

The Owyhee Avalanche

VOL. 38, NO. 52 \$1

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2023

WARMING HEARTS ON CHILLY DAYS



Positive start to last day of school

Marsing volunteer firefighters and Jim Briggs (left) from the Marsing Ambulance District greet two elementary school students before class Thursday. The second annual High Five event brought first-responders and City Hall staff and elected officials to the school district complex on the last day before Christmas break. Sgt. Lynn Bowman represented the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office, Mayor Hayzen Corder was on hand as was City Councilman Chris Even (in his capacity as a Malheur County Sheriff's deputy) and town resident and Idaho State Trooper Jaime Wood. School board president Jason Sevy also greeted children.

Community brings home a big Christmas for OHR residents



Right: Owyhee Health and Rehabilitation resident Carma Carlson smiles as Santa hands her one of her Christmas presents during Friday's party at the Homedale facility.



Above: OHR's Kevin Beebe (right) hands some of the record-breaking supply of presents to co-worker Adriana Jimenez. They had the good idea to bring the OHR van. **Left:** Homedale residents Mike and Celeste Davis delivered one gift for every resident. The couple owns Jack's Drive-In in Caldwell.

Sheriff, councilman spar over Marsing parking enforcement

Deputy strikes hydrant, causes \$8K in damage

Larry Kendrick has taken exception with a councilman's take on the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office's performance in the City of Marsing.

The sheriff voiced his dismay during the Dec. 18 Board of County Commissioners meet-

ing in Murphy, nearly two weeks after Councilman Chris Even questioned how well OCSO is upholding its end of the law enforcement contract.

"Personally, what Chris said in there, he was just grand-standing and doing it at our expense," Kendrick told The Owyhee Avalanche after the BOCC meeting.

"But our deputy is doing his

— See *Marsing*, page 3

Homedale sewer work suspended for holidays

Contractor cites supply chain issues; water project heads to court

While the city's wastewater improvement project is nearing completion, the Homedale City Council on Friday granted a work stoppage.

General contractor Desert High Construction requested and received permission to stop work until Jan. 8 for a winter break.

The council granted the work stoppage — which is permitted

according to the construction contract — during a special meeting Friday morning.

City engineer Andrew Kimmel of Great West Engineering explained the reason for the stoppage in an email to City Hall.

He said the extension of the contract days will not cost the

— See *Homedale*, back page

Town hall to address Dist. 3 road concerns

County in midst of transportation plan update

Work continues on Owyhee County's 10-year transportation master plan, and District 3 County Commissioner Cindy Bachman wants to hear from her constituents.

Bachman has organized a

town hall for county Road and Bridge District 3.

Bachman, Joe Barton from Paragon Engineering, and District 3 road supervisor Travis Jewett will be on hand for the meeting, which will take place from 5 p.m., to 7 p.m., on Friday, Jan. 5 inside the Rimrock High School Auditorium, 39678 Hwy. 78

— See *Road*, back page

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Marsing FFA's expand ag knowledge, life experiences

by Wyatt Barber
Chapter reporter

More than a month ago, the Marsing FFA chapter attended one of the biggest FFA events of the year. Sixteen of our chapter members spent a week traveling, touring, and attending the 96th annual National FFA Convention in Indianapolis.

Marsing attends the national convention every other year. This year, 13 of the 16 students had never attended before. During this week, we made lifelong memories with our closest friends, met new friends from all over the country, and experienced a different part of the country.

At 5:55 a.m., on Saturday, Oct. 28, we departed from Boise Airport to connect in Salt Lake City to start our week adventure in Nashville, Tenn., and Indianapolis. We arrived in Nashville at about 2 p.m. that day to start our week. We spent a couple hours at the Nashville Zoo exploring all the exhibits and visiting all the animals.

Our next stop in Nashville was a Tennessee Titans game on Sunday morning (Oct. 29). For most of us, it was our first professional football game experience, and it was a great one. We watched rookie quarterback Will Levis lead

the Titans offense to a 28-23 win over the Atlanta Falcons. After the game on Sunday, we took a city bus tour of Nashville to learn more about the city and its history.

We started Monday (Oct. 30) off with Andrew Jackson's Plantation Tour, but because of heavy rain we sadly could not take the wagon tour of the grounds. We were able to explore the plantation grounds and see all of the historical buildings. After taking a short break for lunch, we headed back into Nashville for our Ryman Auditorium backstage tour where we learned about the venue's extensive history and some of its famous artists. Rounding out the day, we explored the Johnny Cash Museum that took us through his life and all the music he made.

On Tuesday morning (Oct. 31), we drove to the outskirts of Nashville to visit Noble Springs Dairy Goat Farm to learn about how this family makes a living off of their dairy goats and the milk that they produce. After finishing at the dairy goat farm, we kept the theme going and visited Nash Farm Creamery. At the Nash Farm, they have their own dairy, and the milk their cows produce is used



Marsing FFA members stand near Peyton Manning's statue outside Lucas Oil Stadium prior to the second session of the national convention in Indianapolis. **From left:** Caleb White, Brooklyn Roadenbaugh, Tyson Campbell, Josie Showalter, Jaxon Astorquia, Jaci Montgomery, Wyatt Barber, Taylor Callison, Tristan Izzard, Bridon McIntyre, Bentley McIntyre, Brogan Gebauer, Brady Williams, Tyler Thompson, Kimmie Loucks, and Mikayla Montgomery. Submitted photo

in their own ice cream and cheese sold at their storefront on the farm. Once we were finished tasting all the flavors of ice cream that they had to offer, we made our way back into Nashville to go visit Fort Negley. Fort Negley was built by Union troops after the capture of Nashville during the Civil War.

We wrapped up Tuesday and our time in Nashville

with a Grand Ole Opry concert. We watched Jim Lauderdale, Steven Curtis Chapman, Rhonda Vincent, and several more perform live.

Wednesday morning (Nov.1), we jumped in the vans and headed to Bowling Green, Ky., to visit the National Corvette Museum on our way to Indianapolis. At the Corvette museum, we learned about the history of the Corvette and got to see how the car has changed so much over the years.

The next stop and last tour of the day on our way to Indianapolis was Kentucky Horse Park. We spent a couple of hours exploring the barns, watching shows, and learning more about horses and their industry in that part of the country.

On Thursday (Nov. 2), we attended our first session of the National FFA Convention. After our first session, we went to Indianapolis Motor Speedway to tour the track, kiss the bricks and explore the museum. Afterward, we went to our second session, and Marsing received a Two-

Star National Chapter Award. After the session, we attended the Idaho FFA Night put on by our state officers, playing games, dancing and interacting with the other Idaho chapters in attendance.

On Friday morning (Nov. 3), we went to the FFA Trade Show and Mall. At the trade show, all the major agricultural colleges had booths set up along with all the largest companies in the ag world. Some of the companies included Lincoln Electric, Claas, Corteva, and many more ranging in everything from ag mechanics to plant science.

On Friday afternoon, we attended our last tour of the week at ET Sprayers, learning the full process of how they assemble an Apache Sprayer and customize them to the customer's desire.

At about 7:30 a.m., on Saturday (Nov. 4), we departed Indianapolis to come home. We boarded that plane tired from a long week of travel and adventures but full of new knowledge and lifelong memories with our closest friends that we will never forget.

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Home & A Little

From page 1

✓ Marsing: City code enforcement officer wants signs to enact ordinance

job out there, and he’s doing it well.”

Even complained that there was no OCSO representation at the Dec. 6 council meeting, and he questioned why the city’s code enforcement officer, Karis Young, was worried about enforcing semi-trailer parking prohibitions on Main Street when that’s a job for the city’s deputy sheriff, Cayden Chavez.

Young was asking the council to erect signs so the existing city code against parking large vehicles on Idaho highway 55 (Main Street) — Code 5-2-2 (b) — could be enforced.

City Clerk and Treasurer Jolyn Thompson told The Owyhee Avalanche that Code 5-2-2 (b) is part of Ordinance A-149, passed in 2005, but can’t be enforced until signs are posted on both ends of town and anywhere a street merges onto the highway.

During the commissioners meeting, Kendrick cited state law to dispute Even’s claim that it was illegal for semi-trailers to park on Main Street.

“Where a car can park, a big rig can park,” Kendrick told the commissioners during the departmental meeting. “I would think that the city councilman who grandstanded on that knows there is no law and there is no ordinance either on parking on the state highway.”

Kendrick said the issue involves Sevy Auto and Towing on Main Street parking its tow truck in front of its office and a truck driver parking in a legal zone to take a nap.

“Obviously, there are no ongoing issues,” Kendrick said.

The owners of the Sevy business were at the Dec. 6 council meeting with hopes of finding a resolution to the issue.

Kendrick said he confirmed the absence of a semi parking prohibition with Idaho State Police and county Prosecuting Attorney Chris Topmiller.

Topmiller backed up the sheriff in the BOCC meeting, but said that the city could create an ordinance prohibiting semi parking on Main Street. Kendrick said Marsing’s city attorney would have to prosecute those offenses.

“I don’t see where state code applies,” Topmiller said. “According to the sheriff, there isn’t one.”

The only prohibitions OCSO could enforce, according to Kendrick citing Idaho Code 49-660, is parking in a crosswalk, within 20 feet of a crosswalk or within 30 feet of a traffic signal, flashing sign or stop sign.

Even clarified his objection last week, saying that 49-660(b)4, which refers to parking near traffic controls, including stop signs controlling side streets intersecting the highway, is the state code he wants enforced in town. He said that any semi-truck pulling a 53-foot trailer would be parked near a traffic control on Main Street. The Sevy shop is on the corner of Main Street and Old Bruneau Highway, where there is a stop sign.

