

The Owyhee Avalanche

VOL. 38, NO. 11

\$1

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023

Grant confirms he's leaving office

Embattled third-term sheriff plans to retire at end of March

Sheriff Perry Grant, who is in the third year of his third term, will retire at the end of the month.

The 22-year lawman confirmed the news in an email to The Owyhee Avalanche on Monday.

"I'm planning to retire at the end of the month, just as rumor has it. It has been in the plans for several months now; only the closest people to me have known," Grant said.

"There is a business opportunity that has come up that won't be there at the end of my term. I'm officially retiring from law enforcement," the man who has served as sheriff for more than a decade said.

"It has been a pleasure to publicly serve my local communities for so long."

Grant will become Owyhee County's third elected official to leave office early in less than a year. Prosecuting Attorney Jeffrey Phillips and Assessor Robin Monahan resigned on the same day in May.

Grant was the subject of an

— See **Grant**, page 2A



Perry Grant

HISTORY AT THE LIBRARY



Owyhee Museum director delivers artifacts

During the first Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library after-school program since Idaho Day, Owyhee County Historical Museum director Eriks Garsvo presented information about the pioneers who lived in the area. For his March 7 presentation inside the Homedale Community Center, Garsvo brought along pioneer artifacts that the elementary school and middle school students could examine first-hand. Garsvo shared information about how the pioneers lived, including what their everyday lives were like. Submitted photo

Out-of-district Homedale library card cost, child safety policy set

Gypsy Jackson program schedule announced; fees and fines finalized

Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library patrons can now use debit cards to pay the fees that the board established last week.

— See **Library**, page 8A

County mails survey seeking input on RV ordinance proposal

Questionnaire sent to property owners last week

Owyhee County has taken the next step in figuring out the fate of its proposed recreational vehicle ordinance.

After facing a packed house of citizens who were mostly against the provisions of the proposal, the county mailed

a community survey to every landowner in unincorporated Owyhee County last week.

According to the letter accompanying the survey, the mailing is an attempt to "get broader input from our property tax payers about how we should move forward."

"In the past, (county commissioners) have been very diligent about using all

— See **Ordinance**, page 8A

Council hearings on land issues postponed

Property issues were front and center at last Wednesday's Marsing City Council meeting.

The scheduled public hearing on the Marsing Ag Labor application to rezone its office to residential was continued until the April 12 meeting.

The organization recently purchased the old Bureau of Land Management Owyhee Field Office building from a private party and wants to use it for its office space. With the acquisition of the office building, Marsing Ag Labor seeks to rezone its existing office so it can be converted

for residential use.

City attorney Stephanie J. Bonney discussed the fate of the remnants of a dwelling at 212 Main St.

The council talked about possibly condemning what's left of the building that had been severely damaged by a fire that also affected a nearby daycare center nearly three years ago. Most of the home was removed, but there is still part of the structure adjacent too the strip mall on Main Street, and U.S. Post Office staff has expressed concern that

— See **Hearings**, page 2A



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Ag 2023: Community markets among topics in special section
On the Water, Pg. 9A: Why county designation is crucial
New coaches, Pgs. 10-11A: HHS golf, tennis have new leaders
Trobots ride again, back page: HHS team competes in Utah
Death notices, 7A • Looking Back, 15A • Commentary, 16-17A

From page 1A

✓ Grant: Sheriff says decision was best one for family, hails upgrades

attorney general’s office investigation last year that concluded his actions were “intolerable” but not criminal when he handled child pornography evidence related to a kidnapping case.

The AG’s investigation was spurred by a county Human Resources Department report stemming from a slew of exit interviews after a mass employee exodus from the sheriff’s office.

Grant said his retirement has nothing to do with any possible ongoing investigations, such as a supposed Idaho Peace

Officer Standards and Training decertification probe.

“I am not retiring because of an ongoing POST investigation. This has been going on for years and has nothing to do with the job I have performed,” he said. “POST has several continual investigations at all times. I am still a certified peace officer.”

The sheriff pointed out that other sheriffs in Idaho aren’t certified, and there is no requirement for a sheriff to have law enforcement certification in the state.

“My decision is based on

the years I’ve served, along with an opportunity that will best serve my family going forward,” he said.

Grant said he has been working with Chief Deputy Lynn Bowman on a transition plan “for quite some time.”

“I’m sure the (Board of County Commissioners) will appoint him to finish my term until he needs to run publicly for the office,” Grant said.

If previous protocol holds true, once Grant’s resignation is official, the Owyhee County Republican Party Central Committee will solicit applications from individuals interested in the sheriff’s job.

The committee will choose three candidates for the job and send its recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners.

The county commissioners will then make an appointment.

During last year’s transition after Monahan’s resignation the central committee conducted job interviews in a meeting in Murphy before Tiffany Nettleton — the woman who had beaten Monahan in the GOP primary earlier in May — was appointed to complete the term.

Whoever is appointed to finish the final 21 months of Grant’s term (which ends in December 2024) would have to run for a fresh four-year term beginning with the primary election in May 2024.

Grant also took the oppor-

tunity to discuss the changes in what challenges the county sheriff faces because of the influx of population into the Treasure Valley.

“Our office has progressed while receiving nearly three times the caseload, calls for service, 911 calls and arrests. We have managed, not by very many additional full-time employees, but by tapping into the experience of newly retired experienced people,” he said.

Grant also lamented that Owyhee County remains a “training ground” for other law enforcement agencies “due to us not being able to keep up with the large pay increases or benefits packages across the valley, but we have been fortunate to retain the amount of employees we have.”

County commissioners authorized two pay raises for sheriff’s office employees, the first of which was part of a boost all county salaries, and a one-time across-the-board bonus in the last calendar year in an attempt to make employment more attractive.

The handful of retirees Grant has hired operates under the Public Employees Retirement System of Idaho and are limited in the number of hours or days they can work at a given stretch. Some of those retirees are among OCSO’s highest-paid and highest-ranked deputies, making well over \$20 per hour. Meanwhile, most of the rank-and-file in the office make a little more than \$19

per hour.

“The office is in good hands with a strong command staff,” Grant said. “I am not and would never leave it if it wasn’t.”

Grant said he has served the public for 30 years, first joining the military when he was 17, and he reflected on progress made within OCSO during his tenure.

“My proudest moments have been the many advances our office has been able to accomplish in technology and training in a very short time,” Grant said.

“We have improved in every facet, so this list will be much bigger when I have more time to prepare my final goodbye. Conversely, with every decision there is another side to it. My regrets list will have unfinished projects, which Chief Deputy Bowman will continue.”

Grant said, in the end, the decision came down to family.

“This decision was difficult, as all life-changing decisions are. My wife and I took a lot of time with this. It came down to our family dynamics and needs, along with feeling content with the direction of the office,” he said.

“I would not retire if everything didn’t fall into place perfectly. I take great pride in the public trusting me to head the highest office in the county for so long, and I gratefully thank you all.”

— JPB

Owyhee Conservation District

Pesticide Recertification Program

Tuesday, March 21, 2023 • 8:30 - Noon

Homedale Community Center • Homedale Fairgrounds

3 credits • Lunch provided

Register by emailing Shelby Nicoletti:
owyheecd@outlook.com

Marsing

Gun Show

Saturday, April 1 • 9 am - 5 pm

Sunday, April 2 • 9 am - 3 pm

American Legion Hall

126 N. Bruneau Hwy., Marsing, Idaho

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✓ Hearings: Homedale meeting cancelled for lack of quorum, hearing rescheduled

there may be hidden damage in a wall that is adjacent to the daycare center.

The property owners have committed to taking mitigation steps, so the condemnation

issue is on hold for now.

No Homedale hearing

The Homedale City Council meeting set for last Wednesday was cancelled because of a

lack of quorum, according to City Clerk and Treasurer Alice Pegram.

The council did meet in a special meeting Friday morning to pay bills and discuss an aspect of the municipal airport master plan.

Pegram said the cancellation of the regular meeting means that a public hearing on developer Ethan Eells’ special use permit application will be rescheduled to the April 12 regular meeting. The city will have publish another legal notice for the rescheduled public hearing,

Eells, who is building townhomes near Industrial Road and East Colorado Avenue, wants to construct a duplex at 226½ W. Oregon Ave.

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HOMEDALE

Legislators use their shoes to raise money for schools

Another Blue Cross
“Steps for Schools” in the books

by **Cheyenne Hill**
McClure Center
Legislative Intern

For at least eight years, the “Steps for Schools” program has raised money for schools in the legislative districts for lawmakers who participate every day in February.

Last Wednesday, Dist. 23B Rep. Melissa Durrant (R-Kuna) picked up a \$500 check for Silver Trail Elementary School in Kuna. The freshman legislator was the only member of the District 23 delegation to participate in the Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation for Health “Steps for Schools” program last month, according to Blue Cross spokesman Nick Jezierny.

“I got the majority of my steps with my daily routine, but I did run/walk on the treadmill a few times a week,” Durrant said.

Durrant said the selection of Silver Trail Elementary School was a democratic process within her family.

“My 4-year-old picked the name of the school district out a hat with the name of all the school districts in the (legislative) district, and then my kids picked the school in that district to donate to,” she said.

Blue Cross brought the participants together for a brief ceremony last Wednesday. Each lawmaker who earned either \$500 for averaging 5,000 steps per day or \$1,000 for averaging 10,000 per day will receive a display check to present their beneficiary school or community organization.

The program promotes health and wellness throughout Idaho’s communities and schools.

“The Steps for Schools walking challenge promotes the importance of being physically active and allows the legislators to give back to schools in their districts to promote youth health,” Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation for Health execu-

tive direc-
tor Kendra
Witt-Doyle
said.

“We’re grateful that so many of Idaho’s legislators and constitutional officers made the effort to participate in Steps for Schools during the busy legislative schedule and helped a local school or school district in the process.”

The schools chosen by legislators can use the funds to purchase equipment or sponsor programs that encourage children to be active.

In order to average 5,000 steps each day in February, a lawmaker would have had to walk at least 140,000 steps in the month. The 10,000-step average required at least 280,000 steps for the month.

On Feb. 22, Longfellow Elementary School fourth-graders joined legislators to walk around the Statehouse to get their steps in. The students also had a chance to get some questions in, too.

The students toured the capitol and the governor’s office, adding to the fourth-grade Idaho history curriculum. The boys and girls got to see some of that history first-hand, learn even more and put their own knowledge to the test.



Melissa Durrant

The “Steps for Schools” program is part of the Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation for Health. This year, \$47,500 was awarded to the state’s schools after 64 legislator and constitutional officers took part. The program has raised more than \$265,000 for Idaho schools in its eight-year history.

Last year, then-Dist. 23A Rep. Matthew Bundy (R-Mtn. Home) pledged his \$1,000 to the Marsing High School athletic track construction project. Bundy now represents District 8 along with former Dist. 23B Rep. Megan Blanksma (R-Hammett).

“Steps for Schools” participants use the app “Move Spring” to keep track of their steps in February. A legislator walking an average of 5,000 steps per day receives \$500, and those lawmakers getting in 10,000 steps each day can provide \$1,000 to the school district of their choice.

Durrant said she’ll accept the challenge again next session.

“I am excited to participate again next year and hope to reach 280,000 steps to earn \$1,000 for one of the remaining school districts in the district,” she said.

— Cheyenne Hill is studying *International Studies with a double minor in Asian Studies and Philosophy, Politics, and Economics at the University of Idaho. She hopes to begin a career in international law and one day work for the United Nations.*

Heading to prison, woman faces similar drug charges in Canyon

Deputy finds
fentanyl on GV
traffic stop

A 48-year-old woman from Washington state has been sentenced to state prison for drug possession.

Jessica Leigh Vaneeten of Woodburn, Wash., will serve at least a year in the Idaho Department of Correction custody.

Her prison term for felony controlled substance possession could be up to six years after Third District Judge Randall S. Grove ruled on Feb. 24 in his Murphy courtroom.

Grove gave Vaneeten credit for four days spent behind bars and levied \$635.50 in court costs.

Vaneeten was originally charged with felony intent to deliver after an Owyhee County Sheriff’s deputy stopped the black Cadillac Vaneeten was driving after it failed to yield at a stop sign a Roosevelt Avenue

in Grand View on Aug. 1.

According to court records, after a drug detection K-9 alerted, the deputy searched the car and found a plastic bag holding approximately 40 fentanyl pills.

Magistrate Judge Shane Darrington did not find probable cause for the intent to deliver accusation, but modified the charge to the felony to which Vaneeten entered a guilty plea as part of a plea agreement.

The deputy’s probable cause statement also indicated Vaneeten was cited for failure to stop at a stop sign and misdemeanor driving under the influence, although the DUI charge was not part of the final complaint.

According to Idaho’s online court repository, Vaneeten was out on bond at the time of her arrest in Owyhee County.

She faces felony and misdemeanor drug charges, which were filed in Canyon County three days after the Grand View traffic stop.

— JPB

Weather					
	H	L	Prec	Sn.	
March 7	42	20	.02		1”
March 8	42	20	.00		
March 9	39	23	.00		
March 10	43	23	.00		
March 11	50	31	.00		
March 12	53	31	.00		
March 13	51	26	.24		

MRW FIRE & EMS

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11th Annual

CHILI COOKOFF

25 March 2023

Owyhee County Museum, Murphy Idaho

(On the lawn outside, in conjunction with the Murphy Spring Bazaar)

Cookoff Team Entry Fee:

\$20 for first entry. \$10 for each additional entry

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Senior menus

Homedale Senior Center

Curbside pickup only between noon and 1 p.m.
Phone ahead (208) 337-3020 to order
Dessert is included in curbside lunch
Milk and oll/bread alternativeavailable each day

- March 15: Ham, scalloped potatoes, broccoli
- March 16: Corned beef, cabbage, roasted potatoes
- March 21: Pork roast, mashed potatoes and gravy, beets
- March 22: Lasagna, noodles, California blend vegetables, green beans
- March 23: Beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, baby carrots
- March 28: Baked fish, baked potato, mixed vegetables

Sandbar Community Room, Marsing

Noon to 12:30 p.m., inside City Hall, Milk served each day
Suggested donation: \$4 (60 and older), \$6 (59 and younger)
March 15: Rosemary salmon over rice pilaf, Capri vegetables, pears, banana, whole wheat roll
March 17: Corned beef and cabbage, red potatoes, glazed carrots, green Jello with pears, Baci roll
March 20: Ham with pineapple, au gratin potatoes, snap peas, fresh fruit, whole wheat roll
March 22: Mushroom Swiss burger, potato wedges, green beans, whole wheat bun
March 24: Vegetarian spaghetti, green beans, carrots, fresh fruit, French bread
March 27: Meatloaf with brown gravy, mashed potatoes, beets, fruit cup, whole wheat roll

Rimrock Senior Center, Grand View

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 to place order
March 16: Corned beef, cabbage, red potatoes, peaches, yogurt, whole grain bun
March 21: Pork roast, peas, green beans, potato, pudding, applesauce, whole wheat roll
March 23: Sloppy Joes, coleslaw fresh fruit, cottage cheese, whole wheat biscuit
March 28: BBQ chicken, corn, scalloped potatoes, pears, whole wheat garlic bread, pudding

Melba Valley Senior Center

Meals served at noon (Salad bar at 11:30 a.m.)
Phone ahead (208) 495-2168 same day for complete menu
Payment by donation. All ages welcome
March 16: Corned beef and cabbage
March 21: Philly cheesesteak sloppy Joes
March 23: Chicken and rice
March 28: Breakfast – Biscuits and gravy with pancakes

Anniversary

Open house set for Urangas’ 50th

Owyhee County natives LeAnda and Danny Uranga will mark their golden wedding anniversary on March 31. The couple was married in 1973 at St. Mary’s in Caldwell.

The children of Danny and LeAnda invite family and friends to a celebration in honor of this milestone. An open house will be held from 3 p.m., to 7 p.m., on Sunday, March 26 at the Txoko Ona Basque Center in Homedale. Appetizers and drinks will be served. Please have your presence be your only gift.

LeAnda and Danny grew up in Homedale and attended Homedale schools throughout their childhood, both graduating from Homedale High School in 1970. They both graduated from college — LeAnda from Boise State and Danny from The College of Idaho. Danny then went to work for the J.R. Simplot Co., and retired in 2014 after 40 years. LeAnda retired in 2012 after 24 years with the Homedale School District.

The couple were founding members of the Txoko Ona Basque club and were instrumental both in the



LeAnda and Danny Uranga

founding of the club and the creation of the Basque Center that has been a tremendous asset in our community. They have served the club in many ways, including board positions and especially the handling of bookkeeping and financing.

At the 2019 Homedale Boosters Crab Feed, they were honored with lifetime passes to Homedale High School athletics. They were recognized as “community members who have made significant contributions of

their time, resources, and have distinguished themselves in support of the Homedale Trojans.”

The couple has three children: Tony Uranga (Amanda), Camille Henry (Isaac), and Darren Uranga (Tarah). They have 11 grandchildren: Madisyn Kushlan, Kaden Henry, Daniel Uranga, Abbey Henry, Téa Uranga, Luke Henry, Kinley Balkovetz, Xavier Uranga, Donovan Uranga, Blaise Uranga, and Mateo Uranga.

Correction

A front-page article in the March 1 edition incorrectly reported that Jodi Jewett was hired by the Grand View Ambulance Service board of directors. Jewett volunteers her time as emergency medical services coordinator.



