

The Owyhee Avalanche

VOL. 40, NO. 2

\$1

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025

Business as usual on National Day of Mourning

Thursday has been declared a National Day of Mourning for President Jimmy Carter, but only U.S. Post Offices will be closed in Owyhee County.

All county and city government offices will remain open.

All stores in Homedale and Marsing and

Homedale's US Bank will observe regular business hours, too.

The day of mourning coincides with the president's funeral. Flags will fly at half-staff until late January as part of a 30-day remembrance of the nation's 39th president, who died at the age of 100 on Dec. 29.

Dist. 1 changing of the guard at hand

Holton to succeed Hoagland with Monday swearing-in

An era will officially end Monday in Murphy.

When Walt Holton joins three appointees to take the oath of office at the Board of County Commissioners meeting, it will mark the last of those meetings for Dist. 1 Commissioner Jerry Hoagland.

Holton will succeed Hoagland and join Dist. 2 Commissioner Kelly Aberasturi and Dist. 3 Commissioner Cindy Bachman on the dais inside Courtroom 2 for the weekly meetings.

The meeting will begin at 9

a.m., inside the Owyhee County Courthouse in Murphy, and the oaths of office will be administered after the business meeting gets underway.

Two other elected officials will be sworn in as well. Sheriff Larry Kendrick will start



Jerry Hoagland

— See *Dist. 1*, page 2

2024: THE YEAR IN NEWS



HHS band named people's favorite from Boise parade

Boise Holiday Parade president Connor Pace and vice-president Judy Zink presented the event's People's Choice Award to Ruben Rodriguez and the Homedale High School marching band late last year. **Front row, from left**, Baylee Waters, Keeley Brady, Hector Bedolla (drum major kneeling), Aikeen Ramirez, Lily Mark, Kayden Atkins, and Daniel Rodriguez. **Back row, from left**, Ashlyn Harkins, Damian Koepnick, Payton Williams, Joseph Gaspar, Bradley Rossi, Paige Van Vliet, and Wayne Stewart. Photo by Samantha Rodriguez / HHS Yearbook

A time for transition

There were big changes in Owyhee County in 2024, and the effects of some won't be known for a while.

In January, Don Drum retired as the executive director of the Public Employees Retirement System of Idaho (PERSI) 49 years after he graduated from Homedale High School.

Gavin Parker also ended his 17-year reign as Homedale Chamber of

— See *Time*, page 3



End of a Homedale School District era

Faith Olsen (third from right) was surrounded by her grandchildren and children when the community celebrated her retirement after nearly 35 years in the Homedale School District office.

More development questions arise

Marsing-area "Triangle" at crossroads again; input sought

Bill Werhane is taking another run at developing property at Marsing's Canyon County doorstep.

The Sunny Slope resident will be at the Sandbar Community Room at City Hall, 18 Sandbar Ave., for a few hours each day on Thursday, Jan. 16 and Friday, Jan. 17 to receive input and answer questions about "The Triangle" parcel adjacent to Idaho highway 55 just east of the Snake River bridge.

As he did in November of 2023, Werhane has developed a poll to see what residents in the area, including within the Marsing city limits, would like to see out of commercial development on the piece of land

— See *Marsing*, page 2

Beet dump hearing set; RV park owners seek longer stays

In what has been characterized as a continuation of last month's public hearing, the Homedale City Council will take community comments on development at the former sugar beet dump.

Representatives from Ahlquist Development will present a plan for 12.5 acres of the northern half of the former Amalgamated Sugar Co. beet receiving station property near the intersection of U.S. Highway 95 and East Idaho Avenue.

The public hearing is the first item on the agenda for a meeting that begins at 6 p.m., today inside the council chambers at City Hall,

— See *Hearing*, page 4

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Meeting your goals, Pg. 6: Tips on keeping those resolutions
Meetings changed, Pg. 7: Irrigation confabs moved back
Wrestling history, Pg. 10: HHS sees first Lane title since 2007
Bingo's back, Pg. 18: Marsing Lions fundraiser set Saturday
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From page 1

✓ Dist. 1: Bachman, Topmiller, Kendrick also to be sworn in in Murphy

his own four-year term as will Prosecuting Attorney Chris Topmiller.

The BOCC — on the recommendation of the county Republican Central Committee — appointed both men to their positions after their predecessors (Perry Grant for Kendrick and Jeffery Phillips for Topmiller) resigned under fire.

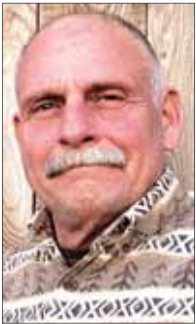
In recent months, Topmiller has relocated from just north of Homedale in Canyon County to Owyhee County, solving the eligibility problem that had dogged Phillips.

Bachman also was appointed to the District 3 commissioner

post after the death of Joe Merrick.

All four elected officials taking office next week won primary challenges in May and ran unopposed in the general election.

Holton won a two-year term on the board months after edging Lath Callaway in the GOP primary. Bachman will serve four years after beating Michelle Spencer.



Walt Holton

Kendrick defeated former Owyhee County Sheriff's Sgt. Tim Riha in the primary, and Topmiller won against county native Trenton McRae.

Hoagland, a Reynolds Creek rancher who lives in Wilson, leaves the board after 18 years. He most recently served another stint as board chair in 2024.

A new chair will be appointed when the board reorganizes



Cindy Bachman

Monday.

Hoagland's legacy includes the Owyhee Initiative becoming federal law in 2009 and several battles with the Bureau of Land Management over land use and ranching permits.

He also served through the fight to keep a proposed 500-kilovolt electricity transmission line off private ground in Owyhee County. The



Larry Kendrick

Boardman-to-Hemingway transmission line will span parts of private land in Oregon on its way to the Hemingway substation in Wilson, but the line stays primarily on public land in Owyhee County.

He also has been party to the lengthy struggle to validate road rights-of-way under RS 2477.



Chris Topmiller

— JPB

✓ Marsing: Landowner wants to keep ag-related flavor, seeks ideas

situated in Canyon County and bordered by Marsing Road, Churruca Lane and Idaho 55 (aka a Sunny Slope Road).

"I got a good response from the community the first time," Werhane said.

There is a poll, which will be available at the Sandbar Community Room as well as online through a QR code, to help residents pick what they'd like to see on the 8.83-acre parcel. (Werhane has purchased an ad with the QR code and other info appearing in the Avalanche on Jan. 8 and Jan. 15).

All choices are agriculturally related in some way because the area from the Snake River to Farmway Road along the Idaho 55 corridor has been zoned for Ag Tourism, he said.

He would like get the area zoned commercial/industrial.

The parcel has grown since Werhane's previous poll. He purchased about 1.26 acres near the intersection of Marsing Road and Churruca Lane, and he also has half of the lane itself because Canyon County abandoned the roadway.

Werhane doesn't have a specific development idea, so he put together the poll.

There is a general master plan, and Werhane said environmental studies have been done. Churruca's Garage, an old automobile repair shop, stood on Churruca Lane until the 1970s, Werhane said.

The poll, he said, will allow him to develop some suggested uses when he goes before the Canyon County Planning and Zoning Commission. The 2023 poll revealed several ag-related concepts from the public,

including a feed store or veterinarian office, as well as thoughts of a bank, restaurant, convenience store and gas station or a brewery or winery.

Werhane has never had a formal hearing before Canyon County officials for myriad reasons, including not having a specific usage for the ground.

He also said constant changes in the county's development department delayed progress.

Werhane and his wife, Gina, joined the Owyhee County Historical Society since purchasing the land, which is close to the former location of a U.S. prisoner of war camp for Germans during World War II.

He said any development would be conditional on the presence of elements to pay homage to the area's history, which stretches from the Bonneville Flood that shaped

the Snake River plains, to the aboriginal peoples who lived along the river, to Oregon Trail migration, the discovery of gold in the Owyhees and the commercial ferries across the Snake in the 19th century.

Werhane once again is working with Elizabeth Allen of Brattlecone Land Use Consulting on the development process.

The survey lists asks community members to rank options as "Preferred," "Acceptable," or "Less Acceptable."

- The possibilities include:
- Animal hospital
 - Auction establishment
 - Equipment rentals
 - Farm implement sales and service
 - Farm supply sales
 - Landscape business
 - Mini storage and/or RV storage
 - Retail

• Personal services shops such as a barbershop or beauty salon

- Offices
- Bank
- Small motel
- Microbrewery
- Restaurant
- Telecommunication facility

• Gas station and convenience store

- Automobile service shop
- Other, which allows people to make suggestions

The survey asks people to rank the top three preferred uses and share thoughts on the future development of the area.

Providing a name and contact information is optional.

For more information or to provide more input, contact Werhane at (208) 861-7879 or Allen at (208) 477-1059.

— JPB



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2024: THE YEAR IN NEWS

✓ Time

From Page 1
Commerce president in January when he didn't seek another term. Realtor Leslie Griffith was elected to succeed the Homedale financial planner.
Lynette Enrico took the oath of office to join the Marsing City Council as Hayzen Corder started a four-year term as mayor and Chris Even continued on the board. Aaron Tines and Steve Atkins were sworn in for new terms in Homedale.
By May, it was known that the Board of County Commissioners would have a new member when Jerry Hoagland decided not to run for re-election, and Walt Holton won the right to succeed him from District 1. Dist. 3 Commissioner Cindy Bachman, Larry Kendrick (sheriff) and Chris Topmiller (prosecuting attorney) won elections to erase the "appointed" adjectives from their titles.
Hoagland was named Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo Parade grand marshal to honor his service to the county.

Guffey resident Shawn Dygert became one of two new Idaho House of Representatives members from District 23.
The Marsing School District board of trustees gained new members through appointment as Cassea Daugherty succeeded Luke Ankeny and Adam Percifield replaced Chad Showalter.
John Barenberg retired as a third-grade teacher in Marsing then sent off the Class of 2024 as the graduation keynote speaker.
Tim Little, a longtime Marsing basketball coach, stepped down from the boys' job and his post as elementary school principal at the end of the 2023-24 school year. The new school year saw teacher and Marsing High graduate Lachelle Wood promoted to succeed departed middle school principal Brian Marshall. Sara Bell was hired as Marsing Elementary principal.
The Grand View Lions Club has a new hall after a donation allowed the transition of the defunct American Legion Post 134 Hall into a community center.
There were three appointments to the Owyhee

County Fair Board, including Katie Colyer from Bruneau, Ed Collett from Grand View, and Marsing's Anna Ousley. By the end of the year, Ousley had resigned from the board.
In June, Daniel Eismann, a one-time Homedale resident who rose from Owyhee County magistrate judge to Chief Justice of the Idaho Supreme Court, passed away.
Marsing Ambulance saw changes, too. In November, voters approved the dissolution of the Marsing Ambulance District and the formation of the Marsing Emergency Medical Services District, which would include a board of local commissioners. Earlier in the year, Betty Ackerman stepped down as Marsing Ambulance Service EMS director, and volunteer emergency medical technician J.D. Phipps was hired to take on the paid directorship.
Three Creek teenager, Will Brackett, was elected Idaho FFA state president.
Marsing rancher Caleb Showalter became Owyhee Cattlemen's Association president after Rex Hoagland ended his two-year term. Zach Tindall and Matea Jaca

joined the board of directors. Frank and Cindy Bachman were named Honorary Life Members.
Scott Jensen, the longtime OCA secretary, left his post as University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Educator. He was also elected president of the national county agents association.
Caldwell cowgirl Riley Shearn was crowned the county fair and rodeo queen in August.
Johnathan Cossel, a man whose family has a long history with the Owyhee County Rodeo Board, became the organization's president heading into August's PRCA rodeo.
Longtime Bruneau-Grand View school trustee Gary Jones resigned from his Zone 1 post.
The Homedale Library District board renamed the 1921 library for the Aldrich sisters (Dorothy and Hazel) and rechristened the 1980 library from the Homedale Community Room to The Gathering Place.
William (Bill) Wellman resigned after decades as the chief public defender in

Owyhee County. His departure was one of the many dominoes that fell amid the state's retooling of the system, which triggered county Magistrate Judge Shane Darrington's ire when two defendants showed up for court hearings without public defenders. By the end of the year, the ACLU got involved in an attempt to reform the new reforms the state had put forward in the public defense system.

