

The Owyhee Avalanche

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\$1

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2021

RS 2477 roads journey steers into federal court

With local BLM decision-making on hold, county and highway officials file complaint

Faced with a deadline and possible headwinds from the new administration, elected officials from across Owyhee County took the latest and most important step in the RS 2477

rights-of-way validation odyssey.

Owyhee County, Gem Highway District and the Three Creek Good Roads District filed a complaint in federal court Feb. 9 in order to get the federal

government to recognize rights-of-way of public roads across federally managed lands.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Candy W. Dale has been assigned to the case, according to Owyhee County Clerk Angie Barkell.

The three governing boards filed the complaint, in part, because acting Sec-

retary of the Interior Scott de la Vega issued an order suspending authority in the lower levels of government on Jan. 20, the same day Joe Biden was sworn in as the 46th President of the United States.

The secretarial order temporarily

— See RS 2477, page 4A

SILVER CITY TURNS WHITE



More snowfall expected in historic mining town

According to Accuweather, Silver City was forecast to receive a fresh seven to 11 inches of snow between Sunday night and Tuesday afternoon. The white stuff had already inundated the town by the weekend. The forecast call for another eight inches to a foot of snow between Thursday afternoon and Friday afternoon. Silver City Road remains closed because of winter conditions. Photos by Kallie Yost

Meanwhile, Homedale received a foot of snow. For details, see Page 11A



Marsing schools COSSA levy renewal on March 9 ballot

The future of a longstanding educational partnership hangs in the balance when Marsing School District voters go to the polls March 9.

School officials are reaching out to patrons to support the renewal of the 10-year Canyon-Owyhee School Service Agency (COSSA) Maintenance and Operations levy, which is set to expire this year.

A renewal would run for another 10 years through July 2031.

Per Idaho Code, the proposed renewal of the levy cannot exceed one-tenth of one percent of property taxes.

The school district will host

a pair of informational meetings to disseminate details of the proposed levy renewal.

The meetings will coincide with parent-teacher conferences at 6 p.m., on Wednesday and Thursday, March 3-4 at The HUB, 205 8th Ave. W., on the Marsing school grounds.

The levy helps the district meet federally mandated financial obligations of providing Special Education and offering Career Technical certificates.

According to information received from the district, renewal of the levy supports

— See Levy, page 4A

Regional COVID-19 health advisory lifted

Owyhee still yellow as case count falls

As COVID-19 numbers continue to fall, Southwest District Health ended a three-month-old public health advisory Friday.

The health district issued the advisory for its six-county jurisdiction, including Owyhee County, on Nov. 20 as the healthcare system buckled under

the strain of a surge in cases.

The advisory included strong recommendations for individuals and businesses around personal behaviors and business operations.

The district lifted the advisory in light of a decline in case counts, hospitalizations and incidence rates in most counties.

As of Feb. 6, the daily district-wide incidence rate per 10,000 population is 2.22. Also, for

— See COVID-19, page 3A



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Rare tiebreaker, Pg. 2A: Mayor OKs Homedale townhomes
OCSO personnel shuffle, Pg. 8A: Deputy retires, jail openings
Honored journalist, Pg. 12A: HHS grad wins Hearst Award
College-bound, Pg. 1B: HHS wrestlers first girls to sign letters
Obituary, 7A • Looking Back, 14A • Commentary, 6-7B

VIP view of Marsing’s fireworks up for grabs

Third of July fundraising starts

Two lucky raffle winners and their friends will have the opportunity to watch the Third of July fireworks from Marsing City Hall’s back deck.

The deck overlooks the Snake River and is nearly directly across the river from where the fireworks are launched.

The city council agreed to open the deck to two winners of a fundraising raffle.

Fireworks committee member James Ferdinand said the prize is a VIP catered meal and private viewing from the deck of the old Sandbar Restaurant.

A total of 12 people will be able to enjoy the dinner and fireworks from the deck, Ferdinand said with the two winners being able to bring five guests each.

The Marsing Lions Club will cater the meal.

Raffle tickets cost \$10 and can be purchased at City Hall, 18 Sandbar Ave., and Ferdinand said ticket sales could be staged at a handful of businesses in town, too.

Only 400 tickets will be sold.

The raffle is part of the ef-

fort to come up with part of the \$6,000 needed to purchase pyrotechnics for the show. The money must be paid by the beginning of April to secure a discounted price, Ferdinand said.

During its meeting last Wednesday, the city council decided to provide \$3,100 in total financial support of the Third of July celebration, but that money goes beyond the fireworks and signals a \$100 increase from the 2020 commitment.

Other fireworks committee members include Mayor Chad Sevy, City Council members Chris Even and Marie Herman, city clerk and treasurer Jolyn Green, her deputy Kim Even, school board chair Jason Sevy, and community members Jess Ferdinand, Jerry Meyer, Debbie Carter, Jim Briggs, Garret Briggs, Travis Jarvis, Shonie Jarvis, and Merle Herman.

The town’s Chamber of Commerce is no longer involved in fireworks sponsorship.

The public can provide donations for the fireworks show, too. Drop off donations at City Hall, 18 Sandbar Ave., or mail checks to the city at P.O. Box 125, Marsing, ID 83639.

— JPB

Homedale mayor breaks housing vote tie

The Homedale City Council walked the tightrope between expanding the tax base and satisfying the demand for housing last Wednesday.

In the end, it was Mayor Gheen Christoffersen assuming the role of Nick Wallenda and breaking a stalemate vote to approve two townhomes for a downtown commercial lot.

Over the objection of prospective downtown business owner Kim Murray, the council approved, 3-2, a developer’s plan to build on a vacant lot at 11 N. 1st St. E., half a block north of East Idaho Avenue.

It’s believed to be the first split vote in Christoffersen’s two terms as mayor.

Councilmen Aaron Tines and Steve Atkins were in favor of the development, while Mike Aebischer and Jerry Anderson opposed a special use permit to allow Ideal Custom Homes to build a pair of townhomes similar to those the developer had built on West Owyhee Avenue and North 3rd Street West.

“We’ve got a limited amount of commercial space also,” Aebischer said during the public hearing. “I know we need housing, but commercial is where the city gets its taxes. We’ve got to have room for them, too.”

Aebischer also worried that someone could move into the townhomes and then complain about noise from the business sector, but applicant spokesperson Kathy Deal pointed out there were residence across 1st Street from the site.

Acknowledging how difficult the decision was, Christoffersen cast the deciding vote after City Clerk and Treasurer Alice Pegram provided the

context that a previous owner of the property had abandoned the idea of a coffee shop on the site because there wasn’t enough room for a drive-through. That property owner has since established a coffee shop — without a drive-through — at the corner of East Idaho Avenue and North Main Street.

Deal acknowledged the lot wasn’t the same size of the other residential lots Ideal Custom Homes have developed.

“I found that people are OK with the smaller lot,” she said. “I feel like there’s a need for housing like that that’s not spacious.

“I just feel like it’s a good use of land, especially with the housing situation in Homedale.”

Both in-town residential subdivisions — Santa Fe and Westwood — are built out, and developers are having difficulty finding other lots in the city limits to build homes for people who want to move to Homedale.

In explaining his dissenting vote to The Owyhee Avalanche, Anderson said the lot was an odd width for residential development.

“Looking at the plans that they had, it looked to me about two trailer houses sitting on that lot,” he said. “They’ve got two houses 25 foot wide, sitting side-by-side. There’s 6½ feet clearance to the alley and 6½ feet clearance to Flahiff’s parking lot.”

Anderson also said Murray’s opposing view — the only public testimony given — influenced his decision. He mentioned that Murray is opening an ice cream shop in an East

Idaho Avenue storefront that used to house Emerald Insurance.

He also said that the North 1st Street East property has room for commercial development.

“If (a business owner) wanted to build a little (shop) up there, there would be room to park cars in front,” he said. “If a tax guy or an insurance guy wanted to come up and put a small building, he could have room.”

Murray said she was worried about the lack of commercial property lots in Homedale and didn’t think it was prudent to build residences where businesses could come into town.

Anderson acknowledged there is business space on West Idaho Avenue.

“There are still a lot of (commercial) lots in Homedale,” he said. “Whether they’re available, I don’t know. There are several lots down there. I don’t know if they’re available.”

The former councilperson also initially opposed another developer’s plan to build residential property in the 100 block of West Wyoming Avenue, which is zoned industrial. She changed her stance later in the public hearing after learning there were already two residences on either side of the vacant lot where a new house is proposed.

The council unanimously approved the West Wyoming Avenue development.

“I don’t think anyone is going to do anything commercially down there,” Anderson said. “(The developer has) cleaned up one lot, and it looks pretty good.”

— JPB



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Virus still impacts how students learn

This year’s CTE competitions may be shelved

The ratio of Homedale students still learning from home has stabilized, but it appears some schoolchildren will stay away through May.

“Overall, our numbers are fairly steady, and we anticipate those numbers to stay consistent until the end of the school year,” Homedale School District superintendent Rob Sauer said.

The Career Technical Education sector definitely could remain part of the remote learning faction, Sauer told trustees in his monthly board report.

Apparently, CTE instructors are reluctant to crank up in-person competitions, such as SkillsUSA for welding and auto mechanics, and nursing and EMT contests.

“I think it’s COVID-19 and now a timing issue of pulling it all together plus some facilities not willing to host because of COVID-19,” Sauer said in explaining the possible factors behind the CTE community’s stance.

As for remote learning directly tied to the district instruction, all three schools still have handfuls of students logging on for their education.

High school principal Matt Holtry echoed Sauer’s outlook when he spoke about the 30 students that are still receiving online instruction.

“I think because we started the semester at this number, we will most likely remain,” he said.

“With high school courses, and by the nature of their design, I think it might be easier for students to simply finish out the school year in their current format.”

That doesn’t mean that any of those students won’t be welcomed back in the waning weeks of school.

“We may have some that desire to come back in person, which we will support, but I am feeling like we will see our current numbers hold through second semester,” Holtry said.

First-year elementary school principal Tate Castleton told trustees that there are no COVID-19 related challenges in his building.

“While we continue to take every precaution possible to

prevent the spread of the virus and to keep all students and staff safe, we are able to operate normally,” Castleton said.

“We do not have any students or staff who have tested positive or who have a need to quarantine at this time, to our knowledge. Our hope is that this will continue until the end of the school year.”

Castleton said the number of remote learners continues to drop.

There are 21 students still learning remotely, including six each in kindergarten and second grade, four first-graders, three third-graders, and a fourth-grader and a special day student.

“We firmly believe that in-person learning is the best way for our students to learn, grow, and progress,” he said.

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

At the middle school, online learners make up only 8.2 percent of the 404 students enrolled.

There are 33 students working from home, including 12 eighth-graders, 10 fifth-graders, six seventh-graders, and five sixth-graders. — JPB

From page 1A

✓ COVID-19: Schools clear of new coronavirus cases

the first time in months, all six counties are below the red health alert level.

Owyhee County remained in the yellow alert level for the second consecutive week with an incidence rate of 1.21 daily cases per 10,000 people. SWDH said that rate continues to decline. That number is just a tick above the gray health alert level, and the health district only changes a county’s status after two weeks in a level.

In the yellow level, SWDH recommends physical distancing of eight square feet and the use of face coverings.

Also decreasing is the county’s test positivity rate (6.25 percent), which continues to lower to the district’s goal of 5 percent or less.

Increasingly more cases (68.75 percent) can identify an exposure source, but the health district says that still indicates sustained community transmission.

No COVID-19 cases were reported in schools serving Owyhee County between Jan. 31 and Feb. 6.

As of Feb. 10, only two school staff or students in all the districts within the county were in quarantine after close contact with a positive case. There were no isolated students or staffers, suggesting no new cases.

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From page 1A

✓ RS 2477: Local officials take step to head off any Biden slowdown

— local officials hope — removed decision-making authority from the lower levels of federal agencies, including the Bureau of Land Management, and put those powers back with the national office leaders.

Last week’s court filing is the latest step in the county’s decades-long effort to validate title to numerous roads across federal lands.

With the filing, the three boards of commissioners have completed the process of gathering and collating information and evidence on various roads

whose ownership is claimed under the provisions of Revised Statute (RS) 2477.

“With this filing we are moving into the final steps necessary for Owyhee County, Gem Highway District and Three Creek Good Roads District to validate these roads which are important to our citizens,” BOCC chair Joe Merrick said.

Right-of-way validation will protect 92 named roads identified through public meetings and outreach from BLM closures.

The BOCC began work on the RS 2477 issue nearly 37 years ago, in 1984. The last 10-year portion of the work included data collection, public meetings, outreach to BLM officials at all levels in the state (from state director down to field office managers), and the creation of maps to help with validation of road rights-of-way under Idaho law.

Dist. 1 County Commissioner Jerry Hoagland has seen the entire process unfold as the longest-tenured BOCC member.

“We know that there is still a lot to be done as we move into court, but it is a very significant step toward our final goal,” Hoagland said.

Dist. 2 Commissioner Kelly Aberasturi noted the efforts of the county’s Community Development Dept., spearheaded by coordinator Mary Huff.

“It has been a team effort involving staff of the county Community Development Department who researched, collected, and organized the evidence on the roads, as well as the members of the public

who participated in our public meetings and the commissioners of Gem Highway District and Three Creek Good Roads District,” Aberasturi said.

In the distant past, the rights-of-way assertions and related evidence would have been reviewed by local BLM officials culminating with a likely granting of right-of-way.

But with the Biden administration’s moratorium on local decisions, the county press release noted, the only clear path to title is through the courts.

— JPB

✓ Levy: Ten-year property tax levy helps district meet federal obligations

education for Marsing High School students in:

- Automotive technology
- Building trades
- Diesel technology
- Health occupations (Certified Nursing Assistant and Emergency Medical Technician)
- Pre-engineering
- Commercial welding
- Culinary arts
- Law enforcement

Marsing currently has 101 students enrolled in COSSA special education programs.

The information from Marsing superintendent Norm Stewart indicates it would cost more than \$1.26 million per year if the district had to provide these services without support that is derived from the COSSA consortium.

The COSSA consortium consists of Marsing, Homedale, Notus, Parma, and Wilder school districts, and career technical and COSSA Academy classes are stages at the COSSA Regional Technical Education Center in Wilder.

Because of the five districts sharing the load, Marsing residents see a cost savings in the delivery of services. By sharing the costs of these programs and services with four other district’s, Marsing’s financial liability is significantly reduced.

Marsing patrons can cast their vote from 8 a.m., to 8 p.m., March 9 at the Marsing Phipps-Watson American Legion Community Hall, 126 W. 2nd St. N. Canyon County voters will vote at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day

Saints at 15782 Farmway Road in Caldwell. For more information about Canyon County voting locations, contact that county’s elections office.

For additional information on the levy, contact Stewart or clerk/treasurer Lorraine Simonson at (208) 649-5411, or any of the school board trustees: Jason Sevy, chairman (Jason.sevy@marsingschools.org), Deborah Holzhey, vice-

chairman (deb.holzhey@marsingschools.org), Chad Showalter (chad.showalter@marsingschools.org), Luke Ankeny (luke.ankenymarsing schools.org) or OJ Barber (oj.barber@marsingschools.org).

Visit idahovotes.gov for more resources, including registration and requesting an absentee ballot.

— TK

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Find out if a small farm is in your future

Do you sometimes think about generating extra money or even an income from growing and selling agricultural products? In the next few months, I'll be discussing options and considerations for starting or expanding a small acreage (or even big backyard) agricultural enterprise.



Ariel Agenbroad

This week, we'll start things off with this simple inventory. Answering these questions by yourself or with your family can help you to identify what your personal set of skills, strengths and inclinations can tell you about your future in farming:

- ☐ I am new to farming
- ☐ I have experience working on someone else's farm
- ☐ I have experience farming on my own
- ☐ I enjoy working with plants
- ☐ I enjoy working with animals
- ☐ I enjoy foods and cooking
- ☐ I enjoy crafts and making things
- ☐ I like working with machinery and tools
- ☐ I like variety in my day-to-day
- ☐ I like predictability
- ☐ I enjoy being around people
- ☐ I am comfortable supervising workers
- ☐ I have supervisory experience
- ☐ I prefer to work alone
- ☐ I would welcome farm visitors
- ☐ I would prefer not to have farm visitors
- ☐ I enjoy customer service
- ☐ I have experience in re-

- tail or sales situations
- ☐ I am open to new ideas
- ☐ I welcome challenges in life
- ☐ I am content with the way things currently are
- ☐ I need to get off the farm sometimes
- ☐ I need to get off the farm often
- ☐ I rarely want to leave the farm
- ☐ Farm profitability is extremely important to me
- ☐ I want my farm to pay for itself
- ☐ Farming is my hobby, the farm doesn't need to turn a profit
- ☐ I want to continue to work off-farm
- ☐ I would like to farm full-time
- ☐ Family time is very important to me
- ☐ My family is supportive of farming
- ☐ My family is committed to working on the farm with me
- ☐ My family has diverse interests/activities off the farm
- ☐ My family values vacation time
- ☐ My farm is perfect just as it is
- ☐ My farm has room to grow
- ☐ I'm ready to re-evaluate my current farming enterprises

— Ariel Agenbroad serves southwest Idaho as an Area Extension Educator in Community Food Systems, and Small Farms for University of Idaho Extension. Her areas of specialization include home and market vegetable production, direct marketing of small farm products, organics and gardening with youth. She can be reached at ariel@uidaho.edu.