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Calendar

Today Food distribution 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., for Marsing residents only. The HUB food pantry, 205 8 th Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 649-5411 Labor Dept. bilingual employment services Noon to 4 p.m., Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 364-7781 or canyoncountymail@labor.idaho.gov for appointment or information. Christian Life Club 4 p.m., to 5:15 p.m., First Presbyterian Church of Homedale, 320 N. 6 th St. W., Homedale. Kindergarten to fourth grade. (208) 880-7070 or (208) 337-3464		
those contemplating recovery, Homedale Friends Community Church, 17434 Hwy. 95, Wilder. Community movie night 7 p.m., free, Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Post 128 Community Center, 126 W. 2 nd St. N., Marsing.		
Friday Alcoholics Anonymous 7 p.m., Sandbar Community Room, City Hall, 18 Sandbar Ave., Marsing. (208) 860-9674		
Saturday LaVonne Wiseman Memorial 9 a.m., sign-up; 10 a.m., roping; 1 p.m., triathlon entry. Action starts at 2 p.m. Entry fee \$50. Proceeds benefit District 2 scholarship fund. Badiola Arena, 402 US-95, Homedale. Reservations 8 a.m., March 16; text Trina Brown at (208) 573-6158. Information text Trina Brown or trina.brown@movement.com Food bank distribution 9 a.m., to 10 p.m., Knight Community Church, 630 Idaho St., Grand View. Free lunch 11:30 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6 th St. W., Homedale. (208) 303-7414 OCHS membership meeting Noon, includes player piano concert, Owyhee County Historical Museum, 17085 Basey St., Murphy.		
Sunday LaVonne Wiseman Memorial Open only 4D barrel race. 10 a.m., to 1 p.m., timed runs; racing at 1:30 p.m. Entry fee \$50. Proceeds benefit District 2 scholarship fund. Badiola Arena, 402 US-95, Homedale. Reservations 8 a.m., March 16; text Trina Brown at (208) 573-6158. Information text Trina Brown or trina.brown@movement.com		
Monday Board of County Commissioners meeting 9 a.m., Owyhee County Courthouse, 20381 State Hwy. 78, Murphy. (208) 495-2421 Opal Nash Story Time 10:15 a.m., Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. Creative writing group 5 p.m., Lizard Butte Library community room, 111 S. 3 rd Ave. W., Marsing. Depression and Anxiety Recovery Program 6 p.m., \$185 for 8 sessions. Garnet Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 16613 Garnet Rd, Wilder. Registration (208) 649-4511		
Tuesday Foot clinic 8:30 a.m., appointments necessary, foot exams, \$25; ear cleanings, \$30, Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020 Fit and Fall class 10 a.m., free, Melba Valley Senior Center, 115 Base Line Rd, Melba. (208) 495-2168 Fit and Fall Proof exercise class 10 a.m., to 11 a.m., free, old Marsing High School gymnasium, 800 Main St., Marsing. (208) 296-0847 Grasshoppers pest seminar 12:30 p.m., Cooperative Weed Management Area office, 508 Swisher Ave., Jordan Valley Teens and Tweens 5 p.m., ages 10-17, Homedale Community Center, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. Craft night 7 p.m., to 9 p.m., adult/teen activity, ‘Shamrock String Art,’ Eastern Owyhee County Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2785 Alcoholics Anonymous 7 p.m., open to alcoholics, their families and		

School menus

Homedale Elementary

Choice of milk and juice
PB&J sandwich, and Vegetable and vruit choices daily

March 15: **Breakfast:** Belgian waffle sticks, syrup cup, mixed fruit **Lunch:** Chicken fried fingers, country gravy, whole grain roll, mashed potatoes, buttered corn

March 16: **Breakfast:** Sausage on Hawaiian bun, Yami yogurt, sliced pears **Lunch:** Pepperoni pizza, pineapple tidbits, garden salad, Jello

March 20: **Breakfast:** Breakfast on a stick, applesauce **Lunch:** Chicken nuggets, whole grain roll, steamed buttered carrots

March 21: **Breakfast:** Scrambled eggs, whole grain toast, sliced peaches **Lunch:** Spaghetti, seasoned green beans

March 22: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon roll, string cheese, mixed fruit **Lunch:** Sausage patty, French toast sticks, hash brown patty, strawberry cup

Homedale Middle

Choice of milk and juice, yogurt or string cheese
Cereal option, PB&J and string cheese daily
Vegetable and fruit choices offered daily

March 15: **Breakfast:** Belgian waffle sticks, syrup cup, mixed fruit **Lunch:** Chicken fried stea, country gravy, mashed potatoes, buttered corn, whole grain roll

March 16: **Breakfast:** Sausage on Hawaiian bun, Yami yogurt, sliced pears **Lunch:** Pepperoni pizza, pineapple tidbits, garden salad, Jello

March 20: **Breakfast:** Breakfast on a stick, applesauce **Lunch:** Chicken nuggets, whole grain roll, steamed buttered carrots

March 21: **Breakfast:** Scrambled eggs, whole grain toast, string cheese, sliced peaches **Lunch:** Spaghetti, garlic toast, seasoned green beans

March 22: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon roll, string cheese, mixed fruit **Lunch:** Sausage patty, French toast sticks, hash brown patty, strawberry cup

Homedale High

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

March 15: **Breakfast:** Sausage on Hawaiian bun or cinnamon roll, Yami yogurt **Lunch:** Super nachos, refried beans, garden salad **Grab ‘n’ go:** Malibu chicken wrap

March 16: **Breakfast:** Breakfast on a stick, Yami yogurt **Lunch:** Corn dog, seasoned potato wedges, fruited Jello **Grab ‘n’ go:** Taco salad

March 20: **Breakfast:** Sausage and cheese biscuit, string cheese **Lunch:** Pepperoni pizza, French fries **Grab ‘n’ go:** Turkey bacon sub

March 21: **Breakfast:** Sausage patty, buttermilk biscuits, country gravy **Lunch:** Chicken or spicy chicken sandwich, Tater Tots **Grab ‘n’ go:** Southwest chicken salad

March 22: **Breakfast:** Scrambled eggs, whole grain toast, string cheese **Lunch:** Crisпитos, seasoned potato wedges **Grab ‘n’ go:** Club sub sandwich

Marsing

Meals include choice of milk, fruit juice, fresh fruit & vegetables

Elementary each day: Breakfast: Cereal option
Middle/High School each day: PB&J option

movement.com

Monday

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

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

Creative writing group
 5 p.m., Lizard Butte Library community room, 111 S. 3rd Ave. W., Marsing.

Depression and Anxiety Recovery Program
 6 p.m., \$185 for 8 sessions. Garnet Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 16613 Garnet Rd, Wilder. Registration (208) 649-4511

Tuesday

Foot clinic
 8:30 a.m., appointments necessary, foot exams, \$25; ear cleanings, \$30, Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

Fit and Fall class
 10 a.m., free, Melba Valley Senior Center, 115 Base Line Rd, Melba. (208) 495-2168

Fit and Fall Proof exercise class
 10 a.m., to 11 a.m., free, old Marsing High School gym, 800 Main St., Marsing. (208) 296-0847

Region III assistance assessments
 Noon to 3 p.m., appointments necessary, Lizard Butte Library, 111 3rd Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 495-5688

Library board meeting
 4 p.m., Eastern Owyhee County Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2785

Children’s After School Program
 4:30 p.m., elementary and middle school children, Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228

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)

March 15: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon roll, Yami yogurt, bananas **Lunch:** Tater Tot casserole, roll, mixed vegetables **Hot Grab-n-go:** Walking taco, potato wedges

March 16: **Breakfast:** Waffle sticks or French toast sticks, syrup, Yami yogurt, grapes **Lunch:** Pepperoni pizza ripper, pineapple tidbits, tossed salad, carrot sticks **Cold Grab-n-go:** Chicken bacon ranch wrap

March 20: **Breakfast:** Breakfast on a stick, Yami yogurt, sliced peaches **Lunch:** Chicken nuggets, roll, steamed carrots, snickerdoodle cookie **Hot Grab-n-go:** Mozzarella breadsticks, tots

March 21: **Breakfast:** Breakfast burrito or pork sausage patty, biscuit, country gravy, sliced pears **Lunch:** Orange chicken rice bowl, egg roll, green beans **Cold Grab-n-go:** Southwest chicken salad

March 22: **Breakfast:** French toast bites or buttermilk pancakes, maple syrup, Yami yogurt, applesauce **Lunch:** **Hot Grab-n-go:** Buffalo chicken pizza, potato wedges **Cold Grab-n-go:** BBQ chicken wrap

Bruneau/Grand View

All meals: Milk and fruit offered daily
Jr.-Sr. high school: Pizza offered daily

March 15: **Breakfast:** French toast **Lunch:** Chicken nuggets with whole wheat roll, mashed potatoes and gravy, steamed broccoli

March 16: **Breakfast:** Pancakes **Lunch:** Corn dog, potato wedges, baby carrots

March 20-24: No school – Spring Break

Pruning basics and best management practices for tree health

Pruning and more specifically tree maintenance is an important part of any well manicured and managed landscape in southern Idaho. Pruning is the act of cutting away dead, diseased, overgrown, improper growing or unsightly branches or stems, especially important in increasing the aesthetics or proper growth of a tree or shrub. Generally speaking there are only three types of pruning cuts:



Brad Stokes

- Heading cuts,
- Reduction cuts
- Thinning cuts.

The timing of pruning is something that could be debated among professionals and horticulturists.

Dead and/or diseased limbs that are evident in the tree/shrub can be removed at any time of the year.

Other types of pruning cuts will depend upon the specific species of a tree or shrub.

The best time of year to prune is late fall, early winter or even early spring (as in now).

Late fall and early winter have the advantage, in this author's opinion, because the tree/shrub in question is moving sugars downward through the phloem tissue — to the roots in order survive winter and have energy storage for growth next spring. Another thought about pruning late in the season is that most (if not all) tree/shrub pathogens

University of Idaho Extension

have ended their life cycle or active period and the chances of pathogen transmission and infection are quite low.

Pruning now (early spring) is acceptable as well, but remember that the stored sugar is now moving upward through the phloem tissue in order for bud swell/bud break and spring growth, hence bleeding (or sap exudate) can be exhibited from pruning cuts in the spring. Bleeding from pruned trees and shrubs can be unsightly, but is usually not harmful to the health of the plant itself.

For pruning a tree or shrub, it's recommended for amateurs and the average homeowner/pruner to stay below a 2-inch diameter branch (for safety reasons). Bigger branches have the potential to be extremely heavy and dangerous as they are cut. It would be recommended to hire a professional accredited arborist for these bigger branches, or anything that may need a chainsaw.

Cutting branches that are bigger than two inches in diameter should be done using the three-cut method. The three-cut method involves making the first cut eight to 12 inches away from the trunk on the bottom side of the branch (undercut) going about halfway through, the second cut is then made near the first cut, but from above sawing carefully until the branch breaks (also make sure the branch will not hit anything, including you). The third cut is then made at the naturally occurring branch collar, it is a flush cut

and the last removal of the branch (Figure 1). It is critical to make the third cut at the proper location so the collar may "heal" itself over, using callus tissue in the upcoming years (Figure 2).

Other best management practices of pruning in general include several other topics of interest:

- Always disinfect pruning tools/saws/shears between individual trees with a 1:9 dilution of bleach:water, this prevents the spread of potential pathogens/diseases.
- Make sure your pruning tools are sharp, this will help ensure a clean cut and help the tree/shrub recover and heal properly over time. It's recommended to never remove more than 20 percent of old growth when pruning, as this can severely damage the overall tree/shrub's health and may lead to problems.

• Pruning paints or sealants should actually be avoided (science has shown these to not be effective, as they may increase disease issues) when considering pruning.

• Removing "water sprouts," or vigorous upward branches, that are considered wasted growth by horticulturists/arborists is also something to consider. If you see your tree/shrub exhibiting this, it is advisable to prune these out as well.

A well-structured tree with proper growth patterns is aesthetically pleasing to the landscape and also is important for proper growth development

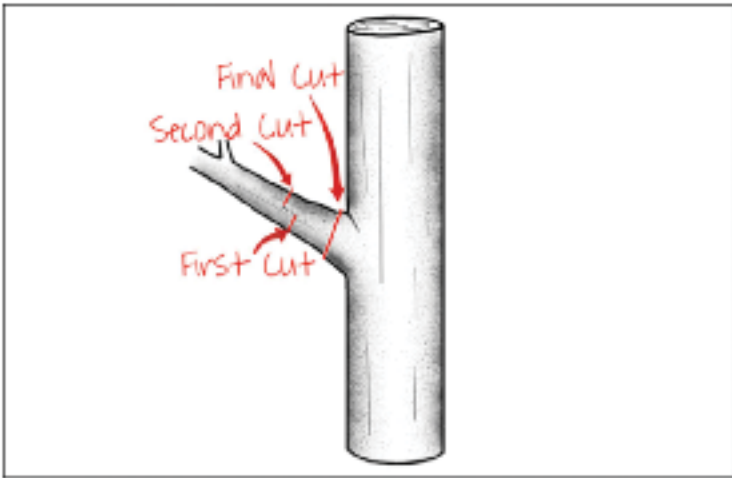


Figure 1: The 3-cut rule for pruning. Credit: Bracken Henderson (UI Extension Bulletin 994, 2021)

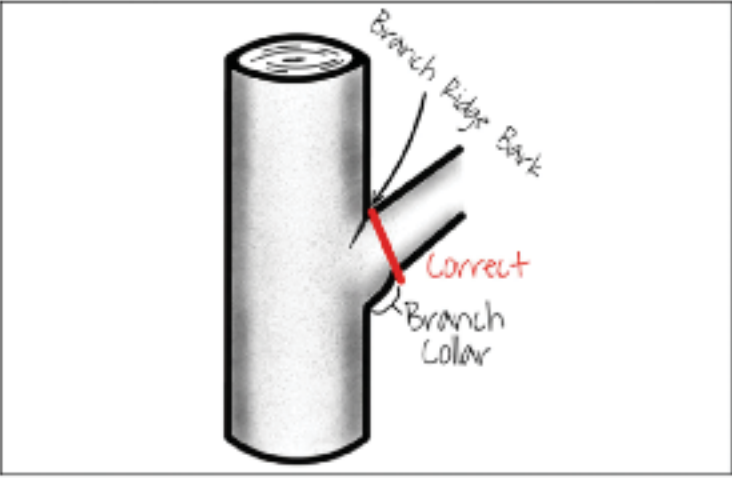


Figure 2: A properly performed pruning cut to remove a branch (note the red line and angle of the final cut). Credit: Bracken Henderson (UI Extension Bulletin 994, 2021).

over time (plant health).

For more information on pruning please see the UI Extension Publication 994 (<https://www.uidaho.edu/extension/publications/bul/bul994>).

If you have any questions feel free to reach out to me.

— Brad Stokes is a University of Idaho Extension Educator in the Canyon County office in Caldwell. He specializes in horticulture and entomology and is also part of the Master Gardener program. He can be reached at (208) 459-6003 or bstokes@uidaho.edu.

OREGON-IDAHO UTILITIES, INC.

Oregon-Idaho Utilities announces the availability of Lifeline telephone and broadband service for qualifying low income Oregon customers. Lifeline is a GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM that is non-transferable. This program is limited to one discount per household, consisting of either wireline, wireless, or broadband service. Oregonians who receive one of the qualifying benefits may receive up to a \$16.50 reduction in their monthly bill for local residential telephone service or up to a \$19.25 reduction in their monthly bill for a qualifying broadband service. Proof of eligibility may be necessary for enrollment.

The eligibility criteria for Oregon Lifeline includes the following:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; Food Stamps (SNAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit

You may also qualify if your total income is at or below 135% of federal poverty guidelines.

Please contact the Oregon Public Utility Commission at 1-800-848-4442 to request an application or visit www.rspf.org to apply online.

Got News?

Call us! (208) 337-4681. Community happenings, events or issues.

Death notices Service notice

ROBERT ALLEN BARTLES, 61, who attended school in Marsing, died on Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022. A celebration of life will be held on April. RSVP to robbartlesmemorial@gmail.com for information. Arrangements: Dakan Funeral Chapel, Caldwell. (208) 459-3629

BESSIE ELAINE (DRISKELL) CLARK, 71, of Caldwell, who once worked at Symms Fruit Ranch, died on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at a Caldwell care center. Graveside services were held on Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at Wilder Cemetery. Arrangements: Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Caldwell.

ROBERT GENE EKIN, 76, of Marsing, died March 8, 2023. Viewing and funeral will take place from 10 a.m., to 11:30 a.m., on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at the Marsing LDS building, 215 3rd Ave. W. Military honors will take place at 1 p.m., on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery, 10100 Horseshoe Bend Rd., Boise. Arrangements: Flahiff Funeral Chapels, 624 Cleveland Blvd., Caldwell. (208) 779-1673

WILMA L. BUCKLEY, 89, died Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2023. Graveside services will be held at 9:30 a.m., on Saturday, March 18, 2023, at the Peaceful Valley Cemetery (Knowlton Heights). Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m., on Saturday, March 18th, 2023 at the Homedale Basque Center (Txoko Ona) with a luncheon following.

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From page 1A

✓ Ordinance: Mail survey responses to county P.O. box

information to guide them to a solution or next steps,” county community planning director Mary Huff said. “I expect them to do the same with this information.”

The survey was mailed from Huff’s office on March 7 and last Wednesday. But she points out that the return envelope is addressed to P.O. Box 128, Murphy, ID 83650, and that is where all surveys must be returned.

The survey explains that a draft RV ordinance was first created in 2020 “to try to address some of the issues the county has faces” with the “dramatic” increase of people living in RVs, which the county’s letter said has led

to “a dramatic increase” in “complaints from neighbors due to adverse impacts.”

The county’s letter asserts there are properties with several RVs on them and some with just one or two. Many landowners are charging rent for the RV spaces, the letter claims.

The letter also reiterates the added strain on county services with no corresponding increase in tax revenue to pay for those services. It is also reiterated that the ordinance would only apply to property owners outside city limits.

There are five yes or no questions:

- Should the county try to ease the Treasure Valley

housing crisis by allowing people relocating from other areas, the homeless, family or anyone looking to move to “our” rural area “to bring RVs to our county to live in”?

- Should the county allow unpermitted, unregulated and unlimited use of RVs on private property?
- Are property owners willing to pay more taxes to subsidize “this type of population growth”?
- Do property owners favor the county requiring permitting once RV use goes beyond “an ordinary and customary temporary use, such as company visiting or housing someone short term” during a transition period?

Some of the questions ask for elaboration, and there are other questions that seek specific information:

- What is a reasonable number of days or months that is ordinary and customary for recreational use, transitional use, and what period of time becomes something different?
- Ideas or solutions on how RVs could be used without causing property owners to subsidize the additional demand on public services

Providing a name and contact information is optional on the survey.

There is no submission deadline.

— JPB

Spring Break starts Monday in BGV, Melba

Two school districts serving students in Owyhee County will take Spring Break beginning Monday.

The Bruneau/Grand View School District and the Melba School District will close up shop from Monday to Thursday March 23 for Spring Break.

Other local school districts — Homedale, Marsing, Jordan Valley, and Adrian — will observe Spring Break from Monday, March 27 to Thursday, March 30.

✓ Library: Opal Nash Story Time moves to 10 a.m., each Monday

Trustees met Friday at the library in Homedale and adopted a child safety policy and created a fee schedule.

The district boundaries mirror those of the Homedale School District in both Owyhee and Canyon counties.

Patrons inside the district don’t have to pay for a library card; however, people from outside the district must pay \$35 (\$33.02 plus tax) to access services at the library, which is located at 121 W. Owyhee Ave., in Homedale.

The board also set overdue fees at 15 cents per day per item with a cap of \$2 per item. Library director Sharla Jensen said the fee is the same as it was when the city operated the library.