Education

A ballot recount in June affirmed that Bruneau-Grand View School District voters approved a two-year supplemental levy to bring \$1.3 million in funding to operate the schools. The measure passed by just one vote in May.
Jonathon Brunko, a student from Homedale, won the SkillsUSA national championship for Collision Repair in June.
Marsing school board chair Jason Sevy became Idaho School Boards Association president-elect.
Homedale patrons passed

— See *Time*, page 8

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✓ Hearing: Citizens could learn more about potential tenants tonight

From Page 1
31 W. Wyoming Ave.

City Clerk and Treasurer Alice Pegram said Ahlquist wants to subdivide the parcel it bought from Jacksons Food Stores Inc., into four commercial lots.

The 15-acre parcel north of Industrial Road was split after a Dec. 11 public hearing so Jacksons Food Stores could sell 12.5 acres to Ahlquist. A 2.5-acre lot in the northwest portion of the parcel will become a Jacksons convenience store and gas station on the northeast corner of South 3rd Street West and East Idaho Avenue.

Ahlquist has proposed a commercial development that would include a D&B Supply, a McDonald's restaurant with a drive-through window, a discount store and another building with a drive-through. Construction could begin in the second quarter of this year.

The council OK'd a single lot split for the Jacksons store after the Dec. 11 public hearing.

During his testimony, Ahlquist's chief development officer, Tonn Pederson, said his company would bring a preliminary plan for the remaining acreage to the January meeting. Neighboring residents have voiced concerns about traffic, and Pederson said the plan to be presented today would address all the issues.

There was no mention of another public hearing or a continuation of the Dec. 11 hearing when the council voted last month.

Council members are expected to vote on the split proposal after the hearing.

Pegram said Ahlquist has also purchased the 15 acres south of Industrial Road. There are no specific plans for that

part of the property.

RV stays could extend
Officials from Shady Lane RV Park, which is located across East Idaho Avenue from the proposed Ahlquist development, will seek a modification to their conditional use permit to allow longer tenancy.

Right now, RV users can only stay at the park for a maximum of 28 days.

Shady Lane's owners want permission to allow longer stays because people like traveling nurses and long-term construction workers need places to live while they are assigned to work in the Treasure Valley, Pegram said.

Road requested
After developing a private road establishment policy last month, the council will examine the first application for a private road in the city limits during today's meeting.

OPS, LLC, the entity owned by real estate developers Todd Ostrum and Chad Packer, wants to create a private road near the Owyhee County Fairgrounds to provide access to planned housing additions in the area, Pegram said.

There will also be departmental reports from Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller and public works supervisor Jake Hyer. City engineer Andrew Kimmel and city attorney Paul J. Fitzer could also provide reports.

— JPB

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Shaping the Future
Community Poll for the TRIANGLE parcel

The purpose of this POLL is to involve us, the residents of the City of Marsing, Owyhee and Canyon Counties, and the greater Sunnyslope area, to identify possible developments for the TRIANGLE that would emphasize our special location in Southwest Idaho. We have highlighted the area's history below, followed by a short poll.

To emphasize: our beautiful and unique area IS being developed. The development and passing of the 2030 Canyon County Comprehensive Plan provided a blueprint to preserve and enhance our unique environment. Your involvement will be for all our benefit, and this POLL is a step in that direction. This POLL specifically identifies THE TRIANGLE. We have passed this +- 9 acres every time we drive over the new Marsing Bridge.



Have you ever thought, "I wonder what will happen there and Churruca Lane"? Well, You are traveling through an area that has been a 'crossroads' for centuries. Beginning with the Bonneville Flood, shaping the Snake River plains, aboriginal peoples living along the Snake (Celebration Park), the pioneer migration along the Oregon Trail (mid-1800s), settlers and discovery of gold in the Owyhees (1862), commercial ferries across the Snake in 1887 (Froman's and Henderson's Ferries), the WW II POW camp, Churruca Lane and Churruca Service Station through the 40s, 50s, 60s and into the 70s, and finally the construction of the 'new' bridge' at Marsing and rerouting of Hwy 55 in 1955. The current phase of Marsing and Sunny Slope has continued to morph agriculturally into the premier wine region of Idaho and the Northwest. In order to emphasize our uniqueness and support agriculture, your input is requested.



Please complete the following poll and place it in the drop-box in the Sand Bar Room at the Marsing City Hall by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, November 17, or mail it to PO Box 3953, Nampa, Idaho 83653.

The poll can also be filled out online using the QR code.

Correction

Pilot Gregg Garrett was misquoted in the Jan. 1 edition of The Owyhee Avalanche in an article regarding the Homedale Municipal Airport. Garrett said pilots were concerned more about the condition of the runway than the construction of a perimeter fence at the riverside airport. The article stated incorrectly that the runway wasn't a concern.

The Owyhee Avalanche

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U.S.P.S. NO. 416-340
Copyright 2025 — ISSN #8750-6823

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Published each week in Homedale, Idaho by Owyhee Avalanche, Inc. Entered as Periodical, paid at the Post Office at Homedale, ID under the Act of March 3, 1879. POSTMASTER: send address changes to THE OWYHEE AVALANCHE, P.O. 97, Homedale, ID 83628.

Annual Subscription Rates*:

Owyhee County.....	\$42.40
Canyon, Ada and Malheur counties.....	47.70
Elsewhere.....	53.00

* Includes postage & tax (where applicable)

Deadlines

Classifieds Monday noon the week of publication	Display advertising Friday noon the week prior to publication
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SMART goals: Your path to success in the new year and beyond

With the new year just starting, you may still be considering a fresh start. It is never too late, and the way that you can get started is by having clear, actionable goals. Goal-setting can provide you with direction and purpose. A clear vision can allow you to focus energy and resources effectively, whether on personal aspirations, professional milestones, or academic achievements. Studies show that people who set specific and challenging goals are more likely to perform better and feel accomplished.

The science of goal-setting is strongly tied to psychology, particularly in Edwin Locke and Gary Latham’s Goal-Setting Theory. Their research highlights that establishing specific goals can lead to higher performance. Goals may act as motivators, directing attention, effort, and persistence toward achieving results. However, the way that goals are set is critical for the equation. This is why using the SMART goal-setting format is recommended. Goals should include these components to be most effective:

- **Specific** — Clearly define the goal, making sure it contains “what,” “why,” and “how.”
- **Measurable** — You should



Suriñe Greenway

be able to track progress and measure success.

- **Achievable** — Ensure it’s realistic for you to reach, given resources and time.
- **Relevant** — Align the goal with broader objectives that makes sense for you.
- **Time-bound** — Set a deadline to have a timeframe in mind.

Despite the benefits, goal-setting can still have obstacles. These include fear of failure, procrastination, and setting unrealistic goals — all of which can hinder progress. To avoid these potential challenges, start with small goals and celebrate milestones so you can maintain the motivation and continue building to larger achievements.

Whether learning a new skill, improving health, or advancing a career, setting a goal can be the first step toward your brighter future. Goal-setting isn’t just a tool for success — it’s a way to unlock potential, inspire growth, and create a purposeful life. So, grab a pen, write down your dreams, and watch them transform into reality.

— Suriñe Greenway is the University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Family and Consumer Sciences educator. For more information, you can reach the U of I Owyhee County Extension Office at (208) 896-4104 or owyhee@uidaho.edu. The office is located at 238 W. 8th Ave. W., in Marsing.

Monthly Catholic Mass begins Saturday in Oreana

Catholic Mass returns to a tiny Oreana chapel on Saturday. St. Paul’s Parish has released the 2025 Mass schedule for Our Lady Queen of Heaven, which is located on Oreana Loop Road. Mass is celebrated at 10 a.m., usually on the second Saturday of every month this year:

- Saturday
- Feb. 8

- March 8
 - April 26
 - May 10
 - June 14
 - July 12
 - Aug. 9
 - Sept. 13
 - Oct. 11
 - Nov. 8
 - Dec. 13
- For more information, call St. Paul’s Parish in Nampa at (208) 466-7031.

Calendar

Today

Ladies coffee group

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

Food distribution

9 a.m. to 10 a.m., for school families only; 10 a.m., to 1 p.m., for general Marsing community. The HUB food pantry, 205 8th Ave. W., Marsing. (208) 649-5411

Bingo

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

Labor Dept. bilingual employment services

Noon to 4 p.m., Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 364-7781 or canyoncountymail@labor.idaho.gov for appointment or information.

Marsing Chamber of Commerce meeting

12:30 p.m., Sandbar Community Room, 18 Sandbar Ave., Marsing.

Grand View City Council meeting

6 p.m., City Hall, 425 Boise Ave., Grand View. (208) 834-2700, noon to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday

Homedale City Council meeting

6 p.m., City Hall, 31 W. Wyoming Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4641

Thursday

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.)

Therapy dog

10 a.m., to 1 p.m., Homedale Senior Center, 224 W. Idaho Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-3020

Bingo

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

Fit and Fall Proof exercise class

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

Fit and Fall 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

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

Owyhee Gardeners Meeting

1 p.m., Sandbar Community Room, 18 Sandbar Ave., Marsing. (208) 250-0943. Information: info@owyheegardeners.org

Young Mom’s Bible study

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

After school Bible club

4 p.m., to 5 p.m., ages 5-11, Eastern Owyhee Library, 520 Boise Ave., Grand View. Information: Cyndi Fullmer, (208) 599-2790 or Amber Good, (208) 585-7694

Teens and Tweens

5 p.m., to 6 p.m., ‘BSU visit – STEM activity,’ 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.

Marsing City Council meeting

7 p.m., Marsing City Hall, 18 Sandbar Ave., Marsing. (208) 896-4122

Friday

Blood drive

9 a.m., to 2 p.m., Rimrock Jr.-Sr. High School, 39678 ID-77, Bruneau. Alia Aquiso senior project. Registration: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive>, and enter 83604 to find Rimrock blood drive.

Beginning calligraphy class

1 p.m., to 3 p.m., \$5 adults, registration required, The Gathering Place, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. Registration: (208) 337-4228 or visit the library

Community food pantry

4 p.m., to 6 p.m., Melba Valley Senior Center, 115 Base Line Rd., Melba.

Saturday

Catholic Mass

10 a.m., Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Oreana. (208) 466-7031

Card games

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

Marsing Lions Club bingo

6 p.m., doors open; 6:45 p.m., early bird game; 7 p.m., regular series, Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Post 128 Community Center, 126 W. 2nd St. N., Marsing

Sunday

Awana youth Bible club

5 p.m., to 6:30 p.m., ages kindergarten through high school, Valley Christian Fellowship, 37866 Hwy 78, Grand View. Information: Amber Good, (208) 585-7694

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., ‘The Noise Cat by Paula Allen Tuckness,’ Gypsy Jackson Memorial Library, 121 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. (208) 337-4228

Homedale FFA chapter meeting

6:30 p.m., Homedale High School Ag shop, 203 E. Idaho Ave., Homedale.

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.)

