

IDAHO COUNTY FREE PRESS

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Idaho County's
Top 4-H'ers named

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Youth in Focus:
Jeri Cox

Page 8B

SERVING IDAHO COUNTY & THE UPPER CLEARWATER VALLEY

CV's manufacturing education program

Clearwater Valley students proposed to receive hands-on, real-world training

By Lyn Krzeminski
Idaho County Free Press

KOOSKIA — Clearwater Valley High School principal Vincent Martinez, shop teacher Mary Charley, and advocate John Silveria outlined a plan for the Future of Manufacturing Education at a community presentation held Saturday, Jan. 17.

The event invited students, parents, and community members to hear how the school plans to implement a nationally known manufacturing education program for the 7th through 12th grades. Martinez told the 60-70 persons present (including two county commissioners and two Clearwater Valley school board members) that the school has a large shop building and they aim for the program to be up and running in 2027.

John Silveria, a machinist in



Free Press / Lyn Krzeminski
The slide shown here by Principal Vincent Martinez states some of the questions to be worked out for the manufacturing education program.

Grangeville, has been a longtime champion of the program, stating that the reestablishment of school machine shops where students learn metal fabrication, machining, and basic business



Free Press / Lyn Krzeminski
CVHS shop teacher Mary Charley (left) and machine shop advocate John Silveria at the Future of Manufacturing Education in Kooskia, Saturday, Jan. 17.

skills by producing real-world products for paying customers helps address workforce shortages in skilled trades while giving

students practical career pathways. The goal, he told those

See MANUFACTURING, page 3A

CVSD 245:

Patrons asked to take survey, help craft mission statement

By Lorie Palmer
Idaho County Free Press

Patrons of Clearwater Valley School District 245 are encouraged to participate in a survey that will help in crafting the mission values and objectives for CVSD 245. Current parents within the district may have already received a message and link to the survey.



Karen Syron, trustee
CVSD 245 Zone 1

"This is for people residing within the Clearwater Valley School District zones," said trustee Karen Syron. She, with assistance from Clearwater Valley Junior-Senior High School Principal Vincent Martinez and Clearwater Valley Elementary and Elk City schools principal Melanie Martinez created the questions for the survey.

"Once we receive feedback and begin to work on this mission, values and objective statement for the new district, we will share drafts prior to finalizing these documents," Syron explained.

See SURVEY, page 3A

Idaho County Commission

Proposed rise in vehicle registration fees; set for May ballot

By Lyn Krzeminski
Idaho County Free Press

GRANGEVILLE — The Idaho County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, Jan. 20, to address a short list of agenda items. Skip Brandt (chair), Ted Lindsley and Brad Higgins approved the bills to be paid, alcohol beverage licenses for a dozen businesses around the county, and a letter of support for Karen Crosby of Elk City to the Idaho Parks and Recreation Board. The commissioners also approved the hiring of Madison Lakin for the sheriff's office dispatch and detention.

After the usual business, county citizen Sam Hicks joined the meeting by conference



Free Press / Lyn Krzeminski
County assessor Kim Nuxoll and county attorney Matt Jessup at the Jan. 20 meeting, which involved discussion of a possible rise in vehicle registration fees.

call regarding paying Simmons Sanitation and Recycling twice for one agricultural solid waste disposal. Hicks pays a monthly fee to Simmons

for solid waste, but because he had a large, heavy load of tracks to scrap, instead of disposing of them in a dumpster for Simmons to collect,

he delivered them to the transfer station himself on a trailer. Hicks was charged again at the site, which he paid for, but questioned the fairness of the charge.

Commissioner Higgins stated he, too, has run into the problem when disposing of large amounts of silage, and has to explain each time to the Simmons employee on duty that he should not be charged. He had made the arrangement with Robert Simmons previously; however, he said:

"The [employee] working is different each time, and if I'm lucky, I catch the same one and don't have to explain, but that doesn't happen very

See FEES, page 3A

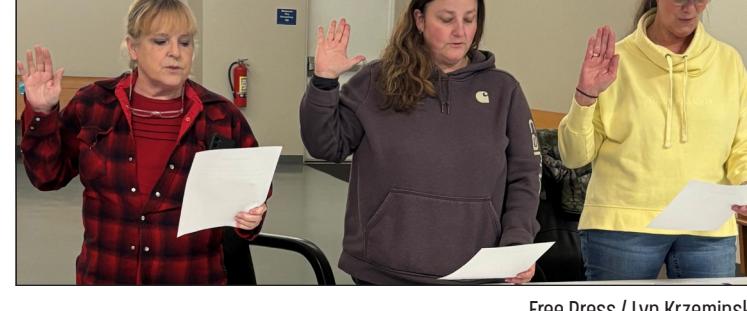
Kooskia City Council

\$14K-plus for wastewater plant engineering

By Lyn Krzeminski
Idaho County Free Press

KOOSKIA — The Kooskia City Council held its regular monthly meeting Jan. 12 at 6 p.m., with mayor Tina Ulmer presiding. Council members Dianne Payton, Bonnie Willis, Kama Payton and Greg Gibler were present, along with city attorney Kirk MacGregor and clerk Teresa Lytle.

Idaho County Senior Deputy Sean Nelson gave the sheriff's report, stating that 103 calls were received in the Kooskia response area during the previous month, including 22 medical calls. Of those 103 calls, 20 were within the City of Kooskia, four of which



Free Press / Lyn Krzeminski
(L-R) Dianne Payton, Kama Payton and Bonnie Willis are sworn in as reelected council members.

were medical.

Providing an update on Phase

II of the sewer and wastewater treatment plant project, Willow

Gibson of Merrick Engineering reported the contractor has begun

See WASTEWATER, page 5A

Subscribe.



JANUARY 28, 2026

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SPORTS: Schumacher scores 1000th career point
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NEWS: Beef industry sees high demand, growth
SEE PAGE 3B

OBITUARIES:
Robert 'Bob' Jackson, 79
Roxanne Marie Simler, 70
Eugene 'Dee' Webb, 62
William 'Bill' Sommers, 81

SEE PAGE 2B

TEMPUS FUGIT: 30 YEARS AGO
In light of a student walkout and parent protest last week, Kamiah High School principal Joe Anderson believes Kamiah schools will give the Martin Luther King holiday more attention next year.