The sheriff’s deputy would be charged with upholding Marsing’s parking ordinance once signs are in place, though, as part of the contract.

Kendrick said that Mayor Hayzen Corder, Young and Thompson were notified that Chavez wouldn’t be at the Dec. 6 meeting because of a personal commitment.

City Hall staff confirmed that the city was notified Chavez would be absent, but said the deputy told officials that Chief Deputy Steve Crawford would attend in his stead.

Kendrick said there is no contractual mandate for OCSO representation at council meetings.

During last week’s BOCC meeting, Dist. 3 Commissioner Cindy Bachman commended Chavez for his conduct with an Air Force veteran who had written a letter of commendation after the deputy pulled over his car for speeding.

According to the veteran’s letter, a copy of which was sent to The Owyhee Avalanche by the county’s Human Resources Department, he didn’t realize he was speeding because he was dealing with a traumatic day after losing a comrade to suicide. He was headed to the Homedale Gun Club range when Chavez made a traffic stop in the gun club parking lot.

The veteran said Chavez realized he was under stress and gave the man counsel and comfort rather than writing a ticket.

“Cayden Chavez, our Marsing contract deputy, is doing a great job,” Kendrick said after Bachman brought up the letter. “His calls for service are up from last year. He’s doing more traffic stops than last year. He’s new but he’s doing a great job.”

In an interview with the Avalanche, Kendrick also addressed a traffic accident that occurred when Chavez was driving an OCSO Dodge Durango patrol unit.

The sheriff said Chavez “grazed” a fire hydrant across Sandbar Avenue from Marsing City Hall when he tried to avoid striking an oncoming vehicle. The accident was captured on a doorbell camera at a nearby residence.

Kendrick said there was damage to two doors on the rig. Last Wednesday, Crawford told the Avalanche that Bass Auto Body estimated the repair would cost \$8,170.42. — JPB

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Homedale library expanding hours

Community center remodel scheduled

The Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library is adding to its hours of operation. Beginning Tuesday, the Homedale library will be open at 10 a.m., Monday through Saturday. The library will close at 6 p.m., every day but Saturday when the doors will close at 3 p.m. The library will remain closed on Sundays. The new schedule adds two hours each day Monday through Wednesday and one hour on Friday. The schedule this week is noon to 6 p.m., today, noon to 7 p.m., on Thursday, 10 a.m., to 5 p.m., on Friday, and 10 a.m., to 3 p.m., on Saturday. The library is closed Monday for the New Year's Day holiday.

With school out for the winter break, there will be no Teens and Tweens program Thursday. The youth programs will pick back up beginning Thursday, Jan. 4 when the Teens and Tweens will make scrapbook journals and map new year's goals. The program, open to boys and girls ages 10-17, will move to the Gypsy Jackson Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., for the first event of the year because the Homedale Community Center is undergoing a remodel. Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo Queen Allison Hubler will be the special guest reader for the next Opal Nash Story Time for preschoolers, which will take place at 10 a.m., on Monday, Jan. 8. Hubler will read "Rodeo Red" by Maripat Perkins. The children will make a horse-themed craft. The next after-school program for elementary school and middle school students will take place at 4:30 p.m., on Monday, Jan. 8. The students will decorate journals.

Square dancing class set

Only 20 spots are available for a class teaching square and round dancing. The lessons will take place from 6 p.m., to 7:30 p.m., on Tuesday, Jan. 9 at the Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library. Call (208) 337-4228 or drop by the library to sign up. Advance registration is necessary to ensure enough partners.

Reading challenge slated

The Homedale District Library is looking toward the new year with plans for a teen winter reading challenge. Eighth- through 12th-graders can read books between Jan. 15 and March 15 for a chance at winning prizes. Prizes available include a bike, a drone, gift cards and more. Check out books to read at the library.

Symposium covers weeds, BLM plan

Registration is open for the 2024 Idaho Range Livestock Symposium, which will make a stop in Homedale next month. The University of Idaho program marking its 10th year will be held on Monday, Jan. 8 at the Owyhee County Community Center at the fairgrounds, 432 Nevada Ave. Registration begins at 9 a.m., and the symposium will run from 9:30 a.m., to 3 p.m. In-person registration will cost \$10, and lunch is included. Registration and more information is available at uidaho.edu/

rangesymposium

There are two Idaho pesticide applicator recertification credits available, and presentations on noxious weeds and how ranchers can combat them. Topics this year include:

- **Animal Health Issues in Cattle: Heart Failure and High Altitude Sickness** — Dr. Raymond Randall, Simplot Livestock
- **BLM Conservation and Landscape Health Proposed Rule** — Thadd Strom and Taylor Trudeau, Idaho State Department of Agriculture range program
- **Noxious Weed Management Strategies for Rangeland** — Dr. Tim Prather, U of I
- **Grazing Practices to Manage Invasive Annual Grasses** — Scott Jensen, U of I Owyhee County Extension Office
- **Climate Smart Grant: Benefits to Idaho Producers** — Joseph Sagers, U of I Extension

The symposium will be offered at the same time on Tuesday, Jan. 9 at the College of Southern Idaho Herrett Center, 315 Falls Ave., in Twin Falls and via Zoom.

Senior project aims to help senior citizens

Rena Radcliffe wants to provide for Homedale's senior citizens. The Homedale high school senior is rounding up numerous items that seniors want for her leadership project. "I chose the senior citizens for my project because I thought if I had to do something, it should at least be helpful," Rena said. "I know there are elders who struggle to get the things they may need or even want. "I'm hoping that this project will help them get those things." Several items are sought, including:

- Lotions
- Candles
- Puzzles
- Games
- Books

• Blankets

• Arts and crafts supplies

• Gently used clothing

• Teas and more

Call or text Rena at (208) 971-8533 to arrange pick-up or drop-off of donations. Text Rena to get a link to the drive's Amazon gift registry. Rena is the 18-year-old daughter of Samantha and Nicholis Radcliffe. She's a lifelong Homedale resident. She plans to look into enlisting in the Idaho National Guard after she graduates in the spring.

— JPB



Rena Radcliffe

Chorizo-making class slated

Txoko Ona Basque Club will present a chorizo-making class in February. Space is limited, and only Txoko Ona members can register for the hands-on class at this time. Information will be mailed to members on Tuesday. Non-members can register for any remaining slots beginning on Thursday, Jan. 4. The class will take place at 6 p.m., on Thursday, Feb. 8 at the Txoko Ona Basque Center, 333 S. Main St., in Homedale.

CITY OF HOMEDALE NOTICE OF FILING OF A PETITION FOR JUDICIAL CONFIRMATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Homedale, Owyhee County, Idaho (the "City"), has petitioned, pursuant to Idaho Code § 7-1301, et. seq. to seek judicial confirmation of the power of the City (1) to incur an indebtedness as an "ordinary and necessary expense" of the City authorized by the general laws of the State, within the meaning of Article 8, Section 3, of the Idaho Constitution, in a principal amount of approximately \$6,113,000 for the purchase of improvements to the water system of the City; (2) to issue a promissory note or other evidence of such indebtedness of the City for same, for the purpose of financing the cost of necessary improvements to the water system; and (3) to pledge the City's water system revenues and other lawfully available funds of Petitioner to the payment of such indebtedness for a term of years.

Interested parties who wish to review the Petition may do so during normal business hours at the Homedale City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming Ave., Homedale, Idaho.

Any interested party may appear by written appearance or answer to the Petition filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court at any time prior to the date set for a remote hearing on the Petition, which has been set before the Hon. Randall S. Grove on the **8th day of March, 2024, at 1:30 o'clock P.M.**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard. Access information is available from the Owyhee County Court.

CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT

The Owyhee Avalanche

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Winter yard watch: Understanding snow mold in turfgrass

As with any organism on our planet, cool-season turfgrasses may also experience potential infections, diseases or problems from naturally occurring pathogens in the environment.



Brad Stokes

Turfgrasses established in home landscapes, parks and/or golf courses are susceptible to a pathogen and fungal disease known as snow mold. It's important to recognize the Disease Triangle when identifying and using management tactics regarding snow mold infections in turfgrass landscapes.

There are two main types of snow mold that infect and persist in southern Idaho turfgrass: 1) gray snow mold (*Typhula* spp.), and 2) pink snow mold (*Microdochium nivale*).

Both types of snow mold may infect all cool-season turfgrass species, which are the majority of turfgrasses established within our region. Though pink snow mold may infect turfgrasses, the majority of turfgrass infections and diseases are from gray mold infections. Management of both types of snow mold will be addressed below.

Gray snow mold diseases are caused by two species of fungi, *Typhula ishikariensis* and *Typhula incarnata*.

Typhula ishikariensis is more severe and has the potential to advance down into the crown of grass plants (where the growing point is), which could result in the death of turfgrass

University of Idaho Extension

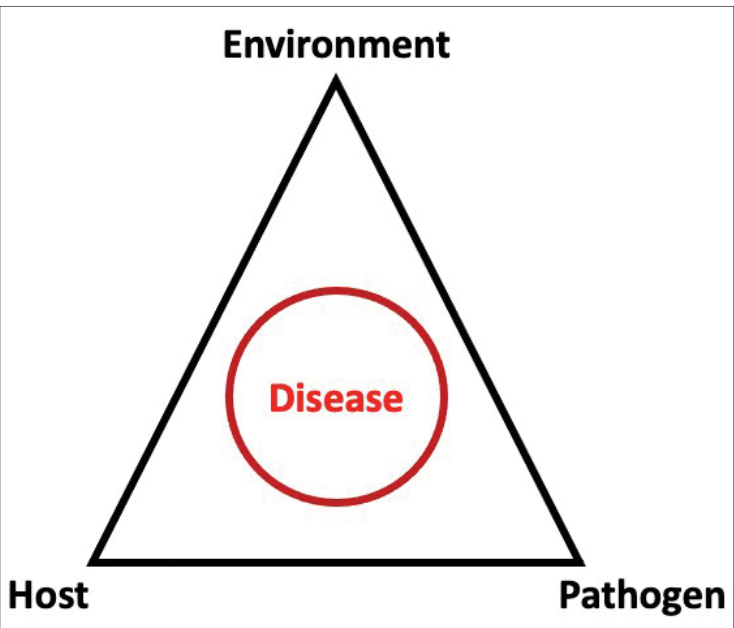
if left unmanaged.