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

Treasure Valley Ramblers perform

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

Procrastination to Progress health workshop

6 p.m., free, The Gathering Place, 125 W. Owyhee Ave., Homedale. Information: 208-934-1985 or info@fitidaho.com

Homedale Highway District meeting

6 p.m., Homedale Highway District office, 102 E. Colorado Ave., Homedale.

Gem Highway District meeting

6 p.m., 1016 Main St., Marsing. (208) 896-4581

Got News?

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

Death notice

WILLIAM DAVID ALEXANDER, 72, of Murphy, died on Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2024. Arrangements: All Valley Cremation, 1538 11th Ave. N., Nampa. (208) 899-9361

College honors Lewis-Clark State College

Lewis-Clark State College, a state four-year institution in Lewiston, released its fall semester 2024 honor roll on Thursday:

President’s List (3.75 grade-point average or higher) — Yesenia Cornejo, and Destiny A. Winchel, Homedale

Dean’s List (3.749 to 3.25 GPA) — Maite I. Frank, Jessica L. Juan, and Lexie A. Ponce, Wilder; and Alivia J. Vanschoiack, Melba

LCSC’s admission application deadline for the spring semester is today. Apply for free at www.lcsc.edu/apply.

Treasure Valley CC

A handful of local students earned spots on Treasure Valley Community College’s list of honor students for the fall 2024 quarter:

President’s List (4.0 grade-point average) — Ashten Halee Moore, Grand View; Elise Anna Stoddart, Jordan Valley; and Michael James Head, Wilder

Dean’s List (3.99 to 3.75 GPA) — Laura Anderson, Jordan Valley

Honor Roll (3.74 to 3.5 GPA) — Colton Eugene Showalter, Marsing; and Ismael Aguirre, Adrian

Senior menus

Homedale Senior Center

Served at noon. Milk and roll/bread available each day

Jan. 8: Ham and beans, hash brown patty, carrots

Jan. 9: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, spinach

Jan. 14: Pork roast, mashed potatoes and gravy, mixed vegetables

Jan. 15: Deli sandwich, coleslaw, potato salad

Sandbar Community Room, Marsing

Noon to 12:30 p.m., inside Marsing City Hall
Milk available each day

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

Jan. 8: Orange chicken over brown rice, California blend vegetables, snap peas, 9-grain bread, tropical fruit

Jan. 10: Herb salmon over rice pilaf, carrots, green beans, whole wheat roll, peaches

Jan. 13: Country steak with country gravy, mashed potatoes, stewed tomatoes, 9-grain bread, fresh fruit

Jan. 15: Roast pork with mushroom gravy, scalloped potatoes, peas and onions, whole wheat roll, applesauce

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

Jan. 9: Pizza, pizza toppings, green salad, cottage cheese

Jan. 14: Hamburger casserole, potatoes, peas and carrots, garlic bread, yogurt, fruit

Jan. 16: Salisbury steak, broccoli and cauliflower, garlic bread, fresh fruit, pudding

Melba Valley Senior Center

Meals served at noon (Salad bar at 11:30 a.m.)
Phone ahead (208) 495-2168 same day for complete menu
Payment by donation. All ages welcome

Jan. 9: Meatloaf

Jan. 14: Potato bar

Jan. 16: Pineapple chicken

Obituaries

Mabel Yoshiye Itano

Mabel Yoshiye Itano, 81, of Homedale, passed away Friday, December 27, 2024, at home surrounded by family after a 2.5-year battle with stomach cancer.

Mabel was born on May 29, 1943, near Billings, Montana, to Frank and Ida Nagashima. During her childhood years, the family farmed in Montana and Eastern Idaho. She graduated valedictorian from Bonneville High School in Idaho Falls, Idaho. In 1965, she graduated from The College of Idaho with a major in elementary education. She married James Itano on Nov. 30, 1968 in Idaho Falls, and they had four children. She was a housewife, but maintained her teaching



certification, which allowed her to return to work as a 2nd-grade teacher after her husband James unexpectedly passed away in a car accident at the age of 52.

Mabel was a loving and hard-working wife and mother, dedicated to the goal of raising

her four children and having them graduate college, which she accomplished. She loved traveling, playing games on her iPad, watching soap operas, and spending time with her family. She was also a devout member of the First Presbyterian Church in Homedale and relied on her faith to persevere through difficult times.

Mabel is survived by her four children, Kelly Itano of Scottsdale, AZ; Lori Inoue of Sosa, Japan; Karen Itano of Homedale, ID; and Scott Itano of Seattle, WA; one brother, Ed Nagashima of Spokane, WA; and three grandchildren, Katelyn Itano of Scottsdale, AZ; Cody Inoue of Sosa, Japan; and Maya Inoue of Sosa, Japan.

Verla M. Larsen

Verla M. Larsen, age 95, of Nampa, Idaho, passed away on December 28, 2024. She was born on October 10, 1929, to Silas and Roma (Harris) Brannam, and grew up with four brothers and three sisters during the difficult struggles of the Great Depression. Mom once said she didn’t see how the family could have managed without the help of the Salvation Army.

Once, when out seeing a movie with high school friends, the crowd they were in surged. Many toppled. Jack T. Larsen, country boy, landed on Verla Mae Brannam, town girl, which led to marriage and a shivaree on July 8, 1946.

Thereafter, they led a life that involved raising a family (Ronny, Cindy, Jonny, Jimmy, Cody and an occasional stray), and moving frequently throughout the many small towns and communities of SW Idaho, SE Oregon and Northern California. Mom tallied one time and found she had moved lock, stock, and barrel at least 25 times in her married life. During that time, she completed her H.S. degree and worked as a postal and store clerk while raising the kids.



Dad often commented “Verla raised the kids” because he was so frequently away working. We were five well-behaved and delightful children who never caused her a bit of trouble or worry.

While living in Bly, Oregon, she and Dad joined the LDS church, and while living in Jordan Valley they pretty much joined the rodeo. Wherever she and Dad set up camp she always managed to make friends and become a participant in community life and events. Although she

married a cowboy, she had zero interest in ever getting on a horse. At rodeos she was the scorekeeper, never the barrel racer.

Ultimately, they moved to Murphy, Idaho, and settled into community life where, on July 16, 2016, with all five kids and spouses attending, they celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary.

Verla was preceded in death by her parents, Silas and Roma (Harris) Brannam; husband, Jack Larsen; son, Cody Wynn Larsen; and all siblings except her brother, Bob Brannam (Ann). She is survived by sons, Ron (Tom), Jonny (Karen), and Jim (Sarah); daughter, Cindy (Bob); and daughter in-law Karyn (Cody); nine grandchildren: Bobby, Windi, Shawn, Mackenzie, Cassie, Martin, Amber, Jaci, and Trent; eleven great-grandchildren: Josh, Olivia, Lily, Samantha, Kayla, Cody E., Jake Jr., Annie, Ava, Nora, Brittaney, and Breanna; and one great-great-grandchild Maddox.

Graveside service was held at 12:00 pm, Friday, January 3, 2025, at Marsing-Homedale Cemetery, 4410 Cemetery Rd Marsing ID, 83639.

SBOC irrigation meetings rescheduled

The first series of South Board of Control irrigation meetings in the new year have been rescheduled.

The three boards of directors will meet on Wednesday, Jan. 22 inside the boardroom at the SBOC shop, 201 W. Wyoming Ave., in Homedale.

The Ridgeview Irrigation District board will start the

proceedings with its 1 p.m., meeting.

The Gem Irrigation District will convene at 1:15 p.m.

The South Board of Control directors, including all Gem directors and the Ridgeview chair, will meet at 1:30 p.m.

The boards usually meet on the second Wednesday of each month, but this month’s

meetings were rescheduled because a key official won’t be able to attend on the regularly scheduled day.

Buy it, sell it,
trade it, rent it...
in the

Classifieds!

2024: THE YEAR IN NEWS

✓ Time

From Page 1
the latest 10-year plant facility levy.
Toni Belknap-Brinegar, a 1993 Homedale High School graduate, was named the state school board chairperson of the year for her work guiding the Vallivue trustees.

First-responders

While the City of Marsing and Owyhee County were still talking about restarting the sheriff’s office enhanced contract at the end of the year, the Marsing School District executed a grant to create a school resource officer position. The sheriff’s office will provide the deputy.
In the Bruneau-Grand View School District, the sheriff’s office also placed an SRO for the 2024-25 school year.

Grand View’s volunteer ambulance crew got some good news late in the year when the Board of County Commissioners agreed to provide the money necessary to leverage a grant and purchase a new ambulance.

New digs

The Owyhee County magistrate courthouse moved to the west in Homedale with the opening of the Owyhee County Justice Center. With the change, Homedale City Hall saw changes, too, with the old courtroom becoming council chambers and the police department moving into the former judges’ chambers and other offices in the courtroom.

The “Clumsy Custard Horror Show” christened the new Homedale High School fine arts auditorium, and the HHS Drama Club tackled the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical “Cinderella” in the fall.
Ground was broken and the cement foundation poured for the Owyhee County Fitness Court in Marsing. The outdoor facility on school district property will promote community health and wellness through exercise stations.

Growing pains

The Homedale City Council approved annexation of 25 acres on the corner of U.S. Highway 95 and Pioneer Road in February. Later in the year, the council annexed more ground into the city limits for the same proposed residential subdivision.
Jacksons Food Stores purchased 30 acres that made up the former Amalgamated Sugar Co., beet receiving station in Homedale. By the end of the year, all but 2.5 acres of the property was owned by the Ahlquist Development Co., and there were plans to bring a new Jacksons convenience store, a McDonald’s restaurant, and a D&B Supply store to town.

Murphy construction

The acquisition of land across Idaho highway 78 from the Murphy courthouse set in motion a process that by the end of the year saw Owyhee County put out to bid a project to build sewer

— See *Time*, page 9



Masons helping out
*Silver City Masonic Lodge No. 13 in Homedale made a \$500 donation to the Homedale Senior Center in December. **From left:** Lodge No. 13 Sr. Deacon Randy King, senior center receptionist PJ Walliser and thrift store manage Dora Villaneuva, and Lodge No. 13 Grand Worshipful Master George Decker. **Not pictured:** Lodge No. 13 Treasurer Monte Bollar.*

School menus

Homedale Elementary

*Choice of milk and juice
PB&J sandwich, and vegetable and fruit choices offered daily*
Jan. 8: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon roll, string cheese, mixed fruit **Lunch:** Orange chicken rice bowl, mixed vegetables
Jan. 9: **Breakfast:** Scrambled eggs, blueberry muffin, dried cranberries **Lunch:** Chicken Crispito, buttered corn
Jan. 13: **Breakfast:** Raised donut, string cheese, mixed fruit **Lunch:** Chicken sandwich, crinkle fries
Jan. 14: **Breakfast:** Buttermilk biscuits, country gravy, sausage patty, sliced peaches **Lunch:** Cheesy mac with nuggets, seasoned green beans, whole grain roll
Jan. 15: **Breakfast:** Scrambled eggs, whole grain toast, applesauce **Lunch:** Chicken fried fingers, country gravy, mashed potatoes, buttered corn

Homedale Middle

*Choice of milk and juice, yogurt or string cheese
Cereal option and PB&J offered daily
Vegetable and fruit choices offered daily*
Jan. 8: **Breakfast:** Sausage breakfast pizza, sliced pears **Lunch:** Orange chicken rice bowl, spring roll, seasoned green beans, fortune cookie
Jan. 9: **Breakfast:** Cinnamon roll, string cheese, mixed fruit **Lunch:** Crispitos, buttered corn
Jan. 13: **Breakfast:** Raised donut, Yami yogurt, applesauce **Lunch:** Chicken or spicy chicken sandwich, curly fries
Jan. 14: **Breakfast:** Buttermilk biscuits, country gravy, orange slices **Lunch:** Mini corn dogs, mixed vegetables, chocolate chunk cookie
Jan. 15: **Breakfast:** Texas toast, string cheese, sliced pears **Lunch:** Chicken fried steak, country gravy, mashed potatoes, buttered corn, whole grain roll