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BUSINESS

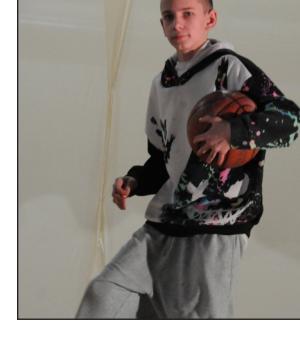
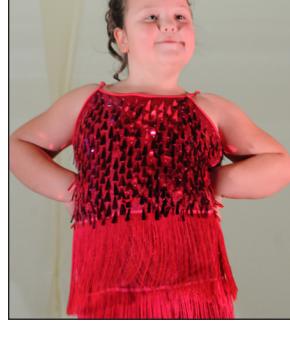
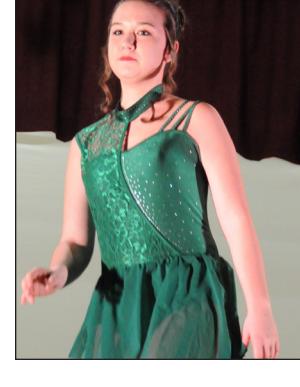
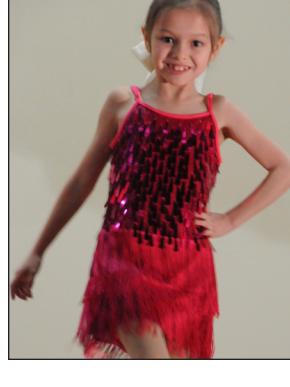
Soil health workshop scheduled for Feb. 11

GREEN CREEK — The 12th Annual Soil Health Workshop will be Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2026, at the Greencreek Community Hall; registration opens at 7:45 a.m., the program starts at 8 a.m. Registration is \$10 with lunch included. Early registration is encouraged and can be done by calling the Lewis Soil Conservation District at 208-480-3042,

emailing lewisscd@outlook.com, or visiting the Lewis Soil Conservation District website at lewis-soilconservationdistrict.weebly.com.

Presentations will include nitrogen use efficiency, cover crops and more. There will also be a producer panel discussion on "Green Lightning," featuring local producers Kent Rad and Devon Zenner.

Thia's Cottonwood Dancers



Thia's Cottonwood Dancers held their dance recital Sunday, Jan. 18, at Prairie Junior-Senior High School in Cottonwood. Eighteen dancers performed jazz, tap, lyrical and hip-hop. For dance classes held Mondays at Cottonwood Community Hall, call or text Thia Waller at 208-507-1871. Video highlights are on the Jan. 18 Free Press Facebook page.

Free Press / Lorie Palmer

EFM feeds 1K-plus in 2025

KAMIAH — The year 2025 results show that the Emergency Feeding Ministry (EFM) of Kamiah fed 1,082 people in the upper Clearwater Valley, according to George Norton, EFM chairman.

"The EFM food bank serves both Lewis and Idaho counties, with 596 of those served in Lewis County and 486 served in Idaho County. This is an increase of 20% in persons served during the previous year, a daunting challenge in the face of what were rising food costs of nearly 30% in 2025," Norton said.

in a prepared release.

Norton said, "We can always use funds, food and volunteers—folks who are willing to work three hours a month in our pantry. The pantry is open Mondays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon and is located at 1115 N. Idaho Street in Kamiah. Cash donations can be mailed to EFM, P.O. Box 1172, Kamiah, ID 83536."

EFM is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization, solely funded by people in the valley community. EFM receives no federal or state funds or grants.



Facebook / Idaho History 1800 to Present
This photo was recently posted by Skip Myers on social media stating, "The Office Saloon in Grangeville, circa 1904. Behind the bar counter, L-R are Kid Smith and Matt Geary, owner." This photo is from digital archives from the University of Idaho Library. Some commented this might be where The Trails is now. Does anyone know?

Funeral home to be renamed 'DeFord' as of Feb. 1

208-935-0147.

Congratulations to **Cody Killmar** of Riggins who has been selected to serve on the **State of Idaho's EMS Advisory Committee**. Cody will be representing the "Pre-Hospital Career EMS Departments" seat, giving Riggins a big voice at the state level when it comes to EMS policy, grant funding, and system decisions all across Idaho.

This committee includes 20 nonstate employee seats, representing the full spectrum of EMS—from dispatch and field providers to the trauma surgeons—so every part of the system from the start to the end is heard and has a voice.

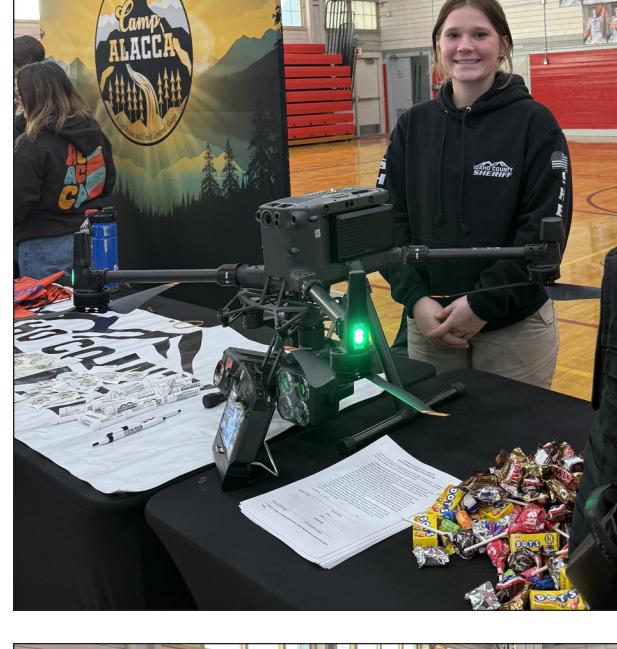
Zach Peterson from Grangeville Ambulance also holds a seat, representing "Volunteer EMS Providers."

Some big news from **Blackmer Funeral** Home and new owner **Justin DeFord**, recently shared on Facebook:

"Effective Feb. 1, Blackmer Funeral Home will be renamed DeFord Funeral Home. The funeral home in Grangeville has historically been affiliated with the surname of its current owner, and proud to be privately owned, and this change reflects that tradition."

As part of this transition, the website and Facebook page will be updated to reflect the new name. Our phone number will remain the same. As for email, you can still email our office at justin@blackmerfuneralhome.com, but it will be updated to justin@defordfh.com and office@defordfh.com on Feb. 1. All existing obituaries and condolences will remain accessible on the website without interruption. Please be assured that all prearranged service plans will transfer seamlessly."

