

Established 1865

The Owyhee Avalanche

VOL. 39, NO. 52 \$1

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2024

Merry Christmas



Photo by Dave Wilper

From the priest, and from the congregation, let "Laus Deo" arise in one grand harmonious pean to the Throne above. Yes, "Praise God" for the Christmas light, and teach your little ones as they grow up the deep significance of the word, and the value of God's gift to man. "Wreath the holly, twine the hay, Christ was born on Christmas day," and, whether at home or abroad, in church or out, do not forget the angel's song, "Peace on earth, good will to men."

The Owyhee Avalanche, Dec. 24, 1870

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B section: Schoolchildren tell what Christmas means to them
Christmas message, Pg. 2A: Pastor discusses living in Light
Christmas giving, Pg. 3A, 8A: Communities team up to provide
All-State, Pg. 11A: Four Trojans make 4A football honor roll
Obituary, 7A • Looking Back, 11B • Commentary, 12-13B



Why we celebrate Christ



Children from Grand View-area Bible clubs performed “Don’t Miss Out,” their Christmas program, for the community on Dec. 15 at Valley Christian Fellowship in Grand View. Submitted photos

Christmas message

Come to The Light

by Nate Good

Light is so inviting, especially against the backdrop of cold, winter darkness. At Christmas time, festive lights shine in the darkness, and we revel in their beauty. What a fitting reminder of God Almighty entering into this sinful world to save His people from their sins (Matthew 1:21). Just as the prophet Isaiah foretold 600 years in advance: The people who walk in darkness will see a great light, those who live in a dark land the light will shine on them (Isaiah 9:2).

Matthew clarifies, in His gospel that the “Great Light” is Christ Himself (Matthew 4:13-17). After all, God is Light and in Him there is no darkness at all (1 John 1:5). Light here, clearly a metaphor of the righteous, life of God. As Jesus said: “I am the Light of the world, He who follows me shall not walk in the darkness but will have the light of life (John 8:12).”

Even though Light is so attractive, desirable and necessary, yet, strangely, it is far too often misunderstood,

Valley Christian Fellowship

Pastor: Nate Good
Address: 37866 State Hwy. 78, Grand View
Phone: (208) 834-2655

Schedule
Sunday School— 9:30 a.m.
Sunday service — 10:45 a.m.
Communion and potluck —
First Sunday each month
Potluck only — Third Sunday each month
AWANA Bible Club — 5 p.m., Sunday



*Pastor
Nate Good*

About the pastor

Nate Good grew up in Kuna and Melba, living and working on the family farm. A 1977 Melba High School graduate, he moved to Grand View in 1977. He attend Hesston (Kan.) College in 1978-79 and returned to Multnomah School of the Bible in Portland, Ore., from 1994 to 1998. He was ordained by the Evangelical Free Church of America in 2001 and began pastoring at the Valley Christian Fellowship in Grand View in 1992.

maligned and rejected: In Him (Christ) was life and the life was the light of men and The Light shines in darkness and the darkness did not comprehend it (John 1:4,5). And this is the judgment that Light has come into the world but men loved the darkness rather than the light for their deeds were evil, everyone who does evil hates the light and does not come to the light lest his deeds should be exposed (John 3:19). Here, I see an open invitation

to come to the Light! Do you see it, too? Well, there it is, a call to leave the darkness of evil and come join Jesus in His blazing light of righteousness, life and truth! Look at how the next verse calls us to obey or “practice the truth,” leaving selfish sinful ways, coming to Jesus, yielding ourselves to His authority and entrusting ourselves into His saving care; For everyone who practices the truth comes to the light that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God (John 3:20).

Jesus is the Great Light that comes to save His people from their sins! He comes to deliver us out of the domain of darkness and transfer us into His own kingdom of radiant light (Colossians 1:13)! Jesus, The Great Light, saves his people out of our darkness of sinful, independent wandering (all we like sheep have gone astray, each one has gone his own way— Isaiah 53:6). When Jesus saves a person, He brings the lost sheep into the fold, where He chooses to manifest the light of His presence on

Earth most prominently.

In ancient times, God radiated the light of His presence in the temple. In the Church era, He manifests the light of His presence in the new testament temple, the Church; Jesus is the Living Stone rejected by men but choice and precious in the sight of God, and His people are called living stones who are being built into a spiritual house (1 Peter 2:4,5). The church is called a “holy temple” in the Lord, a dwelling of God in the Spirit (Ephesians 2:21,22).

Think about it. Jesus, The Great Light, saves sinful, wandering souls, bringing us out of self-seeking independent wandering that is antithetic to Christianity. He brings His people into a gathered assembly where together we worship Him and proclaim Him in the dark world. You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:8,9).

THE CHRISTMAS STORY — LUKE 2:1-20 KJV

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæsar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judæa, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that

she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass,

which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Established 1865

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CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 14A

MAIN STREET CHRISTMAS, PAGE 9A

LEGAL NOTICES, PAGES 14-15B

MARSING’S BEST AND BRIGHTEST



Marsing Chamber announces lighting contest awards

The Marsing Chamber of Commerce recently announce the top three entrants in its holiday decorations contest. “We were blown away by the creativity, effort, and holiday cheer on display this year,” Chamber president Megan Poole said. “A huge thank you to everyone who participated. You truly made our town shine bright.” **Above:** The Cuellar Family on Don Street had the winning display. Submitted photos



The second-place display by the Arnold Family on Franklin Street featured a huge Santa.



The Whitehouse Drive-In on Main Street captured third place with decorations inside and out.



Marsing sheriff’s contract returns to front burner

State law:
Deputies must
serve city citations

Both sides agreed that they’d work for the good of Owyhee County, but the fate of the Marsing law enforcement contract may ultimately lie with Sheriff Larry Kendrick. Owyhee County Commissioners Kelly Aberasturi (District 2) and Jerry Hoagland (District 1) traveled foggy

roads to gather with county Prosecuting Attorney Chris Topmiller to discuss the Fiscal Year 2025 pact with the Marsing City Council on Thursday. Kendrick, who had visited with the council months ago, didn’t attend. “We should work together for what’s best for the county,” Aberasturi said to open the discussion with Mayor Hayzen Corder and the four council

— See *Marsing*, page 9A



BBC Design Co., owner Brenna “Bre” Montgomery stands with boxes of sweatshirts that she designed destined to Marsing School District staff and students this Christmas. Submitted photo

Marsing clothing marketer makes it a Husky Christmas

By now, Operation Husky Santa Surprise is officially an overwhelming success. Brenna “Bre” Montgomery of BBC Design Co., is responsible for the surprise for Marsing School District students and staff. “She wanted to figure out a way to give back to the community and to make an opportunity for each student to have a Husky spirit sweatshirt,” Brenna’s daughter, Jaci Montgomery, said. Bre Montgomery spent 10

days organizing the project, including more than 10 hours on design and production for 975 shirts for the students and staff. “I wanted to give back to the community that built my business,” Bre said. Montgomery enlisted Santa to come to the school complex and pass out the gifts. Before Santa arrived, though, she also organized a community event Dec. 16 to gift wrap each sweatshirt and sort them for each class.

Government offices closed next Wednesday

Avalanche deadline is Thursday

All Owyhee County offices are closed next Wednesday for New Year's Day.

The Grand View branch of the Division of Motor Vehicles will be open on Thursday, Jan. 2 for its weekly business day.

The county treasurer's office is closed Thursday (tomorrow) as part of its Christmas holiday, too.

- City Halls in Homedale, Marsing, Grand View, Jordan Valley, and Adrian are closed next Wednesday.
- Schoolchildren in all districts serving Owyhee country continue their

Christmas break through next week. They'll return to class on Monday, Jan. 6. The school districts include Homedale, Marsing, Bruneau-Grand View, Jordan Valley, Adrian, the Canyon-Owyhee School Service Agency and COSSA Academy, and Melba.

The HUB food pantry in the Marsing School District office will be closed next Wednesday.

- The New Year's Day holiday means there's a chance that The Owyhee Avalanche subscribers will receive their newspapers earlier than the publication date. But that also means deadlines will be altered for the Jan. 1 edition.

The Avalanche will mail the Jan. 1 edition on Monday, so there's a chance — postal

service-dependent as it is — that the newspapers will show up on Tuesday in some areas.

The deadline for legal notices, display and classified advertising, and news and community items will be noon on Thursday.

- Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library in Homedale will be closed today for the Christmas holiday, and the building will be closed next Wednesday for New Year's.

Lizard Butte Library in Marsing is also closed today and New Year's Day.

The Eastern Owyhee County Library in Grand View will be closed through Friday for Christmas and Tuesday through Friday, Jan. 3 for New Year's.

The Bruneau Valley Library is always closed on Tuesdays

and Wednesdays.

- The Homedale Senior Center will be closed next Wednesday for New Year's. The center is usually open Tuesday through Thursday each week.

The Rimrock Senior Center in Grand View is always closed on Wednesdays.

The Sandbar Community Room at Marsing City Hall, the location for congregate meals during the week, will be closed today and next Wednesday.

- The US Bank branch in Homedale is closed New Year's Day.
- Post offices throughout Owyhee County also closed next Wednesday and Jan. 1.
- Republic Services garbage pick-up in Marsing and Homedale will be delayed by one day because of New Year's.

- Albertsons is closed today for Christmas. The Homedale grocery store will close at 9 p.m., on New Year's Eve and at 8 p.m., on New Year's Day.

The Sav-On Pharmacy inside Albertsons is closed today and next Wednesday. It will close at 5 p.m., on Tuesday.

Homedale Drug and its liquor store are closed next Wednesday. The store will observe regular hours Tuesday.

Matteson's convenience store in Homedale will be closed today and next Wednesday. The store will close at 9 p.m., on Tuesday.

M&W Market in Marsing, which also houses a liquor store, will be open until 9 p.m., on New Year's Eve and from 8 a.m., to 6 p.m., on New Year's Day.

Businesses fail OCSO's alcohol compliance test

Operation using minors also nabs Marsing man

A grocery store and a bar were cited as was a Marsing man when the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office conducted alcohol compliance operations earlier this month.

All three citations stemmed from selling alcohol to a minor in violation of Idaho Code 23-603. Under the direct supervision

of sheriff's deputies, minors would enter establishments and attempt to purchase alcoholic drinks, Chief Deputy Steve Crawford said.

According to Crawford, Albertsons and Fisher's Saloon were cited after selling alcoholic beverages to an OCSO confidential informant on Dec. 14.

Luis Martinez Margarito, 69, of Marsing was cited for misdemeanors, including driving under the influence, driver in possession of an open

alcoholic beverage container, and purchasing alcohol for a minor. Margarito was arrested at the ExtraMile west of Marsing.

Two other people were cited for buying alcohol for minors, Crawford said.

If convicted of furnishing alcohol to a minor, the offenders could face a fine of between \$500 and \$1,000 per violation and/or up to a year in county jail.

A similar operation was conducted in the Bruneau-Grand View area on Dec. 13,

and Crawford said "no alcohol violations were observed."

The two-day campaign was funded by a grant OCSO received for alcohol- and drug-related operations, Crawford said. Part of the grant was funding for CIs to help fulfill the grant.

"The individuals (CIs) were used with permission from their parents and all under 21 years old, and within eyesight of a sheriff's deputy at all times," Crawford said.

— JPB

The Owyhee Avalanche

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Display advertising

Friday noon the week prior to publication

Inserts

Friday noon the week prior to publication

Classifieds

Monday noon the week of publication

Legal notices

Friday noon the week prior to publication

Letters to the editor

Friday noon the week prior to publication

(Limit 300 words, signed, with day phone number.)

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Man imprisoned for domestic violence, witness intimidation

A Caldwell man could spend as many as 10 years in state prison after agreeing to plead guilty in two domestic violence cases.

Rickey L. Newton was sentenced on Dec. 13 in the Murphy courtroom of Third District Judge Randall S. Grove.

In the latest case, Newton was accused of 17 misdemeanors and felonies, including a dozen no contact order violations, four felony counts of witness intimidation, and one count of stalking in the first degree, another felony.

The offenses took place between June and August.

In the first case, he was charged with attempted strangulation and domestic battery with traumatic injury — both felonies — in connection to a July 9 incident.

Newton entered a guilty plea in the stalking case. The stalking charge was dropped as were three counts of witness intimidation and 10 counts of violating a no-contact order.

Grove sentenced him to one to four years in state prison, but the term will be served concurrently with the longer sentence from the first case.

Newton was arrested on a warrant on Oct. 4 and entered not guilty pleas to the 17 counts three weeks later. On Nov. 22, he pled guilty to witness intimidation and two no-contact violations.

In the first case, the attempted strangulation felony was dropped when Newton pled guilty to domestic battery.

University of Idaho
Extension

Beef Quality Assurance
essential to help ranchers
put out best product

I recently attended the Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certification training in Twin Falls. This certification class sponsored by the Idaho Beef Council covered several topics that are essential to beef producers here in Owyhee County.



Jenn Smith



Register here

This QR code will direct ranchers to a survey and instructions on how to register for a Beef Quality Assurance class planned for Owyhee and Canyon counties.

Why is this important, you ask? There are several reasons Beef Quality Assurance is essential. Let's go through a few of the most relevant reasons to us here in Owyhee County:

1. Our county is a major contributor to the industry, and public perception of cattle production is constantly being assaulted by non-agricultural-based groups. Going through BQA certification is one way to assure the public that our animals are treated humanely and kindly throughout their lifetime.
2. BQA provides continuous training to beef producers for how to best handle cattle and medical treatments (i.e. vaccinations, health issue detections, etc.), saving the producer time and money.
3. Probably the most important reason for BQA certification (in my opinion) is to help ranchers and producers best prepare a biosecurity plan for contagious disease prevention in their operation. One of the most highly transmittable beef cattle diseases is Foot and Mouth disease (a k a hoof and mouth). While the U.S. doesn't currently have any cases, having a biosecurity plan in place to reduce and eliminate exposure in the event of an outbreak of this devastating disease can save the producer a great deal of time, money, and heartache.

Additionally, if your operation is "Farm to Fork," the Beef Quality Assurance logo is another certification to add to your marketing campaign.