The *Typhula incarnata* species are typically less severe, and affected patches tend to recover swiftly from infections with proper management tactics.

Identification of gray snow mold infections is quite easy visually, there are typically white/gray web-like structures (fungal mycelium, see photograph) that are apparent on areas where the snow has just recently melted on top of turfgrass (with pink snow mold it may appear pink instead of white/gray).

Snow mold infections often present in a circular pattern on turfgrass as well, the mycelium of the fungi radiate underneath the snow during winter and early spring months. Snow mold diseases are prevalent when temperatures are steady between 32-36°F, extended periods of snow cover exist and the presence of moist/humid microclimates exist. If winter temperatures persist with snow cover and spring temperatures are below 40°F, snow mold could be widespread in certain areas.

As with any disease, it is important to recognize the Disease Triangle when understanding how diseases persist, especially in regard to management tactics and control options. The three important factors include: pathogen, host and environment. If one or more of these factors are unfavorable or eliminated, then disease cannot occur. If winter snow has remained in the turf-



The disease triangle, all three factors (pathogen, host [susceptible] and environment) contribute to the possibility of infection, spread, progression and eventual disease. Figure by Brad Stokes / UI Extension



Gray snow mold infection/disease in turfgrass, note the fungal mycelium (web-like structure) on top of the grass after snow melt in early spring. Photos by Brad Stokes / UI Extension

grass landscape (and especially on north sides of structures), environmental conditions have been quite favorable for snow mold infections/disease.

For golf courses, parks or turfgrass producers, fungicides can be used in late fall/early

winter to prevent snow mold infections. A commonly used fungicide active ingredient is PCNB (pentachloronitrobenzene); read and follow label directions and application rates if using any pesticide. Golf courses are particularly

susceptible because the turf length is typically shorter than most home landscape turfgrass (less than 2½ inches in blade length).

Homeowners may typically manage snow mold infections without the application of fungicides, as management tactics include several cultural options.

- In late fall, it is recommended to allow the turfgrass to overwinter at a length between 2½ and 3 inches. At this length snow mold infections are less likely to establish and spread.

- Removing excessive piles of leaves and by shoveling snow in dispersed locations will also help prevent infections and disease in the home landscape.

The best remedy if noting an infection/disease in your yard is to rake the area in the early spring, to allow air movement through the turfgrass canopy (mowing in the early spring may also be directly beneficial).

If you notice an infection in late winter, you could also rake the area to allow the turfgrass more air movement to remedy the infection/disease as spring comes about. Most snow mold infections/disease in the home landscape will recover as temperature increases, humidity decreases, grass blade length grows/extends and matted areas are raked or remedied with regular mowing practices. It is not typically recommended that homeowners use fungicides when managing snow mold infections/disease.

If you have any questions feel free to reach out.

— 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.

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Museum to mark county’s 160th birthday

The 160th anniversary of the founding of Owyhee County will be celebrated a few days early.

The Owyhee County Historical Museum will play host to an event marking the birth of the county on Friday. The presentation begins at noon.

The Fort Boise Garrison will demonstrate what life was like when Owyhee County was founded on Dec. 31, 1863.

Light refreshments will be served, too.

For more information, call the museum at (208) 495-2319. The museum, located at 17085 Basey St., in Murphy is open Tuesday through Saturday.

Calendar

Today

Massage
8 a.m., to 1 p.m., \$15 for 15 minutes, appointments necessary. Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. Appointments: Jo (208) 337-3020

Ladies coffee group
9 a.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

Basketball Camp
9:30 a.m., to 11 a.m., 2nd- through 8th-grade girls, \$30 per camper (cash/check can be paid first day of camp). Homedale High School new auxiliary gymnasium, North 3rd Street West, Homedale. Proceeds benefit Austin Hyer Memorial Scholarship Fund. Venmo payments: @HomedaleGBB (last four phone number digits 2105).

Bingo
10:30 a.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

Story Time
10:30 a.m., to 11:30 a.m., Lizard Butte Public Library, 111 S. 3rd St. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690

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.

Thursday

Basketball Camp
9:30 a.m., to 11 a.m., 2nd- through 8th-grade girls, \$30 per camper (cash/check can be paid first day of camp). Homedale High School new auxiliary gymnasium, North 3rd Street West, Homedale. Proceeds benefit Austin Hyer Memorial Scholarship Fund. Venmo payments: @HomedaleGBB (last four phone number digits 2105).

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

Fit and Fall exercise
10:30 a.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

Prime Time Swingers perform
11 a.m. to noon, Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

ION Heritage Museum board meeting
6 p.m., Jordan Valley Elementary School library, 604 Oregon Ave., Jordan Valley. (541) 586-2100

Friday

Owyhee County 160th birthday celebration
Noon, Owyhee County Historical Museum, 17085 Basey St., Murphy. (208) 495-2319.

Alcoholics Anonymous
7 p.m., Sandbar Community Room, City Hall, 18 Sandbar Ave., Marsing. (208) 860-9674

Opaline Irrigation District meeting
7 p.m., 7300 Opaline Rd., Melba.

Sunday

Marsing Gun Club
11 a.m., Marsing Gun Club, 7598 Trap Shoot Rd. (off Hwy 95), Marsing.

New Year’s Eve Dance
9 p.m., all ages, \$5 donation, ‘Runnin’ for Cover’ plays, Oreana Community Hall, 18092 Oreana Loop Rd., Oreana.

Tuesday

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

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

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

Rusty and the Country Jammers perform
11 a.m. to noon, Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

Alcoholics Anonymous
7 p.m., Homedale Friends Community Church, 17434 U.S. Hwy. 95, Wilder.

Wednesday

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

Story Time
10:30 a.m., to 11:30 a.m., Lizard Butte Public Library, 111 S. 3rd St. W., Marsing. (208) 896-4690

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.

Thursday, Jan. 4

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

Friends of the Homedale Library meeting
4 p.m., Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale.

Teens and Tweens
5 p.m., to 6 p.m., ‘Journal Scrapbooking’, Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale.

Friday, Jan. 5

Alcoholics Anonymous
7 p.m., Sandbar Community Room, City Hall, 18 Sandbar Ave., Marsing. (208) 860-9674

Sunday, Jan. 7

Liberty Quartet performs
10:30 a.m., Mountain View Church of the Nazarene, 26515 Ustick Rd., Wilder.

The Owyhee Avalanche

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Obituary

Catheryne “Cathy” Simpkins

Catheryne “Cathy” Simpkins, 68, of Caldwell, passed away peacefully at home on Dec 5, 2023.

She was born on Sept. 16, 1955, in Hayward, CA.

Cathy spent the last 30 years in Nampa and Caldwell and was very involved in the community and church.

She is survived by Bruce, her husband of 42 years, and children Cindy Jenks, Jim Simpkins, Sarah Gallardo, Laura Carr, and Luke Simpkins. Cathy was also a beloved Nana to 8 grandkids.

Her memorial will be held on Dec. 30 at 11am at Living



Hope Bible Church in Boise. Visit her tribute here: bit.ly/cathysimpkins

Death notice

ALFRED LEE WELCH, 85, a 1956 Homedale High School graduate, died on Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2023 in St. George, Utah. Arrangements: Serenity Funeral Home of Southern Utah, St. George, Utah. (435) 986-2085

Senior menus

Homedale Senior Center

Served at noon
Milk available each day
Roll/bread available each day

Dec. 27: Closed Christmas
Dec. 28: Sweet and sour pork, rice, Asian blend vegetables

Sandbar Community Room, Marsing

Noon to 12:30 p.m., inside Marsing City Hall
Milk available each day
Suggested donation: \$5 (60 and older), \$8 (59 and younger) \$8 (take-out meal, any age)

Dec. 27: Fish Almondine over rice, peas, spring blend vegetables, 9-grain bread, fresh fruit
Dec. 29: Roast beef with brown gravy, mashed potatoes, sunshine carrots, green salad, Baci roll

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Calendar submissions

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

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

Page 9

HHS girls find range,
but can't find win

Avalanche Sports

Next week

A look back
at 2023 in sports

Homedale Middle School wrestlers nab state titles

Girls win 7th-grade
basketball crown

Two Homedale Middle School wrestlers won championships at the Dec. 16 state tournament, which attracted competitors from all sizes of schools in Idaho.

Porter Swan (95 pounds) and Braelyn Arredondo (115) won gold medals, while Mateo Black (120) and Jakobe Valle (100) were runners-up in their respective weight classes.

The Trojans were runners-up in the team standings.

Other medalists included fourth-place Matti Bidiman at 132 pounds, and

sixth-place wrestlers Micah Higley (80) and Olivert Sanchez (220).

7th-graders finish unbeaten run

Isabelle Roseborough's 15 points matched the output of the opponent Dec.14 as HMS won a girls' basketball conference championship.

The seventh-grade Trojans crushed

Fruitland, 37-15, in the 3A Snake River Valley conference tournament final inside the Homedale High School gymnasium.