DeFord Funeral Home remains committed to providing the utmost care and professional service to the families of our community. Should you have any questions, we encourage you



Facebook / Clearwater Valley Junior-Senior High School
A few smiling faces from the Clearwater Valley Junior-Senior High School career fair held on Jan. 14.

to contact our office at any time. Thanks. Justin DeFord, 208-983-0740."

Have you had the chance to see the remodeled **Cloninger's** grocery store in Cottonwood? It looks nice from the outside! I look forward to stopping in and seeing the rest.

Don't forget that **Syringa Walk-In Clinic** has extended winter hours. The clinic is open Monday-Thursday, 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Fridays, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Range Cigar Lounge, 102 E North Street, Grangeville, is offering a "Cigar 101" class. This is set for Wednesday, Feb. 4, 6 p.m. Special guest is Joshua Everts. Cost is \$25 per person and includes cutter, lighter, cigar and beverage. RSVP as space is limited: 208-989-1986.

Register to attend a hunter education class at the **Grangeville Elks Lodge**, Monday-Thursday, 6-8:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday, Feb. 2-14. Class is for ages 9 and older, class size limited to 20. Fee is \$9.75, register to attend idfg.idaho.gov/hunt/education. For information, call **Roy Kinner** at 208-983-8443.

Calling all current or former **Kids Klub** participants, families, staff, and **AmeriCorps** members.



Internet image
A postcard from 1940: Harpster Dam, South Fork Clearwater River, Harpster Power Plant.

**Lorie
PALMER**

Assistant Editor, Idaho County Free Press

lpalmer@idahocountyfreepress.com



SURVEY: Districtwide patron input sought

Continued from 1A

If a resident does not have a child in school, they can access the survey through the district website or the CVSD245 Facebook page. Go to the www.sd244.org website (homepage, scroll to bottom and find it posted under "latest news") or see the CVSD245 Facebook page.

Syron emphasized the district wants to receive feedback from a variety of stakeholders.

"We want you to tell us, in your own words, what you feel should be the core values and mission of our newly forming district," she said, adding the board of trustees would like to be able to take into account

the opinions of all residents of the new zones, to be sure that those documents that will outline the future of the school district aligns with the values and educational goals of the community members. This includes property owners, parents, students, business owners, and any other residents, she said.

FEES: Formulas, mileage discussed

Continued from 1A

often. They don't know, and they're trying to do their job."

Chairman Brandt agreed, told Hicks he should not pay twice, and asked Higgins to take up the issue of a refund with Simmons and to review the recurring problem.

County assessor Kim Nuxoll continued the discussion from the previous week's meeting with the commissioners, attorney Matt Jessup, and clerk Kathy Ackerman regarding a proposed rise in vehicle registration fees.

Allocation formulas for distributing revenue from the increase among county roads, highway districts and cities is complicated, especially since the state

no longer tracks highway districts, making it more complicated.

"You asked me," Nuxoll said, "if I could see how the state broke it down by road districts or anything else. They no longer do that. It used to be one of the questions we always asked people: Are you in county roads and bridges? Are you in a highway district? They took that away, so I have nothing [on that]."

Concerns were raised about mileage-based formulas that, in some cases, do not include a percentage for cities. As a possibility, following a default state code, which includes a set 30% for cities, was discussed.

There was extensive

clarification among the county officials of the possible fees and tiers involved, and Jessup offered to create a spreadsheet that would model the revenue scenarios and allocation formulas. It would show potential fee levels, including for older vehicles, and phased-in increases for the commissioners to review.

The fee increases will be put before Idaho County voters in the May midterm elections, and the board stressed the importance of keeping the ballot question clear and uncomplicated to prevent confusion—as soon as they have figured it out.

The commission did not meet on Jan. 27, and the next meeting is Tuesday, Feb. 3, 9 a.m.

MANUFACTURING: Student run business

Continued from 1A

present, is to blend craftsmanship, responsibility and entrepreneurship in a technical education setting.

"I believe the foundation of all manufacturing is the machine shop," said Silveria. "No machine shop, no machinist. No manufacturing, no industry. I believe everything that is made can be traced to a machine shop. And, the United States has an urgent need for onshore manufacturing capability."

With support from local private sponsors and businesses, Martinez and Charley visited a successful student-run business at a high school in Wisconsin. Silveria had previously made a visit to the school and showed the Saturday Kooskia attendees several videos of its program, including a film made by the students, publicizing their business, Cardinal Manufacturing, and promoting the program.

Startup cost will be high, but they said it can be met by current assets, grants, private donations, and support from manufacturing businesses. The curriculum is expected to be open also to private and

homeschooled students, expanding access beyond the traditional public school setting. The program will be a two-year, yearlong course where students earn credits, one per semester, and will have real-world experiences in problem-solving, business management and professional responsibilities.

Jon Menough, board member for Clearwater Valley District 245, stated, "This program teaches students more than just how to run a machine; it teaches them what it takes to actually use that machine to make something that is needed and how to win the customer's approval for the job. With this program, the

school not only can teach students a skill, but how to use that skill to carry them through their lives ahead."

I d a h o C o u n t y Commissioner Ted Lindsley said, "This is just perfect for our rural area, for the kids who grow up here. This kind of education and knowledge will support our students and provide them with an opportunity to be productive right out of high school. And, we hope we'll keep some of those kids in our area, so they don't have to move away. I'm excited for John [Silveria] and Clearwater Valley to get this program going, and I hope our area will step in and proactively support this endeavor."

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- 3) Make sure you have plenty of food and medication stored in your home at all times. Keep the water dishes full.
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Cinderella performance set for this Friday

GRANGEVILLE — A pumpkin coach, Prince Charming, a glass slipper and a dream come true are woven together by the magic of a Fairy Godmother this Friday, Jan. 30. the Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT) and more than 40 local students present an original musical adaptation of Cinderella.

Cinderella will be played by local student Annie Strasser; Isabella Nelson and Chloe Shurtz will play her two stepsisters. The Stepmother will be played by Karli Fogelman. Cleo the Cat will be played by Naja Nadiger; and Jake Shurtz will appear as Fido the Dog. Weston Forsgren, Gus Strasser, Wyllow Barclay and Addison Paradis will play the Lords and Ladies; Sam Nelson and Jex Strasser will play the roles of the Town Criers; and William Foster will play the King. Featured throughout the production are Caroline Forsgren, Kiera Griffith, Emberlyn Moore, Ellie Foster, Charlotte Denuit, Maya Parish, and Mazzlyn Allen as the Buskers led by Rags played by Luke Shurtz;

Cinderella will be presented at 6:30 p.m. at the Grangeville Elementary Middle School multi-purpose room. Tickets are \$5 per adult and \$3 per child and are available at the door. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

The Missoula Children's Theatre residency in Grangeville is presented locally by The Kids Klub, Inc. with support from Cottonwood Community Federal Credit Union. For information, call The Kids Klub, Inc. at 208-983-2285.