The board decided to use the Square app to allow employees to accept debit cards for fees. The cost of the service will be

passed on to patrons at a rate of 2.6 percent of every transaction plus 10 cents for every transaction, Jensen said.

She said Square won’t charge the library an annual fee because it is a non-profit organization.

Highlights of the child safety policy include:

- A parent or responsible caregiver at 14 years of age must accompany children younger than 8 at all times.
- During story times or while attending other library programs, preschool children must have their parent or caregiver present in the same room.
- Other children younger than 8 must have the parent or responsible caregiver remain during library-sponsored programs, and those individuals must pick up the child at the end of the program.
- If a child is disruptive

(under the guidelines of the library’s Patron Behavior Policy), he or she may be asked to leave. The parent or responsible caregiver may be contacted.

- If library staff cannot locate the parent or responsible caregiver when a child younger than 8 is unaccompanied at closing time, Homedale Police will be contacted. A staff member will never take a children out of the building or transport that child to another location.

Trustees also discussed Friday’s deadline to file nomination forms for the May election.

The next board meeting will be held at 10 a.m., on Tuesday, April 11. It was moved from the usual second Monday of the month because of scheduling conflicts, Jensen said.

Latest programs announced

Teens and Tweens, 5 p.m., Thursday — Boys and girls ages 10-17 are invited to come to the Homedale Community Center, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., for Dinner Night. They’ll learn the basics of table etiquette while enjoying a lasagna dinner.

Libby App training, 10 a.m., Friday — Patrons can learn how to use the Libby App on their devices. The service allows them to place holds on books and browse books from other libraries, among other services.

Ice cream making class, 2 p.m., Friday — The latest U and I Together class from the University of Idaho Extension will let attendees of all ages dive into the science behind making ice cream. Participants will follow a step-by-step recipe and enjoy the taste of

homemade ice cream. Bring your own storage containers and insulated coolers to take the leftovers home.

Opal Nash Story Time, 10 a.m., Monday — Friends of the Homedale Library member and retired schoolteacher Steve Belknap is the guest reader.

Youth services coordinator Emily Lincoln told The Owyhee Avalanche on Monday that the start time of the hourlong activity was recently moved back from the previous 10:15 a.m.

After school program, 4:30 p.m., Tuesday — Elementary and middle school-aged children will learn about plants and germination while making greenhouses small enough to fit in their bedroom windows. That will allow the boys and girls to start seeds and watch them grow. Lincoln will lead the activity.

Courthouse report

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

- March 7**
- Donald Keith Byrge, Reno, Nev.** – Misdemeanor motor carrier violation, over weight (4,001 pounds and over) exceeding allowable gross loads: \$282 in fines, \$157.50 in court costs
- March 3**
- Thomas Jefferson Davis, Jordan Valley** – Misdemeanor motor carrier violation, over weight (4,001 pounds and over) exceeding allowable gross loads: \$21 in fines, \$160.50 in court costs

- March 1**
- Kiah N. Beckle, Nampa** – Misdemeanor drug paraphernalia possession (plea deal): \$252.50 in fines, \$347.50 in court costs. **Dismissed by prosecuting attorney:** Misdemeanor marijuana possession
- Daniel Blaine Davis, Homedale** – Misdemeanor resisting or obstructing officers (plea deal): \$300 in fines, \$157.50 in court costs. **Dismissed by prosecuting attorney:** Misdemeanor assault or battery upon certain personnel
- Elian Delamora, Nampa** – Misdemeanor drug paraphernalia possession (plea deal): \$252.50 in fines, \$197.50 in court costs. **Dismissed by prosecuting attorney:** Misdemeanor marijuana possession,

- misdemeanor consume or possess open alcoholic beverage container by driver
- Timothy Dwayne Ensley, Boise** – Misdemeanor consume or possess open alcoholic beverage container by driver (plea deal): 180 days in jail (1 day served, 179 days suspended), 2 years unsupervised probation, \$1,000 in fines (\$940.49 suspended), \$187.50 in court costs.

- Feb. 24**
- Jessica Leigh Vaneeten, Woodburn, Wash.** — Felony controlled substance possession (plea deal; amended from felony possession with intent to deliver): 1 to 6 years in state prison (4 days served), \$635.50 in court costs

Sell it, trade it, find it in the classifieds: 337-4681

Owyhee County Church Directory		
Calvary Fellowship Homedale Pastor Rich Wright 711 W. Idaho Ave. Church time is 10:00 a.m. Sunday & Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. River Youth Wednesday 7:00 p.m. (208) 296-7275	Knight Community Church Grand View Pastor Ivan Shetler 630 Idaho Street (208) 834-2639 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45 a.m.	Our Lady of Tears Church Silver City Mass Summer Schedule TBA <i>All are welcome</i> For more information, call St. Paul's Church, Nampa (208) 466-7031 www.nampacatholic.church
Iglesia Misionera Biblica Homedale Pastor Fernando Gomez 132 W Owyhee • (208) 337-5975 Servicios: Vier - 7 p.m. - Oracion Mier - 7 p.m. Pr edicacion Dom - 10 a.m. Esc. Dom y 6:30 p.m. "Una Iglesia Diferente."	Golden Gate Baptist Church Wilder Pastor Robert Potter, Jr., CLP Corner of Second and "B" Streets Church time is 11:00 a.m. on Sunday Call (208) 880-4308 for information	Crossroads Assembly of God Wilder Pastor Michael McCormick Hwy 19 & 95, (208) 890-3046 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m Sunday Evening Worship 6 p.m. Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.
Assembly of God Church Homedale 15 West Montana, (208) 412-2946 Senior Pastor: Ivar Moore Sunday services, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. 11 a.m. has nursery, children's program Wednesday and Kidz services, 7 p.m. www.homedaleagchurch.com	Friends Community Church Wilder - Homedale 17434 Hwy 95, (208) 337-3464 Pastor: Scott Morin Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Services: 10:45 a.m. Sundays Christian Life Club (K-4th) 4 p.m., Wednesdays during school at Homedale First Presbyterian www.homedalefriends.org	Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church Caldwell 1122 W. Linden St. (208) 459-3653 Mass: Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 9:30 a.m. Spanish Mass: Saturday 7:00 p.m. Spanish Mass: Sunday Noon
Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church Homedale 621 W. Idaho Ave. Homedale. (208) 337-4248 Pastor Sean Rippey Sunday Services 10 a.m. Adult and Children Sunday School 9-9:45 a.m. Visitors Always Welcome! Call Church for Prayer requests	Homedale Baptist Church 212 S. 1 st W., (208) 960-4496 https://homedalebc.org Sunday Fellowship 11 a.m.-Noon Second Sunday soup/meal Noon Fourth Sunday Communion Celebration and shared meal Noon Pastor: Paul Chismar	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Homedale 708 West Idaho Ave Sunday 1st Ward, 1130 a.m. Bishop David Hann Sunday 2nd Ward, 9:00 a.m. Bishop Chris Varuska
Chapel of Hope Hope House, Marsing Look for the Blue Church South Bruneau Hwy at the Hope House Welcoming Families, especially those with special needs children. Keith Croft, Pastor (208) 896-5366 (208) 896-4673 Sunday Services at 10 a.m.	Wilder Church of God Wilder 205 A St. E., (208) 649-7698 Pastor Ray Gerthung Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Service 11 a.m. Sunday Eve. 6:00 p.m. Wed. Eve. 7:00 p.m.	Mountain View Church of the Nazarene Wilder-Homedale 26515 Ustick Road (208) 337-3151 www.mvcnaz.org Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Adult & Youth Bible Class: Wed. 7:00 p.m. Children's Caravan Program
MARSING APOSTOLIC ASSEMBLY Asamblea Apostolica de Marsing 107 W. Main • Marsing, Idaho Pastor Jose Gutierrez (208) 880-6172 Sunday School 10:00 a.m . Sunday Service 1 p.m. • Wednesday Service 7 p.m. Bilingual Services/Español	Iglesia Evangelica Wilder 317 3 rd St., Pastor Ramiro Reyes 10 am Sunday School 11 a.m. Service (208) 482-7484 Bilingual	St. David's Episcopal Church 1800 Arlington Ave. Caldwell, ID 83605 (208) 459-9261 stdavids@stdavidscaldwell.org www.stdavid.episcopalidaho.org
 Christian Church Homedale 110 W. Montana (208) 319-4650 Don Vander Boegh (208) 867-5418 Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m. Church school 9:45 a.m.	Bible Missionary Church Homedale 501 W. Idaho, (208) 350-0887 Pastor Ron Franklin Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. Sunday Evening 7 p.m Wednesday Evening 7:30 p.m.	Assembly of God Church Marsing 139 Kerry St., (208) 599-2374 Pastor Sergio Aristizabal Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Lizard Butte Baptist Church Marsing Pastor Daniel Swaim 116 4 th Ave. W., (208) 603-3063 Sunday worship: Morning: 11a.m-Noon • Evening: 6-7 p.m. Sunday Scho.ol 9:45 a.m-10:45 a.m. Wednesday evening 7.pm-8 p.m.	Nazarene Church Marsing Pastor Jody Hampton (208) 896-4184 12 2 nd Avenue West Worship Services - Sunday 11 a.m. 6 p.m. on all but the 3 rd Sunday of the month Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.	Trinity Holiness Church Homedale Pastor Samuel Page (208) 337-5021 Sunday School 10am, 112 N. 4 th St. Sunday Evening 5:30 p.m. Thursday Evening 7:30 p.m. Sunday and Thursday evening services held at First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6 th St. W.
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Marsing 215 3 rd Ave. W. Sunday 1 st Ward, 10:30 a.m. Bishop Sean Rowley Sunday 2 nd Ward, 9:00 a.m. Bishop Lon McRae	Calvary Holiness Church - Wilder Corner of 3 rd St. & B Ave. Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m. Sunday: 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday: 7:00 p.m. calvarypantry@gmail.com Food Pantry hours: 2 nd Friday of month 5-7 p.m. 4 th Friday of month 12-2 p.m. Calvary Holiness Food Pantry Wilder Idaho	United Methodist Church Wilder <i>Exploring the Bible: Public Invited</i> 2 nd & 4 th Tuesday: 4-5 p.m. Corner of 4 th St. & B Ave. Pastor Dave Raines (208) 880-8751 Sunday Service 9:30 a.m.
First Presbyterian Church Homedale 320 N. 6 th W. Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Christian Life Club (K-4th) 4 p.m., Wednesdays during school (Friends church sponsor) Rev. Heidi Smith-Takatori (208) 303-7414	Vision Community Church Marsing 221 West Main Marsing, Idaho (208) 779-7926 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Adult, Kids & Youth Meetings Wed. 7:00 p.m.	Garnet Seventh-Day Adventist Church 16613 Garnet Rd., Wilder (208) 649-5280 Email: garnetSDA@icloud.com Sabbath School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7:00-8 p.m.
Iglesia Bautista Palabra de Esperanza Homedale 711 W. Idaho, (208) 463-9569 Pastor Jose Diaz Servicios: Los Domingos 11:00 a.m.	Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church - Oreana 2021 Mass Schedule - 10:00 a.m. second Saturday of month thru November All are welcome! For more information, call St. Paul's Church, Nampa (208) 466-7031	Amistad Cristiana de Wilder UMC Esquina de 4 y calle B Domingos Servicio: 12:00 p.m. El Ropero (Banco de ropa) Miercoles 12- 2 p.m. Martes y Jueves: 6:30 p.m. Ingles Sabados: Noon Arte Infantil Todo en Espanol, Inf. (208) 989-7508
Church in the Dirt Cowboy Church Service The Tango, Homedale 406 U.S. Hwy. 95 Pastors Blaine and Molly Lilly Every Sunday, 10 a.m.	Valley Christian Fellowship Grand View 37866 State Hwy. 78 Pastor Nate Good (208) 834-2655 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service: 10:45 a.m., Sunday Communion & potluck first Sunday each month AWANA Bible Club: 5 p.m., Sunday	

ON THE WATER



Sgt. Tim Riha



Help favorite waterways; designate county of use on boat registration

It is that time of year to get your boat registered for the upcoming season. I’d like to discuss just how important your boat registration process is.

Did you know that when you register your boat annually, you have the opportunity to designate a portion of the fee to the counties that you primarily use your boat in? Yes, that is correct, those are funds that might benefit you, if you designate your favorite boating areas when you renew your registration. No one truly enjoys paying registration fees; however, we also understand the importance of these fees and proper utilization of them.

Have you noticed the recent improvements that were made to the Black Sands Boat Ramp area at C.J. Strike Reservoir in Owyhee County? If not, take a trek down there and see the work that was done. The boat ramp was extended 20 feet, the lagoon was dredged out to an average of 10 feet deep and there is a brand new, double-vault toilet that was added to the area. It looks great and Robison Excavation, the company that did the work, did an amazing job!

Part of the funds dedicated to making these improvements came from boating registration fees. A small portion of your boat registration cost per year is sent to the counties that you most use, if you make that designation on your registration. If you don’t make the designation, it defaults to “statewide.” That means the money goes to counties that have the most boat registrations, such as Kootenai County. Most of us in this neck of the woods do not do any boating in northern Idaho, but they reap the rewards of your registration dollars if you don’t designate

your primary use areas. The use area money comes to the county and goes into the Vessel Fund. The Owyhee County Waterways Committee then makes recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners on how to utilize the monies to support improving facilities for boaters and other boating-related expenses.

Please make sure that you designate your primary and secondary use areas when you renew your boat registration this year. You’re going to spend the money anyway, so it might as well benefit the areas you use most.

I’m not implying that you have to designate Owyhee County as one of your use areas, but if you do, we are area No. 37. You can also designate your primary and secondary use areas as the same number if you stick to one area and want to keep your monies there.

The dollars that were contributed to the Black Sands Boat Ramp improvements came from grants awarded to Owyhee County from the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, the Waterways Improvement Fund and the Vessel Fund allocated by the county commissioners in consultation with the waterways committee. We sure hope you enjoy the improvements made there, and that you’ll designate your use areas on your boat registrations.

— Owyhee County Sheriff’s Sgt. Tim Riha plans a regular column on boating safety, and the feature debuts today in *The Owyhee Avalanche*. If you have any questions you’d like answered about boating safety or boating in general, email him at triha@co.owyhee.id.us

The Owyhee Avalanche

Owyhee County’s best source of local news!

Huskies' season starts with dramatic end

Wyatt Barber's walk gave Marsing High School a walk-off win in its baseball opener Saturday.

JT Chadez came home with the bases loaded and no outs in the bottom of the seventh, snapping a tie and giving the Huskies a 6-5 win over Grangeville.

The wild season opener was played

at Nampa Christian High School a day later than originally scheduled because of poor weather conditions.

Marsing (1-0) built a 5-1 lead after three innings, but the Bulldogs (0-2) rallied with three runs over their final two at-bats. Grangeville tied the game when David Goicoa scored on a one-out

infield single in the top of the seventh. Only one of Grangeville's final three runs was earned.

Teagan Kinney struck out four and walked four while throwing hitless ball over the first two innings. Xavier Delgadillo gave up one hit and struck out three in three innings of work.

Marsing erased a 1-0 deficit in the second, scoring its first three runs with the bases loaded on two walks and a balk. Kinney's infield single brought in another run and was the first of his two hits.

Cache Hance had a huge day with a double, triple and RBI.



Trojans take it outside today to start season

Homedale High School baseball coach Burke Deal tosses during indoor batting practice prior to the Trojans' jamboree on March 4 at John Jackson Field. Homedale starts its season today with a home game against non-conference opponent New Plymouth. The Trojans swept both their jamboree scrimmages, beating Nampa, 4-2, as D'Orr Packer scored twice and Jayden Wutherich collected an RBI, and defeating Caldwell, 8-4, behind Carson Fine's two singles and two RBI.

Sitts dominates with arm and bat in HHS softball opener

Dani Sitts struck out 11 batters to start the Homedale High School softball season off right.

The Trojans beat Vallivue, 7-2, in a non-conference game stopped after five innings last Wednesday at the middle school complex.

The reigning Class 3A state champion blew the game open with a six-run second inning.

Sitts allowed four singles and three walks.

The Falcons broke through for runs in the fourth and fifth innings, but only one of the scores was earned.

Sitts also walked twice and scored a pair of runs while swiping a base.

Shortstop Olivia Asumendi

and second baseman Isana Larzelier had Homedale's only hits — both singles. Larzelier scored a run and knocked one in.

Asumendi crossed the plate, and Olivia Miller had an RBI and a run scored.

Lexie Heck also scored a run while drawing a pair of walks.

Sitts owned a 7-0 lead before the Class 4A Falcons from Caldwell scored single runs in the fourth and fifth innings.

Vallivue out-hit Homedale, 4-2, but Falcons pitchers issued eight walks.

Coach Larry Corta's 20th season at the helm continues today with a non-conference game against New Plymouth.



At right: Homedale High School's eventual winning pitcher Dani Sitts takes a look toward the plate as she rounds second base in last Wednesday's win over Vallivue at Homedale Middle School. Photo by Joshua Gray / GrayHawk Photography

Smith inherits strong Trojans golf squad

After 11 years, Homedale High School has a new golf coach.

Raymond Smith was hired in November to succeed Casey Grove, who had stepped down but remained part of the athletic and scholastic program.

Raymond Smith



Smith, who has worked in the school district for eight years, says he took the coaching job because of his love of the game and developing young people.

"I enjoy playing the game of golf. I enjoy working and developing young athletes," he said. "I also love the integrity aspect of playing golf the right way."

Grove has been present to help Smith transition into the job, too.

But that doesn't reduce the stress level for Smith taking over a program that has become a mainstay at the 3A state tournament under his predecessor.

"When Casey told me back in November, 'Congratulations, you're hired to be the golf coach, my blood pressure went sky-high and I was wondering what just happened!'" Smith said.

"But I knew going into this I have confidence leading this group and helping them get to the next level of their golfing career."

— See **Golf**, page 13A

Sports

New coach oversees young Homedale tennis squad

Scott Michaelson retired for good this time, but his Homedale High School tennis coaching successor is no stranger to the program.

Abbi Jones spent last season helping Michaelson with the Trojans, and was active in trying to keep the program on track.

“Scott left a positive name for Homedale among the district teams and many years of wisdom through my time as assistant coach,” she said, adding that she has relied on his veteran experience to move the program forward.

The second-year teacher recruited new players by advertising the program in her biology classroom and holding “lunch-in” meetings all last month. She also went to the middle school to promote the tennis club, which gives the younger players a chance to practice with the high school squad every Monday.