Owyhee County and Canyon County Extension Offices are looking to host a Beef Quality Assurance session. If you are interested in attending, scan the QR code to complete a short survey or call the Owyhee County Extension Office at (208) 896-4104 for more information and to register.

— Jenn Smith is the *Live-stock and Range Educator at the University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Office. Contact her for more information on livestock or range issues at (208) 896-4104 or jennsmith@uidaho.edu.*

 Find us on Facebook
facebook.com/OwyheeAvalanche

Calendar

Thursday

Fit and Fall Proof exercise class

10 a.m., to 11 a.m., free, old Marsing High School gymnasium, 800 Main St., Marsing. (208) 296-0847

Prime Time Swingers perform

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

Food bank drop off

12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m., (weather permitting; holidays could change date), Jordan Valley Lions Hall, 902 Bassett St. (U.S. Hwy. 95), Jordan Valley. (541) 889-9206 or (541) 586-2562

Rivercats youth baseball camp

2 p.m., to 4 p.m., \$25 per camper for 2-day camp, 3rd through 8th graders, Homedale High School indoor hitting facility, 300 E. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. Registration: Homedale Trojans/Owyhee Rivercats Baseball Facebook page. Proceeds benefit Long Live Luke Foundation.

Young Mom's Bible study

4 p.m., The Rock, 310 E. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. Information: Kathy Deal, (208) 794-1048

Friday

Rivercats youth baseball camp

2 p.m., to 4 p.m., \$25 per camper for 2-day camp, 3rd through 8th graders, Homedale High School indoor hitting facility, 300 E. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. Registration: Homedale Trojans/Owyhee Rivercats Baseball Facebook page. Proceeds benefit Long Live Luke Foundation.

Alcoholics Anonymous

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

Saturday

Card games

Noon to 4 p.m., free, Melba Valley Senior Center, 115 Base Line Rd, Melba. (208) 495-2168

Monday

Board of County Commissioners meeting

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

Opal Nash Story Time

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

Tuesday

Fit and Fall exercise class field trip

9:30 a.m. (pick-up), 10 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. (class), Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (Class held at Wilder

Fire Station, 601 Patriot Way, Wilder.)

Alcoholics Anonymous

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

Thursday, Jan. 2

Teens and Tweens

5 p.m., to 6 p.m., 'New Year's party,' The Gathering Place, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228

Owyhee County Fair Board meeting

7 p.m., Owyhee County Community Center, 432 W. Nevada Ave., Homedale.

Friday, Jan. 3

Adult book club

5 p.m., 'Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte,' Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228

Saturday, Jan. 4

Card games

Noon to 4 p.m., free, Melba Valley Senior Center, 115 Base Line Rd, Melba. (208) 495-2168

Sunday, Jan. 5

Marsing Gun Club

8 a.m., sign-up; 10 a.m., shooting starts; Marsing Gun Club, 7598 Trap Shoot Rd., Marsing.

Awana youth Bible club

5 p.m., to 6 p.m., 'Movie & popcorn,' ages kindergarten through high school, Valley Christian Fellowship, 37866 Hwy 78, Grand View. Information: Amber Good, (208) 585-7694

Monday, Jan. 6

Opal Nash Story Time

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

Tuesday, Jan. 7

Fit and Fall exercise class field trip

9:30 a.m. (pick-up), 10 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. (class), Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (Class held at Wilder

Fire Station, 601 Patriot Way, Wilder.)

Fit and Fall class

10:30 a.m., free, Melba Valley Senior Center, 115 Base Line Rd, Melba. (208) 495-2168

Early Childhood Learning class

10:30 a.m., to 11:30 a.m., ages 0 through 5 (parents must attend with children), Eastern Owyhee County Library meeting room, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2785

Rusty and the Country Jammers perform

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

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

Owyhee County Church Directory

<i>Calvary Fellowship Homedale</i> Pastor Rich Wright 711 W. Idaho Ave. Church time is 10 a.m. Sunday & Wednesday at 7 p.m. River Youth Sunday at 6 p.m. (208) 296-7275	<i>Knight Community Church Grand View</i> Pastor Ivan Shetler 630 Idaho Street (208) 834-2639 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Thursday Men's Fellowship 7 p.m.	<i>Our Lady of Tears Church Silver City</i> Mass Summer Schedule TBA <i>All are welcome</i> For more information, call St. Paul's Church, Nampa (208) 466-7031 www.nampacatholic.church
<i>Iglesia Misionera Biblica Homedale</i> Pastor Fernando Gomez 132 W Owyhee • (208) 337-5975 Servicios: Vier - 7 p.m. - Oracion Mier - 7 p.m. Pr edicacion Dom - 10 a.m. Esc. Dom y 6:30 p.m. "Una Iglesia Diferente."	<i>Golden Gate Baptist Church Wilder</i> Pastor Robert Potter, Jr., CLP Corner of Second and "B" Streets Church time is 11 a.m. on Sunday Call (208) 880-4308 for information	<i>Crossroads Assembly of God Wilder</i> Pastor Michael McCormick Hwy 19 & 95, (208) 890-3046 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship 6 p.m. Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.
<i>Assembly of God Church Homedale</i> 15 West Montana, (208) 412-2946 Senior Pastor: Ivar Moore Sunday services, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. 11 a.m. has nursery, children's program Wednesday and Kidz services, 7 p.m. www.homedaleagchurch.com	<i>Friends Community Church Wilder - Homedale</i> 17434 Hwy 95, (208) 337-3464 Pastor: Scott Morin Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Services: 10:45 a.m. Sundays Christian Life Club (K-4th) 4 p.m., Wednesdays during school at Homedale First Presbyterian www.homedalefriends.org	<i>Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church Caldwell</i> 1122 W. Linden St. (208) 459-3653 Mass: Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 9:30 a.m. Spanish Mass: Saturday 7:00 p.m. Spanish Mass: Sunday Noon
<i>Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church Homedale</i> 621 W. Idaho Ave. Homedale. (208) 337-4248 Pastor Sean Rippey Sunday Services 10 a.m. Adult and Children Sunday School 9-9:45 a.m. Visitors Always Welcome! Call Church for Prayer requests	<i>Homedale Baptist Church</i> 212 S. 1st W., (208) 960-4496 https://homedalebc.org Sunday Fellowship 11 a.m.-Noon Second Sunday soup/meal Noon Fourth Sunday Communion Celebration and shared meal Noon Pastor: Paul Chismar	<i>Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Homedale</i> 708 West Idaho Ave Sunday 1st Ward, 11:30 a.m. Bishop David Hann Sunday 2nd Ward, 9 a.m. Bishop Chris Varuska
<i>Chapel of Hope Hope House, Marsing</i> Look for the Blue Church South Bruneau Hwy at the Hope House Welcoming Families, especially those with special needs children. Keith Croft, Pastor (208) 896-5366 (208) 896-4673 Sunday Services at 10 a.m.	<i>Wilder Church of God Wilder</i> 205 A St. E., (208) 649-7698 Pastor Ray Gerthung Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Service 11 a.m. Sunday Eve. 6 p.m. Wed. Eve. 7 p.m.	<i>Mountain View Church of the Nazarene Wilder-Homedale</i> 26515 Ustick Road (208) 337-3151 Pastor Mike Curry www.mvcnaz.org Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Worship 10:30 a.m. Adult & Youth Bible Class: Wed. 7 p.m. Wednesday Kids' BLAST 7 p.m.
<i>MARSING APOSTOLIC ASSEMBLY</i> Asamblea Apostolica de Marsing 107 W. Main • Marsing, Idaho Pastor Jose Gutierrez (208) 880-6172 Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Service 1 p.m. Wednesday Service 7 p.m. Bilingual Services/Español	<i>Iglesia Evangelica Wilder</i> 317 3rd St., Pastor Ramiro Reyes 10 am Sunday School 11 a.m. Service (208) 482-7484 Bilingual	<i>St. David's Episcopal Church</i> 1800 Arlington Ave. Caldwell, ID 83605 (208) 459-9261 stdavids@stdavidscaldwell.org www.stdavid.episcopalidaho.org
 <i>Christian Church Homedale</i> 110 W. Montana (208) 319-4650 Don Vander Boegh (208) 867-5418 Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m. Church school 9:45 a.m.	<i>Bible Missionary Church Homedale</i> 501 W. Idaho, (208) 337-3873 Pastor Ron Franklin Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. Sunday Evening 7 p.m. Wednesday Evening 7:30 .p.m.	<i>Assembly of God Church Marsing</i> 139 Kerry St., (208) 599-2374 Pastor Sergio Aristizabal Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Wednesday Prayer Service 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.
<i>Lizard Butte Baptist Church Marsing</i> Pastor Daniel Swaim 116 4th Ave. W., (208) 603-3063 Sunday worship: Morning: 11a.m-Noon • Evening: 6-7 p.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m-10:45 a.m. Wednesday evening 7.pm-8 p.m.	<i>Nazarene Church Marsing</i> Pastor Jody Hampton (208) 649-5256 12 2nd Avenue West www.marsingnaz.org Worship Services - Sunday 10:50 a.m. Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Sunday Evening 6 p.m.	<i>Trinity Holiness Church Homedale</i> Pastor Samuel Page (208) 337-5021 Sunday School 10 a.m. at 112 N. 4th St. Sunday Evening 5:30 p.m.* Thursday Evening 7:30 p.m.* *Sunday and Thursday evening services held at First Presbyterian Church, 320 N. 6th St. W.
<i>Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Marsing</i> 215 3rd Ave. W. Sunday 1st Ward, 10:30 a.m. Bishop Sean Rowley Sunday 2nd Ward, 9 a.m. Bishop Lon McRae	<i>Calvary Holiness Church - Wilder</i> Corner of 3rd St. & B Ave. Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. Sunday: 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday: 7 p.m. calvarypantry@gmail.com Food Pantry hours: 2nd Friday of month 5-7 p.m. 4th Friday of month 12-2 p.m. Calvary Holiness Food Pantry Wilder Idaho	<i>United Methodist Church Wilder</i> <i>Exploring the Bible: Public Invited</i> 2nd & 4th Tuesday: 4-5 p.m. Corner of 4th St. & B Ave. Pastor Dave Raines (208) 880-8751 Sunday Service 9:30 a.m.
<i>First Presbyterian Church Homedale</i> 320 N. 6th W. Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Christian Life Club (K-4th) 4 p.m., Wednesdays during school (Friends church sponsor) Rev. Heidi Smith-Takatori (208) 303-7414	<i>Vision Community Church Marsing</i> 221 West Main St., Marsing, Idaho (208) 779-7926 Pastor Benje Graves Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Adult, Kids & Youth Meetings Wed. 7 p.m. (Potluck dinner Wednesday at 6:15 before service)	<i>Garnet Seventh-Day Adventist Church</i> 16613 Garnet Rd., Wilder (208) 649-5280 Email: garnetSDA@icloud.com Sabbath School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7:00-8 p.m.
<i>Iglesia Bautista Palabra de Esperanza Homedale</i> 711 W. Idaho, (208) 463-9569 Pastor Jose Diaz Servicios: Los Domingos 11 a.m.	<i>Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church - Oreana</i> 2023 Mass Schedule - 10 a.m. second Saturday of month (except April, third Saturday) All are welcome! For more information, call St. Paul's Church, Nampa (208) 466-7031	<i>Amistad Cristiana de Wilder UMC</i> Esquina de 4 y calle B Domingos Servicio: Noon El Ropero (Banco de ropa) Miercoles 12- 2 p.m. Martes y Jueves: 6:30 p.m. Ingles Sabados: Noon Arte Infantil Todo en Espanol, Inf. (208) 989-7508
<i>Valley Christian Fellowship Grand View</i> 37866 State Hwy. 78 Pastor Nate Good (208) 834-2655 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service: 10:45 a.m. Communion & potluck first Sunday each month Potluck only third Sunday each month AWANA Bible Club: 5 p.m., Sunday		

Obituary

Sheryl Lynn Anderson

We remember Sheryl Lynn Anderson, who departed from us on December 11, 2024 after a beautifully lived life.

Sheryl was a devoted mother who was always there when her sons or grandchildren needed her the most, offering support, wisdom, and love in abundance. A friend to many, she was a cherished member of the community of Jordan Valley, Oregon, leaving behind a legacy of integrity and strength.

She was predeceased by her loving husband Jim Anderson and both her parents, Donna and Wiley Parrish.

Sheryl leaves behind her beloved sons Jeff and Pat Anderson, her daughters-in-law Mary Jo and Kelsey, and grandchildren Brantley, Harley Jo, Jackson, Haizen, Miles and Sam, all of whom will honor



her legacy by living their lives to the fullest.

To commemorate her journey, we invite all who knew Sheryl to attend a memorial service at noon on Saturday December 28th at noon at Jordan Valley High School, followed by a potluck reception at the Jordan Valley Lions Hall.

Donations can be made to the Jim Anderson Memorial Scholarship Fund in lieu of flowers.

Senior menus

Homedale Senior Center

Served at noon

Milk and roll/bread available each day

Dec. 25-26: Closed - Christmas
Dec. 31: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, beets
Jan. 1: Closed – New Year’s Day
Jan. 2: Chicken patty, scalloped potatoes, winter blend vegetables

Jan. 7: Roast beef in mushroom gravy over mashed potatoes, sautéed cabbage
Jan. 8: Ham and beans, hash brown patty, carrots

Sandbar Community Room, Marsing

Noon to 12:30 p.m., inside Marsing City Hall

Milk available each day

Suggested donation: \$5 (60 and older), \$8 (59 and younger)
\$8 (take-out meal, any age)

Dec. 25: Closed - Christmas
Dec. 27: Stuffed chicken with cheese sauce, roasted potatoes, broccoli, whole wheat roll, applesauce
Dec. 30: Lemon herb fish over rice pilaf, dill carrots, peas, whole wheat roll, Mandarin oranges
Jan. 1: Closed – New Year’s Day
Jan. 3: Scalloped potatoes with ham and peas, sunshine carrots, whole wheat roll, spiced apples
Jan. 6: Beef stew, corn, Brussels sprouts, cornbread with honey
Jan. 8: Orange chicken over brown rice, California blend vegetables, snap peas, 9-grain bread, tropical fruit

Rimrock Senior Center

Served at noon. All meals are served with milk & fruit juice

Call (208) 834-2922 as early as possible to place order to go

Dec. 26: Turkey casserole, broccoli and cauliflower salad, cottage cheese, garlic bread, apple bake
Dec. 31: Open faced Philly sandwich (beef, cheese), green salad, yogurt, fresh fruit
Jan. 2: Chicken teriyaki, corn, potatoes, green salad, cottage, biscuit, fruit

Melba Valley Senior Center

Meals served at noon (Salad bar at 11:30 a.m.)