REGIONAL news

Winter Festival begins Jan. 30

MCCALL — The McCall Winter Carnival Mardi Gras Parade will be held during the second Saturday of the festival, the McCall Chamber of Commerce announced.

The Winter Carnival runs from Friday, Jan. 30, through Saturday, Feb. 8. The 2026 event's theme is "Where in the World is Sharlie?" celebrating the lore of McCall's mythical lake monster.

— Jan. 22, The Star-News

Cottonwood school board highlights

COTTONWOOD — At the Jan. 19 Cottonwood School District Board meeting, the retirement of special education teacher Michelle Bledsoe was approved, and board members Aaron Hinkelman (Zone 1), Keith Holcomb (Zone 2) and Casey Forsman (Zone 5) were sworn in for a new term in office. Also, carpet will be installed in the multipurpose room and hallway between the K-1 building and the cafeteria during spring break, and Cottonwood Elementary School principal Jon Rehder's contract was extended by one year.

— Jan. 22, Cottonwood Chronicle

Idaho's growing fitness industry

The holiday season is in the rearview mirror and New Year's resolutions are near to mind. An overwhelmingly popular resolve is to be more active, with gym memberships recently reaching a record-breaking 77 million in the U.S. In Idaho, the fitness industry has grown by 85% during the past decade — increasing from 175 to 324 establishments — and has been directly tied to the state's notable population growth.

About one in four Americans participate in the fitness and recreational sports center industry (commonly referred to as the "fitness industry") which includes gyms, sports clubs, swimming complexes, yoga and Pilates studios, skating rinks and hot springs along with indoor soccer, tennis and pickleball courts.

— Jan. 16, Idaho Dept. of Labor

Civics Bee applications due Feb. 3

The Greater Idaho Falls Chamber is bringing the 2026 National Civics Bee to Idaho. All Idaho students in grades 6-8th are invited to enter the contest. The competition is being held in conjunction with the 250th birthday of the United States. The statewide competition will be held on May 29 at the Melaleuca Event Center, 4609 W 65th S, Idaho Falls. State finals will win: 1st place - \$1,000 (plus, a potential \$5,000 donation to the student's school), 2nd place - \$500, and 3rd place - \$250. Applications are open now through Feb. 3. To submit an application or for information, go to idahofallschamber.com/national-civics-bee-idaho.

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What is Farsightedness?

Farsightedness, or hyperopia, is a vision condition in which a person is better able to see clearly at far distances than at near distances. A farsighted person, for instance, may be able to read a street sign a block away with no difficulty, but have trouble reading his morning newspaper. Nearly everyone is born with some degree of farsightedness and some people with extremely mild cases may not require treatment. The majority of farsighted people, however, can benefit greatly from optometric treatment. This includes corrective glasses, contact lenses and/or vision therapy to help them see clearly. Because it is difficult to discover farsightedness in the typical school vision screening, parents, teachers and school nurses are advised to look out for its signs. These include: difficulty in concentrating, eye or general fatigue, poor reading ability, and holding reading material away from the eyes. In any event, the optometrist can make a positive diagnosis with a complete optometric examination.

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Market Report

Grain Market

GRANGEVILLE

(CHS Primeland)

Jan. 27, 2025

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Barley (ton).....\$110.00
Oats (ton).....\$140.00

— Jan. 16, Idaho DEQ

OPINION

YOUR VIEWS
speak up

The Idaho County Free Press attempts to publish as many letters to the editor as possible.

Letters to the editor guidelines:

- 350 words maximum
- For verification, writers must include contact information (mail/e-mail addresses, phone numbers)

• Unsigned letters, letters with fictitious signatures or copies of letters to public officials are not accepted

• The Free Press reserves the right to edit or omit a letter if it contains libelous material, an attack on an individual or is in bad taste.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'In desperate need of direction'

No to York Pond

Commissioners Skip Brandt and Brad Higgins served their constituents.

Commissioner Ted Lindsley endorsed and supported the now dead York Pond project, yet 42% of his pro pond petition signers didn't even live here in Elk City, and only 15 of 113 ECWSA (those directly affected) members signed it – which means 87% did not. The petition did not represent those affected by the pond project and, in effect, failed to show community support.

There were serious issues, start to finish – Ted never asked the boards of Elk City Water or the Alliance for an opinion. Instead, Ted planned the first community meeting a day before the hearing vote. ECWSA and Alliance boards did not attend because they operate under rules and bylaws. Brad Higgins also did not attend because to do so would violate state meeting law, which requires notice and an agenda.

The pro pond people were notified of the meeting. Only a handful of opposition were aware and showed up. Ted announced that supporters should show up to pressure commissioners Brandt and Higgins. The county was so concerned, it invited deputies to the meeting....

At the vote hearing, Ted insisted that Fish & Game and the National Guard would only work with the county. Fortunately, Brandt just turned to those reps, who said that was false. When the vote was finally taken, proponents showed no decorum, shouted catcalls, and made angry posts on the pond Facebook page – vowing revenge... showing no grace at all. I disagreed with them and subsequently was completely censored/banned from their FB page.

The county dodged a bullet. Commissioners Brandt and Higgins should be thanked/commended not chastised. Ted – you need to be more objective and honest, and representative of your constituents and follow the laws you swore an oath to uphold.

Joshua Palken

Elk City

Member of ECWSA and Elk City Area Alliance

First responders needed

Several years ago, I became a volunteer Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). When attending a continuing education seminar a few years back, we were told that the average volunteer EMT only lasts about five years.

Some reasons for an EMT to step down from this sacred trust responsibility are: age, health, family and social issues.

70% of all emergency personnel in the state are volunteers. More and more agencies are developing personnel shortages. It is speculated that if the younger generation does not step up, soon many agencies will stop functioning.

There are no more risks involved in participating in this sacred trust responsibility than in other professions. However, there are outstanding benefits associated with this adventure. One is that volunteers develop better overall mental, spiritual, and physical health. There is something about freeing a

mother trapped in a vehicle, and handing her infant child to her, and watching her tears of gratitude and the baby responding to being placed into physical contact with its mother.