Homedale High

*Choice of milk and juice, yogurt, string cheese or hard-boiled egg
Vegetable and fruit choices offered daily
Cereal option, Grab ‘n’ go items each day*
Jan. 8: **Breakfast:** Sausage breakfast pizza, Yami yogurt **Lunch:** Malibu chicken sandwich, Tater Tots *Grab ‘n’ go:* Chicken Caesar wrap
Jan. 9: **Breakfast:** Croissant breakfast sandwich **Lunch:** Mini pepperoni pizza, garden salad *Grab ‘n’ go:* Club Sub sandwich
Jan. 13: **Breakfast:** Maple bar or bagel and cream cheese, Yami yogurt, fruit smoothie

Lunch: Meatball sub sandwich, seasoned green beans *Grab ‘n’ go:* Chicken Caesar salad
Jan. 14: **Breakfast:** Buttermilk biscuits, sausage patty, country gravy **Lunch:** Cheeseburger, Tater Tots, chocolate chunk cookie *Grab ‘n’ go:* Turkey bacon sub
Jan. 15: **Breakfast:** Cheesy scrambled eggs, blueberry muffin, fruit smoothie **Lunch:** Corn dog, curly fries *Grab ‘n’ go:* BBQ chicken wrap

Marsing

Meals include choice of milk, fruit juice, fresh fruit & vegetables
Elementary daily: Breakfast: Cereal option
Middle/High School each day: PB&J option
Cold Grab-n-go line: Wrap, sub sand., salad
Hot Grab-n-go line (varies): Cheeseburger, chicken dish (reg./spicy sandwich; nuggets; bites), Pizza (varies), chicken rice bowl, potatoes (varies), bread (varies)
Jan. 8: **Breakfast:** Waffles, banana **Lunch:** Mini corn pups, green beans, chocolate chunk cookie **Hot Grab-n-go:** Pepperoni pizza stuffwich, curly fries
Jan. 9: **Breakfast:** Scrambled eggs, string cheese, muffin, orange wedges **Lunch:** Cheeseburger, curly fries **Cold Grab-n-go:** Cub wrap
Jan. 13: **Breakfast:** French toast bites, applesauce **Lunch:** Popcorn chicken bowl, country gravy, buttered corn, breadstick **Hot Grab-n-go:** BBQ pulled pork sandwich, coleslaw
Jan. 14: **Breakfast:** Sausage patty, biscuit, country gravy, peaches **Lunch:** Spaghetti, mixed vegetables, garlic toast, snickerdoodle cookie **Cold Grab-n-go:** Chef’s salad
Jan. 15: **Breakfast:** Glazed donut, Yami yogurt, sliced apples **Lunch:** Orange chicken, steamed rice, spring roll, steamed broccoli **Hot Grab-n-go:** Ranchero pizza

Bruneau-Grand View

All meals: Milk and fruit juice/fruit daily
Jr.-Sr. high school: Pizza offered daily
Jan. 8: **Breakfast:** Egg and hash brown **Lunch:** Chicken Alfredo with garlic bread, garden spinach, peas
Jan. 9: **Breakfast:** Mini Cinni bagels **Lunch:** Finger steaks, romaine salad, mixed vegetables, Rice Krispie treats
Jan. 13: **Breakfast:** Apple Texas toast **Lunch:** Cheeseburger with bun, French fries, cauliflower
Jan. 14: **Breakfast:** Biscuits and gravy, eggs **Lunch:** Beef and bean burrito, romaine salad, salsa and sour cream, corn
Jan. 15: **Breakfast:** Strawberry mini bagels **Lunch:** Spaghetti with meat sauce, garlic bread, garden spinach, mixed vegetables

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2024: THE YEAR IN NEWS



Smithsonian sparks Marsing interest

Marsing city and school officials joined others at the ribbon cutting in January for the “Spark! Places of Innovation” touring Smithsonian Museum on Main Street. The free exhibit was housed in January and February in The HUB. Submitted photo



Homedale council moves into chambers permanently

In a rare meeting occurrence, Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller (far left) led the Homedale City Council and attendees at its Sept. 11 meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Gheen Christoffersen asked that the Pledge and a moment of silence be observed on the 23rd anniversary of the 9/11 terror attacks.

Marsing Academic Decathlon team takes second at State

Marsing High School’s Academic Decathlon team, led by national placer Jacob Bowers (far right) picked up a second-place plaque in the small schools division during the state meet last year. Submitted photo



✓ Time

From Page 1
lagoons and route sewer line to the courthouse and county jail.

The Owyhee County Historical Museum’s expansion plan continued with the completion of the print shop that houses printing press equipment from the Owyhee Nugget. Fundraising continued for other expansion plans, too. The Marsing Depot building was also refurbished to its turn-of-the-20th century look.

Individual honors

Owyhee County rancher Paul Nettleton was cited with a proclamation from the Idaho Legislature acknowledging his 50 years as a member of the sheriff’s Posse.

Marsing Academic Decathlon team member Jared Bowers was national runner-up

in essay-writing.

Justice system

Marsing City Councilperson Elizabeth Wahl paid less than \$500 in fines and court costs after a plea agreement. She entered a guilty plea to misdemeanor drug possession and saw a misdemeanor count of paraphernalia possession dismissed. She was arrested during a traffic stop in April.

A Cambridge woman, Angela June Loretta Rihari, had her Owyhee County case dropped even though she fled law enforcement authorities, crashed a car and knocked out electricity in Marsing on Jan. 2.

She had been charged with

felony counts of eluding police in a vehicle and grand theft as well as a misdemeanor charge of failing to report an accident.

Turns out, Rihari’s destructive drive began in Canyon County where she was also charged with felonies from an earlier incident on Jan. 2. She eventually entered a guilty plea to felony charges of eluding peace officers in a vehicle and grand theft. She was also charged with two counts of leaving the scene of an injury accident.

Rihari was sent to prison for a term of two to five years and was slapped with fines and fees, including restitution, totaling \$35,660.47.



Fair and Rodeo Parade grand marshal

Jerry Hoagland was chosen to lead the Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo Parade in August in recognition of his nearly two decades of service on the Board of County Commissioners.



Silver bit fundraiser was a success

The South Mountain Livestock 4-H club raffled a silver Santa Barbara bit donated by Nathan and Temi Collinsworth of Jordan Valley. Kolt Munns was announced as the winner during a Facebook Live drawing on Aug. 10. **Front row, from left:** Raimy Starbuck, Willy Collinsworth, and Saidey Starbuck. **Back row, from left:** Colby Starbuck, and Paisley Starbuck. Submitted photo



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The Owyhee Avalanche

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Page 11
Coach sits out
HHS boys' victory

Page 12
Melba boys
win 3A WIC opener

Avalanche Sports

Homedale's Valle reaches Rollie Lane peak

Freshman joins
prestigious HHS
wrestling fraternity

Only four Homedale High School wrestlers have won Rollie Lane Invitational championships in the past 20 years.

Welcome to the club, Jakobe Valle. In a battle of once-beaten wrestlers, Valle struggled with fellow freshman Zach Teal for 2½ rounds Saturday before beating the Lakeland athlete for the 98-pound title at the 22nd annual tournament. A pinfall at the 5-minute, 24-second mark capped his historic run at the Ford Idaho Sports Center in Nampa.

Valle (21-1) joins Bryan Martinat, Tyler Christoffersen and Jeremy Ensley as HHS wrestlers to finish at the top of the Rollie Lane ladder. Martinat was the most recent Trojans champion, winning at 152 pounds as a senior in 2007. Christoffersen won at 145 in 2006. Ensley won back-to-back 119-pound titles, first 20 years ago and then again

in 2006. Valle had little trouble Friday, winning three matches in the first period. He pinned Meridian's Bodee Williams three seconds before the end of the second period (3:57) in the semifinals. Valle started the road to his second consecutive tournament championship — See *Lane*, page 12

2024: THE YEAR IN SPORTS



Another year, another shot at State
Homedale High School's baseball players gather around coach Burke Deal late in the 3A state championship game against Sugar-Salem in May.

Changes and championship runs

There were seismic high school coaching changes in 2024 at both Marsing and Homedale high schools. The shifting began in January when Heidi Ankeny announced she was leaving the Huskies' track and field program. The family moved to Meridian as son Braden enrolled at Rocky Mountain High School to prepare for his collegiate track career at the University of Montana. Longtime basketball coach Tim Little left the Marsing boys' job for an administrative position with a Nampa charter school. Former Huskies player and assistant coach Lamou Loucks took over the program. Jake Dugger returned for a second stint as Marsing girls' basketball coach, succeeding Aidrie Voile, who resigned after one season. Veteran coach Larry Lincoln succeeded Don Jamison, who retired as Melba softball coach after the 2023 season. Another veteran coach, Mike Forestiere, was hired to replace Shea McClellin when the Marsing High School alum left his alma mater to coach the Vallivue football team. Forestiere would lead the Huskies to a second — See *Changes*, page 13



Trojans earn state awards
Above: HHS defensive coordinator/assistant head coach Tony Uranga (left) accepted the 2023 assistant coach of the year award from the Idaho State Coaches Association in February. *Right:* Casey Grove was named the Class 3A athletic director of the year by the Idaho Athletic Administrators Association. Submitted photos

Coach pleased with HHS bounce-back

Wobbled by
Gooding, girls
KO Payette

Homedale High School's girls' basketball players had the rust knocked off then got back on track during a quick couple of games. The team lost a rough non-conference outing against Gooding, 47-31, at home on Friday night then bounced back to beat Payette, 50-38, during a 4A Snake River Valley conference matinee Saturday on the Pirates' floor. "Early in the season, looking at the schedule, that back-to-back with a night game Friday, then a midafternoon league game in Payette the next day seemed like a less-than-ideal



Homedale's Tiana Sorenson (right) runs into some resistance against Gooding.

— See *HHS*, page 11

Big scorers lift Huskies

A basketball team doesn't score 80 points and win without teamwork. Three Marsing High School boys reached double-digit scoring Friday in an 81-69 win over Parma. Juan Ponce's career-high 31 points led the way in the 3A Western Idaho Conference game on the Panthers' floor. The junior fired in six three-point goals and was perfect on five trips to the foul line. He also connected on half of his eight shots inside the perimeter. Marsing (6-3 overall, 2-1 in conference) scored 24 points in the second quarter to build a 23-point halftime lead (43-20). Teagan Kinney and Dresden Wood notched double-doubles. Kinney went 7-for-8 at the free-throw line and dropped in a pair of treys for the bulk of his 17 points. Seven of his 10 rebounds came on the defensive glass. Dresden Wood scored 14 points after knocking down six of 10 free throws. His 11 rebounds were fairly even on the hardwood; six came on Parma's side of the court. The Huskies, who scored at least 80 points for the third time this season, shot 76 percent (19-for-25) from the charity stripe. Mason Conger also threw in a three-pointer as part of his season-high nine points. Ponce added five assists, seven pass deflections and three steals before fouling out.

Sports

Homedale boys prevail in coach's absence ✓ HHS: Defense delivers against Pirates

The first boys' basketball game of the new year had an odd feel for Homedale High School.

Sixth-year coach Cam Long wasn't on the sideline for Saturday's non-conference contest.