The victory wrapped up a perfect season for Homedale, which beat Weiser on Dec.13 in the semifinals of

— See *Middle school*, page 9

Trojans spread scoring around

Balanced scoring and a second-half comeback couldn't save Homedale High School from a boys' basketball defeat.

Caldwell pushed out to a 10-point lead in the first quarter and never looked back in a 51-45 non-conference victory on the Trojans' floor.

Keaton Sorenson was one of 10 hometown athletes to get in the scoring column, leading Homedale (1-8 overall) with nine points.

Alex Sotelo and Luke Henry scored seven points apiece as the Trojans' losing streak reached six games. Sotelo went 3-for-5 from the foul line and came away with three of his four rebounds on the defensive end.

The Trojans struggled from the floor, connecting on 16 of 59 field-goal attempts (27.1 percent) and going 1-for-10 from three-point land in the second half.

Despite the poor perimeter shooting after halftime, Homedale trimmed a 16-point deficit by holding the Class 4A Cougars (2-6) to four points in the third quarter and then

— See *Trojans*, page 9



Shea McClellin celebrates a watershed victory after Marsing High School won its first 2A Western Idaho Conference football game in 10 years on Sept. 22. McClellin has accepted the head coach job at Class 4A Vallivue in Caldwell. Photo by Jason McAdam

McClellin accepts Vallivue job

After two years of coaching his alma mater and returning Marsing High School to the 2A football state playoffs, Shea McClellin is moving on.

Vallivue High School announced the former NFL first-round draft pick and Super Bowl champion as its new football coach Friday.

The Falcons play in Class 4A. Layne Coffin, who coached the team for the past 17 years, retired in late March.

McClellin confirmed his hiring to The Owyhee Avalanche on Friday, hours before Vallivue athletic director Kris Knowles sent out a pressure release announcing the

move.

"His vision, passion for football and student athletes as well as his desire to be part of the Vallivue community makes him a great fit for our school and program," Knowles wrote in the press release. "We welcome Shea to the Vallivue team, and look forward to what the future of Vallivue Football holds."

The Marsing job, which McClellin accepted prior to the 2022 season, was his first head coaching job.

"Marsing will always have (a) special

— See *McClellin*, page 10

Huskies can't take cold, Beus

by John Bruyninckx

For The Owyhee Avalanche

The Marsing High School boys' basketball team ran into a physical presence they couldn't get past in a conference road loss.

Cutter Beus racked up 23 points, 14 rebounds and five steals as host Melba came away with a 50-39 2A Western Idaho Conference victory inside Potter Gymnasium on Dec. 19.

The 6-foot, 8-inch senior center proved to be both unstoppable and unrelenting, grabbing offensive rebounds and putting them back in the hoop with alarming frequency.

"I'm not sure how many (offensive boards) he had, but I know we gave up 15 total," Huskies coach Tim Little said. "A lot of those were actually on missed shots that we defended pretty well. But he has been lighting it up this year."

— See *Huskies*, page 10

Mustangs girls split tight games with 3A squads

Melba High School endured a couple of close road games with 3A Snake River Valley conference squads.

Owyhee County resident Brooklyn Dayley pulled off an impressive double-double with 19 points and 12 steals Thursday as the Mustangs

edged Fruitland, 53-49.

Dayley just missed a triple-double, dishing eight assists in the non-conference game.

Tariah Carter had 14 points and nine rebounds for Melba (8-5 overall), while Ellie Johnson chipped in 12 points.

The Grizzlies (5-6) received

a game-high 22 points from Brooke Hardy.

Dec. 19: Parma 57, Melba 54 — The Panthers pulled out a tight non-conference win on their home court.

Dayley led all players with 20 points while doling out seven assists and coming up

with seven steals.

Carter scored 13 points and brought down eight rebounds, while Johnson came away with 11 points.

Rylie Calkins and Sydney Jackson scored 17 points apiece as Parma ended Melba's three-game win streak.

2024

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Sports

Cougars’ second-half surge tempers Trojans’ resurgence

Homedale High School couldn’t keep the momentum against the Caldwell girls’ basketball team.

The host Trojans used defense and long-range shooting to control the game for most of three quarters, but the Cougars rallied for a 41-34

non-conference victory.

Class 4A Caldwell (4-6 overall) outscored Homedale (4-8), 23-8, down the stretch to end a six-game losing streak.

The Trojans’ losing streak extended to five games.

Homedale used three-point goals from Belen Asumendi,

Olivia Asumendi, and Arlett Quezada, and an 8-0 spurt to build a 12-6 first-quarter advantage.

Two first-half steals from Kierstley Roseborough and thefts by Belen Asumendi and Stella Heck kept Caldwell at bay.

Tiana Sorenson and Arlett Quezada nailed treys in the third quarter to give Homedale a 26-18 edge.

The Cougars wound up with 15 steals to the Trojans’ 12, and Caldwell won the rebounding battle, 38-27.

✓ Middle school: Cheer squad wins, too

From Page 8

the single-elimination tournament, also played in Homedale.

Against Fruitland, Homedale took control after leading, 5-2, at halftime. The Trojans lit off on a 14-point run at one point.

Alivia Campos drained seven of 11 free throws en route to 11 points.

Charlotte Marston scored five points, while Olympia Carson put in four points. Miah Hibbs

carded two points.

Amber Campos and Kayla Isham coached the seventh-graders.

Cheerleaders win crown

The middle school cheer team won the show cheer championship and finished third in stunts during their second competition of the season.

The cheerleaders have one more tournament scheduled.

✓ Trojans: HHS keeps turnover count low

From Page 8

winning a scoring battle in the fourth.

Homedale committed just six turnovers.

McCoy Swallow led the team with seven rebounds (five on defense), and he added five points.

Jace Clover, Andres Garcia, and Lukas Hal scored four

points each, while Danny Lomeli converted one of his two three-point shots and Angel Contreras was 2-for-3 from the foul line.

Caldwell received 14 points, including a pair of treys, and six rebounds from Zaylor Bruegeman, and Haiden Allington-Ozuna posted 11 points and six rebounds.

Sawyer Hope-Audet scored all nine of his points on 3-for-4 shooting from beyond the three-point line.

Caldwell won its second consecutive game after starting the season with a six-game losing streak. Before the winning streak, the Cougars had lost 17 consecutive games stretching to the middle of last season.

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Homedale Trojans

Athletes of the Week

Girls' basketball
Belen Asumendi, so., G
Averaged 3.4 points, 2.5 rebounds, 2.4 assists, 2.5 steals through 11 games

Boys' basketball
Alex Sotelo, jr., G
7 points, 4 rebounds vs. Caldwell

Wrestling
Trey McFarlane, so., 132
5th at Dobbs Invite Dec. 15-16 in Twin Falls

THIS WEEK'S SPORTS

Girls' basketball
Varsity
Thursday, Jan. 4, home vs. Weiser, 7:30 p.m.
Junior varsity
Thursday, Jan. 4, home vs. Weiser, 6 p.m.
Frosh
Thursday, Jan. 4, home vs. Weiser, 4:30 p.m.

Boys' basketball
Varsity
Saturday, Jan. 6, home vs. Kimberly, 4 p.m.
Junior varsity
Saturday, Jan. 6, home vs. Kimberly, 2:30 p.m.
Frosh soph
Saturday, Jan. 6, home vs. Kimberly, 1 p.m.

Wrestling
Coed
Thursday, Dec. 28 at Charlie Anthony Memorial, Ontario, Ore., 9 a.m.

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Sports

College catch-up
Men's basketball
Montana Western
Jacob Ankeny, No. 32
Redshirt sophomore C

Dec. 18: No. 18 The Master's (Calif.) 78, Montana Western 72 — In the Cactus Classic finale, played at Chandler-Gilbert Community College in Chandler, Ariz., the Marsing High School graduate was limited to two minutes on the floor. He got a steal and drew one foul.

Dec. 16: RV Ottawa (Ariz.) 89, Montana Western 80 — Ankeny was whistled for two fouls in six minutes on the floor.

Dec. 15: Montana Western 71, No. 10 Arizona Christian 61 — Ankeny connected on his only shot, scoring two points as the Bulldogs upset the nationally ranked Firestorm. He played eight minutes, blocked one shot, collected an assist and had four fouls.

Bulldogs' next game: Montana Western opens the Frontier Conference season Saturday, Jan. 6 against Montana State-Northern in Dillon, Mont.



Huskies use defense to mount win streak

Teagan Kinney's 12 points and seven rebounds led Marsing High School to a victory in Friday's Small School Showcase in Oregon.

The Huskies' defense came through, too, in a narrow 35-31 win over Adrian, Ore., at Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario.

Marsing (6-3 overall) entered the holiday break on a two-game winning streak.

Thursday: Marsing 61, Payette 22 — Dresden Wood came off the bench to post a career night, and the host Huskies held an opponent to 22 points or fewer for the third time this season.

"We held them to eight points in the second half and turned up our intensity after a slow start," Little said.

With Kinney in foul trouble, Wood posted his first career double-double (season-high 11 points and 10 rebounds).

Eli Ankeny led the way with 16 points. Kinney had 14 points, five steals and seven rebounds.

Melba's double-doubles dispatch Fruitland boys

Cutter Beus scored 25 points, providing the margin of victory for Melba High School in its 71-46 boys' basketball win over Fruitland on Thursday.

Beus also delivered 18 rebounds in the non-conference rout, and teammate Carsten Volkers notched a double-double with 17 points and 13 rebounds.

Rylan Frank chimed in with 19 points for the Mustangs (6-3 overall).