Although the following video/song reveals some of the stressful aspects, the benefit of being an EMT volunteer far outweighs the stress: www.youtube.com/watch?v=4q7uQxxd18

Here is a very important point. An EMT is doing more to reflect the example of Jesus than the preacher in the pulpit. Why? Because Jesus did far more healing than He did preaching. I have read that there were entire towns that had no sick in them by the time Jesus passed through.

The younger you start your medical experience, the more sure you are of developing a mindset and experience to evolve into a secure and stable profession. Something about saving lives, and experiencing the things demonstrated in the video, more securely stabilizes you into a solid reality mindset for the rest of your life.

We currently have a teenager training as an EMT and firefighter. Even though he/she will not officially be certified until 18, he/she is preparing for a more secure future in many aspects.

To obtain information on how to start your amazing, life-changing adventure, call your local city hall.

C. Dale Ruebush

Kooskia

IDFG finally succeeds

I never thought it would be possible to decline our whitetail deer herds to the current low level of quality and quantity in the Clearwater Area. One shouldn't be surprised, however, because the Idaho Department of Fish and Game explicitly stated its management strategy at several public meetings early last year. They stated they fully embrace and support "opportunity management."

Let me explain the commentary provided by an IDFG biologist at several public meetings. He showed a slide of their desired bell curve for the whitetail deer population. This graph is skewed to the far left and represents a majority of the deer herd to be under 3.5 years old. I directly asked him who decided to lower our deer herd to this average age, because the commonly accepted age graph is quite different. It's usually represented as an age distribution of 4.5 to 6.5-year-old deer as a well-balanced herd. He stated that this age graph was a totally acceptable goal for managing our Idaho deer. Oh really.

To further their desired management point, the Clearwater Area Commissioner then extended the Unit 10A season out to 53 days for rifle, as well as extended seasons for muzzleloaders in December. This was then voted unanimously into policy by the IDFG commissioners.

In summary, mature deer will be severely reduced (our best breeder doe/bucks) and the herd will be reduced to hunting "baby furries."

Congratulations, IDFG and commissioners.

Help support positive change through the legislature.

William Samuels
Orofino

Thanks for helping locals in need

On behalf of all of us from the Camas Prairie Food Bank, we extend our heartfelt thanks to the generous individuals, families, organizations and businesses across Grangeville and the Camas Prairie who contributed food items and monetary donations in support of our mission to help supplement food for our neighbors in need. The collective response from our community—churches, sports teams, our local school district, business entities and individual donors—reflects the remarkable spirit of care and responsibility that defines this region. We also extend sincere appreciation to the dedicated volunteers who generously donate their personal time each week throughout the year to support the ongoing operations of the Camas Prairie Food Bank.

We offer special thanks to Cottonwood Community Federal Credit Union for its annual holiday fundraising effort, collecting monetary donations from October through December and providing a generous dollar-for-dollar match. This commitment significantly amplifies the impact of every contribution and helps ensure essential resources reach those who need them most. To all who make a difference for our neighbors in need, your generosity and dedication are recognized and sincerely appreciated.

Mary Mangold

Secretary, Camas Prairie Food Bank, Inc.

What's happening at the hospital?

I am wondering if I missed your articles on the fire late December in Syringa Hospital? I saw your Facebook announcement when the ER went on diversion and reopened the next day, but I haven't seen any articles in the paper since. Maybe I just missed the updates? I apologize if that is the case.

Are you and the community aware that labor and delivery and the operating room are still closed and won't reopen until next month (hopefully)? And the financial reports to be presented at the board meeting on Tuesday show December reserves plummeting another \$1 million from late last year, down to about \$3.3M, with further money drain in January due to the closures. This is unsustainable if the hospital is to survive.

I hate to say this, but I told you so.

Joel Cleary, MD, MHA

Ex-trustee, Syringa Hospital Board
Grangeville

Deep roots keep this community great

We are moving forward at Mountain View School District. The primary leadership of the district has been passed on to two of the principals in the soon-to-be Grangeville and Clearwater Valley districts. Amanda Bush and Vinnie Martinez have taken on the responsibilities of superintendent(s) of the district. The tasks they are taking on are new to them and I don't envy the work they have in front of them,

but they are hardworking, and I have no doubt they care deeply about the communities that they represent.

The progress that we have made so far has come from a similar source. When Alicia Holthaus came out of retirement to help us, we were in desperate need of direction. We had no superintendent and were about to take on the daunting task of deconsolidation. We were begging for someone qualified to help us through it. What we got was someone savvy, experienced and knowledgeable beyond anything we could have hoped for. She didn't need the job; she certainly didn't need the headaches, and the commute from Lewiston does not seem appealing, but she came to our aid anyway. Why? It's because she has roots in Cottonwood, Kooskia and Grangeville and cares about this community. In her time here, she was able to organize our finances, implement much-needed policies, put together a plan for deconsolidation and greatly improve the atmosphere around the district. She set the district in the right direction, left capable people with plans to see us through and has returned to her "retirement." I'm convinced that we would have been hard-pressed to have accomplished even half as much without her. She didn't help us out because she loved the job; she did it for love of the community. I will forever be grateful for her help.

I see more of these people with vested interests in the community stepping forward to do good things. That is very encouraging. Thank you to all those with these same "deep roots" who are taking on responsibilities simply because you want to keep our community a great place.

Tyler Harrington
MVSD trustee
Grangeville

Breaking the law has consequences

To the letter writers of 1/21 who idolized Rene Good: You all ignored a single important fact. The woman broke the law.

At least 10 different videos exonerate the ICE agent. Ms. Good and her lesbian partner (not her wife) were documented for interfering with law enforcement operations all morning. When ordered to 'get out of the car,' Ms. Good refused. She and her partner are on record taunting ICE agents. She chose to accelerate her vehicle, using it as a deadly weapon, and hit an ICE agent. The agent was injured and hospitalized. Ms. Good perished because of her own actions. Attaching emotional labels to Ms. Good does not remove her guilt.

ICE agents are working to remove violent criminals — rapists and murderers — from the streets. This has been endorsed by a majority of Americans, including the residents of Minnesota. Ms. Good and her partner were interfering with this operation. The woman is not a hero.

Plain and simple. Respect law enforcement or suffer the consequences.

Roxanne Hicks

Kooskia

**David
RAUZI**

Editor, Idaho County Free Press

drauzi@idahocountyfreepress.com



See LETTERS, page 5A

WASTEWATER: Nuisance property discussed again

Continued from 1A

breaking ground, preparing to remove biosolids, and locating electrical, sewer and other lines. The council unanimously approved \$14,768.45 payment for engineering services.

