember what you said about the three good uses for money and why each is important. Would you go over them again?  
— Albert

Dear Albert,  
I've been doing this for a lot of years, and after all that time studying finance and teaching people about money, I can still find only three good uses for money — spending, saving, and giving. You should be doing all three while you're working your way out of debt and towards wealth, and after you become wealthy.  
The kid in us likes the spend-

ing part of this equation, because it's so much fun. The problem with most people is they can't really afford the fun they have. You should have some fun no matter where you are on the financial scale, but it should be inexpensive fun in the beginning. Then, the fun can get bigger, better, and more frequent once you're out of debt and building wealth.  
The grown-up part of us likes investing and saving, because that's what can prepare you for retirement and make you wealthy. After a while, though, investing can feel a little bit like Monopoly. You can be up, or you can be down. Sometimes the market fluctuates, but a mature investor will ride out



the waves and stay in for the long-term. If you have quality investments with long track records of success, they will come back up. Start investing

15 percent of your income for retirement once you've paid off all debt except for your home and you have three to six months of expenses saved for an emergency fund.  
The most mature part of you will meet the kid inside when you give. Giving is the most fun you'll ever have with money. Every financially, mentally, and spiritually healthy person I've ever met has been turned on by giving. I've met and talked with thousands of millionaires in my career, and one thing all the healthy ones have in common is a love of giving.  
Someone who never has fun with money misses the point. Someone who never saves or invests money will never have

any. And someone who never gives is holding on too tight. Do some of each, and enjoy the ride!  
— 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.

✓ Prosperity

From Page 6B  
Undeniably, COVID-19 is an emergency.  
Hundreds of Idahoans have died, and many more have been horribly sick. Many Idahoans still face that same terrible risk.  
The COVID-19 emergency declaration was requested by Idaho communities, and it is critical in order for Idaho to receive federal assistance — your taxpayer dollars — to manage this crisis.  
The COVID-19 emergency declaration has enabled us to quickly cut red tape and increase health care access.  
These are facts.  
Here is the myth: The emergency declaration somehow shuts down Idaho or takes away your rights.  
That is patently false.  
Some in the Legislature are perpetuating that myth and actively seeking to end the declaration.  
What does it mean?  
• Less vaccine. More taxes. And more red tape.  
• The vaccine roll out is jeopardized — something that is unacceptable in this final stretch.  
• Cities and counties will have to find funds from you to pay for the equipment and support they need.  
• Hospitals could lose access to critical supplies.  
• We lose funding to utilize the Idaho National Guard to support testing, vaccine distribution, food banks, and medical facilities — something that has been a game-changer.  
• We cannot cut red tape and break down regulatory hurdles that stand in the way of better health care access.  
• Your federal taxpayer dollars would go to California, New York, and other states.

• This terrible pandemic and the disruption to our lives will be extended, not ended.  
Some in the Legislature seek political gain by perpetuating misinformation about emergency declarations. They are playing politics, and unfortunately the loser in this shameful game will be Idaho citizens.  
House members admit they are not sure of the financial impact of ending the emergency declaration. Why, then, would you move forward with such a damaging move for our citizens, one that will cost taxpayers tens of millions of dollars?  
The Senate has made it clear they understand the importance of continuing to access federal assistance to overcome the crisis. Why, then, move forward with an action that will have the opposite effect?  
I have explained to legislators for months the importance of the emergency declaration and the reasoning behind all the decisions related to the pandemic response. I have sought their input and applied their advice to the response.  
As I have stated over and over, the “no action” alternative has never been an option. Pretending there is no COVID-19 emergency — as some in the Legislature are doing — will have devastating impacts on lives, our healthcare heroes who are protecting families, and our economy.  
Those who know me know that I greatly value my legislative partners. Cooperation between the executive and legislative branches is required — and expected — for those of us in elected office to best serve Idahoans.  
However, the seriousness of this situation demands I speak up.  
I believe in my heart that what the Legislature is doing is harmful to our people and wrong for Idaho.  
I urge my partners in the Legislature to stop the

political games and do what is right for the people.  
Abandon the myth that the emergency declaration somehow shuts down Idaho and somehow infringes on our rights.  
Abandon these irresponsible attempts to undo Idaho's emergency declaration — an action that only puts the lives and livelihoods of our families and neighbors in jeopardy.  
I don't want to be doing this. I don't want us to focus all this energy on the past 11 months.  
I want us to focus on the future. We have a bright path ahead of us.  
Idaho's economy and state budget are outperforming every other state.  
We have the strongest economy and the most financially solvent state budget.  
We have stayed open longer than almost every other state.  
We absolutely would not be in this phenomenal position right now if we did not have the emergency declarations, if we were not able to act quickly during the darkest months of our pandemic fight.  
To the people of Idaho, I am asking for your help to finish this fight. Please, join me. Tell your legislators not to take away one of our strongest tools to end this pandemic. Tell them Idahoans' lives and livelihoods depend on it.  
Idaho, I will continue to work hard for you and make responsible decisions that help us get through this crisis together. Throughout the pandemic, I have endeavored to protect you, your loved ones, and our economic prosperity.  
I will never relent in that pursuit.  
— Brad Little (R-Emmett) is in his first term as Idaho governor. He previously served 10 years as lieutenant governor and was a state senator for nearly eight years.