The visiting Grizzlies (2-7) received 20 points from Titus Vidlak.

✓ McClellin: Moves on after two seasons

From Page 8

place in my heart," McClellin wrote in a statement posted to his Facebook page. "I'm glad I was given the opportunity to start my head coach journey at my alma mater."

McClellin won his debut with the Huskies in 2022 before eight consecutive losses to close the season.

The 2023 campaign started with more success. The team won four of its first five games, including a three-game winning streak and setting the school's single-game scoring record twice in the first month of the season.

Marsing played in the 2A state playoffs for the first time in a decade, losing a play-in game to eventual semifinalist Melba, 34-14.

"The past two years at Marsing have been an incredible and impactful journey," McClellin said in his Facebook post. "I will never forget the hard work and dedication the players and staff put in to change the culture around. I learned a lot through their commitment and I am grateful for that."

"I'm beyond grateful to all the parents, players and administration for their support. I have formed many relationships that I know will continue throughout the years ahead. I will miss the camaraderie of the community and will be forever grateful to the town that made me who I am today."

— JPB

✓ Huskies: Rebounding, scoring difficulties help Mustangs

From Page 8

Having trouble finding the basket, Marsing (6-3 overall, 1-2 in conference) fell behind early.

"Difficult shooting in the first half, putting up only 10 points," Little said. "Along with too many second-chance opportunities that Beus took advantage of on offensive rebounds."

The Huskies' cold shooting and bad bounces on rebounds gave Melba (6-3, 2-1) all the opportunities it needed.

Marsing could have easily thrown the white flag at halftime, but the Huskies played the second half with their usual scrappiness to close the gap.

Jace Chadez paced Marsing with 11 points, and Teagan Kinney contributed 10 more.

Sylvan Spence chipped in seven points and 10 rebounds for Melba. Rylan Frank had seven points and four boards.

MARSING HUSKIES

Athletes of the Week

This week's schedule



Girls' basketball
Raylynn Vanosdall, jr., G
Averaging 8.9 points per game through 11 games



Boys' basketball
Jace Chadez, jr., G
11 points, 4 rebounds vs. Melba



Wrestling
Jonathan Leon, sr., 220
4th year in Huskies program

Girls' basketball Varsity Thursday, Jan. 4, home vs. Compass Charter, 7:30 p.m. Junior varsity Thursday, Jan. 4, home vs. Compass Charter, 6 p.m.	Boys' basketball Varsity Friday, Jan. 5, home vs. Nampa Christian, 7:30 p.m. Junior varsity A Friday, Jan. 5, home vs. Nampa Christian, 6 p.m. Junior varsity B Friday, Jan. 5, home vs. Nampa Christian, 4:30 p.m.
Wrestling Coed Friday, Dec. 29 at Juston Wolfe Invitational, Glenns Ferry H.S., 10 a.m.	



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Looking back...

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

25 years ago

December 30, 1998

Hold him down...

Husky Scott Young covers while teammate Mingo Enrico attempts a steal from Jordan Valley's Dennis Montgomery. The Mustangs defeated the Huskies.



Mustangs defeat Huskies 66-57 in tense duel

The Jordan Valley Mustangs defeated the Marsing Huskies 66-57 in a tense non-conference basketball game last Tuesday night. Approximately 100 Mustang fans joined the team in Marsing for what turned out to be a fight to the end.

In the fourth quarter both teams chased the ball more on the floor than in the air.

"I don't think we played very well," said Mustang coach Skeeter Duby. "The atmosphere was very tense, but I think it was good for the boys to experience this. We don't have many close games. Marsing played very well, very tough."

Lejardi Family named Conservationist of Yr.

During the December board meeting of the Owyhee Soil Conservation District, the board voted unanimously to elect the Lejardi Family as Farms of the Year for 1998.

Both Steve and John Lejardi attribute their love for farming to the way they were brought up. John said: "Our parents passed on to us good work ethics, common sense, and a sense of family values." Steve added: "Mom and Dad gave us a lot of those things you just can't put a value on."

The Lejardi Farm, as it is farmed today, was established in 1948. Since that time, many best management practices became part of the every-day farming operations.

Uranga wins Lamoyne award

Homedale Trojan senior Darren Uranga has been chosen to receive the Harry Lamoyne award. The award is given to students who exceed in athletic accomplishments, academic achievement and community service and leadership. Only the top eight students in the state were selected.

Uranga is the Trojans quarterback and has assisted in leading Homedale to the '97 State Championship and runner-up in the '98 State Championship Tournament. In '97 he was the A-3 football player of the year, KIVI player of the week (twice) and first-team All-Conference. Darren participates in basketball, helping his team to a conference championship in '97. He participated in the first All-Conference basketball team and the second All-State basketball team last year. Uranga also plays baseball where he is a three-time member of the All-Conference team and helped his team place second in the conference last year. Darren has a 3.96 GPA and is a member of the National Honor Society.

50 years ago

December 27, 1973



SOME 400 SACKS of Christmas treats were distributed to Homedale children Saturday, Dec. 5, when Santa Claus (E. Burdine) arrived via the Homedale fire truck, escorted by Homedale police. Santa poses here with Andrea Fritzley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herb Fritzley, and volunteer firemen Paul Simon and Tony Jereb, who helped distribute the treats furnished by the Homedale Chamber of Commerce. Photo by Bette Uda.

Gigray slated to be Owyhee prosecutor

MURPHY — Owyhee County will have a new prosecuting attorney beginning Jan. 7.

William F. Gigray, III, of Caldwell, has been appointed by the Owyhee County board of commissioners as county prosecuting attorney.

Gigray replaces Robert Tunnicliff, Caldwell, the county's prosecuting attorney for the past three years.

Tunnicliff, in an interview last week, said he had agreed to take the position for two years, and had stayed on the third year because of pending cases.

Gigray was born and reared in Caldwell, and is a graduate of Caldwell High School. He graduated from the University of Idaho Law School in 1972 and was admitted to the Idaho bar in 1973.

Golden Glove boxing card set for Saturday

The Homedale Jaycees will sponsor an amateur Golden Glove boxing tournament Saturday, Dec. 29 in the old gym at Homedale High.

Clubs include Boise Exchange Club, Vista Club, East Side Club, Emmett, and Marsing Job Corps.

The bouts will feature state and national finalists from throughout the Treasure Valley and Idaho.

There will also be a toddler match between two 4 yr. olds and a professional exhibition match.

Homedale women take C of I internships

Two Homedale students at The College of Idaho, Caldwell, will spend the six-week winter session at the C of I off campus, completing internships.

They are Maxine Stansell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Stansell, who will be working in the office of the legislative council in Boise, and Jane Eidemiller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Eidemiller, who will be interning with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Walla Walla, Wash.

153 years ago

December 24, 1870

A COUNTRY editor lately announced an increase in his family, and in his jollification of the event, propounded the following conundrum: "What is the difference between editorial and matrimonial experience? In the former the devil cries for 'copy;' in the latter the 'copy' cries like the devil."

HONEST INDEPENDENCE.—A tree must be rooted in the soil before it can bear flowers and fruit. A man must learn to stand upright upon his own feet, to respect himself, to be independent of charity or accident. It is on this basis only that any superstructure of intellectual cultivation worth having can be built.

GRAND RAFFLE.—Two gold watches will be raffled off at Sommercamp's saloon on Saturday evening, Dec. 31st. There are one hundred chances, at \$3 each. The highest throw takes the first choice, and the lowest throw the second. One of the watches is a heavy gold hunting case, stem winder, and latest improved movements — value, \$250; the other, a common gold hunting case, good timekeeper — value, \$50. Take a chance and try your luck.

THE LEGISLATURE.—From published reports it would seem that, instead of attending to matters of vital importance, our law makers at the Capital are squandering their time by introducing and discussing bills that might safely be left till the latter part of the session, or even ignored altogether.

CHANGE OF ROUTE.—We understand that the Boise stage will to-day withdraw from the Reynold's Creek Road, and hereafter travel the new road from Anderson's ranch, Sinker creek, to Boise City.

THE EXHIBITION.—The Theater was crowded with spectators last Saturday evening to witness Mrs. Adams' School Exhibition. The programme was faithfully carried out and was a complete success. Taking everything into consideration, the entire performance was not excelled by any similar affair that we ever witnessed. We regret that want of space this week forbids an extended notice. The gross proceeds amounted to, \$132.50, from which deducting \$26 for expenses, leaves \$106.50, to be used exclusively in buying presents for the school children and those engaged in the exhibition, in all, numbering 55. We understand that quite a sum of money has been collected, and will be appropriated in presents for other children in the community. The Christmas tree to-night will undoubtedly be heavily laden with gifts.

THE CHRISTMAS TREE.—The Christmas Festival will take place at Hill's Hall to-night. Henry Martin, Esq., will deliver an appropriate address. There will also be vocal and instrumental music, and distribution of gifts from the Christmas tree. All who desire to put gifts on the tree are requested to bring them at an early hour to-day. Seven o'clock sharp is the time set for the commencement of the exercises.

Local Hints and Happenings.

A Merry Christmas to all!

We understand that work will be suspended in a majority of the mines on Sunday and Monday next week that the boys may have a chance to celebrate.

Commentary

Jon P. Brown,
managing editor



Eyes on
Owyhee
The news marches on

Covering politics and policy for a small-town newspaper is never an easy job.

Want proof? Read the front-page article about the spat between Owyhee County Sheriff Larry Kendrick and Marsing Councilman Chris Even.

But getting information about government dealings in places like Homedale and Marsing and Murphy is essential to helping citizens understand the decisions their elected officials make and how those decisions will affect their pocketbook and their way of life.