“My philosophy is to increase student participation in the program,” Jones said. “I want students to have the opportunity to get outside and have fun the rest of their lives and am working towards building the social and sport-specific skills to enable that



Abbi Jones



Shown returning a shot against Nyssa, Ore., last year, Terrance Farris is back for his third season with the Trojans.

level of independence.”

It’s all part of rebuilding the program, the former four-year Class 5A high school tennis player said.

“The rebuilding of the program will be challenging in that interest for tennis

in Homedale is currently low and our facility requires improvement to be able to host the competitive teams in our district,” she said.

Jones said she has received help from Michaelson and others to get plugged into the community.

Michaelson offered advice on how to interact with the community and engage students as well as coach the game.

“I have been blessed to have guidance from the other amazing coaches, the booster club, athletic director (Casey Grove) and principal (Matt Holtry),” Jones said. “I have loved becoming involved in events like the crab feed and talking about the history of tennis in Homedale through previous stakeholders.”

And now it’s her turn to work on building on that history with a squad of youngsters — with help from assistant coach Emily Thomas.

There’s only one senior on this year’s squad — returner **Maite Frank**.

“The girls’ singles ranking was very competitive in our district, and we are looking forward to seeing how this season goes for (Frank),” Jones said.

Another returner — athletic junior **Terrance Farris** — brings assets to the squad that will benefit younger players, Jones said, including leadership and skill.

“Terrance Farris will be a standout

player this year because he has dedicated years to the sport and has a focused work ethic that will help him improve throughout the season,” Jones said.

This is Farris’ third season with the program. He played under the surname LaFleur as a freshman and sophomore. He reached the state tournament as a Marsing ninth-grader after playing the regular season under a cooperative with Homedale.

The 2022 roster was dominated by seniors, including the mixed doubles team of Austin Franko and Elizabeth Whitehead, who picked up two victories at the 3A state tournament.

Jones said the team will both benefit and be challenged by the youth on the squad. Seven of the 10 players out for the team are either freshmen or sophomores. **Kinsey Blankenship** is the other junior on the team.

“The team’s strength will be in the relationships between students who bravely chose to join this year for the first time,” the coach said. “Our weakness will be how few hours our students have played tennis compared to more established programs.”

There’s more to Jones’ mission than building the program, though.

“I am looking forward to contributing to a growing program and giving kids the opportunity to spend time outside doing something fun,” she said.

— JPB

Homedale Trojans

Trojan Weekly Sports Schedule

Athletes of the week

Baseball
D'Orr Packer, sr., C
Single, 2 runs, RBI
in two jamboree
games March 4

Softball
Dani Sitts, sr., P
11 strikeouts in
season debut

Track and field
Danny Detbun, jr.,
sprints
Three-time district
champion returns

Tennis
Maite Frank, sr.
Lone upperclassman
on squad

Golf
Luke Henry, so.
Returning No. 1
player from 2022

Baseball
Varsity
Wednesday, March 15, home vs. New Plym-
outh, John Jackson Field, 5 p.m.
Saturday, March 18 at Filer (2), noon
Monday, March 20 at Parma, 5 p.m.
Junior varsity
Wednesday, March 15 at New Plymouth, 5
p.m.
Saturday, March 18 at Filer (2), noon
Monday, March 20, home vs. Parma, John
Jackson Field, 5 p.m.
Softball
Varsity
Saturday, March 18 at Filer (2), noon
Monday, March 20 at Parma, 5 p.m.
Junior varsity
Saturday, March 18 at Filer (2), noon
Monday, March 20, home vs. Parma, HMS
complex, 5 p.m.
Tennis
Wednesday, March 15 at Ontario, Ore., 4
p.m.
Track and field
Friday, March 17 at Parma Icebreaker, 2
p.m.
Wednesday, March 22 at Weiser meet, 2
p.m.
Golf
Boys
Wednesday, March 15, home for Homedale
Icebreaker (18 holes), River Bend Golf
Course, Wilder, 10 a.m.
Coed
Monday, March 20, 3A Snake River Valley
conference meet vs. Parma (9 holes), Tim-
berStone GC, Caldwell, 3 p.m.

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Sports

Coach: 2A WIC field tightens as Huskies rise

Marsing baseball has tough lineup, deep pitching

by John Bruyninckx
For The Owyhee Avalanche

It's baseball season once again, and there are plenty of reasons for excitement at Marsing High School.

JW Chadez is back as Huskies coach, and he brings the experience needed to lead a team featuring 18 freshmen and sophomores.

Last year's squad finished with a solid 16-8 record, including a 5-5 mark in 2A Western Idaho Conference

play, good for a third-place finish.

"It was a great leap year to build us up toward this season," Chadez noted. "It gave us great experience pitching meaningful games in the (District III) tournament."

Marsing returns three all-conference players in short-stop and pitcher Teagan Kinney, multi-position infielder Cache Hance and second baseman, outfielder and pitcher Jace Chadez.



JW Chadez

Another returning sophomore-of-note is center fielder Levi Puga, who was the team's defensive player of the year.

Two key upperclassmen returning for their third seasons are Xavier Delgadillo, who pitches and plays third base, and first baseman-pitcher JT Chadez.

Sophomore Luke Steinmeyer is being counted on to take the starting catcher spot and a key role in the pitching rotation. He battled injuries all last season, but is 100 percent healthy this year, JW Chadez said.

Dresden Wood, also a sophomore, will start in the outfield after being somewhat limited

last year as he recovered from a broken wrist.

Chadez is excited about the potential of his lineup.

"I feel our top eight players could be the best one-through-eight in the entire league," he said. "Jace, Teagan, Luke, and Xavier Delgadillo will form a deep starting rotation, while JT and Levi will also provide good innings when necessary."

The coach is just as enthusiastic about the team's additional elements.

"Our defense, pitching and speed will be the staple to our team's identity. We will be aggressive early and often on the base paths," he said.

"While we don't have a dominant ace on the mound quite yet, we are very deep with four strong pitchers who are gaining more and more confidence."

Top 2A WIC competitors from last year, state champion Nampa Christian and state fourth-place finisher Melba, both lost key members of their squads to graduation, including most of their experienced pitchers. This could open the door for Marsing to look forward to a lot of success in this season's play.

"We have every reason to believe we can contend for the top spot in our league," Chadez said.

Melba's state champions dominate All-2A WIC girls

Emily Vanosdall is lone Marsing rep

Melba 1,000-point scorer, Kendall Clark, ended her high school girls' basketball career on top of the sport.

After the Mustangs won the 2A Real Dairy Shootout state championship, the senior was announced as the 2A Western Idaho Conference player of the year.

Her mentor, Dave Lenz, earned con-

ference coach of the year honors, too, after Melba completed an unbeaten 2A WIC campaign as part of a perfect season.

Teammate Brooklyn Dayley, a junior from Owyhee County, joined Melba seniors Hallie Arnold and Keylee Wilson on the all-conference first team.



Kendall Clark

The conference's coaches put Marsing senior Emily Vanosdall on the second team.

Former Jordan Valley player Halle Burch, now a senior at Nampa Christian, was another second-teamer.

Two more Melba players — sophomore Tariah Carter and senior Meya



Brooklyn Dayley

Young — were named to the honorable mention list.

Vanosdall, Burch and all of Melba's all-conference upperclassmen — Arnold, Clark, Wilson and Young — played in the 2A-3A District III Senior All-Star Game on March 7 at Fruitland High School.



Emily Vanosdall

MARSING HUSKIES

Athletes of the Week



Baseball
Cache Hance, so., 3B, 2B
2-for-3, 2B, 3B, RBI vs.
Grangeville



Softball
Ariel Ingersoll, so., 1B, 3B
2-for-2, 2B, run scored vs.
Fruitland



Track and field
Jordan Blas, sr., sprints
Ended 2022 with a PR in the
200 at the district meet

This week's schedule

Baseball
Varsity
Friday, March 17 vs. Firth, 4 p.m.
Junior varsity
Friday, March 17 vs. Firth, 6 p.m.

Softball
Varsity
Thursday, March 16, home vs.
Fruitland, 5 p.m.
Saturday, March 18, home vs.
Horseshoe Bend (2), noon and
2:30 p.m.
Wednesday, March 22 at Nyssa,
Ore., 5 p.m.

Track and field
Wednesday, March 15 at New
Plymouth Opener, 1 p.m.

Golf
March 30 at 2A Western Idaho
Conference meet (9 holes), Lakeview
GC, Meridian, 3 p.m.

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Sports

Marsing softball faces another year of learning

Huskies start year with five-inning setback vs. non-conference foe

Marsing High School fell behind early in a truncated softball opener last Wednesday. Fruitland collected a non-conference victory on the Huskies' field, rolling 11-4 in five innings. The game marked the beginning of Kortney Ford's fourth season at the helm of the Marsing program. And she's dealing with the same challenges as last season when the young Huskies went 5-15. The makeup is similar this season with an exchange student and a lot of underclassman, so the 2023 season may

be one of patience for Marsing fans. "It took us a while to get going, but toward the end of the season we were starting to mesh as a team," Ford said of the 2022 club. "We played really well in our first district game against Melba, and I think that will carry into this season."

The team started the season last week without first baseman Lexi Loucks and center fielder Emily Thoene, who graduated last spring. But returning to the fold are two seniors. Infielder/pitcher Mila Astorquia and center fielder Mariah Colbert will be leaders along with sophomore



Kortney Ford

second baseman and pitcher Lily Thoene, who was the team's best hitter a year ago (.403). Astorquia scored a run against Fruitland, and Thoene had one of her team's four hits. Colbert is moving over from left field to take over Emily Thoene's position. First baseman/pitcher Brooklyn Roadenbaugh made a big splash in her debut. The freshman paid off Ford's assertion that she's a strong hitter when she led off the fourth inning with a solo home run. Marsing's first run of the season was answered with seven runs from the Grizzlies in the bottom of the inning. Roadenbaugh pitched 3 2/3 innings, striking out six Grizzlies. Only six of the 11 runs she allowed were earned.

She and Astorquia combined to walk 14 batters, but Fruitland managed just two hits off the freshman. Ariel Ingersoll went 2-for-2 with a run scored, and freshman Ady Chadez crossed the plate. Chadez will play shortstop and pitch, and another ninth-grader — catcher/third baseman Bailey Daugherty — was tabbed as another important newcomer. Ford said all her players will be important contributors this season and should provide depth. "They all play their positions really well and are capable of being moved from one position to another," she said. "They all know the game, and they will be an exciting group to watch this season."

— JPB

2A WIC all-academic winter athletes recognized

The 2A Western Idaho Conference winter sports academic all-stars have been announced. Melba and Marsing high schools had their share of all-conference student-athletes to attain a grade-point average of 3.75 or better. Varsity athletes honored include:

Marsing
Boys' basketball — Braden Ankeny,

Eli Ankeny, Jace Chadez, and Gene Showalter
Girls' basketball — Mila Astorquia, Ashlyn Porter, Lily Thoene, and Emily Vanosdall
Wrestling — Erica Frazier
Cheer — Anahli Montes, Abby Percifield

Melba
Boys' basketball — Carston

Volkers
Girls' basketball — Hallie Arnold, Kendall Clark, Brooklyn Dayley (Owyhee County resident), Melina Helm, Ellieana Johnson, Mallory Lincoln, Eliza Svedin, and Keylee Wilson
Wrestling — Tyler Forsgren, Joel Helm, John Hunter, McKoy Richardson (Owyhee County resident), and Brendan Svetich

Cheer — Bryndall Christensen, Amee Kracht, Marisol Mora-Rosas, and Emma Olsen
Nampa Christian
Halle Burch, a girls' basketball player with Owyhee County ties, was one of the Trojans' 2A WIC all-academic honorees

✓ Golf: Strong nucleus back for boys; Parker tries to carry girls' mantle

From Page 10A
Smith's goal in developing young athletes is to encourage positive attitudes and hard work as well as discipline, accountability and responsibility. He also expects all of his athletes to respect their school and conduct themselves in a positive way. "I want to continue giving back to our young golf athletes to be better golfers and better people," he said. "I just want to make an impact in a young person's life — especially doing it through sports they enjoy and love for many years to come." Smith inherits a program known for its talent and success, even from the youngsters who are left after a slew of seniors graduated last year. Gone are state and District III girls' champion Tea Uranga as well as Eli Heck and Willie White, who helped the boys win the district title and finish fourth in the state tournament. Returning are four sophomores who have already played at a high level. • **Gwen Parker** — "Gwen had a great freshman year,"

Smith said of the second-generation HHS golfer who finished third in the District III Tournament and 10th at the state tournament. She has worked on her game in the offseason, too. "Gwen has the potential for a district championship this season as well as (to) compete at the state tournament," Smith said. • **Luke Henry** — Played his way into the No. 1 position in the team's rotation for most of his freshman season. Henry was district runner-up a year ago and finished 11th in the state tournament, and Smith said he has only improved with a lot of hard work in the offseason. • **McCoy Swallow** — Made key contributions to the varsity run as a ninth-grader. "He has the type of game where he can easily shoot in the low 80s to high 70s on any given day," Smith said. • **Kinley Balkovetz** — "He made the greatest improvement on last year's team," the new coach said. "He worked himself into the varsity (rotation) and stayed there, playing

good golf when it counted." "I expect these three to anchor the varsity team all season long," Smith said of the returning boys. He holds the belief that the boys can at least match their district and state tournament efforts from 2022.

The newcomers include a senior — **Levi Jamison** — who has shown flashes of solid play throughout his high school career in a stacked program. Smith said he expects Jamison to challenge for a top-five spot in the varsity rotation. Like Jamison, sophomore

Tyler Erickson was close to making the varsity squad last season, Smith said. "He has put a lot of time into his golf game in the offseason, and I anticipate he will be fighting for a varsity spot all season," the coach said.

— JPB

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GRAY HAWK PHOTOGRAPHY

Sports

College catch-up



BASEBALL
Drew Deal, so., C/OF/DH
Northwest Nazarene University

This season — Wearing familiar No. 2, the Homedale High School graduate has started as designated hitter in four games for the Nighthawks. The 5-foot, 7-inch, 175-pounder transferred from Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, Ore., to attend the alma mater of his parents,

Burke — his HHS baseball coach — and Kathy Deal. His father also played at NNU.

Saturday: Montana State Billings 7, NNU 4 — Went 1-for-4 with an RBI during a Great Northwest Athletic Conference (NCAA Div. II) game at Elmore W. Vail Field in Nampa.

Thursday: NNU 14, Montana State Billings 5 — Deal had his best day at the plate so far for NNU, going 2-for-3 with two RBI and two

runs scored in a home game.

Feb. 18: The College of Idaho 11, NNU 3 — Walked twice in the second game of a non-conference doubleheader at Wolfe Field in Caldwell.

Feb. 17: NNU 5, C of I 2 — Went 1-for-3 with a double and RBI in his Nighthawks debut at Elmore W. Vail Field.

Season totals —Deal’s hitting .333 (4-for-12) with a double, four RBI, two runs scored, and

four walks.

What’s next — After starting the week with a road game against Utah Valley University on Monday in Orem, Utah after deadline, the Nighthawks (11-14 overall, 5-3 GNAC) are home at Elmore W. Vail Field in Nampa for a conference series against Central Washington University. A doubleheader will be held at 3 p.m., and 6 p.m., on Thursday and another at 1 p.m., and 4 p.m., on Saturday.

Adrian’s storied track program to finally get fitting facilities

Construction starts on \$1.5M complex

A construction crew broke ground on the Adrian High School athletic track project on Feb. 21.

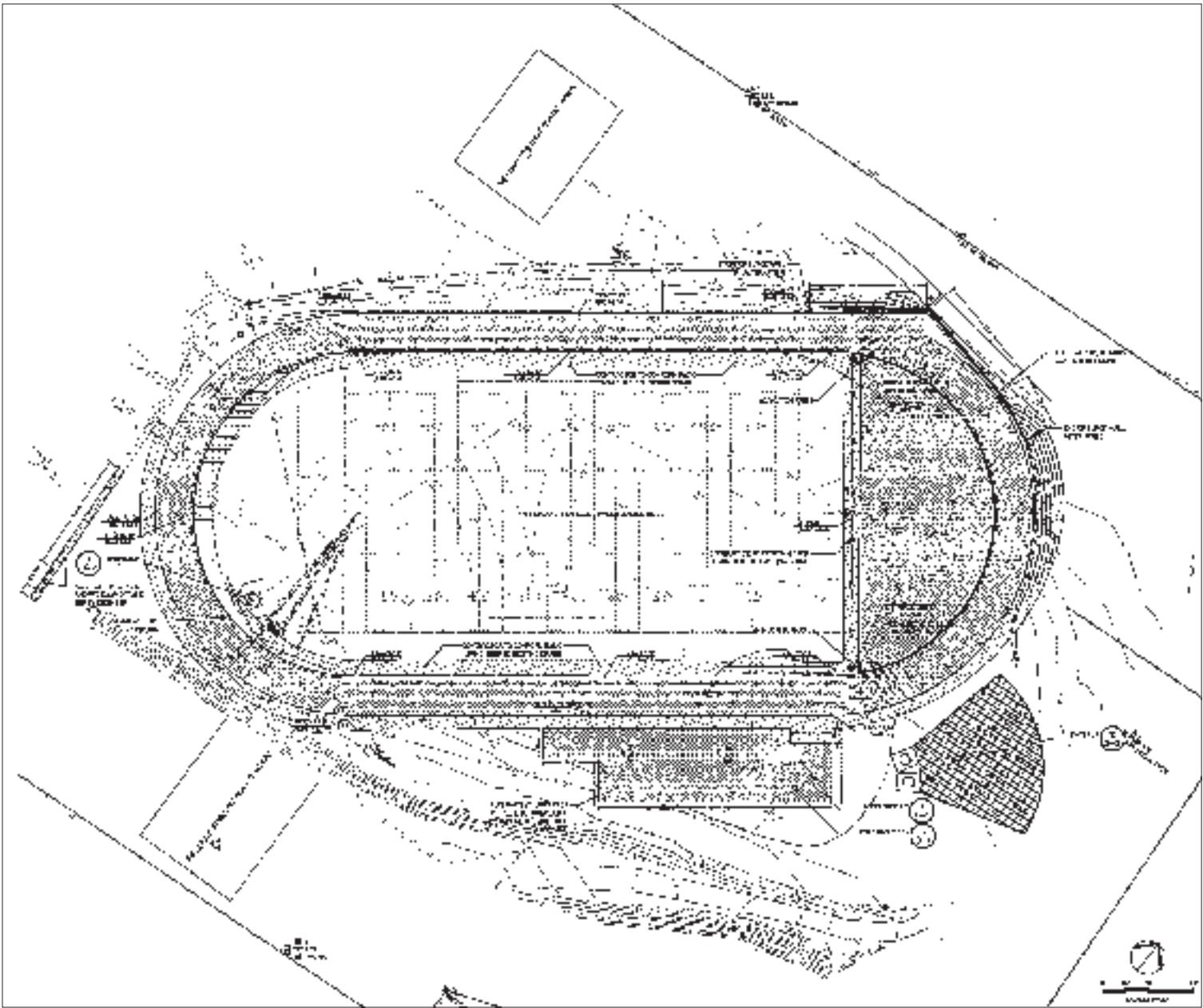
“This is very exciting and has been years in the making,” school district superintendent Nick Ketterling said in announcing the final step in the community fundraising process.

