

The Owyhee Avalanche

VOL. 39, NO. 1

\$1

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

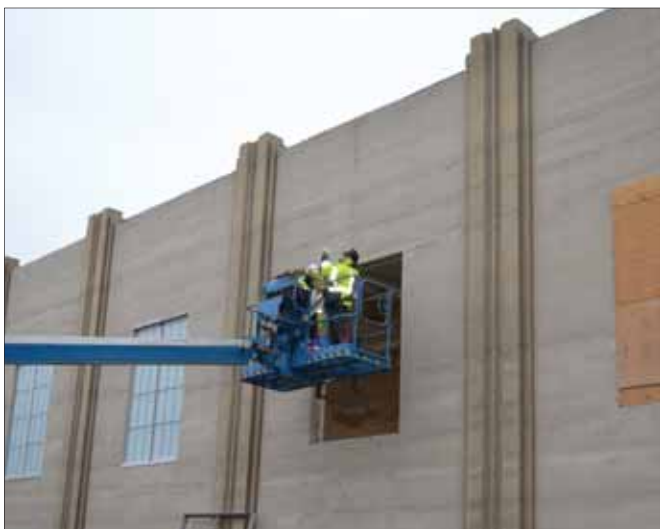
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2024

2023 IN REVIEW

A year of construction and growth



Houses built across the street from the Owyhee County Fairgrounds were just part of the building boom in Homedale, which doesn't seem to be letting up. The city turned the street in front of the homes into a one-way road and worked on getting the street into the city limits by swapping the fairgrounds parking lot with Owyhee County.



Improvements related to the Homedale School District continued. **Left:** Workers installed windows in the high school's original gymnasium, returning it to a classic look as a conversion to a fine arts space continues. **Right:** A worker pours concrete into post holes as fencing goes up on the Child Pedestrian Safety grant-financed walkway between Sundance Park and Homedale Middle School. A sidewalk was poured along Johnstone Road to complete the project.



Two short-term recreational vehicle parks opened in Homedale (above) and Marsing (right) in 2023. The Homedale park also includes retail space and a new 24-hour fitness center.

More 2023 photos,
Pages 8-9



County's proposed RV ordinance in prosecutor's hands

More than four years after starting the process, Owyhee County may be ready to finalize its idea to regulate how its citizens use their recreational vehicles.

Six weeks after the last of a series of public hearings, the Board of County Commissioners provided what could be final directions on what will happen with the proposed ordinance.

County community planning director Mary Huff told commissioners on Dec. 26 that the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends adopting the ordinance.

Dist. 2 Commissioner Kelly Aberasturi (R-Homedale) wants to give the draft document to county Prosecuting Attorney Chris Topmiller for finalization.

"Unless there are any questions with this board or the Planning and Zoning board, I think we move forward with it once (Topmiller) gets it drawn up," Aberasturi said.

Topmiller said he'll draft the final proposed document and then circulate it among members of the two boards to determine if any additions or

— See **Ordinance**, page 9

District 23 legislators plan town hall in Kuna

State senator briefs Homedale officials on possible bills

The District 23 Idaho Legislature delegation plans a town hall meeting two days before the next session begins.

The Republican elected officials include state Sen. Todd Lakey of Caldwell, Seat A Rep. Melissa Durrant of Kuna, and Seat B Rep. Tina Lambert of Caldwell.

The town hall meeting is scheduled to run from 1 p.m., to 2:30 p.m., on Saturday inside the Kuna Middle School gymnasium, 1360 W. Boise St., in Kuna.

The three legislators will share information about what work they have planned for the second session of the 67th Idaho Legislature, which starts on Monday.

District 23 legislators represent constituents in Owyhee County as well as the southern portions of both Canyon and



Lakey

Ada counties.

The District 23 Republican Central Committee and the Canyon County Republican Central Committee are co-sponsors for the town hall. For more information, email jodee.idaho@gmail.com.

Lakey and Gilbert have visited Homedale in recent weeks.

Gilbert was a guest of the Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library Teens and Tweens program, while Lakey shared some of his objectives for the upcoming session during a

— See **District 23**, page 4



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Wrestling the year out, Pg. 11: HHS, Marsing end '23 on mat
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Idaho Power donation goes into MRW fire station building fund

A recent Idaho Power donation has been earmarked to help build a Murphy-Reynolds-Wilson fire station.

Idaho Power donated \$5,000 to the MRW Fire District last month.

Fire Chief Chuck Cooley said MRW’s proposed fire station in the Givens area is in the planning stages.

“MRW does not currently have an actual fire station in the district,” Cooley said.

The district has four locations where equipment is housed — in Givens and Wilson on Idaho highway 78, in Murphy off Rabbit Creek Road and in the Reynolds Creek area.

But Cooley said there is no structure that could be considered a fire station.

“My vision for the fire station will include sleeping areas, showers, training area, which can double as a community center, office space and bay areas large enough to house our big 6,000-gallon (water) tenders as well as our other fire equipment,” Cooley said.

The water tender is stored outside currently, and Cooley said the tanker has to sit dry and empty in the winter to prevent freezing.

Monthly meetings for Emergency Medical Services and fire volunteers as well as the governing board meetings

are held inside the Wilson schoolhouse next door to MRW’s Wilson fire shed.

Idaho Power’s donation will be placed in a building fund for the future fire station, Cooley said.

“We have the second-largest fire district in the state (by area), but a very small portion of the property tax income for our operational expenses,” the fire chief said.

“Our fire house will largely depend on donations, possibly from corporations, to fund the building.”

Idaho Power and MRW are working on a plan to ensure the safe operation of the utility’s Energy Storage System (ESS) at the Hemingway substation in Wilson.

“This site is one of the largest ESS sites in the state at this time, and Idaho Power is planning on doubling it in the near future,” Cooley said.

“We have been meeting to coordinate our emergency response in the event a fire or similar event occurs at the site.”

Cooley confirmed that the ESS battery backup is identical to the Idaho Power equipment that caught fire and burned for three days in October at a Melba substation in Canyon County.

— JPB

HHS grad retiring from PERSI top post

A former Homedale resident plans to retire after 16 years at the helm of the State of Idaho’s pension program.

Don Drum will leave his post as Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho (PERSI) executive director this month.

The 1975 Homedale High School graduate began as PERSI deputy director in 2006 and ascended to the executive director position in 2008. At the age of 51, he succeeded Alan Winkle, who piloted PERSI for 22 years.

Drum is the son of Dorwin and Vicki Drum.

According to a press release from PERSI, Drum’s expertise working with the Idaho Legislature, knowledge of the pension industry, and his accounting and business background made him the right man for the top position.

During his time as PERSI executive director, Drum has met with countless employers, members, and legislators during his state tours. In addition, he has built numerous friendships around the state and nationally while representing PERSI. He

has served on numerous boards and committees focused on public pension systems and public workers’ retirement benefits, including serving as president of the National Association of State Retirement Administrators.

“Don Drum has done a tremendous job during his tenure as executive director of PERSI,” PERSI Retirement Board chair Jeff Cilek said.

Cilek listed accomplishments under Drum’s PERSI leadership, including expansion of the Choice 401(k) plan, an extensive board governance process, and the development of a contemporary computerized pension administration system, Arrivos.

The number of retirees grew from 30,912 to 54,680, and the number of employers grew from 706 to 870.

Drum was instrumental in protecting the retirees’



Don Drum

purchasing power with growth of the monthly retirement check increasing 6.1 percent during his tenure.

“The board congratulates Don on a well-deserved retirement and thanks him for his work making PERSI one of the premier public retirement systems in the nation,” Cilek said.

The PERSI Retirement Board will begin the process of selecting a replacement at the appropriate time.

Drum got his start in the financial industry as a legislative auditor in Alaska after graduating from Boise State University in 1979.

In October 1984, he returned to Homedale and partnered with Mike Parker in a CPA firm after buying out Jim Duncan’s interest in the business.

In 1988, he joined Integrated Office Systems in Boise as vice president of finance.

He started state employment in 1990 as fiscal officer for the Idaho Department of Corrections. Eighteen months later, he became IDOC administrator of management services.

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4-H Friday campers to study outer space

The next 4-H Friday Day Camp will be out of this world.

Through “Galactic Quest,” boys and girls ages 11-14 will explore the history of humans and space, including the technology and resources required for missions and the challenges humans must overcome while orbiting the earth.

Science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) topics range from physics and engineering to computer science and space agriculture.

A lunch and a snack will be provided during the free class.

The class will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Friday, Jan. 19 at the University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office, 238 8th Ave W., in Marsing.

Registration closes on Wednesday, Jan. 17, and the class only has 10 spots.

Register at <https://4h.zsuite.org/external-event-registration/25101>

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Above: Several Marsing School District staff members gathered Dec. 21 at The HUB to wrap presents for the Giving Tree community compassion effort. **From left:** School employees Joni Wood, DeeDee Alderson, Jacky King, Teresa Draper, Lachelle Wood, Cindy Floyd, Lorraine Simonson, and Shonie Jarvis, parent Kelly Ineck and Madison Anderson from the University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office. **Below, left:** Middle school teacher Jacky King puts a bow on one of the many presents. **Below, right:** Superintendent Norm Stewart wraps presents while the ubiquitous yule log video “crackles” above. Submitted photos



Dozens of Marsing children receive scores of Giving Tree gifts

Marsing Giving Tree volunteers celebrated another successful holiday season as the Christmas school break began.

Twenty-four volunteers, including Marsing School District employees and community members, spent two hours on Dec. 21 wrapping presents at The HUB community school building.

The HUB coordinator Becky Barkell said the volunteers wrapped presents for 61 boys and girls.

“I have no idea how many presents,” Barkell said. “There were anywhere from 5 to 10 gifts per kids, some small and some big.”

Barkell said that some of the children had so many Christmas presents that the lot was combined into one box to save on wrapping time.

“It was amazing,” she said.

Community members provided the glut of Christmas gifts by taking tags off Giving Trees that were set up at the school district office and inside OC Coffee on Main Street.

Food boxes were distributed to families on the night of Dec. 21 as part of the overall effort.

Bill correcting Duck Valley water oversight moves to the House

The Shoshone-Paiute Tribes, the northern half of whose Duck Valley Reservation is in Owyhee County, are one step closer to receiving money the federal government owes them.

The U.S. Senate unanimously passed S. 950 last month. The bill introduced by Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.) was co-sponsored by Republican Idaho Sens. Mike Crapo and Jim Risch and Democratic Nevada Sen. Jackie Rosen.