The same goes for the Idaho Legislature, but with so much happening back home, being at the Statehouse to keep an eye on the proceedings and stay up with the District 23 legislators is an impossible task.

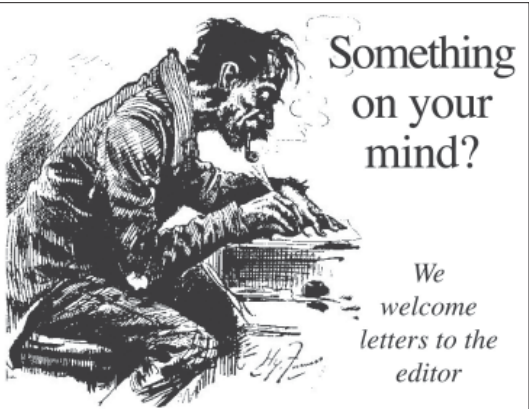
That’s why The Owyhee Avalanche gratefully accepts the contribution of the University of Idaho School of Journalism and Mass Media-McClure Legislative intern each winter and spring.

U of I senior Sophie Spanbauer is the JAMM-McClure intern gearing up to cover the 2024 session in Boise. James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research operations director Crystal Callahan introduced Spanbauer to the participating newspapers last week.

Spanbauer is a public relations major with minors in political science and history.

While she says she’s thrilled to be spending the winter semester at the Legislature, she’s also equally enamored with spending time with her golden retriever and fishing on the Boise River. She also volunteers at the humane society.

— See News, Page 13



The Owyhee Avalanche
P.O. Box 97 • Homedale ID 83628

Letters to the editor

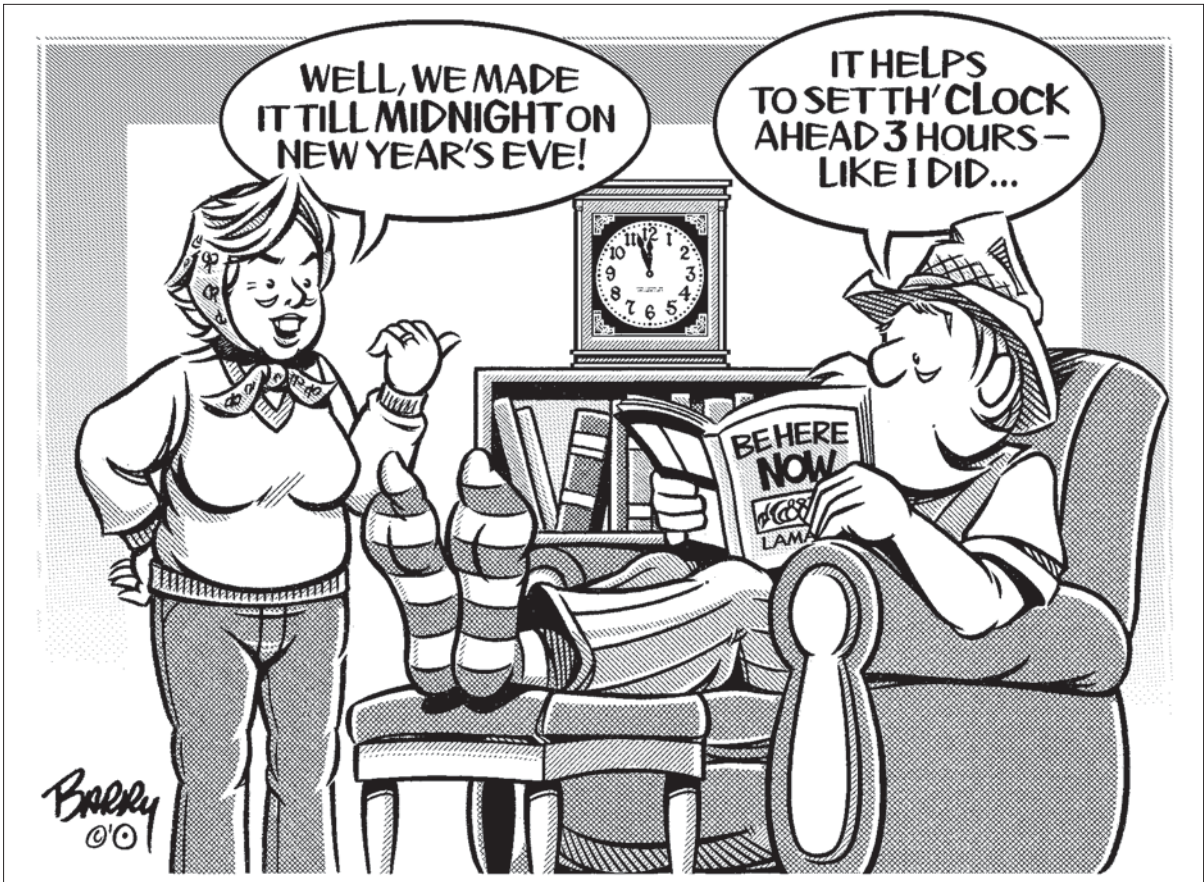
All letters to the editor submitted to The Owyhee Avalanche must be no longer than 300 words, signed and include the writer’s address and daytime phone number.

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

- E-mailed to jon@owyhee.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.

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.

From the Statehouse
Ditch the secret backroom, focus on
common ground with dam breaching

The recent agreement between the Biden Administration and the states of Washington and Oregon and the tribes on dam breaching represents a missed opportunity.

Instead of working together to find common ground, the signatories to the agreement pandered to their political supporters and paid no attention to the real impacts dam removal would have on Idahoans.

As Idaho state leaders, we are united in our strong opposition to removing the dams because it would eliminate a clean source of energy (hydropower) that powers the entire region, harm agriculture, and fundamentally change our economy for the worse.

Sustaining healthy salmon and steelhead populations is important. But make no mistake, that is not what this deal does.

The deal that was released to the parties with only weeks to examine is an aspirational document that spends Pacific Northwest ratepayer money with little to no accountability for outcomes in fish populations or energy production. Perhaps what’s worse, the deal contemplates eliminating thousands of megawatts of clean energy while the region is facing an 8,000-megawatt energy deficit in the next decade.

You don’t have to take it from us. Just look at the inland ports, agriculture commodity groups, and local communities that are impacted by the deal. They are opposed to the settlement agreement, and for good reason. Not only were they not included in the process, but they were flatly ignored when they tried to give input.

Additionally, breaching the dams threatens regional economic stability and power system reliability. Without the certainty provided by clean hydropower, the Pacific Northwest would be left with unreliable

Gov. Brad Little
R-Emmett (term expires 2026)

Little is in his second term as governor. He previously served 10 years as lieutenant governor and was a state senator for nearly eight years.

Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720
Phone — (208) 334-2100
E-mail — governor@gov.idaho.gov
Website — <https://gov.idaho.gov/>



Lt. Gov. Scott Bedke
R-Oakley (term expires 2026)

Bedke was elected Idaho’s 44th lieutenant governor in November, and he took office on Jan. 6. He’s a fourth-generation Idahoan.

Constituents can contact Bedke through the lieutenant governor’s website, lgo.idaho.gov



power sources that simply can’t replace firm, dispatchable power.

Take Portland for example. The region has 7,000

— See Breaching, Page 13

Commentary

Schoolchildren’s well-being

We all must step up, tackle student mental health crisis

The statistics for suicide in Idaho are glaring, and when you know that each data point represents a child and a grieving family, they are tragic. Our statewide, open discussions about suicide awareness, prevention and subsequent postvention are ongoing and taking more prominence.

There has been progress in how we have these conversations. Though adults are better than ever at openly talking about mental health and suicide, we are still grappling with who is responsible for how, when and where we help our students.

National statistics depict troubling trends for our youth. Fewer students graduate from high school having obtained a driver’s license. Fewer students graduate having worked for pay. More students are delaying life milestones outside of the virtual or online world. Many of our young people, who are in the lowest risk time of their lives, seem to be withdrawing from, well, life.

In addition to the severe mental health issues some teens experience, statistics show that anxiety has increased for some age groups by 92 percent since 2010 and teen depression, especially in our girls, by 145 percent. Teen suicide for boys has gone up 161 percent nationally.

We talk a lot about the emotional impact COVID had on our youth, and yet stats show this subject has been a brewing problem accelerated and exacerbated by a pandemic, smart phones and gaming.

By any standard, this is a crisis.

I am updated on student deaths as they occur, and since my first week on the job, I have had regular reports. I always pause, say a prayer for the family,

Debbie Critchfield
Idaho Superintendent of Public Instruction

A Republican from Oakley, Critchfield began her first term as superintendent on Jan. 2, 2023.

She served seven years on the Idaho State Board of Education, holding the president’s role for the final two years. She co-chaired Gov. Brad Little’s Education Task Force in 2019 and was committee chair for Gov. C. L. “Butch” Otter’s Higher Education Task Force in 2017. She also chaired the Re-Open Idaho Schools Committee in 2020 and was a member of the Governor’s K-12 Council.

She served 10 years — half as chair — on the Cassia County school board.



and then consider the appropriate role for schools.

This is a tricky question to answer.

What is the school’s role? Teachers don’t buy students their cellphones, but parents expect schools to manage them. Teachers aren’t trained therapists, but parents look to schools for answers on how to deal with emotional issues.

Schools have also heard very clearly that there are topics and conversations that parents aren’t comfortable with the school being involved in. However, this doesn’t stop students from approaching teachers, staff and other trusted adults when they need

help with complex issues.

So what is the right balance? As a state, we are still trying to figure that out.

Here’s what most schools offer: training for staff on early warning signs, cultivating open lines of communication for students and connections for parents to community-based resources and professional help. Even these basic things take time, money and effort.