Phone ahead (208) 495-2168 same day for complete menu

Payment by donation. All ages welcome

Dec. 26: Closed - Christmas
Dec. 31: Closed - New Year
Jan. 7: Tuscan chicken

CHRISTMAS GIVING



OHR residents benefit from stunning community generosity
Above: Owyhee Health and Rehabilitation employees (from left) Shannon Robinson, CNA; Nikki Graham, activities director; and Kevin Beebe, CNA and therapy technician, begin the process of carrying dozens of gifts for OHR residents to a bus to transport to the Homedale facility. *Left:* Beebe, Graham, and Robinson barely had room to hitch a ride back to OHR after loading up the bus Thursday. Santa handed out the gifts Tuesday during the OHR Christmas party. Marsing Middle School students, under the direction of Emily Loucks, delivered hand-made blankets for the residents last Wednesday. Money for more gifts was raised during an auction at the Tango Saloon on Dec. 7. “The community is amazing,” Beebe said. “It’s just wonderful,” Graham said of the outpouring.

Church makes huge donations to local pantries

The HUB, El-Ada benefit from delivery

The HUB in Marsing is closed for the next two weeks.

Coordinator Becky Barkell may need that time to organize the 40-minute blitz of volunteers and donations that hit the community pantry on Dec. 17.

The semi-trailer from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints arrived before dawn to drop off thousands of pounds of food and detergent.

And the volunteers were waiting to get to work.

“So many showed up, there was almost not enough work,” Barkell said. “We were done in record time.”

The semi-trailer arrived at the Marsing School District office building at 8 a.m. Forty minutes later, 10 pallets of “much-needed” canned goods and dishwasher detergent were lining the hallway from the back door to The HUB pantry, Barkell said.

Barkell said at least 30 people showed up to move the boxes, including school district employees.

The semi-trailer also stopped at the El-Ada Community Action Partnership’s Owyhee



A Hyster forklift was used to off-load 10 pallets of commodities at The HUB shortly before sunrise on Dec. 17. Submitted photo

County office at 15 W. Colorado Ave., in Homedale.

“We have split the load with them, and this would make the fourth semi load donated to both pantries from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints,” Barkell said.

Barkell said that the donation, which included more than six tons of food (12,752 pounds) and nearly 1,600 pounds of detergent) will stock the Marsing pantry for the next six to 10 months, “depending on how busy we are.”



Emily Loucks and Joni Wood help transfer boxes into the hallway at The HUB in Marsing. Submitted photo

Barkell said that the The HUB pantry will be closed while school is out for the winter break.

The next pantry day is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 8. School families can visit the pantry from 9 a.m., to 10 a.m. The rest of the Marsing community can check out the offerings from 10 a.m., to 1 p.m.

The HUB is located at 205 8th Ave. W., in Marsing. For more information, call (208) 649-5411 beginning Monday, Jan. 6.

El-Ada is closed today and next Wednesday for Christmas and New Year’s Day.

The El-Ada office is open from 7 a.m., to noon and from 1 p.m., to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Call the office at (208) 337-4812.

— JPB

A MAIN STREET CHRISTMAS

Dozens of volunteers, sponsors behind Marsing displays

Marsing’s holiday spirit broke through a month ago when the Marsing Beautification Project completed its annual decoration rotation along Main Street.

Project president Julie Franklin said the displays sponsored by individuals and businesses were made possible by several volunteers.

Jim Briggs of Briggs Farms donates hay bales each year to create the foundation for each of the displays.

On Nov. 23, the Krum and Parr families, both part of the 4-H community helped build decorations at the Snake River bridge and the post office, Franklin said. They also supplied tree ornaments for the second year.

“Volunteers beat the rain when putting up the displays,” Franklin said, adding that 28 displays were built over a three-day period just before Thanksgiving.

Mike Sprinkel and Randy Samples were among the people providing muscle to set up the trees and move hay bales.

Franklin joined forces with Becky Cooper and Nicole Walker to break down the fall displays and bring on the Christmas decorations.

Display sponsors include:

- Briggs Farm Inc.
- Frazier, Sharrai and Crumpton Family

- MBP sponsors the display perched at the bridge facing Canyon County.
 - van Es Dairy Farm
 - Owyhee Gardeners
 - In loving memory of Joe VanWassenhove
 - RPMS Powder coating
 - In Loving memory of Rod St. Clair from St. Clair children and grandchildren
 - Another Rod St. Clair memorial
 - Usabel Hay
 - Lagunas Painting
 - Floyd Family
 - Clausen’s Painting
 - Idaho Sporting Clays of Homedale
 - Owyhee Family Dental sponsors the display near its future location at the old US Bank building.
 - Marsing Chamber of Commerce
 - Quezada Family
 - Valleywide Handyman Services
 - John and Jeanna Erickson
 - CA Watson
 - Bell’s Mini Storage
 - In loving memory of Gene Clapier
 - Kenny Woods Hay Hauling
- For more information about the Marsing Beautification Project and its displays, contact Franklin at marsingbeautification@gmail.com, P.O. Box 303 Marsing, ID 83639, or visit the organization’s website at www.marsingbeautification.com.



A selection of decorations erected by volunteers last month. Submitted photos



From page 3A

✓ Marsing: Commissioners will take cleaned up contract to the sheriff

members. City attorney Paul J. Fitzer also sat in on the open discussion.

What’s good for the county, though, could boil down to what the county commissioners feel is feasible given government funding.

“It requires bringing on another officer onto our force, and that’s very costly,” Aberasturi said.

The commissioner said the county would have to hire a deputy and send that person through the Idaho Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) Academy or recruit a POST-certified individual. Aberasturi said veteran peace officers who are certified would probably want a larger salary than younger deputies.

After the commissioners departed the meeting, Marsing City Clerk and Treasurer Jolyn Thompson questioned why another deputy would need to be hired. The council members concurred, remembering that Kendrick had told them earlier this year that former Homedale

Police Officer Justin Herman would be the city’s dedicated deputy.

The town’s elected officials also agreed that they had heard Hoagland say during last week’s discussion that OCSO was fully staffed.

A few months ago, Kendrick told The Owyhee Avalanche that Herman would be reassigned if a contract didn’t materialize.

Aberasturi also said that the county’s monies for OCSO expenses have been stretched thin because commissioners have had to allocate funding to modernize the patrol fleet after agreeing to allow former Sheriff Perry Grant to lease vehicles rather than buy them outright. The fleet is aging, and the county recently purchased eight rigs to resurrect the former policy of rotating vehicles as they age out.

Aberasturi said the vehicles cost \$85,000 apiece.

The FY 2025 law enforcement contract proposal was set at \$104,000, according

to Corder.

The commissioners and council members discussed a draft contract that the sheriff apparently emailed to the city in August; however, among the county officials present last week apparently only Aberasturi had seen the contract before. Fitzer hadn’t seen the contract, and Topmiller said he saw the contract for the first time Thursday.

“That’s awesome. Let’s leave the lawyers out of it,” Fitzer quipped.

Aberasturi explained that the commissioners had instructed Kendrick to meet with the council and then bring back information to the commissioners.

Thursday’s meeting was the first direct communication between the council and the commissioners. The board chair, which is Hoagland for another couple of weeks, signs all contracts. Hoagland will retire at the end of the year, leaving Aberasturi and Dist. 3 Commissioner Cindy

Bachman to serve with Dist. 1 Commissioner-elect Walt Holton of Marsing.

The parties agreed to work on getting a contract done during FY 25. The cost of the contract would be pro-rated because the first quarter of the fiscal year is completed.

Aberasturi said the next steps would be to clear up language in the draft contract, huddle with Kendrick and find funding to finance the agreement until Sept. 30.

“Larry is an independent constitutional officer, so he would have to agree with (the contract),” Topmiller said of the sheriff.

But Topmiller also said that, according to state law, if there is any conflict between the commissioners and the sheriff that he is legally obligated to side with the BOCC.

Topmiller provided some clarity on what responsibilities the sheriff has without a contract. He also pointed out that state law prohibits a month-to-month enhanced

coverage agreement, which is what the sheriff and city council had discussed in lieu of an annual pact.

Reading from Idaho Code, the newly elected prosecutor said sheriff’s deputies can’t enforce city ordinances without a contract.

Council president Chris Even pointed out that the city merely wanted deputies to serve citations already written by new code enforcement officer Ed Lowder instead of interpreting city code each time the city’s code enforcer brought a citation to them.

“You’re not enforcing the law; you’re just serving the citation,” Even said.

Topmiller agreed that sheriff’s deputies can serve notices signed by either the code enforcement officer or the mayor under state law without a contract. Lowder would be the person who would appear in court if litigation were necessary.

Page 12A

HHS wrestlers pile up dual meet points

Avalanche Sports

Page 12A

Trojans girls open tourney with win



Left: Lukas Hall follows through on a PAT kick. He was selected All-State as a punter. **Right:** All-purpose player Luke Henry returns a punt in the 4A state playoffs.

HHS football lands four All-State players

Linebacker Brock Walker has been named to the 4A All-State football team for a second time.

The senior is one of four Homedale High School All-State players selected by coaches and first reported by The Idaho Statesman last week.

Other Trojans named to the 4A All-State team included:

- Luke Henry, who was a jack of all trades for coach Matt Holtry’s squad. Offensive coordinator Darren Uranga designed plays that saw the senior play



Brock Walker



Caden Layne

out of the wildcat formation as he threw for scores, ran for scores and caught

touchdown passes. He also returned punts for the Trojans.

- Caden Layne ended his high school career as the senior anchor on the offensive line. The three-year starter helped lead the way for the Trojans’ running game and even caught a touchdown pass early in the season.
- Lukas Hall, who recently returned from a kicking camp in the Southeast, made the All-State team as a junior punter after averaging more than 40 yards per boot.

Melba girls maintain a piece of second in 3A WIC

Tariah Carter’s double-double helped Melba High School get back on track in the second-to-last girls’ basketball game of the year.

The Mustangs rebounded from the end of their six-game losing streak by knocking off New Plymouth, 38-25, in a 3A Western Idaho Conference game played in Payette County last Wednesday.

Carter scored 13 points and pulled down 14 rebounds for Melba (8-3 overall, 2-1 in conference), which played Fruitland in a non-conference game on Friday after press time.

Darby Lowber scored 12 points and posted six rebounds against the Pilgrims (5-3, 2-1).

The two squads are in second place in the conference behind Parma (8-1, 3-0), which routed Melba, 47-15, on Dec. 10.

The Pilgrims lost their third consecutive game.

New Huskies coach has a history with hoops, town

Lamon Loucks has coached, observed games for years

As a Marsing native, Lamon Loucks knows the assignment he accepted when he took over the high school boys’ basketball team.

“I didn’t enter this job lighthearted,” he said. “After much prayer and petition, I see it as an opportunity to give back and make a positive impact on the kids, serving as a role model for them. The

doors opened and the timing was just right.”

The door opened after longtime coach Tim Little stepped down to take an administration job with Gem Prep Academy in Nampa.

“Tim Little ran an outstanding program and devoted many years of service to Marsing schools,” Loucks said. “I truly appreciate the positive way he

left the program, ensuring its continued success.”

A 1993 Marsing High School graduate, Loucks has stayed close to the basketball programs. His three daughters played for the Huskies, and he coached them at every level.

He’s married to Melissa. Their youngest daughter,

— See **Coach**, page 13A



First-year Huskies coach Lamon Loucks during a timeout against Wendell in Marsing’s home opener.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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Sports

High-scoring duals don't go Homedale's way

Trojans drop conference opener

Homedale High School lost a couple wrestling slugfests at home last Wednesday.

Despite dominant performances in the lighter weights, the Trojans fell in their 4A Snake River Valley conference opener against Weiser.

The Wolverines posted a 48-39 victory inside the HHS gymnasium as part of a tri-meet with New Plymouth.

Homedale scored all its points in the

first seven weights.

Ryker Layne routed Sean Elliott, 18-1, closing out a technical fall at the end of the second period of the 98-pound bout.

Porter Swan posted a 15-3 major decision against 113-pounder Wyatt Black.

Sophomore 120-pounder Trevor Paynter needed just 49 seconds to pin Wolverines' 120-pounder Kash Williams.

Braelyn Arredondo pinned Weiser's Trevin Moser at the 45-second mark of the 126 match.

Lane Zehr (132) pinned the Wolverines' Cole Ingle in 3 minutes, 34 seconds.

Homedale's Wylee Bidiman (138) pinned Charlie Nevarez in 3:16.

Outside Jakobe Valle's forfeit win at 106, through, the Trojans couldn't get another victory.

Weiser picked up four pins and four forfeits.

New Plymouth 45, Homedale 39 — Paynter beat the Pilgrims' Gabe Howard with an 18-3 technical fall. The 10th-grader ended the match five seconds into the second round.

At 126, Arredondo pinned Ty Sutton in 2:51.

Three forfeits in other lower-weight matches gave the Trojans 18 additional points.

Zehr's 13-0 major decision against 132-pounder WahNay Say.

Nathan Marston's late pin against Drake Davis ended Homedale's scoring in the 157-pound bout.

Marston stopped Davis four seconds before the final horn in the their three-round bout.

The Rollie Lane Invitational is next for coach Luke Crockett's athletes.

HHS girls open Christmas tourney with big victory

Mid-game stinginess helped Homedale High School win its opener in the Nyssa Christmas Tournament.

The Trojans outscored Ontario, Ore., by 10 points in the second and third quarters of their 56-33 girls' basketball victory Thursday.

Homedale limited the Tigers to 12 points over the middle 16 minutes of the contest.

Three juniors led HHS with

double-digit scoring.

Post Tiana Sorenson led the way, pouring in 18 points.