Jordan Valley FFA speakers take part in Zoom contests

After virtual competitions, two Jordan Valley FFA chapter members have advanced to the Oregon Sectionals in public speaking. Snake River District champions Quinton Collins and Shailee Rutan will compete this week. On Feb. 9, the Jordan Val-

ley FFA chapter reported on its Facebook page that Collins won the extemporaneous public speaking title, and Rutan finished first in beginning prepared public speaking. The section competition will be held online via Zoom today.

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Robotics rule at Homedale library

Full activities return to the Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library in Homedale after the Presidents' Day holiday. On Thursday, the Homedale Robotics Club will visit for Teens and Tweens. The club members will perform a demonstration and answers questions from the youth.

The Teens and Tweens program, which is open to boys and girls ages 10-17, starts at 5 p.m., at the library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave. Story Time for preschoolers will be held at 10:15 a.m., and 11:15 a.m., on Monday at the library. The group will enjoy flannel

board stories and activities. The library is open from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., on Thursday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Friday, and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., on Saturday. It is closed Sundays. Call (208) 337-4228 for more information on the library's programs.

Calendar

Today

- Food distribution**
9 a.m. to 1 p.m., The HUB food pantry, 205 8th Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 649-5411
- Christian Life Club**
4 p.m. to 5:15 p.m., non-denominational, kindergarteners through sixth-graders, First Presbyterian Church of Homedale, 320 N. 6th St. W, Homedale. (208) 880-7070 or (208) 337-3464
- 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

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

Friday

No activities scheduled

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. 6th St. W., Homedale.
- Homedale Chamber of Commerce luncheon**
Noon, The Bowling Alley, 18 N. 1st St. W., Homedale.

Wednesday

- Food distribution**
9 a.m. to 1 p.m., The HUB food pantry, 205 8th Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 649-5411

Christian Life Club

- 4 p.m. to 5:15 p.m., non-denominational, kindergarteners through sixth-graders, First Presbyterian Church of Homedale, 320 N. 6th St. W, Homedale. (208) 880-7070 or (208) 337-3464
- 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. 25

- 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, Feb. 26

- Idaho Foodbank drop-off**
9 a.m. to 11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church of Homedale, 320 N. 6th St. W, Homedale. (208) 473-9331
- Marsing FFA drive-by lunch**
11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Marsing Ag shop, 209 8th Ave. W., Marsing. National FFA Week community lunch

Saturday, Feb. 27

No activities scheduled

Sunday, Feb. 28

No activities scheduled

Monday, March 1

- Board of County Commissioners meeting**
9 a.m., Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy. (208) 495-2421
- Story Time**
10:15 a.m., Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale.
- Story Time**
11:15 a.m., Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale.

Tuesday, March 2

- Writing group**
9 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St. W., Homedale.

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

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

Obituary

Senior menus

Francisca (Pantxi) Hormaechea Lejardi

Francisca (Pantxi) Hormaechea Lejardi, 93, of Homedale, Idaho, died of natural causes on Thursday, February 4, 2021. Francisca, the fifth of seven daughters, was born on October 10, 1927 in Gabika, Bizkaia, Spain to Marcelo Hormaechea and Segunda Aldamiz. Along with her sisters, Francisca experienced hardship and perseverance through the Spanish Civil War. At nine years old, Francisca witnessed the bombing raid on nearby Gernika first-hand as her family watched the planes from their baserri (farm). The war caused people to go hungry as the army took food and livestock; this forced many families to hide food for survival.

At the age of eleven, Francisca worked as a live-in maid to a family in Kortezubi for six years before moving to a similar job in Gernika. While working in Gernika, she began taking sewing classes with a group of women who became lifelong friends — many of those friends later immigrated to Idaho as well.

In 1949, while in Gernika, Francisca missed her ride home when her cousin and his friend, John Lejardi, saw her and offered to take her in a taxi. Although Francisca knew many members of the Lejardi family living in nearby Ereno, this was the first time she met the oldest sibling recently returned from the United States.

On June 2nd, 1951, John and Francisca were married, and in November they began their journey by ship to the United States. Francisca often recalled how sick she felt on the arduous trip overseas during which terrible weather pushed them back from their destination. Ship all but destroyed and hope of a safe



arrival fleeing, she finally saw the lights of New York with a grateful heart. Once in New York, they made their way by train to Boise, Idaho. John and Francisca began farming together in Marsing, Idaho. In 1962, they purchased a farm in Homedale, Idaho and moved there in 1972. Francisca often worked side-by-side with John, and together they raised their four children: Maria Teresa, John, Elizabeth, and Esteban. With the help of her children, she studied and became a naturalized American citizen in 1963.

Francisca was a charter member of Euskaldunak. She was also a member of La Organización Independiente Social, St. Hubert's Altar Society, Txoko Ona, and the Basque Museum. Francisca never forgot how it felt to have little and miss family, so she made sure she took care of others who were new to the country or needed assistance. Her care for others was constant, selfless, and discrete. She especially cared for John as he battled Alzheimer's for several years. She also raised and loved all of her grandchildren with kon-tuak (talks), scrambled eggs, and cookies at her kitchen counter, and dollar bills, Life Savers, and Hershey bars from her purse. Her presence, inter-



est, counsel, and love for her family never wavered.

Francisca is survived by her youngest sister, Tomasa; her sister-in-law, Julia; her children, Teresa, John (Gloria), Elizabeth, Esteban (Margaret); her grandchildren; great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews, both in Euskadi and Australia. She was preceded in death by her husband, John; parents, Marcelo and Segunda; sisters, Maria Louisa, Felisa, Primitiva, Avelina, and Irene; son-in-law, Juan Mari Mendazona; and great-grandson, John Arana.

A rosary will be held in her honor at 9:45 am on Thursday, February 18th at Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church in Caldwell, Idaho. A funeral mass will take place after at 10:30 am with interment following at the Marsing-Homedale Cemetery. Due to the pandemic, there will not be a reception. All are welcome at the funeral and interment; however, the family understands many may not be able to attend.

Memorials can be made to the Euskaldunak Basque Club, the Txoko Ona Basque Club, the Basque Museum, or any charity close to your heart. Condolences can be given at www.flahifffuneralchapel.com

Homedale Senior Center

Salad bar: **Not Available due to the Coronavirus*
Curbside pickup only between noon and 1 p.m.
Phone ahead 208-337-3020 to order
Dessert is included in curbside lunch
Milk available each day
Roll available each day except Feb. 24th
Suggested donation: \$5

- Feb. 17: Hot dog and chili, tater tots, brussel sprouts
- Feb. 18: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes/gravy, mixed vegetables
- Feb. 23: BBQ pulled pork, baked potato, peas & carrots
- Feb. 24: Nachos (ground beef, cheese sauce, tortilla chips, salsa, sour cream), broccoli, rice
- Feb. 25: Chicken patty, macaroni and cheese, beets

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)
Feb. 17: Salmon, wild rice, spring blend vegetables, fresh fruit, wheat bread

- Feb. 19: White bean and cabbage stew, carrots, pears & blueberries, wheat roll
- Feb. 22: Chicken & rice casserole, garden blend vegetables, peaches, graham crackers, wheat roll
- Feb. 24: Oven fried chicken, cheesy potatoes, broccoli, V-8 juice, wheat roll
- Feb. 26: Cheesy cod, brown rice, snap peas, peaches, wheat roll

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 as early as possible beginning at 7 a.m. to place order
Feb. 18: Beef enchilada, refried beans, Spanish rice, green salad, fruit cocktail, cottage cheese, chips
Feb. 23: Chicken Parmesan, buttered noodles, steamed vegetables, pears, vanilla pudding
Feb. 25: Swiss steak, baked potato, carrots, peaches, yogurt, bread

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The Owyhee Avalanche

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School menus

Sheriff on hunt for two jailers

Homedale Elementary
Choice of milk and juice
Vegetable and Fruit choices will be offered daily

Feb. 17: **Breakfast:** Mini pancakes. **Lunch:** Pork chop, mashed potatoes with gravy, hot roll.

Feb. 18: **Breakfast:** Ultimate breakfast round. **Lunch:** Popcorn chicken, mixed vegetables.

Feb. 22: **Breakfast:** Filled cereal bar. **Lunch:** Chicken taco, corn.

Feb. 23: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon burst bread. **Lunch:** Pepperoni pizza ripper, tossed salad.

Feb. 24: **Breakfast:** Apple cinnamon Texas toast. **Lunch:** Orange chicken, steamed rice, broccoli, fortune cookie.

Homedale Middle
Choice of milk and juice, yogurt or string cheese
Cereal option and PB&J and string cheese offered daily
Vegetable and Fruit choices will be offered daily

Feb. 17: **Breakfast:** Tornado. **Lunch:** Pizza Hot Pocket, steamed carrots.

Feb. 18: **Breakfast:** Ultimate breakfast round. **Lunch:** Taquitos, corn, cookie.

Feb. 22: **Breakfast:** Mini pancakes. **Lunch:** Mini corn dogs, mixed vegetables.

Feb. 23: **Breakfast:** French toast sticks. **Lunch:** Sloppy Joe, steamed broccoli.

Feb. 24: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon roll. **Lunch:** Spaghetti, garlic bread, green beans.

Homedale High
Choice of milk and juice, yogurt, string cheese or hard-boiled egg
Vegetable and Fruit choices will be offered daily
Cereal option, grab ‘n’ go items each day

Feb. 17: **Breakfast:** Breakfast quesadilla or mini waffles. **Lunch:** Popcorn chicken, cheesy breadstick or pepperoni pizza ripper.

Feb. 18: **Breakfast:** Little Smokies with a muffin or apple breakfast bites. **Lunch:** Nachos, Rice Krispie treat or baked potato, breadstick.

Feb. 22: **Breakfast:** Tornado or mini donuts. **Lunch:** Orange chicken, steamed rice, egg roll, fortune cookie or Rib-b-que, chips, fortune cookie.

Feb. 23: **Breakfast:** Homedale breakfast burrito or French toast sticks. **Lunch:** Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, dinner roll or deli rollup, chips.

Feb. 24: **Breakfast:** Sausage plate or mini pancakes. **Lunch:** Pulled pork sandwich, tater tots or hamburger/cheeseburger, tater tots.

Marsing
Each meal includes choice of milk, fruit juice, fresh fruit & vegetables
Elementary School each day: Breakfast: Cereal option
Middle/High School each day: PB&J sandwich option
Cold Grab-n-go line: Wrap, sub sandwich, salad
Hot Grab-n-go line (varies): Cheeseburger, chicken dish (reg./spicy sandwich; nuggets; bites), Pizza (varies), chicken rice bowl, potatoes (varies), bread (varies)

Feb. 17: **Breakfast:** Texas toast. **Lunch:** Pepperoni calzone, green beans. Cold Grab-n-go: Taco salad with breadstick.

Feb. 18: **Breakfast:** Breakfast sandwich. **Lunch:** Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn. Cold Grab-n-go: Orange chicken rice bowl.

Feb. 22: **Breakfast:** Yogurt. **Lunch:** Corn dog, chocolate chunk cookie. Hot Grab-n-go: Wile Mike’s pepperoni pizza.

Feb. 23: **Breakfast:** Mini pancakes. **Lunch:** Spaghetti, green beans. Cold Grab-n-go: BBQ chicken salad.

Feb. 24: **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

Feb. 17: **Breakfast:** PB&J sandwich. **Lunch:** Chicken taco, tossed romaine salad, broccoli.

Feb. 18: **Breakfast:** Waffles. **Lunch:** Corn dog, potato wedges, baby carrots.

Feb. 22: **Breakfast:** Cereal. **Lunch:** Orange chicken, oriental rice, stir-fry veggies.

Feb. 23: **Breakfast:** Biscuits and gravy. **Lunch:** Spaghetti, garden spinach salad, corn, breadstick.

Feb. 24: **Breakfast:** Pancakes and egg patty. **Lunch:** Chicken patty on a bun, mashed potatoes and gravy, steamed broccoli.

Feb. 25: **Breakfast:** Breakfast wrap. **Lunch:** Beef and bean burrito, tossed romaine salad, corn, brownies.

Detention deputies move into new roles, deputy retires

Sheriff Perry Grant has done a little shuffling with his staff, moving a couple detention deputies to positions outside the Owyhee County Jail.

Kyle Monroe has left his jailer position to take on the role of patrol deputy. He assumed the new job on Feb. 4 and will make \$19.18 per hour.

Also changing positions is Shane Trautman, who is headed from the jail to the courthouse as a bailiff. Trautman also began on Feb. 4 in a part-time capacity and will make \$16.12 per hour.

Trautman will also be manning the boat check stations at the U.S. Highway 95 and Idaho highway 55 intersection and the nexus of Idaho highways 78 and 51 in Bruneau.

Grant said that he is in the process of hiring for the two open jailer positions.

Retired deputy to get gun, badge

During its Feb. 8 meeting, the Board of County Commissioners agreed to award a handgun and sheriff’s badge to recently retired sheriff’s deputy Terry McGrew.

Grant recommended the board award McGrew his Glock model 21, Generation 4, .45 caliber service weapon, along with badge and identification card, in recognition of his years of service to the sheriff’s office.

Idaho Code allows presentation of a firearm to a peace officer who retires in good standing. Grant said that he is not sure how long this has been the case but speculates that it is traditional.

Prior to taking office eight years ago, Grant knew that McGrew had been working as a reserve with another agency and was looking to work full-time again. Upon taking office, the sheriff met with McGrew and started the hiring process.

McGrew had previously worked for the Nampa Police Department and Can-

yon County Sheriff’s Office.

County moves to streamline CDC COVID-19 policy changes

County commissioners adopted procedural changes to simplify how the government deals with continually changing federal COVID-19 policy.

The Centers for Disease Control frequently issues policy regarding quarantine and employee activity, requiring action from the county.

The Owyhee County COVID-19 policy currently provides information for employees regarding preventative measures, for both the employees and the public, physical protection (masks and social distancing), sanitation, procedures for the exposure process and quarantining, etc.

During its Feb. 2 meeting, the BOCC approved the method of communicating to county staff concerning county policy changes.

“In our initial COVID policy, we embedded (what was) at that time, current CDC guidance into the body of the document,” county emergency manager Jim Desmond said. “When the CDC’s guidance changed, we looked again to our document to revise it to match.

“Since we expect that the CDC may again revise their guidance as more is learned about the virus or as vaccination numbers rise and potentially impact guidance, we decided to move the CDC guidance out of the body of the document and into an appendix.”

The body of the document states that the county will follow current CDC guidance and will revise it as changes warrant by providing the new recommendations for insertion as an appendix.

When the new guidelines are released, the county clerk’s office will send the new information to each county office with instructions to remove the old and insert the new into the appendix. This eliminates the need to write a whole new policy as things change.

— TK

Overall Owyhee County COVID-19 cases:

866

Feb. 9 to Feb. 14 statistics:
New confirmed cases, 7
Probable cases, 126 (New: 2)
Deaths: 24 (New: 0)
People who recovered: 926 (New: 20)
Health alert level: Yellow
Source: coronavirus.idaho.gov and Southwest District Health

Malheur COVID-19 cases:

3,298

New cases, Feb. 9 to Feb. 14: 0
Deaths: 57 (New: 0)
Negative tests: 17,131 (New: 257)
Source: govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19

MRW board has vacancy

For the second time in as many years, the Murphy-Reynolds-Wilson Fire District is searching for a new commissioner.

The fire board will appoint a new Subdistrict 3 (Wilson) commissioner at 7 p.m., on Tuesday, March 9 at the Owyhee County Historical Museum, 17085 Basey St., in Murphy.

Wilson subdistrict residents interested in the position must submit a written request for appointment no later than Monday, March 1. Mail requests to the secretary of the fire district at 116060 State Hwy. 78, Givens Hot Springs, ID 83641.

According to a legal notice, the term runs until November 2025.