Ultimately, schools want to support and facilitate close collaboration with the student’s main support system — their parents and guardians.

Although this issue comes to school with kids, it’s a family issue, and parents are looking for answers, too. A recent report highlighted a communication gap between Idaho’s parents and kids. When asked if important conversations about drug use had taken place, 69 percent of parents said yes, while only 28 percent of kids agreed. In many ways, simple communication can be an effective tool for creating powerful connections in homes around important conversations. Oh, how we need more talking and listening in our families.

We believe families are doing their best, and not all teens have suicidal ideation. We know that growing up is hard, and this generation faces its own unique challenges.

There is a place and role for schools, but they can’t solve the problem during the school day. Good school policies are needed, but schools aren’t an extension of the parent/guardian. Let’s have a statewide conversation that honors these roles as the best offense for Idaho’s kids.

✓ News: Community input, myriad contributions help the Avalanche cover Owyhee country

From Page 12

Spanbauer will get to work early next year. The Legislature convenes on Monday, Jan. 8 when both the House of Representatives and the state Senate will sit and listen to Gov. Brad Little’s State of the State address.

The District 23 delegation of Sen. Todd Lakey (R-Nampa), Seat A Rep. Melissa Durrant (R-Kuna) and Seat B Rep. Tina Lambert (R-Caldwell) has taken on a decidedly urban or suburban makeup, so at times Spanbauer may be the only conduit through which Owyhee County constituents will learn what the trio is up to.

In fact, the only chance anyone has to get face-to-face with the legislators before the session begins appears to be a town hall scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 6 inside the Kuna Middle School gymnasium.

That’s a 140-mile round-trip drive from Bruneau, and nearly a 70-mile trip for constituents in Homedale.

Welcome to life after reapportionment.

Again, that’s why Spanbauer’s work will be so vital to the pages of the Avalanche and the newspaper’s mission to cover Owyhee County — and the issues facing its residents — as thoroughly as possible.

Looking back on the year, just as I am grateful for Spanbauer’s impending assistance, I can’t say enough about the work from the likes of Mandi Boren, Joshua Gray, Chardee VanDerhoff, Breeana Lootens, John Bruyninckx and others. Their contributions — and the cooperation of community members who work at the schools and run 4-H, FFA, Lions Club and other organizations — helps keep this one-man band humming along.

With the help of the above-mentioned folks, the Avalanche will redouble its efforts to bring as much information and news from throughout Owyhee country in 2024.

As always, feel free to send your news tips and information about county goings-on. It helps us expand our knowledge of what’s happening in this slice of paradise.

Contacting District 23 legislators

Sen. Todd M. Lakey (R-Nampa)
12905 Venezia Ct, Nampa, ID, 83651
Phone — (208) 332-1328 (session only) or (208) 908-4415
E-mail — TLakey@senate.idaho.gov

Seat A Rep. Melissa Durrant (R-Kuna)
4000 W Hubbard Road, Kuna, ID, 83634
Phone — (208) 332-1055 (session only) or (208) 941-1963
E-mail — MDurrant@house.idaho.gov

Seat B Rep. Tina Lambert (R-Caldwell)
PO Box 1324, Caldwell, ID, 83606
Phone — (208) 332-1047 (session only) or (208) 504-8647
E-mail — TLambert@house.idaho.gov

Terms expire 2024

✓ Breaching: Idaho’s ag economy and household bottom lines at stake

From Page 12

megawatts of intermittent wind power. During the Portland “Heat Dome,” less than 400 megawatts were generated by wind and the region had to go to the market to buy expensive energy sources during peak demand.

We believe the authors of this deal are genuine in their desire to do what they believe is right for constituents. Unfortunately, it appears they only listened to a select few constituents in the region

while disregarding many.

A truly inclusive process would have acknowledged that we can provide structural repairs and improvements that benefit fish while simultaneously preserving the region’s critical access to clean hydropower the dams provide.

A better process would have uncovered river operations that would improve fish passage.

A better process would have revealed that the region needs more energy production on top of our

current baseload.

In fact, a better process still may have even included many of the fish restoration projects contained within the current settlement document.

But as long as the proponents of the agreement include language that suggests we breach clean hydropower, Idaho has no choice but to stand in opposition.

We simply can’t afford to let Idaho communities, farmers, and ratepayers suffer.

Public notices

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL
DISTRICT
OF THE STATE OF IDAHO,
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY
OF OWYHEE
MAGISTRATE DIVISION
(I.C. 15-3-801)
Case No. CV37-23-00389
In the Matter of the Estate of
BONNIE WALKER a/k/a
BONNIE JEAN WALKER,
Deceased.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that VANCE B. WALKER has been appointed as personal representative of the above-named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent or the estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of 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: December 1, 2023
/s/ Kelli B. Ketlinski
Kelli B. Ketlinski, Attorney for
Personal Representative
KETLINSKI LAW OFFICE,
PLLC
1910 N. Lakes Pl.
Meridian, Idaho 83646
(208) 288-4444
12/13,20,27/2023

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL
DISTRICT
OF THE STATE OF IDAHO,
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY
OF OWYHEE
MAGISTRATE DIVISION
(I.C. 15-3-801)
Case No. CV37-23-00388
In the Matter of the Estate of
CALVIN WALKER,
Deceased.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that VANCE B. WALKER has been appointed as personal representative of the above-named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent or the estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of 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: December 1, 2023
/s/ Kelli B. Ketlinski
Kelli B. Ketlinski, Attorney for
Personal Representative
KETLINSKI LAW OFFICE,
PLLC
1910 N. Lakes Pl.
Meridian, Idaho 83646
(208) 288-4444
12/13,20,27/2023

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN THE MAGISTRATE
COURT OF THE THIRD
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
OF THE STATE OF IDAHO,
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY
OF OWYHEE
Case No. CV37-23-00398
In the Matter of the Estate of
JOHN FRANKLIN EELLS,
Deceased.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that WILLIAM EELLS has been appointed personal representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent 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 5th day of December, 2023.
/S/ GWEN K. SWEESY /S/
GWEN K. SWEESY,
P.O. Box 1084
Caldwell, ID 83606
(208) 454-2974
12/13,20,27/2023

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN THE MAGISTRATE
COURT OF THE THIRD
JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF
THE STATE OF
IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE
COUNTY OF OWYHEE
Case No. CV37-23-00426
IN THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATES OF
DONALD LEE JOSEPHSON
and
VIRGINIA IRENE
JOSEPHSON,
Deceased.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that MARGO PHARISS has been appointed personal representative of the above-named estates. All persons having claims against the decedents or the estates 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 19th day of December, 2023.
/S/ GWEN K. SWEESY /S/
GWEN K. SWEESY,
P.O. Box 1084
Caldwell, ID 83606
(208) 454-2974
12/27/2023;01/03,10/2024

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL
DISTRICT
OF THE STATE OF IDAHO,
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY
OF OWYHEE
MAGISTRATE DIVISION
(I.C. 15-3-801)
Case No. CV37-23-00395
In the Matter of the Estate of
BILLY E. TRACY,
Deceased.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Carol A. O'Brien, with the address of 3285 Buckboard Way, Boise, Idaho 83713, has been appointed personal representative of the above-named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent or the estate are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of the Notice to Creditors, or within 60 days after the personal representative mailed or delivered a copy of this Notice to such persons, whichever is later, or said claims will be forever barred.

Claims must be presented to the personal representative's attorney, Jesse R. Thomas, at the address indicated, and filed with the Clerk of the Court.

DATED: 12/06/2023
/s/ Jesse R. Thomas
Jesse R. Thomas [ISB No 8271]
Attorney for Personal Representative
Idaho Legal Estates and Probate
Attorney at Law
6126 W. State St. Ste. 504
Boise, Idaho 83703
Telephone No. (208) 996-3398
Email: jessethomas@idaho-legal.com
12/13,20,27/2023

**NOTICE OF PENDING ISSUANCE OF TAX DEED
GEM IRRIGATION DISTRICT
P.O. Box 67
Homedale, ID 83628
Owyhee County, Idaho**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Title 43, Chapter 7, of the Idaho State Code, on December 31, 2023, the period of redemption for delinquent entries made January 1, 2021, shall expire and the Gem Irrigation District, or its assign, shall be issued a tax deed or lien for the property described below, upon which such delinquent entries were made. The property described below may be redeemed on or before June 30, 2024, by paying to the Gem Irrigation District at its office in the City of Homedale, County of Owyhee, the delinquent assessments for which the delinquent entries were made, plus a penalty of two percent (2%) thereon, interest on the total at the rate of one percent (1%) per month from the day said delinquent entries were made until the day of redemption, and recording and publication costs. Any inquiries direct to Gem Irrigation at the above-named address.