Belen Asumendi, put in 14 points, and Stephanie Quezada scored 11 points.

Freshman Whitlee Burch came through with nine points.

Homedale played tournament games on Friday and Saturday after The Owyhee Avalanche's press time.

Melba boys conquer Cole Valley

Carsten Volkers' game-high 18 points helped Melba High School exact some revenge on Cole Valley Christian.

Volkers also came down with four rebounds in the Mustangs' 53-44 non-conference victory

against the Chargers on Dec. 17 inside Potter Gymnasium.

A former Western Idaho Conference foe now competing in the 4A Snake River Valley conference, Cole Valley downed Melba, 65-34, on Dec.

4 in Meridian.

Isaiah Shoemaker added 11 points last week for Melba (2-5 overall).

Cole Valley Christian (3-3) received 16 points from Soren Fraas.

The Owyhee Avalanche

Owyhee County's best source of local news!

Homedale Trojans

Athletes of the Week



Boys' basketball
Elijah Alexander, sr., W
Second-year varsity player
Inspired Portraits by Kyla



Girls' basketball
Stephanie Quezada, jr., G
11 points vs. Ontario, Ore.
Inspired Portraits by Kyla



Wrestling
Lane Zehr, jr., 132
Two wins by pinfall in home tri-meet

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Girls' basketball
Varsity
Friday, Jan. 3, home vs. Gooding, 7:30 p.m.
Junior varsity
Friday, Jan. 3, home vs. Gooding, 6 p.m.
Frosh-soph
Friday, Jan. 3, home vs. Gooding, 4:30 p.m.

Boys' basketball
Varsity
Saturday, Jan. 4 at Emmett, 3 p.m.
Junior varsity
Saturday, Jan. 4 at Emmett, 1:30 p.m.
Frosh-soph
Saturday, Jan. 4 at Emmett, noon

Wrestling
Coed
Friday, Jan. 3 at Rollie Lane Invitational, Ford Idaho Center, Nampa, 9 a.m.
Saturday, Jan. 4 at Rollie Lane Invitational, Ford Idaho Center, Nampa, 9 a.m.





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Boise Cascade

Sports

From page 11A

✓ Coach: Loucks works to strengthen team and community from sideline

Alexis, attends Montana Western in Dillon, Mont. Emily is the Marsing Middle School community coordinator as she works on her Master's degree at Northwest Nazarene University. Ashley is a cosmetologist married to former Homedale High School baseball player Jordan Packer, and they are parents to Lamon and Melissa's first grandchild,

Krew, born in June. Lamon works as a real estate agent, land developer and investor and is "dedicated to strengthening and enhancing our community," he said. When not working or coaching, he enjoys traveling, fishing and hunting trips and "making lasting memories with my family and simply enjoying life."

When JW Chadez was the boys' coach, Loucks coached both junior varsity teams, winning five tournament championships. "Having lived in Marsing for so long, I know many of the kids and their families. It's a wonderful community, and I take great pride in being a part of it," Loucks said. "All the coaches on staff are Marsing

graduates and former players who want to make an impact on our hometown." Those coaches are crucial to helping Loucks carry out his vision for the program. "I believe that surrounding myself with dedicated people who share the same goals for the program will be crucial to its success," Loucks said. "My assistant, Jaime Wood, brings

a wealth of experience and knowledge to the team, while my two JV coaches, Isaiah Ponce and Les Loucks — both former players of mine — help uphold the team's expectations and commitment." In addition to getting help from younger brother, Les, his varsity assistant, Wood, is a brother-in-law

— JPB

MARSING HUSKIES

Athlete of the Week



Boys' basketball
Jace Chadez, sr., G
Averaged 11 points, 4.8 rebounds in first 7 games



Girls' basketball
Bailey Daugherty, jr., F
Averaged 12.2 points, 8.5 rebounds in first 10 games
Breeana Lootens photo



Wrestling
Peyton Showalter, so., 175
3 victories by pinfall this season

THIS WEEK'S SPORTS SCHEDULE

Girls' basketball
Varsity
Saturday, Jan. 4 at Fruitland, 7:30 p.m.
Junior varsity
Saturday, Jan. 4 at Fruitland, 6 p.m.

Boys' basketball
Varsity
Saturday, Dec. 28 at Wendell, 3 p.m.
Junior varsity A
Saturday, Dec. 28 at Wendell, 1:30 p.m.
Junior varsity B
Saturday, Dec. 28 at Wendell, noon

Wrestling
Boys
Saturday, Dec. 28 at Justin Wolfe Invitational, Glenns Ferry



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MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE STAFF OF THE OWYHEE AVALANCHE!

Silver City in the season



A mountaintop view of the historic mining town. Photos by Clarence Orton

Anticipation for Christmas hasn’t changed

From the Dec. 23, 1871 edition
of *The Owyhee Avalanche*

The Coming Holiday Week.

Let Silver City have a right pleasant, jovial, hearty observance of dear old Merry Christmas, and of the Happy New Year. Let us all help in our own best suited modes to make these world-wide holidays as merry and as happy as the very mention of them is intended to convey to all around and associated with, or dependent upon us. Let us older folk give the youngsters and little folk a chance. Do not let us forget that we were young too — no matter how many years ago; that we felt the coming of the glorious Holiday week in almost every heart throb and in our bones for weeks before the gladsome period; and that our expectancy of the good things which dear old Santa Claus was to cram into our stockings as we feverishly, anxiously slumbered through the Merry Christmas Eve, and from the Old Year out to the dawn of the Happy New Year come, was almost too much for our youthful equilibriums. Let us recall the joy too deep for instant utterance the exultation and hilarity with which we unloaded the tiny stockings and beheld the wonderful



Silver City will have a white Christmas this year.

gifts Kris Kringle had brought us from his fabulous realms of everlasting toys away off in the regions of perpetual snows and reindeers and jingling bells, and who came upon the housetop and down the fireless chimney while we slept, moving stealthily to our bedsides in the thick darkness and there blessing us with his wealth of presents — in the morning all our own. And, so, too, if any of us can, let us call up from the recesses of memory those dreary days which depress childhood, even as they cloud the spirit of the aged, when the holidays brought to us no

gifts, no gladness, no joy — but were passed in all the agony which a child may suffer the knowledge of the slights and deprivation to which it is subjected whilst other children around it are made happy in the possession of gifts they so highly prize. And as we rise from the contemplation of these scenes of the long past days, bright or sad as they may have been, let us use our utmost endeavors to make the Holiday Week a season of gladness to all the little folks within our sphere. To the young and hopeful, however destitute their lot, a giftless Christmas, is a day

of keenest woe, a barren New Year, a day of poignant sorrow.
But more suggestive of the duties of these holiday times is a visit to the various stores of our thriving town. The show-cases, the windows and shelves are all well filled with goods for the holiday times; the jewelers’ rich cases, laden with things costly, elegant, superb; the handsome display of dress and fancy goods, furs, and other choice offerings for the fair creation; beautifully bound and appropriate annuals and other volumes in the well-appointed book store where also will be found toys of every description to gladden the juvenile heart; fine clothing, fashionable styles of hats, boots, and furnishing goods, in various establishments; and in everything paraded to the gaze of seekers after goods or gifts for the holidays. Nor are the grocery stores without their attractions, substantial and good for the memorable Christmas dinner. At the meat markets we find the choicest meats — venison, pork, prize beef, ribboned lamb, &c. And with all this before us, to be had and enjoyed, by paying for it, is there any room for doubting that the good people of Owyhee will not have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year?

Christmas clippings

From The Owyhee Chronicle, Dec. 22, 1949

What Christmas means to me

The Christmas season. Christmas day. Light-studded garlands across the streets, handsome store displays, the crowds of last minute shoppers. Christmas carols from across the way. Fresh snow crunching underfoot, frost-coated shrubs, holly wreaths and tinsel trees in windows. Cheery greetings, friendly gestures, the giving and the receiving of presents. The family gatherings, the warmth of the fireside. Home. Christmas means all of these things of course. But is this all Christmas means to me?

My whole being, my God-formed soul, my innermost thoughts and desires say Christmas must mean more than that. Those things alone are too earth-bound, too self-contained. They savor of a part of the

world self-complacent, self-content, self-sufficient — but utterly forgetful of that other part, persecuted, homeless, oppressed, starved, naked, cold. Those things savor of men possessing knowledge and truth, heedless of the anguished cry of those in error. They savor of a people so smug and self-righteous as to think itself Christian, when in reality true Christianity is but a memory. Those things savor of a selfish Christmas. Such is a Christmas that is no Christmas at all.

Then what should Christmas mean? The thousands thronging the streets and crowding the churches at midnight, dawn, or later in the day — they have the answer. They do not go to church merely to hear the Christmas gospel read: the crowded inn,

the stable, the birth of the Son of God made Man. They come to church to have the Christ child present before them and reborn in them. To Him, the Child whose birthday it is, they pray for the strength to accomplish in themselves and in others what He began. They bring peace from the Prince of Peace, wisdom from the Angel of Great Counsel, life from the Author of Life, hope from the Source of All Hope, joy from the Promise of Eternal Joy. They bring Christ to a darkened and troubled world. They are happy because their Christmas is not their own. It is like Christ's, for others.

And as for all those other things — now they take on meaning too, because I have found the true meaning of Christmas.

— Contributed

From The Owyhee Chronicle
Dec. 26, 1974



SHEPHERDS RECEIVE GOOD NEWS

“That night some shepherds were in the fields outside the village, guarding their flocks of sheep. Suddenly an angel appeared among them, and the landscape shone bright with the glory of the Lord. They were badly frightened, but the angel reassured them.

‘Don’t be afraid!’ he said. ‘I bring you the most joyful news ever announced, and it is for everyone! The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born tonight in Bethlehem! How will you recognize him? You will find a baby wrapped in a blanket, lying in a manger!’

Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God:

‘Glory to God in the highest heaven,’ they sang, ‘and peace on earth for all those pleasing him.’

When this great army of angels had returned again to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, ‘Come on! Let’s go to Bethlehem! Let’s see this wonderful thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.’

They ran to the village and found their way to Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger.” (Luke 2:8-16)

—From The Living Bible

From the 19TH century Owyhee Avalanche The Christmas Door

All the year long the moon giveth light,
And makes a sliver day of night;
But once a year
She seems more near—
Shows every night her steadfast face,
And fills the sky with tranquil grace.
Tis hard to tell when day is done,
For day and night flow into one,

So Heaven shines downward all the while,
And lights us with its constant smile;
But once a year
It draws more near;
Wide open stands the shining door,
With gleams of light unseen before;
And all across flash glimpses fleet
Of upper joys and radiant feet.

‘Tis ever so since love broke through,
And down the widening spaces flew;
That blest year
Our lord came new;
For Him swung back the starry bound;
And Heaven swept outward at his birth;
And naught was narrow but the earth;

Now evermore he stands and waits
Some lifting of them lower gates;
But once a year
He waits more near;
Shall the blest door he throws so wide,
And only we the entrance hide;
Unbar all hears, make room within,
And let the holy Christmas in!

By Francis P. Church for the New York Sun Editorial Page, 1897

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus.

We take pleasure in answering thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, “If you see it in The Sun, it’s so.” Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus? Virginia O’Hanlon

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the scepticism of a sceptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men’s or children’s, are little. In this great

universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus.

He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The external light with

which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that’s no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby’s rattle and

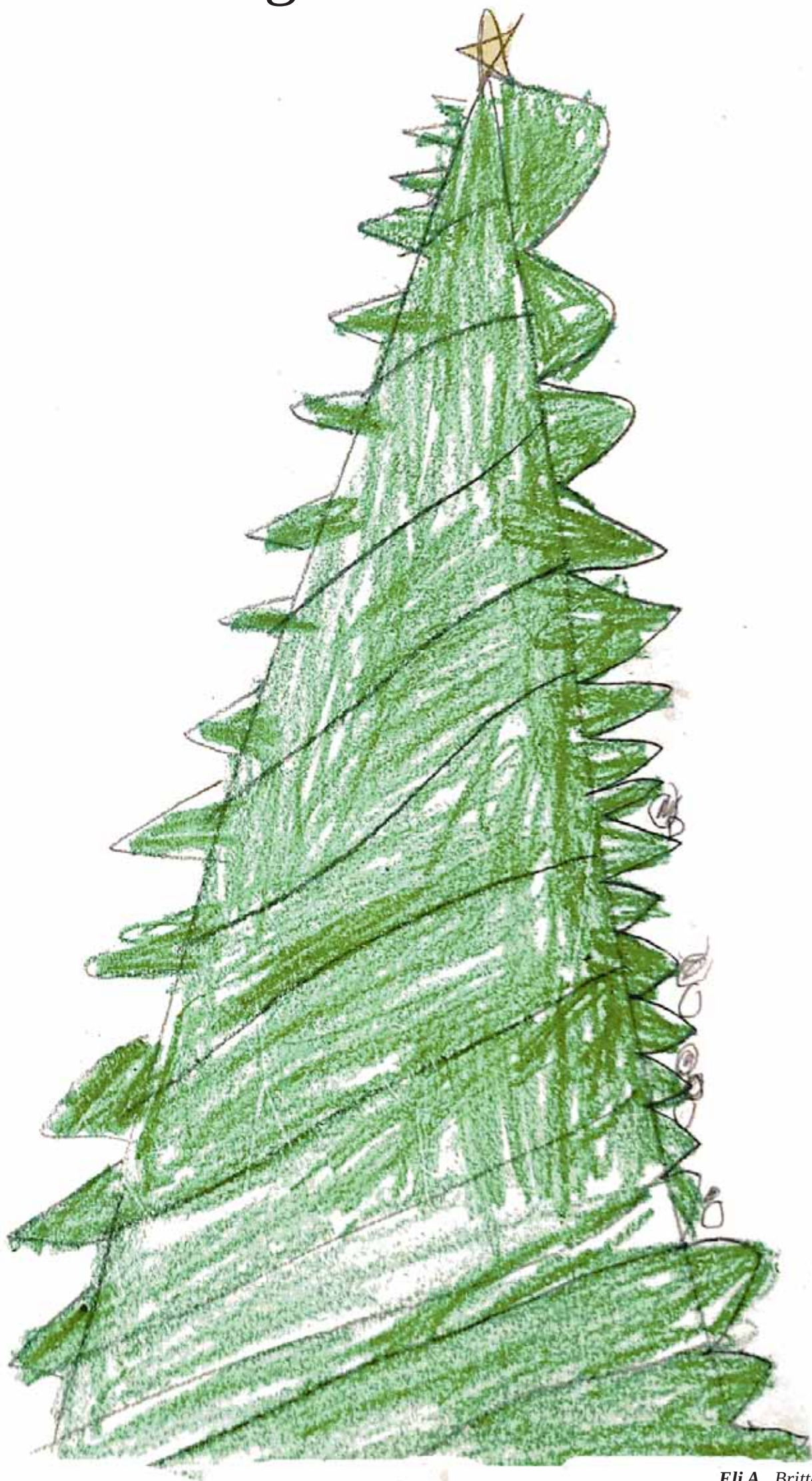
see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world, which neither the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus? Thank God he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!!