✓ Agriculture: Dist. 23 farmers important to Idaho's high national ranks

From Page 6B  
barley, peppermint and trout.  
• We are second in sugarbeets and hops.  
• We are third in alfalfa hay, cheese and milk.  
All these products are a part of our local economy. I will represent all of the industries in District 23, but today I just wanted to mention and give my support to this important part of our economy.

We are in the beginning of the session and in the initial stage of the legislative process. There are many ideas that will continue to allow Idaho to be the greatest place to live, work and raise a family.  
I support public access to the state capitol (Statehouse), and I hope many of you visit and watch us do the work of the people. Please let me know if you plan on coming to visit, and I will do my best to

answer your questions and help you feel comfortable in the seat of government for Idaho.  
Thanks for all your support and please contact me with any thoughts, questions or ideas. Have a great day.  
— A Republican from Mountain Home, Matthew Bundy is the District 23, Seat A member of the Idaho House of Representatives.

# Sports

## Rimrock girls beat LC, assume 1A WIC leadership

Sintia Varela poured on the stats Friday on senior night for the Rimrock High School girls' basketball team.

The senior scored 21 points and added six assists and five steals as the Raiders dispatched visiting Liberty Charter, 56-42, to take sole possession of the 1A Western Idaho Conference lead.

Playing in Bruneau, the Raiders (14-2 overall, 7-0 in conference) won their ninth consecutive game.

Other wins last week included a 64-36 win against Riverstone International on Jan. 18 in Bruneau, and a 62-26 victory at Wilder last Wednesday.

Against Liberty Charter (13-2, 6-1), Sami Jewett, another upperclassman, fired in four three-point goals as part of her 16-point performance. She also came up with five assists and six steals.

Other seniors stepping on their home court for the final time in their career included:

- Madie Macmillan, who



Rimrock High School coach Kyla Jewett (far right) and her assistant coaches pose with the Raiders' upperclassmen. Senior Night came against Liberty Charter. Submitted photo

knocked down a three-pointer and dropped in two of four foul shots in the fourth quarter to close out a nine-point game.

- Mattie Draper, who

collected a pair of offensive rebounds and blocked a shot.

- Emma Eldridge, who pulled down a defensive rebound
- Ali Ramirez

Madison Hodnett led Liberty Charter with 13 points, while teammate Grace Gerdes scored six of her nine points in the second half.

The Raiders started the game on a 13-3 tear, and Rimrock owned a 46-26 edge after scoring 21 points in the third period.

## HMS eighth-graders open with exciting exhibition

### Boys pound Parma in 3A SRV title rematch

Its conference home opener was wiped out, but that didn't stop the Homedale Middle School eighth-grade boys' basketball team from putting on a show.

McCoy Swallow raced out of the gates with a double-double and the Trojans' A team won a 75-63 shootout with the Idaho Stags Basketball Club from Nampa on Thursday.

"We have a pretty special basketball team in the eighth-grade boys that are doing some pretty good things," A team coach Benji Sorensen said.

HMS was supposed to open defense of its 3A Snake River Valley conference

championship against Payette Lakes Middle School, but the McCall-Donnelly district school cancelled the game.

Swallow scored 19 points and grabbed 11 rebounds to lead the Trojans, but the team's athleticism was on full display early.

Luke Henry's acrobatic tip-in gave Homedale a 2-0 lead.

"(The shot) seemed to be an indicator of what was to come and that the shots were going to fall for the Trojans," Sorensen said.

Homedale connected on 73 percent of its field-goal attempts in the game. The Trojans led, 28-18, after one quarter.

Swallow drained three consecutive three-pointers and scored 11 points in the second quarter as Homedale widened its lead to 14 points, 48-34,

at the intermission.

The Trojans' defense fended off every Stags run in the second half, maintaining a double-digit lead.

Sorensen said some "shaky decision-making" led to unnecessary turnovers down the stretch, but Homedale held on.

Alex Sotello came off the bench to score 14 points and corral five rebounds for HMS.

**Jan. 19: Homedale A 88, McCain 17** — The 3A SRV championship game rematch was really no match as the Trojans rolled to a victory in Parma.

Breken Frank scored 22 points in the first quarter as Homedale (2-0 overall, 1-0 in conference) jumped out to a 33-6 lead.

Frank went 13-for-13 from the field

and led all scorers with 30 points.

Keaton Sorenson led the team with four assists and also tossed in 17 points, while Angel Nolasco Contreras added 15 points.

**Jan. 19: Homedale B 43, McCain 31** — Coach Mike Frank's squad grabbed control with solid play on either side of halftime after trailing, 8-6, at the end of the first quarter.

Kyler Crall scored 10 of his game-high 16 points in the third quarter in the Trojans' 3A SRV opener in Parma.