If signed into law, the measure would allow the Tribes to receive more than \$5 million in interest owed to them from the 2009 Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation Water Rights Settlement Act.

The bill now moves into the House of Representatives.

“The Senate’s unanimous support for this much-needed fix takes the next step in upholding the federal government’s full interest terms of the 2009 settlement with the Duck Valley Reservation,” Crapo said. “I urge the House of Representatives to quickly take up the measure and send it to the president to be signed into law. This error must be corrected expeditiously.”

Interest payments are commonplace in Indian water settlements but were inadvertently left out of this one.

Risch said the legislation would clear up an oversight in the original settlement.

“The Shoshone-Paiute Tribes’ water rights settlement mistakenly excluded interest payments, which unfairly cut these communities short,” Risch said.

“The passage of our legislation is a good step in correcting this error and provides the Tribes the proper interest they are owed.”

The Tribal headquarters are in Owyhee, Nev., in the southern portion of the reservation.

“This legislation will restore the value of the trust funds provided to the Tribes to the level intended by Congress in our 2009 congressionally approved water settlement, and is an important step to fulfilling the economic potential of the Duck Valley Reservation,” Tribal chair Brian Mason said.





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McClure intern will be Avalanche's eyes, ears at Statehouse

With start of the Idaho Legislature's 2024 session just days away, another University of Idaho student is ready to help provide news from the Statehouse for The Owyhee Avalanche.

Senior public relations major Sophie Spanbauer is the Journalism and Mass Media-McClure Legislative Intern for this year's session.

The session begins Monday when state senators and members of the Idaho House of Representatives convene to listen to Gov. Brad Little's annual State of the State address in Boise.

The U of I James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research has provided an intern each session to help smaller newspapers around Idaho provide independent information about legislation and other issues facing the Legislature each winter and spring.



Sophie Spanbauer

Spanbauer is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in public relations with minors in political science and history. She's a 2020 Boise High School graduate.

In her free time, Spanbauer hangs out with her golden retriever, fishes on the Boise River and volunteers at the humane society.

From page 1

✓ District 23: Legislature could continue efforts to lessen Idaho citizens' tax burden

visit at the Dec. 13 city council meeting.

Lahey told Homedale's elected officials that another attempt to toughen criminal penalties for fentanyl possession and distribution will be launched during the session.

"I can only imagine it's affecting your community like it's affecting every community," Lahey said.

The senator, who chairs the chamber's Judiciary and Rules Committee, said the proposed legislation, which would make fentanyl offenses separate from other controlled substance felonies, didn't make it out of committee last session.

When Councilman Steve Atkins expressed frustration about judges not being tough enough on felony drug convictions, Lahey said there could be changes to the panel that selects district judges in the state.

Lahey said the drive would be to give the governor the power to reject a slate of judge

nominees as well as put more citizens (and fewer attorneys) on the Judicial Council so the courts will "have more judges that reflect our community values."

Lahey also said there will be work on legislation that would clean up areas of impact and annexation regulations for cities that neighbor one another.

Other legislation could address how the public can help determine what material a public library or school library can offer children, human trafficking, the adult content switch built in to cellphones, and focusing urban renewal efforts more on eliminating blight and less on economic development.

Councilman Mike Aebischer pushed for work to eliminate



Durrant

the grocery tax.

"If they take the grocery tax away, they'll tax us somewhere else," Mayor Gheen Christoffer-sen said.

Lahey said the Legislature is always looking for ways to reduce Idahoans' tax burden. He added that he will support a grocery tax repeal because that's what his constituents want.

Lahey also said the Legislature will look at signing on with other states that are trying to organize a Constitutional Convention to seek amendments to the U.S. Constitution regarding a balanced federal budget and fiscal restraint in Washington D.C., congressional term limits, and federal jurisdictional constraints.

— JPB



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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.

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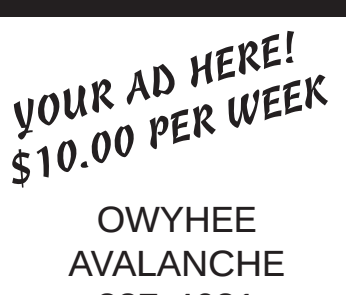
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Opportunities for producers to enhance knowledge in new year

The 2023 Idaho Range Livestock Symposium is coming to Homedale next week! It will be held from 9 a.m., to 3 p.m., on Monday at the Owyhee County Community Center at the fairgrounds on West Nevada Avenue. Cost is \$10, and a tri-tip lunch will be provided. There is also a virtual option available on Tuesday.



Scott Jensen

Pre-registration is required and can be found at <https://www.uidaho.edu/cnr/rangeland-center/events/idaho-range-livestock-symposium>.

The 2024 symposium will kick off with a presentation by Dr. Randall Raymond from Simplot Livestock. Dr. Raymond has been leading an effort to address heart failure issues in feedlot cattle. While this topic may initially seem to only be applicable to cattle feeders, researchers with Simplot Livestock are finding that there may be some genetic links to the issue, which should be of interest to all cattle producers. Dr. Raymond will share the latest on their research findings as well as some recommendations on things to keep an eye on for the future.

The Bureau of Land Management has proposed a Conservation and Landscape Health rule. What does the proposed rule say and what do you need to know about it? Idaho State Range Program manager Thadd Strom will share some basic information about the proposed rule and what it might mean to Idaho permittees. In addition to that, Thadd will also share 2024 Idaho range program updates.

Noxious weeds on rangelands, in pastures, and in hay fields are an ongoing concern. University of Idaho weed scientist Dr. Tim Prather will discuss weed control strategies to help land managers and producers make progress in this battle. Extra focus will be spent on Rush Skeletonweed and controlling weeds in alfalfa. This will include herbicide options and cultural control methods.

I will be speaking on the topic of Grazing Practices

to Manage Invasive Annual Grasses. This presentation will focus on how we can use livestock as a tool to manage annual invasive grasses such as Medusahead and cheatgrass. We will discuss timing and supplementation strategies to attract cattle to desired areas. We will also discuss how properly applied grazing can reduce the need for herbicide use.

The final speaker will be University of Idaho Extension Educator Joseph Sagers. You may have heard about the Climate Smart grant that U of I received or perhaps not. In any case, Joseph will share some of the details regarding how you might benefit as a producer. In general, Climate Smart funding will go directly to farmers to incentivize them to implement growing techniques generally understood to improve soil health and store carbon.

- The timing is very short, but Friday there is an additional educational opportunity in the Treasure Valley for beef cattle producers. Back to the Basics of Beef Production is a one-day workshop brought to you by University of Idaho Extension. There will be five speakers/stations on the topics of disease management and vaccination protocols, EPD selection for maximizing production, bull breeding soundness and sperm morphology, using computer ration software, and a calf necropsy demonstration. Cost for the workshop is \$10 and includes lunch.

The program will be held from 10 a.m., to 3 p.m., on Friday at the U of I Caldwell Research and Extension Center, 1904 E. Chicago St., in Caldwell.

The official RSVP deadline is prior to press time for this edition of The Owyhee Avalanche, but with a quick email to me at scottj@uidaho.edu, we will squeeze you in.

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



Gospel group returns

Liberty Quartet performed at the Homedale Senior Center last month. The local gospel group returns for a concert at the Mountain View Church of the Nazarene at 10:30 a.m., on Sunday.

Calendar

Today

Ladies coffee group

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

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

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous

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

Sunday

Liberty Quartet performs

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

Monday

Idaho Range Livestock Symposium

9 a.m. registration/check-in, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., symposium. \$10 per person, Community Building, Owyhee County Fairgrounds, 432 Nevada Ave., Homedale. Registration/Information: uidaho.edu/rangesymposium

Board of County Commissioners meeting

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

Homedale district library board meeting

10 a.m., Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228

Opal Nash Story Time

10 a.m., to 11 a.m., ‘Allison Hubler, Miss Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo Queen visit’, Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W.

Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228

After School Program

4:30 p.m., to 5:30 p.m., ‘Journal Decorating’, Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228

Tuesday

Fit and Fall class

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

Homedale Fire commissioners meeting

Noon, The Bowling Alley, 18 N. 1st St. W.

Region III assistance assessments

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

Ridgeview Irrigation District meeting

1 p.m., South Board of Control office boardroom, 201 W. Wyoming Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3760

Gem Irrigation District meeting

1:15 p.m., South Board of Control office boardroom, 201 W. Wyoming Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3760

South Board of Control meeting

1:30 p.m., South Board of Control office boardroom, 201 W. Wyoming Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3760

Square Dance class

6 p.m., to 7:30 p.m., advance registration necessary, Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. Registration: (208) 337-4228 or visit the library

American Legion Post 128 meeting

7 p.m., Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Post 128 Community Center, 126 W. 2nd St. N., Marsing.

Alcoholics Anonymous

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

Wednesday

Ladies coffee group

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

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

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

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.

Obituaries

Rodger Robbins

(1949 - 2023)

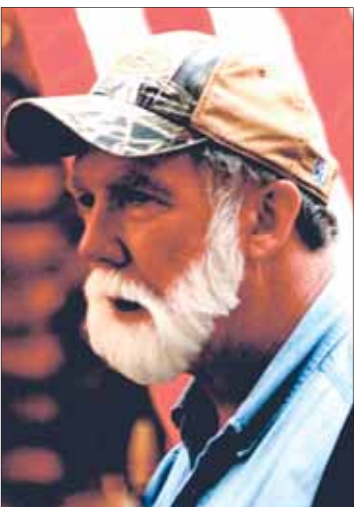
Rodger Robbins, a lifelong resident of the Treasure Valley and local business owner, passed away on December 18, 2023, at the age of 74.

Rodger was born on January 17, 1949, in Caldwell, Idaho, to Elmer and Luciele (née Simpkins) Robbins; one of five children (Patty, Harold, Betty, and Ralph). He grew up in Canyon County near the Snake River and during his teen years worked summers at Symms Fruit Ranch. He graduated from Vallivue High School, where he was known for the wit of his teasing humor and playing the trombone in the school band.

In 1967, he married Terry Moore of Marsing (div. 2000) and they had two children together — Timothy and

James. Rodger enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1968 and was deployed in the ground infantry on the front lines during the height of the Vietnam War where he was wounded in combat and awarded the Purple Heart medal. After his tour of duty he was promoted to Drill Instructor to train new recruits at Camp Pendleton in San Diego. In 1972 he decided to return to his home state and received an honorable discharge.