School trustees approved bids on the \$1.5 million project during their Feb. 15 board meeting.

The project will bring a modern track and field facility to the high school campus and include:

- Asphalt base with rubber surface, six-lane regulation track
- Long jump and triple jump runways and pits
- High jump location
- Pole Vault runway and pit
- Discus ring and cage
- Shot put ring and throwing area
- Javelin runway
- Sidewalk and stairs from the track down to the main gymnasium
- Underground irrigation for the football field
- New retaining wall on the northeast end of the track

The project will bring updated track and field facilities to a school that claims high-performing athletes despite the



shortcomings of their practice facilities.

With first Aimee Esplin then alum Regan Shira at the helm, the Adrian boys’ squad has won four state championships since 2014, and the Antelopes are reigning 1A Oregon state

champions as the season looms later this month.

The Antelopes’ 4x100 relay team set the state meet record at 43.82 seconds on May 20 at Hayward Field last year.

Jace Martin, who was part of the record-breaking 4x100

team, also shattered the state meet record in the 100 meters (10.99 seconds).

Maurus Hope’s 2007 record in the 400-meter dash (49.82) still stands.

The Adrian girls finally broke through for a state

championship under Esplin in 2019. They were runners-up last year with Shira and in 2017 with Shira.

Stephanie Ervin set the state meet record in the girls’ shot put at 40 feet, 11 inches during 1996 event.

Thurman is 1A WIC’s top JV coach

A former standout Rimrock High School athlete has returned to the top of the game from the bench.

Jackie Thurman has been named junior varsity coach of the year as part of the All-1A Western Idaho Conference girls’ basketball voting.

Junior Ashten Moore and senior Maklay Moore were placed on the all-conference team after the varsity

season.

Moore is a first-teamer, while Moore was placed on the second team.

Moore will conclude her prep hoops career as part of the 1A WIC senior all-star team against their 1A Long Pin Conference counterparts.

The District III senior all-star game was played Monday after deadline at Payette High School.

Rodeo scholarship fundraiser at Badiola

Proceeds from the second annual LaVonne Wiseman Memorial — set Saturday and Sunday at Badiola Arena in Homedale — go to the District 2 high school rodeo scholarship fund.

The first day will feature team roping and a triathlon of breakaway roping, barrel racing and goat typing.

Team ropers can enter up to six times at \$60 per run. Sign-up starts at 9 a.m., one hour before roping.

Buckles will be awarded, and the roping is an ACTRA qualifier.

Entry is \$50 for Sunday’s \$500 added, open only 4D barrel race.

Timed runs from 10 a.m., to 1 p.m., with racing at 1:30 p.m.

Reservations start at 8 a.m., on Thursday. Text Trina Brown at (208) 573-6158. For more information, contact Brown via text or at trina.brown@movement.com.

Looking back...

from the files of The Owyhee Avalanche and Owyhee Chronicle

25 years ago

March 18, 1998



New Marsing ambulance...
Marsing EMTs Charlotte Shumate, Donna Churruca, Mike Kiester and Debbie Kline (left to right) stand beside Marsing’s new ambulance Monday morning.

Marsing takes delivery of new ambulance
Marsing Ambulance has a shiny new set of wheels, thanks to the community and Owyhee County.

On Feb. 1, the service took delivery of a new 1996 Chevrolet, at a cost of \$54,000, said president Rich Dines. The new ambulance is equipped with better lighting than the old vehicle, and can be seen more easily by other motorists. “The lights will really get your attention,” Dines said. “People definitely pull over for us.”

Marsing Ambulance covers a large portion of Owyhee County — Highway 95 from Marsing to the Oregon border, Highway 78 to just south of Murphy, all of the Marsing rural area, as well as Sunny Slope and Lakeview in Canyon County.

They cover it all with just one vehicle and a handful of dedicated volunteers. The Marsing community recognized the need for the new vehicle and gave generously.

The service is not tax-based. Funding for the unit is private, with much help from the community. The new vehicle was paid for in part by the annual Community Disaster Auction and Sale. Owyhee County helped pay the balance out of Hazmat funds, Dines said.

City council approves plan for subdivision
The Homedale City Council last week approved plans for the construction of a new subdivision. The Silver Sage subdivision, to be constructed by Kushlan Construction of Caldwell, will be located on nine acres of land bordering West Utah Avenue near Fourth Street West, south and east of the grain elevators near the railroad track on Highway 19.

Kushlan said he plans to begin by developing 19 lots on the southern portion of the tract, and moving northward from there. The site would eventually consist of about 40 lots. He said he hopes the Union Pacific Railroad will relinquish adjacent land for future development.

Owyhee County Fair Board vacancies filled
The board of Owyhee County Commissioners last week made two appointments to the Owyhee County Fair Board. The commissioners appointed Mary Lootens to replace Brion Showalter, and Kenny Tindall to replace Kenny Davis. The appointments are made by the commissioners and based on the recommendation of the fair board.

50 years ago

March 15, 1973



BAND BOOSTERS are going all out to raise funds for the Homedale High School Marching Band’s trip to the Calgary Stampede. Planning for the combination auction, carnival, raffle and flea market on Saturday at the Armory beginning at 5 p.m. are: seated, Mrs. Russ Sayers, president; standing, from left, Chuck Yost and Wendell Hyer, auction co-chairmen; Jack Fields, band director, and Mrs. Jim Duncan, secretary-treasurer. A “Mile of Pennies” and chili and hamburger feeds are other fund raising projects. Photo by Bette Uda

Kamiah routs Trojans in state tournament play
A scrappy band of Indian youths, the Kamiah Kubs, turned the A-3 cage tourney at Lewiston into another Wounded Knee for the Homedale Trojans Thursday night as they routed the tall but stone-cold Trojans 51-30. The draw pitted Homedale against Kamiah instead of Genesee as was thought last week.

In its dismal first half, Homedale’s best stretch was six straight points to cut an 18-8 deficit to 18-14. Then the Kubs reeled off the last five points of the half to take a 23-14 lead into the intermission.

Coach Garry Matlock brought his 15-10 Red and White marauders from the dressing room with hopes of making a contest of it. Try as they might, the Trojans continued to see their dreams fade with horrible shooting, poor ball control, and few rebounds.

Homedale’s ice-cold scoring attack was led by Gregg Garrett with eight points. Following him were five Trojans with a mere four points apiece.

Sen. Phil Batt address C of C installation banquet
Current bills in the Legislature were reviewed by special guest speaker, Sen. Phil Batt, at the Chamber of Commerce installation banquet last Wednesday evening at the Owyhee Lanes banquet room with 50 attending.

Officers of the Chamber were introduced as follows: Jerry Shipley, president; Gordon Cahill, vice-president; Hal Tolmie and Homer Anderson, two-year board members; Jon Heitzman, Dee Monson, Verdis Wilson and Marion Vance, one-year board members, and the following hold-over directors: Gordon Cahill, Jerry Shipley and Darryl Warwick.

Senior citizens obtain local ‘drop-in center’
Senior Citizens of Homedale met Thursday, March 8, with Ross Lane, president, presiding. An agreement between El-Ada, Inc. and Mrs. Iola Potter, was presented to the group. This agreement would make possible the use of the Potter building next to the Homedale Post Office as a drop-in center for Senior Citizens. There, they will meet Valerie Breach, secretary for El-Ada, Inc., who will assist the Senior Citizens in any way possible.

155 years ago

March 14, 1868

NEWSPAPER POSTAGE.—Weekly newspapers, sent by the publisher to actual subscribers within the County where printed and published, are mailed free of charge. On weekly newspapers, when sent out of the County where printed and published, the postage, if paid in advance at the office of mailing or delivering, is five cents per quarter, or three months.

QUITE A FALL.—It is interesting to hear old mountaineers tell of their early adventures. A few days ago Sam Lockhart — everyone knows Sam — related a story of a mule that fell over a precipice, which rather beats anything in the way of falling that we have ever heard, except when old Beelzebub and his rebel followers were pitched headlong over the battlements of Heaven: Some time in the year ’49, if we mistake not, Sam was one of a party who were traveling over the Durango Mountains in Mexico. While wending their way near the summit of the mountains one afternoon, a pack mule lost his footing and was precipitated over a perpendicular precipice. Falling to the bottom, a distance of four miles, the unfortunate animal lodged in the forks of a large pine tree, and wonderful to tell, the mule, although somewhat stunned, was not seriously injured (!) being able to carry his accustomed load the next day. At the time of the fall the pack consisted of *frijoles* and cooking utensils — the former were scattered round for a distance of several hundred yards, and the latter were considerably jammed up.

MINERS’ HOTEL!
.....at.....
CHARLES HANSON,
south end of Washington St.,
SILVER CITYOWYHEE, I.T.
THIS WELL KNOWN HOTEL IS ALWAYS
OPEN
and ready for the accommodation of the
public, whom I will be happy to make as
comfortable as possible. The Table will be
supplied with the best the market affords.
The lodging rooms are large and well ventilated.
BOARD — Per meal 75 cts.;
per Day \$2; per Week \$12.
BOARD and LODGING —
Per Day \$2.50; per Week \$16.
June 29, 1867 CHAS. HANSON

SOIREE.—The dancing school soiree passed off pleasantly last Wednesday evening. The music was of the very best. Linn and Tom Gibson discoursed the violins, Eugene Holman the banjo, and Harry Wilkinson enlivened the merry dances with the stirring notes of his pickelo. A large number of ladies were present, who, with their countenances beaming with fun and lit up with good humor, together with their well-known amiable, sociable qualities, made the evening seem to pass away rapidly and of course pleasantly and agreeably. The dance broke up about twelve o’clock, when a large number of those present repaired to the Cooper Restaurant and partook of an excellent supper. The dancing teacher, Mr. McMahon, informs us that there will be another soiree of the same sort next Wednesday evening.

THE NEW YORK.—On the New York work is briskly going on sinking on the ledge. A splendid whim has been erected by which much expense and manual labor are saved.

Commentary

Letters to the editor

Instead of new RV ordinance, enforce laws we have

Recently the Owyhee County Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing at the Murphy courthouse concerning the proposed RV ordinance. The overwhelming majority opposed the ordinance as written because it took away the rights of property owners, telling them what they can and can't do on their property.

During the question-and-answer period after the heated testimonies (three rooms full and overflowing) it was alluded to the fact that someone in Homedale had problems with their neighbor's RV and home because of the piles of garbage, sanitation and other issues. All these problems are covered by regulations and rules in place. So instead of someone doing their job, they took the easy way out and decided to punish everyone in the county.

We have rights guaranteed under the United States and Idaho state constitutions. That ordinance will violate those rights as written. It's one-sided and does not equally apply to everyone in the county.

If you are a rancher or farmer, no problem; you would be exempt.

If you think you can go through permitting, design, and construction of a home in under 180 days, you are not aware of the shortage of materials and labor to do that.

As property owners, we want to use our RVs and property as we want. Many of us want to do it correctly. Many have discussed the proper hook-ups of sewer, water, and power. This ordinance would not allow you to dump your sewage in your septic system. Most responsible RV owners know that you must treat your black water with chemicals to allow your RV tank work properly.

This ordinance is flawed and violates our rights as property owners. Somebody needs to do their job and enforce the laws and rules that are on the books already.

Rick Myers
Melba

I want to give a huge thank you to the Boise Jeep Club. I remember when the Jeep club first started out, there were only a few members. Now there are over 5,000 members. Bruce Hadley and his wife Carly started the club. They believe in helping new members, and they teach everyone to respect the land and private property in Owyhee County. They do this in their spare time, as they own and operate Hadley Realty Group LLC.

I have worked with the Boise Jeep Club for many years. I have attended many of their meetings and functions. Everyone has always been friendly, and they love to show off their jeeps. The Jeep Club has helped the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office in rescues and also in vehicle recoveries. Whenever I have called on the club for assistance, the members have been there, and they go above and beyond.

The Boise Jeep Club has donated money to the sheriff's office in previous years for our off-highway vehicle (OHV) program. The club does a fundraiser every fall in order to raise money to be donated. The

— See Letters, Page Page 17

JP Doodles



Montana-based syndicated editorial cartoonist Barry McWilliams passed away in August 2021. The McWilliams Estate has given The Owyhee Avalanche permission to publish his cartoon. McWilliams' cartoons appeared in more than 1,500 newspapers, and he visited hundreds of elementary schools teaching children to draw.

Proposed RV ordinance
County survey reinforces unfair proposal

by Anna Price

Many have, by now, received the Planning and Zoning survey in the mail.

After reviewing this survey, it begs the question: Are RVs really the problem, or is this just another attempt at a bureaucratic money grab?

The first problem Owyhee County citizens are facing while considering this proposed ordinance is the data (or lack thereof) being presented by Planning and Zoning and the commissioners. Using power words such as "dramatic increase" to describe the supposed large population growth of RV dwellers and the accompanying complaints must be followed up with actual proof. Expecting Owyhee County citizens to help "fix" a problem that has been vaguely described and with partiality is sloppy at best, if not downright unscrupulous.

The threat of more taxes to cover the expenses that those with RVs will supposedly accrue was suggested in the survey. I have neighbors who have lived or are living in their RVs. They own the land underneath them, but their home, for the time being, has wheels. These families pay their property taxes. They also buy gas for their cars and registration for both RVs and vehicles, which takes care of most road taxes. Most, also, homeschool.

The question being posed is: Am I willing to cover added expenses of my neighbor having an RV? My question is: How much more do you expect us to pay, and for what, exactly? We homeschool, so we don't utilize government-subsidized schools. However,



we pay for these services. Do I want to pay more for something I've never used? No. If I am to answer this question fairly, I am already paying extra (for someone living in an RV or a house) and subsidizing schools I don't utilize. Why should I have to pay for a service, such as a school system, that I don't benefit from? It seems unfair, but I've never been reimbursed for these services, and neither have my homeschooling neighbors who also don't use these services and happen to live in their RVs.

Attempting to push more taxes under the guise of protecting the public's best interest is a treacherous one, which I wouldn't dare traverse. You will inevitably find unfairness in many laws already on the books, especially having to do with taxation. Let us not even suggest it.

Another question asked on the survey: How long should someone be able to live in an RV without being fined? From a humanitarian standpoint, how can I possibly judge how long my neighbor is allowed to "transition" before they are a burden and be presented with heavy fines? What a terrible question, especially considering the main reason people are moving into RVs is due to difficult life circumstances. Here's a better question: When is the last time fining people out of poverty or hardship has worked? The answer is, never.

I urge my fellow Owyhee County citizens to carefully look over this proposed ordinance and accompanying survey and see this for the totalitarian, government over-reach that it is.

— Anna Price is an Oreana resident.

Commentary

Financial management

That guy with his hand out actually needs a hand up

Dear Dave,
How do you handle a situation where someone needs financial help, but has misspent money you've given them in the past?

— Andrew

Dear Andrew,
This young man's problem sounds as much like a mismanagement of money as it is a lack of money. He seems to have an issue with lying, and possibly an addiction problem, too.
I've never been against helping people who have good hearts and just need a break. But if someone is bold enough to ask for your money, you have every right to attach requirements to the help you give — especially when it's for their own good. If he really needs food or household things, you



can just buy them for him. At least that way, you'd know you were providing necessities.
But in many cases, truly help-

ing someone is a lot more work than just giving them money. Sometimes, you have to get down in their mess, get real with them and walk with them.

— Dave

If you haven't been put off by what has already happened, and you still really want to help, I'd suggest getting to know this young man and his situation a little better. Be straight with him, and let him know you've learned he hasn't been honest with you in the past. Hopefully, as a result he'll apologize and start making better choices. If he does, you might even offer to arrange for him to talk to a good pastor or counselor.
This whole situation is much bigger than helping someone with a little cash. This guy needs someone who cares enough to help him get his life back together.

— Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national best-selling author, personal finance expert, and host of The Ramsey Show, heard by more than 18 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.

Eyes on the Statehouse

Dim light distractions slow Legislature's work for people

by Oscar Evans
On Dec. 29, 1972 Eastern Flight 401 crashed into the Florida Everglades killing 101 people and wounding many others. A factor in the crash was a burned-out landing gear indicator light. The cause of the crash was that no one was flying the plane. The crew got consumed with the landing gear light — a minor discrepancy which they were pretty sure was just a light bulb -- and no one was flying the plane.
That costly lesson is valid for aviators, leaders and others alike. Nothing a pilot does in a jet matters if they don't fly the jet. Nothing a leader does matters if they don't take care of the primary mission. Nothing we do in our jobs or families works unless we take care of the primary functions.



And so it goes in the Idaho Legislature 2023. There are certainly lots of dim and malfunctioning lights vying for attention in the Capitol. Every bill written requires the time and attention of leadership to assign a committee and resources of the committee to decide its fate. The dim lights keep demanding attention and resources that could be used for core issues of government function and the people's business.
One bill sponsored by self-proclaimed heroes

of freedom and liberty would result in a statewide edict to intercede between nearly every homeowners association (HOA) and the private citizens who voluntarily agreed to the rules. The bill would have forced the HOAs to allow livestock production, manure composting and other agriculture activities regardless of the current contract between the people and the association. Steers at Spurwing and Bulls at Banbury. This bill took valuable time and resources to go through the process before (thankfully) crashing and burning in committee. I suspect it will be resurrected as a campaign flyer next year for the sponsors.
Another dim light is an attempt at a statewide ban on all MRNA vaccines and punishment for those who administer them. Where is the freedom in this insanity? Forget the fact that MRNA is being explored as a potential remedy for many other ailments. Forget that many citizens in consultation with their doctors have freely chosen the vaccine for their own personal and private reasons. I don't think the bulbs even flickered on the first attempt, but insanity doesn't always stop where logic start. And again valuable time and resources of many good and decent legislators who are trying to focus on the needs of our great state will be wasted.
With hopefully only a few weeks remaining in the session, some of the dimmer lights flickering include statewide edicts and mandates on consumers, agencies, municipalities and schools, redrawing state boundaries, restricting conventional livestock

production methods, and addressing multiple other emotional issues, while key elements of basic government function hover just short of the crash site.
I would offer a quick reminder for those fixated on the dim lights to look up. Taxes, especially taxes. Water and property rights. School funding. Infrastructure. Crime. Rural healthcare and worker shortages. And a host of other worthwhile priorities could be addressed if we aren't fixated on really dim lights.
Dim Light Distractions — Aviate. Navigate. Communicate. It's the simple adage of priorities that keep planes flying. The best communication in the world won't help you if you're about to crash. It seems for now some are content to keep the dim lights flickering and the people distracted. Hopefully we have some good people trying to get us on course and keep the government functioning. I'm not sure some of the dim lights actually want this.
— Homedale resident Lt. Col. Oscar Evans (USAF, ret.) is a retired fighter pilot with 3,000 hours in the F/A 18 Hornet and F 15 Eagle and almost 400 carrier landings. He received the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Strike Flight Air Medal and many other personal and unit commendations during his 20 years of active duty. He is a Realtor, business consultant, and Owyhee County Republican Precinct Committeeman.