Mario Garcia anchored the Trojans' defense with tough play on the perimeter and chipped in nine points.

The Trojans 8th grade A and B teams play Tuesday in Weiser and will return home Thursday this week to face Fruitland.

Don't throw that away!



Sell it in the  
Owyhee  
Avalanche  
classifieds!

\$5 for up to 20  
words each week  
call 337-4681

## Melba boys grab share of 2A WIC lead

Joe Reiber lost a shootout with Rusty Vanderwoude, but Melba High School knocked off Nampa Christian in a key conference contest.

Reiber scored 26 points as the visiting Mustangs beat the 2A Western Idaho Conference leaders, 79-69, on Jan. 19.

A third consecutive victory helped Melba surge into the conference lead by the end of the week. After Friday's 76-28 blowout of Victory Charter, Melba (12-2 overall, 7-1 in 2A WIC) was a half-game ahead of Nampa Christian (12-3, 7-2),

sharing the top perch with The Ambrose School (12-1, 7-1).

The Trojans saw a five-game win streak end despite Vanderwoude's 32 points and 19 from Kaden Yett.

Reiber was one of three double-digit scorers for the Mustangs (12-2, 7-1). Cache Beus posted a double-double with 15 points and 15 rebounds, and Braden Volkers put in 13 points.

Reiber and Henry Clark grabbed eight boards apiece, while Volkers dished five assists. Clark also scored seven points.

**Friday: Melba 76, Vision**

**Charter 28** — Reiber's double-double led four hometown players in double-digit scoring in an easy conference victory.

He scored 16 points and grabbed 11 rebounds.

Senior Josh Leavitt notched 13 points and six assists. Henry Clark and Dillon Stosich added 12 points each.

A three-point goal at the final buzzer highlighted Ryan McKay's 13 points for the Golden Eagles (1-11, 0-6) of Caldwell, who are coached by former Homedale teacher Kevin Cornwall.

Public notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised that a public hearing will be held before the Homedale City Council on Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 6:00 pm at Homedale City Hall, 31 West Wyoming Ave. Homedale, Idaho.

The subject matter of this hearing is the Application for Special Use Permit filed by Ideal Custom Homes requesting that they be allowed to build two townhomes at 11 N 1<sup>st</sup> St. East, South one-half of lots 1-4, Block 70, Homedale, Idaho.

The public is invited to attend and offer input.

Alice E. Pegram  
City Clerk  
City of Homedale  
01/27,02/03/2021

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised that a public hearing will be held before the Homedale City Council on Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 6:00 pm at Homedale City Hall, 31 West Wyoming Ave. Homedale, Idaho.

The subject matter of this hearing is the Application for Zone Change filed by Gem Capital, LLC requesting that the City of Homedale change the zoning from Industrial to Residential at 117 W. Wyoming Ave, Lot 4, Block 48 and 125 W. Wyoming Ave, West 45’ of lot 6 & all of lot 7, Block 48, Homedale, Idaho.

The public is invited to attend and offer input.

Alice E. Pegram  
City Clerk  
City of Homedale  
01/27,02/03/2021

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Marsing City Council will hold a public hearing to consider any and all comments on the following: Jaquine Shippy, petitioner, is requesting approval of a Conditional Use Permit to allow roosters in City limits.

The address of the parcel is 116 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. W, Marsing, ID 83639.

Comments will be taken at the public hearing or may be submitted in writing for consideration.

Written comments can be sent to the Marsing City Hall, PO Box 125, Marsing, ID 83639 or delivered to Marsing City Hall, located at 18 Sandbar Ave., Marsing. Written comments will be received until 5:00 pm on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and will be read into the record at the public hearing.

The public hearing will be held at the City Council Meeting which begins at 7:00 pm, Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at Marsing City Hall, located at 18 Sandbar Ave., Marsing. Dated this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021

01/27,02/03/2021

NOTICE OF FIRE COMMISSIONER VACANCY

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT THE Murphy-Reynolds-Wilson Fire District Commissioners will appoint an individual to fill a vacancy on the fire board, during their monthly meeting at 7pm on February 9, 2021 at the Wilson Fire Station Schoolhouse. Residents interested in being appointed to the position must submit a written request for appointment to the board to the Secretary of the fire district, 11606 SH 78, Givens Hot Springs, ID 83641, not later than 1 February 2021. Any fire commissioner

so appointed shall serve out the remainder of the term for the commissioner last serving in the vacant seat to be filled (November 2025) and shall be a resident of the Wilson Sub-district 2 (Reynolds) which is the fire protection commissioner’s subdistrict. In accordance with Idaho Statute 31-1408.

01/27/2021

NOTICE OF DECISION EXCHANGE OF FEDERAL AND STATE LAND IN OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Idaho State Office, 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Boise, Idaho 83709.