Upon his return to Idaho, the family settled in Nampa, where he was employed for nearly ten years as a concrete pourer. In 1981, Rodger founded Idaho Tool & Equipment with his business partner. The business quickly grew and became known for the knowledgeable expertise of its management



and employees. Idaho Tool & Equipment is still a thriving Nampa business. In 1991, his granddaughter Jamie was born; daughter of James Robbins.

In 2001, Rodger married Dawn Knaup, with whom he shared a love of the outdoors and country living. They built a second home in the small tight-

knit community of Cuprum north of Council where they lived full-time for several years after his retirement, while also keeping their residence in Nampa. Rodger cherished hunting as a central activity of his life, and he most enjoyed going on deer, elk, and bear hunts with friends and family. As a mountain man at heart, he enthusiastically studied, retold, and memorialized the explorer and pioneer history of the region. Rodger and Dawn regularly hosted many social and celebratory gatherings for all their neighbors in Cuprum that contributed to the spirit of local belonging for everyone living there.

During the final years of his life, Rodger spent most of his time back in Nampa to be closer to the many family

members and friends living in the valley. There he played happily with his beloved pet dogs and built himself a fish pond. In these years, he liked to spend his mornings studying scripture and learning to play the banjo.

In words and deeds, Rodger vigorously championed the American values and traditions of patriotism, liberty, self-reliance, and small business entrepreneurship. Rodger will be deeply missed by his wife Dawn, his two sons, his granddaughter, his surviving brother and sisters, and all of the people he loved and was loved by in his life.

Family will join with friends in the coming spring to remember and celebrate on Windy Ridge, where his remains will reside in Cuprum.

Death notice

DONNA RUTH JARVIS GORDY, 81, of Homedale, died on Friday, Dec. 29, 2023 at a Boise skilled nursing facility. No arrangements have been announced.

Mexican food prep class slated

The University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension plans a hands-on cooking class later this month.

“From Garden to Fiesta Mexican Cooking and Canning” will be held from 5:30 p.m., to 8 p.m., on Wednesday, Jan. 24.

The class will be staged at the Extension office, 238 8th Ave. W., and the cost is \$25 per person or \$40 for two people.

Attendees will learn how to make dishes from scratch and safely can salsa. The participants will sample the food and take home a jar of salsa that has been made in class.

For more information, call (208) 896-4104.

Have a news tip?

Call us!

337-4681

Anderson (Andy) Thomas Loveland

Anderson (Andy) Thomas Loveland of Middleton, Ida. passed away peacefully on December 5, 2023.

He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Andy was born April 22, 1935, at Cliffs, Owyhee, Ida. and raised in Jordan Valley, Ore., where he went to school and graduated high school in 1953.

He worked as a cowboy and on July 18, 1955 he married Mary Josephine Grosvenor, they had two sons Steven D. and Shane W., and they lived in Central Point, Ore. He was very involved with the Boy Scouts in the Rogue Valley and he earned the Silver



Beaver Award. He worked for the Rogue Valley Sanitation Company for 17 years then went on to drive trucks. They later divorced in 1988 and Andy moved to Montana where he

continued driving trucks until he retired in Middleton, Ida.

Andy is survived by his son Shane W. Loveland of Central Point, Ore. his granddaughter Bridgette L. Loveland of Medford, Ore. Two grandsons Seth U. Loveland of Canaan, Conn., Elijah K. Loveland of Phoenix, Ore., Sisters Lova Easterday (Ray) of Hagerman, Ida., Ruth Clapier of Marsing, Ida., Tootie Turner of Middleton, Ida. And has many nieces and nephews.

Andy was preceded in death by his parents, granddaughter Lace Darlene Loveland of Phoenix, Ore. son Steven D. Loveland of Central Point, Ore., Brother David W.

Loveland of Jordan Valley and Sister Mildred J. Loveland of Jordan Valley, Ore.

The family wishes to thank Ashley Manor Senior Living (Middleton, Ida.) for the care and kindness shown to Andy. We also wanted to thank Ancora Health Service for the care in making his passing comfortable and their support afterwards and Dakan Funeral Chapel with all their help.

Services to be held later in June of 2024.

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2023 IN REVIEW

Events touch on small-town life



Owyhee Health and Rehabilitation in Homedale received another top award from its parent company, Ensign Group, so another flag flew above the care facility on West Owyhee Avenue. The flag signifies excellence is healthcare among Ensign Group facilities. Winning the flag is a rare feat.



As his colleagues cheered, Homedale Elementary School third-grade teacher Toby Johnson (left) embraced HES principal Tate Castleton upon winning the school district's prestigious teacher of the year award at May's banquet to close out the 2022-23 school year inside the middle school cafeteria.



The State of Idaho unveiled a second observatory at the Bruneau Sand Dunes State Park. The new Planewave CDK700 telescope provides imaging and remote use capabilities. The dome of the new observatory doubles as a planetarium, too. Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation photo



Owyhee County Sheriff's Sgt. Kenny Hoagland was recognized for his public service as the citizen of the year in Melba during the town's Olde Towne Independence Day Celebration on July 4. A 25-year veteran of OCSO, Hoagland has been a volunteer emergency medical technician and firefighter in Melba since 1988. Submitted photo



Gov. Brad Little got up close and personal with local residents and local cattle producers during his Capital for a Day outreach event inside the American Legion Post 83 Hall in Bruneau in February. Little speaks with (from left) Eric Davis, Sherry Colyer and Guy Colyer.

2023 IN REVIEW

The year in changes

Jill McKerrow (left) took the oath of office from Homedale Library District board chair Amanda Rice during the trustees' regular meeting on Oct. 9 inside the Homedale Community Center adjacent to the Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library. McKerrow succeeded Mil Shanley, who was elected from the rural portion of Owyhee County in May. Shanley resigned because she moved out of the district.



District 3 County Commissioner Cindy Bachman (center) had family on hand Sept. 5 when she took the oath of office to succeed the late Joe Merrick.

Sheriff's resignation tops leadership shuffle

Perry Grant became the third Owyhee County elected official in less than a year to resign when he retired at the end of March. County commissioners appointed Larry Kendrick as interim sheriff, and by August both he and former sheriff's Sgt. Tim Riha had announced they would seek election in 2024. Lynette Enrico will be sworn in as a Marsing city councilperson next Wednesday. Enrico won a coin toss Nov. 8 to become councilperson-elect. She and incumbent Marie Herman each received 45 votes in

the Nov. 7 election. A recount requested by Herman and carried out in Murphy confirmed the results. Hayzen Corder was appointed Marsing mayor in January after Chad Sevy's resignation. Corder won an uncontested election in November. The Homedale Highway District gained a new commissioner in May when Dennis Uria won a three-way race to succeed retiring Larry Prow. Kimberly Hotchkiss became the district's new secretary upon Terri Uria's retirement.



South Board of Control manager John Eells died in October, shortly after announcing that he would retire after nearly 30 years with the Owyhee Project. Last month, SBOC directors chose another longtime employee, Carl Seiders, as the new South Board manager. His first series of meetings comes Tuesday beginning at 1 p.m., in Homedale.

Bruneau producers clean up at Reno Hereford show

The Colyer family made the most of a trip to Reno and the Western States National Hereford Show on Dec. 1-2. Colyer Herefords out of Bruneau showed the grand champion horned bull, C CJC 4264 Advance 3125 ET. Colyer Herefords also won the premier breeder title in the horned division. While the Colyer brand took top honors in the bull show, Cruz Colyer of Bruneau was among the winners for polled cattle. Cruz was a two-time win-

ner with PSC NCC Gaia 3008 ET, collecting grand champion polled female and the spring heifer calf division title. Colyer Herefords also exhibited the reserve champion polled bull with C Reign Maker 3210 ET. Caldwell's Lydia Shaw was one of three National Junior Hereford Association members to earn scholarship at the Western State Hereford Sale on Dec. 1. Shaw received the \$2,000 John Ascuaga Memorial Scholarship.

Senior menus

Homedale Senior Center

Served at noon
Milk and roll/bread available each day
Jan. 3: Sausage gravy, biscuit, hash brown patty, green beans
Jan. 4: Pork roast, mashed potatoes and gravy, Brussels sprouts
Jan. 9: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, Harvard beets
Jan. 10: Enchiladas, Spanish rice, corn and peas

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)
Jan. 3: Country fried steak with country gravy, mashed potatoes, winter vegetables, peaches, Baci roll
Jan. 5: Polish sausage with Sauerkraut, baked beans, sunshine carrots, applesauce, whole wheat bun
Jan. 8: Fiesta chicken, corn and peppers, cascade vegetables, tropical fruit, whole wheat tortilla
Jan. 10: Hot turkey sandwich with gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, green salad, whole wheat roll

✓ Ordinance: Survey says 76 percent of landowners want some rules

From Page 1
changes are needed. "We need to get it out probably right after the first of the year, if possible," Aberasturi said. Public comment has closed after an extension following the Nov. 15 joint hearing before the BOCC and P&Z commission. A draft ordinance dated Sept. 27 and linked to the county's Community Planning webpage outlines proposed limitations on how long a person can use an RV as a temporary dwelling. Under the ordinance, it would be illegal to use an RV as living quarters unless that vehicle is located in an approved RV park. RVs can be parked on private property for storage. There are exceptions to the proposed law so long as the RV is parked in a zone where habitation is allowed and permits are obtained from the county:

- 180 days during new home construction with the issuance of a building permit and an RV permit. A 180-day extension would be possible.
 - 180 days during a home remodel with no provision for a time extension, and this class of permit could be obtained only once every three years.
 - Hardship permits would be available and allow up to 12 months temporary RV dwelling to benefit a person who has "medical or life problems" that create undue burden on the person or family.
- Penalties in the ordinance include an infraction and a \$250 fine for a first offense, and a misdemeanor and a \$100 fine per day of violation for the second offense. Under the ordinance, RVs used for sleeping could be parked on private property with a permanent residence for 30 days in a six-month period

and 60 days in a calendar year. RVs used for recreational, temporary or emergency occupancy on private property with no permanent residence would be limited to 14 days in a six-month period. "That provision was put in because we have so many people who want to spend the weekend here," Huff said. "We didn't want to be the Treasure Valley's playground where people come and put a strain on the services." One person testified that interest rates and building material costs have slowed his plan to build on property he has purchased and pays taxes for, so he continues to live in an RV to save money for construction. In all cases, proper sanitation guidelines would have to be followed. At each public hearing, officials received vocal opposition to the proposed ordinance.