With a balanced attack, the Trojans had a relatively easy time beating Emmett, 51-37.

Long served a one-game suspension after his ejection from Homedale's surreal 53-46 home-court loss to Nyssa, Ore., on Dec. 21. The coach received his second technical foul in the waning seconds during which referees also tossed a fan.

Saturday marked the first HHS game since the pre-holiday break setback, and junior varsity coach and varsity assistant Clint Thomas took the reins temporarily.

The Trojans (4-5 overall) took control early and used defense to stifle Emmett.

The Huskies committed 17 turnovers, and a co-game-high four steals from seniors Luke Henry and Angel Contreras were

part of 12 Homedale thefts.

The balanced Trojans led by as many as 14 points.

Lukas Hall hit a three-point goal and connected on all three attempts inside the line for a team-high 12 points. Keaton Sorenson was one of five Trojans to can treys (and went 4-for-5 from inside the perimeter) for 11 points.

McCoy Swallow scored nine points and pulled down seven of his team-best eight rebounds on Emmett's glass.

The Trojans went 18-for-44 from the field (40.9 percent) for the game and had twice as much first-half success as Emmett (6-for-28, 21.4 percent) to build an eight-point halftime lead.

Henry and Alex Sotelo added seven points apiece with Sotelo bringing down five rebounds.

Scott Brady led all players with 17 points and nine rebounds for 5A Southern Idaho Conference member Emmett (1-6). Tucker Brown kicked in 12 points and eight boards.

From Page 10

situation," HHS coach Benji Sorenson said. "But the girls responded, and we came out firing on all cylinders early in Payette."

The Trojans (5-6 overall, 1-1 in conference) scored the first nine points against Payette (3-8, 0-2) and held a 20-point lead (40-20) in the third quarter.

"The back-to-back games started to catch up with us a bit in the second half, but we were able to close out the win," Sorenson said.

The Trojans were tired as a 12-for-24 showing at the free-throw line shows, but Homedale scored twice as many points from the foul line as Payette.

The Pirates committed 31 turnovers with the assistance of 17 steals from HHS defenders. Belen Asumendi led the Trojans with six steals, and Stephanie Quezada came up with four.

Homedale's leading scorers, Tiana Sorenson and Stella Heck, also helped control the defensive glass as the Trojans

held a slight 21-17 edge.

Sorenson led all players with 19 points and she had five of her six rebounds on Payette's end.

Heck put in 10 points and added five defensive boards.

Quezada was also a force on the Pirates' backboards. She scored nine points and led the team with seven rebounds (four on defense). She also came up with four steals before fouling out.

Friday: Gooding 47, Homedale 31 — The Trojans returned to action on their home court but saw their three-game winning streak end against the Senators.

"Our Gooding game was a bit rough, and we definitely came out of the holiday break with a lot of rust to shake off," Sorenson said.

"I do think it was helpful for us to have a non-conference opponent right after the break ... to work some of those things out."

Gooding (7-5) controlled the opening quarters of each half and held a 23-14 rebounding edge on Homedale's end of the

court. Senior Fallon Millican collected nine of her game-high 13 rebounds on defense.

The rebounding discrepancy was critical; the Trojans struggled with shooting in all facets of the game. Half of Homedale's field goals were three-pointers, but the Trojans were just 8-for-46 (17.4 percent) on their shots. The foul line performance wasn't much better (3-for-13, 23.1 percent).

Tiana Sorenson led Homedale with 11 points and seven rebounds.

Evalina Costello had two rebounds and a steal in nine minutes on the floor.

Asumendi scored nine points and snagged five rebounds and two steals.

Gooding freshman Camryn Rycraft led all players with 17 points, hitting a pair of three-pointers. She connected on five of eight free throws (the team only took 10 overall) and she came up with six steals.

Find out
What's happening
Read Calendar each week
in the Avalanche

Homedale Trojans

Athletes of the Week



Boys' basketball
Alex Sotelo, sr., W
7 pts., 5 rebounds, 2 steals vs. Emmett
Inspired Portraits by Kyla



Girls' basketball
Lorelei Johnson-Kiriago, sr., F/P
2 pts., 5 rebounds, 2 steals in back-to-back games
Inspired Portraits by Kyla



Wrestling
Jakobe Valle, fr., 98 pounds
Won prestigious Rolie Lane championship



SPORTS SCHEDULE

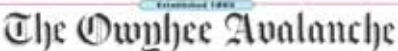
Girls' basketball Varsity	Boys' basketball Varsity
Thursday, Jan. 9, home vs. McCall-Donnelly, 7:30 p.m.	Friday, Jan. 10 at Ontario, Ore., 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 11, home vs. Fruitland, 3 p.m.	Junior varsity
Tuesday, Jan. 14 at Cole Valley Christian, Meridian, 7:30 p.m.	Friday, Jan. 10 at Ontario, Ore., 6 p.m.
Junior varsity	Frosh-soph
Thursday, Jan. 9, home vs. McCall-Donnelly, 6 p.m.	Friday, Jan. 10 at Ontario, Ore., 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 11, home vs. Fruitland, 1:30 p.m.	Wrestling
Tuesday, Jan. 14 at Cole Valley Christian, Meridian, 6 p.m.	Wednesday, Jan. 8 at Nyssa, Ore., 5:30 p.m.
Frosh-soph	Friday, Jan. 10 at Buhl Invitational, 2 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 9, home vs. McCall-Donnelly, 4:30 p.m.	Saturday, Jan. 11 at Buhl Invitational, 9 a.m.
Saturday, Jan. 11, home vs. Fruitland, noon	Wednesday, Jan. 15 at tri-meet vs. Vallivue and Ridgevue, Vallivue H.S., Caldwell, 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 14 at Cole Valley Christian, Meridian, 4:30 p.m.	



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Sports

Melba boys capture conference opener

Three double-figure scorers led Melba High School to a victory in its boys' basketball conference opener Friday. Carsten Volkers and Isaiah Shoemaker paced the offense in an 82-39 blowout of Vision Charter in a 3A Western Idaho Conference game inside Potter Gym. Volkers scored 18 points and snagged five rebounds and three steals. Shoemaker had 17 points, four rebounds and four assists. Melba (2-7 overall, 1-0 3A WIC before Tuesday's game against Marsing) also received 12 points and four rebounds from Korey Magdaleno. The Golden Eagles from Caldwell (3-8, 0-3) received eight points apiece from Jace Duffel and Logan Soule. The Mustangs suffered a 64-25 non-conference loss on the road against Declo on Saturday.

Huskies freshman wrestler gets pair of wins

Damian Leon showed dominance during a comeback at the Mountain View Invitational. The Marsing High School freshman rolled to a pair of consolation bracket victories in the 120-pound bracket at the two-day wrestling tournament in Meridian. Leon (18-8) pinned Ryley Hudgins of Idaho Falls in 1 minute, 7 seconds then routed Lowry, Nev., wrestler Blaze Souza with a technical foul at 2:36 mark. Leon prevailed, 18-3. German Martinez (5-10) won his first match in the 144-pound competition, taking out Wasatch, Utah's Brett Durrant with a 17-3 major decision. Ray Arriaga also posted a major decision, beating Borah's Micah Furrer, 14-4, in the second round of the championship bracket at 150. Wolfe Ryska also got a win after a opening-round bye, pinning Meridian 175-pounder Cayden Hibdon in 1:41.

Mistake-prone Marsing falls to Fruitland girls

Turnovers and cold shooting ended Marsing High School's two-game girls' basketball winning streak. Fruitland dominated the middle of the non-conference home game and coasted 61-31 on Saturday. The Huskies (6-6 overall) managed just 25.6 percent shooting from the field, and was held to only eight offensive rebounds less than three weeks after edging the Grizzlies (4-7) by a basket (41-39) on Dec. 14. Marsing led 10-9 after eight minutes in Saturday's rematch, but struggled to maintain possessions, committing 32 turnovers. Marsing couldn't get much going defensively, either. Adyson Chadez led the way with four pass deflections, and Raylynn Vanosdall had a team-high two steals. Vanosdall had all four of her rebounds on defense, and Chadez collected five of her seven boards on Fruitland's glass. Josie Showalter split six rebounds evenly on both ends. The Grizzlies (4-7) took control with a 20-2 run through the second quarter and outscored Marsing, 38-12, in the second and third periods. Marsing converted 10 of 39 field-goal attempts. Chadez was leading scorer with 13 points, including 5-for-6 from the foul line. Lily Thoene missed one shot on the way to seven points. Vanosdall and Ashlyn Porter scored four points each. Vanosdall and Chadez were a combined 5-for-21 from the field.

✓ Lane: Six Trojans register victories at big Nampa meet

From Page 10 with a 20-2 technical fall at the end of the first period against Blackfoot's Brannick Reyes. Rigby's Reagan Daniel lasted just 1:36, and Valle ended his quarterfinal against Minico's Alex Vega in 66 seconds. Six of coach Luke Crockett's eight Trojans picked up wins. Trevor Paynter (15-3) reached the quarterfinals at 113 with back-to-back victories, capping the run with a 13-6 decision over Centennial's Dezmond Burch. He started with a 2:58 pinfall against Alexis Lujano from Hermiston, Ore. Braelyn Arredondo (17-7) won his first match at 126 (2:55 pinfall) over Ridgevue's Nephtali Garcia then bounced Logan Vaughn of Fruitland with a 12-0 major decision in the consolation bracket. Likewise, Lane Zehr (132) won a match in each of the championship and the consolation bracket at 132. He pinned Grace's Dylan Wood in 3:20 then shut out Geoff Brooks of Post Falls with a 16-0 tech fall at 3:22. Wylee Bidiman (13-9) started at 138 with a 13-3 major decision against Moscow's Marcus Swift. Porter Swan (17-4) won his opener at 106, tallying a 16-0 technical fall at 3:03 against Rigby's Oliver Hanson. Melba's Brendan Svetich (9-7) went 2-2 at 175, pinning Juan Juarez of Glenns Ferry in 18 seconds and routing Brett Myers of Coeur d'Alene, 14-1, in a major decision.

MARSING HUSKIES

Athlete of the Week



Boys' basketball
Mason Conger, sr., F
9 points, 2 steals vs. Parma



Girls' basketball
Josie Showalter, jr., F
6 rebounds vs. Fruitland



Wrestling
Damian Leon, fr., 120
2 victories in Mtn. View tourney

THIS WEEK'S SPORTS SCHEDULE

Girls' basketball
Varsity
Wednesday, Jan. 8 at Melba, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 10, home vs. Nampa Christian, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 14, home vs. Parma, 7:30 p.m.
Junior varsity A
Wednesday, Jan. 8 at Melba, 6 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 10, home vs. Nampa Christian, 6 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 14, home vs. Parma, 6 p.m.
Junior varsity B
Wednesday, Jan. 8 at Melba, 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 14, home vs. Parma, 4:30 p.m.

Boys' basketball
Varsity
Thursday, Jan. 9, home vs. Vision Charter, Caldwell, 7:30 p.m.
Junior varsity A
Thursday, Jan. 9, home vs. Vision Charter, Caldwell, 6 p.m.
Junior varsity B
Thursday, Jan. 9, home vs. Vision Charter, Caldwell, 4:30 p.m.

Wrestling
Friday, Jan. 17 at Magic Valley Classic, Wendell, 1 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 18 at Magic Valley Classic, Wendell, TBA



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Sports

✓ Changes

From Page 10
consecutive 2A state playoff appearance.

Luke Crockett became the Homedale wrestling coach after Jake Levinski stepped down. Crockett became a wrestling hall-of-famer before his appointment as Trojans mentor.

In Bruneau, Erica Mulberry succeeded Karlee Aquiso as Rimrock volleyball coach.