Commissioners are Neva Miller of Murphy, elected in November 2019, and longtime commissioner Tom Benson of Reynolds Creek.

Homedale officials explain need for sewer upgrade

Decision to seek judge’s approval set for next month

No citizens spoke up during the Homedale City Council’s public hearing about asking a judge to approve what could be a multi-million-dollar wastewater system improvement project.

Although elected officials can’t make a decision on judicial confirmation for up to \$10.3 million in bonds until March 3, the council scheduled a vote for its next meeting on Wednesday, March 10.

By opting for judicial confirmation, the council would bypass a popular vote on a property tax levy, but also speed up the timeline to start needed improvements to the wastewater treatment lagoons and aging sewer pipe in town.

During last Wednesday’s meeting, city engineer Andrew Kimmel of Great West Engineering said the city has until 2025 to complete improvements that will put Homedale’s wastewater system in compliance with Idaho Department of Environmental Quality guidelines and discharge regulations.

Homedale entered a compliance schedule agreement with DEQ to avoid a lawsuit threatened by an environmental group. The compliance agreement shields the city from the lawsuit for five years.

“This group is winning lawsuits,” Councilman Steve Atkins said. “If we lose the suit, it would cost millions more.”

Mayor Gheen Christoffersen tried to explain the reason for the council’s possible action.

“This is something the city has to have,” he said during the hearing. “It’s going to be an expensive process. No doubt about it.”

The price tag is set to account for inflation because construction projects aren’t expected to begin until 2022, Kimmel said. He pointed out that the cost of projects like the ones proposed have doubled since 2007.

The projects could include rebuilding and raising sewer lagoons at the city’s treatment plan on River Road, installing screens to filter out rags and other foreign objects at lift stations and replacing up to 18,000 feet of deteriorating sewer lines that were installed before 1967. Kimmel said that’s about 30 percent of the entire delivery system.

The aging pipe system is part of the problem because of groundwater infiltration upsetting the balance in the sewer lagoons.

City public works supervisor Bret Smith said the lagoons receive inflow of about 200,000 gallons every day in the winter, but in the summer — with irrigation systems running — the

inflow increases to between 400,000 and 600,000 gallons per day.

Upgrades will help reduce the amount of inflow, officials said.

Property owners could pay for only part of the bill, though.

Kimmel said that the city should learn in the middle of April about DEQ funding sources. Great West Engineering has also applied for U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development grants, but won’t hear about those until summer.

“We’re trying to figure out how to keep our service costs low for our citizens and still meet the permit (requirements),” Christoffersen said.

The timeline includes submitting design work by July 1, sending the projects out to bid by April 2022 and finish the construction by the end of 2023.

Meanwhile, Kimmel said DEQ has received the city’s sewer facility plan, but has not yet finalized its review.

— JPB

Intergovernmental cooperation pays dividends

Homedale public works employee Curtis Stansell (left) digs the trench beneath West Owyhee Avenue near Main Street, under the guidance of co-worker Bill McDaniel. The drain construction project, which was carried out last month, cost the city less because South Board of Control equipment also was enlisted, city public works supervisor Bret Smith said during his report at last Wednesday’s city council meeting.



City gets deal on new park restroom building

The city could stretch its Idaho Community Development Block Grant for park development near the Riverside Park RV campground after receiving a good deal on a pre-engineered restroom building.

The city has \$135,000 for the restroom project. But city engineer Andrew Kimmel said one manufacturer submitted a low bid of \$55,713, which is about \$45,000 less than the anticipated cost for the building. The cost includes shipping, and setting the building in place. The shipping alone would have cost \$70,000, Kimmel said.

The building includes a drink fountain and hand dryers with the wash basins in the restroom.

The lower cost of the structure means that other aspects of installation such as electrical and engineering could be picked up with part of the grant rather than through city funds.

“There is the potential that all the improvements could be done without city cost,” Kimmel said.

The mower will replace a 2014 model with about 3,000 hours on it.

Smith recommended the Hustler because the Homedale School District also has a mower of that brand, and the reviews have been favorable.

The council also heard about two other more expensive options from John Deere and Walker, but Hustler was the least expensive.

Drain project completed

Smith said the city saved about \$10,000 when the public works crew teamed with the South Board of Control to build a drain on the west side of North Main Street across West Owyhee Avenue.

“I want to thank the South Board of Control,” Smith said. “Their help was integral to the project.”

“It would have driven up the cost considerably if we had to hire a contractor.”

Parts for the project cost about \$10,000, and Smith said the expense would have been double with a third-party contractor doing the work.

The street where the work took place will be paved later this year, and there could be more paving carried out through a cooperative with adjacent business properties.

— JPB

New HFD building back on radar

After four years in dormancy, the Homedale Fire District’s dream of a new fire station could be back on the front burner.

District representative Teresa Ryska returned to the city council last Wednesday to resume discussions about a land swap as part of the plan to relocate a combined fire station and ambulance station to a piece of city-owned property adjacent to the municipal airport on U.S. Highway 95.

The fire district proposes exchanging about three acres south of the airport for the land on which the John Matteson Memorial Fire Hall stands in the first block of West Colorado Avenue. The existing fire hall is around the corner from the city shop.

A land exchange will require a public hearing convened by the city council and the fire district board of commissioners. The airport-adjacent parcel is the three acres of highway frontage that currently houses items for the occasional JBS Auctions sale, including next month’s spring consignment auction. The piece is part of

a seven-acre parcel that the city has earmarked for airport hangar expansion.

City public works supervisor Bret Smith pointed out that space for hangars is hard to come by and there is a demand for more airport space.

Mayor Gheen Christoffersen asked Smith and Ryska to huddle on the exact size of the parcel that is needed before anything moves forward.

The fire district needs a commitment on the land swap as part of its goal to secure a state grant to build the fire station. Representatives asked Owyhee County commissioners for a letter of support for the grant try during Tuesday’s meeting.

“This is not something we’re asking the citizens to pay for,” Ryska said. “We’re hoping with grants that we will be able to build something without burdening the community.”

Ideally, the grant would pay for the construction, paving and landscaping.

Currently, Homedale Ambulance’s two vehicles are housed across Colorado Avenue from the fire hall. Ryska said no decision has

been made on what would be done with that property if the new emergency services building came to fruition.

Ryska sought to quell rumors that the fire district is eying a station on the scale of the Wilder fire station. She said preliminary idea, which is still with architects, would call for something similar to Payette’s station, which has four pull-through bays. The Homedale building would also have a conference room available for public meetings, a kitchen and restrooms and other necessary space for volunteer staff. A decontamination area would also be built.

“This would be a building for the future,” Ryska said. “We are not housed right now as a 24-hour service, but we are a 24-hour service.”

Councilman Steve Atkins said he would support the swap as long as details were clarified.

“I was on the fire department for eight years,” he said. “They’ve outgrown (the existing building) a long time ago.”

— JPB

City to buy lawnmower

The city council unanimously approved the purchase of a new Hustler riding lawnmower for \$12,665.

Got news?

Call us with community events, happenings or questions: (208) 337-4681

Water bond refinancing to save Marsing \$400K

2nd Amendment issue could make a comeback

In a way to save money on repayment, the Marsing City Council authorized a re-funding of a water bond that voters approved more than 10 years.

The council's action last Wednesday knocks four years off the bond payoff date, which — combined with a lower interest rate — could save the city more than \$400,000 (if the city continues to make the currently budgeted annual payments of approximately \$102,000).

The bond's principal amount is \$1.31 million.

City attorney Stephanie J. Bonney said that typically a re-funding is considered if the city (or other entity) can save five percent of present value.

"This re-funding saves almost 20 percent," Bonney said. "It's huge, one of the bigger re-fundings I've been able to do."

The re-funding also moves the bond from originating agency U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development to Zions Bank.

Bonney said that according to Idaho Law, the bond can be re-funded without taking to a vote of the people because the city isn't borrowing more than is owed and doesn't seek to extend the original payment period.

Biscuit keeps his city home

For the second time in five months, the council approved a conditional use permit (CUP) allowing a resident to house a rooster within the city limits.

Council members voted unanimously to let Jacquine Shippy to keep up to two roosters on her property on 2nd Avenue West.

Shippy said that, like most domestic fowl, the gender cannot be identified for several months after birth. In that time, Shippy said what turned out to be a rooster named "Biscuit" became part of her family, including her 13-year-old autistic daughter.

"She was heartbroken when she

found out we couldn't keep him," Shippy said.

Shippy also keeps quail and ornamental pheasants.

Marsing resident David Jones came to the hearing in support of Shippy, saying he believes dogs are noisier and more annoying than roosters, while also commenting on the expense of the \$250 CUP application fee.

2nd Amendment vote to come?

Mayor Chad Sevy promised a group of citizens looking for the council to proclaim the city a Second Amendment sanctuary a spot back on the council agenda if they could gather 100 petition signatures in support.

Rose Gress, who had an identical request but was denied by the council in January, gathered signatures in preparation for a return to the council.

According to Marsing City Clerk and Treasurer Jolyn Green, approximately 60 legitimate, in-city signatures were gathered, so the topic was left off last Wednesday's meeting agenda.

Gress and Marlene Moore showed

up and spoke during the public input part of the meeting anyway.

Councilperson Brandy Bennett said that she spoke with more Marsing citizens and did more research since the January meeting and believes that the topic of a Second Amendment sanctuary is important enough to be added on to the March meeting agenda.

Local business expands

The council approved a business license for Joel and Josie Smart, owners of the Cajun Kitchen food truck. They also own Holy Oly Os, and the donut truck will be set up from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., every Monday beginning March 8, in the dirt parking lot across 8th Avenue West from Marsing Elementary.

Josie Smart said that she is not yet sure where the Cajun Kitchen truck will be set up. There is a Facebook page for updates.

A license was also approved for the Loucks Laundry and Car Wash at the corner of Main and Kerry streets. Although under new ownership, the facility has yet to open.

— TK



Left: A kayak donated by Grand View Gas is among the items available for bid online in the annual Grand View Lions Club auction. Right: Layth Jenkins continues his role as model for the rifle available in the annual raffle. Submitted photos

GV Lions online auction begins closing Friday



Web sale replaces live event

Bids are currently being accepted for the Grand View Lions Club Community Auction, which was forced online this year because of concerns about COVID-19.

Bids will begin to close at 2:30 p.m., on Friday.

The auction is available at <https://bakerauction.com/calendar.php>. Click on "Grand View Lions Club Auction" to find lots on which to bid.

The Baker family, three generations of which have

called bids, continue their 50-year tradition of auctioneering the Lions Club's biggest annual fundraiser.

Once the auction is closed, purchased items can be picked up from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., on Saturday at the American Legion Post 134 Hall, 410 Roosevelt St., Grand View.

The items will be available for preview from 5 p.m., to 8 p.m., today and Thursday at the Legion Hall.

Some items available in the auction include a kayak provided by Grand View Gas, and a quilt created by Anna Hency.

An American 204 Ruger Rifle, with two boxes of shells donated by Grand View Gas, and a Traeger pellet grill donated by Campbell Tractor are the prizes in a raffle. The rifle is provided in partnership with Mountain Sports and Pawn Brokers in Mountain Home.

The winning tickets will be drawn at 6 p.m., on Saturday.

Tickets cost \$1 each or \$5 for six and can be purchased at Grand View Gas or at the Legion Hall on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. You can also purchase tickets online through Venmo (@GrandView-LionsClub).

For more information on the fundraisers, call Doug Thurman at (208) 599-1014 or Erica Mulberry at (208) 585-1811.

Proceeds from the auction and the raffle support the Lions Club's community service projects in Bruneau, Grand View and Oreana.

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Narrow defeat for latest attempt to remove notices from papers

by Alexandra Duggan
UI McClure Center intern

A digital age to some means digital news and cutting costs. To others, it means loss of revenue and accessibility. For years now, bills requiring newspapers to put legal notices online have been swirling through the Statehouse, and last Wednesday this year's attempt — House Bill 53 — failed, 32-38.

For those who followed the bill, it was a tense beginning. House Bill 53 would have given government entities the option of publishing legal notices on their official websites instead of in print papers. State law requires governments to publish legal notices regardless, but the way in which to do it was under debate. The reasoning behind HB 53, according to bill sponsor Dist. 34A Rep. Jon Weber (R-Rexburg), was cutting costs regarding print to save money, making notices reach more of the population, and adapting to a digital age. The freshman lawmaker's reasoning aligns with other states that have moved to put their legal notices online, and he was very adamant that newspapers do not line up with the way people in Idaho are living. "It is time we move Idaho from this archaic way. And



Dist. 5B Rep. Caroline Nilsson Troy (R-Genesee) stands to oppose House Bill 53 on the House floor last Wednesday. Photo by Alexandra Duggan / U of I McClure Center intern

bring us into the 21st century," Weber said. Dist. 2A Rep. Vito Barbieri (R-Dalton Gardens) made it clear during the State Affairs Committee debate on the HB 53 that he was no fan of newspapers "... Given the ruthless reckless political misreporting at times. And I of course, personally I'd just love to hit the newspapers where it hurts — money." This statement caused controversy over Twitter, some users accusing Barbieri of hating the free press and trying to create obstacles for freedom of information. But Barbieri voted against the bill both in committee and in the full House vote. "I believe in the necessity

of proper physical archiving of news as well as notices for future historians is extremely important," he said during the committee discussion of moving the bill to the full House. Barbieri also said the state's idea of permanent records (only 10 years at the most) was "fascinating." He also doesn't trust the research algorithm for online searches. Dist. 34B Rep. Ron Nate (R-Rexburg) — like Weber a freshman legislator — voiced his support for the bill because everything from the Statehouse is posted online. "Even my kids don't read the newspaper," he said. "It's interesting that we are in a meeting here that is being posted online

... Online is good." Dist. 12A Rep. Bruce Skaug (R-Nampa) told the House that, regardless of how he felt, he wanted to focus more on the consumers and their resources, and it could create extreme confusion. Although Skaug followed in Barbieri's footsteps, saying "I wanted to take a jab at the newspapers," but he, too, voted against the bill. (*Skaug's vote originally was recorded as "yea," but the record was later corrected. — Ed.*) Dist. 23 delegates Matthew Bundy (Seat A, R-Mtn. Home) and Megan Blanksma (Seat B, R-Hammett) also voted no. Newspapers are already struggling economically to adapt in the digital age. In a letter of testimony to the State Affairs Committee, Jon P. Brown, managing editor of The Owyhee Avalanche, outlined his opposition of the bill and the impact it would have on small-town newspapers like the Avalanche. This included affecting the finances of family-owned newspapers, rural Idahoans' difficulty to gain access to multiple websites because of lack of time and broadband capability, and transparency in government. "It will damage public trust, further reduce public input and participation in government and further hamper community newspapers' fight for survival," said the statement. And still, not everyone is always able to access the internet. That was one of the main concerns with Weber's bill voiced by newspaper officials and representatives from rural Idaho. Dist. 5B Rep. Caroline Nilsson Troy (R-Genesee) represents a small town on the Palouse of 968 people. Situated between Moscow and Lewiston, this town is a rural farming community that locals hold close to their hearts. Sometimes, it is even hard to find cellphone service in Genesee. "I'm so sorry to have to do this, but I represent a district that spans a very large distance in technology. There is limited access to the internet, and that weekly newspaper makes a huge difference," Troy said. In the end, the bill failed with a narrow six-vote difference. Because bills like this have been introduced before, the assumption from lawmakers is that it will be re-introduced again in the future. So until then, legal notices can still be found in print, and lawmakers like Weber will still be fighting to move away from newspapers to go fully online.

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Homedale High graduate's reporting earns Hearst award

A Homedale High School graduate has won an award for her journalism. Riley Haun, who earned a degree from the University of Idaho last year, topped a field of 121 entries for the Explanatory Reporting Award from the William Randolph Hearst Foundation. The 2017 HHS honor graduate will receive a \$3,000 scholarship for her winning article titled "The bottom has just dropped out: As insect populations plummet, scientists wonder why." The article was published at Spokesman.com. Haun now qualifies to participate in the 2021 Hearst National Writing Championship. Raised on a Homedale Angus farm, Haun wrote several articles for her hometown The Owyhee Avalanche and other Idaho newspapers as a U of I James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research intern during the 2020 session of the Idaho Legislature. She also wrote for student

Homedale High School graduate Riley Haun covered the legislative beat during the 2020 session as an intern for the University of Idaho's James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research. Photo courtesy of U of I

publications The Argonaut and Blot magazine as well as The Spokesman-Review, Inland360 and Nspire magazine while attending U of I. Haun earned a bachelor's degree in journalism and a minor in political science on Dec. 12 from U of I. The Hearst foundation also presents a matching grant to the U of I School of Journalism and the other journalism departments of scholarship winners. The foundation was established in 1948 for educational and charitable purposes. It conducts an annual awards program for accredited schools of the Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication, which is funded and administered by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation.