Notice is hereby given that on January 19, 2021, John F. Ruhs, BLM Idaho State Director, approved a land exchange with the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL). A United States patent to the surface and mineral estate in the following-described Federal land in Owyhee County, Idaho, will be issued to the State of Idaho: 1) together with BLM-owned range improvements and State-decreed water rights held by the United States, 2) subject to valid existing rights, and 3) with a reservation to the United States of a right-of-way for ditches and canals constructed by the authority of the United States pursuant to the Act of August 30, 1890 (43 U.S.C. 945).

Boise Meridian, Idaho

T. 3 N., R. 6 W.,  
Sec. 26, Lot 3, 4, E½SW¼ and SW¼SE¼.  
Sec. 35, All

T. 2 N., R. 4 W.,  
Sec. 19, Lots 1 - 4, E½NW¼, E½SW¼ and S½SE¼.  
Sec. 30, Lots 1 - 4, NE¼, E½NW¼, E½SW¼, N½SE¼, N½N½SW¼SE¼ and SE¼SE¼.  
Sec. 31, Lots 1, 2, 4 - 7, 9, 10, 12, NE¼NE¼, S½SW¼NW¼NE¼, S½SE¼NW¼NE¼, S½NE¼, SE¼SW¼ and SE¼.

T. 6 S., R. 3 W.,  
Sec. 26, SW¼SW¼.  
Sec. 27, SE¼NE¼, SE¼SW¼, NE¼SE¼ and S½SE¼.  
Sec. 34, NE¼NE¼.  
Sec. 35, N½ and N½S½.

T. 7 S., R. 3 W.,  
Sec. 8, Lot 1, 2, S½NE¼ and SE¼.  
Sec. 9, W½ and NW¼SE¼.  
Sec. 10, N½NE¼, SE¼NE¼ and N½NW¼.  
Sec. 11, SW¼NW¼.

T. 8 S., R. 4 W.,  
Sec. 11, N½SE¼ and SE¼SE¼.

T. 8 S., R. 5 W.,  
Sec. 23, NW¼NW¼, NE¼SW¼ and NW¼SE¼.  
Sec. 34, Lot 1, N½NE¼, SE¼NE¼, N½NW¼, and NE¼SE¼.  
Sec. 35, Lots 1 thru 4, NW¼NE¼, S½NE¼, NW¼, N½SW¼ and NE¼SE¼.

T. 9 S., R. 2 W.,  
Sec. 5, SE¼.  
Sec. 8, E½.  
Sec. 20, E½ and E½W½.  
Sec. 21, N½NE¼,

CITY OF MARSING

Quarterly Expenditure & Revenue Report

1st FISCAL QUARTER, FY 2020/2021

| FUND                 | BUDGET AMOUNT   | % of Budget      |          | % of Budget     |         |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------|-----------------|---------|
|                      |                 | Expended to Date | Expended | Revenue to Date | Revenue |
| 01 General           | \$ 601,466.00   | \$ 68,457.40     | 11.38%   | \$ 171,994.97   | 28.60%  |
| Law Enforcement      | \$ 75,000.00    | \$ 11,666.64     | 15.56%   | \$ -            |         |
| 02 Roads & Streets   | \$ 264,275.00   | \$ 22,762.55     | 8.61%    | \$ 19,611.28    | 7.42%   |
| 03 Parks             | \$ 110,800.00   | \$ 26,748.79     | 24.14%   | \$ 5,770.21     | 5.21%   |
| 05 Planning & Zoning | \$ 125,500.00   | \$ 15,185.00     | 12.10%   | \$ 3,734.10     | 2.98%   |
| Sub-Total            | \$ 1,177,041.00 | \$ 144,820.38    | 12.30%   | \$ 201,110.56   | 17.09%  |
| 25 Water             | \$ 696,555.00   | \$ 198,487.64    | 28.50%   | \$ 39,453.19    | 5.66%   |
| 29 Irrigation        | \$ 108,805.00   | \$ 12,354.17     | 11.35%   | \$ 4,707.09     | 4.33%   |
| 30 Sanitation        | \$ 115,100.00   | \$ 25,706.41     | 22.33%   | \$ 9,969.38     | 8.66%   |
| 35 Sewer             | \$ 594,524.00   | \$ 27,643.79     | 4.65%    | \$ 24,815.55    | 4.17%   |
| Sub-Total            | \$ 1,514,984.00 | \$ 264,192.01    | 17.44%   | \$ 78,945.21    | 5.21%   |
| TOTAL (all funds)    | \$ 2,692,025.00 | \$ 409,012.39    | 15.19%   | \$ 280,055.77   | 10.40%  |

The General Public is invited to inspect all supporting documents for the above Financial Statement at City Hall during regular business hours

Financial figures may include fund transfers, service charges, refunds, reimbursements and other accountig procedures

Dec. 31, 2020

Jolyn E. Green  
City Clerk-Treasurer  
01/27/2021

SE¼NE¼, W½ and SE¼SE¼.  
Sec. 27, SW¼.

Sec. 28, N½, NE¼SW¼ and SE¼.

Sec. 31, N½NW¼, SE¼NW¼, SW¼SW¼ and N½SE¼.

Sec. 32, SE¼NE¼, NE¼SW¼, N½SE¼ and SE¼SE¼.