Person Assessed	Property Description	Three Year Delinquent Charges for Year 2021
Forest & Sharon Abbott	Sec 07 T3N R5W Pt NESE	\$ 119.20
Nicholas Armas	Sec 24 T3N R5W Lot 1 Blk 1 Market Rd. Est.	\$226.05
Keith & Ashley Cegnar	Sec 28 T3N R4W Pt SWSW	\$302.75
Chasm I LLC	Sec 15 T3N R5W Pt NWNE	\$741.79
Sharon Engle	Sec 10 T2N R4W Pt SWSW	\$136.63
Joshua & Kelsee Gabel	Sec 18 T3N R5W NESE	\$423.07
Morgan Holton	Sec 17 T3N R5W Pt SESW	\$168.72
Wyatt & Krystel Holton	Sec 17 T3N R5W Pt SESW	\$177.00
Andrew Larson	Sec 29 T3N R4W Pt SENW	\$174.51
Israel Martinez	Sec 03 T2N R4W Pt SWNW	\$133.11
Dillon & Aurora Morris	Sec 33 T3N R4W Pt NWNE	\$133.11
Lad & Taylor Shore	Sec 17 T2N R4W Pt W1/2 NWSE	\$135.50
Jeff & Rebecca Wasson	Sec 21 T3N R4W Pt SW1/4	\$116.95
Wild Oak Honey Farms LLC	Sec 29 T3N R4W Pt SENE	\$133.11
Wild Oak Honey Farms LLC	Sec 29 T3N R4W Pt SE1/4	\$878.44
Loren D Wills	Sec 11 T2N R4W Lot 4	\$149.69

Dated this 29th day of November, 2023
GEM IRRIGATION DISTRICT
Sherry Maxwell, Treasurer
12/06,13,20,27/2023

**SUMMONS FOR
PUBLICATION
IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL
DISTRICT
STATE OF IDAHO, COUNTY
OF OWYHEE
MAGISTRATE DIVISION
CASE NUMBER CV37-23-
00361**

**Co-EXIST PROPERTY
MANAGEMENT, LLC
AN IDAHO LIMITED
LIABILITY COMPANY,
PLAINTIFF,
vs.
ZACKARIA DAVIS, KAYLA
WHITE AND JULIE ANN
SCOTT, AND ALL OTHER
OCCUPANTS OF 401 S.
MAIN ST., #39, HOMEDALE,
IDAHO 83628,
DEFENDANTS.**

To: Zackaria Davis
401 S. MAIN ST. #39
Homedale, ID 83628
Kayla White
401 S. MAIN ST. #39
Homedale, ID 83628
Julie Ann Scott
401 S. MAIN ST. #39
Homedale, ID 83628
You have been sued by Plaintiff, CO-EXIST PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, LLC AN IDAHO LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, in the District Court of the Third Judicial District. in and for the County of Owyhee Idaho, Case No.CV37-23-00361.

The nature of the claim against you is an action for possession of a mobile home located at 401 S. MAIN ST. #39, Homedale, ID 83628.

Any time after 21 days following the last publication of this summons, the Court may enter a judgment against you without further notice, unless prior to that time you have filed a written response in the proper form, including the Case Number, and paid any required filing fee to the Clerk of the Court at 20381 State Hwy 78, Murphy ID 83650, telephone number (208) 495-2806, and served a copy of your response on the Plaintiff's attorney JULIE ADAMS DEFORD, DEFORD LAW, P.C., 317 12th Avenue South, Nampa,

Idaho 83651, telephone No. (208) 461-3667.

A copy of the Summons and Complaint to Quiet Title can be obtained by contacting either the Clerk of the Court or the attorney for Plaintiff.

If you wish legal assistance, you should immediately retain an attorney to advise you in this matter.

DATED: 12/11/2023
Angela Barkell
Clerk of the District Court
/s/:Lena Johnson
Deputy Clerk
12/20,27/2023;01/03,10/2024

**SUMMONS FOR
PUBLICATION
IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL
DISTRICT
STATE OF IDAHO, COUNTY
OF OWYHEE
MAGISTRATE DIVISION
CASE NUMBER CV37-23-
00362
Co-EXIST PROPERTY
MANAGEMENT, LLC
AN IDAHO LIMITED
LIABILITY COMPANY,
PLAINTIFF,
vs.
SCOTT DIXON, KATRINA
MILLER, BAILEY
JEAN TYLER AND ALL
OTHER OCCUPANTS
OF 401 S. MAIN ST., #16,
HOMEDALE, IDAHO 83628,
DEFENDANTS.**

To: Scott Dixon
401 S. MAIN ST. #16
Homedale, ID 83628
Katrina Miller
401 S. MAIN ST. #16
Homedale, ID 83628
Bailey Jean Tyler
401 S. MAIN ST. #16
Homedale, ID 83628

You have been sued by Plaintiff, CO-EXIST PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, LLC AN IDAHO LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, in the District Court of the Third Judicial District. in and for the County of Owyhee Idaho, Case No.CV37-23-00362.

The nature of the claim against you is an action for possession of a mobile home located at 401 S. MAIN ST. #16, Homedale, ID

83628.

Any time after 21 days following the last publication of this summons, the Court may enter a judgment against you without further notice, unless prior to that time you have filed a written response in the proper form, including the Case Number, and paid any required filing fee to the Clerk of the Court at 20381 State Hwy 78, Murphy ID 83650, telephone number (208) 495-2806, and served a copy of your response on the Plaintiff's attorney JULIE ADAMS DEFORD, DEFORD LAW, P.C., 317 12th Avenue South, Nampa, Idaho 83651, telephone No. (208) 461-3667.

A copy of the Summons and Complaint to Quiet Title can be obtained by contacting either the Clerk of the Court or the attorney for Plaintiff.

If you wish legal assistance, you should immediately retain an attorney to advise you in this matter.

DATED: 12/11/2023
Angela Barkell
Clerk of the District Court
/s/:Lena Johnson
Deputy Clerk
12/20,27/2023;01/03,10/2024

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

Public notice

NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE
(Adult or Emancipated Minor)
CASE NO. CV37-23-411
IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT FOR THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF OWYHEE
IN RE: RANDEEP DHANOTA

A petition to change the name of RANDEEP K. DHANOTA, 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 RANDEEP STEVENS. The reason for the change in name is: ASSUME HUSBAND'S NAME.

A hearing on the petition is scheduled for 11:00 o'clock a.m. on February 7, 2024 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: December 5, 2023
Clerk of the District Court
/s:/Aiesha Zenor, Deputy Clerk
12/27/2023;01/03,10,17/2024

Avalanche obituary policy

Obituaries can be submitted the following ways:

Email
jon@owyheea-
valanche.com
Fax
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Mail
P.O. Box 97,
Homedale, ID
83628

No obituaries are accepted over the telephone.

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From page 1

✓ Road: Commissioner gives opportunity for transportation plan input

in Bruneau.

Bachman wants interested community members to attend so officials can answer questions about the road district boundaries, maintenance and improvement plans.

Bachman asked for the town hall during last week’s meeting in Murphy.

“There are just so many people in my Owyhee County Road and Bridge District 3 that are complaining about the roads, and I want them to be aware that there is a plan and there is a way that we are going to deal with these things, but there is a process,” Bachman said during the Dec. 18 Board of County Commissioners meeting.

The county is in the midst of updating its transportation master plan. There is a county transportation advisory committee that consists of representation from the Gem Highway District, Homedale Highway District, the county and all three municipalities within the county.

“I would just like a way to explain to people that we do have a process and a plan,” Bachman said.

Paragon is working with the county on the transportation master plan update, but Bachman wants to make sure that the community has its say.

“The traffic has increased exponentially, and they’re using traffic data for 2009,” Bachman said.

The county issued a public road survey as part of the master plan process in January. There was a 74-day window to respond.

“I wanted to give information and take input,” Bachman said of the town hall idea. “A whole six people responded to the survey for a 225-page document.”

— JPB

✓ Homedale: Judge asked to allow bond for \$6.3M water system project

city more money. The stoppage will push the final completion date back about 10 days to approximately Feb. 13, Kimmel said during the council’s Dec. 13 meeting.

The contractor is waiting on the delivery of wastewater lagoon covers, which are critical to the continuation of the project.

Supply chain limitations and the end-of-the-year holidays also add to the dilemma, Kimmel said.

The \$10.7 million wastewater project includes rebuilding the treatment lagoons at the plant on River Road, and the replacement of aging sewer lines throughout the city. Crews have been replacing the outdated pipe primarily through pipe bursting.

Recent pipe work closed South Main Street south of Utah Avenue for a time.

During the Dec. 13 council meeting, Kimmel said crews have requested permission to use cured-in-place-pipe (CIPP) liners to do some of the line replacement work because a resident adjacent to South Main has built a shed in the infrastructure right-of-way covering part of a sewer main and a manhole.

Other change orders approved during the meeting will add gates to the wastewater facility to provide more access for the city’s public works crew and add a heavy grate for a walking cover over the lagoons to improve functionality.

The change orders amounted to more than \$26,000, but Kimmel said another change will save the city money on the upcoming Ustick Well improvements.

A crew discovered “a significant amount of additional” wiring when installing a supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) control panel at a sewer lift station, Kimmel said. He said a rewiring project would have cost \$45,000 or a new SCADA panel would cost \$26,000.

The change order, which the council accepted, recommended using the panel destined for the lift station at the new arsenic treatment site that will be part of the Ustick Well complex.

Kimmel said the change will save about \$8,000 on the water facility project.

The city will go to court at 1:30 p.m., on March 8 for the judicial confirmation petition hearing on the \$6.3 million water facility project. If approved, the city will be able to bond for the money rather than sending the issue to a vote of the citizens.

The public can submit written testimony for the hearing, which will be held remotely before Third District Judge Randall S. Grove. Contact the Owyhee County Court on instructions on how to access the hearing.

The petition can be reviewed at City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming Ave., during business hours.

The water project includes building a new well and arsenic treatment system at the Ustick site in Canyon County, and Kimmel said lead and copper water pipe in the city will be replaced to meet federal guidelines.

— JPB



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Jan. 10	Meridian - 3115 E. Florence Dr.	10 am - 5 pm
Jan. 11	Homedale - 108 E. Idaho Ave.	10 am - 5 pm
Jan. 12	Boise - 300 S. 23rd St.	10 am - 5 pm
Jan. 13	Caldwell - 808 Cleveland Blvd.	10 am - 5 pm

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