✓ Letters

From Page 16
money was utilized for maintenance of our OHV vehicles and equipment to that end.
This year, the Boise Jeep Club wanted to help out the deputies. The club purchased boots for 10 of our deputies. All of the deputies were thrilled when they received their new boots. We are all very grateful and

would like to thank the club for its most generous donation.
We are looking forward to working with the Boise Jeep Club in the future.
Owyhee County Sheriff's deputies Sgt. Kenny Hoagland with Deputies Miguel Ruiz, Larry Kendrick, Travis Leedom, Cody Hammond, Kyle Monroe, Shane Trautman, Noah Duffy, Andrew Neff, and William (Billy) Dyas

Letters to the editor

All letters to the editor submitted to The Owyhee Avalanche must be no longer than 300 words, signed and include the writer's address and daytime phone number.
The deadline for submitting letters is noon on Friday. Letters can be submitted in these ways:
• E-mailed to jon@owyheeavalanche.com
• Mailed to P.O. Box 97, Homedale ID, 83628
• Dropped off at the Avalanche office at 19 E. Idaho Ave., in Homedale
For more information, call (208) 337-4681.

Home

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Visitor

0

WHAT'S THE SCORE?

The Avalanche wants to promote news of Owyhee County's sports teams. Call to find out how to get your scores in the newspaper.

(208) 337-4681

The Owyhee Avalanche

Sports

Melba boys dominate All-2A WIC, too

Chadez is Marsing's only honoree

As could be expected,

Melba High School's high-flying boys' basketball team swept All-2A Western Idaho Conference top honors.

And this may only be the beginning for the

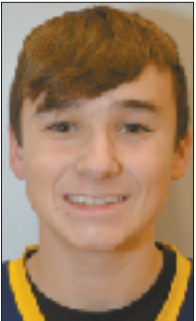
Mustangs.

Spencer Trappett was named coach of the year, and senior Braden Volkers earned player of the year.

Two juniors — Cutter Beus and Tucker Lowber

— were named to the all-conference first team.

Marsing sophomore Jace Chadez landed on the honorable mention list as the Huskies' only all-conference selection.



Jace Chadez

Public notices

BOARD OF OWYHEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
February 2023 Synopsis
February 6

-Approved the claims report as presented: Current Expenses-\$32,381; R&B-\$2,728; Dist. Court-\$475; Fair-\$165; Probation-\$612; Health Dist.-\$9,243; Historical-\$235; I&C-\$19,470; Junior College-\$500; Revaluation-\$1,286; Solid Waste-\$16,466; 911-\$901; Waterways-\$740; Capital Project/ARPA-\$9,000.

-Approved the minutes from the January 23, 2023 meeting.

-Approved the Idaho State Tax Commissioner Public Defense Levy Response with Clerk Barkell's signature.

-Approved the March 14, 2023 polling location for the Castleford School District 417 bond levy election to be the Owyhee County Courthouse in Murphy, Idaho (mail ballot, in-person absentee, election day).

-Approved County Resolution – Destruction of Temporary Records, Assessor and Building Dept.

-Approved County Resolution 2023-07 – Ratification of Approval by the BOCC of a Letter of Support for Dirt, Inc.

-Approved the SW Idaho Resource Conservation & Development Council re 2023 Membership in the amount of \$500.00.

-Approved the Sparklight agreement for the Homedale Courthouse.

-Approved the signature of Clerk Barkell on the above Sparklight agreement.

-Approved the homeowner's cancellation for parcel RP006450010010, in the amount of \$823.47.

-Approved the following partial tax cancellations for 2022 only: MH05S03E160610 - \$471.31; RP03N04W343610 - \$1,6553.65; RP03N05W101300 - \$6.62; RP03N06W121852 - \$111.38; RP06S04W143620 - \$77.58; RP06S05E244200 - \$2,025.67; RP009450010010 - \$201.79; RP009450010020 - \$148.00; RP009450010030 - \$387.47.

-At 9:52 a.m. went into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206 (a) personnel.

Open session was resumed at 9:54 a.m. No action was taken.

-At 9:54 a.m. went into executive session pursuant to

Idaho Code §74-206 (f) possible litigation. Open session was resumed at 10:00 a.m. No action was taken.

February 13

-Approved the HazMat grant award for Homedale Fire Department in the amount of \$14,817.99 for SCBA air packs, generator and two hazardous waste kits.

-Approved the HazMat grand award for Marsing Ambulance in the amount of \$15,182.01 for the purchase of a Zoll X series monitor/defibrillator.

-Approved the claims report as presented: Current Expenses-\$31,462; R&B-\$46,774; Dist. Court-\$119; Probation-\$273; Historical-\$235; I&C-\$18,295; Junior College-\$ 9,100; Revaluation-\$244; Solid Waste-\$144; Waterways-\$502; Off Hwy Vehicles-\$22; Capital Project/ARPA-\$5,792.

-Approved the minutes from the February 6, 2023 meeting.

-Approved an Agreement with Nampa Paving & Asphalt Company for the Wilson Creek Area RABS & Paving Project and Wilson Cemetery Road project.

-Approved the Close-Out Report for the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation OHV Grant MV23-3-37-1 in the amount of \$22,400.00.

-Approved the Sparklight Contract for internet services to the Owyhee County Fairgrounds at \$141.48 per month.

-Approved the re-hire of Paul Rhoades as a part-time dispatcher at the rate of \$19.13 per hour.

-Approved the promotion of Tearsy Freeman to Dispatch Supervisor at the rate of \$21.26 per hour.

-Approved an Application for Drilling Permit to the State of Idaho, Department of Water Resources for a well at the Homedale Fairgrounds, with signature of the Chairman.

-Approved the Notice to Proceed for Riverside Inc. to start the well drilling project at the Homedale Fairgrounds, with the signature of the Chairman.

-Approved a contract with Riverside Inc. to drill a well at the Homedale Fairgrounds in the amount of \$88,5655.00, with the signature of the Chairman.

-Approved the homeowner's cancellation for parcel RP006450010010, in the amount of \$823.47.

-Approved the following partial

tax cancellations for 2022 only: RPF00600000550 - \$62.27; RPA00100280080 - \$462.79.

February 21

-Approved the ARPA grant award for Bruneau Fire Protection District for two sets of turnout gear for new fire fighters in the amount of \$5,036.40.

-Approved the ARPA grant award for Grand View Ambulance Services for one 12-Lead Upgrade for Zoll X Series Cardiac Monitor in the amount of \$5,528.40.

-Approved the ARPA grant award for Homedale Police Department for one Zoll X Series Defibrillator in the amount of \$10,000.00.

-Approved the ARPA grant award for MRW Fire District for three MSA Altair 4XR Multi-Gas Detector units in the amount of \$2,951.10.

-Approved the wage correction for Tearsy Freeman from \$21.26 to \$21.90 per hour.

-Approved the wage correction for Paula Rhodes from \$19.13 to \$19.70 per hour.

-Approved the claims report as presented: Current Expenses-\$28,755; R&B-\$1,335; Dist. Court-\$1,610; Probation-\$123; Historical-\$1,735; I&C-\$224; Solid Waste-\$472; 911-\$3,377; Waterways-\$337; Capital Project/ARPA-\$1,012; Hazardous Waste-\$1,151.

-Approved the minutes from the February 13, 2023 meeting.

-Approved the BLM Contract Modification – Sheriff Patrol with a net increase of \$15,000 from last year.

-Approved the Right-of-Entry request for Idaho Power's Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project.

-Approved the written decision on the Appeal for Maple Estates Z22-11A.

-Approved the ID Parks & Rec Federal FY2023 Recreational Boating Safety Grant Agreement in the amount of \$28,603.00.

-Approved County Resolution 2023-08 – Sheriff's Sale of Items at Surplus Auction.

-Approved Certificate of Residency 23-04 to the College of Western Idaho.

February 27

-At 9:27 a.m. went into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206 (f) possible litigation. Open session was resumed at 10:10 a.m. No action

was taken.

-At 9:16 a.m. went into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206 (a) personnel. Open session was resumed at 10:21 a.m. No action was taken.

-Approved the claims report as presented: Current Expenses-\$14,042; R&B-\$239; Dist. Court-\$969; Probation-\$127;I&C-\$750; Revaluation-\$403; Solid Waste-\$7,484; 911-\$1,792; Waterways-\$60.

-Approved the minutes from the February 21, 2023 meeting.

-Approved Alcoholic Beverage License #33 to Gordos Carniceria Y Mas, Homedale.

-Approved the All Hazards Plan Grant Application, with the Chairman's signature for the Board.

-Approved County funding for rodeo chutes at the County Rodeo & Fairgrounds in the amount of \$75,000 (\$20,203 from ICRMP reimbursement for fire at Fairgrounds Beer Garden and \$54,797 will come from PILT funds).

-Approved ID Dept. of Health & Welfare Low-Income Home Water Assistance Program Agreement, with the Chairman's signature for the Board.

-Approved County Resolution 2023-09 – Sale of Surplus Office Equipment from the Owyhee County Treasurer's Office.

-Approved County Resolution 2023-10 – Sheriff Sale of Seized Vehicle.

03/15/2023

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The Marsing Ambulance Service Board of Directors will hold its annual meeting, following the regular monthly meeting, as designated below. By laws and board assignments will be reviewed. Taxpayers and residents of Marsing Ambulance District are invited to attend.

DATE: Thursday, March 16, 2023

TIME: 7 p.m.

PLACE: Marsing Fire Hall, 303 Main St.

03/01,08,15/2023

NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE
(Adult or Emancipated Minor)
CASE NO. CV37-23-61
IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT FOR THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR

THE COUNTY OF OWYHEE IN RE: BROOKLYN DAWN PALMER

A petition to change the name of Brooklyn Dawn Palmer, now residing in the city of Homedale, State of Idaho, has been filed in the District Court in Owyhee County, Idaho. The name will change to Brooklyn Dawn Thompson. The reason for the change in name is: I want to have my stepdad's last name. He has raised me and I have not had contact with my biological father in years.

A hearing on the petition is scheduled for 11:00 o'clock a.m. on April 19, 2023 at the Owyhee County Courthouse. Objections may be filed by any person who can show the court a good reason against the name change.

Date: February 22, 2023

Clerk of the District Court

/s:/Aiesha Zenor, Deputy Clerk

03/08,15,22,29/2023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN THE MAGISTRATE COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF OWYHEE
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: DOLORES M. BIRMINGHAM, DECEASED.
CASE NO. CV37-23-00062

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that DANIEL H. BIRMINGHAM has been appointed personal representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent, Dolores M. Birmingham, or the estate are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or said claims will be forever barred.

Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated and filed with the Clerk of the Court.

DATED this 28th day of February, 2023.

/S/ GWEN K. SWEESY /S/ GWEN K. SWEESY,

Attorney

The Law Offices of Maybon, PLLC

P.O. Box 1084

Caldwell, ID 83606

(208) 454-2974

03/08,15,22/2023



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GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPIES - Pure bred, ready for their new home. \$600, 208-465-3260

HAY FOR SALE - \$12 per bale, must load your own. 12648 Chicken Dinner Rd. (208) 899-5407.

WANTED

RV SPACE TO TRADE for caretaker duties. Experience includes property management & handyman duties. Reliable and honest, no drugs/alcohol, good with animals. Prefer Homedale/Owyhee County area. Call Nick at (208) 850-0790

FIREARMS WANTED - Collector buying rifles, pistols and shotguns. Single pieces or complete collections. Free experienced appraisals. 208-781-9034

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FARM GROUND WANTED to cash rent. Homedale/Adrian area. Call Kyle Purdom 208-629-6647, if no answer, leave message.

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

FREE

FREE BARN CATS available for mouse extermination. 208-989-0885.

HELP WANTED

PART - TIME OPPORTUNITY for a person with mechanical abilities and ability to lift 20 lbs regularly. Inserting newspapers and other bindery duties. Approx 10-20 hours per week (usually Tuesday morning and a few other shifts). Possibly good for a semi-retired person. Applications available at Owyhee Publishing, 21 E. Idaho Ave, Homedale.

CITY OF HOMEDALE is looking for summer pool help. We need certified lifeguards and a pool manager. At summers end we will reimburse you for your certification. Great job for the summer. Pick up an application at City Hall; call (208) 337-4641 for additional information.

AGRICULTURAL AND RESEARCH POSITIONS AVAILABLE: Sunnyslope area agricultural research farm is seeking candidates for multiple positions (year-round and seasonal) responsible for field work, equipment maintenance, and research-oriented tasks. Must be at least 18 years old and have a clean driving record. Must be able to lift 50 lbs. Must clear background check and pass physical exam and drug screen. Travel expenses and safety gear provided. Employment to commence as soon as onboarding process is complete. Positions starting at \$15/hr and up depending on experience, skill level, and demonstrated work ethic. Contact Marty to inquire or apply. 208/250-0937

RELIABLE, EXPERIENCED CAREGIVER needed, 14 hours weekly. Near Marsing. Reliable transportation required. Thru caregiver agency, state program. Call 208-741-1972, Marthetta

HELP NEEDED - to feed cows and help with calving. Full-time position, possible housing. Call 208-741-0452

FOR RENT

MARSING STORAGE has 10'x10' units available for rent. RV space available. Recently graveled. 5656 Van Rd, Marsing. Contact Steve 208-616-0315.

MISC.

Affordable Lessons: Piano, Guitar, Violin, Fiddle, Ukulele, Mandolin & Banjo. Private and Fun. All Ages & Levels. 208-283-5750

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Steel Buildings & Pole Barns. Shops, Airplane Hangars, Ag Buildings, Hay Covers, Riding Arenas. Visit millwardbuilders.com 208-941-9502

Technical Computer LLC, Repairs, Tune-ups, Backups, Upgrades, Networking & more. Call Tom at 208-896-4676 or 208-899-9419.

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RALPH ROGERS ESTATE FARM EQUIPMENT ONLINE AUCTION
Auction Soft Close: Monday March 20th, @ 5:30PM MT
Auction Preview: Saturday March 18th
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Homedale Trobots kick off robotics season in Salt Lake



The HHS robotics team, *from left:* Kaden Tomevi, mentor Mark Thatcher, Carson Bingham, Brenden Durrant, Corey Romriell, Megan Mendoza-Rodriguez, Todd Thatcher, Kaden Ashliman, and mentor Abbi Jones. Submitted photos

High school team entered in Idaho regional this month

The Homedale High School robotics team competed at the Utah Regional FIRST Robotics Competition on Friday and Saturday in Salt Lake City.

Team members received this year's challenge in January and have been designing and building their robot over the past two months.

The challenge involves picking up and placing cones and cubes in different positions during the 2½-minute match.

At the end of the match, teams attempted to balance their robots alongside one another on a pivoting platform.

Mark Thatcher, HHS team

mentor, said the Trobot performed well and the team repaired and modified the machine between matches to improve the robot and keep it running throughout the event.

The Trobots competed against 44 teams from Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, South Dakota, and Utah.

Thatcher, a high school science teacher, mentored the team with middle school teacher Abbi Jones. He said the Trobots thank their sponsors for the generous support that makes it possible to field a team.

Sponsors include Agri-

Lines Irrigation, Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation, Bayer Foundation, Integra Resources DeLamar, Tolmie's Ace Hardware, Matteson's Owyhee Motor Sales, NAPA Owyhee Auto Parts, Parker Advisors, FIRST Inspires, Argosy Foundation, and Micron.

The team also recognizes the amazing support of the HHS and the district technology department.

The Trobots have entered the 54-team Idaho Regional Competition, which takes place Thursday through Saturday, March 30 to April 1 at the Ford Idaho Center in Nampa.

The free event, which includes teams from Canada and China, is open to the public, and all ages are welcome.

Free computer class scheduled in Marsing

The Idaho Commission on Aging will present a free basic computer class from 10 a.m., to noon on Saturday at Lizard Butte Library, 111 3rd Ave. W., in Marsing.

The class will benefit a complete beginner, or anyone who would like to learn more computer skills in a safe, nonjudgmental environment.

Instruction is open to anyone who is interested in learning more about computers or utilizing mobile devices such as smart phones.

For more information or to get questions answered contact Idaho Commission on Aging representative Janet Miller at (208) 577- 2854 or janet.j.miller@aging.idaho.gov



As mentor Mark Thatcher (right) looks on, Megan Mendoza-Rodriguez and Corey Romriell (center) make needed repairs on the robot between matches.

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Shelley has a great history with Homedale, as well as with Parker Advisors. Born and raised in Homedale, she graduated from Homedale High School. For over 34 years, Shelley has used her knowledge and experience to focus on both local as well as distant clients of Parker Advisors. Shelley's areas of business expertise and focus include office management, payroll, bookkeeping, and tax returns. Shelley's work philosophy is to make sure the customer comes first. This commitment starts by listening to you to ensure that there is a clear understanding of the tasks at hand, followed by dedicated service creating your finished product. Shelley enjoys reading, camping, walking with her dogs, raising her cattle, and her biggest passion, her grandkids. Shelley and her husband Jeff have two children, Tyson (Michelle) and Jessica (JZ), and 7 grandchildren.

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Community markets fill
summer in Homedale, Marsing



Remington (left) and Winston Sorenson sold at the Homedale Farmers Market last year. They'll be back this year for the Top Hat Market, a new incarnation managed by their mother, Shanna Sorenson. Submitted photo

See story, Page 6

The Owyhee Avalanche
Special Section, March 15, 2023



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The snow in the Owyhees may stay up there until the very last minute, which South Board of Control manager John Eells says is good news for irrigators.