The Marsing AcaDeca team garnered more than 75 medals at the regional competition. **Front row, from left:** Laz Sevy, Cheyenne McCloud, Nathon Cox, Regan Stansell, Dafne Ramirez, and Lexi Loucks. **Back row, from left:** Emily Thoene, Llee Loucks, James Christiansen, Hailey Christiansen, Laela Archer, and Ben Edwards. Not pictured: Amaya Mendoza. Submitted photo.

Marsing AcaDeca wins regional title

Individual medalists prepare for State

Making special considerations for COVID-19 protocols, Marsing High School's Academic Decathlon team still managed to win the regional championship.

The team walked away a first-place finish in the Small Schools division of a competition that had a decidedly different feel to it. In past years, all activities were done live, but circumstances required that the essay writing and subject area testing parts were done on Jan. 27 at the high school, while speeches and interviews were at the school on Jan. 30.

All aspects of the competition were done virtually.

The state competition will be held Friday and Saturday, March 5-6, and will follow a similar format.

Judges for the regional competition were Kim Freeman, Rick Freeman, Marybeth Prince, and Janet Miller, all of whom have ties to the

Marsing community.

All schools involved in the regional competition — Marsing, Notus, Eagle, Meridian, and Renaissance high schools — competed remotely from their respective school sites.

The Marsing team earned more than 75 individual medals for the event, which carried a "Cold War" theme. Final individual medal count for Marsing is, by level, name, and category:

Honors

Laz Sevy — Gold in literature and music; silver in art and economics and interview; and bronze in music

Hailey Christiansen — Gold in social science; silver in literature and interview; bronze in economics, math, and music=

Ben Edwards — Gold in economics, speech and essay; silver in art; bronze in science and social science

Emily Thoene — Gold in interview; silver in music; bronze in economics and essay

Lexi Loucks — Silver in essay; bronze in art and speech

Llee Loucks — Silver in

interview

Scholastic

Laela Archer — Gold in literature, music, science and interview; silver in art and economics and essay; bronze in math and speech

Amaya Mendoza — Gold in art, economics, math and interview; silver in science, social science and essay; bronze in music and speech

Regan Stansell — Gold in science; silver in math, social science, speech and interview; bronze in economics and essay

Varsity

Nathon Cox — Gold in economics, literature, social science, science and essay; silver in math, speech and interview; bronze in music

Cheyenne McCloud — Silver in art, economics, literature, music and essay; bronze in science and social science

Dafne Rodriguez — Gold in art, music, speech and interview; bronze in literature

James Christiansen — Bronze in art, economics, essay, speech, and interview

— TK

No Academic Bowl lightning-round magic for HMS

A few things returned to normal during last week's Academic Bowl meet.

But there was one notable break — Homedale Middle School didn't finish in the top two when the 3A Snake River Valley conference teams gathered in Parma.

The Trojans took a full complement of team members — nine — and spectators were able to attend. It was the first fully rostered and fully attended Academic Bowl meet of the school year.

COVID-19 restrictions were eased after Gov. Brad Little announced the state had entered Stage 3 of the reopening plan.

But there was something out of the ordinary at the meet.

"We finished in fourth place, which is lower than our team normally places," HMS advisor Michelle Parr said.

"(The Trojans) remained positive throughout the questions and knew several during the buzzer round, but just missed getting in ahead of the other teams."

Parma jumped out to the

lead in the early rounds then answered three buzzer-round questions correctly to win the meet with 120 points.

Weiser, which entered the final stage behind by 40 points, answered four questions correctly in the lightning round.

"Weiser and Parma were quick on the buzzers and made a good number of attempts," Parr said. "Their strategy helped them finish at the top."

The Trojans answered only one question in the buzzer round, and Parr said that aspect of the game will be a focus in practices before the March 10 meet at McCain Middle School in Payette.

"Our team discussed it, and we plan to work on the buzzers during practices," Parr said. "Overall, the team had a great time."

Ontario, Ore., which is scheduled to play host to the April meet, is still in an online instruction model, so the April meet may be staged in Weiser, Parr said.

— JPB

Academic Bowl, Parma

	Rd. 1	Rd. 2	Rd. 3	Total
Parma	70	20	30	120
Weiser	40	10	40	90
Fruitland	40	10	10	60
Homedale	30	10	10	50
McCain (Payette)	30	0	-10	20



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Looking back...

from the files of The Owyhee Avalanche and Owyhee Chronicle

25 years ago

February 21, 1996



Pin him!
Homedale’s Jon Glanzman takes down a New Plymouth wrestler. He won his meet 7-0.

Republican Party plans Lincoln Day lunch

Saturday at noon the Owyhee County Republican Party will hold a Lincoln Day Lunch at the Homedale Armory to provide the public a chance to meet federal, state, and local Republican officials and candidates and support the party for the coming election year.

Organizer Chris Salove said that the keynote speaker will be U.S. Senator Larry Craig, but special guests Lt. Governor Butch Otter and Idaho Attorney General Alan Lance will also be in attendance and will speak briefly.

Entertainment will be provided by the Singing Seniors & Donna DeVelbiss, Salove said, and tickets may be purchased for \$8.00 per person and \$15.00 per couple.

4-H club elects officers

The Owyhee Gems 4-H Livestock Club met on Feb. 4, to elect officers for the year.

The new officers are: President, Nicole Dines; Vice-President, Samantha Engle; Secretary, Amy VanWassenhove; Treasurer, Josh Nielsen; and Reporter, Megan VanWassenhove.

Trojans win big over McCall

The Homedale Trojans beat McCall 74-67 to bring them back into the running at the District Tournament on Tuesday.

But it seemed like the Trojans were still in McCall during the first half of the game, Coach Randy Potter said.

“We were real slow and unemotional in the first half,” Potter said.

But in the second half, the Trojans found a little confidence and started feeling good about themselves, Potter said.

Homedale scored 50 of their 67 points in the second half of the game.

The big difference, Potter said, was playing at home.

“We also handled McCall’s Lund a lot better by holding him to 21 points,” Potter said. “And that’s below his average score in a game.”

And Homedale showed impressive records for the game. Corby Garrett was high scorer and rebounder with 31 points and 10 rebounds. Isaac Henry and Ryan Hellwebge had six assists.

Two Trojan girls named to all-stars

Kelly Smyth and Laura Eidemiller of Homedale joined Rimrock’s Amanda McDaniel in the 1996 Girls’ Basketball Region Three Senior All Star game.

These girls are a part of the A-3/A-4 East team. This team included outstanding senior girls’ basketball players from Melba, Homedale, Greenleaf, Nampa Christian and Rimrock.

Kelly Smyth of Homedale was selected as the A-3 Western Idaho Conference Most Valuable Player.

50 years ago

February 18, 1971



HOMEDALE HIGH SCHOOL band students selected to the SWI Conference Honor Band are, from left, seated, Rhonda Lineberger, Patsy Kora, Cynthia Troxel, Janine Townsend, Sheri Nelson and Vicki Cook, standing, Blaine Grow, Steve George, Kent Yorgenson, Brian Vance, Danny Duke, Donna Basey, Diane Takasugi, Maxine Stansell and Joni Uda. Not present for the picture was Ralph Matteson. Photo by Bette Uda.

Homedale quintet faces Kuna to end league play

The Kuna Kavemen will cap the Trojans’ 1971 SWI league play here Friday night as they invade Homedale to wind up the regular basketball season.

The Homedale Trojans must have thought an earthquake hit them Friday night at Marsing as the New Plymouth Pilgrims rocked them in an earth-shaking second half that finally ended with the Pilgrims holding a 75-54 lead. The loss knocked the Trojans out of their tie for the Southwest Idaho conference lead.

Record-wise, the picture looks like this: New Plymouth is first in the SWIL with a 7-1 mark and is 14-4 in overall play. Homedale, after the loss, is now in No. 2 position with a 6-2 record in the SWIL and an 11-5 log overall.

It was a packed house at the Marsing gym – there was standing room only. The two squads took to the court. After a quick layup by Homedale’s Paul Pearson, the game was under way.

The Trojans started the action in a positive way by dumping in a fast four points.

New Plymouth had trouble finding the net. Midway through the first period, however, the Pilgrims turned on their “basket switch” and managed to pull ahead.

As the buzzer sounded for the end of the first half, Homedale led by one point, 28-27.

Alan Myers, with a dazzling performance, took high point honors for New Plymouth with 23 markers.

Making the most buckets for Homedale were Paul Pearson and Monte Duncan with 11 tallies each.

Homedale school board offers contracts

At the regular school board meeting Feb. 8, bills totaling \$10,440.04 were approved, according to Jim Duncan, clerk.

A representative of the Homedale Teachers Association presented a proposed salary schedule to the board for its consideration.

High school and elementary teachers were offered contracts for the 1971-72 school year.

Non-certified personnel were also rehired, including Jim Duncan, clerk; Richard Eismann, attorney; Bessie Wolf and Harriet Ezola, cooks; Bob Troxell and Paul Thatcher, full time janitors; Bonnie Smith, nurse; Lydia Duncan and Vivian Lillie, secretaries; Orval Soper, transportation director.

The board requested the state retirement board to postpone the retirement of Laura Combs to June 1.

155 years ago

February 17, 1866

IMPROVEMENT IN MASTIC ROOFING – Messrs. Skinner, Duncan, and Merighi, of this city, have obtained Letters Patent through our Agency, says the M. & S. Press, for a combination for mastic roofing, the combination of which is such that it is said to be pervious to heat and cold, and is not easily subject to be attacked by fire. The rays of the sun having no affect upon it, the material will not run in Summer and leave seams through which the water may leak during the Autumn and Winter rains; neither does the cold crack it in Winter so as to leave crevices through which the water may penetrate into the building.

IN another column will be found resolutions of the Lower House of Congress instructing the Committee on Public Lands. They especially relate to the disposition of the mineral lands. That the proper credit may accompany them, we’ll say that Hon. John A. Kasson, of Iowa, claims the paternity. As the resolutions are printed in full, we need not go after them in detail. This Crazy John Sherman’s bill, and other indications show the bent of certain Congressional minds. How prevalent such ideas are in Washington, we don’t know; but as most men are more ready to descant or legislate upon subjects to which they are strangers than matters coming within their knowledge it would not be surprising to learn that Shermans and Kassons are numerous – and may be so numerous as to be dangerous – in Congress. It is said Kasson dwelt some years on this Coast – therefore entitled to be heard on this subject. He may have been born and raised to manhood here, and never have been to or examined a mine. In this case he’s less fitted for the task he undertakes. His resolutions have been unobjectionable points. It seems impossible for an Eastern man to get up any measure on this subject without incorporating it in more or less silly, injurious or impolitic provisions. The chief and palpable objections to the policy of these resolutions may be found in number nine of the series; also in those parts which authorize the Commissioner of Public Lands and the Secretary of the Interior to make Regulations for the execution of the law. Living as they do far from mining regions, probably never saw a mine, have indifferent ideas of miners’ rights or wants, they are totally unfit for such powers. The very idea that one man in ten will give a true statement of the product of his mine, under oath or not, is absurd. No man is expected to tell the truth about the product of his mine, and a law requiring him to do so, is equivalent to encouraging perjury. A writer from Carson to the Sacramento Union, in referencing to the passage of a law concerning the abandonment of mines, says:

“Experience has shown, especially in Storey Co., that it is not at all impossible to prove any system of miners’ rules, and the ‘customs and usages’ of early days there, that they may be desired to suit thy particular case. The memory of men in these cases is indeed very treacherous, or a conflict of rules, usages, and customers, existed as indescribable as the jargon at the Tower of Babel.”

The true government policy is to encourage by all means the production of the precious metals; any tax will have a contrary effect. Of all occupations mining is the hardest and most hazardous, and generally requires a great outlay of capital.

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COMMENTARY, PAGES 6-7B

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2021

LEGALS AND CLASSIFIEDS, PAGES 9-11B



Kaydince Turner prepares to pin Nash Richards during their 132-pound bout Thursday in Homedale's home-mat victory over Payette. For more on the Senior Night triumph, see **Page 2B**

Wrestling sisters make historic college choice

Seniors will sign letters of intent
to attend NAIA school Monday

The trailblazing Turner twins are ready to help make history in Hastings, Neb.

Homedale High School's wrestling teammates Kaydince and Savannah Turner will sign letters of intent to attend Hastings College during a noontime ceremony Monday inside the HHS gymnasium foyer.

The decision comes a few months after the Trojans' senior siblings toured the private, four-year college located in south-central Nebraska.

Hastings is about 135 miles southwest of Omaha.

Just as the Turners were

trendsetters in local high school wrestling, they'll be able to set the tone for the Broncos' program.

The Hastings women's program is in its first year of existence under the guidance of Cara Romeike, a Jamestown (N.D.) College grad who has done her share of breaking barriers.

As the inaugural coach for the Broncos' program, Romeike has led a team of nine wrestlers — two juniors and the rest freshmen. Among this year's crop of pioneers is Grangeville freshman Brittney Benavidez.

According to the Hastings College women's wrestling webpage, the Nebraska school is one of 63 colleges nationwide to sponsor the women's sport.

Romeike came to Hastings after leading the Cyprus High School girls from South Jordan, Utah, to third place in the state girls' wrestling championship meet. She also coached an individual champion and had five other wrestlers win medals in the 2020 Utah finals.

Romeike previously has served as a USA Wrestling board member in Utah and has coached Team Utah and Team Texas in national competitions.

— JPB



Savannah Turner tries to take control against Eagle's Halle White during last month's Ardis Elizabeth Nash Memorial inside the Homedale High School gym. Her sister, Kaydince, beat White during Saturday's Idaho Girls' Wrestling Finals. To find out how Homedale's wrestlers fared in Pocatello, see **Page 3B**

GIRLS' STATE TOURNAMENTS

Raiders senior quintet ready to change fortunes

Rimrock starts
fourth straight
State today

There are no excuses this time.

Rimrock High School girls' basketball players sewed up a fourth consecutive trip to the 1A, Div. I Real Dairy Shootout state tournament Friday night with the District III championship.

The state tournament starts a day earlier than usual — today — in Nampa at Columbia High

School.

"This will be our fourth year at State," Raiders coach Kyla Jewett said. "We no longer have the inexperienced excuse, so hopefully the girls will be ready to play hard and have some success."

Sintia Varela, who is one of five seniors on the squad and has been a leader throughout her career, erupted for a season-high 31 points Friday to push Rimrock to a tough 50-43 district championship victory over 1A Western Idaho

— See **Raiders**, page **3B**

Melba, Soda Springs clash in 2A again

Mustangs finish
2nd in District III
tournament

Melba High School will see a familiar foe in Thursday's opening round of the 2A Real Dairy Shootout girls' basketball state tournament.

This is Melba's fifth consecutive trip to the eight-team final bracket.

The Mustangs (18-4) will

take on reigning state champion Soda Springs (12-11) at 5 p.m., on Thursday at Bishop Kelly High School.

The Cardinals have won six consecutive games, including the 2A District V tournament final, 56-46, over fourth-seeded Bear Lake in Preston last Wednesday. Soda Springs entered as the tourney's No. 2 seed.

Soda Springs has won the past three state championships,

— See **Melba**, page **4B**

Heidi Nash tabbed as next Homedale volleyball coach

A woman with a lot of experience directing and observing Homedale High School volleyball has been hired as the new varsity coach.

Heidi Nash, the mother of two former volleyball standouts and most recently a sub-varsity coach, was elevated to the head of the program when the school district board of trustees met Feb. 8.

Nash will succeed Evonne McGuire in the top spot.

Kevin Fine, whose son is among the junior varsity base-

ball prospects, will serve as a JV coach this spring.

Former HHS football and baseball standout Darren Urange, another father of an up-and-coming football player, will coach eighth-grade football in the fall. Fine will serve as his assistant coach.

School trustees accepted resignations from JV baseball coach Raymond Smith and the eighth-grade football coaching staff of Joe Bullard (head coach) and Benji Sorenson (assistant).

Sports

Senior-laden Trojans focus on district wrestling

HHS turns back Payette in home finale dual meet

Five forfeits helped Homedale High School hold off Payette's wrestlers Thursday.

Joseph Egusquiza (152 pounds), Rhyalee Nix (170), and Uriel Neri (220) didn't wrestle in the final home dual meet of their high school careers, but they picked up three of the Trojans' five forfeits in a 42-33 Senior Night victory over the Pirates in a 3A Snake River Valley conference showdown.