Melba basketball coach Dave Lenz took his girls' title-winning ways to the boys' program, and his brother Dennis took over the girls' team.

Basketball

The Rimrock girls needed overtime to win the final 1A, Div. I District III championship. The Raiders, who are now in Class 2A after statewide realignment, beat Liberty Charter, 33-30.

The Raiders' junior varsity won the 1A Western Idaho Conference tournament, too.

Both Kyla Jewett and JV coach Jackie Thurman earned conference coach of the year awards. On the boys' side Rimrock graduate Pedro Varela was named boys' JV coach of the year.

It was announced that the 2004 Raiders girls' players will be honored at the 2025 state tournament as Legends of the Game next month.

Owyhee County resident Brooklynn Dayley, eventually the 2A Western Idaho Conference player of the year, topped 1,000 career points for the Melba girls. The Mustangs would lose the 2A District III Tournament final to Cole Valley Christian, 50-47, before winning the consolation championship at the 2A Real Dairy Shootout state tournament.

Senior Cutter Beus scored 50 points in an 86-39 win over North Star Charter to set the Melba boys' single-season scoring record. He was later named conference player of the year.

Homedale's boys played for another district championship, losing to McCall-Donnelly again, and competed in the 3A state tournament. The Trojans' freshmen won the 3A Snake River Valley conference boys' title.

Jordan Valley girls' standout Kenzie Tuttle was named the 1A High Desert League player of the year.

Wrestling

Homedale freshman wrestler Trevor Paynter ended the season as a state champion, and nearly two months earlier he earned a sixth-place medal at the Rollie Lane Invitational in January. Paynter's state title backed up his No. 1 status among Idaho's Class 3A 106-pounders.

Marsing's Jarrek Crandall and Jonathan Leon both earned 2A state medals.

Paynter and sophomore teammate Trey McFarlane won 3A District III championships to lead 14 Trojans into the state tournament.

Melba's Evan Michaelson won a state championship a week after he and teammate Trevor Rhoades and Evan Michaelson won district titles.

Track and field

Homedale sophomore Morgan Nicoletti set the school record in the girls' pole vault (10 feet, 6 inches) in the Amy Christoffersen Invite, which was the first meet at Deward Bell Stadium's refurbished track and field facilities.

She equaled the pole vault record a couple weeks later and served on the record-setting 4x100-meter relay team at the Lynn Behrman Invitational in Parma. Seniors Kinlee Garrett, Ahna Shaffer, and Carlie Moore helped established the 50.08-second mark.

The 4x100 relay record fell again in the district meet as 16 Trojans qualified for the state meet. Nicoletti and Moore captured two district championships each at their home facility. Other district crowns went to Tayler Trout (girls' shot put) and freshman Brody Johnson (boys' 110-meter hurdles).

Rimrock senior Loyd Boren set his third school record with his personal-record 10 minutes, 25.36 seconds in the Bishop Kelly Invite. Boren broke two of his own records during the 1A District III championship meet. He broke all three records again at the state meet.

The Raiders' Goya Lemus won two district titles and broke the school record in the girls' 800 meters.

Another Rimrock senior, Ashten Moore, broke a 36-year-old record in the triple jump to finish fourth at State.

Marsing senior Nate Delaney won the shot put district crown, and Sydney Nelson was the girls' 400 champion. He was runner-up at State.



New coach, same QB carry Huskies to playoffs

First-year Marsing High School football coach Mike Forestiere (left) chats with his senior quarterback Jace Chadez during a game against Nampa Christian on the Huskies' field.

Owyheean Brooklynn Dayley and Hayden Higgins helped the Melba girls to runner-up in the district meet with individual championships. Dayley won the 300 hurdles, and she and Higgins were part of two relay championships. Dayley finished her prep career with two state championships and a silver medal.

Addy Martin won three 1A Oregon state championships as Adrian took home the girls' team title. Colten Bayes captured the boys' triple jump title, too.

Homedale athletes Kayden Barrett and Peyton McCarney both competed in the Junior Olympics.

Baseball

After a perfect 3A Snake River Valley conference season, Homedale won another 3A District III title and fought to the end in the state championship final in Nampa. Sugar-Salem prevailed, 10-9, in the final.

The Trojans did win the 3A academic state championship.

Pitcher Dillon Fine ended his high school career with the 3A Snake River Valley conference player and pitcher of the year awards.

On the way to the district title, pitching brothers Dillon and Payton Fine combined to throw a no-hitter in the semifinals. Dillon threw a

no-hitter earlier in the season, too.

Marsing lost the 2A District III championship game in extra innings.

Softball

Homedale won its 10th consecutive 3A District III championship. Kimberly would derail the Trojans' run for the state championship, though.

Olivia Asumendi ended her prep career as the 3A SRV player of the year, and Larry Corta captured another coach of the year award. Corta was also voted District III coach of the year later.

Golf

Tyler Erickson was co-medalist, leading Homedale to the 3A SRV championship. Junior Luke Henry won the individual title as the Trojans racked up their third consecutive district championship and set up a runner-up showing in the state tournament. Luke Henry's third-place finish at State led three top-10 results for the local squad.

Trojans leader Raymond Smith was named District III coach of the year.

Dylan McNeley finished third in the 2A district tournament and earned a state berth for the fledgling Rimrock program. He was also third at the state meet.

Football

Homedale saw its lengthy conference winning streak and conference championship streak end, but the Trojans wound up in the 3A Milk Bowl state championship game for the fifth time under coach Matt Holtry. Sugar-Salem spoiled the party again. The Trojans were ranked at the top of the Class 4A heap during the season, which saw them reach the semifinals for the seventh straight year.

The Trojans' Luke Henry (player of the year) and Caden Layne (lineman of the year) shared top 4A SRV honors with individuals from opposing teams. Brock Walker was one of four athletes named defensive player of the year. All three players were later tabbed as All-State players as was punter Lukas Hall.

Under a first-year coach, Marsing made a second consecutive appearance in the state playoffs, losing in the Class 3A opening round.

Rimrock won its first conference championship in 13 years. The team lost in the 2A state quarterfinals, but Sam Ward was named the 2A WIC coach of the year.

Adrian went unbeaten to capture the program's fourth 1A Oregon state championship in the past 12 years.

Commentary

Jon P. Brown,
managing editor



Eyes on Owyhee

A new year's wish

There is a lot of change and continuing challenges coming in 2025.

For starters, the Board of Owyhee County Commissioners gains a new member for the second time in a couple years as a veteran public servant rides into the sunset after nearly two decades in Murphy.

As Jerry Hoagland departs, another Republican — Walt Holton — enters the frame for District 1.

On Monday, Holton joins incumbent Dist. 2 Commissioner Kelly Aberasturi, who is the middle of his latest four-year term, and elected Dist. 3 Commissioner Cindy Bachman, whom voters in November handed her own four-year term after the Owyhee County Republican Central Committee suggested her appointment to the commissioners as successor to the late Joe Merrick.

Holton's arrival marks a rare changeover in leadership through the ballot box when an Owyhee County official previously made his or her departure clear.

Sheriff Larry Kendrick, who won his own four-year term in November, was appointed when Perry Grant resigned.

Tiffany Nettleton was appointed assessor when her predecessor quit, and Treasurer Annette Dygert received appointment via GOP recommendation when Brett Endicott retired. Dygert eventually earned her own term in office through the electoral process.

Hopefully, Holton will take his election as a mandate to do what's right by the county's citizens — regardless of their political stripes — whenever issues arise.

In the same vein, it's hoped that Holton will take a page from Hoagland's pragmatism handbook when making those decisions.

There usually is a learning curve when a new elected official takes office. Typically, it's procedural, but sometimes it's also ideological — or, more accurately, learning to leave ideology at the door for the good of practical governing.

Holton's campaign was built on buzzwords and abstract conservative ideology for the most part, but there were glimmers of the pragmatism that county commissioners must bring to the table to steer the ship in the right direction on the pond of issues that matter most Owyheean (rather than the sea of national political issues that can clog the grassroots job that lays at the feet of local decision-makers).

Holton is a businessman, and — as Aberasturi has pointed out in the past — Owyhee County citizens deserve a government that's guided by the hand of a public servant who has the mind of a businessman to preserve precious resources.

Letters to the editor

All letters to the editor submitted to The Owyhee Avalanche must be no longer than 300 words, signed and include the writer's address and daytime phone number. The deadline for submitting letters is noon on Friday. Letters can be submitted in these ways:

- E-mailed to jon@owyhee.com
- Mailed to P.O. Box 97, Homedale ID, 83628
- Dropped off at the Avalanche office at 19 E. Idaho Ave., in Homedale

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

JP Doodles



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

Americans for Limited Govt. 2024 was a terrible year, but Americans are hopeful for 2025

by Manzanita Miller

The past year was a pivotal one, in which we witnessed what appeared to be the imminent demise of the country we know shift course at the last minute. Americans largely agree the country was taken to the brink of disaster in 2024 but are hopeful about the year ahead.

Last year, we had a sitting president who was largely incapable of continuing to run the country, a political class and media that were hiding that fact, we were on the brink of a possible world war, and political divides were as stark as ever.

The political establishment, in their desperate desire to keep Donald Trump from a second term as president, anointed outgoing President Biden's radical vice president — a woman who was largely rejected by her own party four years ago — to lead the Democratic Party.

It appeared as if the political establishment, through their shrieks about "protecting democracy," would stop at nothing to fundamentally transform our country into something unrecognizable in nearly every possible way.

And yet, facing a radical Harris-Walz presidency



that would have fundamentally changed our country for the worse, we the people took the reins and turned the country just in time in a direction that strives to preserve freedom.

There is broad sentiment that not only are Americans largely supportive of the way President-elect Donald Trump is handling his transition into office, but many people believe we narrowly escaped disaster as a country in 2024.

According to an end-of-year survey conducted by YouGov, Americans say 2024 was a terrible year for the country. By a resounding 33 points — 49 percent to 16 percent — Americans say 2024 was a terrible or bad year, and just 16 percent say it was a good or great year.

Nearly 40 percent of the country says 2024 was one of the worst years in American history, according to the survey. Sixty percent of Republicans, 33 percent of independents, and nearly a fifth of Democrats (19 percent) agree 2024 was one of the worst years in our nation's history.

However, Americans are hopeful for the future — the public says, 48 percent to 17 percent, that they believe the year ahead will be a good or great year for the country rather than a bad or terrible one.

Young people — who moved radically toward Trump and the Republican Party in 2024 — are

— See *Hopeful*, Page 15

Commentary

Financial management

Pay cash for rental property; leave retirement alone

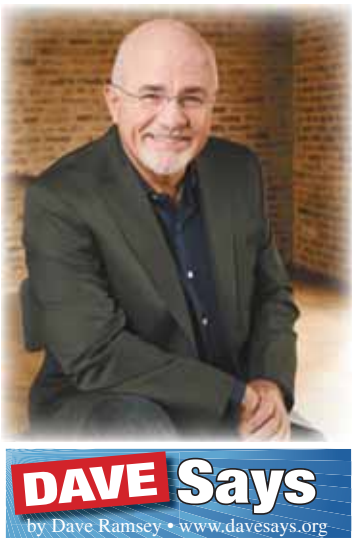
Dear Dave,
I'm 38, and after looking and waiting for years, I think I've found a rental property scenario I like. My plan is to take \$30,000 out of my retirement account, and use it as a down payment on a property. My loan payment would be \$1,400 a month, but I could easily rent the place for \$1,800 a month. What are your thoughts?