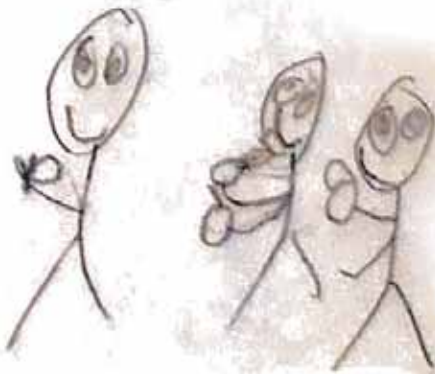
What Christmas means to me

Children give their reasons for the season



Inside

*Holiday greetings
from local businesses*



Eli A., Brittany Anderson's class, Homedale Elementary

Wednesday
December 25, 2024

A SPECIAL SECTION PRODUCED BY:
The Owyhee Avalanche

The meaning of Christmas



Table of Contents

Homedale Elementary	
Elizabeth Albor's class	Page 3B
Brittany Anderson's class	Page 4B
Shanna Higley's class	Page 5B
Evonne McGuire's class	Page 6B

Marsing Elementary	
Dorothy Hutchings' class	Page 7B
Wendy Swenson's class	Page 8B
Shelby Wood's class	Page 9B

Bruneau Elementary	
Jessica Jones' class	Page 8B

W.W. Jones School, Arock	
Jena Bubak's class	Page 9B

Grand View Elementary	
Taylor Gordon's class	Page 10B

Rockville School	
Sharon Green's class	Page 10B

At left: Dakota R.
Shanna Higley's class,
Homedale Elementary

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AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR

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Homedale Elementary

Elizabeth Albor’s second-graders

What Christmas Means to Me
Christmas is super dooper fun and my faverat holiday. also christmas is realy fun. and about opening prasats. and spending. with family. and its fun because you got drink hot coco. also we get presents. cjrimas is also fun because you get to eat alot. Age 8
Sebastian M.

What Christmas Means to Me
Christmas is a fun holiday it is also a day when I get new presents it is also a cold holiday it is also when Santa comes Chriatmas is also when I open presents pluss it is a beutiful holiday it is like valentines day. I am 7 years old. My name is Ivy.
Ivy K.

What Christmas Means to Me
Christmas is about freinds and famaly and god
Christmas is a won of a kind and amazing and ethecie and mindfull and dumure holiday. and making cookies. Age 7
Nezzy S.

What Christmas Means to Me
Chriatmas is a time for family. and Christmas is a time to open gifts to. and Christmas is a time to eat bl Soles and to party and Christmas is a time to celbrate. Age 8
Jordan R.

What Christmas Means to Me
Christmas is to me spending time with my family. Chrismas is to me spending time with my cosins. Chrismas is to me spendingtime with my gandma and grampa. Christmas is to me i love making projeks evry Chritsmas. Christmas is to me i make cookies evry christmas. christmas is so corofull. christmas is to me i oways bake cake. 7 yers old
Macie E.

What Christmas Means to Me
Christmas is a nice halliday to give gifts. Christmas is Jeese’s brthday. Christmas is a halliday. Christmas is a halliday to give gifts. Christamas is a greeat halliday you mite get gifts.
Christmas is family
Christmas is fun.
7 yers old
Chase D.

What Christmas Means to Me
Chriatmas is holly jolly and fun. I love the trees that we get ot pick out and baking cookies with my mom. I Love that I get togeather with friends and famly. Age 7
Bryndle S.

What Christmas Means to Me
Christmas is fun. Becuase snow come out at Christmas. Christmas is a beatifl day becuase Santa come to give us prezzet. Christmas ia a day Santa comes. Christmas is a thing to celebrate with are family. Christmas is a day to play with the snow it fun. Christmas is a cute, fun, day. Christmas is fun, but Santa may but you to the bad side or the good side. Age 7
Monserrat S.

What Christmas Means to Me
Christmas is win I think Jesus kums out! my family seludrat Jesus!
Christmas is not about presents but it cood be to sumone els! Christmas is to my a speshl holinday! Chritmas is inoporint to me! Christ is to me about Jesus! Chriatmas is win ny family makes ginger! Age 7
Nayvie C.

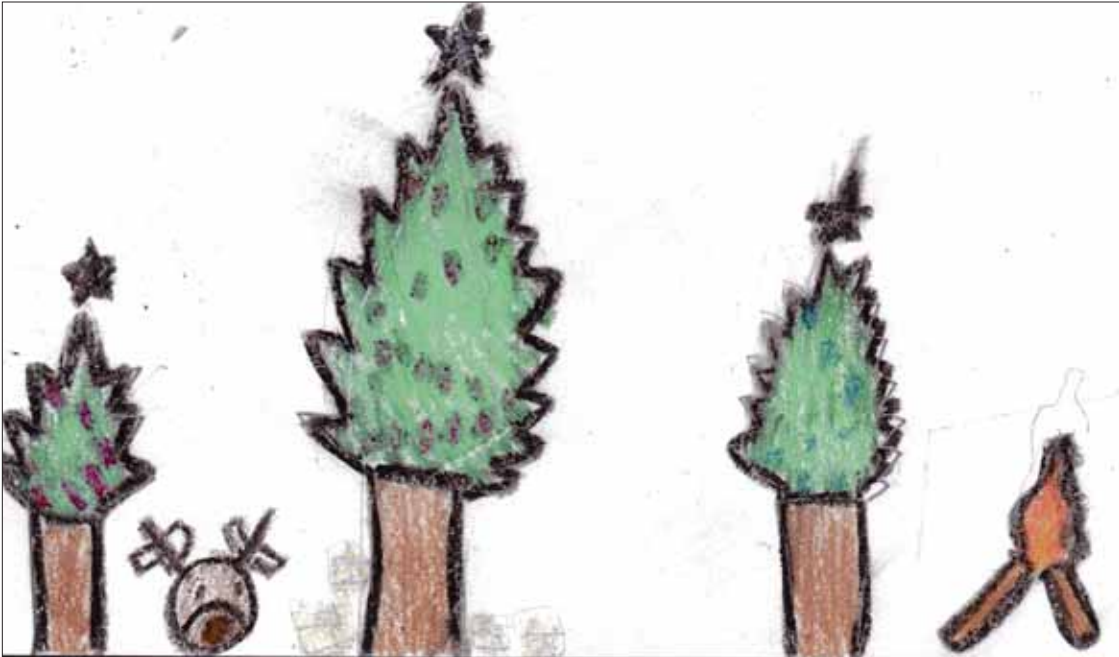
What Christmas Means to Me
About giving gifts. famly. about Santa. frendse. teacher. delebrating. celebrating with my famly. Age 8
Jackson S.

What Christmas Means to Me
A speshl to me. Wenen Sanata cume’s.
wenen you git presont’s!
A fun to dlubrate wenen famule come’s wenen Ms. Guzman. fren’s come’s
love Rocky M.

What Christmas Means to Me
Christmas Means to me that I like presents and I like deckerading the tree and Stocing and Jesus I love him we go to are cusens and play and jump on the trampulen and eat. and we Secret Santa. I am 7
Alice S.



Bryndle S., Elizabeth Albor’s class, Homedale Elementary



Ellie M., Shanna Higley’s class, Homedale Elementary

Merry

CHRISTMAS

Happy New Year

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Homedale Elementary

Brittany Anderson’s second-graders

What Christmas Means to Me

Christma means I love Christma with my family. I ams them so much at School. Even in amet wene I have a slep ovr.

Jolene J.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means I love christmas because I get to go to my gramas hoes on Christmas I get to on rap presents. Christmas is so speshl because I get to get my mom, dad, sister, brother ants, unkl presents.

Thomas S.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means seluprasen Jesus birthday. and making cookies wiff you’re famle. and spening time wiff yor famle. and play in the snow.

Buddy H.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means to me that I can spent time with My famliy and frends. And whan we open the presents My

famliy gets very happy and we eat food.

Isabella G.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmus Means...I like to play in the snow. it really fun to Play. i like to make cukes with my flimy.

Cooper S.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means...Special Stuff with family with you’re brothers and sister’s with you’re cousins and opening presents. I open Presents with my family it’s so fun. you can hug them too. you play games too.

Alex M.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means Jesus birthday. Christmas means love. Christmas means good family time.

Isabel S.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means to me I wish you have the best

Christmas sperding time wif your family time.

Eli A.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means I can spend time with my family. It also means I can See my cosins. I love making cookies with my mom and dad. And also sharing love around.

Addy I.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means to me to put up lights. I also put up a tree. I also make cookies. I also get presets and I open them.

Eoin L.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmasmeans...Spending time with my family. good food to eat. Lots of love for each other. Special time with family.

Kodie H.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means...to deckerat tree’s. and to have fun with your family. and frends and. opining presents to and Loving Jesus and macking cookies.

Rhylie E.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means Family time and Joy. I also get to Play games. I allso make Snowmen.

Kenya S.

Isabel S., Brittany Anderson’s class, Homedale Elementary

I allso eat good food. I like wrapping Presnts. I allso bake cookies. I like giving Presnts and Toys.

Opal J.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means joy Jesus birthday Family time Show time Setting up Christmas tree good food See Santu.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas msars. I like spnding time with my dad. and weth my mom to becaz. I love femle mom dad togethr.

I love so much I love m blf. I love ekle togethr. I love Kresmas t I love resmust I love opn my prestut I love chresmust I love crstmust

Skyla R.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means to me Jesus’s birthday, snow, love.

Thomas S.

What Christmas Means to Me

I love Christmas cause you get to spend time with Family. I love Christmas cause you get presents. I love Christmas cause you can have fun. I love Christmas cause you can make cookies. I love Christmas cause you can make a ginger bredd house. I love Chrismas cause you can make snow mans. i love Christmas cause you can set up a Christmas tree. I love chrismas cause you can have fun.

Chamfer D.

See Anderson, next page

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Read Calendar each week
in the Avalanche



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from our

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Homedale Elementary

Shanna Higley’s second-graders

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means opening presents on Christmas eve. I also means spendin time with family. Another thing is I like making cookies with my family.

Lincoln M.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means. I Luv that my family comes around. It also means that we build gingerbread Houses. We open 3 presents on Christmas Eve

Another thing is we eat ice crem and Pie

That is What Christmas means to me.

Dylann W.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas Means spenting time and looking at lighs il also Means waking up to see all of the presents. Another thing is that is what christmas means to me.

Ellieaunah M.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means to me. To go ice skating with my family. It also means to celebber Jesus’s birthday. Another thing is seeing all the presents in the morning. That is what Christmas means to me.

Dawson R.

What Christmas Means to Me

I like to opin prests. I lik to go uotside. I lik to bild a snoweman.

Hendrix H.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christm Means it is Jesus birthday and gingerbred houes I went sleding haveing fun with famliy and you do not no if you are on the naughty list you can Make a Snowman go shopping

Francisco O.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas mean to go sledding with my family It

a so means making, an the presents Christ morning That is what Christmas means to me.

Adamaris C.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means building jinger bread houses. It also means Spending time with your family. Another thing is ice skateing and sledding. That is what Christmas means to me.

Dakota R.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmans Looking at lighti, building gingibrcad It also means hot coco Another thing is my mom wrks on Christmas so we call her. that is what Christmas.

Mayzie M.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas Means Spending time with famliy. It also means seeing all of the presents. on Chrismas morning. Another thing is playing out side then go in side and drink hot coco.

Thats what Christmas means to me

Ridge O.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means looking at the nativety my mom made of Jesus’s birth. It also means spending time with my family and friends. Another thing is a specile day because it is Jesus’s birthday.

Tha is what Christmas means to me.

Sadie B.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means giving presents and gitting presents. It also means each sibling gits to give a presents to a difrent sibling.

Another thing is about drinking hot coco and playing in the Snow.

That is what Chrismas means to me.

Quinn G.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means seeing family and spending time with family. It also means Jesus’s Birthday and another thing is like play in snow play with cousins. That is what Christmas mens to me.

Isaiah G.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means pickle and tree

It also means pumkin pie and hot coco.

Another thing Is taking off a peice of the Chain evrey day.

Augustus R.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas Means spending time whith famaly. It also means eating yummy food like Pumkin Pie, appl Pie, and Cherry Pie. Another thing is going to see rily prity lites. That is what Chritmas means to me.

Brynn M.

What Christmas Means to Me

Chnstmas means. Put list on my home. It also means mak coco for Santa Another thing is mack gingier hous That is what Chnstmas means to me.

Jenavieve H.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means beaing with the ones we love. It also is making gingerbread cookeis and gingerbread houses and decorating them. Another thing is Christmas is very special because it’s Jesus’s birthday. lastley I love picking out a tree and dcorating it around Christmas time. That is what Christmas means to me.

Remington K.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means I get to spend time with my family. It also means I get to Sled with my sibling. Another thing is to build snowman.

That is what Christmas means to my.

Ford G.

During this busy holiday season take some time to relax and enjoy your family and friends.

Time for Celebration!

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.”

Luke 2:8-14



Merry Christmas from all of us at...