Another senior, Kaydince Turner, pinned Payette 132-pounder Nash Richards in 22 seconds, and Levi Jamison (138) stopped Miah Garcia in 4 minutes, 3 seconds for the Trojans' only on-mat victories.

Upperclassman Wily Haun battled close against Payette 195-pounder Gabriel Ramos, but couldn't score any points in the final period of a 2-1 loss. Ramos grabbed a 2-0 lead with a first-period takedown, and Haun inched closer with an escape after starting the second

round in the down position.

Homedale owned a 30-6 advantage after Nix's forfeit, but Ramos' narrow victory marked the beginning of a 27-12 surge to the end of the meet. Neri and Owen Houser (285) notched back-to-back forfeits as the Trojans' maintain a winning edge.

Homedale won three extra matches, including senior Savannah Turner pinning Payette's Angela Carr in 2:46 of their 126-pound match. At 132, Andrew Marston needed 80 seconds to beat Richards, and Isaiah Stebly pinned Kyler Decaney in 20 seconds for an HHS win in another 126-pound bout.

Homedale starts the postseason Saturday in Parma with the 3A District III Tournament. Wrestling begins at 10 a.m.

The top four wrestlers in each weight division automatically qualify for the one-day 3A state championship meet, scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 27 at the Ford Idaho Center in Nampa.

There are alternates to be considered for the state tournament, too.

Homedale closed out the regular season with a non-conference dual meet on the road against New Plymouth on Friday. Because of conflicting information found online, The Owyhee Avalanche chose not to report the results of this meet.



Above: In the most intense match of the night, Homedale 195-pounder Wily Haun tries to pivot out of the hold of Payette's Gabriel Ramos. Ramos won, 2-1, after a sluggish third period.

Left: Sophomore Levin Jamison contorts to find the referee while putting the finishing touches on his pin of the Pirates' Miah Garcia in the 138-pound bout.

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What's happening
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HOMEDALE TROJANS

Athlete Spotlight

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Boys' basketball
Mason Strong, so., G
Averaged 17 points, 8.5 rebounds, 4 assists



Wrestling
Levi Jamison, so., 138
Pin in win over Payette


HOMEDALE CHIROPRACTIC CENTER
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Boys' basketball
Varsity
3A District III Tournament
Wednesday, Feb. 17, home vs. Parma, 7 p.m.
If beat Parma: Saturday, Feb. 20 at Fruitland, 7 p.m.
If lost to Parma: Tuesday, site and opponent TBA, 7 p.m.
Junior varsity
3A Snake River Valley conference tournament
If beat Fruitland: Thursday, Feb. 18, championship game at McCall or Weiser, 6 p.m.
If lost to Fruitland: Season complete
Monday, Feb. 15, home for 3A Snake River Valley conference tournament
Frosh soph
Season complete

Girls' basketball
Varsity
Season complete. Final record: 2-19
Wrestling
Coed
Saturday, Feb. 20 at 3A District III championships, Parma, 10 a.m.

Games are available on www.nfhsnetwork.com. There is a fee.

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Sports

Trojans nab 3 medals at Idaho girls' meet

Melba freshman takes fifth

A sanctioned state championship meet is still a year away, but Idaho's high school female wrestlers competed in the closest thing they have Saturday in Pocatello

Homedale High School's senior twins — Kaydince Turner and Savannah Turner — earned medals, and so did Melba freshman Jaycie Hackler during the Idaho Girls' Wrestling Finals.

Kaydince was runner-up at 129 pounds after Rocky Mountain sophomore Mia Furman pinned her in 4 minutes, 33 seconds.

Savannah pinned Grace's Addison Ball in 71 seconds in the 125-pound third-place



Homedale's Elizabeth Hergesheimer (right) faces off with Payette's Gabe Moniz during Thursday's final home meet of the season. Two days later, Hergesheimer competed in the Idaho Girls' Wrestling Finals in Pocatello.

match. It was the Trojans senior's second win over Ball in the tournament. Idaho Falls' Skyline, 15-7, in Hackler beat Ivette Balero of a major decision for fifth place

in the 100-pound class. Homedale, which had five wrestlers competing, finished seventh as a team. Savannah wrestled into the semifinals with pinfalls against Skyline's Ava Swatsenbart (42 seconds) and Ball (3:24). She reached the third-place match after pinning Angie Rios of Columbia in 2:40 of their consolation semifinal. Kaydince collected first-round pins in the quarterfinals (Miah Garcia, Payette, 46 seconds) and semifinals (Halle White, Eagle, 1:30) to reach the championship match. Anahi Cortez (148 pounds) pinned Minico's Alexi Tovar (3:21) in a consolation match. Homedale wrestlers Trinity Neeser (138) and Elizabeth Hergesheimer (120) also saw action.

✓ Raiders: Upperclassmen win 3rd district championship of their careers

From Page 1B
Conference rival Liberty Charter (17-3).

Varela put her teammates on her back in the fourth quarter against the Patriots from Nampa who were playing just down the road from their home base at Columbia on Friday.

With her team entering the final frame trailing by five points, 36-31, Varela opened her one-person assault with a three-point play and piled up 13 of her team's 19 points in the stanza.

Varela was perfect on five foul shots in the quarter, including both ends of a one-and-one bonus later in the period.

Sami Jewett also converted a one-and-one situation as the Raiders stormed past the Patriots at a 19-7 clip in the final eight minutes.

Varela connected on her final eight free throws, going 9-for-10 from the foul line. She also popped a pair of three-pointers among her 10 field goals.

She led the team with seven rebounds and four steals, and she and Ashtyn Moore each blocked two shots.

After trailing throughout the game, Rimrock (17-2) rallied in the final quarter for its 12th consecutive victory.

"It's been a great year, and we hope to keep it going through the state tournament," Kyla Jewett said.

Sami Jewett, the coach's younger sister, scored six of her seven points in the second half, rebounding from a one-



Rimrock High School's girls' basketball team captured its third 1A, District III title in four years Friday. Submitted photo

point first half (1-for-4 from the foul line). She had all seven of the Raiders' assists and led the team with four steals.

Rimrock came alive in the second half, pulling down 10 of its 15 defensive rebounds, five of its nine offensive rebounds and capturing eight of its 12 steals.

Varela kept the Raiders in the game over the first eight minutes, scoring nine of her team's first 12 points.

The Patriots held an 18-12 lead at the first break behind seven points from Ariana Valadez, six from Grace Gerdes, and five from old Rimrock nemesis Madison Hodnett.

Hodnett kept up the pressure, scoring nine points over the

second and third quarters en route to a team-high 14 points, but Rimrock completely shut down the 6-foot, 3-inch senior in the fourth quarter.

Gerdes scored five points in the second half and finished with 13, while Valadez's damage was shallowly dispersed across the rest of the contest as she scored 12 points.

Liberty Charter and the Raiders had qualified for the state tournament with victories in the district semifinals six days before Friday's showdown.

Rimrock opens the state tournament at 2 p.m., today against District II runner-up Prairie (20-3).

Liberty Charter meets District V-VI champion Grace (18-3) at 5 p.m.

This is the fourth state tournament for five Rimrock seniors — Varela, Jewett, Madie Macmillan (who logged six points and five rebounds Friday), Emma Eldridge (two points), and Mattie Draper.

The Raiders have two victories in their last three trips to the state tournament. They beat Riverstone International, 54-25, in a consolation semifinal last season before a narrow 49-45 consolation final defeat at the hands of Raft River.

The second-day win over the Otters snapped a four-game State losing streak for Jewett's charges.

In 2018, Rimrock beat The Ambrose School, 30-25, in a consolation semifinal before

1A, Div. I openers
Today
Columbia H.S.,
Nampa

Noon — Dist. I No. 1 Lakeside (12-7) vs. Dist. IV No. 1 Lighthouse Christian (14-5)

2 p.m. — Dist. III No. 1 Rimrock (17-2) vs. Dist. II No. 2 Prairie (20-3)

5 p.m. — Dist. V-VI No. 1 Grace (18-3) vs. Dist. III No. 2 Liberty Charter (17-3)

8 p.m. — Dist. II No. 1 Lapwai (20-1) vs. Dist. IV No. 2 Murtaugh (19-4)

Liberty Charter prevailed in the consolation final, 51-35. In all, the Raiders are 2-6 in the past three state tourneys. Friday's battle was the second meeting of the season for Rimrock and Liberty Charter. The Raiders essentially clinched the top berth in the district tournament with a 56-42 win over the Patriots in Bruneau on Jan. 22. Rimrock crushed Liberty Charter, 42-16, to win the 2020 district title and has won six consecutive meetings with the Patriots. The Raiders have won three of the past four district crowns with all three title game victories coming against Liberty Charter. Notus beat Rimrock in the 2019 final. — JPB

Sports

Huskies boys drop thriller to Pilgrims at home

Marsing High School finished the 2A Western Idaho Conference boys’ basketball slate with a tough 57-55 home loss to New Plymouth last Wednesday on senior night.

The Pilgrims hit a shot with less than 15 seconds remaining and held on for the victory.

It was the Huskies’ fourth consecutive loss against the conference’s top four teams.

The loss didn’t affect the Huskies’ postseason spot, though.

Sixth-seeded Marsing blasted visiting No. 8 Compass Charter, 52-37, in a 2A District III Tournament play-in game Friday to reach the first round of the double-elimination tournament on Monday at No. 3 Melba. Results from that game weren’t available at

press time.

After trailing New Plymouth, 29-20, at halftime, Marsing (8-14 overall, 4-10 in 2A WIC) battled back from an eight-point deficit with 2:20 left in the game.

Junior guard Noel Quebrado and senior post Jacob Ankeny hit a pair of clutch three-point shots to bring the Huskies to within two points.

With 15 seconds left, senior guard Roger Valadez sank a basket and the ensuing free throw, and Marsing led, 55-54.

The Pilgrims (13-7, 8-6) hustled down the court and scored, flipping the score again.

The Huskies set up a play with two seconds, but Ankeny’s long three-point try hit the rim.

“We haven’t been in many of these games where it is close down the stretch, but the kids kept battling through, never giving in,” Huskies coach Tim Little said. “(They understood) there were opportunities throughout the game to take advantage of.”

Huskies’ junior point guard Dominic Enrico put up a season-high 15 points, including a pair of three-pointers, and was a perfect 3-for-3 from the free-throw line.

Ankeny recorded yet another double-double. The defending 2A Western Idaho Conference player of the year scored 14 points and pulled down a team-high 11 rebounds.

Quebrado knocked down four of his team’s treys for 12

points. Valadez scored 12, too.

Feb. 8: Nampa Christian 65, Marsing 31 — The Huskies’ offensive woes continued in the Trojans’ building.

Plagued by turnovers, the Huskies dropped a tough decision to Nampa Christian (17-4, 12-2), which would wrap up the No. 2 seed two days later.

Marsing hit 45 percent of its field goals but just 27 percent from beyond the three-point line. The Trojans were a terror from outside, and the Huskies just could not keep up.

Marsing was able to hang tight in the first quarter, just as it had in the Feb. 6 home loss to Melba, but Nampa Christian went on a roll and never looked back.

“Defensive breakdowns and

turnovers led to a 19-6 run for Nampa Christian in the second quarter after playing them even in the first,” Little said.

The Trojans outscored the Huskies, 31-11, in the second half. Over the final three quarters, Marsing was on the wrong end of a 50-17 performance.

Nampa Christian hit 13 treys compared to the Huskies’ three in 13 attempts. The Trojans three-point shooting accounted for 60 percent of their scoring.

“(Nampa Christian’s) outside shooting consistency could not be matched,” Little said.

The Huskies had another strong performance, and another double-double, from Ankeny, who scored 14 points and pulled down 13 boards.

— TK

Big first quarters propel unbeaten HMS 8th-graders

Trojans’ B squad’s winning streak ends

A 22-5 end to the first half pushed Homedale Middle School past Weiser in a crucial boys’ basketball conference game Thursday.

“We expected the Wolverines to come out confident and motivated, and they certainly did,” HMS A team coach Benji Sorenson said.

Homedale remained unbeaten on the season with a 59-32 3A Snake River Valley conference victory at home.

Sorenson said the victory gives the Trojans the “inside track” to the top seed and the 3A SRV tournament at home.

Fueled by Trojans turnovers and hurried shots, the Wolverines (5-2 overall, 4-2 in conference) jumped out to a 9-2 lead.

But Keaton Sorenson canned a three-pointer from the corner to ignite Homedale’s 8-0 run to a lead they would never relinquish. Sorenson led three players in double figures with 14 points.

He also pulled down seven rebounds, three assists and four steals.

Alex Sotelo got a tough put-back in the paint, and Sorenson converted a three-point play at the end of the first period for a 10-9 lead. Sorenson’s layup and the subsequent foul was set up by McCoy Swallow’s defensive rebound and outlet past to fuel the fast break.

Sotelo logged six points and six rebounds.

Swallow ended the game with eight rebounds to go with seven points and a couple of blocked shots.

Breken Frank scored six points of his 10 points in the second quarter to send Homedale into the locker room with a 24-14 lead. Frank also had nine rebounds, four steals and three blocked shots.

“But that certainly did not feel safe after the battle we had with them up in Weiser where we had led by six at the half and ended up trailing by as much as nine in the fourth quarter,” the coach said.

“We knew the third quarter was an important one, and our kids responded.”

Six players scored in the opening quar-

ter of the second half, and Homedale led by as many as 20 points (42-22).

Luke Henry had a perfect game from the foul line, knocking down all six chances for half of his 11 points.

Rafael Cuenca scored six points and grabbed five boards.

Feb. 9: Homedale 58, Payette Lakes 26 — Haunted by a sluggish start the week before against Parma, the Trojans scored the game’s first 19 points and owned a 25-2 advantage after the first quarter in McCall.

“Overall, our ball movement was much improved, and the kids executed the offense and did a better job of being patient for the shots we wanted,” Sorenson said.

The Trojans racked up a season-high 12 assists behind Keaton Sorenson’s team-high five passes.

Riding a 23-point lead, the Trojans put their teamwork on display to start the second period. After the opening inbounds pass, the ball zipped from Sorenson to Alex Sotelo to Rafael Cuenca then finally to a wide-open Brock Walker

under the basket for an easy basket just four seconds into the quarter — and without one dribble.

The Trojans pounded the ball into the block to get the Vikings’ big post man, one of the biggest in the conference according to Benji Sorenson, in foul trouble and make trips to the free-throw line.

Homedale only dropped eight of 17 chances from the line, though.

Frank converted both of his two three-point tries and led with 15 points.

Keaton Sorenson’s second double-double included 11 points and 11 boards.

Walker chipped in 10 points as was perfect on four trips to the foul line.

B team

Thursday: Weiser 39, Homedale 27 — Dylan Arnold led Homedale with nine points, and Todd Thatcher tossed in five points.

Feb. 9: Payette Lakes 42, Homedale 19 — The Trojans’ winning streak ended on a day when the shots just wouldn’t fall. Kyler Crall paced Homedale with nine points.

✓ Melba: Familiar foe awaits Mustangs in first round of state tournament

From Page 1B

and victories over Melba have played a role each time.

Last season, Soda Springs knocked off Melba, 35-26, in the semifinals before beating Cole Valley Christian, 67-56, in the state final.

The Mustangs rallied to beat Declo, 35-26, in the third-place contest.

In 2019, the Cardinals defeated the Mustangs, 50-34, in the state title game.

In 2018, Melba again took the hit in the semifinals before Soda Springs down Ririe for the title. Melba beat Cole

2A State openers

Thursday

At Bishop Kelly H.S., Boise

Noon — Dist. VI No. 1 Ririe (22-2) vs. Dist. V No. 2 Bear Lake (11-12)

2 p.m. — Dist. I-II No. 1 Grangeville (15-4) vs. Dist. III No. 1 Cole Valley Christian (17-1)

5 p.m. — Dist. V No. 1 Soda Springs (12-11) vs. Dist. III No. 2 Melba (19-4)

8 p.m. — Dist. IV No. 1 Valley (18-6) vs. Dist. III No. 3 New Plymouth (16-6)

Valley for third.

Melba beat Cole Valley for the consolation championship in the 2017 state tournament.

Thursday: Cole Valley Christian 51, Melba 38 — Coach David Lenz’s team fell into Soda Springs’ sights

after losing the 2A District III final in Meridian.

Senior Kate Clark, the Mustangs’ all-time leading scorer, was up to her usual antics, but the Chargers were shut down her teammates.

Clark scored a game-high 18 points and had four rebounds.

Teammate Brooklynn Dayley, an Owyhee County resident, added nine points, five rebounds and five assists.

Cole Valley received 14 points from Anna Veeck and 12 from Desi Kingery.

Both teams had already qualified for the 2A Real Dairy

Shootout state tournament by reaching the title game.