Some insisted that the existing code limiting RV use be enforced. Huff said the county began enforcement in 2019, but a reduction to essential calls only during COVID-19 eliminated that effort. During the Nov. 15 hearing in Murphy, opponents said the county's attempts at regulation were unconstitutional, violated private property rights, and went against the county's own Bill of Rights that tries to protect against government overreach. But Huff told the audience at the last hearing that survey results and complaints that BOCC members receive about RVs in the county support some type of regulation. According to the survey, 61 percent of property owners who responded don't want Owyhee County to ease the housing crisis by allowing people to relocate and live in an RV. Sev-

enty-six percent of respondents were against unregulated RV use on private property. One objective of the proposed ordinance is to lessen the burden on emergency services created by RV dwellers who may not pay taxes to support those services. But at least one person at the last hearing said he owns the land on which his RV is parked and used as a temporary getaway and he pays taxes. Another objective is coordinating permits with the county assessor's office to ensure RVs used as residences can be located in the event of a medical emergency or other call for service. "We have seen a lot of increased response times for people in a camper," county 911 coordinator Colleen Studor said. "It would be helpful if you let us know that you were in the camper when you call us." — JPB

Community contributions fuel Marsing HUB’s mission

The Marsing HUB Pantry received nearly \$500,000 in donations and grants in 2023, but perhaps nothing tickled coordinator Becky Barkell as much as the Husky clothing a local businessperson dropped off late in the year.

BBC Design Co. owner Brenna Montgomery donated more than 300 Husky Gear items — sweatshirts, T-shirts, hats, gear bags, and blankets — valued at more than \$7,000.

“These items will go to schoolchildren and families that would normally not be able to purchase them,” Barkell said, calling the late-year donation “an incredible surprise.”

“Her gift was truly amazing.”

Montgomery felt fortunate to be able to share tokens of community spirit.

“I’m so thankful that I can do this for our community,” she said. “This community has provided so much for me over the years, and I just can’t explain how much this means to me to be able to give back.”

The good will doesn’t stop with Montgomery.

Barkell said a local rancher donated \$1,000 to purchase turkeys for Thanksgiving, and Hope House donated 200 hams. This enabled The HUB



BBC Design Co. owner Brenna Montgomery donated hundreds of Huskies gear items for The HUB clothing closet. Submitted photo

to hand out more than 250 holiday meats, Barkell said.

The holiday generosity was part of an effort that allowed the HUB to feed 4,188 families and 14,599 people throughout the year.

More than 141,000 pounds of food was distributed, including 20,000 pounds of food from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (half a semi-load), and contributions from the Idaho Foodbank, El-Ada

Community Action Partnership, and local canned food drives.

“The clothing side handed out an immeasurable amount of free clothing throughout the year,” Barkell said.

Partnerships with several organizations helped The HUB create fun events, bring in services and create giveaways at the pantry.

The Idaho Office of Drug Policy and Eat Together Idaho

provided \$1,000 that Barkell used to make 85 meal kits and distribute them on one of The HUB’s Wednesday pantry days.

“The idea was to support families and encourage them to have meals together,” Barkell said. “Studies have shown that families that eat together will have less chances of teens and children engaging in dangerous behaviors.”

Volunteers contributed more

than 888 hours of service in 2023, unloading freight, stock shelves, folding clothes and operating the pantry.

“They are a vital part of what we do,” Barkell said.

The Boise State University Nursing program has internships at the HUB, and students volunteered more than 500 hours throughout the school district last year.

“The work completed and the good energy they shared was an incredible experience for our school students,” Barkell said.

Marsing’s community school provides resources and services for families in the local community.

“We have many amazing partners that donated time, money and services to The HUB and pantry,” Barkell said.

Idaho Power donates new coats each fall, money from community members helps The HUB purchase food items, and Blue Cross Foundation of Idaho, the United Way of Treasure Valley and Southwest District Health provide grants and volunteer hours, too.

“There are so many key partners that make The HUB successful,” Barkell said.

— JPB

School menus

Homedale Elementary

Choice of milk and juice

PB&J sandwich, and vegetable and fruit choices offered daily

Jan. 3-4: No School – Christmas break

Jan. 8: **Breakfast:** French toast bites, syrup cup, string cheese, applesauce **Lunch:** Mini corn dogs, steamed buttered carrots chocolate chunk cookie

Jan. 9: **Breakfast:** Sausage patty, whole grain toast, Yami yogurt, sliced pears **Lunch:** Super nachos, refried beans, carrot sticks

Jan 10: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon roll, string cheese, mixed fruit **Lunch:** Orange chicken bowl, mixed vegetables

Homedale Middle

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

Vegetable and fruit choices offered daily

Jan. 3-4: No School – Christmas break

Jan. 8: **Breakfast:** French toast bites, syrup cup, string cheese, applesauce **Lunch:** Popcorn chicken, steamed buttered carrots, whole grain roll, snickerdoodle cookie

Jan. 9: **Breakfast:** Sausage patty, whole grain toast, Yami yogurt, sliced peaches **Lunch:** Super nachos, refried beans, carrot sticks

Jan 10: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon roll, string cheese, mixed fruit **Lunch:** Orange chicken bowl, seasoned

green beans, spring roll, fortune cookie

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

Jan. 3-4: No School – Christmas break

Jan. 8: **Breakfast:** Buttermilk pancakes, syrup cup or bagel and cream cheese, fruit smoothie **Lunch:** Popcorn chicken, crinkle fries, breadstick **Grab ‘n’ go:** Italian sub meal

Jan. 9: **Breakfast:** Scrambled eggs, sausage patty, whole grain toast, iced coffee **Lunch:** Cheeseburger, curly fries **Grab ‘n’ go:** Malibu chicken wrap

Jan 10: **Breakfast:** Breakfast pizza, Yami yogurt, fruit smoothie **Lunch:** Chicken or spicy chicken sandwich, Tater Tots **Grab ‘n’ go:** BBQ chicken salad

Marsing

Each meal includes choice of milk, fruit juice, fresh fruit & vegetables

Elementary each day: **Breakfast:** Cereal option

Middle/High School each day: PB&J option

Cold Grab-n-go line: Wrap, sub sandwich, salad

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

Jan 3: **Breakfast:** Glazed donut, string cheese, mixed fruit **Lunch:** Glazed chicken drumstick,

buttered corn, steamed rice, roll **Cold Grab-n-go:** Chicken bacon ranch wrap

Jan. 4: **Breakfast:** Scrambled eggs, muffin, string cheese **Lunch:** Pepperoni pizza ripper, tossed salad, pineapple tidbits, Jello **Hot Grab-n-go:** Chicken sandwich, curly fries

Jan. 8: **Breakfast:** Texas toast, string cheese, applesauce **Lunch:** Spaghetti, mixed vegetables, garlic toast **Hot Grab-n-go:** Garlic French bread cheese pizza, Tater Tots

Jan. 9: **Breakfast:** Biscuit, pork sausage patty, country gravy, sliced pears **Lunch:** Popcorn chicken, green beans, breadstick **Cold Grab-n-go:** Very berry chicken salad

Jan 10: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon roll, Yami yogurt, banana **Lunch:** French toast sticks, pork sausage patty, hash browns, strawberry cup **Cold Grab-n-go:** Asian chicken krunch wrap

Bruneau/Grand View

All meals: Milk and fruit offered daily

Jr.-Sr. high school: Pizza offered daily

Jan. 3-4: No School – Christmas break

Jan. 8: **Breakfast:** Cereal **Lunch:** Pizza, tossed romaine salad, corn

Jan. 9: **Breakfast:** Apple frudel **Lunch:** Glazed chicken, tossed romaine salad, steamed carrots, whole wheat roll

Jan 10: **Breakfast:** Waffle **Lunch:** Nachos with whole wheat chips, refried beans/salsa, broccoli

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Avalanche Sports

Marsing wrestles at Wolfe Invite Girls both win titles

Trinity Stimmel and Erika Frazier picked up shiny things for New Year’s on Friday.

The Marsing High School wrestlers pinned their way to gold medals at the Juston Wolfe Invitational girls’ tournament in Glenns Ferry.

The pair went undefeated in

— See *Girls*, page 14

Boys meet for medal at 220 lbs.

Jonathan Leon won a dog-fight with a teammate for fifth place in the Juston Wolfe Invitational on Friday.

The Marsing High School senior caught Ryan Baxter with two seconds left in the opening period of their fifth-place match at Glenns Ferry High School.

The Huskies’ 220-pounders were among several Marsing medalists in the year-end tournament.

Jarrek Crandall (285) and Tyson Holloway (145) finished fourth in their respective divisions.

Crandall endured a round robin competition with four bouts in one day. He went 2-2 with pinfalls against Wendell’s Deegan Gonzales (1 minute, 40 seconds) and New Plymouth’s Nathan Willoughby (57 seconds).

Crandall also was involved in one of the best matches of the day when he opened the 285-pound tournament with a 1-0 loss to West Side’s Aaron Daniel.

Holloway lost the bronze-medal match at 145 when Glenns Ferry’s Luis Rodriguez pulled off a pin in 63 seconds.

EJ Young took seventh at 145 with a 23-second pin of Daniel Gomez from Wendell.

Tristan Izzard (195) pinned New Plymouth’s Eric Valero in 49 seconds for seventh place.

Peyton Showalter (160) finished 10th after Tri-Valley’s Toby Walker picked up a pin at 2:42 of their ninth-place match.

2023 IN REVIEW Championships and milestones



Karlie Kildow (second from right) and her Homedale High School teammates celebrate her game-opening goal in the 3A District III semifinal win vs. McCall-Donnelly on Oct. 10.

NFL debut, top state accolades highlight local achievements

Former Homedale High School and Boise State University standout Scott Matlock was selected in the sixth round by the Los Angeles Chargers in the NFL Draft in April. By the end of the year, the rookie defensive lineman was averaging more than 20 snaps per game for the Chargers.

Junior Braden Ankeny highlighted Marsing’s stay at the 2A track and field state meet with two school records (400 and 200 meters) and three state championships (100, 200 and 400) in Middleton. He won three titles, and the Huskies’ boys’ 4x400-meter relay team broke the school record at the District III meet. Teammates Nate Delaney (fourth, boys’ shot put) and Emily Vanosdall (fifth, girls’ triple jump) also collected state medals.