— Colin

Dear Colin,
No offense, but I can tell you've never been a landlord before. Bringing in nearly \$1,800 a month, while paying out \$1,400 may seem like a nice place to be. But you've left one very important factor out of your equation — risk. Rental properties just sit there empty sometimes. And this happens to all rental properties. You'll also have repairs to contend with, renters who don't pay and other expenses. See what I'm saying? You won't be able to count on an easy \$400 in your pocket every month.

Now, I love real estate. I understand the excitement and allure. But what you're really saying is you want to cash out part of your retirement, get hit with a penalty and take on debt, all to buy an investment property. This is not a good plan.

My advice is to save up,



and pay cash for one small, decent rental property to see if the landlord game is really for you.

— Dave

Dear Dave,
Where is the best place to keep my savings?

— Angie

Dear Angie,
In my mind, when it comes to savings, the idea is to park the money in a safe place — like a money market account or basic savings account — and keep it separate from the rest of your cash, so you don't accidentally spend it on the wrong thing. I'm not really concerned with making money in a savings scenario, so things like setting money aside for an emergency fund or vacations fall into this category.

Investing, on the other hand, is when you're going to leave the money alone for a bare minimum of five to 10 years in order to grow it. Things like college planning and retirement fall into this category. In these instances, I recommend good, growth-stock mutual funds that have stable track records of at least 10 years.

I hope this helps, Angie!

— Dave

— Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national bestselling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show. 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.

From Washington

Strengthening our national defense begins with NDAA

At the Republican National Convention in 1980, President Ronald Reagan said, “We know only too well that war comes not when the forces of freedom are strong, but when they are weak. It is then that tyrants are tempted.”

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) enacted into law helps embolden our national defense to face down the threats in our world.

Importantly, the FY2025 NDAA includes a plethora of wins for Idaho and America. Inclusion of language based on my bill, the Fighter Force Preservation and Recapitalization Act, works to protect fighter squadrons — such as the Idaho Air National Guard's 190th Fighter Squadron — from force reductions. Likewise, securing funds for projects at the Mountain Home Air Force Base and the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) will have lasting, positive impacts on local communities, the economy and our national security.

The FY2025 NDAA:

- Requires the U.S. Air Force to develop a plan to sustain and recapitalize the fighter fleets for the Air National Guard at a time when pilot and maintenance manning are at critically low levels;
- Provides additional support for Project Pele, a mobile micro nuclear reactor pilot program on schedule for deployment to the INL sometime this year;
- Provides nearly \$460 million for cleanup and

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>



waste disposition, regulatory support and construction at the INL;

- Provides the INL with \$45 million for the Naval Examination Acquisition Project and Naval Reactors Facility;
- Provides \$40 million to the Mountain Home AFB for construction of a child development center;
- Provides a 14.5 percent pay raise for junior enlisted servicemembers and a 4.5 percent basic pay increase for all servicemembers;
- Expands servicemember access to child care, health care and spousal support;
- Prohibits taxpayer funding of gender reassignment surgery for children of servicemembers;

- Limits various Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) programs in the military, including a one-year hiring freeze;
- Redirects more than \$50 million for U.S. Department of Defense DEI programming toward counter-narcotics;
- Authorizes funding to improve existing barracks and build new ones;
- Takes numerous steps to counter Chinese espionage and business at U.S. military facilities;
- Streamlines bureaucracy to expedite the rebuilding of our nation's military arsenal;
- Reaffirms support and allied cooperation for Taiwan, South Korea and the Philippines from adversaries in the Pacific; and
- Extends the Department of Defense's authority to support partner forces in the fight against ISIS terrorists.

While this bill, like many pieces of legislation passed in Congress, is far from perfect, I am proud of the advancements of common-sense policies that protect our values, secure our border and ensure our military is prepared as we face and mitigate threats from adversaries at home and abroad.

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

✓ Hopeful: Americans optimistic with new year, new administration

From Page 14

particularly optimistic about their lives over the next year. Americans younger than 30 say by 49 points — 56 percent to seven percent — that their lives will be better in 2025.

Americans are hopeful not only for the year ahead, but largely believe the country will improve over the next 10 years, after a long, grueling descent. By 10 points — 36 percent to 26 percent — Americans say the next 10 years will be better than the last 10

years were.

The past year will go down in history as the year the people reversed course to save a nation teetering on the brink of collapse. We are far, far from where we need to be. It took decades of the doomed globalist experiment to reach the rock bottom of 2024, and it will take years to purge bloated bureaucracy, figure out solutions to the millions of illegals the Biden Administration brought in, and restore peace as a country.

Conservatives have won only a battle in the cultural

war, and yet that battle proved to be significant. The next 10 years require even stronger dedication to restoring sanity as a country.

The good news is, the non-political class are now interested in a way out from the claws of globalism and cultural decay, and they are listening to alternatives.

— Manzanita Miller is the senior political analyst at Americans for Limited Government Foundation.

Looking back...

from the files of The Owyhee Avalanche and Owyhee Chronicle

25 years ago

January 12, 2000



Top ticket sales...

Homedale Middle School sixth grade students began selling tickets for the 2000 International Smorgasbord last week. This week’s winners of the Smorgasbord weekly drawing are: Pictured front row, l to r: Zach Wilkerson and Stuart Miyasako. Back row: Smorgasbord chairman Theresa Zatica, Brett Hopkins, Ryan Raymond, Kalon Lord, and Smorgasbord chairman Steve Zatica. Raymond was honored for selling \$400 in dinner tickets during the first week.

Commissioners leave district boundaries intact

The Board of Owyhee County Commissioners Monday voted to leave the three commissioner district boundaries as they are until the results of this year’s census.

The commissioners are required by law to redistrict the county every January prior to a general election based on population. The board said it had no reliable population numbers, and said that it preferred to wait until after the census.

“We’d just be guessing if we changed them now,” commission chair Hal Tolmie said. “It would severely impact the citizens if we changed them now. You have to establish every year. It doesn’t say you have to change boundaries every year.”

In other business, commissioners rejected bids for the removal of the sheep and swine barns at the county fairgrounds in Homedale, saying the county would take on the task itself with its own equipment and a back hoe on loan from the Gem Irrigation District. Tolmie said the county will save money by doing the job itself.

The board voted unanimously to retain Tolmie as chairman, and appointed Bob Collett of Oreana to the Owyhee County Planning and Zoning Commission.

BLM selects Alternative E as land use plan

The Bureau of Land Management has selected Alternative E, as presented in the proposed Owyhee Resource Management Plan issued last summer, as its guide in managing federal lands within the Owyhee Resource Area for the next 20 years.

The plan, which places severe restrictions on off-highway motor vehicle (OHMV) use, has Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman wondering who will enforce the restrictions.

“Who will they get to enforce that?” Aman asked Monday. The BLM has only two rangers who patrol Owyhee County.

“In the bigger scheme of things, it’s going to hurt the rancher, and that will ultimately affect us in property taxes,” Aman added.

According to the plan, OHMV use is “open” on only 192 acres, “limited” in 1,217,805 acres and “closed” on 101,994 acres. Rancher Paul Nettleton, a member of the Owyhee County Natural Resources Committee, said Monday that Alternative E makes no sense to him.

“It’s supposed to be a compilation of all of the alternatives,” Nettleton said. “All they did was take all the worst parts and put them into Alternative E. They threw out everything that makes sense.”

40 years ago

January 9, 1985

Adriana Moscadelli works in the Homedale Junior High School office under direction of Assistant Principal Dean Vance. Mr. Vance is helping the exchange student from Uruguay to obtain odd jobs in the community to earn money needed to cover her expenses.



George Murray scholarship fund formed

The Homedale Kiwanis have “started the ball rolling” by donating \$250 to a memorial scholarship fund for Homedale High School students, in memory of George Murray, former Homedale mayor and councilman, who was killed in a car accident at Thanksgiving.

The Kiwanis hope that money received by the fund could provide enough interest to continue as a self-perpetuating account for scholastic achievement by Homedale scholars. Kiwanis president Bob Jewett encouraged other area clubs or individuals to consider donating money to the fund. Murray served as mayor for years, was city councilman, chosen this year Homedale’s Honored Civic Leader of the Year, and participated in several state and regional boards.

A n n - M a r i e Mansisor goes airborne for a score against Melba in an exciting girls’ basketball game on Jan. 5, in which the Homedale team lost by a single point in double-overtime. Final outcome was 46-47.



City League Basketball

Results for Men’s City Basketball League as reported this week are as follows:

Wednesday, Dec. 26: Matteson’s squeaked past HRE, 61-60. Dan Landa, 15; Larry Spath and Ray Gross, 10 each, were high for Matteson’s. Eric Buzzard, 26, and J. Ihli, 16, were high for HRE.

LTC Trucking won a close game over Hoff’s, 57-54. Tom Pegram, 13; Tom Parrish 12; Steve Christoffersen, 10, were high for LTC; Scott Prince, 16, was high for Hoff’s.

Contel squeaked past OK Livestock, 52-51. Lonnie Tuckness, 22; Gary Garrett, 12, were high for Contel. John Wilson, 12; Rich Pickett, 10, were high for OK.

Greenway Tractor outdistanced Eddy’s Bread, 56-31. Dan Parrill, 24; Larry Landa, 18, Blair Yost, 12, were high for Greenway. Larry Maybon, Rori Huckins and Mike Bishop with 6 apiece, were high for Eddy’s.

150 years ago

January 9, 1875

LAW FOR SOUTH MOUNTAIN.—In this evening’s AVALANCHE will be found the professional card of Charles H. Fox, Esq., Justice of the Peace and Notary Public at South Mountain. Mr. Fox was elected Justice of the Peace for South Mountain precinct by a large majority at the recent election, and had his official bond approved by the board of County Commissioners to-day. Gov. Bennett has also appointed him Notary Public for this county, for which position he has also filed his official bond, and procured a nice new seal. Mr. Fox is well qualified for his official duties, and is now prepared to deal out law to the South Mountain folks, marry them, take acknowledgements, and do writing and conveyancing of every description. He has been in Silver since Sunday and will leave for home to-morrow.

SOUTH MOUNTAIN LETTER.

SOUTH MOUNTAIN, DEC. 29, 1874.

EDITOR AVALANCHE: As you have no regular correspondent at this camp, a line from almost any one, be it ever so clumsily written, may not be unacceptable.

That inexhaustible theme, the weather, will do for a starter; and it is not entirely without interest either, as the business of the place depends to a great extent upon whether we are having storms or sunshine. For the past two weeks (I can’t speak from experience further back than that), it has been all that could be desired; as a rule clear and pleasant, and just cold enough to keep the snow from melting, so that everything in and about the camp goes on sleds and sleighs. Four or five miles down the road the snow gives out, and all freight from the outside comes in on wheels.

The camp presents a fair business appearance, and without doubt it will be one of the liveliest in the Territory, and among the best on the coast next season.

The ore here is unquestionably rich, and abundant. The South Mountain Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company, under the supervisor management of Superintendent Wessels, is prosecuting the work of developing their mines and preparing for smelting vigorously. They are taking out ore from thirteen mines, none of which assays less than sixty dollars per ton in silver and thirty per cent lead, having in sight now by measurement over fourteen thousand tons of ore, besides unknown quantities to be brought to light in the future. The quantity now in sight, if it proves as rich as that already worked, will yield to the Company a profit of about one million dollars. The Company coal bins contain twenty-five thousand bushels of coal, and there is a large force of men in the timber cutting wood and preparing coal pits. As soon as the pits now being prepared are ready for delivery, it is understood the furnace will again commence turning out bullion. The Company has a new furnace under way that will soon be completed and ready for smelting. Besides the mines owned by the S. M. C. M. & S. Co., there are a great many outside locations of equal richness.