Sec. 33, NE¼NE¼, SW¼ and S½SE¼.

Sec. 34, Lots 1, 4 - 7, 9, NW¼ and NE¼SW¼.

T. 9 S., R. 3 W.,  
Sec. 11, N½SE¼ and SE¼SE¼.

T. 9 S., R. 4 W.,  
Sec. 6, Lots 1 thru 15, NE¼SW¼, SE¼SW¼, NE¼SE¼, NW¼SE¼ and SW¼SE¼.  
Sec. 7, Lots 1 thru 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, NW¼NE¼, SW¼NE¼, NE¼NW¼, SE¼NW¼, NE¼SW¼, SE¼SW¼, NW¼SE¼ and SW¼SE¼.

T. 9 S., R. 5 W.,  
Sec. 2, Lots 2 thru 4, S½NE¼.  
Sec. 3, Lot 1.

T. 9 S., R. 5 E.,  
Secs. 13 thru 15, inclusive, All  
Secs. 17 thru 35, inclusive, All  
T. 10 S., R. 2 W.,  
Sec. 3, Lot 4.  
Sec. 4, Lots 1 thru 4, and SW¼NE¼.

T. 10 S., R. 5 E.,  
Secs. 2 thru 10, inclusive, All  
Secs. 17 and 18, All

Aggregating 31,030.66 acres, more or less  
In exchange for the above Federal land, the State of Idaho will issue to “the United States of America and its assigns” a State Deed to the surface and mineral estate in the following described State Endowment Trust land in Owyhee County, Idaho, subject to valid existing rights.

Boise Meridian, Idaho

T. 7 S., R. 2 E.,  
Sec. 36, All  
T. 8 S., R. 2 E.,  
Secs. 16 and 36, All

T. 8 S., R. 3 E.,  
Sec. 36, All

T. 8 S., R. 4 E.,  
Sec. 16, All

T. 9 S., R. 2 E.,  
Secs. 16 and 36, All

T. 9 S., R. 3 E.,  
Secs. 16 and 36, All

T. 10 S., R. 6 W.,  
Sec. 36, All

T. 10 S., R. 2 E.,  
Sec. 36, All

T. 10 S., R. 3 E.,  
Sec. 16, All

T. 10 S., R. 7 E.,  
Sec. 16, All

T. 11 S., R. 2 W.,  
Sec. 16, All

T. 11 S., R. 3 W.,  
Sec. 36, All

T. 11 S., R. 3 E.,  
Sec. 23, NE¼SE¼.

T. 11 S., R. 7 E.,  
Sec. 16, All

T. 12 S., R. 1 W.,  
Sec. 24, W½NE¼.

Sec. 36, All

T. 12 S., R. 5 E.,  
Sec. 36, All

T. 12 S., R. 6 E.,  
Secs. 16 and 36, All

T. 12 S., R. 7 E.,  
Sec. 16, All

T. 13 S., R. 6 W.,  
Sec. 36, All

T. 13 S., R. 6 E.,  
Sec. 16, SE¼SW¼ and SW¼SE¼.

T. 13 S., R. 7 E.,  
Secs. 16 and 36, All

T. 14 S., R. 5 W.,  
Sec. 16, All

T. 14 S., R. 6 W.,  
Sec. 36, All

T. 14 S., R. 7 E.,  
Sec. 36, All

T. 14 S., R. 8 E.,  
Secs. 16 and 36, All

T. 15 S., R. 5 W.,  
Secs. 16 and 36, All

T. 15 S., R. 6 W.,  
Sec. 36, All

T. 15 S., R. 8 E.,  
Secs. 16 and 36, All

T. 16 S., R. 4 W.,  
Sec. 16, All

T. 16 S., R. 5 W.,  
Sec. 16, All

T. 16 S., R. 9 E.,  
Sec. 16, All

Aggregating 23,878.16 acres, more or less.

The State lands being acquired by the United States lie within, adjacent to, or near Federal lands designated as wilderness areas and wild and scenic rivers and

possess beneficial resources and values for special status species and recreation. The Federal lands being conveyed to the State are located adjacent to existing blocks of State land. Some of the Federal parcels possess development potential based on their proximity to highways or county roads. Consolidating Federal and State land will make management more efficient and cost effective for both agencies. The public interest will be well-served by completing the exchange.

The exchange will not affect existing BLM grazing allotment boundaries. Following the exchange, affected BLM grazing permits and State grazing leases will be modified to adjust for changes in Federal and State acreage, but currently-allocated animal unit months (AUMs) will be honored by both agencies.

A copy of the decision may be obtained by writing the BLM Boise District, 3948 Development Avenue, Boise, Idaho 83705, or by calling 208-384-3300.