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Brittany Anderson’s second-graders

From previous page

What Christmas Means to Me

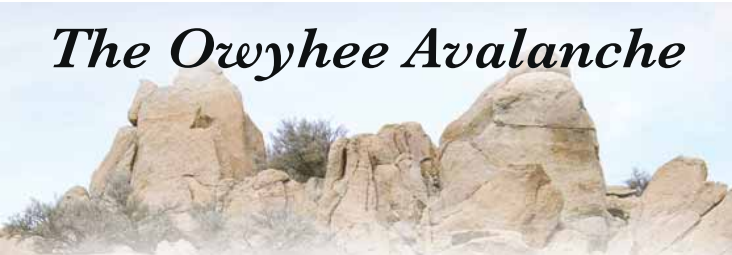
Christmas means...it is a

holuday it’s in Dec. 25th y can get presets for Chritmas but if you’re bad you will get caoll. You can haf fun. A man

name Santa H will give you the Presets He loves Coocys you can mace him coocys.

Caesar D.

The Owyhee Avalanche



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Homedale Elementary

Evonne McGuire’s second-graders

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas means to me my family and God.
Christmas means to me Santa to have a good Christmas. Christmas means to me is presints. I will help my mom to make cookies. I will take a cup and porr milk. Thats what Christmas means to me.

Caidee W.

What Christmas Means to Me

Chistmas is were we give each other joy. We give eacher Love. It is when we give each other gifts. Christmas is a time that we shar. It is were we make cookies for Santa and a glass of milk. Chistmas is when we celubrate Chistmas. Chistmas is a time we be nice to each other..

Evalynn P.

What Christmas Means to Me

fun makeing ginger bread fun ra Pineces ns fun geting milk fun seting uthg christmas thnry fun seting up stocing and put the star on the christmas three puting lis on the Christmas three opuning the presins and eting cocis

Aiden V.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas is old opt to me is a god & time to froe snowman

and make skoosles and jupe and make el shoop slule and go to a snooe prke Ol opn makes bob sled.

Arin S.

What Christmas Means to Me

it is my fravit holday
it is Fun in the Snow
it is cool to play in Snow
I like it ckriching
We can Make a Snow man
We can Break the Snow man
We will have hot chocla
We will stah biy the Fire.

Messiah A.

What Christmas Means to Me

I think Christmas is about Music, Presents, and spending time with your family.
Thats what Christmas means to me. me and my family think Drrinking Hot coca is the best thats what Christmas means to me. me and my family think sitting by the fire is the best. thats what Chrhistmas means to me.

Henry L.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas is all about making cookies with your siblings. Christmas is all about Jesus’ birthday. Christmas is all about giving and helping. Christmas is all about singing carels. Christmas is all about decorating the tree.



Charlotte (Lotte) R., Evonne McGuire’s class, Homedale Elementary

Christmas is all about caring for everybody. Christmas is all about staying together.

Hayden P.

you enjoy and a good time to give love to Jesus’ and family. thats what Christmas is.

Dallas N.

it is the bestest evey year my famly decarate trees together and I spent time with my famly Christmas is the bestest haladay.

That’s what Christmas means to me.

Amberly G.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas make my famly happy.

Me and my famly get together and put up the ordamens and the lites. Christmas makes me happy when we go to the living room me and my famly see a bunch of presens that is what Christmas means to me.

Nicolas M.

What Christmas Means to Me

Christmas is making cookies whith mom, dad, me, and sisters Christmas is the best in my ipinyon. I and Family putt out cookies for Santa. This is what Christmas means to me.

Noah B.

What Christmas Means to Me

My favorite holiday is Christmas and you can celebrate it will frend’s and it is a day you get presents and you can decerate your hous and eat fanse dinner and celebrate Jesuses brth day thats why I Love Christmas

What Christmas Means to Me

I go to church on Christmas. We open presents on christmas. We make gingerbread homse. We make snowman and we have a sonow fite. We make cookies and a cupe of milk for Santa.

Thats what christmas means to me.

Antonia G.

What Christmas Means to Me

I will make cookies for Santa.
Chriatmas is about Jesus’ Birthday.

It is a great time of year. My Favofrite year because it is Fun.

Christmas is a fun Time of the year.

A fun time of the year because The Stocing’s. Christmas is giving each other Joy.

Odessa J.

See McGuire, next page

Homedale
337-4664

Wilder
482-9210

WE WISH YOU A

Merry Christmas

Marsing Elementary

Dorothy Hutchings' second-graders

On Christmas you can do lots of thing. you can make Christmas cookies Spend time with family. Also on Christmas day it's Jesus birthday. Christmas is fun.

Biannca S.

Christmas to me is going to christmas parades with my family. There is always a lot of candy. It always means praying to God before going to sleep.

Lionardo V.

Christmas means lots to me. Giving presents to one another. Christmas is about Jesus. I'm so excited for christmas.

Jolene H.

Christmas make me filled with joy. Christmas helps me think of Jesus's birth. Christma lights and spending time with my famly make me happy.

Lexi M.

On the day before Christmas, it means excitement to me. On Christmas Eve, I get excited because I get to see that Santa ate my cookies I made for him, and the carrots I put out for the reindeer.

Olivia T.

To me, Christmas means friends, family, joy, presents, and a lot of other things.

Also, I like fruitcake, ham, snow, Santa Claus, and celebrating a good time.

Malika M.



Olivia T., Dorothy Hutchings' class, Marsing Elementary

Christmas tree, snowball fights, Jesus's birthday, and santa claus are what Christmas means to me.

Daleiza P.

Christmas to Me
Snowball fights, presents, and joy. It also meens spending time with my

family.

Malachi W.

To me Christmas means sJesus's birthday, time with family and snow.

Benjamin I.

To Me Christmas means me spending time with family. Christmas also means

celebrating the bith of Jesus.

Wyatt W.

Christmas to me is Santa Claus.

Samuel O.

Christmas to me is Snowball fights.

Axton H.

Have a news tip?

Call us!

337-4681

Homedale

Evonne McGuire's second-graders

From previous page

What Christmas Means to Me

My family and I like to sometimes make cookies for Santa. It's important to alway spend money on Christmas and buy gift's. It's always good to make a Christmas list for Santa. I always have to get milk and cookies for santa because I think it's very fun! that's What Christmas mean's to me.

Jenevieve B.

What Christmas Means to Me

I Spending time with my family. Haven fun and giving presents to my family. Haven

fun with my friends. Santa comiming with reindeer. Haven fun with everyone. Christmas is being nice and kind. Thats What Christmas means to me.

Charlotte (Lotte) R.

What Christmas Means to Me
I thegrat Christmas chree and cheer and cheer for Christmas and I play with my famle you now wut gam we snopollfit I like Christmas is a nise day and on Christmas is my mom brday. now Merry Christmas.

Name not available

What Christmas Means to Me
Christmas is a important to me! becuse christmas is my faveret Holday! I like it a lote. me and my famly dekret christmas after Thankgiveing. I got my Christmas tree two days after Thanksgiving. Santay is the best. Whats What Christmas means to my

Tuff C.

What Christmas Means to Me
This is going to be the best Christmas. Cas I am going to celebrate Jesus is brthday. wen I am grandpa.

Sawyer M.

... And our best wishes, too, to each and every one of you! Merry Christmas!

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Marsing Elementary

Shelby Wood’s second-graders

What does Christmas Meae to me?

It’s about family and friends it’s also about happness and joy and drinking hot coco.

Diego D.

What does Christmas mean to me

It’s not all about presents. It’s about Family and Friends. I like to sing at Christmas so much.

Lillian S.

What does Christmas mean to me!

It’s about spending time with my family and giving presents

Brooklyn P.

What does Christmas means to me?

It’s about opening presents with my family.

My favorite thing to do is eat cookies.

It’s a holiday.

It’s about giving people present.

It’s make me feel happy when Santa give me presents.

Harpher

What does chrimas mean to me?

It’s about spending time with your family. I like making cookies with my family and eating cookies.

I also lik opening presents with my family and spending time Chrismis break with my family It’s also about Santa Clase too.

AJ B.

What does Christmas mean?

It’s about family and joy and it’s about sharing toys. It’s about helping people. Christmas is a holiday and christmas was when Jesus was born. The end.

Prestan C.

What does Christmas mean to me?

Chritmas is about family and friends. Also to help and open presents with your family and have some joy.

Ana M.

What Christmas means to me?

Last year Joesph gave me a Mario kart toy, but What chrismas really means to me is opening presents with my family and eating with my family.

Ryan W.

What does Christmas mean to me?

It’s about Jesus, God, friends and family because Jesus was born on christmas. I like spending time with my



Ana M., Shelby Wood’s class, Marsing Elementary

family like decorating the tree with my mom and playing games with family. It’s about Santa. Don’t forget to give Santa cookies and carrots for the reindeer. I Love giving presents cause it feels good and makes people feel good.

Emma W.

What does Christmas mean to me?

It’s about opening presents all together and seeing what we get. It’s about giving presents to friends and family. Some of my family sleeps over at my mom’s house so we can have Christmas together.

Moylee K.

What does Christmas mean to me

It’s about friends and family

My favorite thing is playing games with my whole family and being with family.

Yareli E.

W. W. Jones School, Arock

Jena Bubak’s class

Christmas is a time of year to be kind to everyone.

Gracen G., 1st grade

Christmas is about beaing with family.

Blake L., 1st grade

Christmas is the best holiday because we are together as a family. Chriatmas means that we have fun. Also, Chriatmas is a time for giving. We go to the Dry Ranch & sled. Christmas means spending time with your loved ones.

Kolton W., 2nd grade

Christmas is a time of happiness. It is also time of giving. Families get together and open presents. Also, it is a time of kindness. Last, Christmas means a lot to me.

Wade B., 2nd grade

Christmas is a time for kindness. Also on Christmas my mom and I go ice skating, sleding, and snow boarding. Last, Christmas is not about presents it’s about love.

Lily Y., 3rd grade

SEASON’S GREETINGS

Wishing you all the best this Holiday Season

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Got News?

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

Grand View Elementary

Taylor Gordon's second-graders

Chrstmas means to me that it is iportant to spend tiem with are famle.

Mason W.

Christmas means Opening presents to me.

Brinley K.

Christmas means going ice skating

Shawn R.

Christmas means family to me

Spicer L.

Christmas means to me my Family giving me presents.

Wyatt R.

Crismis mens to me my mom tac me to the stor.

Isaiah S.

Christmas Means to me opening presents.

Sydney M.

Wat hhrismas means going to the oreana ball.

Jax T.

Chrismas means a lot to me beacus i love to open prssint's.

Danny G.

Christmas means playing games on break to me

Antony G.



Spicer L., Taylor Gordon's class, Grand View Elementary



Shawn R., Taylor Gordon's class, Grand View Elementary

Christmas means that evebye is kined to thre Faliy and thre Dad and Mos.

Sofia A.

Christmas mean's evrything to me presents, foods, spending time with my family and frieind's.

Ian H.

What christmas mean's to me is opening presents with my family.

Adeline E.

I liak to give presents and chrismas means to my is frends come ovre.

Bjorn Y.

A WORLD OF THANKS TO OUR VALUED CUSTOMERS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

May God Bless You.

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OWYHEE SEWER

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Got News?

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

Rockville

Sharon Green's class

Christmas means that we can spend time with people we love. Christmas is a special time for everyone to get together. Like, that is

Baby Jesus's birthday so it is a really special day. On Christmas Eve we eat pie. Lots of pie. We bake cookies. Everyone hangs out, eats

food, and there is a lot of talking going on. We always do a Christmas puzzle. And Santa gives people presents. People are always thankful on Christmas. Sometimes people buy stuff to be happy at Christmas, but we think you should just be happy to spend time with your family. We love our family! This is what Christmas means to us.

Charlee M., 2nd grade
Staylee M., kindergarten

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU

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Looking back...

from the files of The Owyhee Avalanche and Owyhee Chronicle

25 years ago

December 29, 1999



HHS choir...
Homedale High School Choir performed Christmas music at the Homedale Senior Citizens Center last week. Cari Cook, Becca Holloway and Rachel Guess sing during the center’s Christmas dinner.

HHS senior among service academy nominees
Homedale High School senior Stephanie George was among 40 of Idaho’s best and brightest young people nominated by Idaho Senator Larry Craig for appointment to our nation’s military service academies for the year 2000.

Craig nominated George for the Naval Academy. “I am considerably impressed with the talent, academic achievement and strength of character of these Idaho students,” said Craig. “I am honored to place their names in nomination for the four service academies.”
George is the daughter of Phil and Patricia George of Homedale and has attended Homedale schools all her life. She said she chose a future in the military with the influence of her older brother, Chris and her dad.

George was also nominated for the Air Force Academy by Senator Mike Crapo earlier this month and said she was undecided which she would take if chosen by both.

“Right now I am just going to worry about getting in,” George said. “Once I am selected then I will look at my options.”

Griz’s closes its doors after 13 years

After 13 years of business in Homedale, Griz’s Trading Post will close its doors on Dec. 30 forever.
William (Griz) and Jackie Garrison opened the store in April 1986 and began selling a variety of guns and ammunition to Owyhee County hunters. Until the doors close, Griz said everything in the store will be sold for 50 percent off. Griz said the store itself will also be sold.

“Business was good in the beginning,” Jackie Garrison said last week. “We just want to thank all the patrons who helped keep us in business this long.”

Garrison is a sergeant for the Homedale City Police Department at night, and ran the store during the day with his wife, who works for the Homedale School District.

“Griz would sleep in the mornings and run the store in the afternoons while I was at work,” Jackie said. “It worked out good for us.”

“It’s time to do something else,” Griz said. “I can’t fight the system anymore. There are going to be two Wal-Mart stores within 15 miles of here and I can’t compete with their prices.”

50 years ago

December 26, 1974



ORANGES — 800 bags of them — are being sold by Homedale Jaycees during their annual orange sale. Three members, from left, Don Forse, Fred Egurrola and Chuck Jefferies hold up the \$1 bags of fruit. Proceeds will be used for improvement and beautification of Homedale. Photo by Bette Uda



FUTURE HOMEMAKERS OF AMERICA and home economic students are now selling four different kinds of recipe books, featuring favorite recipes of home economic teachers. Looking at some of the books are seated, left to right: Donette Weston, FHA public relations officer; and Carrie Evans; and standing: Patsy Criffield and Sue Pottenger, president of the FHA. Each book will be sold for \$3.95.