The status of a particular nuisance property was once again brought up for discussion, because the owner has made no effort to comply with a final cleanup notice that was issued Dec. 11. As well, there have been multiple complaints regarding individuals living in a bus on the property. Attorney MacGregor will draft a letter directing the removal of the vehicle, requiring

visible cleanup progress, and that fines of \$100 per day will begin accruing on Jan. 11, under city code.

Mayor Ulmer administered oaths of office to councilors Dianne Payton, Willis and Kama Payton, who were reelected to their council seats in November, and were presented certificates of election. Greg Gibler was reconfirmed as council president.

Public works superintendent Justin Lycan told the council that the pump at Well No. 3 remains out of service due to ongoing issues and a repair quote is pending as contractors await vendor and crane cost information. He is

getting final quotes for removing/replacing the pump (including potential road or hoist costs) and will report back with the quote by the beginning of next week.

In his regular report to the council, Lycan said the mild winter has allowed continued street sweeping and grading. Also, recent telemetry issues at Well No. 4 appear to be resolved, and he is continuing to work with contractors on the wastewater project.

The council unanimously approved payment of the Jan. 15 bills. Clerk Lytle presented financial reports, including income, balance sheet, quarterly and cash statements, and noted

that ambulance financial reports were available for review.

During the meeting, the head of a historic Kooskia parking meter sat on the table between clerk Lytle and mayor Ulmer. The meters were installed in 1954 to help increase revenue, but were permanently discontinued in 1966. The heads of the meters were removed, stored and later sold. It was discovered that the City of Kooskia did not have one, said Lytle, and a search began. TD&H Engineering in Lewiston had purchased three and recently donated one back to the city for display at city hall.



Free Press / Lyn Krzeminski



Free Press / Lyn Krzeminski

Clerk Teresa Lytle (left) and mayor Tina Ulmer flank the former Kooskia parking meter head recently donated to the city by TD&H Engineering in Lewiston.

Justin Lycan, city maintenance supervisor, reports on the issues concerning Kooskia's Well No. 3 and the work progress for the wastewater treatment plant.

Population Varies By How You Come Into Town



Sign on State Highway 13, east side entrance into Grangeville.



Sign on U.S. Highway 95, south entrance to Grangeville.

Free Press / David Rauzi

What's Grangeville's population? Depends on what direction you're headed, apparently. Traveling along U.S. Highway 95 — either north or south bound — and the road signs read a 3,141 population. But, if you're traveling west into town on State Highway 13, Grangeville's population lists as 3,237. So which is it? Neither. The U.S. Census reports Grangeville's population (as per the 2020 decennial census) at 3,308.

Paint night scheduled for Feb. 19

GRANGEVILLE — Art Uncorked Downtown will have an adult-only paint night on Thursday, Feb. 19, at Grangeville Eagles, 218 N C Street.

There are three art choices — a snowman, a fox in the snow or a robin in the snow.

The cost is \$30 and tickets must be purchased at <https://occ.sn/XrpmjLx4> to attend.

LETTERS: Forest Service complaint to local senator 'fell upon deaf ears'

Continued from 4A

Imperialism and dictators

Because Trump wants Greenland, he should take it. Hitler wanted Austria, so he took it. Maybe eventually, Trump will want Great Britain, as well as Canada; he should take both. That's what dictators do. And if a dictator is opposed, the dictator should get rid of that opposition, like Trump does. If Trump is opposed to protesters in Minnesota, he will bring in his federal police (ICE) to gun down citizens in their cars. If we allow needless killing by ICE in Minnesota, then soon we will welcome the KGB on our streets.

Too many conspiracy theories out there. I talked to a lady last week about conspiracies and she thought that such areas as the only place truth could be found. Today, at Kamiah Drug, I got a Covid booster shot, and I don't worry about Dr. Fauci trying to kill me.

One thing that definitely bothers me, as it did in the past — dictators not wanting to be opposed,

want to take away citizens' guns. And what is to stop Trump from saying that only people who are loyal to him should have guns? Dictators have done that in the past. We need to be very careful about what our politicians are doing.

Patrick Threewitt
Kooskia

Banks, politicians 'never learned the lesson'

Reading this article: On Monday's broadcast of the Fox Business Network's "Varney & Co.," former Trump economic adviser Stephen Moore responded to President Donald Trump pushing for a cap on credit card interest rates by saying that "wage and price controls are always, always, always a mistake." And politicians have never learned that lesson.

Moore stated, "The first rule of economics is wage and price controls are always, always, always a mistake. And by the way, the second rule of politics is politicians never learn

the first lesson."

He added, "When people don't pay their credit card bills, that puts a huge cost on the back of the credit card companies." And a 10% cap is "a bad idea. Let the market work, no price controls."

Yes, generally I would agree with this forwarding statement; however, the reason people do not pay their bills is that the credit card companies issue cards like confetti. One has to ask, why do they solicit so many cards to so many people unless they have a reason? They create the problem precisely to raise rates. Also, the government continues to bail out financial institutions after their poor management practices. Thus, banks have not learned their lesson either,

or should I say, the government has not learned its lesson in empowering banks to make poor management decisions based on risk-reward practices.

The president is correct on this issue. He is attempting to pressure CCC into making proper financial decisions, as dealing with Congress and the banks is virtually useless, considering the political process.

And remember, these institutions also have lobbyists and contribute to political/media decisions/presentations.

Alfred Holden
White Bird

Someone behind 'Funeral Service' climate change

Jay Maxner, you are 100%

correct in your letter in the 1-14 issue of the Free Press; it is someone besides the local government who is running the U.S.F.S. (Funeral Service). If it is not the Agenda 21 organization, it is definitely bigger than we can even imagine, because I complained to our local senator about this and it fell upon deaf ears. Yes, I did get a letter back, which was nothing more than side-stepping the issue.

Personally, I feel that the congresspeople cannot come out here and investigate every problem, but they have local offices

that should read the local newspaper and take care of these problems. But no, they can't do that, as that would rock the boat, and they might lose their do-nothing job.

The funeral service is the number one cause of climate change; the smoke is causing people to get sick if they are allergic to the smoke, plus it promotes plant growth, which is causing our forest to get overgrown. They are doing controlled burns to supposedly get rid of it, but it is making the problem worse.

The only people who can stop the destruction of the forest and our environment are Congress or the president and, apparently, they don't care.