The new saw mill is in operation, and under the management of the veteran sawyer from the Sierra Nevadas, S. Strong, is turning out rapidly an excellent quality of lumber, that finds a ready market.

The new shingle machine will be in operation in a day or two.

Public notices

ORDINANCE NO. A - 237
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MARSING, IDAHO AMENDING TITLE 5, CHAPTER 3 SECTION 1 OF THE MARSING CITY CODE; PROVIDING REGULATIONS RESTRICTING PARKING IN CERTAIN AREAS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, City of Marsing desires to amend its parking regulations designating by resolution certain areas within the City of Marsing where parking is prohibited or restricted for the benefit and the public health and safety of its citizens,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARSING, IDAHO:

Section 1. That a new Marsing City Code 5-3-1D is enacted as follows:

D. The City Marshal is hereby authorized to cause signage, painting, or other markings placed upon the curbs and/or upon the streets designating certain parking spaces as restricted or prohibited. In addition to posting / signage, the City may from time to time amend viable parking areas within the City by resolution of the City Council.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its passage, approval and publication in the official newspaper of the City.

APPROVED by the Mayor and City Council this 19th day of December, 2024.
CITY OF MARSING
Owyhee County, Idaho
/s/:Hayzen Corder
Mayor
ATTEST:
/s/:Jolyn E. Thompson
City Clerk/Treasurer
01/08/2025

LIEN SALE

Will Pryor. 4030 River Resort Drive #22, Homedale, ID 83628, WWII era Willy’s Jeep. Serial No. 57548 21968
Silent auction will be held at Highway 95 Self Storage located at 3685 Highway 95 in Homedale. Auction will close at 1pm on Saturday, January 11th 2025
01/01,08/2025

**OWYHEE COUNTY
ROAD & STREET
FINANCIAL REPORT**

Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2024

BEGINNING BALANCE
October 1, 2023.....**\$1,849,770**

RECEIPTS
Property tax.....265,119
Other local receipts64,705
Highway user revenue.....2,674,378
Other State & Federal funds362,361
Total Receipts**\$3,366,563**

DISBURSEMENTS
New Construction42,995
Reconstruction, replacement & rehabilitation241,135
Chip seal & patching.....511,427
Grading/Blading.....112,282
Winter Maintenance22,456
Other57,534
Equipment.....255,652
Other expenses (with adjustment)80,736
Total Disbursements**\$1,324,217**
CLOSING BALANCE.....**\$3,892,116**
Amount obligated for specific future projects\$3,279,332

Amount retained for General Funds & Operations.....612,784

UNOBLIGATED BALANCE
September 30, 2024**\$0.00**
01/08/2025

**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 February 11, 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 February 11, 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 R5W PT. 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 3rd day of January 2025

GEM IRRIGATION DISTRICT
Sherry Maxwell, Treasurer

**ANNUAL ROAD AND STREET FINANCIAL REPORT
CITY OF HOMEDALE
For the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024**

BEGINNING BALANCE AS OF OCTOBER 1 PREVIOUS YEAR	\$0
RECEIPTS	
LOCAL FUNDING SOURCES	
Sale of assets	\$1,454
Interest income	\$5,094
Fund transfers from non-highway accounts	\$41,050
All other LOCAL receipts or transfers in	<u>\$19,236</u>
Total Local Funding	\$66,834

STATE FUNDING SOURCES	
Highway user revenue	<u>\$216,659</u>
Total State Funding	<u>\$216,659</u>

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$283,493

DISBURSEMENTS	
NEW CONTRUCTION	
Bridges, culverts and storm drains	\$0
Total New Construction	\$0

RECONSTRUCTION/REPLACEMENT/REHABILITATION	
Roads	\$114,943
Bridges, culverts and storm drainage	\$11,520
Other (signs, signals or traffic control)	<u>\$0</u>
Total Reconstruction/Replacement/Rehabilitation	\$126,463

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE	
Chip sealing or seal coating	\$2,419
Patching	\$9,593
Winter maintenance	\$5,276
Grading/blading	\$2,065
Other	<u>\$36,391</u>
Total Routine Maintenance	\$55,744

EQUIPMENT	
New equipment purchase	\$34,695
Equipment maintenance	\$6,949
Other	<u>\$7,976</u>
Total Equipment	\$49,620

ADMINISTRATIVE \$21,939

OTHER	
Street lighting	\$26,010
All other local expenditures	<u>\$825</u>
Total Other	\$26,835

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$280,601
RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS	\$2,892
CLOSING BALANCE	\$2,892
Funds obligated for specific future projects & reserves	\$2,892
Funds retained for general funds & operations	<u>\$0</u>
ENDING BALANCE	\$0

City of Homedale
Alice E. Pegram
Clerk/Treasurer
12/16/24
01/08/2025

Public notices

LEGAL NOTICE
HOMEDALE HIGHWAY DISTRICT NO. 1
ANNUAL ROAD AND STREET FINANCIAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

BEGINNING BALANCE AS OF OCTOBER 01, 2023	\$700,000
RECEIPTS	
LOCAL FUNDING SOURCES	
Property Tax Levy	\$113,535
Sale Of Assets	\$30,000
Interest Income	\$25,216
All Other Local Receipts Or Transfers In	\$19,082
Total Local Funding	\$187,833
STATE FUNDING SOURCES	
Highway User Revenue	\$854,259
Sales Tax/Inventory Replacement Tax	\$129,357
Sales Tax / Revenue Sharing	\$18,343
All Other State Receipts Or Transfers	\$806,711
Total State Funding	\$1,808,670
FEDERAL FUNDING SOURCES	
Federal-Aid Rural	\$0
Total Federal Funding	\$0
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$1,996,503
DISBURSEMENTS	
RECONSTRUCTION/REPLACEMENT/REHABILITATION	
Roads	\$278,511
Bridges, Culverts And Storm Drainage	\$50,404
Other	\$0
Total Reconstruction, Replacement	\$328,915
ROUTINE MAINTENANCE	
Chip Sealing Or Seal Coating	\$445,660
Patching	\$14,505
Winter Maintenance	\$5,273
Grading/Blading	\$0
Bridge	\$0
Other	\$406
Total Routine Maintenance	\$465,844
EQUIPMENT	
Equipment Purchase	\$40,000
Equipment Lease/Purchase	\$110,000
Equipment Maintenance	\$69,991
Other	\$0
Total Equipment	\$219,991
ADMINISTRATION	
Administrative Salaries And Expenses	\$237,889
OTHER EXPENDITURES	
Professional Services - Audit, Clerical And Legal	\$5,000
Professional Services - Engineering	\$5,000
Payments to Other Local Government	\$0
Total Other	\$10,000
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$1,262,639
RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS	\$700,000
CLOSING BALANCE	\$1,397,257
FUNDS OBLIGATED FOR SPECIFIC FUTURE PROJECTS	\$700,000
FUNDS RETAINED FOR GENERAL FUNDS AND OPERATIONS	\$697,257
ENDING BALANCE	\$0
HOMEDALE HIGHWAY DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS	
John Demshar, CHAIRMAN	
Scott Salutregui	
Dennis Uria	
01/01,08/2025	

Third of July BBQ fundraiser focus for Lions Club bingo

The Marsing Lions Club is thinking summer as the first bingo night of the year comes around.

After taking its usual December break, the service club’s popular fundraiser returns on Saturday, and proceeds will help finance the Third of July barbecue at Island Park.

The doors open at 6 p.m., at the Phipps-Watson Marsing American Legion Post 128 Community Center, 126 W. 2nd St. N.

The early bird session starts at 6:45 p.m., and the regular series of 12 games begins at 7 p.m.

Bell’s Catering will sell food, and free popcorn is always offered.

It costs \$1 per sheet to enter the early bird game, and \$18 for the first card in the 12-game series. Additional 12-game series cards are \$5 each, and folks can enter the Hot Number contest for \$1.

The Hot Number is the first bingo number called during the night’s 12-game series. If anyone hits a bingo with that number the rest of the night, they’ll win the progressive jackpot.

The Hot Number jackpot rolls over each month if no one wins on the designated number. In years past, the Lions Club has put all the money on the line for the final blackout bingo of the season if no one wins throughout the season.

✓ Changes

From Page 13

The annual East-West District III Shrine All-Star Classic for seniors was cancelled after the death of the game’s primary organizer.

Marsing started the season 9-0, but both the Huskies (3A) and Homedale (4A) saw their seasons end in their district tournaments.

Rimrock’s Molly Mulberry was named the 2A WIC player of the year.

Soccer

With Karlie Kildow leading the way with a series of hat tricks, the Homedale girls returned to the 3A state tournament. The Trojans fell, 2-1, in the district title game against Fruitland and lost both state tournament contests.

Cross country

Rimrock sent a slew of athletes back to the 2A state meet with Kolton Jewett finishing 10th in the boys’ District III championship 5-kilometer race. The Raiders boys took 10th at State. Melissa Raymond earned conference coach of the year honors.

Marsing’s Brody Bowers qualified for the state meet, too.

Melba freshman Sunny Hilber was fourth in the 3A girls’ district final.

Volleyball

Melba captured its third consecutive state championship, this time as a Class 3A squad. Ellie Johnson was named the 3A WIC player of the year.

Rodeo

The McFarlane rodeo family swept the Idaho High School State Finals Rodeo all around with Sloan winning the girls’ title and Trey taking the boys’ buckle. Both competed for HHS.

The McFarlanes also were among four Owyhee County student-athletes who swept the all around and reserve all around titles at the District 2 high school finals. Trey was boys’ all around champion, and teammate Sam Saunders won the reserve all around. Celie Davis of Adrian captured the girls’ all around, and Sloan captured the girls’ reserve all around.

Cheer

The Homedale High School cheer squad continued to bring home hardware throughout the year, beginning with three championships in a Pocatello competition in January. The cheerleaders ended the 2023-24 season with state championships.

Gymnastics

State titles weren’t reserved for high school athletes. Janie Graves, 5, of Homedale won the floor event for her skill level at the Xcel Idaho State Gymnastics Championships.

The Owyhee Avalanche

Your eye on Owyhee country

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CLASS A CDL driver. Clean DLR. At least 2 years experience. 10 western states. Usually home several times a week. Most restarts at home. Competitive wages with and without benefits, quarterly safety bonus, clean inspection bonus, phone allowance, \$2,000 signing bonus. Call Bonnie 208-697-9923
HELP WANTED - GENERAL LABOR to help around small feedlot and help feed cows. Full-time position. Possible housing. Call 208-741-6850.

FARM AND RANCH
BALEWAGONS: New Holland self-propelled & pull-types. Parts /Service /Tires /Books. Financing-trades-delivery available. (Greenleaf) 208-880-2889

Buy it, sell it,
trade it, rent it...
in the Classifieds!

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

MISC.
A F F O R D A B L E LESSONS: Piano, Guitar, Violin, Fiddle, Ukelele, Mandolin & Banjo. Private and Fun. All Ages & Levels. 208-283-5750

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

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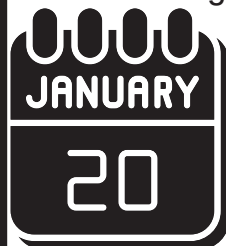
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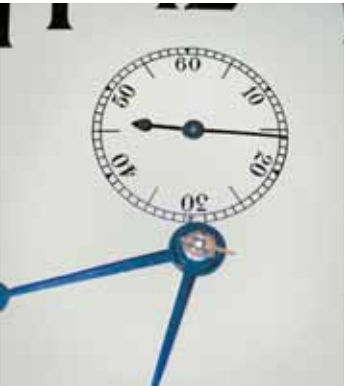
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