Rimrock High School record when he finished fourth in the 1,600-meter run at 4 minutes, 36.2 seconds at the Knight Invite in Boise in late April. In May, he set the 1,600 record again with a third-place time (4:34.14) and broke the 800 mark (2:03.61) for eighth at the 1A state meet. Amanda Dygert was named 1A Western Idaho Conference coach of the year.

Melba High School delivered a volleyball repeat with a second consecutive 2A state championship. Tariah Carter earned player of the year honors for All-State and 2A WIC, and Mustangs’ leader Curtis Johnson was named state coach of the year. Other All-Staters included Ellie Johnson, Joelle Kelly, Ella Stosich and Jessica Tackett.

Junior Loyd Boren broke a 31-year-old

— See *2023*, next page



Competing last month in Nampa, Noah Bowen (center) passed up wrestling in the 2023-24 season to compete with the Homedale High School cheer squad. The cheerleaders finished eighth in Sideline routine during the state tournament in Nampa in February. Photo by Joshua Gray / GrayHawk Photography

Trojans attain five Anthony crowns

Homedale High School wrestlers brought home a slew of first-place medals from Friday’s Charlie Anthony Memorial in Ontario, Ore.

Senior Brodie White cruised through round robin action to win the 215-pound championship.

It was one of five gold medals for the Trojans.

He had four pins, all within seconds of the start of his bouts. Trackwrestling.com reports no time of stoppage in White’s opening win against Amado Chavez from Nyssa, Ore.

White was finished before the first-period quarter post in each of his bouts, pinning Four Rivers (Ore.) wrestler Jaden Cardenas in 14 seconds and stopping Ontario wrestlers Angel Ortega (19 seconds) and Conner Ramos (23 seconds).

Sophomore Wylee Bidiman beat Nampa Christian’s Riley Workman, 8-3, for the title at 126 pounds.

Lane Zehr was perfect in round robin action, posting five pinfalls to win the 132-pound championship.

Among his victories were two triumphs against fellow 3A Snake River Valley conference representatives. The sophomore pinned Payette’s Elijah Durrett in 2 minutes, 50 seconds, and put the Pirates’ Daniel Moinze on his back at 1:39.

Senior Andrew Marston also took care of another Payette wrestler, Darrien Pecunia, with a pin at the 1:21 mark of their 165-pound title bout.

Sophomore Kade Hall battled through round robin action for the 175-pound crown. He gutted out a 3-2 win over Nyssa freshman Joaquin Cuevas to start the day.

He beat fellow HHS wrestler Peyton McCarney with a pinfall at the end of the second period.

Robert Johnson (190) lost only once in round robin bouts and finished runner-up to Payette’s Talon Heinley.

The deciding factor was Heinley’s pin at 1:38 in the

— See *Trojans*, page 14

Sports

✓ 2023

From previous page

Eventual 2A Western Idaho Conference player of the year Kendall Clark surpassed the 1,000-point career scoring mark and the Melba High School girls' basketball team won another 3A District III championship before capping a perfect 26-0 season with the state title in February.

Homedale swept the 3A District III titles in softball and baseball. The Trojans finished fourth in the 3A baseball state tournament. HHS softball standouts Dani Sitts and Olivia Asumendi would earn All-State honors.

Jaxon Dines scored 33 points in the home finale of his prep career to lead Homedale High School to a 67-58 win over Fruitland in the 3A District III championship game on Feb. 23. The Trojans were 0-2 in the 3A state tournament. Dines was later named 3A Snake River Valley conference player of the year and placed on the All-State team.

Sophomores Gwen Parker and Luke Henry grabbed fourth-place medals, and the



3A Snake River Valley conference co-player of the year Dillon Fine (Homedale baseball) signed with the University of Utah, and Braden Ankeny (Marsing track and field) signed with the University of Montana. The Div. I letter of intent signings highlighted a string of commitments last year including, from Homedale, Jacy Parker (The Evergreen State College basketball and volleyball), Mason Strong (The College of Idaho football), and 3A SRV player of the year Dani Sitts (Hastings, Neb., College softball), and Adrian track standouts Jace Martin (Air Force Academy, pictured) and Jesse Walker (Treasure Valley Community College).

Homedale boys were 3A golf state runners-up. Another 10th-grader, Tyler Erickson, and Parker finished third in the District III tournament with the HHS boys winning the championship and the girls taking third. The Trojans girls also won the 3A academic state championship with a 3.931 grade-point average.

Junior Michael Rose (285 pounds) and freshman Trell McFarlane collected third-place medals for Homedale High School in the 3A wrestling state tournament on Feb. 25.

Owyhee County resident McKoy Richardson (152) and teammate Grant Svedin (145)

were runners-up in the 2A state meet as Melba finished sixth overall.

Adrian senior Chase Andrade earned a bronze medal at 182 pounds in the 1A/2A Oregon state tournament.

The Adrian boys won the 1A Oregon track and field state championship, and the girls were a close second. Jace Martin set two state meet records and won the 100-, 200-, and 400-meter boys' races. Martin also was part of the Antelopes' championship 4x400 relay team with Carter Bayes, Jesse Walker, and Chase Franklin. Addy Martin won girls' state titles in the 100, 200, and 400. Presley Speelmon grabbed gold in the girls' 800 and 1,500.

Melba High School delivered a volleyball repeat with a second consecutive 2A state championship. Tariah Carter earned player of the year honors for All-State and 2A WIC, and Mustangs' leader Curtis Johnson was named state coach of the year. Other All-Staters included Ellie Johnson, Joelle Kelly, Ella Stosich and Jessica Tackett.

The Melba boys came up one

game short of perfection, seeing a 25-game win streak and hopes of a second consecutive state title end against Bear Lake. Spencer Trappett was named 2A WIC coach of the year, and Braden Volkers was player of the year.

History was made when Adrian High School qualified for the 1A Oregon boys' basketball state tournament for the first time. The Antelopes finished third.

Rimrock High School's impressive boys' basketball season ended with a loss in the 1A, Div. I state tournament play-in game.

Jordan Valley High School rallied for fourth place in the 1A Oregon girls' basketball state tournament.

Abbi Jones (tennis) and Raymond Smith (golf) began their first seasons as Homedale High School coaches in the spring.

The Adrian community celebrated the completion of a \$1.5 million upgrade to the high school's track and field

— See 2023, next page

Homedale Trojans

THIS WEEK'S SPORTS

Athletes of the Week



Girls' basketball
Tiana Sorenson, so., G/F
2nd on team with 10.1 points
per game; 3.0 rebounds per
game



Boys' basketball
Jace Clover, so., F
Marsing transfer had 4
points, 3 rebounds vs.
Caldwell on Dec. 20



Wrestling
Wylee Bidiman, so., 126
11-5 with 5th- and 7th-place
tournament finishes

Girls' basketball
Varsity
Thursday, Jan. 4, home vs. Weiser, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 6 at Payette, 3 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 9, home vs. McCall-Donnelly, 7:30 p.m.
Junior varsity
Thursday, Jan. 4, home vs. Weiser, 6 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 6 at Payette, 1:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 9, home vs. McCall-Donnelly, 6 p.m.
Frosh
Thursday, Jan. 4, home vs. Weiser, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 6 at Payette, noon
Tuesday, Jan. 9, home vs. McCall-Donnelly, 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
Friday-Saturday, Jan. 5-6 at Rollie Lane Invitational, Ford
Idaho Center, Nampa, 9 a.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 10 at Weiser for 3A Snake River Valley
conference dual, 5:30 p.m.
Junior varsity
Saturday, Jan. 6 at International Minute Press Rumble,
Middleton, 9 a.m.



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Sports

✓ 2023

From previous page facilities.

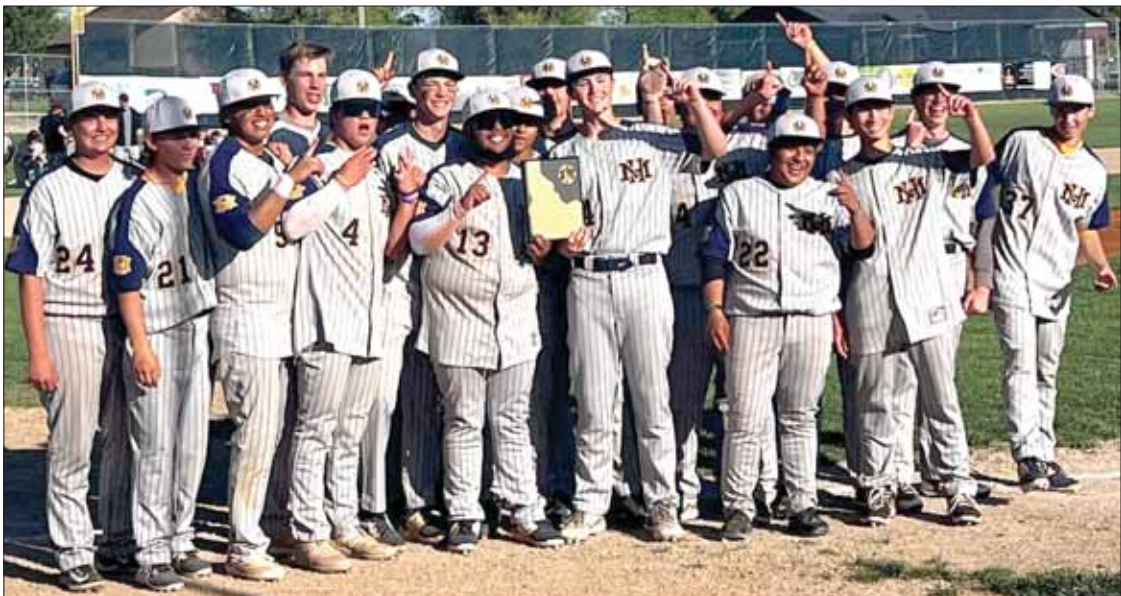
Former Rimrock High School standout Jackie Thurman was honored as the 1A Western Idaho Conference junior varsity coach of the year after leading the Raiders.

Homedale desert racer Rylan Binford won the 250cc A class championship — and finished 17th among the pro riders — during the Rabbit Creek 100 stop of the AMA Hare and Hound National Series in Murphy in March. Later in the year, he had moved to Arizona to race motorcycles professionally.