For a period of 45 days from the date of publication of this notice, interested parties may submit written protests to the BLM Idaho State Director at the above address. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your protest, you should be aware that the BLM may make your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – publicly available at any time. While you may include in your comment a request for the BLM to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

/s:John F. Ruhs  
State Director  
Date: January 19, 2021  
01/27/2021

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# Public notices

**LIEN SALE**  
Unit F-33, William Matthews, 28215 Rocky Rd, Parma Idaho 83660, Unit Containing, Microwave, Clothing, and misc household items. Sealed bid auction will be held on 02-06-2021 at 1:00 PM. People can look at the unit between now and the day of sale during regular business days and hours. All bids are final. Cash only. The unit needs to be emptied and swept in a timely manner. Unit is located at the Hwy 95 Self Storage, at 3685 Hwy 95 Homedale Idaho 83628.  
01/27,02/03/2021

**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 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

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Malheur County**  
**Local Work Group**  
**Meeting Announcement**  
Who – All, the public is invited.

What - Malheur County Local Work Group Meeting  
Where – Online at: Join ZoomGov Meeting  
<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1615086484?pwd=Nng5YnV0bEswcE81VU43MGcwa0t1UT09>  
Meeting ID: 161 508 6484  
Passcode: 514389  
When – February 11, 2021, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM  
Why – USDA-NRCS is holding a local work group meeting to gather input from farmers, ranchers, state and federal agencies, agriculture and conservation organizations regarding natural resource conservation priorities and opportunities to invest collaboratively in Malheur County.  
Contact: Lynn Larsen, District Conservationist - Malheur County; USDA-NRCS, 2925 SW 6th Avenue, Ste. 2, Ontario, OR 97914, (541) 823-5132, lynn.larsen@usda.gov  
01/20/2021

## HELP WANTED

**Bookkeeper Wanted.** Part time or Full time. Will train. Idaho Cowboy Supply 415 N. 21st Ave., Caldwell, ID 83605. (208) 459-1571

**City of Marsing** is seeking a full time Water and Wastewater Operator/Public Works employee. I invite you to apply for the Water and Wastewater Operator/Public Works employee position. Responsibilities include but is not limited to – • Maintaining the City water system – maintaining and repairing pumps, water distribution system, chlorine system, valves, hydrants, flushing water lines, etc. • Maintaining the City sewer system – cleaning and maintaining wastewater bar screens, settling chambers, sewer collection systems, chlorine system, etc. • Maintaining the City parks – irrigating, trimming, mowing, dumping trash, cleaning bathrooms, spraying and pulling weeds, trimming trees, fertilizing lawns and trees, etc. • Maintaining the City roads – patching potholes, flagging, etc. • Maintaining the City irrigation system – repairing irrigation boxes, cleaning lines, repairing or replacing lines and boxes. • Animal control – catching or trapping dogs and other wild or domestic animals, etc. • Building, grounds, and vehicle maintenance – repairing building plumbing, electrical, concrete, structural parts, sweeping floors, cleaning shops, etc., picking up trash, repairing fences, etc., changing oil, minor repairs on vehicles, etc. Work environment and physical demands include but is not limited to – • Must be able to lift 50 pounds often and occasionally 100 pounds. • Often works in the heat, cold, rain, snow, flooded areas, etc. • Occasionally works near or in wastewater or water. • Occasionally works around loud and dangerous equipment and power tools. • Occasionally has to climb ladders or work in high places. • Occasionally works around pesticides, herbicides, and chlorine. Job requirements include but is not limited – • Must possess a valid State of Idaho driver's license. • Must be able to follow directions, work with a team, or work by yourself with or without supervision. • Must be able to read and write legibly. • Must hold or be able to obtain Idaho Water Treatment 1, Water Distribution 1, Wastewater Collections 1 and Wastewater Treatment 2 license within 2 years of hire • Must live within a 30-minute response time of the city of Marsing. • Must be able to take emergency calls in evenings and weekends. • Must have good communication skills. • Must be able to interact with the public and other employees in a kind and friendly manner. Working hours – • Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm with a lunch break from 12pm – 1pm. Pay rate – • \$15 - \$22 per hour, D.O.E. Benefits include – • PERSI retirement plan • 10 paid holidays • Paid vacation and personal leave • Clothing allowance • Possible vehicle to drive to and from work Please apply in person at Marsing City Hall, 18 Sandbar Ave. Marsing ID 83639, 208-896-4122. OR Apply on Indeed.com

## HELP WANTED

**Homedale School District** is accepting applications for part time food service. Applications available at [www.homedaleschools.org](http://www.homedaleschools.org) or at the District Office, 116 E. Owyhee, Homedale.

**LOOKING FOR** person to train for occupation in the printing industry. We have an opening for the right person to learn to operate our web press and sheet-fed presses. Great opportunity to learn a career. Salary is dependent on the person's work ethic, mechanical abilities, etc. Applications available at the Avalanche office, Homedale.