Leonard Wallace
New Meadows

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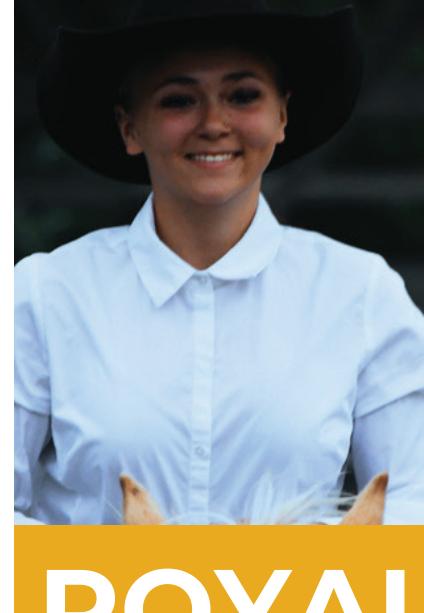
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Coburn, Frayser make dean's list

ADELPHI, MD — Jason Coburn of Grangeville and Charles Frayser of White Bird were among more than 18,700 University of Maryland Global Campus students who were named to the dean's list for the fall 2025 term. To be eligible, a student must complete at least six credits during the term, earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 for the term, and maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.5.

Border Days Royalty dinner is Feb. 21

GRANGEVILLE — The Border Days Royalty dinner is set for Saturday, Feb. 21, at the Eagles Aerie on C Street. Drinks at 6 p.m. with dinner served at 7 p.m. Dinner is pulled pork sandwiches, baked beans, macaroni and cheese and a side salad. Cost is \$25 per ticket and money will go to support the 2026 Border Days Queen Sabrina Schmaus and Princess Sam Spencer.

RWLC meets Feb. 2

KAMIAH — The Republican Women of Lewis County (RWLC) will meet at noon on Monday, Feb. 2, at the Heartstone Bakery, 502 Main Street, Kamiah. Guest speaker will be GOP Region 3 chairman Nick Woods, who will discuss what it means to be a Republican. For club information, email RWLC.INFO@gmail.com.

Nutrition and mental health workshop Feb. 4

KAMIAH — The next Upriver Youth Leadership Council's workshop in the yearlong Nutrition and Mental Health Workshop Series is Wednesday, Feb. 4, 'A Balanced Diet and Its Impact on Mental Health,' noon, in the Community Kitchen at the Teen Center, 405 Main Street, Kamiah. This lunch-and-learn workshop is presented by Peyton Goodman, with the Idaho North Central Health District. The series is open to all community members. Space is limited, reserve your spot at: www.surveymonkey.com/r/YF9NSLL

Paint and sip night is Feb. 11

WHITE BIRD — A paint and sip night will be held at 1906 Brews, 280 River Street, White Bird, on Wednesday, Feb. 11, at 5 p.m. Cost is \$35 per person, pay on arrival (RSVP at 208-839-6380 or at 1906 Brews), all paint supplies included; there will be wine and charcuterie board specials.

Grangeville Fireman's Ball is Feb. 14

GRANGEVILLE — Presale tickets are available for the annual Fireman's Ball for the Grangeville Volunteer Fire Department at B&B Bargain and The Crafty Hideaway. Tickets are \$45, a VIP table is \$700 and includes eight meal tickets and a chance to win a gun (only 12 tables available). The event is at the Grangeville Elks Lodge, 111 S Meadow Street, doors open at 5 p.m., dinner is at 6 p.m., there will be a live and silent auction, drinks and dancing. All proceeds benefit the Grangeville Volunteer Fire Department and Grangeville fireworks. For information, to donate or buy tickets, call Cody Brown at 208-702-2573.

White Bird Fireman's Ball set for Feb. 14

WHITE BIRD — The White Bird Volunteer Fire Department will hold its annual Fireman's Ball on Saturday, Feb. 14, at the IOOF Rebekahs Hall, 149 River Street, White Bird. There will be dinner, drinks, silent and live auctions, desserts and drawings. Presale tickets are \$30 per person, at the door \$35 per person, event only tickets at the door are \$5. Doors open at 5 p.m. and the silent auction starts; dinner begins at 5:30 p.m., and the silent auction ends, live auction starts and fire department presentation all begin at 7 p.m. For information, to get tickets or to donate (item or monetary), call Sandy Murphy at 208-507-1325 or Barbara Lowe at 208-507-3292. All proceeds benefit the White Bird Volunteer Fire Department. Organizer Murphy suggests donations of wine, desserts, or baskets with the theme "date night." Baskets, or items donated to be placed in baskets, will be used in a special raffle during the event. Call Murphy to donate items on or before Thursday, Feb. 12.

Valentine's dance set

RIGGINS — SmallFry Daycare in Riggins is having a Valentine's Day dance fundraiser on Saturday, Feb. 14, at the Salmon River High School multipurpose room, 6-9 p.m. Cost is \$10 per adult or \$25 per family. There will be a dessert sale, silent auctions, finger foods and childcare provided.

More BRIEFS on page 7A

**Lorie
PALMER**

Assistant Editor, Idaho County Free Press

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Idaho County's top 10 4-H'ers named

By Lorie Palmer
Idaho County Free Press

The top 10 4-H'ers in Idaho County were recently named as the 4-H Achievement Award Winners for 2025.

"These 10 4-H members were nominated by their leaders and selected by the 4-H Program Council for their leadership, achievements, and citizenship in their clubs and community," explained Idaho County 4-H Program Director Jill Bruegeman. "The purpose of this award is to recognize 4-H'ers who exemplify the goals of the Idaho County 4-H Program."

Those honored are Maddox Behler, Allie Brown, Nadia Cash, Megan Dickson, Oniece Edmonds, Hunter Granger, Gage Kaschmitter, Ruby Klapprich, Ally McColloch and Brody Raymond.

Maddox Behler

Maddox is the son of Dustin and Ashlee Behler of Cottonwood and has been a member of Greencreek Active Workers 4-H Club for a year.

"My favorite thing about 4-H is the fair and showing my pig," he said.

Maddox has learned he is responsible enough to raise a pig and said he is glad to learn new things and be in 4-H.

Allie Brown

Allie is the daughter of Richard and Jennifer Brown of Grangeville. She has been a member of the Crazy Critters 4-H Club for seven years.

"My absolute favorite thing about 4-H is going to the fair to show off the sewing projects I have made throughout the year," as well as seeing other members' projects, she said.

Allie has completed horse and sewing projects. She thanks her mom and dad for their guidance and support.

Nadia Cash

Nadia has been a member of the Greencreek Active Workers 4-H Club for six years. She is the daughter of Jarod and Kristi Cash of Cottonwood.