Bonnie Takasugi, U of I student, participates in WAMI med program
MOSCOW — Bonnie Takasugi, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Takasugi, Homedale, is one of 10 students participating in the third and final experimental years of the WAMI medical education program at the University of Idaho.

WAMI is the acronym for the states of Washington, Alaska, Montana and Idaho which are involved in the decentralized medical education experiment. The states are expected to begin funding the program on a regular basis in 1975.

Along with their class work, the WAMI students are given the opportunity to observe local doctors in their office and hospital routine. This segment of the program is known as the preceptorship.

“I worked with Dr. David Valder and Dr. John Ayers and thought the preceptorship was very worthwhile,” said Miss Takasugi.

“I also think it is just as good to work with specialists. You see pretty much the same things with family practice and just as much can be learned from a specialist,” believes Miss Takasugi, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania.

153 years ago

December 23, 1871

Stock Quotations.
By Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph
Line to Winnemucca.

SPECIAL TO THE AVALANCHE.

San Francisco, Dec. 18th.
P. M. Board.

Golden Chariot, 24	Mahogany, 18
Ida Elmore, 10 ½	War Eagle, 7
South Chariot, 3 ½	

We received no dispatches, nor any mail from California yesterday, which is explained in the following:
WINNEMUCCA, DEC. 20th,
ED. AVALANCHE: Snow slide at Truckee; do not know when train will be here.
Telegraph lines all out of repair;
no Stock Report could be had
roads all damaged by the rains.
Raining there yet, and rained here all night.
A.J. SHEPARD

Local Mining Record.

The North Discovery of the Oro Fino is still being worked by Superintendent Walbridge, of the Owyhee Company, and is yielding a large amount of ore. It is reported that a very rich strike has just been made in that mine.
The South Oro Fino, bought some time ago by A. J. Minear from Phillips, and now being worked by the former, is yielding from 25 to 30 tons of ore per day, which is being crushed at the Elmore mill. This mine is now so well opened that about a ton of ore to the man is now being daily taken out, at a cost not to exceed \$5 per ton. There are about 400 tons ahead of the mill, and no mine in Owyhee presents better facilities for extracting ore.

THE CHRISTMAS BALL.—The Committee of Arrangements for this Good Templar Ball to come off on Christmas night, request us to state that, carriages will be in attendance to convey parties to and from the Hall, supper, &c free of charge. A book will be provided at the War Eagle Hotel in which parties who desire the services of a carriage are required to register their names and the hour they will be ready to go to the ball. Parties coming from the mountain will find a carriage at Blackinger’s boarding house at 7 o’clock in the evening. Good Templar Hall, opposite Jones & Bonney’s, will be fitted up in the most comfortable manner for a reception room. Tickets for supper at the War Eagle Hotel can be had at the ball room in the evening. There will be an experienced attendant at the reception room to wait upon the ladies, take care of their clothing, look after the babies, &c. The Christmas Ball will be a grand affair.

SAFETY LAMPS.—Messrs. Jones & Bonney have just received an invoice of Perkins & House’s Safety Lamps, manufactured by the Cleveland Non-explosive Lamp Co. They are of various patterns and appear to fill the bill to perfection. This lamp reflects a beautiful soft white light, and we are assured that those who use them will be under no necessity of getting out a life insurance policy. Call at the Postoffice and take a look at these new lamps.

Commentary

Religious Expression
What happened to Sundays and Christmas?

“And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.”
— Genesis 2:2-3

If there is any single thing that has happened in my lifetime that is brutally tormenting, it is the gradual disregard for Sundays and Christmas Day.

Growing up in the 1950s and 1960s, the remembering of stores being closed on Sunday and Christmas Day, very strongly lingers in my mind.

Granted, many stores close on Christmas Day in order for their employees to be with family. This is indeed admirable, and to those we give a big thumbs-up!

Apparently the presence of greed (1 Timothy 6:10) in our world has preempted the word and will of God. It is also evident, that for employers to sustain a monetary gain in their businesses, they feel the need to open on the days that have been deemed by our Creator as sacred.

We fully well understand the influence of capitalism on our lives. We have microwaves, smart TVs and the internet, which people have come to depend upon as if survival could not continue without them.

We also have a large segment of the population for which Christmas Day and Sunday mean no more than a Monday or Wednesday.

What has happened in our world that has caused us to relegate God and His commandments into a position of lesser importance? While there are numerous answers to the question, the final answer may be greed or a satanic influence.

“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work.”
— Exodus 20:8-9

Is this so difficult? It is not a suggestion; it is a commandment by our Creator God!

“But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.”
— Exodus 20:10-11

If verses 8 and 9 did not make a point, surely 10
— See *Christmas*, Page 13B



Van Yandell

JP Doodles

Christmas Song
(to the tune of "Rudolph")

Clancy, the Arctic camel,
had a very massive hump,
and if you ever saw it,
you'd say it's a real bump.
All of the North Pole reindeer
used to laugh and call him "weird"
— they doubted Global Warming,
it was nothing to be feared.

Then one sweltry Christmas Eve,
Santa came to say,
"Clancy, with your hump so huge,
won't you tow my sun-baked luge?"
Then all the reindeer loved him
and they shouted out "Whoop-ee!"
— Clancy, the Arctic camel,
you'll make iceless his-tor-y!"

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
Christmas spirit grew as
Idaho grew through history

For 20 years, the Idaho State Historical Society produced a “charming, old timey newsletter,” called the Prospector, for Idaho students and anyone interested in learning more about Idaho History. An archive of the newsletter, available at <https://history.idaho.gov/prospector-club-archives/>, contains an edition titled “Christmas in the West” that chronicles some of the Christmas traditions dating back to the start of our great State. One paints a lovely holiday picture of our capital city during its Idaho Territory days:

“In Boise, it was the custom in the 1860s to have a community tree rather than traditional ones in homes. The nearest evergreens were on top of the Boise Foothills, which was several miles from the town and for most families it was too far to get a tree. In 1865 The Idaho Statesman announced that ‘The Christmas Tree will be available to all who wish to communicate through it with their friends.’ People could bring gifts for the community tree and a party would follow on Christmas Eve, which was open to everyone to attend. Organized charity was usually not needed because neighbors would help those who were in need, giving gifts to those children who were going through hard times. When families and friends gathered on the day itself, they simply enjoyed each other’s company. They sang carols, told stories of past Christmases, played games, and put aside a time for individual religious traditions.”

In the years since those early Christmases, Christmas traditions have continued to blossom across Idaho, for example:

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

Local office
251 E. Front St., Ste. 205
Boise, ID 83702
Phone — (208) 334-1776
Fax — (208) 334-9044

Washington, D.C., office
239 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone — (202) 224-6142
Fax — (202) 228-1375
E-mail — <http://crapo.senate.gov/contact/email.cfm>

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

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

• **Christmas Trees** — Transportation has advanced considerably since the 1860s, making it easier and a customary tradition for many Idaho families to go out and cut their own Christmas tree from our national forests. The Boise National Forest maintains a guide at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/boise/passes-permits/forestproducts/?cid=STELPRDB5043600> containing information about obtaining
— See *Spirit*, Page 13B

Commentary

Financial management

Dig deep to uncover wife’s reluctance about job offer

Dear Dave,

My wife and I have been married for two years, and we both have good jobs. Together, we bring home around \$190,000 combined. We also have \$100,000 in a savings account, and no debt except for our mortgage. A couple of weeks ago, I was contacted about an opportunity to take a job in commercial real estate in my hometown. To be honest, this kind of work has been a dream of mine for several years. The problem is my wife is upset by the idea of moving. She says it's because she doesn't want to be even further away from her family, but it seems like something else is bothering her. Do you have any advice?

— Freddie

Dear Freddie,

Anytime you're in a relationship and something like this happens, it's a little like making a sale in that you've got to dig out the real reason for the objection. It could very well be that she doesn't want to be further away from her family, and that's natural — to an extent. But like you said, there could be other factors involved.

There might be something in your past that bothers her, or something she doesn't want you to revisit. There may even be feelings of discomfort with your family for things that have happened or been said. It could also be the insecurity that goes along with a move, a new home and



a new job. I don't know how far away you're talking about moving, but it could also be she's worried about leaving her job.

From a relationship

standpoint, you two each need to lay your cards on the table and be honest with each other. Open up, and really talk about it. Otherwise, it's going to become a sore spot and cause even more problems. Part of marriage is making compromises. Sometimes compromises must be made by one, or both, people in order to do what's best for the relationship in the present and in the long run.

It could be that you just need an impartial referee. Would you both be willing to attend a few sessions with a good pastor or marriage counselor together? Talking to either one doesn't mean your marriage is on the rocks, but sometimes a compassionate

and objective third party can help dig down below the surface to uncover issues and help find a reasonable solution to problems.

I hope this helps. God bless you both, Freddie.

— 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.

✓ Spirit: Several events throughout Idaho puts a Gem State spin on holiday

From Page 12B

Christmas tree permits, including opportunities for area fourth-grade students to apply for free Christmas Tree permits in coordination with the “Every Kid Outdoors” program. Similar information is available on websites for Idaho’s other national forests, and Christmas tree permits can be purchased as available through Recreation.gov.

• **Secret Santa** — Those who watch the Idaho Falls, Rexburg and Pocatello-area news may be familiar with a longtime Secret Santa tradition, in which Nate Eaton with East Idaho News delivers gifts from an anonymous Secret Santa who fills the needs of deserving people in eastern Idaho.

For example, a single mom struggling with health issues received groceries and furniture. A family dealing with a child’s medical condition received assistance with covering expenses not covered by

insurance. A young man raising his sisters after their mother’s untimely death received assistance with groceries and paying for their mother’s headstone. Touching videos of their stories and gifts can be viewed at <https://www.eastidahonews.com/secret-santa/>.

• **Rupert Christmas Festival** — Rupert is known as “Christmas City” for its Christmas Festival held in the Rupert City Square. The festival includes a Christmas City Market with vendors, ice skating, caroling and food trucks. Information about the annual event is accessible at <https://visitsouthidaho.com/rupert-christmas-festival/>.

• **Light Up Ceremonies** — Coeur d’Alene (<https://cdadowntown.com/cda-events/lighting-ceremony>) is among the communities across the state that hold an annual lighting ceremony parade with marching bands, dancing, music, floats and

fireworks as residents adorn the community with the holiday spirit. Similarly, Pocatello has a light parade and Christmas in the Night Time Skies event with bonfires and fireworks.

This is not a complete list of the beautiful Christmas traditions in communities across Idaho, including Homedale, Marsing, Grand View and Murphy. No matter how you choose to celebrate the holidays this year and every year, I hope the holiday season brings you and your loved ones much joy, rest and renewal. Wishing you all tidings of comfort and joy.

— 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 he has served 31 years in the U.S. Congress. Prior to that, he served eight years in the Idaho State Senate.

✓ Christmas: Fixation on greed ignores most important days in history

From Page 12B

and 11 do. “The Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.” This is a statement of certainty! We know sin is sin and all sin is against God. But we categorize sin into “severe” and “not so bad.” This is an action that discredits the Word of God; how dare we?

When the Israelite people were in the wilderness after leaving Egypt, God provided them with manna. Manna is believed to be a bread-like substance, but since they had no chemical preservatives, it would ruin if they gathered more than a one-day supply.

“And he said unto them, This is that which the Lord hath said, tomorrow is the rest of the Holy Sabbath unto the Lord: bake that which ye will bake to day, and see that ye will see; and that which remains over lay up for you to be kept until the morning.”

— Exodus 16:23

The power of God to preserve on the sixth day for the seventh is a demonstration of His abilities to enforce the priorities of the day of rest. It also signifies the position of importance to Commandment No. 4: “Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it Holy.”

The priorities of God are unmistakably clear.

When we determine His priorities should be our priorities, we may be on a direct and certain path to being that person that pleases Him.

“For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men, for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.”

— Galatians 1:10

To be pleasing to God is a characteristic every Christian must strive for.

When we open our stores or engage in those non-essential actions that our earthly wisdom tells us “That’s not so bad,” we open a door for disobedience to govern our lives. We humans are vulnerable to our own notions and opinions. We are vulnerable to the retailers that tell us to shop and buy on Sunday.

We are vulnerable to the restaurants that cater to the after-church crowd. How many of us have attended church on Sunday morning then ate lunch at a restaurant after the church service? Does that not encourage the restauranteurs to open their doors on the Sabbath?

So, what do we regard as our most precious blessing? Without a doubt, it is our precious Jesus

and His sacrificial death on the Cross of Calvary. We are given eternity by our faith-based belief in Him.

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”

— Luke 2:11

Of course this would be an opinionated statement, but the most significant days in world history should be the day of Jesus’ birth, His crucifixion and His resurrection. How can humanity ignore those days with a blink and a shrug?

Our indifferent attitudes toward the Sabbath and Christmas Day scream volumes about our disregard for our Creator. Just as our parents gave us life, Christ Jesus gave us eternity. How can anyone ignore that?

— **Writers note:** This article was inspired by my good friend and amazing neighbor, Luis Marin. Thank you sir!

— Van Yandell is a retired Industrial Arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and commissioned missionary. His email: vmy2121@outlook.com

Public notices

BOARD OF OWYHEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
October 2024 Synopsis
October 7

- Approved Paragon Consulting as the Engineering Consultant for the Trout Creek Road & Pleasant Valley Road Projects.

- Approved sending a notice to Paragon Consulting regarding ongoing County road and bridge engineering services.

- Approved the Paragon Consulting Agreement for Pleasant Valley & Trout Creek Roads Surveys and Trout Creek Road Design, with the Chairman's signature for the Board.

- At 9:36 a.m. went into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206 (f) possible litigation. Aberasturi – aye, Bachman – aye, and Hoagland – aye. Motion carried. Open session was resumed at 10:31 a.m. No action taken.

- Approved the claims report as presented for \$732,005.72

- Current Expenses-\$170,122; R&B Fund-\$7,081; Dist. Court-\$915; Fair, Grounds & Buildings\$8,998; Probation-\$1,448; I&C-\$4,734; Revaluation-\$212 ;Solid Waste-\$1,514; 911-\$19,546; Waterways Fund-\$985; Capital Project Fund/ ARPA-\$13,585; Child Safety Fund-\$200; Self-Insurance Fund-\$570.