Rimrock sophomore Molly Mulberry made history when she finished second in a golf tournament in Eagle.

The inaugural Amy Christoffersen Invite was held in Parma in April as Homedale High School's track and field athletes waited for their new track to be completed.

HHS football assistant varsity coach and junior varsity head coach Josh White earned the prestigious Charlie Alvaro Awards, which District III coaching colleagues bestow.



Marsing High School's baseball team knocked off reigning Class 2A state champion Nampa Christian in the regular season then made history with the school's first district championship since the 1980s and a trip to the state tournament. Conference coach of the year JW Chadez's team took fourth at State. Teagan Kinney was named 2A WIC player of the year. Submitted photo

Former New Plymouth High basketball standout and The College of Idaho player Aidrie Voile becomes Marsing High School girls' coach months after district trustees decline a fourth year for Michael Swanson.

The Homedale High School girls' basketball players and coaches and community honored the late Austin Hyer by retiring her number in November. Hyer died in a springtime UTV accident.

McKoy Richardson and Brooklyn Dayley won championships, and the Melba

girls brought home another 2A District III track and field title.

At the 3A state meet, Homedale's Kinlee Garrett was runner-up in the 100- and 300-meter hurdles, and Carlie Moore (300 hurdles) and Morgan Nicoletti (girls' pole vault) each took fourth.

Jordan Valley sophomore Kenzie Tuttle finished third in the 1A Oregon girls' discus contest after winning the 1A District 4 title.

Homedale youth wrestler Hunter Bell won two national

championships during a trip to Utah in June.

Four Homedale youth baseball players competed in the Babe Ruth 13U World Series in Virginia in August after the Co-County Warhawks won the Pacific Northwest Regional championship in Bozeman, Mont.

The Owyhee Rivercats won a district championship and competed in the American Legion A state tournament as catcher D'Orr Packer committed to play college ball at Ottawa University Arizona.

Marsing's Braden Ankeny reached the Junior Olympics 200-meter semifinals, and Homedale's Alec Campos delivered a personal record in the javelin. Both had advanced to the national meet by winning regional championships.

The Owyhee County Rodeo's debut as a PRCA-sanctioned event was tempered by the serious injury of bareback rider Trenten Montero of Winnemucca, Nev. Montero later died in a Boise hospital. Allison Hubler was named Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo Queen.

Homedale High School history was made when the girls' soccer team played in the program's first 3A state tournament in October. The Trojans won the district title out of the No. 2 position, upsetting top-seeded Fruitland, 4-3.

Fleet-footed quarterback Dillon Fine was named the All-3A Snake River Valley conference offensive player of the year as Homedale won its sixth straight conference title and reached the 3A state semifinals for the sixth consecutive season. Fine, Brodie White, Emario Cuellar, Brock Walker, and Luke Henry

— See 2023, next page

MARSING HUSKIES

Athletes of the Week

This week's schedule



Girls' basketball
Josie Showalter, so., C/F
Averaging 3.2 points per game; 2 double-digit scoring nights



Boys' basketball
Dusty Engle, sr., G/F
Averaging 3.63 points, 2.25 rebounds through 8 games



Wrestling
EJ Young, jr., 145
9-5 record after Calhoun Classic

Girls' basketball
Varsity
Thursday, Jan. 4, home vs. Compass Charter, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 6, home vs. The Ambrose School, 2:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 9 at North Star Charter, Eagle, 7:30 p.m.
Junior varsity
Thursday, Jan. 4, home vs. Compass Charter, 6 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 6, home vs. The Ambrose School, 1 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 9 at North Star Charter, Eagle, 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, Jan. 5 at Mountain View JV Tournament, Meridian, 1 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 6 at Mountain View JV Tournament, Meridian, 8 a.m.

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Looking back...

from the files of The Owyhee Avalanche and Owyhee Chronicle

25 years ago

January 6, 1999



And the winner is...

Jerry Hoagland calls out the winner of the new Chevrolet pickup, whose ticket was drawn by Connie Brown of Lanny Berg Chevrolet in Caldwell.

Ranchers' pickup drawing finances legal case

A group of Owyhee County ranchers appealing a water rights case to the nation's highest court raffled off a 1998 Chevrolet pickup last week to raise money for legal expenses.

Brent Brocksome of Boise was the lucky winner of the pickup at a drawing held on New Year's Eve at Lanny Berg Chevrolet in Caldwell. The drawing raised enough money to pay to hire an attorney to appeal a Snake River Basin Adjudication water rights case to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Almost 400 tickets at \$100 apiece were sold, said rancher Jerry Hoagland. The case being appealed is an issue brought up through the SRBA regarding whether Public Water Reserve 107 is a valid basis for a federal reserve water right, Hoagland said.

Mustangs kick Husky girls 49-42

The Jordan Valley Mustangs defeated the Marsing Husky girls in a non-conference basketball game last Tuesday in Jordan Valley.

Mustang Marcia Lequerica made a game-high of 14 rebounds against Marsing and added 22 points with four steals.

Jordan Valley ran away from the Huskies in the second quarter with a 13-point lead and finished the half 27-14. The Huskies trailed the Mustangs by 26 points by the end of the third quarter.

In the fourth quarter, the Huskies turned on the pressure but not soon enough. The Huskies made 26 points to Jordan Valley's nine to get within five points. Lilly Carreon picked up 24 points and five rebounds, with teammate Melissa Cerda adding five rebounds and four assists.

Trojans win Fruitland Christmas tourney

The Homedale Trojans defeated the Ontario Tigers, 67-57, and the Gooding Senators, 55-47, to take first place in the Fruitland Christmas Basketball Tournament last week.

The Tigers committed 34 turnovers, which handed the Trojans 32 points. Adam Villanueva had his best game of the season, picking up 15 points.

Ontario took a 10-6 lead early in the first quarter. But in the second quarter the Trojans came back to tie the game at 10-10. Dusty Bauer ended the half with a bank shot at the buzzer to bring Homedale to a 28-28 lead.

Darren Uranga controlled the fourth quarter making 10 of his 20 points. Dusty Bauer finished with 18 points.

50 years ago

January 3, 1974



NEW JOBIES recently accepted into Homedale Bethel No. 31 are Carla Peterson, Coreen Waite and Shellye Hastriter. A special initiation ceremony was recently conducted at the Masonic hall. Photo by Bette Uda

Kuna will invade Trojan territory Saturday

Kuna Kavemen will come here Saturday for a return game with the Trojans.

It was toe-to-toe Friday night as Homedale surged back in the second half of a hard-fought contest with Vallivue, only to go down to defeat 72-68. The Trojans suffered a second blow in the game when Coach Garry Matlock collapsed.

The Trojans elected to continue the game and under assistant coach Jack Daniell made things hot for the high-flying Falcons.

Vallivue, behind the hot shooting hands of Mike Heithecker, Dee Pickett, Del Christensen and Lonnie Seamons, came roaring back in the second quarter and at the sound of the half-time buzzer had established a 42-33 cushion.

However, the third quarter belonged to the Trojans as Danny Landa turned red hot and popped the bucket for 10 third quarter points, leading the Trojans to a two point lead, 58-56, with one quarter remaining to be played.

But the Falcons turned on again in the final stanza. Heithecker tied the game at 58-all following the fourth quarter tip-off and the battle see-sawed until the 4:10 mark when Jon Stein put the Falcons ahead 63-64.

MATLOCK HAS TESTS

Garry Matlock, Homedale basketball coach, is still undergoing tests at St. Alphonsus hospital, Boise. Matlock, who collapsed at the Homedale-Vallivue game Friday night, was first taken to the Nampa hospital suffering from a possible cerebral hemorrhage. Principal Duane Root, who visited St. Al's Wednesday, said Matlock would probably have to remain in the hospital for some time.

Succor Crik Sam Sez:

"I got that there Arab flu — gas in the stomach instead of in the tank."

FOURTEEN CLASSIC BOOKS valued at \$25, were donated by Harry Arima (center) to Homedale Elementary School. Young Arima, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Arima, won the books in a recent contest. The books will remain in Robert Guy's fifth grade room where Harry is a student and at the end of the school year they will be placed in the elementary library.

153 years ago

December 31, 1870

SOUTHERN OPINION.—General Butler's idea that a foreign war would reunite the South and North is not endorsed by the Southern press. The Charleston News thinks the Southern people have had enough of fighting for the present, and it characterizes the idea that our Southern brethren are eager to do battle against a foreign foe for a sentimental love for the old flag as a wild one, founded upon a thorough misconception of their temper and spirit. The Richmond Whig also says the Southern people have no desire for any war, and the Petersburg Index is positively certain that nothing can be further from their wish or intention of that section than to fight under any flag, however starry, or in any cause whatsoever.

PAID THE DEBT.—The Idaho World is informed that Mike Goldman, formerly of that place, and at one time a resident of Silver City, was hung by a Vigilance Committee at White Pine a short time ago. Mike will be remembered as the person who killed Col. Wm. Long at Idaho City. He had killed some one else in White Pine and, it appears, was hung within an hour afterwards.

DANCING CLUB.—A society called the "Silver City Dancing Club" is being organized. There are already about 30 members. Dances will be held every Wednesday evening during the winter in the building formerly occupied by H. E. Leslie, photographer. The members are requested to meet there for permanent organization, &c., at half past seven o'clock Tuesday evening, Jan. 3d. The first dance will take place next Wednesday evening.

Local Hints and Happenings.

The Oro Fino is now yielding ore, that we are informed, will pay \$60 per ton.

The quartz mill at Fairview is completed and will be put in operation next week.

Next Monday is the day appointed for the County officers-elect to qualify and enter upon their respective duties.

Christmas passed off in the most orderly manner, although it was gay and lively. No fights, no drunk and disorderly; and only one runaway — nobody hurt.

Some ignominious thief stole a chair from the AVALANCHE office one evening this week. We hope he will feel the pang of a thousand pins every time he sits down on it.

A society called the "Hungry Brothers" has recently been organized here, and embraces its membership many of our leading citizens. Next week, we will probably be able to publish the names of the officers, object of the society, &c.

In the San Francisco Stock and Exchange Board last Saturday, Golden Chariot opened at 85. \$27,000 had been received on December account. On the same date Ida Elmore opened at 15 and closed at 13¾.

E. A. Thompson has erected a snug store at Fairview, and has it well filled with the principal staple articles of merchandise used in a mining camp. Thompson is an accommodating, clever fellow, and is bound to gain a multitude of friends and do a good business.