The Chargers (17-1) take an 11-game winning streak into their state opener against District I-II champ Grangeville at 2 p.m., on Thursday at BK.

Games are also slated for Friday and Saturday in Boise, and the state championship game will be played at 11:30 a.m., on Saturday at the Ford Idaho Center in Nampa.

New Plymouth would reach the state tournament with a 39-36 win over District VI runner-up West Jefferson on Saturday in Burley.

Sports

Huskies beat Compass, chart their way into bracket

The Marsing High School played its way into the 2A District III boys' basketball tournament with a 52-37 home win over Compass Charter on Friday.

The play-in game victory pushed the Huskies (8-14) into a rematch with No. 3 Melba, a team that beat No. 6 Marsing by a combined total of 60 points over two games during 2A Western Idaho Conference play. The teams matched up again on Monday in Melba after The Owyhee Avalanche's deadline.

"We know we need to bring our best game into Melba on Monday," Marsing coach Tim Little said after Friday's win. "Hopefully with a little rest and practice we can prepare to compete, which we have not done for a full four quarters with them this year."

The winner of Monday's game will travel to face No. 2 Nampa Christian at 7 tonight in a district semifinal.

In Friday's win-or-go-home game, the Aviators (6-13) did their best to control the Huskies' 6-foot, 8-inch star Jacob Ankeny. Compass limited his performance on the boards but seemed to have



Marsing senior Jacob Ankeny looks to pass out of the post past the Aviators' Max Myers (23) and Parker Williams during Friday's play-in game.

forgotten that there is more than one facet to the senior post's game.

He pulled down a season-low five rebounds but dished out a season-best five assists.

Ankeny was solid from the floor, hitting seven of eight field goals and four of five free throws for 18 points to go two steals and three blocks.

Noel Quebrado showed for the second straight game that the Huskies will not have to look far for points next season. The junior guard hit four three-pointers and finished with 14 points and three assists.

In the last home game of his high school career, senior guard Roger Valadez scored nine points while logging three assists.

The Huskies' 15-point

winning margin does not tell the whole story, though. Compass made a run in the second half, pulling to within five points to start the fourth quarter.

Little said that despite the double- and triple-teams with which the Aviators surrounded Ankeny, he was still able to get his job done. The veteran coach also noted the work put in by Quebrado.

"Noel had another good night shooting from deep, which gave us a spark," Little said.

The Huskies were up 11-6 at the end of a first quarter in which the Aviators sank a pair of three-pointers. Through much of the first quarter, the Huskies defense swarmed all Compass movement down low, pushing the Aviators out to the lower-percentage shots on the perimeter.

With his team leading, 19-13, late in the second quarter, Ankeny swatted away a Compass shot, setting up a drive downcourt that set up Valadez's last-second field goal and gave the Huskies a 21-13 halftime lead.

— TK

MARSING HUSKIES

Athlete Spotlight

Boys' basketball
Noel Quebrado, jr., G
14 points vs. Compass Charter

Girls' basketball
Jade Wainman, sr., G
6 points at Nampa Christian

Wrestling
Jacob Goins, sr., 220
First place at Marsing Pod meet

Girls' basketball
Season complete. Final record: 3-15

Boys' basketball
Varsity
2A District III Tournament
If won Monday: Wednesday, Feb. 17, semifinal at Nampa Christian, 7 p.m.
If lost Monday: Tuesday, Feb. 23 at loser-out game, opponent TBA, 7 p.m.
Junior varsity A and JV B
Seasons complete

Wrestling
Saturday, Feb. 20 at 2A District III championships, Melba, 11 a.m.

Games livestream at www.nfhnetwork.com. There is a fee.

Schedules are subject to change

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Commentary

Baxter Black, DVM



On the edge of common sense Mr. Washington

Lee Trevino has a street named after him in El Paso. Abraham Lincoln has a town named after him in Nebraska. Monty Montana has his namesake state, and I’ve even got some hills named in my honor in South Dakota. But there is one feller who left his mark all over these United States. He’s got more towns and cities and counties and streets and states named after him than anyone else. An ex-president. No, not Jimmy Carter. It’s ol’ George Washington.

I’ve noticed in most every town of any size there’s a Washington Street or Washington Avenue. I dug out my Rand McNally and looked. Thirty-one states have Washington counties. I found 19 states that have cities called Washington, not counting Washington, D.C. Of course, we have Washington state.

From what I recall from my dusty history books, ol’ George was a modest man. They wanted to make him a king, but he refused. They wound up making him first in a long line of presidents. I’m sure there’s a Fidel Castro Boulevard in Havana. They probably had to twist Fidel’s arm to let ’em name it after him. We have a whole raft of politicians who get dams, buildings, airports and other pork barrel projects named after them. They might have even insisted on it. But we’ve named our hometowns and counties after George because we admired him, not because he suggested it.

It’s not regional either. There’s plenty of states in the northeast with his moniker: New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Maryland and Massachusetts. You’d expect it there. But the south is covered with ’em, too; Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

In the Midwest, which was still a wilderness when our young fought the battle and ran the British back to London, you can find lots of Washingtons. They’re in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma and Wisconsin.

And as if that wasn’t enough, just to show you his stayin’ power, he’s represented in Colorado, Idaho, Oregon, Utah, and the folks in Seattle named their state after him.

Yes sir, he left his mark. But what if his name had been Bumgarner or Svenson or Alvarez. We’d probably have still used it. Or what if his opponent in the election primary had won. Every April we’d have to send our checks to our nation’s capital on the banks of the Potomac, Dewey, D.C.

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

From the Statehouse Rural Idaho is starved for broadband

Too many Idahoans don’t have broadband internet access. In this information age, broadband is a utility. We ensure rural towns have access to water and power, but we don’t ensure they have access to broadband. That means their businesses can’t communicate with consumers, they can’t get the health care they need, and their children can’t get the education they deserve. My new legislation can help fix this.

I have introduced legislation that would provide for an Idaho Broadband Advisory Board to create a more strategic broadband plan for our state. I’ve worked for several years to get the state to address the lack of service for rural Idahoans. Unfortunately, it took COVID-19 for people across the state to truly understand the importance of this service.

The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board I am proposing would be tasked with developing, implementing, and maintaining a statewide broadband plan. Until this point, the state of Idaho has refused to set forth a comprehensive strategy to address statewide needs. Instead, we have simply addressed individual projects through uncoordinated grants, usually involving federal funds, through the Idaho Department of Commerce.

I was encouraged when I saw the Governor’s State of the State Address. It appeared Gov. Brad Little wanted to begin investing in statewide broadband, but unfortunately, he wanted to continue to work within the unorganized platform at the Idaho Department of Commerce. That motivated me to draft a Broadband Board to create a comprehensive and prioritized plan to truly invest in Idaho’s broadband needs. In addition to the board, an Idaho Broadband Fund would be created to distribute any allocated funds in support

Dist. 23B Rep. Megan Blanksma R-Hammett (term expires 2022)

Contact her 595 S. Thacker Road Hammett, ID 83627 Phone — (208) 366-7976 E-mail — mblanksma@house.idaho.gov

Committees Ways & Means Health & Welfare Resources & Conservation Transportation House majority caucus chair



of implementing the statewide plan.

I’m truly excited to move this plan forward. Much the way the State Water Board has provided a consistent planning and prioritization structure for state water projects, the Idaho Broadband Advisory Board will provide the same support for statewide broadband rollout. Hopefully, this is the jumpstart we need to start focusing on the unserved rural communities across the state. I look forward to executing a plan that will give rural Idahoans the same access to commerce, health care, and education that the rest of Idaho enjoys.

— Dist. 23B Rep. Megan Blanksma (R-Hammett) is the Idaho House of Representatives Majority Caucus chair. She is in her third term serving Owyhee, Elmore and the western portion of rural Twin Falls counties.

Stephen Hartgen

The Fourth Estate Dropping printed legal notices is a flawed idea, yet again

by Stephen Hartgen

Of course, you say. As a former newspaper publisher, I’d hardly be expected to support a proposal in the Idaho Legislature to allow government entities to discontinue printed legal notices in newspapers and just go with the entity’s online listing (HB 53). After all, you might add, it’s just about money, as in the newspaper’s money. It failed on a 32 -38 vote in the House last Wednesday.

Dropping printed legals would indeed hurt newspaper revenue. The “hit” would hurt weekly publications the most, because they generally operate in small markets, have a larger proportion of legals, and have fewer other revenue options. Some might fold entirely, thus depriving those smaller community citizens of local news.

OK, you say, but who really cares if we don’t see a write-up on Mrs. Jones’ sister visiting from Minnesota and bringing a lutefisk recipe, corn relish and some hand-woven woolly mittens. Ya sure, you betcha.

But it really is an issue about transparency as well as community news. Think, for a moment, whether you have time to wade through dozens of government websites every day, week or month to learn that there’s a bond proposal on the ballot you didn’t even know about. Or there’s a “call for bids” on a new

public structure with the deadline for submitting a bid just days away. Or that a federal land management agency wants comments on proposed trail closures or grazing restrictions.

Sure, printed legal notice publication may cost a bit, but it’s still the best way to inform the widest reach of local citizens. Even legislators with bristly press relations support openness and see that the measure would lead to less transparency. Quite a few years ago, when I was publisher of the Twin Falls Times-News, I worked with others to put the “online legals” in place as an option, but not to discontinue printed notice (Idaho Code 60-106). The legals rate is set by law, so one publication pays the same as any other. Legal notice is required in many governmental laws and rules, but the rate hasn’t changed.

Also, HB 53 wouldn’t have required entities to make and/or keep an historical record of transaction, thus leaving no “paper trail” which can be followed. In issues like zoning and water adjudication, a title of record is essential; leaving this without a clear record isn’t good public policy.

Then there’s the issue of transparency again.

— See Notices, Page 7B



Commentary

Financial management

Save for kids' college if you can, but focus on retirement

Dear Dave,

A friend told me about your Baby Steps program. I have one question, though. I noticed that according to your plan, saving for retirement should come before saving up a college fund for your kids. Why is this?

— **Natalie**

Dear Natalie,

In short, college funding is not a necessity. Being able to set aside money for college is a great thing to do if parents can afford that sort of thing. But you can fund your education in other ways. There are loads of scholarships out there just for

getting good grades. You can also work while you're taking classes. And one of the biggest things when it comes to getting an education is choosing a school or training program you can afford. Trust me, I believe in education. But there are lots of ways to get a college degree, or other career training, without your parents having to foot the bill or taking out student loans.

Another reason I advise this approach is because everyone is going to retire someday — unless, unfortunately, they happen to die before reaching retirement age. Retiring and eating are necessities. College is



a luxury. Lots of people succeed in life without going to college, and thousands have worked their way through college. I worked 40-plus hours a week in college, and still graduated in four years. The only good way to retire is by planning for it years ahead of time, and that means saving and investing.

Sure, you should try to help your kids with their educations if you can. Even a little bit each month over the course of several years can help a lot. But some parents might not be able to put a dime toward their kids' educations after high school. That doesn't make them bad people or bad parents. And it doesn't mean their kids can't

still go to college, and avoid debt doing it!

— **Dave**

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

From Washington

Latest COVID relief grows deficit, could hinder recovery

Over the past year, Congress has come together multiple times to pass massive, bipartisan bills totaling trillions of dollars in relief measures to back the medical response and help American families and businesses weather the pandemic. I have been encouraged by this bipartisan approach, and recent economic projections from the Congressional Budget Office, which estimates that already-enacted pandemic-related provisions, built upon the strong fiscal policy foundation we already have in place, will provide a robust economic recovery, with growth of 3.7 percent over the course of 2021.

It is disappointing that the new Senate Majority has decided to move forward with a budget resolution to pass quickly proposals that have failed to garner broad bipartisan support in the past, instead of focusing on policies that will boost vaccine distribution and help get people back to work and our kids safely back to school.

I am apprehensive about a massive new spending package following so close on the heels of the \$900 billion COVID-19 relief package passed so recently in December. A considerable amount of the funding provided in December and some of the funding passed earlier in the year has not yet been spent. Rushing ahead with piling enormous amounts of additional taxpayer dollars on programs not near depletion and not making sure the previously allocated resources

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

Local office
251 E. Front St., Ste. 205
Boise, ID 83702
Phone — (208) 334-1776
Fax — (208) 334-9044
Washington, D.C., office
239 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone — (202) 224-6142
Fax — (202) 228-1375
E-mail — <http://crapo.senate.gov/contact/email.cfm>

Committee assignments — Finance (ranking member); Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; and Budget



are best helping to address the pandemic seriously risks imprudent spending.

I filed 10 amendments to S.Con.Res. 5, the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Budget Resolution, that would prevent unnecessary tax hikes on middle-class families and businesses, and preserve access to affordable, quality health care. This included an amendment to extend permanently the lower tax rates for individuals and small businesses enacted as part of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. This amendment was not agreed

to on a party-line vote.

The proposed budget directs the Finance Committee, which has jurisdiction over major direct spending programs and all revenue and debt limit legislation, to increase the deficit by a staggering \$1.3 trillion, without even determining or deliberating what policies would have the biggest impact in growing our economy. Although this budget instructs the Senate Finance Committee to spend this funding, the reality is that the Committee will likely never debate nor vote on amendments. Rather, we will be asked to simply rubber stamp partisan legislation passed in the House of Representatives.

I voted against the FY 2021 Budget Resolution that the Senate passed by a vote of 51 to 50 on Feb. 5 because it does not pave the way for fiscally responsible, bipartisan budgeting enabling targeted COVID relief and economic growth. As we have done in the past, Congress should be working together on targeted COVID relief for families affected by the pandemic, and pro-growth policies that will allow employers to reopen and rehire.

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

✓ Notices: Online legal notices would marginalize rural folks, elderly

From Page 6B

Despite the internet, printed legals are often the only way citizens can keep up with such changes in their communities. Many seniors don't use the internet, so online-only legals would inevitably leave out many who own their own homes and follow proposed zoning carefully. And for those who use the internet, there's already a convenient website established by the newspapers themselves, which gathers and sorts state legal notices (idahopublicnotices.com) by type and location. So why dismantle or duplicate what's already being done?

In the weeks after the bill's introduction, many editors and publishers pointed out various flaws,

particularly those dealing with transparency. Jon Brown, editor of The Owyhee Avalanche, Homedale, put it concisely: The "proposal may save a few pennies in taxpayer money. But in the long run such a shift will further erode the public trust in government, further diminish the public's participation in participatory government, and further threaten the survival of community journalism." That's well-stated indeed.

It's mainly cities and counties who wanted the change, which have the largest portion of legals submissions. But if printed legals were dropped, they'd still have to have someone, at further expense, organize and enter the information. Those costs alone

would likely override any savings. The issue comes up from time to time, but once carefully considered, it was set aside. That was the right move yet again.

— *Stephen Hartgen of Twin Falls is a retired five-term Republican member of the Idaho House of Representatives, where he served as chairman of the Commerce & Human Resources Committee. Previously, he was editor and publisher of The Twin Falls Times-News (1982-2005). He is the author of two new books on Southern Idaho, "Tradition & Progress: Southern Idaho's Growth Since 1990." and "Spirit of Place: Southern Idaho Across Generations." He can be reached at Stephen_Hartgen@hotmail.com*

Sports

MARSING POD TOURNAMENT

Tough Goins gets hometown crown

Marsing High School hosted its final wrestling meet of the season Saturday — a pod tournament that attracted 15 teams to the school’s old gym.

Jacob Goins (220) took first place in the 220A pod, and fellow senior Troy Miller was runner-up at 138. Freshman Kail Wyman finished third in 220B.

Marsing again wrestled short-handed, missing 182-pounder Isai Arriaga and Solon Lafleur (120).

Evan Miller missed the entire season with an injury.

First-year Huskies coach Juan Garcia expects Arriaga to be ready to go for the 2A District III Tournament, which starts at 11 a.m., on Saturday in Melba. Weigh-ins are slated for 9 a.m.

In the Marsing Pod Tournament, Goins won three of his five matches. He defeated Meridian’s Carson Gooley by fall at 2 minutes, 40 seconds, Buhl’s Garret Theurer (fall, 1:20), and



Troy Miller’s (left) sole loss Saturday was to Caldwell’s August Pena. Pena would take the gold, and Miller won silver.

Ridgevue’s Bryce Pryor (fall, 1:56).

Wyman pinned Mountain View’s Shawn Claysen Torres-Meade in 21 seconds for his only win of the day.

Senior Troy Miller (138) won three of his four matches, finishing in second place. His only loss was a medical forfeit, when a shoulder to the nose from eventual pod cham-

pion August Pena of Caldwell started a stream of blood that wouldn’t stop.