- Adopted the Owyhee County Master Facilities Plan presented by Clearwater Financial.

- Approved the All Valley Fire Inspections & Services 2025 Fire Inspections Proposal for the Owyhee County Community Center in the amount of \$650.00.

- Approved the catering permit for Gem Lounge for the Foadn Fabrication Fox Hunt on November 1-2, 2024, starting at 7:00 a.m. and ending at 11:59 p.m.

- Approved the Change Order #4 – Fairgrounds Well House & Piping for Sod Replacement in the amount of \$5,868.00.

- Approved the Change Order #5 – Fairgrounds Well House & Piping for Lowering PVC Valve Covers.

- Approved the Consolidated Telecom Inmate Telephone Agreement Addendum 2.

- Approved the Computer Arts, Inc / Harris FY2025 Agreement in the amounts of \$65,473.82 for software licensing and \$17,032.08 for software support.

- Approved the Geotechnical Report Approval Proposal Amended for the Courthouse Septic project, increasing the test holes from 12 to 20 in the amount of \$9,000.

- Approved the Chairman's signature for the Board and Civil Dynamics on the Geotechnical Report Approval Proposal Amended for the Courthouse Septic Project.

- Approved the GraybaR Quote for tower lights on the towers behind the County Jail in the amount of \$1,350, with the Chairman's signature for the Board.

- Approved the Pathology Services Agreement FY2025 with Ada County Coroner's Office (see attachment for pricing).

- Approved the Sawtooth Correctional Medicine Service Contract Amendment 2.

- Approved the University of Idaho-County Extension Office Stipend Funding Proposal for appropriately compensating AmeriCorps Member Taryn Packer for all of the extra hours

NOTICE OF PENDING ISSUANCE OF TAX DEED GEM IRRIGATION DISTRICT P.O. Box 67 Homedale, ID 83628 Owyhee County, Idaho			
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Title 43, Chapter 7, of the Idaho State Code, on January 14, 2025, the period of redemption for delinquent entries, shall expire. Idaho law authorizes the Board to take back the water from the land so that it is no longer appurtenant to your property. The Board decided at its October board meeting to take back the water rights appurtenant to the property described below and leave you with title to the property without any water rights I.C. §43-716. The property described below may be redeemed on or before January 14, 2025, by paying to the Gem Irrigation District at its office in the City of Homedale, County of Owyhee, the delinquent assessments for which the delinquent entries were made, plus a penalty of two percent (2%) thereon, interest on the total at the rate of one percent (1%) per month from the day said delinquent entries were made until the day of redemption, and recording and publication costs. Direct any inquiries to Gem Irrigation at the above address.			
Person Assessed	Property Description	Delinquent Year Assessed	Delinquent Assessment
Forest & Sharon Abbott	Part NESE, 3N5W Sec. 7,	2021-2024	\$ 861.46
German Martinez	Pt.SWSW, Sec. 4-2N-4W	2016-2024	\$2,602.73
Chasm I LLC	Sec 15 T3N R5WPT. NW¼ NE¼	2021-2024	\$3,651.27
Ignacio & Martha Castillo	Pt. W1/2 NWNE, Sec. 15-3N-5W	2019-2024	\$6,593.93
Dated this 26 th day of November 2024			
GEM IRRIGATION DISTRICT Sherry Maxwell, Treasurer 12/04,11,18,25/2024			

put in leading up to and during the County Fair in the amount of \$1,500.

- Approved the certificate of residency 24-16 to the College of Western Idaho.

October 15

- Approved the bid award for the County All Hazards Mitigation Plan Update to Landscape Planning & Research Services Northwest Management, Inc. in the amount of \$64,100.00.

- Approved the letter to DEQ regarding the application of Amalgamated Sugar rinse wastewater to County Road.

- Approved the claims report as presented for \$229,910.34

- Current Expenses-\$170,122; R&B Fund-\$7,081; Dist. Court-\$915; Fair, Grounds & Buildings-\$8,998; Probation-\$1,448; I&C-\$4,734; Revaluation-\$212; Solid Waste-\$1,514; 911-\$19,546; Waterways Fund-\$985; Capital Project Fund/ARPA-\$13,585; Child Safety Fund-\$200; Self-Insurance Fund-\$570.

- Approved the minutes from the September 23, 2024 meetings.

- Approved the minutes from the October 7, 2024 meetings.

- Approved the cash purchase of the printer from Boise Office Equipment for Owyhee County Community Center for \$1,379.70.

- Amend the motion for the cash purchase of the printer from Boise Office Equipment for the Owyhee County Community Center to include a monthly amount of \$3.68 for maintenance contract.

- Approved the Bruneau Water & Sewer District Region IV Development, CDBG Drawdown #15 for \$127,102.00 with the Chairman's signature for the Board.

- Approved the contract with Bruneau Grand View School District FY2025 School Resource Officer.

- Approved the County Resolution 2024-34–Ratification of Signature for Agreement for Murphy Airport Ag Use with Jet Aviation.

- Approved the County Resolution 2024-35–Destruction of Non-Indefinite Records: Auditor, Elections, Financial, and Sheriff.

- Approved the Cooperative Agreement for University of Idaho Extension Programs in the amount of \$237,847.00.

- Approved the JCG Excavation LLC Proposal – Marsing DMV

Sidewalk Update to ADA Requirements in the amount of \$49,884.00.

- Approved the University of Idaho Extension Office new hire of Synovia Bates for full-time 4-H Program Coordinator, at the pay rate of \$19.27 per hour, effective October 18, 2024.

- Approved the Road & Bridge #1 new hire of Matthew Wright for part-time at the pay rate of \$26.00 per hour, effective October 16, 2024.

- Approved the Western Building Maintenance Proposal for the County Community Center Concrete Floor Annual Seal in the amount of \$3,200, with the Chairman's signature for the Board.

- Approved County Resolution 2024-33 – Ratification of Signature for 2022 LRHIP Grant Close-out for County Transportation Plan Update FY2022.

- Approved the Eagle Land Survey record of survey & split for parcel number RP02S02W266001 on the corner of Tilford and Pioneer in Murphy, Idaho; Parcel 1 is 4.89 acres and Parcel 2 is 14.14 acres.

- At 2:34 p.m. went into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206 (a) personnel. Aberasturi – aye, Bachman – aye, and Hoagland – aye. Motion carried. Open session was resumed at 2:55 p.m. No action taken.

October 21

- Approved the Boise Office Equipment printer cash sales order agreement for the County Community Center in the amount of \$1,379.07.

- Approved the claims report as presented for \$197,849.23

- Current Expenses-\$182,186; R&B Fund-\$573; Dist. Court-\$216; Fair, Grounds & Buildings-\$8,998; Probation-\$1,216; Historical Society & Museum-\$753; I&C-\$1,962; Revaluation-\$699; Solid Waste-\$472; Waterways Fund-\$54; Child Safety Fund-\$100; Interlock Device Fund-\$49; Self-Insurance Fund-\$570.

- Approved the minutes from the October 15, 2024 meetings.

- Approved the County Resolution 2024-36 -Terminating the Grasshopper and Mormon Cricket Declaration of Disaster. Seconded by Commissioner Aberasturi. Motion carried.

- Approved the Road & Bridge #1 new hire of Brian Whitear for full-time at the pay rate of \$24.00

- Approved the Assessor new hire of Harlie Freelove for part-time at the pay rate of \$12.99 per hour, effective November 1, 2024.

- Approved the Probation Department Support Services Coordinator Contract in the amount of \$35 per hour.

- Approved a road name application for Honey Locust Drive.

- Approved a Sales Agreement for Western States for a Caterpillar RYLIND V Plow in the amount of \$29,500.

- At 9:53 a.m. went into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206 (f) possible litigation. Aberasturi – aye, Bachman – aye, and Hoagland – aye. Motion carried. Open session was resumed at 10:05 a.m. No action taken.

- At 10:33 a.m. went into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206 (c) acquiring interest in real property. Aberasturi – aye, Bachman – aye, and Hoagland – aye. Motion carried. Open session was resumed at 10:52 a.m. No action taken.

- At 10:58 a.m. went into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206 (b) personnel. Aberasturi – aye, Bachman – aye, and Hoagland – aye. Motion carried. Open session was resumed at 11:05 a.m. No action taken.

12/25/2024

NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE
CASE NO. CV37-24-00389
IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT FOR THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF OWYHEE
MAGISTRATE COURT
IN RE: JACQUELIN ANN SOTELO

A petition to change the name of, Jacquelin Ann Sotelo, now residing in the city of Homedale, State of Idaho, County of Owyhee. This notice has been filed in the District Court in Owyhee County, State of Idaho. The name change will be to, “Jacquelin Ann Montgomery.” The reason for the name change will be to establish her identity, to reflect her relationship to Jason Montgomery (Step-Father), and Brenna Montgomery (biological mother).

A hearing on the petition is scheduled for 10:45 o'clock a.m., On January 21, 2025, at the Owyhee County Courthouse located at 20381 ID-78, Murphy, Idaho; 83650. This hearing will be held in front of the Honorable Judge Shane Darrington. Objections may be filed by any person who can show the court a good reason against the proposed name change.

Date: 12/5/2024
s:/Lena Johnson, Deputy Clerk
Angela Barkell, Clerk of the District Court
12/25/2024;01/01,08,15/2025

October 28

- Approved the Got Fence? Quote for Kate Rozell. Commissioners agreed to pay half of the quote amount not to exceed \$3,250.

- **Approved the claims report** as presented for \$92,535.56

- Current Expenses-\$20,935; R&B Fund-\$245; Fair, Grounds and Buildings-\$18,900; Probation-\$110; Health Dist.-\$9,397; I&C-\$11,261; Solid Waste-\$186; Weeds-\$6,496; Waterways Fund-\$1,246; Off Hwy Vehicles-\$5,597; Capital Project Fund/ ARPA-\$17,973; SCAPP Program/Aliens-\$189.

- Approved the minutes from the October 21, 2024 meetings.

- Approved the catering permit for Y Knot Winery for Bruneau Cowboy Christmas on November 9-10, 2024.

- Approved the Conservative Plumbing Quote for the Homedale Community Center in the amount of \$2900.



Public notices

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
(I.C. 15-3-801)
IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL
DISTRICT OF THE STATE
OF IDAHO,
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY
OF OWYHEE
IN THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATE OF KERMIT
EDWIN TATE JR.,
DECEASED**

CASE NO. CV37-24-00267
NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that the undersigned is
the attorney of the appointed
personal representative of the
above- named decedent. All
persons having claims against
the decedent or the estate are
required to present their claims
within four months after the date
of the first publication of 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 26th day of
November, 2024.

Ellis Eifert Attorney
TEL: (208)405-0486
FAX: (208) 549-7353
Idaho State Bar No. 9173
Attorney for the Applicant
409 S Jackson St Moscow, ID
83843
12/18,25/2024;01/01/2025

LEGAL NOTICE
The following application(s)
have been filed to appropriate
the public waters of the State of
Idaho:

57-12106
J.R. SIMPLOT COMPANY
PO BOX 27
BOISE, ID 83707-0027
Point of Diversion SWSW S35
T07S R02E OWYHEE County
Source SHOOFLY CREEK
Tributary SNAKE RIVER
Use: STOCKWATER
07/01 to 12/31; 0.06 CFS
Total Diversion: 0.06 CFS
Date Filed: 09-30-2024
Place Of Use:
STOCKWATER
T06S R04E S29 NESE
T06S R04E S30 SESE
T06S R04E S31 L2 (SWNW)
T07S R02E S26 SENE

T07S R03E S1 SWNE
T07S R03E S9 NESW
T07S R03E S10 NWSE,
SESE
T07S R03E S11 NWNW
T07S R03E S13 NENE,
NWNW
T07S R03E S14 NENW
T07S R03E S16 NWSE
T07S R03E S17 NENE,
NENW
T07S R03E S20 NENE
T07S R03E S21 SWSW
T07S R03E S23 SESW
T07S R03E S26 NWNE
T07S R03E S27 NESE
T07S R03E S29 NWSW,
NWSE
T07S R03E S31 SESE
T07S R03E S33 NESW
T07S R04E S6 L1 (NENE)
T08S R03E S4 NWSE
T08S R03E S5 SWNE

This application proposes to
appropriate trust water and will
be evaluated in compliance with
Section 42-203C, Idaho Code,
and IDWR's Water Appropriation
Rules, IDAPA 37.03.08.

The applicant asserts that the
proposed use should be approved
within the area of the Amended
Snake River Basin Moratorium
Order because the use will be
non-consumptive.

Permits will be subject to all
prior water rights. For additional
information concerning the
property location, contact the
WesternRegionofficeat(208)334-
2190; or for a full description of
the right(s), please see [https://
idwr.idaho.gov/apps/ExtSearch/
WRAApplicationResults/](https://idwr.idaho.gov/apps/ExtSearch/WRAApplicationResults/).
Protests may be submitted based
on the criteria of Idaho Code §
42-203A. Any protest against the
approval of this application must
be filed with the Director, Dept.
of Water Resources, Western
Region, 2735 W AIRPORT WAY,
BOISE ID 83705-5082 together
with a protest fee of \$25.00 for
each application on or before
1/6/2025. The protestant must
also send a copy of the protest to
the applicant.

MATHEW WEAVER,
Director
12/18,25/2024

More artwork



Andi P., Wendy Swenson's class, Marsing Elementary



Elu L., Jessica Jones' class, Bruneau Elementary

We're proud of our Heritage!

1st

Owyhee County is the first county to be established in the State of Idaho.

1st

The Owyhee Avalanche was the first newspaper in the Idaho Territory to have access to telegraph service.

1st

The Owyhee Avalanche was the first daily newspaper in the Idaho Territory.

Established 1865

The Owyhee Avalanche

P.O. Box 97 • Homedale, Idaho 83628

The Owyhee Avalanche

Owyhee County's best source of local news!

As 2024 comes to a close, we would like to thank our friends, neighbors and customers for your continued support.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year!

Wilder (208) 482-7565
Payette (208) 642-3586