The weather has moderated. For the last two days it has been thawing, and in many places on the hill sides the snow has disappeared. The sleighing is almost ruined, and, if snow should not come in a day or two, teamsters will be compelled to take to their wagons again.

Commentary

Phil McGrane,
Idaho Secretary of State
and other GOP officials



2024 elections

Both parties weaken electoral trust, both must help restore it

by Secretaries of State Phil McGrane (R-Idaho), Michael Adams (R-Ky.), Brad Raffensperger (R-Ga.), and Scott Schwab (R-Kan.), and Lt. Gov. Deirdre Henderson (R-Utah)

This is a perilous moment of global instability. The very ideals of constitutional democracy that define America are at risk in every corner of the world. Amid such darkness, the United States is a beacon of hope for those who struggle under dictators and autocrats and yearn for peace, freedom, and self-determination. For democracy.

As Republican state election officials, we believe in the power of citizens to choose their leaders freely and fairly, and we have faith in the integrity of the election systems currently in place to carry out the voters' will. Nationally, we saw a successful 2022 midterm election. Many states worked to shore up confidence in the election process, adding many new legal provisions that our states of Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, and Utah implemented beginning in 2020. These reforms included preprocessing of absentee ballots, additional audits, and ballot-tracking. The outcome was a high-turnout election with not a single serious candidate contesting the election results. The system held up to scrutiny and won.

There are reasons why some still distrust the system. The main one is the toxic stew of disinformation, misinformation, and deliberate lies for profit or political advantage. And as conservatives, we recognize the damage caused by the drumbeat of falsehoods repeated about the 2020 elections. Despite the fact that the 2022 elections were largely undisputed and noncontroversial, there are still many voters who don't believe they can have confidence in the 2024 elections.

This is a bipartisan problem, though. Democrats have also sown doubt about high-profile election results in 2000, 2004, 2016, and 2018. While Republicans acknowledge our responsibility, it will take both parties to break the cycle and restore voter trust.

Repairing trust in voting takes effort at the local, state, and federal level. As the top election officers in

— See *Electoral*, Page 17

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 Washington Spotlighting Idaho's Spirit of Freedom

The enormous service of Idaho Veterans and the devotion to serving the veterans community is one of the things I most enjoy highlighting each year. Every November since 2002, I have had the great opportunity to honor Idaho veterans and volunteers for their outstanding service to our country and its veterans. The 16 Idahoans who are recipients of the 2023 Spirit of Freedom: Idaho Veterans Service Award once again represent the many deserving Idahoans who lift up others with their service and thoughtful care.

Veterans organizations across Idaho nominate the awardees. Since the award's creation, 387 Spirit of Freedom Awards have been bestowed. The award is presented in two categories: veterans and volunteers who assist veterans.

Often times, the award categories overlap, as Idaho veterans who have served our country return home and continue to give generously of their time and resources to helping fellow veterans, military families and many others. For example, this year, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 7019 nominated retired Marine Corps Col. William B. Johnson of Eagle. Johnson dedicated more than 31 years to military service, including several combat deployments, and he continues to give generously of his time in service to fellow veterans. He has devoted more than 150 hours over the past year and a half visiting veterans at care facilities with his Labrador Retriever.

Another award recipient, Kim McElliott, of Twin Falls, has served as a volunteer for the American Legion and its Auxiliary for an amazing 66 years. In nominating McElliott for this award, Victor Markell with the American Legion Post 7, described her as "a dynamic leader filled with enthusiasm and is very kind to all veterans in our Post." McElliott comes

U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo
Republican (term expires 2028)

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Subcommittees — Housing, Transportation and Community Development; National Security and International Trade and Finance; Securities, Insurance, and Investment; Energy, Natural Resources, and Infrastructure; Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Growth; Health Care; International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness; Social Security, Pensions, and Family Policy; and Taxation and IRS Oversight



from a family of veterans — her father, four brothers, two sons and her husband have all served in some capacity. McElliott said, "Some gave their all — I only gave a few hours."

Kim's humble sentiment reflects the deep respect for veterans that blooms across our great State. This year's awardees hail from Boise, Buhl, Caldwell,

— See *Freedom*, Page 17

Commentary

Financial management

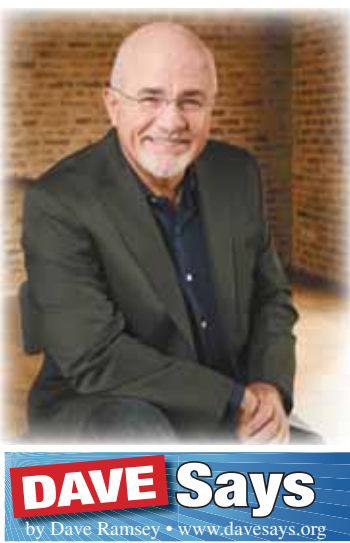
Make a plan, be disciplined and you'll win with money

Dear Dave,
My mom and dad always told me to live within my means. As an adult, I've made some mistakes with money, including falling right back into debt after paying off everything. I'm tired of this rollercoaster, and I want to get control of my finances for good. Can you give me some advice on where to start?

— **Melissa**

Dear Melissa,
It's frustrating, isn't it? But making mistakes with money means just one thing. It means you're human. We've all done it. Think about this, though. We've arrived at a traditional time of the year for changes. On top of that, you're smart enough to have realized what you've done

in the past hasn't worked. Believe it or not, I was once in the exact same spot you are now. When it happened to me, there were three pieces to the puzzle that helped me break the cycle. One was fear. Specifically, I was scared to death that I wouldn't be able to take care of my family, and that I'd retire broke. Now, don't misunderstand me. No one should live their lives in fear. But a healthy, reasonable level of fear can provide needed motivation. Another was disgust. I realized what I was doing was stupid. I was tired of living that way, and I made a conscious, purposeful decision that things were going to be different. The third piece, and maybe the most important because it's connected to our spiritual walk,



was contentment. We live in a society that's constantly having the idea that we'll be happier, or more successful, or more admired, if we'll only buy this or that product. We're constantly marketed to, and

when we have this stuff in our faces day after day, we can become unsatisfied with just about every aspect of our lives. Don't let it drag you down. It's all just an illusion. One of the things I did to combat this, was to start living on a strict, written, monthly budget. Also, I stopped going places where I was tempted to spend money. You shouldn't give a drunk a drink, right? So, don't put yourself in a bad situation when it comes to your behavior with money. If you go wandering through the mall without a specific plan, you'll lose every single time. When you go to the store make a list of only the things you need. On top of that, take only enough cash with you to buy what you need. If you can

walk in and back out without buying a bunch of stuff that wasn't on your list, it's a win. Every time you do this, it's another win and another step away from your old habits and in the right direction. You can do this, Melissa. God bless you.

— **Dave**

— *Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national bestselling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people take control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions.*

✓ Freedom: Veterans, volunteers alike saluted for helping other veterans

From Page 16
Eagle, Kuna, Lewiston, Meridian, Pocatello, Post Falls, Star and Twin Falls. Here is a complete list of the 16 recipients of the 2023 Spirit of Freedom Award:

- Veterans:**
- Leonard A. Crosby III, Post Falls;
 - Frank Ellsbury, Caldwell;
 - Thor Gunderson, Pocatello;
 - Robert Isabelle, Buhl;
 - William B. Johnson, Eagle;
 - Richard LeMaster, Lewiston;
 - Jon Osburn, Boise;
 - Melanie Palmer, Kuna;
 - James Peterson, Twin Falls;
 - Bruce Schofield, Boise; and
 - Tim Stovall, Meridian

- Volunteers:**
- Terri Brockman, Lewiston;
 - Kim McElliott, Twin Falls;
 - Dana Partridge, Star;
 - Vicki VanVliet, Boise; and
 - Rosemarie "Daisy" Wimer, Boise

Summaries of their service and the service of past Spirit of Freedom Award recipients are posted on my official website, www.crapo.senate.gov/about/spirit-of-freedom. I thank the veterans organizations that take the time to submit award nominations. This year, those organizations include American Legion Posts 7, 39 and 47; Bannock County Veteran Services; the Idaho Military Order of the Purple Heart; Idaho Veterans Assistance League; the Idaho State Veterans Homes in Boise and Lewiston; and VFW Posts 3604, 4000 and 7019. If interested in submitting nominations for

the 2024 Spirit of Freedom Service Award, contact Courtney Lehosit in my Boise office at (208) 334-1776. Idaho, home to more than 118,000 veterans, is replete with a sense of duty to our country and upholding its freedoms. We barely scratch the surface of recognizing deserving Idahoans with the Spirit of Freedom award each year. As I honor the 2023 Spirit of Freedom Award recipients and thank all Idaho veterans for their service, I also thank all those unrecognized who work relentlessly to ensure our country's spirit of freedom is never dimmed. — *Republican Mike Crapo is Idaho's senior member of the U. S. Senate. He is in his fifth six-year term and has served in the Senate since 1999, and 2023 marks his 30th year in the U.S. Congress. Prior to that, he served eight years in the Idaho State Senate.*

✓ Electoral: Transparency, public outreach about voting process will help

From Page 16
our states, we have both a responsibility and a unique opportunity to lead these efforts. While a plurality may distrust national elections, Americans, by and large, continue to have confidence in their state and local governments and in local elections. The loud voices that doubted the results of the 2020 election have been virtually silent about the results of the 2022 elections. This is the result of specific actions and practices we undertook to restore public trust in elections. We are calling on conservative leaders at all levels to join us in implementing proven strategies that have rebuilt trust in our elections by adhering to three main principles. As chief election officials, we have all attempted to abide by these ideals in our own states. First, we commit to publicly affirming the security and integrity of elections in the United States. Despite the polarized public narrative about differences in how elections are run between red and blue jurisdictions, a core baseline of laws and practices is in place across the country. These include practices such as

testing all voting machines to ensure they are secure, conducting audits of ballots after every election to confirm the accuracy of the results, and storing paper ballots in secure facilities to maintain a paper trail. The challenge is that too many Americans are not aware of these common security measures. Our experience shows that knowledge of them increases public confidence in election processes and results. Second, we will continue to use transparency and public outreach to reassure voters that elections work. Again, research and our own experiences have proven that public education about the voting and vote-counting processes builds public confidence in election results. We plan to continue public education and transparency practices, such as site tours of election facilities and ensuring access for poll watchers. We also can use the fact that voters trust their local elections to build trust for federal elections. After all, the same trusted local officials are responsible for administering national elections. To reinforce these messages, we will seek cooperation from trusted local leaders such as law enforcement, veterans, faith leaders, and civic groups.