**Detention Deputy** Detention Deputy Owyhee County Sheriff's Office / Salary: \$15.50-\$16.74 DOE. SUMMARY: Responsibilities include providing safe and secure custody of persons incarcerated by law enforcement and the Courts in the Owyhee County Jail. Applicants in this position must be capable of performing a wide range of duties, including: restraining violent subjects. Candidates must perform intake, detention, and release of inmates in accordance with Standard Operating Procedures of the department and of Rules of the Idaho Peace Officer Standards and Training Council, Idaho Jail Standards. QUALIFICATIONS: Must be 21 years of age. Must possess and maintain a current Idaho Driver's License. Must be able to pass the Idaho POST physical agility test and background check. All candidates will be considered and must become POST certified as a Peace Officer within one year of hire. Must also meet minimum standards for employment set by Idaho Administrative Code-Idaho State Police: IDAPA 11.11.01 Sections 050-064. BENEFITS: Full benefit package including medical and retirement through PERSI. APPLICANT PROCESS: All candidates must provide a resume and completed job application. Applications may be obtained from [www.owyheecounty.net](http://www.owyheecounty.net). The Owyhee County Sheriff's Office is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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## HELP WANTED

Local financial services and tax preparation company, Parker Advisors, has a job opening for a Receptionist position. Our firm has a rich and proud history in the area and is currently experiencing exceptional growth. We are excited to find our next team member as we embrace the future for our organization!

**Receptionist Job Responsibilities:**

- Serves visitors by greeting, welcoming, and directing them appropriately.
- Notifies company personnel of visitor arrival.
- Maintains security and telecommunications system.
- Informs visitors by answering or referring inquiries.
- Keeps a safe and clean reception area by complying with procedures, rules, and regulations.
- Supports continuity among work teams by documenting and communicating actions, irregularities, and continuing needs.

**Work Hours & Benefits:**

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
- Verbal and Written Communication
- Listening
- Professionalism
- Customer Focus
- Organization
- Informing Others
- Handles Pressure
- Supply Management

**Education, Experience, and Licensing Requirements:**

- University/college degree is an asset
- Familiarity with phone systems
- Previous experience with Microsoft Office software preferred

Applicants should be highly personable, extremely outgoing, and infectiously positive! If this sounds like you and you believe you would be an asset to our team please submit your resume via email to [mike@parker-advisors.com](mailto:mike@parker-advisors.com) or drop off in person at 19 East Wyoming Avenue in Homedale, Idaho.



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## VALENTINE TIME ONLINE FIREARM AUCTION

Begins to Close Monday, February 15 @ 6pm MST Online

Official Preview Days are limited to:  
February 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> and Monday February 15<sup>th</sup> ~ 9am to 5pm  
Firearms will ONLY be out for these Preview Days & Times with Staff in place for secure viewing. [www.pickettauctions.com](http://www.pickettauctions.com)  
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Sports

Melba beats Marsing, two others in home quad

Huskies' Ineck gets win vs. Tri-Valley

Melba High School won the majority of its matches last Wednesday when it played host to a quad meet that also included Marsing.

In a 12-6 victory over the Huskies, the Mustangs received first-round pinfall wins from Josh Waite and Trevor Rhoades.

Waite pinned 220-pounder Jonathan Leon in 57 seconds, and Rhoades needed 58 seconds to dispatch Harlee Liles at 182.

Kail Wyman pinned Melba heavyweight Charles Arrington in 57

seconds for Marsing's only victory.

There were two extra matches after the dual: Melba's Izzy Martin (182) pinned Leon in 2:30, and the Mustangs' Cody Dickard (285) pinned Wyman in 40 seconds.

**Melba 18, Nampa Christian 0** — In a dual that featured a slew of double forfeits, the Mustangs picked up three pins in the only matches decided on the mat.

Rhoades pinned Sean Barton four seconds before the end of first period of their bout at 182.

Zane Helm (160) pinned Ethan Pearson in 2:57.

Alan Alvarez (220) pinned Zachariah West in 3:33.

Pearson rebounded to pin Logan Dunn of Melba (2:55) in an extra match at 160, and West needed 49 seconds to beat Wait at 220.

Melba's Ben Evans triumphed in an extra match by pinning Barton (2:53).

**Melba 18, Tri-Valley 18** — The Titans wrestled the home team to a draw in a meet that featured nothing but pins.

The only bout to go the distance was Vicente Acosta's 6-4 victory over Tri-Valley's Dalton Scott in an exhibition at 132.

Acosta also picked up a win in the dual with a pin at 2:52 against Adam Miller.

Michaelson (145) beat Gab Sutton

at 4:31.

Helm defeated Gilbert Whitlatch 50 seconds into the final round of their match at 160.

Michaelson also got an extra win with a pin of JC Henry six seconds before the end of the first round of their 145-pound match.

**Nampa Christian 6, Marsing 0** — West pinned Wyman in 54 seconds at 220 in the only points for former Homedale assistant Mark Boothby's Trojans.

**Marsing 6, Tri-Valley 6** — Jonathan Ineck (145) scored a pinfall of Henry at the end of the second round.

Blake Damon (182) pinned Liles in 1:07.

HHS girls 5<sup>th</sup> at Jaybird

The Turner sisters wrestled for gold Saturday as every Homedale High School wrestler got at least one win in an all-girls tournament.

Savannah Turner lost the 130-pound championship bout of the fourth annual Jaybird Memorial when Rocky Mountain's Mia Furman pulled out a pinfall at the 2-minute, 54-second mark.