Miller pinned Bishop Kelly’s Luke Hampton (3:11), beat Vallivue Dylan Flory, 8-4, and prevailed by medical forfeit over Buhl’s Jayce Bower.

Junior Jonathan Ineck (145) finished sixth with two forfeits.

Freshman Jonathan Leon (195) finished fifth.



Homedale’s Andrew Marston (right) and Mountain View’s Jackson Brousseau finished first and second, respectively.

Two Trojans triumph

The Homedale High School wrestling team excelled in Marsing Saturday.

Isaiah Stebly and Andrew Marston picked up Marsing Pod Tournament gold medals at 126 pounds and 132 pounds, respectively.

Stebly’s road to the title included pins of Tri-Valley’s Dallan Scott (5 minutes, 8 seconds), Bishop Kelly’s Luke Gilliam (5:15), and Vallivue’s Jack Halcomb.

Marston won four matches — against Vallivue’s Finnian McAuliffe (fall, 1:44), Mountain View’s Jackson Brousseau (9-3 decision), New Plym-

outh’s Koltan Branstetter (fall, 47 seconds), and Vallivue’s Chris Hammons (fall, 1:37).

Uriel Neri (220B) second by topping Marsing’s Kail Wyman (fall, 1:34) and Mountain View’s Shawn Claysen Torres-Meade (fall, 24 seconds).

Jeffrey Layne (152A) and Noah Bowen (160B) finished third in their divisions.

Layne beat New Plymouth’s Erin Vian (fall, 2:27), Bishop Kelly’s Michael Draper (fall, 2:00), and Buhl’s Jordan Ruiz (fall, 1:09).

Bowen pinned New Plymouth’s Ben Coburn in 4:43.

— TK

Mustangs garner gold medals

The Melba High School wrestling team left the Marsing Pod Tournament with an arm full of awards Saturday.

Alan Alvarez (220 pounds) and Trevor Rhoades (182) both emerged champions.

Alvarez climbed to the top of the podium with a pair of quick pins against Mountain View’s Shawn Claysen Torres-Meade — in 20 seconds and 24 seconds. He also stopped Homedale’s Uriel Neri two seconds before the end of the first period of their match.

Rhoades recorded pinfalls over Mountain View’s Max DeDera-Ferrari (1:05), Vallivue’s Kameron Hiser (3:01),

Ridgevue’s Brett Wadley (41 seconds), and got a forfeit against Mountain View’s Stockton Nelson.

Evan Michaelson (145B) finished second with victories over Bishop Kelly’s Dreyvan Luna (fall, 3:17), Homedale’s Keegan McKay (fall, 1:16), and Vallivue’s Gohaun Olson (fall, 1:53).

Logan Dunn (152B) took second after dispatching Ridgevue’s Rylan Shipp (fall, 46 seconds), Mountain View’s Troy Grizzle (9-3 decision), and New Plymouth’s Parker Boring (9-2 decision).

A runner-up at 160B, Carlos Colunga (160B) topped

Buhl’s Tate Douglas (7-4 decision), Homedale’s Noah Bowen (12-7 decision), and New Plymouth’s Ben Coburn (fall, 3:26).

Other Melba wrestlers:

• **Brenton Overall (170B)** — third place

• **Cody Dickard (285)** — third place

• **Jaxen Hackler (113A)** — sixth place

• **Ben Evans (195)** — sixth place

• **McKoy Richardson (132A)** — eighth place

The Mustangs play host to the 2A District III tournament, beginning at 11 a.m., on Saturday. — TK



Marose bowls perfect 300 again

Mike Marose, co-owner of The Bowling Alley, fed off a home lanes advantage Feb. 1 to bowl his second perfect game at the Homedale venue. Marose first rolled the 300 game of his career in Homedale in December 2008. Marose began competing in league bowling at the age of 19, and he has bowled for 44 years. Submitted photo

Melba can’t wrest No. 2 from Nampa Christian

Beus averages 17 rebounds in final 2A WIC week

Melba High School was unable to play its way into a first-round bye in the 2A District III boys’ basketball tournament.

Nampa Christian withstood another double-double from the Mustangs’ Cache Beus to hang on to the No. 2 seed in the tournament.

The Trojans beat Melba, 57-51, on the final night of the

2A Western Idaho Conference season last Wednesday on the Mustangs’ floor.

Nampa Christian (17-4 overall) edged Melba (16-4) by one game for the second seed.

Melba opened the district tournament at home Monday after deadline against No. 6 Marsing, which defeated No. 7 Compass Charter, 52-37, in a district play-in game Friday on the Huskies’ court.

A win Monday puts Melba into the semifinals on the road for a rematch with Nampa Christian today. The winner qualifies for the 2A Real Dairy

Shootout state tournament.

Beus scored 12 points and pulled down 13 rebounds last Wednesday, but Melba couldn’t repeat its success from earlier in the year when the Mustangs beat Nampa Christian on the road.

Landon Cheney led the Trojans last week with 12 points, and teammate Dane Bradshaw chipped in nine points.

Joe Reiber added 11 points and six rebounds for Melba.

Feb. 8: Melba 65, Cole Valley Christian 54 — Reiber led four Mustangs scorers in double digits during a huge

homecourt conference win.

Reiber scored 18 points to lead all players.

Beus had his biggest rebounding night of the season, tearing down 21 boards to go with 13 points.

Braden Volkers scored 13 points and dished four assists, while Henry Clark had 11 points and four rebounds.

Reiber also tallied three rebounds and three steals.

The Chargers got 14 points from Garrett Smith, while teammates David Howlett and Hunter Gill chipped in 12 and 10 points, respectively.

Melba boys get JV A top seed

Melba High School’s top junior varsity team earned the top postseason spot.

The Mustangs beat Nampa Christian, 55-27, last Wednesday in a 2A Western Idaho Conference game.

Melba (13-1) got the upper hand for the 2A WIC JV A Tournament top seed by beating Cole Valley Christian, 53-39, on Feb. 8.

In the JV B tournament, Cole Valley was the top seed with Nampa Christian No. 2, Melba No. 3, and New Plymouth No. 4.

Public notices

COMBINED PUBLIC NOTICE FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND NOTICE TO INTENT TO REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS CITY OF HOMEDALE 31 WEST WYOMING AVENUE, HOMEDALE, IDAHO 83628 (208) 337-4641
These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Homedale.

Request for the Release of Funds
On or about March 1, 2021 the City of Homedale will submit a request to the Idaho Department of Commerce, State of Idaho, administering agency for the release of Idaho Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), as amended, to undertake the following project:
City of Homedale Riverside Park Expansion
Construction of an ADA restroom in Riverside Park Expansion
Corner of North 1st Street West and West California Avenue
\$135,000

Finding of No Significant Impact
The City has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the City of Homedale City Hall at 31 West Wyoming Avenue where the ERR can be examined or copied weekdays 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Public Comments
Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comment to the City of Homedale for receiving and responding to comments. All comments received by February 26, 2021 at 5:00 pm will be considered by the City before authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. The comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

Release of Funds
The City of Homedale certifies to the Idaho Department of Commerce that Gheen Christoffersen, in his official capacity as Mayor consents to accept the jurisdiction of the federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The Idaho Department of Commerce’s approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows for the City to use ICDBG funds.

Objections to State Release of Funds
The Idaho Department of Commerce will accept objections to its release of funds and the City certification for a period of fifteen (15) days following the anticipated submission date or its

receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases:
A. The certification was not executed by the certifying officer.
B. The City has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58;
C. The City has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the Idaho Department of Commerce.
D. Another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.
Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures at 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to:
Dennis Porter, Community Development Manager
Industry and Community Services Division
Idaho Department of Commerce
700 West State Street
PO Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0093
Telephone: 208-287-0782
Potential objectors should contact the Idaho Department of Commerce to verify the actual last day of the objection period.
02/17/2021

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. A-219
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MARSING, O W Y H E E C O U N T Y, I D A H O, AUTHORIZING AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A WATER REVENUE REFUNDING BOND, SERIES 2021, IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,308,426.79, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REFUNDING THE CITY’S OUTSTANDING WATER REVENUE BOND, SERIES 2009; PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION AND APPLICATION OF WATER REVENUES TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BOND; ESTABLISHING FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR THE FORM, EXECUTION, REGISTRATION, MATURITY, AND PAYMENT OF THE BOND; PROVIDING COVENANTS RELATING TO THE BOND AND THE TAX-EXEMPT STATUS OF THE INTEREST ON THE BOND; APPROVING A FORM OF BOND PURCHASE AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS; APPROVING A SUMMARY OF THIS ORDINANCE FOR PUBLICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A summary of the principal provisions of Ordinance No. A-219 of the City of Marsing, Owyhee County, Idaho, adopted on February 10, 2021, is as follows:
Section 1: Defines the terms and phrases used in the Ordinance.
Section 2: Makes findings with respect to the refunding of the City’s Water Revenue Bond.
Section 3: Describes the City of Marsing Water Revenue Refunding Bond, Series 2021 (the “Bond”).
Section 4: Provides for the manner and method of execution of the Bond.
Section 5: Provides for the

place and manner of payment of the Bond.
Section 6: Appoints the City Treasurer as Bond Registrar.
Section 7: Provides for the prepayment and defeasance of the Bond.
Section 8: Establishes funds and provides for the refunding of the Refunded Bond.
Section 9: Provides for the issuance of additional bonds.
Section 10: Provides for a pledge of revenues.
Section 11: Provides for investments of surplus funds.
Section 12: Provides general covenants for the Bond.
Section 13: Provides special covenants for the Bond.
Section 14: Approves a Bond Purchase Agreement with, and provides for the sale of the Bond to, Zions Bancorporation, N.A.
Section 15: Provides for amendments to the Ordinance.
Section 16: Provides for validity of issuance.
Section 17: Provides remedies for Registered Owner of the Bond.
Section 18: States that the Ordinance constitutes a contract with the Registered Owner of the Bond.
Section 19: Provides for severability.
Section 20: Repeals prior inconsistent ordinances, to the extent of any inconsistency.
Section 21: Authorizes the Mayor, City Clerk, and City Treasurer to execute any additional documents necessary to sell and deliver the Bond.
Section 22: Provides for the publication of the Ordinance or a summary thereof and the effective date of the Ordinance.

The full text of Ordinance No. A-219 is available at City Hall and will be provided to any citizen upon personal request during normal office hours.
DATED this 10th day of February, 2021.
CITY OF MARSING
Owyhee County, Idaho
s/: Chad Sevy, Mayor
ATTEST:
s/:Jolyn E Green, City Clerk
02/17/2021

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED GRANT ACTIVITIES
The City of Grand View is submitting a proposal to the Idaho Department of Commerce for an Idaho Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) in an amount not to exceed \$225,000.00 to make improvements to the Community Center.
The hearing will include a discussion of the need for the project; the application process; and the project’s scope of work, location, funding/ budget, schedule, and expected benefits. The application, related documents, and ICDBG Application Handbook will be available for review.
The hearing has been scheduled for Tuesday March 2, 2021 at 4:00 pm. at Eastern Owyhee County Library located at 520 Boise Avenue, Grand View, ID 83624.
Verbal and written comments will be accepted prior to and at the hearing.
The hearing will be held in a facility that is accessible to persons with disabilities. Special accommodations will be available, upon request, five (5) days prior to the hearing in a format that is usable to persons with disabilities. For more information, contact Mayor Danny Martinez at (208)

250-0800.
This Notice can be provided in a format accessible to persons with disabilities and/or persons with limited English proficiency upon request.
Al ser solicitada, ésta notificación puede ser proveída en un formato fácil de usar para personas con discapacidad y/o personas con conocimientos limitados del Inglés.
Danny Martinez, Mayor
425 Boise Ave
Grand View, ID 83624
02/17/2021

INVITATION TO BID BUS MAINTENANCE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: Sealed bids will be received in the District Office of the Superintendent of Schools located in Bruneau, Idaho 83604, 39678 State Highway 78, Telephone (208)-834-2260, until 5 o’clock p.m., March 8, 2021 for bus maintenance, materials and services for two years, July 2021-June 2022 and July-2022- ending June-2023 school years.
Please pick up the bus maintenance information packet with specifications and bid forms at the District Office, 39678 State Highway 78 Bruneau, Idaho. For additional details contact Superintendent, Ryan Cantrell at 208-834-2260.
The bids will be opened by Bus Maintenance Committee and share their recommendations with the board, at the board meeting April 13, 2021 at Rimrock Jr. Sr. High School, at 7 p.m.
The Board of Trustees reserves the right to accept the bid deemed best, or reject any and/or all bids and to waive any technicality.
By Order of the Board of Trustees
Joint School District No. 365
39678 State Highway 78
Bruneau, Idaho 83604
JayDene Aquiso
02/17,02/24/2021

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 March 9, 2021 at the Owyhee County Museum, 17085 Basey St, Murphy Id 83650. 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 March 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 Murphy Reynolds Wilson Sub-district 3 (Wilson) which is the fire protection commissioner’s subdistrict. In accordance with Idaho Statute 31-1408.
02/17/2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS CASE NO. CV37-21-00019 IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF OWYHEE Magistrate Division
In the Matter of the Estates of: MARSHALL DAVIS CURRIE and JOYCE ELAINE CURRIE, Decedents. NOTICE IS HEREBY

GIVEN that Tamara Tucker has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named Estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must both be presented to the Personal Representative of the Estates of Marshall Davis Currie and Joyce Elaine Currie at the law offices of Dinius Law, 5680 E. Franklin Rd., Suite 130, Nampa, Idaho, 83687, and filed with the Clerk of the Court.
DATED this 27th day of January, 2021.
DINIUS LAW
/s/ Kevin E. Dinius
Kevin E. Dinius
Sarah Hallock-Jayne
Attorneys for Personal Representative
02/03,10,17/2021

PUBLIC NOTICE
The following application(s) have been filed to appropriate the public waters of the State of Idaho:
57-12062
DOUBLE B CATTLE RANCH
13428 CRESCENT DR
NAMP A, ID 83686-9196
Point of Diversion NENW S16 T02S R02W OWYHEE County Source GROUND WATER
Point of Diversion NWNW S16 T02S R02W OWYHEE County Source GROUND WATER
Point of Diversion SWNW S16 T02S R02W OWYHEE County Source GROUND WATER
Point of Diversion SENW S16 T02S R02W OWYHEE County Source GROUND WATER
Point of Diversion NWSW S16 T02S R02W OWYHEE County Source GROUND WATER
Point of Diversion NESW S16 T02S R02W OWYHEE County Source GROUND WATER
Point of Diversion SWSW S16 T02S R02W OWYHEE County Source GROUND WATER
Point of Diversion SESW S16 T02S R02W OWYHEE County Source GROUND WATER
Use: IRRIGATION 03/01 to 11/15 5.62 CFS
Use: STOCKWATER 01/01 to 12/31 0.05 CFS
Total Diversion: 5.67 CFS
Date Filed: 01-15-2021
Place Of Use: IRRIGATION, STOCKWATER
T02S R02W S16 NENW, NESW, NWNW, NWSW, SWNW, SWSW, SENW, SESW

Permits will be subject to all prior water rights. For additional information concerning the property location, contact the Western office at (208)334-2190; or for a full description of the right(s), please see <https://idwr.idaho.gov/apps/ExtSearch/WRAApplicationResults/>. Protests may be submitted based on the criteria of Idaho Code § 42-203A. Any protest against the approval of this application must be filed with the Director, Dept. of Water Resources, Western Region, 2735 W AIRPORT WAY, BOISE ID 83705-5082 together with a protest fee of \$25.00 for each application on or before 3/8/2021. The protestant must also send a copy of the protest to the applicant.
GARY SPACKMAN, Director
02/17,02/24/2021

Public notices

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE
On the 29th day of April, 2021, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. of this day (recognized local time), in the office of The Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy 78, Murphy, ID 83650, in the County of Owyhee, State of Idaho, Secured Land Transfers LLC, a Delaware limited liability company dba TitleOne, as Successor Trustee, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash or cashier’s check (cash equivalent), in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale in compliance with Section 45-1506(9) Idaho Code, the following described real property, situated in Owyhee County, State of Idaho, and described as follows to wit:

A parcel of land being a portion of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter, and a portion of Government Lot 4, of Section 26, and a portion of the Northwest Quarter of Section 35, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, Boise Meridian, Owyhee County, Idaho, more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a found brass cap marking the North Quarter corner of said Section 35; thence South 0°31’17” East, coincident with the east line of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 35, a distance of 645.08 feet to a 5/8” rebar/cap PLS 14221; thence North 73°23’06” West, 316.38 feet; thence North 69°46’59” West, 141.71 feet; thence North 26°17’26” West, 120.04 feet; thence North 15°02’39” West, 252.43 feet to the centerline of an existing gravel road; thence North 69°27’33” West, coincident with said centerline, 73.21 feet; thence North 74°47’33” West, coincident with said centerline 251.89 feet; thence North 68°01’20” West, coincident with said centerline 215.18 feet; thence North 71°03’41” West, coincident with said centerline, 119.01 feet; thence North 79°56’59” West, coincident with said centerline, 98.70 feet; thence South 88°41’20” West, coincident with said centerline, 126.22 feet; thence South 82°54’07” West, coincident with said centerline, 575.45 feet to a point on the south line of said Section 26; thence leaving said centerline,

North 7°27’39” West, 55.99 feet; thence North 50°27’48” East, 710.60 feet; thence North 12°23’15” East, 731.74 feet to the southerly right of way line of State Highway 78 and the beginning of a non-tangent curve; thence 1044.90 feet along the arc of said curve to the left, with a central angle of 10°16’11”, a radius of 5820.58 feet, subtended by a chord bearing South 46°40’27” East, 1043.50 feet; thence North 65°59’00” East, 113.32 feet to the centerline of said State Highway 78, and the beginning of a non-tangent curve; thence 131.64 feet along the arc of said curve to the left, with a central angle of 1°18’59”, a radius of 5729.58 feet, subtended by a chord bearing South 53°01’47” East, 131.64 feet to the Idaho Transportation Department Station 280+84.00; thence South 53°18’39” East, coincident with said centerline of State Highway 78, a distance of 373.27 feet to a point due north of the quarter corner common to Sections 26 and 35; thence South 0°31’17” East, 250.46 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

TOGETHER WITH a 40 foot wide ingress/egress easement being 20 feet right and 20 feet left of the following described centerline, and located in Sections 26 and 35, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, Boise Meridian, Owyhee County, Idaho, more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a found brass cap marking the North quarter corner of said Section 35; thence South 71°34’41” West, to the centerline of an existing gravel road, 108.74 feet; thence South 58°42’37” West, coincident with said centerline, 97.34 feet; thence South 65°10’37” West, coincident with said centerline, 98.45 feet; thence South 63°31’56” West, coincident with said centerline, 92.48 feet; thence South 74°12’55” West, coincident with said centerline, 48.91 feet; thence South 81°44’38” West, coincident with said centerline, 49.83 feet; thence North 79°04’58” West, coincident with said centerline, 52.85 feet;

thence North 60°39’48” West, coincident with said centerline, 48.40 feet; thence North 69°27’33” West, coincident with said centerline, 73.21 feet; thence North 74°47’33” West, coincident with said centerline, 251.89 feet; thence North 68°01’20” West, coincident with said centerline, 215.18 feet; thence North 71°03’41” West, coincident with said centerline, 119.01 feet; thence North 79°56’59” West, coincident with said centerline, 98.70 feet; thence South 88°41’20” West, coincident with said centerline, 126.22 feet; thence South 82°54’07” West, coincident with said centerline, 575.45 feet to a point on the south line of Section 26, and the POINT OF TERMINUS.

Together with the water rights represented by Idaho State Department of Water Resources Water Right No. 2-2144 with a claimed priority of March 21, 1958 to 3.7 cfs of irrigation water from the Snake River a tributary of the Columbia River and Water Right No. 2-10011 with a claimed priority of April 1, 1982 to 0.2 cfs of irrigation water from the Snake River a tributary of the Columbia River Water Right No. 57-10232 with a claimed priority of March 21, 1958 to 0.19 cfs of stock water and 0.04 cfs of domestic water with a total diversion of 0.23 cfs of the waters of ground water together with any and all other water rights and ditch rights appurtenant to the above described premises.

The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above referenced real property, but for purposes of compliance with Section 60-113, Idaho Code, the Trustee has been informed that according to the County Assessor’s office, the address of 8319 Clark Road, Marsing, ID 83639, is sometimes associated with said real property.

Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possession, or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the Deed of Trust executed by Rodney D. St. Clair, an unmarried man, as Grantor(s), Secured Land Transfers LLC, a Delaware limited liability company dba TitleOne, as

Successor Trustee, and D.L. Evans Bank, as Beneficiary, recorded May 2, 2017, as Instrument No. 292654, in the records of Owyhee County, Idaho.

THE ABOVE GRANTORS ARE NAMED TO COMPLY WITH SECTION (45-1506) (4)(A), IDAHO CODE. NO REPRESENTATION IS MADE THAT THEY ARE, OR ARE NOT, PRESENTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS OBLIGATION.

The default for which this sale is to be made is the failure to pay the outstanding principal plus all accrued unpaid interest, late charges and account fees, for loan XXXXXX1293, when due on September 30, 2019 in the sum of \$712,226.57. And the Beneficiary elects to sell or cause the trust property to be sold to satisfy the obligation. Dated: December 30, 2020

Secured Land Transfers LLC dba TitleOne
Successor Trustee
/s/: Sheri Coleman
By: Sheri Coleman
Trust Officer
02/03,10,17,24/2021

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF OWYHEE
TOM LEGG and CONNIE GOINS-LEGG, husband and wife, and CODEY WELCH and NICOLE WELCH, husband and wife, Plaintiffs, vs. ESTATE OF BELLE M. BOND, an Estate purportedly holding property in Owyhee County, Defendant

Case No. CV37-21-00007
SUMMONS FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION TO: THE ABOVENAMED DEFENDANT: You have been sued by the above named Plaintiffs. The nature of the claim against you is a Complaint for Quiet Title. Any time after 21 days following the last publication of this summons, the court may enter a judgment against you without further notice, unless prior to that time you have filed a written response in the proper form, including the Case No., and paid any required filing fee with the Clerk of the Court at Owyhee County District Court, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy, Idaho 83650, Phone No. (208)495-2806, and served a copy of your response on the Plaintiffs’ Attorneys, Pickens Law, P.A., P.O. Box 915, Boise, ID 83701, Phone No. (208)954-5090.

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

matter.
Dated: January 19, 2021
Owyhee County District Court
By: /s/ Rachele Fahey, Deputy Clerk
02/03,10,17,24/2021

SUMMONS
CASE NO. CV37-20-00355
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF OWYHEE

NATALIE WILHITE, Plaintiff,
v.
ALL OF THE HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF NELLIE LUCILLE KETNER, also known as Nellie Ketner Wilson, deceased; and the current occupants of LOT 12 OF BLOCK 1 OF THE MOLER ADDITION TO THE CITY OF MARSING, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO, Defendants.

TO: ALL OF THE HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF NELLIE LUCILLE KETNER, also known as Nellie Ketner Wilson, deceased; and the current occupants of LOT 12 OF BLOCK 1 OF THE MOLER ADDITION TO THE CITY OF MARSING, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

You have been sued by NATALIE WILHITE, the Plaintiff in the District Court in and for Owyhee County, Idaho.

The nature of the claim against you is quiet title. Any time after 21 days following the last publication of this summons, the court may enter a judgment against you without further notice, unless prior to that time you have filed a written response in the proper form, including the Case No., and paid any required filing fee to the Clerk of the Court at 20381 State Highway 78, P. O. Box 128, Murphy, Idaho 83650, telephone number (208) 495-2421, and served a copy of your response on the Plaintiff’s attorney at David E. Kerrick, 213 S. 10th Avenue, P.O. Box 44, Caldwell, Idaho 83606, telephone number (208) 459-4574.

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

DATED: Jan. 25, 2021
ANGELA BARKELL, Clerk of the Court
/s/ Rachele Fahey, Deputy Clerk
02/03,10,17,24/2021



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HELP WANTED
Help Wanted: Full time ranch hand needed with hay and cattle experience. Top pay and benefits. Holman Cattle, Homedale, ID 208-867-7964 or 208-571-0833
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.

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HELP WANTED
CDL Driver - US Silica/EP Minerals is currently looking for CDL Drivers at the Vale, Oregon site. This position ensures the Vale production facility is supplied with ores from our Drewsey, OR mine site in a timely, efficient, safe and lawful manner. The responsibilities include but are not limited to: • Safety is a priority; observe road conditions and communicate safety issues. • Operate double belly dump trailers and belt trailers that deliver ore from the mine sites to the production facility. • Manage plant waste loads • Load trucks with front-end loaders and tarping of the product if needed. • Inspect and maintain all equipment. • Know and follow all state and federal regulations as well as company policies and procedures. Other requirements: • Current Class A Driver's License with Doubles and Tankers endorsement. • Qualifying DMV driving history • Current DOT Physical/ Medical card. • Excellent driving and safety record • Good attendance history and ability to work a flexible work schedule. Successful candidates must pass a post offer background check and drug screen. If interested, please apply on-line at www.ussilica.com.
Production Worker - US Silica/EP Minerals is currently taking applications for our Production Worker position at the Vale, Oregon site. The responsibilities include but are not limited to: • Working safely is priority • Packs product into bags, bulk bags, boxes and bulk hopper rail cars • Completes or assists with bulk car cleaning, sealing, purging and switching • Uses manual and automatic palletizer • Identifies bag type, pallet type, and code stickers • Dump broken bags and re-feed non-conforming product • Check and record bag weights • Stacks or re-stacks bags or boxes on pallets as required Other requirements: • High school diploma, GED, or equivalent experience • Ability to communicate effectively (written and verbal) • Ability to work in a fast-paced environment. • Ability to work independently. • Ability to work a flexible work schedule. • Good attendance history. • Multi-Tasking skills. Successful candidates must pass a post offer background check and drug screen. If interested, please apply on-line at www.ussilica.com.

JOB OPENING:
Owyhee Conservation District has a part time job opening March 2021 for Administrative Assistant
Job location USDA Office in Marsing. Currently you will be teleworking for most of the job.
Hours: 16 -20 per week
Starting Pay: \$9-11 per hour based on experience
No Benefits come with this position.
Submit Resume and cover letter to: Debbie.Abel@id.nacdn.net
Final interviews to be held March 4, 2021 at 12pm in Marsing
Requirements: Must be able to pass Federal Background check.
Required Skills: Word, Excel, Outlook and QuickBooks. Publisher helpful, not required.
Full list of job duties can be requested at: Debbie.Abel@id.nacdn.net

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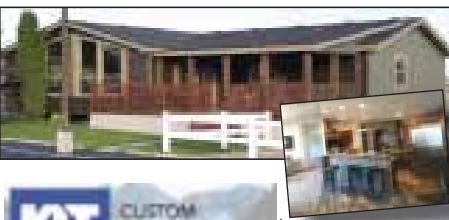
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Sports

Trojans endure nail-biters ahead of district tourney

Postseason begins tonight at home against Parma

The final week of the regular season was filled with drama and close calls for the Homedale High School boys' basketball team.

Following a trend from the past few 3A Snake River Valley conference games, the Trojans squeezed out a 41-39 win over Payette on Friday.

The come-from-behind win in the Pirates' gymnasium solidified Homedale's No. 4 berth in the 3A District III Tournament.

The Trojans (7-13 overall, 4-6 in 3A SRV) and No. 5 Parma (6-16) will battle at 7 p.m., today, inside the HHS gymnasium in a postseason opener. The winner moves on to a semifinal game at top-seeded Fruitland (14-6) at 7 p.m., on Saturday, and the loser falls into the consolation bracket against the loser of the other semifinal featuring No. 2 McCall-Donnelly against either No. 3 Weiser or No. 6 Payette.

On Friday, the Trojans roared back from a nine-point halftime deficit and trailed by three points heading into the final eight minutes.

Coach Cam Long's team split the final four games of the conference season. The average point differential in those games was 1.75 points, including a pair of one-point games.

Sophomore guard Mason Strong had his biggest game of the season in the win against



Todd Beatty started his Senior Night by singing the Star Spangled Banner. During the game against Payette, the 6-foot, 3-inch post also performed at the free-throw line.

Payette. He notched a double-double of 17 points and 10 rebounds, including six on the Pirates' end of the floor. Homedale dominated on the Pirates' backboard. Homedale's 12 defensive rebounds (to Pay-

ette's reported three offensive rebounds) denied the host club many second-chance shots.

That denial helped the Trojans claw back in the second half. The Pirates missed 75 percent of their shots in the final 16 minutes, going 5-for-20 from the floor.

Homedale shooters put down twice as many field goals after halftime to fuel the comeback and outscore the Pirates, 26-15, over the final two quarters.

Jaxon Dines scored nine points for the Trojans, and Sigmund Goode added five points.

Cece Lewis led Payette with 12 points, while teammate Zander Allen collected 11 rebounds. Miguel Ceballos came up with eight points.

Last Wednesday: Weiser 47, Homedale 46 — Todd Beatty belted out the Star Spangled Banner to start the Senior Night celebration, but try as they might the Trojans couldn't shake the Wolverines in a conference game.

Beatty was one of four seniors making their final regular-season appearance of their careers on the HHS court. He scored two points and grabbed four rebounds.

Other seniors on the squad include: Ventura Martinez (three rebounds, three assists), Bryce Cornwall (two rebounds), and Milo Mertz, who had his final prep season cut short by injury.

As has been the trend recently, the Trojans were forced to keep pace with hot-handed opponents throughout the first half against Weiser.

The Wolverines converted 54.5 percent (12-for-22) of their shots in the first half and

withstood Strong's buzzer-beating three-pointer to own a 31-26 lead at the break.

Both teams' shooting fell off in the second half, but Weiser held on.

Part of the Wolverines' formula was 11 unanswered points in the first quarter.

With Homedale leading, 8-5, on Strong's layup, Brett Spencer tied game with a three-point play.

Eli Ruiz then scored six consecutive points (a three-point play and a three-pointer) to give Weiser a 16-8 lead with 2 minutes, 16 seconds left in the first stanza.

But in a glimpse of what type of game it would be, the Trojans climbed back with back-to-back treys by Strong and Dines.

After Goode tied the game, 21-21, with an HHS three-pointer 2½ minutes the second quarter, the Wolverines took off again.

Weiser outscored Homedale, 10-2, before Strong closed the half with his long-range shot from straight-away.

Strong and Dines connected on three treys each with Strong leading all scorers with 17 points. Dines, also a sophomore guard, scored 13 points.

Six of Strong's team-high seven rebounds came on the defensive end of the floor where the Trojans owned a 19-6 advantage.

Sophomore Trenton Fisher added nine points for Homedale, and knocked down one of the team's eight treys.

Spencer led Weiser with 12 points, including three three-pointers. Ruiz finished with 11 points.

Huskies girls miss out on state play-in game HHS girls fall

Marsing knocks off NC to reach district third-place game

The Marsing High School girls' basketball season ended Thursday with a 58-24 road loss to No. 2 seed New Plymouth in the 2A District III tournament third-place game.

"New Plymouth is a well-coached team and my hats off to them," coach Mike Swanson said. "We ended our season against a very good team.

"I'm very proud of how we competed."

The sixth-seeded Huskies (3-15) reached the game with a surprise 41-33 win over No.

4 seed Nampa Christian in a loser-out game on Feb. 9.

Swanson did not provide any statistics from Thursday's game.

Feb. 9: Marsing 41, Nampa Christian 33 — With their backs against the wall, the Huskies reached deep inside and discovered the where-withal to get the job done on the road.

After a difficult regular season, the Huskies faced elimination from the district tournament against a moti-

vated Nampa Christian squad (6-10), and broke through with a convincing road win.

"Our girls played with passion and heart and refused to allow our season to end on Tuesday," Swanson said. "It was one of the best games I've coached."

Marsing was anchored by a great overall game from post Alana Larrusea, who scored 12 points and pulled down a season-high 15 rebounds (10 in the second half). The senior also recorded five steals while playing in all 32 minutes of the game.

"All three seniors (Larrusea, Mazzi Roper, and Jade Wain-

man) showed Marsing what the program meant to them, and it reflected in the game," Swanson said.

Roper was good for seven points and Wainman scored six.

Sophomore guard Emily Vanosdall led the team with 13 points.

"She played like an upper-classman for all of the second half," Swanson said.

"(We) are building a culture 'we' and 'us,' and trusting the process is not only a team focus but community, which includes parents."

— TK

Homedale High School's girls' basketball season ended in Fruitland on Feb. 9 when fourth-seeded Grizzlies prevailed, 62-41, in a 3A District III elimination game.

Jacy Parker and Téa Uranga scored eight points each, but Homedale (2-19) lost its 14th consecutive game.

Amaia Aberasturi and Olivia Asumendi scored seven each.

The Grizzlies (7-16) lost, 72-35, to Weiser in Thursday's third-place game. The Wolverines lost a state tournament play-in game Saturday.

Top-seeded Parma beat No. 2 McCall-Donnelly, 49-28, for the district championship.