Third, in the spirit of continuous improvement of our elections, we will continue to champion policy changes that help build trust. While Americans should already feel confident that our elections are conducted securely and accurately, prudent updates to election laws help improve public trust in elections. To that end, we encourage other states to join our states in preprocessing and tracking mail-in ballots, requiring voter ID for all ballot types, and performing audits. These practices have led to faster, more accurate, and more secure results and increased public trust in the outcomes. We recognize that the 2024 election will be contentious. We know that even adhering to these principles by the letter will not completely eradicate election distrust. But this is a moment, less than a year out from Election Day, in which election officials across the country must lead. We pledge to do everything we can to help build trust in the very foundation of democracy: the vote. — *This opinion was originally published Dec. 6, 2023 in the National Review.*

Public notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE OWYHEE COUNTY PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION On January 24, 2024 the Owyhee County Planning and Zoning Commission will hear testimony in the Annex Building of the Owyhee County Courthouse located at 17069 Basey St., Murphy, Idaho on the following matters at the times listed below. Beginning at 9:30 am, the Commission will hear application Z24-05 a request for a conditional use permit filed by Idaho Power seeking approval to construct two towers as part of a transmission line project from Boardman, Oregon to the Hemingway Substation located in Owyhee County. The subject parcel is approximately 79 acres owned by Ted Blackstock located ½ mile south of Sommer Camp Rd. in Melba, Idaho. The subject parcel, RP01N04W080000, is in an agricultural zone in a portion of the E½ of the NE¼ of Section 8, Township 1 North, Range 4 West, Boise Meridian, Owyhee County, Idaho. Beginning at 10:30 am, the Commission will hear application Z24-06 filed by Dave and Shelley Shenk seeking a two-year time extension for a previously approved conditional use permit to establish a 10-lot subdivision on approximately 113 acres. The subject parcel RP03N05W144801, is located in a multiuse zone in a portion of the SW¼ of Section 14, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, Boise Meridian, Owyhee County, Idaho. Beginning at 1:00 pm, the Commission will hear application Z24-07 filed by Tom and Veronika Frazier seeking approval to establish a second dwelling on approximately a 10-acre parcel located at 4339 Pershall Rd. in Marsing, Idaho. The subject parcel, RP02N05W110001, is in an agricultural zone situated in a portion of the NE¼, NE¼ of the NE¼ of Section 11, Township 2 North, Range 5 West, Boise Meridian, Owyhee County, Idaho. Additional information about this meeting is available at owyheecounty.net under Public Hearing Documents on the Community Planning page. The proposed projects are available for review in the Community Planning office or on the webpage listed above. For additional information please call 208-495-2095 ext. 2. 01/03/2024	/s:/Aiesha Zenor, Deputy Clerk 12/27/2023;01/03,10,17/2024 NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN THE MAGISTRATE COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF OWYHEE MAGISTRATE DIVISION Case No. CV37-23-00420 (I.C. 15-3-801) IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CINDY MARIE CEGNAR, Deceased. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that RONALD CEGNAR has been appointed personal representative of the above-named Decedent’s 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 29th day of December, 2023. /s/ Robert J. Tunison Robert J. Tunison Attorney for Personal Representative Tunison Law, PLLC P.O. Box 26 Caldwell, ID 83606-0026 Telephone: (208) 459-3659 Fax: (208) 459-9067 Email: robert@tunisonlaw.com ISB No. 10325 01/03,10,17/2024 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 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.	LEGAL NOTICE HOMEDALE HIGHWAY DISTRICT NO. 1 ANNUAL ROAD AND STREET FINANCIAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 BEGINNING BALANCE AS OF OCTOBER 01, 2022 \$800,000 RECEIPTS LOCAL FUNDING SOURCES Property Tax Levy\$108,608 Sale Of Assets\$33,720 Interest Income\$766 All Other Local Receipts Or Transfers In\$24,469 Total Local Funding\$167,563 STATE FUNDING SOURCES Highway User Revenue\$1,051,922 Sales Tax/Inventory Replacement Tax\$3,797 Sales Tax / Revenue Sharing\$13,740 All Other State Receipts Or Transfers\$855,946 Total State Funding\$1,925,405 FEDERAL FUNDING SOURCES Federal-Aid Rural\$0 Total Federal Funding\$0 TOTAL RECEIPTS\$2,092,968 DISBURSEMENTS RECONSTRUCTION/REPLACEMENT/REHABILITATION Roads\$552,030 Bridges, Culverts And Storm Drainage\$0 Other\$0 Total Reconstruction, Replacement\$552,030 ROUTINE MAINTENANCE Chip Sealing Or Seal Coating\$429,195 Patching\$1,176 Winter Maintenance\$3,600 Grading/Blading\$3,385 Bridge\$0 Other\$1,510 Total Routine Maintenance\$438,866 EQUIPMENT Equipment Purchase\$94,000 Equipment Lease/Purchase\$0 Equipment Maintenance\$63,441 Other\$0 Total Equipment\$157,441 ADMINISTRATION Administrative Salaries And Expenses\$192,969 OTHER EXPENDITURES Professional Services - Audit, Clerical And Legal\$9,000 Professional Services - Engineering\$0 Payments to Other Local Government\$0 Total Other\$9,000 TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS\$1,350,306 RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS\$742,662 CLOSING BALANCE\$1,542,662 FUNDS OBLIGATED FOR SPECIFIC FUTURE PROJECTS\$800,000 FUNDS RETAINED FOR GENERAL FUNDS AND OPERATIONS\$742,662 ENDING BALANCE\$0 HOMEDALE HIGHWAY DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS John Demshar, CHAIRMAN Scott Salutregui Dennis Uria 01/03,10/2024 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
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Public notices

LIEN SALE
Unit # J-27, Diana Cardenas, 615 Canyon Ave., Wilder, ID 83676— Items include tools, wood stove, ladders, and miscellaneous guy stuff
Silent auction will be held at Highway 95 Self Storage located at 3685 Highway 95 in Homedale. Auction closes at 1pm on January 13th, 2024.
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

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SALE EVENT
GUN SHOW - RUGER COLLECTIBLES. January 6 - 7. FORD IDAHO CENTER Sports Center, 16200 Idaho Center Blvd., Nampa, Idaho (Exit 38). Sat 9-6 & Sun 9-3. Info. 208-746-5555, Sponsor: Lewis Clark Trader

HELP WANTED
CITY OF HOMEDALE has a position open for Public Works Dept. Supervisor. Supervisory experience required. Must pass a pre-employment drug test. A maximum of 30-minute response time. PTO plus Medical; Dental and Vision Insurance provided. Wage Depending on Experience. Full job description available with application at Homedale City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming, Homedale. Cut off for application 01/11/2024.

HELP WANTED - **GENERAL LABOR** to help around small feedlot and help feed cows. Full-time position. Possible housing. Call 208-741-6850.

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

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Oreana chapel’s Catholic Mass schedule finalized

St. Paul’s Parish has released the 2024 Mass schedule for its Oreana chapel.

The first Mass of the new year at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Chapel takes place on Saturday, Jan. 13.

All services will start at 10 a.m., on the second Saturday of every month this year.

Other Masses are scheduled on:

- Feb. 10
- March 9
- April 13
- May 11
- June 8
- July 13
- Aug. 10
- Sept. 14
- Oct. 12
- Nov. 9
- Dec. 14

For more information, contact St. Paul’s Parish in Nampa at (208) 466-7031.

Marsing preschool gets grant

The Husky Pups preschool program recently received a grant.

The Idaho Community Foundation presented a \$5,000 grant to the Marsing School District program, which is located inside The HUB community school.

According to a press release on the school district website, grants such as that from ICF allows families to enroll their pre-kindergarten children in the Husky Pups preschool for \$100 per month.

There are three preschool teachers who oversee the early education needs for 18 students.

Courthouse report

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

- Dec. 22**
Doniyorbek Zoidxonov, San Francisco — Misdemeanor motor carrier violation, fail to stop at checking station or submit to inspection, grading or weighting: \$118.50 in fines, \$160.50 in court costs
- Dec. 20**
Enoch Diaz Ruiz, Marsing — Misdemeanor driving under the influence: 57 days in jail (served), 6-month driver’s license suspension, \$202.50 in court costs
Rigoberto Hernandez, Homedale — Misdemeanor DUI (plea deal): 180 days in jail (2 days served, 3 days to serve, 175 days suspended), 12 months supervised probation, 6-month driver’s license suspension, \$1,000 in fines (\$702.50 suspended), \$226.50 in court costs
- Dec. 14**
Martin Heredia Vergara, Melba — Felony burglary (plea deal; amended from felony rape): 1 to 6 years in state prison (1 day served), \$245.50 in court costs
- Dec. 13**
Juan C. Alvarez Mendoza, Burley — Misdemeanor motor carrier overweight violation, exceed allowable gross loads: \$443 in fines, \$160.50 in court costs. **Dismissed by court:** Misdemeanor failure to appear citation
- Dec. 12**
Carlos Ivan Montano, Yuma, Ariz. — Misdemeanor commercial freight regulations, false logbook: \$43.50 in fines, \$160.50 in court costs
- Dec. 8**
Jordan Tyler Davison, Marsing — Felony sexual exploitation of a child (plea deal): 3 to 10 years in state prison (289 days served), \$895.50 in court costs
Mariano Perez III, Homedale — Felony controlled substance possession (plea deal; amended from felony second-degree kidnapping): 1½ to 3 years in state prison (113 days served), \$635 in court costs
- Dec. 6**
Salvador Alberto Moreno, Caldwell — Misdemeanor marijuana possession, misdemeanor drug paraphernalia possession: \$200 in fines, \$197.50 in court costs
Umair Khan, Tuckahoe, N.Y. — Misdemeanor commercial freight regulations, false logbook: \$43.50 in fines, \$160.50 in court costs
Robert G. Mathews, Caldwell — Misdemeanor inattentive or careless driving: \$100 in fines, \$157.50 in court costs

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Jan. 8	Marsing - 201 Main St.	10 am - 5 pm
Jan. 9	Nampa - 207 1st St. South	10 am - 5 pm
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

**No charge with most insurance. Payment assistance is available if needed.*

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