Growers would benefit from late, swift run-off

**South Board boss:
Feds say expect
near-full water year**

After a cycle of drought and a few years of nail-biting, it appears producers relying on Owyhee Project water can breathe easier.

"The snowpack looks good," South Board of Control manager John Eells said. "We have a little over an acrefoot of water in the reservoir.

"But, according to the Bureau (of Reclamation), we should be well up in that three to four acrefeet by the time the water comes in."

Then the caveat.

"But it just depends how it comes off," the veteran irrigation man said.

Eells has spent decades with South Board, rising up through the ranks to become watermaster and now manager. He knows what to expect when it comes to each burgeoning water year.

Namely: You can't expect anything.

At this point, if the Bureau of Reclamation's forecast is correct, Eells doesn't anticipate the need for a growers' meeting.

"I'm fairly optimistic about this year," he said. "I will have a growers

— See *Run-off*, Page 31



Marsing-based Bell's Homestyle Catering and Barbecue Sauce is confirmed as one of more than 30 vendors expected for opening day at the Snake River Country Market on May 6. Submitted photo

New location, new energy for Marsing market

**Snake River Country Market
will have flea market feel, too**

*by John Bruyninckx
For The Owyhee Avalanche*

With a new season on the horizon, Snake River Country Market will have a new beginning in Marsing.

The market will open in a new location when the weekly events begin in May.

Market manager and director Megan Poole says there is a buzz about the market as it moves to London Park, a

strip of private land on the main drag in Marsing only a few blocks from last year's location.

Poole sums up the excitement about the new location on Main Street with one short, heartfelt sentiment:

"I'm super-excited for this upcoming season," she said with a charge in her voice.

"Our market is now going to be held in Marsing, at the corner of Main Street and 4th Avenue West, just past the fire station," Poole said. "I am extremely grateful to the Lizard Butte Baptist Church for leasing their property

— See *Marsing*, Page 26

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Top Hat Market organizers encourage youth to get involved with the weekly sales. The youth vendor cost is only \$5 per market for the 13 weeks. Youth vendors can sell anything they want with no booth charge during the plant sale, which is set for Saturday, May 13 at Bette Uda City Park.

Puttin' on a Top Hat Market

New day, new name for established Homedale community event

Shanna Sorenson and Elias Tines are continuing their work this year to preserve a farmers market in Homedale.

The pair has organized the Top Hat Market, which will take place each Friday between June 2 and Aug. 25. The market will be open from 3 p.m., to 7 p.m., each Friday.

Although last year's Thursday sales event was still called Homedale Farmers Market, Sorenson and Tines had already put in motion the change in name and infrastructure.

The name Top Hat Market is a tip of the hat to Homedale's history, Tines said.

"The name Top Hat was suggested by board member Jeff Eidemiller," Tines said. "He suggested tying some history to our market and provided the historical facts behind the name to which we agreed."

"Back in 1920, when the City of Homedale was established, the name Homedale was drawn from a top hat."

While the market will kick off in June, there will be a Top Hat presence in May at Bette Uda City Park.

A meeting for prospective vendors will be held at 6 p.m., on Thursday, May 4 at the park.

From 9 a.m., to 1 p.m., on

Saturday, May 13, Top Hat Market will continue the tradition of an annual plant sale.

The sale will take place at Bette Uda park, and booth fees are \$20. Youth vendors will be able to sell plants without a booth fee. Plant and food vendors will be accepted, while youth vendors can sell anything at their booths and aren't limited to plants and food.

Organizers are accepting vendor applications for the weekly market that starts in June, too.

The market vendor fee is \$100

— See **Top Hat**, Page 7



✓ Top Hat: Market runs each Friday June to August

From Page 6

for the 13-week season or \$25 per market until the \$100 is paid. Unlike the previous farmers market incarnation, vendors will not be required to turn over a percentage of their weekly sales to the market organizers.

Youth vendors can participate for \$5 per market.

You can sign up for either the plant sale or the market season online at <https://www.markettophat.com/vendor-information>

There are parts of the market's mission held over from the Homedale Farmers Market.



Shanna Sorenson, Top Hat Market manager

The children's Cultivate educational class will be held from 5

p.m., to 6 p.m., each Friday between June 9 and Aug. 18.

Tines has helped out at the market for five years, and he wanted to preserve another aspect from the Homedale Farmers Market, which was managed by Denise Dixon.

"We are also in search of sponsors to help us operate the market and be able to donate to local school districts," he said.

Information on sponsorships and the school grant program is available on the market website, <https://www.markettophat.com>.

— See *Top Hat*, Page 22

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Bo Isham built the Ag Idaho Consulting office building on the southeast corner of South 1st Street West and Utah Avenue in Homedale three years ago. He and his partners have expanded to house three agriculture-related businesses in the building.

Farming in his blood, ag on his mind

Bo Isham leads trio of companies helping producers thrive

Bo Isham learned early on that he didn't like being a salesman, but having grown up on a family farm, he still wanted to help other families meet their agricultural goals.

Three years ago, he and his wife opened Ag Idaho Consulting LLC in Homedale — the type of small town both had known while growing up in Butte County.

"Aside from growing up in a small, tight-knit community and desiring that for our family, Homedale suited our business needs perfectly," Isham said. "As a family and a business,

we love being in a place where we know our neighbors and genuinely do life together."

Since building the office on South 1st Street West, the Ishams have added two other businesses — Isham Ag and Terravata.

"Wanting to move the business to the heart of the communities we were serving, we bought and built on a commercial lot in Homedale 2019," Isham said.

Agriculture is in Isham's blood. He grew up on a family farm in Eastern Idaho. Isham Farms raised alfalfa, malt barley, hard white wheat, cattle, and sheep.

After graduating from Butte County High School, Isham obtained a Bachelor's of Science degree in Plant and Horticultural Science from

the University of Idaho.

"Since I left the family farm, I've wanted to stay in agriculture. This was the best way I could see to do it," Isham said.

"Farmers and ranchers are a great group to work with, and I love working with them to be agronomically sound and profitable."

After interning for a larger ag retailer from 2006 to 2009, Isham worked as a crop advisor until 2016.

"Inclined to get out of sales, my wife and I started Ag Idaho in 2017," he said.

The leap didn't come without trepidation.

"Starting our own business was terrifying," Isham said. "We are

— See *Ag*, Page 9



✓ Ag: Small-town couple cultivates on familiar ground

From Page 8

beyond grateful that we've had so much support in the local ag community, and we definitely couldn't do it without our amazing employees and partners."

The companies have five experts on staff:

- **Jake Pool** — Agronomist, drone pilot, and partner in Terravata
- **Jordan McClintick-Chess** — Agronomist
- **Michael Wick** — Seed manager, agronomist
- **Austin Pimental** — Equipment manager and agronomist
- **Brody Isham** — Isham Ag

partner

All three businesses offer help with different aspects of agri-business, and Isham's group serves farmers from Eastern Oregon to the Magic Valley and all over the Treasure Valley.

Ag Idaho Consulting LLC

Isham's first business is billed on its Facebook page as "an independent agricultural consulting agency."

Isham said the consultation services cover pests, disease and fertility in conjunction with scouting and sampling services.

"We are independent, so we don't

sell any chemical or fertilizer. This allows us to maintain an unbiased voice for our growers. While we don't sell those products, we do sell seed," he said.

In addition to agronomy services, Ag Idaho Consulting helps its clients with sales of LG corn and alfalfa, KWS hybrid rye, Beta sugar beet hybrids, and grower-specific custom cover crop blends.

Isham Ag

One of the new businesses, Isham Ag, is an arm of the company that

— See Ag, Page 29



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15 E. Wyoming Ave., Homedale, Idaho



The 2022 harvest marked the last time motorists on U.S. Highway 95 and East Idaho Avenue will see sugar beets piled at the entrance to Homedale. Amalgamated Sugar Co., is consolidating beet receiving operations between Wilder and Homedale, and the plan is to sell the 30 acres fronting the highway just south of the Snake River.

Chapter closes on Homedale ag history

Beet dump completes final season

In its final season, the Homedale sugar beet receiving station brought in nearly 37,000 tons of the commodity.

Now, the Amalgamated Sugar Co., is working toward putting the 30-acre site on the real estate market.

"The property will be marketed for sale by a real estate broker, and the Company will entertain all offers," Amalgamated public affairs manager Jessica Anderson said.

She said the property hasn't been appraised yet.

It appears there will be no caveats on how the land can be used by the new owners.

Anderson said the company continues to work through "some encumbrances on the title" for the property that straddles Industrial Road along U.S. Highway 95.

A legal representative for Amalgam-

ated worked with the City of Homedale to clear up the city plat, too.

Anderson said it's not crystal clear how long beets have been hauled to the Homedale station, but it could be more than 80 years.

"Amalgamated Sugar has deeds for the Homedale property that date to the late 1940s," Anderson said. "However, it is uncertain how long the site was used for stockpiling sugar beets before that time.

"Since the Nampa factory was constructed in 1942, it would approximately be that timeframe."

Half the Homedale property is a parcel used to store sugar beets. The 15 acres to the south of Industrial Road is used to deposit dirt that is removed as beets are dumped from surrounding farms, Anderson said.

"It has been leased as pasture for numerous years," Anderson said of the southern parcel.

Homedale's 30-acre site will become surplus property — as will a beet dump in Wilder — once Amal-

gamated completes construction of a consolidated receiving station on Upper Pleasant Ridge Road east of U.S. Highway 95.

Anderson said groundbreaking for the new receiving station is set for this month. Construction on the 25-acre site will conclude in July so 2023 sugar beets can be delivered.

The new station will have a scale house and two truck scales.

The Wilder station, which received 40,191 tons of sugar beets last season, will close, too.

Homedale's receiving station stored 36,634 tons of beets after the 2022 harvest, which ranked second among Amalgamated's Owyhee County locations to which nearly 182,000 tons were delivered:

- Grand View 44,062 tons
- Little Valley 34,126 tons
- Murphy 28,517 tons
- Marsing 20,782 tons
- Bruneau 17,418 tons

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Caldwell resident Anita Johnston, office clerk for the South Board of Control in Homedale (left), receives the Idaho Water Users Association outstanding service award from nominating and awards committee chair Julie Sievers during the organization's 86th annual convention in January at the Riverside Hotel in Boise. Submitted photo

State water users salute another SBOC employee

For a second time in three years, a person connected with the South Board of Control has been honored by the organization that supports the state's irrigation districts.

Homedale native Anita Johnston received the Idaho Water Users Association Employee of the Year Award in January.

The Caldwell-area resident has been part of the SBOC office staff since September 2012.

But that's just the beginning of her time helping local producers. She spent two decades with the U.S.

Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency.

Now-retired SBOC ditch rider Servando Zalazar was named the IWUA's Employee of the Year in January 2021.

Johnston's award is a testament to the relationships she has built with producers who rely on the southern part of the Owyhee Project to feed water to their operations.

She also provides a lot of help for SBOC secretary/treasurer Sherry Maxwell.

"I feel I am so lucky to have her.

She has so much info, and is so quick to help me learn," Maxwell said.

Area agricultural producers are just as fortunate to have Johnston in the SBOC office, Maxwell said.

"She bends over backwards to help out the farmers, but also keeps the district in line, so we don't get into trouble either," Maxwell said.

Johnston is also detail-oriented in her job.

"She always seems to find the little things that most people forget

— See *Employee*, Page 24

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South Board of Control who's who, 2023

Gem Irrigation District board of directors



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Division 2
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1997

Term expires
Dec. 31, 2024

Steve Clapier



Vice-chair

Chris Landa
Division 5
Homedale
Joint board
delegate

Serving since
2013

Term expires
Dec. 31, 2024

Chris Landa



Division 1

Rick Smith
Marsing

Serving since
2011

Term expires
Dec. 31, 2023

Rick Smith



Division 3

Dennis Turner
Homedale

Serving since
2008

Term expires
Dec. 31, 2023

Dennis Turner



Division 4

Ryan Criffield
Homedale

Serving since
2013

Term expires
Dec. 31, 2024

Ryan Criffield

South Board of Control



Manager

John Eells
Marsing

John Eells

Ridgeview Irrigation District board of directors



Chair

Bret Nielson
Ridgeview
Joint board
delegate

Serving since
2007

Term expires
Dec. 31, 2023

Bret Nielson



Vice-chair

Sterling Johnston
Adrian

Serving since
2022

Term expires
Dec. 31, 2023

Sterling Johnston

Directors

Chair — Steve Clapier, Div. 2
Vice-chair — Chris Landa, Div. 5
Director, Div. 1 — Rick Smith
Director, Div. 3 — Dennis Turner
Director, Div. 4 — Ryan Criffield
Director, Ridgeview — Bret Nielson
Boards' secretary/treasurer
Sherry Maxwell, Homedale

Watermaster

Ryan Nash
Office address — 118 S. 1st St.
W., Homedale, ID 83628
Office phone — (208) 337-3760
Email — office@
southboardofcontrol.com

Next meetings — Starting at
7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 11 at the
South Board boardroom, 201 W.
Wyoming Ave., Homedale

www.southboardofcontrol.com



Director

Mark Aman
Ridgeview

Serving since
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Term expires
Dec. 31, 2023

Mark Aman

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No. 22 Dave Bowman
(208) 899-7581

No. 24 Jediah Pershall
(208) 960-3058

No. 25 Jeff Woodside
(208) 305-3069

No. 26 Adam Combs
(208) 880-9192



Owyhee's other irrigation boards

Owyhee County's other boards, including when directors' terms expire, and meeting and contact information.

Reynolds Irrigation District

Div. 1 — Dean Young, chair (2024)

Div. 2 — Lou Sanchez, vice-chair (2023)

Div. 3 — Adam Duckett (2025)

Secretary

Brad Huff, (208) 495-2950

Ditch rider

Kris Davis, (208) 250-0193

Meeting time — First Thursday of the month, 1 p.m., Wilson School House

Opaline Irrigation District

Div. 1 — Zenaïdo Ponce, (2023)

Div. 2 — Zachary Sevy (2024)

Div. 3 — Dan Birmingham (2025)

Div. 4 — Charles Robertson, chair (2023)

Div. 5 — Elias Jaca (2024)

Secretary

Pam Howard, (208) 880-9695

Email — opalineirrigationdistrict@hotmail.com

Watermaster and ditch rider

Andy Howard, (208) 896-5274

Meeting time — First Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., 7300 Opaline Rd., Melba

Grand View Irrigation District

Div. 1 — Mark Frost, chair (2024)

Div. 2 — Buster Ridley (2023)

Div. 3 — Kenny Unruh (2025)

Secretary

Dixie McDaniel, (208) 834-2350

Ditch rider

Evan Shaw, (208) 580-3336

Meeting time — First Tuesday of the month, 11 a.m., Grand View Irrigation District Office, 645 Idaho Ave., Grand View

Snake River Irrigation District

Div. 1 — Ron Ridley (2023)

Div. 2 — Dan Whitted, vice-chair (2024)

Div. 3 — George Bennett, chair (2025)

Secretary

Dixie McDaniel, (208) 834-2350

Ditch rider

Mike James, (208) 599-2828

Meeting time — First Wednesday of the month, 1 p.m., Grand View Irrigation District Office, 645 Idaho Ave., Grand View

Grand View Mutual Canal Co.

Chair — Rohl Hipwell (2023)

Vice-chair — Randy Hipwell (2023)

Director — Jerry Meyers (2024)

Secretary

Dixie McDaniel, (208) 834-2350

Ditch rider

Richard Hipwell, (208) 599-2310

Meeting time — First Monday of the month, 1 p.m., Grand View Irrigation District Office, 645 Idaho Ave., Grand View. Shareholders meeting in February (call office for details).

Upper Grand View Canal Co.

Chair — Steven Nichols (2023)

Vice-chair — Billy Wolfe (2023)

Director — Charles Enszt (2024)

Secretary

Dixie McDaniel, (208) 834-2350

Ditch rider

Richard Hipwell, (208) 599-2310

Meeting time — Annual meeting is held the first Monday in February. Special meetings as necessary.

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Ann (left) and David Rutan (right) are shown accepting 4-H horse leader appreciation awards 13 years ago from then-Owyhee County Fair Board member Kelly Aberasturi. The ranching couple picked up another award Tuesday when the Owyhee County Soil and Water Conservation District bestowed the Ray Mansisor Memorial Conservationists of the Year Award during the organization's annual banquet in Homedale.

Conservationist award just tip of iceberg

Owyhee district plans pesticide recertification class

The Owyhee County Soil Conservation District honored veteran ranchers Tuesday as conservationists of the year.

David and Ann Rutan, who operate Morgan Ranches in the South Mountain area, were presented the

Ray Mansisor Memorial plaque during the conservation district's annual banquet inside the Owyhee County Community Center in Homedale.

Keynote speaker John Eells, South Board of Control manager, said he planned to talk about how the irrigation district is furthering its own conservation mission.

Eells spoke at the banquet, which took place after deadline.

"Basically I'm going to run

through what South Board is and what the money we're getting from these grants are doing for us in the district," Eells said.

South Board maintenance crews are finishing up a piping project on the 26-9 lateral. The two-year project has been financed with money from adjacent landowners and grants from the Natural Resource Conservation Service and the local conservation

— See *Conservationist*, Page 17



✓ **Conservationist: District looks back, moves ahead**

From Page 16
district.

Eells said the \$1.1 million project should have been substantially completed last week, and it will bring pressurized irrigation water to that part of the system this season.

The 2½-mile-long stretch of pipe pressurizes water by stepping down from 27-inch diameter pipe to 8- to 10-inch pipe.

“It will pressurize that whole system,” Eells said.

Additionally, the lateral drains into Jump Creek, so pressurization will help save water and prevent sediment from traveling into the

creek.

Tuesday’s banquet kicked off the year for the conservation district.

In addition to announcing the Rutans as conservationists of the year, district administrative assistant Shelby Nicoletti told The Owyhee Avalanche about a planned pesticide recertification program.

The program, for which three pesticide credits have been requested, will take place Tuesday at the Owyhee County Community Center, 432 W. Nevada Ave., which is adjacent to the county fairgrounds in Homedale.

The program agenda includes

seminars:

- **8:30 a.m., to 9:30 a.m.**
— “Adjuvants and the Water Droplet: Squeezing More Efficiency Out of the Spray Application”

Sherman Takatori from the Idaho State Department of Agriculture will address the importance of water as a carrier for pesticide spray applications and the need to know specifics about the water applicators use for spray applications.