Kaydince Turner also lost the 136-pound championship in the second round when Caldwell's Marissa Jimenez got the pin in 2:52.

The Turner girls were just the tip of the iceberg as Homedale finished fifth in the tournament at Columbia High School.

Another senior, Gracie Rotter, finished fourth at 109 when fellow 3A Snake River Valley conference wrestler Kiana Dullanty of Fruitland got a pin two seconds into the second round of their third-

place bout.

Anahi Cortez, Homedale's other representative, opened her tournament at 145 pounds with a pin of Kuna's Carolina Bair.

The Turner girls and Rotter all reached their respective semifinals.

Rotter pinned Mia Jaurez in 4:24 to start her tournament before falling in the semis to Grangeville Kadence Beck (fall, 1:11).

Savannah pinned her way into the championship bout with falls against Payette's Miah Garcia (1:41 in the quarterfinals) and Columbia's Angie Rios (3:24, in the semis).

Kaydince started in the quarterfinals and pinned Fruitland's Mariah Skelly in 43 seconds. She advanced to the title bout after stopping Sam Ferguson of Thunder Ridge in 2:09.



Marsing junior Jonathan Ineck locks up Nampa's Andres Montufar at the Padilla Invitational. Submitted photo

Marsing's power pair leads at Padilla

Senior Troy Miller took fourth at 138 pounds Saturday to get Marsing High School's only medal at the weekend's Padilla Invitational in Parma.

Miller settled for fourth after Kuna sophomore Kody Rich's 12-2 major decision in the bronze medal match.

Miller started his tournament with a 74-second pinfall victory over Payette's Kawika Lee-Bartolome in the quarterfinals.

He reached the medal round by pinning Parma's Colt Murdock in 4 minutes, 16 seconds.

Senior Isai Arriaga (182) suffered a narrow 6-5 semifinal loss to Andrew Adkins of American Falls.

Arriaga moved into the semis with a 17-1 technical fall (3:14) over Mountain View's Jacob King.

Jonathan Ineck was the only other Marsing wrestler to get

a tournament win, beating Nampa's Andres Montufar, 15-9, in a consolation match.

Kail Wyman (220) started with a loss to Rocky Mountain's Mason Jacobsen (pinfall, 1:02) in the quarterfinals.

Harlee Liles (170) lost to Middleton's Will Wise in an opener (14-5 major decision).

Eagle's Jack Young (195) pinned Jonathan Leon (53 seconds) in another opener.

Trojans veterans score vs. Fruitland

A run through the middle of the meet wasn't enough to save Homedale High School from its first 3A Snake River Valley conference wrestling loss.

Seniors Joseph Egusquiza and Rhyalee Nix and junior Willie White collected consecutive victories, but host Fruitland prevailed, 63-18.

Egusquiza used a third-period scoring flurry to cement a 5-1 victory over Raymundo Florez at 152 pounds on Thursday.

The state champion led, 2-1, after a first-round take down.

He recovered from a warning for stalling in the third period to get another takedown

to establish the final score.

White (160) roared to a 6-2 lead after two minutes against Ethan Skelly and put the match away with a pin 27 seconds into the second round.

At 170, Nix built equity with a reversal and near fall in the second period then held on for a 7-4 decision against Carter Stowe.

Homedale picked up a pair of wins in exhibitions, too.

Trinity Neeser pinned Abby Elkhart in 3 minutes, 19 seconds at 132.

Jeffery Layne, a 152-pounder, needed just 45 seconds to dispatch Brent Hoffman.

Mustangs earn weekend medals

Melba High School competed in two tournaments Saturday with two wrestlers taking third.

Ben Evans got two pinfalls late in the Padilla Invitational to grab a bronze medal at 195 pounds in Parma.

In the fourth annual Jaybird Memorial for girls, the Mustangs' Jaycie Hackler was third in the 101-pound class.

Evans pinned Adrian Vega of American Falls in 38 seconds to advance to the semifinals.

Payette's Gabriel Ramos sent

Evans into the consolation semis with a 10-2 major decision.

Evans pinned Eagle's Jack Young in 2 minutes, 59 seconds to reach the medal round.

In the bronze medal match, he pinned hometown wrestler Tate Oberg in 1:38.

At 132, McKoy Richardson posted two decisions against Nampa athletes (5-0 over Mar'Velly Veal, and a 16-3 major decision against Jacob Campbell) before Kuna's Zach James pulled off a pin in 1:31 in the championship semifinals.

Izzy Martin edged Jack Graves of Mountain Home, 10-9, to reach the semifinals at 170.

Oakley 30-match winner Isaac Mitton pinned Martin at 1:25 in the semifinal.

Alan Alvarez (220) lost in the semifinals to Nampa's Payton Gunter (pin, 1:17).

Grant Svedin beat Middleton's KC Osmus with a 10-0 major decision at 126.

At 152, Logan Dunn posted a 6-4 consolation bracket victory over Parma's Kooper Rowland.