The presentation focuses on water quality issues and how they can impact the effectiveness of pesticides

— See *Conservationist*, Page 23



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Mormon crickets cling to the rocks, but also fall into Cow Creek despite their best efforts in an area near DeLamar. The Jordan Valley Cooperative Weed Management Area is playing host to a grasshopper seminar that will also touch on the invasive insects.

Jordan Valley CWMA launching another year helping with weeds, pests

With spring on its way, the Jordan Valley Cooperative Weed Management Area is getting back into the battle against noxious weeds and pests that cause problems for agricultural producers.

The CWMA board will resume its monthly meetings later in March, but first the organization is playing host to a grasshopper workshop.

The workshop takes place at 12:30 p.m., on Thursday inside the Jordan Valley CWMA office, 508 Swisher Ave., in Jordan Valley.

The seminar will cover several issues related to grasshoppers and similar pests, such as the Mormon

cricket.

Grasshopper subjects include:

- **Survey** — Attendees will learn how to survey their ground for the insect.
- **Life cycle** — Learn to identify changes in the insect's growth to maximize the effect of control measures.
- **Control methods** — Learn about products and strategies to control infestations.
- **Mormon crickets** — Find out about the special considerations necessary to deal with the similar pest species.
- **Funding assistance** — Repre-

sentatives from different agencies will share details about getting funding help for grasshoppers and other programs.

The Jordan Valley seminar won't include lunch. Thursday's program is the third this week. The first took place at the Harney County Chamber of Commerce in Burns, Ore., on Tuesday. Another was held this morning at the Denio Community Hall in Fields, Ore.

CWMA to meet

The first CWMA meeting of spring

— See *CWMA*, Page 19



✓ CWMA: First spring meeting scheduled March 27

From Page 18

will be held at 7 p.m., on Monday, March 27 inside the Jordan Valley CWMA office.

The public is invited as the CWMA board covers an agenda that includes:

- Grant updates
- A campaign to get Oregon landowner signatures for projects in the Oregon portion of the CWMA
- Puncturevine treatment options

- Whitetop treatments
- A discussion on setting up a Jordan Valley CWMA website and

- ideas of what should be included
- Setting dates and times of future meetings

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Making her second appearance in February in Owyhee County, new Idaho State Department of Agriculture Director Chanel Tewalt answers a person's question during Gov. Brad Little's Capital for a Day in Bruneau on Feb. 17. She was a quiet observer two weeks earlier during the Owyhee Cattlemen's Association winter meeting inside the Oreana Community Hall.

On the job about a month, new ISDA chief visits Owyhee twice

The new director of the Idaho State Department of Agriculture may not have strong Owyhee County ties like her predecessor, but Chanel Tewalt spent two days in the county within the first two months of her tenure.

Gov. Brad Little appointed Tewalt as the successor to Gould, whose family ran cattle in Three Creek. Gould was on the job for 16 years, taking over from Pat Takasugi, who

had farming interests in Owyhee County.

Tewalt became ISDA director in January, and in February she spent time in the eastern stretches of Owyhee County.

First, on Feb. 4, Tewalt was in the audience for the Owyhee Cattlemen's Association winter meeting in Oreana.

Less than two weeks later, she

participated in Little's Capital for a Day in Bruneau.

Sixteen years earlier, in 2007, Gould also spoke to the ranchers at their winter gathering soon after taking on the new job.

Tewalt has been with the ISDA for 15 years, starting out as an intern while she was still attending Boise

— See **ISDA**, Page 21



✓ ISDA: New director succeeds 16-year veteran

From Page 20

State University.

"It is a privilege to be considered for this role," Tewalt said in a press release announcing her ascension in January. "Agriculture has shaped my life in countless ways,

"I have a deep admiration for the industry and for the hard-working people who make it possible. I also understand how important it is for ISDA's work to be implemented with transparency, consistency, and balance."

Tewalt most recently served two years as deputy director under Gould.

A Twin Falls native, Gould is a third-generation owner/operator of cattle ranch in Buhl. She served in the Idaho House of Representatives before leading the ISDA.

"There are few people who understand every aspect of the Idaho agriculture industry like Celia Gould. It takes a special person to accomplish what she has as director," Little said. "I have greatly appreciated Celia's wisdom, work ethic, integrity, and friendship throughout her service to the State of Idaho.

"While she will be greatly missed,

— See *ISDA*, Page 30



Just like Celia Gould (above in 2007), one of Chanel Tewalt's first visit to Owyhee County as ISDA director was the Owyhee Cattlemen's Association winter meeting.



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As part of his mission to encourage folks to buy local and eat fresh foods, Top Hat Market assistant manager Elias Tines has said he wants to put an emphasis on bringing more “farmers market”-related products, such as fresh produce, to Homedale’s community market. Submitted photos

✓ Top Hat: Veteran helper now part of management

From Page 7

Other ways to get in touch with market management:

- Email: markettophat@gmail.com
- Top Hat Market on social media platforms

Top Hat Market will still feature small, locally owned businesses ranging from family farms to baked goods to youth entrepreneurs to self-made home essentials like soap.

But Tines and Sorenson want to bring the market back to its roots, too.

“We plan to expand our market this year and bring more produce vendors to our market,” he said.

Tines was instrumental in preserving a market in Homedale.

“I decided to continue a market for Homedale because that is something the community needs, and it’s also a seasonal event folks look forward to,” he said. “A farmers market is one of



Elias Tines, Top Hat Market assistant manager. Photo by Joshua Gray / GrayHawk Photography

the many things that makes Homedale, and it is certainly something I hope to see continue for decades.

“I encourage people to shop locally, buy fresh and eat fresh at any chance they can get. I hope to hear from the community about their thoughts, questions, and concerns, and we will certainly consider them.”

Sorenson jumped on board with some prodding from board member Alice Pegram — and because her children, Remington, 13, and Winston, 11, are active as youth vendors with a lemonade stand.

“They were looking forward to selling at the upcoming market, and I wanted them to be able to do so,” she said.

Sorenson said events like the youth sale coming up in May and the weekly chances to sell at the regular market provide a great experience for her children to learn about business, including how much of a bargain the youth vendor fee is when compared

— See *Top Hat*, Page 24



✓ Conservationist: Pesticide recertification on tap

From Page 17

in spray tank mixes.

It also discusses the basic properties of water and how these affect the different types of pesticide products when they are combined to form a tank mix.

Takatori will give a live MS PowerPoint-aided lecture intended for licensed pesticide applicators that require pesticide specific training for continuing education.

The presentation will last about 55 minutes, and there will be a five-minute question-and-answer session at the end.

• **9:45 a.m., to 10:45 a.m.** — “Understanding Pesticide Labels for Successful Applications”

University of Idaho Extension pesticide educator Ronda Hirnyck will review what information is found on a pesticide label. She will discuss specific pesticide labeling requirements and explain what goes into label language and why it's present. Specific examples for personal safety and environmental safety will be included. Information on label requirements for applying non-soil fumigants will also be discussed, covering some of the new licensing categories. Pesticide resistance information will also be covered. A question-and-answer period will close the presentation.

• **11 a.m., to noon** — “Using University of Idaho Extension Tools

for Pest Management”

U of I Associate Extension Educator Kimberly Tate will provide the latest Extension tools for pest management.

Tate will demonstrate:

- How to submit a sample for insect and plant disease identification.
- How to use biological control for weed management
- How to find pest management recommendations online

Pesticide applicators will learn proper identification is key in pest management during the 55-minute presentation, and they can participate in a five-minute Q&A afterward.

— JPB



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✓ **Top Hat:** Market manager says youth vendors can learn the ropes of running their own businesses

From Page 22

the business expense like a building lease or mortgage, and how to account for profits after figuring in supply costs.

"I am also grateful for the opportunity to be able to raise funds to donate to arts programs of local schools," Sorenson said. "I enjoy drama, music and other arts more than I do sports. It seems that arts programs at schools don't get all the hype and excitement of sports.

"It felt good at the end of last year to write that donation check to the (Homedale High School) band for

a fundraiser for them to buy new uniforms."

Sorenson, her husband Tom and their children have lived just over the Snake River from Homedale for six years.

Sorenson said just as her sons learned from their experience, so has she.

"Last year, I learned all about opening up and running a nonprofit organization. It is a lot of work and something I can't do alone," she said. "We have a great community, and it takes all of us to be successful."

— JPB



Boise Bees & Blossoms sold a variety of raw honey products last year when the Homedale Farmers Market was transitioning to the Top Hat Market. Submitted photo

✓ **Employee:** Johnston has helped farmers for decades

From Page 12

about," Maxwell said.

Maxwell also said Johnston's disposition helps find solutions for farmers having a bad day.

"If she happens to come across a disgruntled farmer, she's quick to overlook the attitude and says they are probably having a bad day," Maxwell said.

"She is truly a great, honest person. South Board is lucky to have her."

Homedale farmer Bill Purdom spoke about Johnston's long career of serving local producers.

She spent many years at the Farm Service Agency office in Marsing "helping farmers through the mountain of paperwork," Purdom said.

"You could always count on Anita

to get us through," he said.

When the FSA office merged with the Caldwell office, Johnston began working at South Board.

"We were fortunate when Anita started working (at the SBOC

office) where she maintains her high standard of excellence," Purdom said.

"Anita has certainly been an asset to the community."

— JPB





HHS senior's event celebrates, aids farmworkers

A Homedale High School student is organizing a National Farmworkers Day event.

Gabriela Gonzalez hopes her senior leadership project draws hundreds of people to the Chula Vista residential development in Wilder from 4 p.m., to 7 p.m., on Wednesday, March 29.

The daughter of Miguel and Ana Gonzalez said this is her way to honor the hard work farmworkers put in to bring crops to market and local dining tables.

"These people work long hours in unimaginable weather," Gonzalez said. "It is hard work, and I can tell you it ain't easy. I can't imagine working in the fields every day of my life, coming home late and

still have to do house chores and get ready for the next day to repeat this same process again.

"I hope to help as many people as I can with this event."

Working with her mentor, Rick Godina, Gonzalez has lined up various sponsors to provide services and goods at the event:

- **WICAP** — Food boxes
- **Saint Alphonsus Medical Group** — Vaccines
- **Key Bank** — Free hot food

Godina is the co-founder and chairman of the Hispanic Healthcare and Technology Careers Conference.

Gonzalez has reached out to local embroidery shops and has collected clothing to distribute as well.

She's also teaming up with organizations such as WICAP Head Start and Community Coalitions of Idaho to have booths at the event.

Chula Vista is located at the entrance to Wilder just north of the intersection of Idaho highway 19 and U.S. Highway 95.

"All of this is to thank and appreciate our farmworkers," the Homedale native said.

Gonzalez, her parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles have all worked in the fields.

"I've worked from a young age cherry picking in the summers with my grandpa or dad to detasseling corn with my mom in the fields."

— JPB

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✓ Marsing: Market more visible in Main Street locale

From Page 4

for the country market this season.”

The park is west of the church, and vendor parking will be available in the main church parking lot off Main Street and 4th Avenue West. Trailer parking for vendors will be available on the west side of 4th Avenue West next to the park.

With more than 30 vendors slated for opening day on May 6, the market will feature several food trucks for those who arrive hungry. Open every Saturday from May through October, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the market will feature handmade crafts, locally made soaps, custom clothing and apparel, macrame, décor, rustic treasures, and many more items to browse.

Last year, the market was tucked away at City Park, and many people, especially folks from out of town, found it difficult to locate.

“Now that we are directly on Main Street,” Poole said, “we can be seen from quite a distance and are readily accessible to serve our local customers, and hopefully catch the eye of those traveling through town.”

This is the third location for the market since its inception. Two years ago, the market was held at The Spot Pavilion and surrounding grass next to City Hall on Sandbar Avenue.

The total number of vendor appearances throughout last season totaled 424. The best market day was for the July 2 Centennial Celebration with 35 vendors, and more than 500 people visited in a single day. This season, 442 vendor appearances have already been scheduled, and more are signing up each and every week, Poole said.

“With two months before opening



Snake River Country Market's new location is a Main Street park on private property across 4th Avenue West from Lizard Butte Baptist Church in Marsing.

day, we are excited to see how much it will continue to grow until then,” Poole said. “We are looking forward to another wonderful season.”

Many 2022 vendors will be returning to set up for this season, too:

- Miss Bee's Lemonade
- Mama Celia's Balsamic and Vinaigrette
- Waffleology food truck
- Bear Grace Ranch beef
- Goodrich Farm eggs and produce
- Tamera's sweet bread and jam

- Bell's Homestyle Catering and BBQ sauce

- Esty Village Market
- Fancies by Elizabeth
- Usborne Books
- Happy Suds Soaps

Those, and a large variety of other vendors will again be serving their customers this year.

Among the many new vendors:

- Idaho Nut Hut
- Mama T's Bakery

— See *Marsing*, Page 28



Above: Bear Grace Ranch sold produce and beef during last year's market at City Park. Right: Goodrich Farm sold produce and handmade items a year ago. Both vendors are set to return for this season. Submitted photos





*Above: Waffleology is one of the food vendors slated to return for the 2023 Snake River Country Market season. Submitted photo **Right:** The market's new home, London Park, should be quite a bit more warm and inviting come May.*



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✓ Marsing: Market always on lookout for new vendors

From Page 26

- Get Your Meat, LLC
- Father Falcon Farms
- Cookie and Crumb Bakery
- Assorted vendors with second-hand wares
- Custom clothing sellers

On the first and third Saturdays each month, vendors and locals are encouraged to sell antiques and collectibles, fun and funky furniture, and pre-loved clothes or other items to create more variety from week-to-week.

If you are interested in selling at the market, call Poole at (208) 880-4580.

The market also has a Facebook page.



✓ Ag: One of Ishams' businesses goes beyond fields

From Page 9

does custom compost spreading throughout the valley.

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The other newer business brings custom technology solutions to an array of industries:

- **Agriculture** — Mapping, stress imagery, stand counts, and beneficial insect predator release
 - **Construction** — 3D modeling and site surveys for property owners
 - **Media** — Promotional material for commercial real estate
 - GIS services
- "I love working through the

unique and complex challenges our local farmers and ranchers face each year," Isham said. "It certainly makes for closer relationships.

"We are privileged to not only serve our customers through our business but also gain valuable friendships. It's such an honor when we are able to be there for weddings, birthdays, graduations, and all the other events in life that friends share."

Isham is a graduate of Class 40 of Leadership Idaho Agriculture, which he said provided valuable relationships and helped enhance his ability to advocate for Idaho ag.

"We have begun to look for some

non-chemical solutions for corn rootworm, wireworm, and black vine weevil," Isham said, referring to a partnership with Texas-based Persistent Bio Control.

Isham said he gets his reward when the equipment starts rolling into mature ag fields.

"Harvest is one of my favorite things to be part of; I love watching healthy crops and high yields come off the fields," he said.

— JPB

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✓ ISDA: Tewalt goals: transparency, customer service

From Page 21

her retirement is well deserved. I trust the agency will be in excellent hands under Chanel Tewalt's leadership."

During her time at ISDA, Tewalt has focused on collaboration with industry partners and on the implementation of agency programs with a clear understanding of statutory requirements and stakeholder needs. She also oversaw

efforts to reduce regulatory red tape and respond to emergency issues impacting agriculture.

Tewalt grew up on a livestock operation in Klamath Falls, Ore., which is home to longstanding struggles over water. These experiences and other lessons learned in agriculture, are foundational to the way Tewalt approaches her work at the ISDA.

Primary to her role, according to a press release, Tewalt will continue to build positive working relationships with stakeholders and partners.

As agency chief, she plans to emphasize balance, transparency and strong customer service.

Tewalt recognizes the importance of youth programs like FFA and 4-H. She has received honorary degrees from the Idaho FFA Foundation and the Meridian FFA chapter.

Tewalt is a board member and past president of the Expo Idaho Board, a member of the Meridian FFA Alumni Chapter and a member of the University of Idaho Agricultural Education, Leadership and Communications Advisory Board. Tewalt was a board member and past president of the Communication Officials of State Departments of Agriculture, which improves communication among states on agricultural issues.

Tewalt and her husband have two children. They co-own a family club lamb and seedstock operation in the Treasure Valley and are proud to be raising their children in and around production agriculture.



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✓ Run-off: Full allotment possible

From Page 3

meeting if we don't get three acrefeet. If we're over three acrefeet, I can't get anybody to come (to the meeting)."

Ag producers in the district already know the important stuff, anyway — their assessments went up.

Gem District irrigators are now paying \$66.54 per acrefoot, which is a 6.7 percent increase (or \$4.18 per acrefoot) over last year's fee.

Ridgeview District water-users in Oregon saw a 6.6 percent (\$4.17) increase to \$67.06 per acrefoot.

"The cost of everything has doubled or tripled," Eells said of fuel costs and pipe costs. "Wages had to go up so we could stay competitive."

If a growers meeting is necessary, it'll be called in the first part of April — right about the time Eells says irrigators can expect water to be turned into South Canal and the Gem Pumping Plant turbines to spin along the Snake River outside Marsing.

With turn-in roughly a month away (or a tad sooner), there isn't much water moving into the Owyhee Reservoir.

But Eells said that could change quickly.

"There's not a lot of water coming down the river. You're only running a couple hundred CFS (cubic feet per second)," he said of the run-off draining into the reservoir from the Owyhee River. "That's not going to get it, but as soon as it warms up that will tell the story. We've got good water in Mud Flat (according to the SNOTEL instrumentation) and all the way down the watershed.

"It's going to come all at once, and that's good for us."

Eells said he does worry about flooding and the possibility of lost water, but then again he doesn't.

"You can't out-guess that," he said. "I would say we wouldn't lose a lot to flooding."

The Five-Mile Tunnel bringing water from the reservoir to South Canal still has cracks in the cement piping, but Eells isn't worried about losing any precious commodity.

"It hasn't changed from last year," Eells said of the cracks in the ceiling of the huge conduit. "I will make one more run before the water comes in and just double-check, but as far as I can tell, it's stable."

Eells said the Bureau of Reclamation doesn't seem too concerned about the aging pipe. Federal officials were supposed to

visit from Denver in January. Eells doesn't expect to see them until the water year ends.

But the pipe is reinforced in the exact location where the cracks are. And because the cracks are in the ceiling, no irrigation water is lost to seepage.

"Where the concrete is cracked and has an issue, it has a steel liner on the outside of it. We've got straps across the concrete holding the cracked piece," Eells said. "The water never touches that crack."

"It's in the ceiling, so if anything it leaks water in."

Work has been done on the pipe's existing "weep holes" to provide better drainage of surrounding moisture to eliminate pressure on the pipe.

— JPB

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