"I love all the leadership opportunities 4-H has to offer, she stated. She enjoys meeting new people at all the 4-H events she attends.

Cash admits she has had setbacks in her 4-H projects, but does not let that interfere with her end results.

"I am so grateful to be part of the 4-H experience and community," she added.

Megan Dickson

Megan has been a member of the Kamiah-Woodland 4-H Livestock Club for the past three years. She is the daughter of Josiah and Leah Dickson of Kamiah.

"My favorite thing about 4-H is showing the animals I worked so hard to raise, and also watching the community come together," she expressed.

Megan said she has learned to adjust her priorities to achieve her goals when she is working with her animals. She thanked her leader for the 4-H experience.

Oniece Edmonds

Oniece is the daughter of Daniel and Kelli Edmonds of Kamiah. She has been a member of the Greencreek Active Workers 4-H Club for the past five years.

Her favorite thing about 4-H is working with animals at the fair.

"You get what you put into your project," she said. She said she loves her community and 4-H has helped teach her to never give up.



Maddox Behler



Allie Brown



Nadia Cash



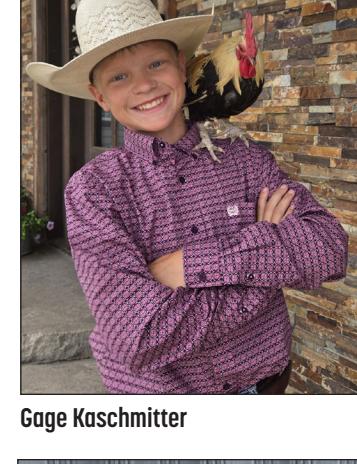
Megan Dickson



Oniece Edmonds



Hunter Granger



Gage Kaschmitter



Ruby Klapprich



Ally McColloch



Brody Raymond

backs and cheer each other on."

He has learned he enjoys being competitive, but it's OK to not always win as long as you are trying your best.

Ruby Klapprich

Ruby has been in 4-H for five years and is a member of the Cottonwood Saddlers and Livestock Club. She is the daughter of Heath and Tara Klapprich of Cottonwood.

"My favorite thing about 4-H is getting to learn more about baking, sewing and goats. I've learned how to sew really well, and I have a lot of fun sewing," she said. "It was also very fun to learn to take care of my goat and show her. My favorite part of baking is learning how to make cupcakes and muffins for birthday parties."

Ruby said she also enjoys table setting at the fair, as well as the sewing for fun day.

"This year I made cup huggers to use when your cup is hot," she added.

Ally McColloch

Ally has been a member of Rough Riders 4-H Club for the past two years. She is the daughter of Mark and Taylor McColloch of Grangeville.

"The things I love most about

4-H are the opportunities to learn about raising livestock and how to manage cost versus profit," she explained. "I also love seeing how my hard work pays off at the end of the project year."

She said she has learned to try her best each day — even when things don't go her way.

Brody Raymond

Brody has been in 4-H for four years and is a member of the Keuterville Livestock 4-H Club. He is the son of Mike and Kayla Raymond of Cottonwood.

"My favorite part of 4-H is getting to take care of my animals and go on walks with them," he said. "I also enjoy meeting new people at the fair."

He added he enjoys showing his sheep and has learned a lot of responsibility through his livestock projects. He said he is competitive and enjoys all the 4-H activities in which he participates.

4-H information:

To learn more about joining Idaho County 4-H, call Idaho County 4-H Program Director Jill Bruegeman at 208-983-2667; stop by the extension office at the Idaho County Courthouse, 320 West Main Street, suite No. 3.

"The things I love most about

Chess tournament results

Event a success

By Sanford 'Sandy' Staab
Special to the Idaho County Free Press

GRANGEVILLE — On Jan. 10 at the Sts. Peter & Paul Elementary School in Grangeville, 30 players showed up to test their strategic and concentration skills against each other via the ancient game of chess.

Many players helped me set up, and soon we began registrations, only to discover that, for some reason, running our new software on laptops exposed many bugs, which made using it difficult. By the end of the second round, we realized we would have to conduct the tournament by hand.

Luckily, my son, Jonathan Staab, who is a whiz-kid with AI, and our helper, Jim Wilcock, who is a handyman with a spreadsheet, were able to build, on-the-fly, sufficient reports and tools to continue the tournament!

After six rounds of intense and fun chess (and much sweating the details on my part), the final standings were determined. But this was only half of our problems, because the reason I had developed the tool I did for managing chess tournaments was so I could give out lots of prizes. This turned out to be just as hard a problem to solve as was the one of continuing the tournament.

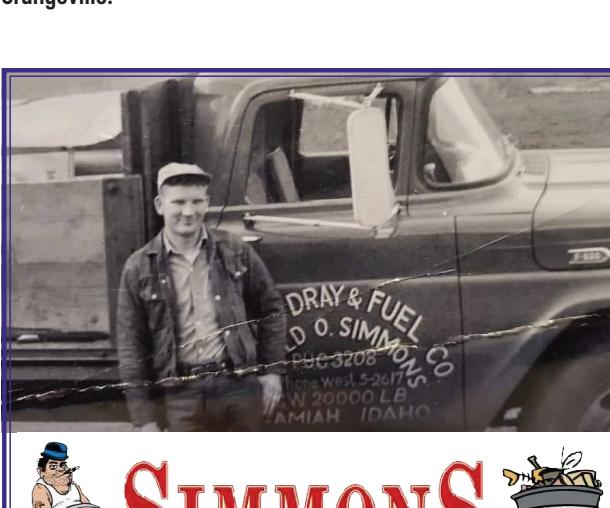
Again, with the help of our intrepid crew and my wife, Kim, who organized and laid out all the prizes we had to give away, we managed to figure out roughly who gets what.

I want to thank Freedom Northwest Credit Union for their generous gift of \$1,000 and for all of those community-minded donors who put money into our donation jars placed in many businesses around the area, to give me the resources needed to make this tournament a huge success!

Every player received at least one prize, and many received more than one. I



Free Press / David Rauzi
Thirty players participated in the 9th annual Clearwater Area Family Chess Tournament, held at Sts. Peter and Paul School in Grangeville.



KES Awards



Contributed photos / Ashley Winterring

Kamiah Elementary School announced its award winners from its November Spotlight Assembly. (Top) Top Readers: back: Liam Ringen, Robbie Sams, Harrison Roach, Mia Largin; front: Sage Smith; not pictured: Audrey Albert, Roy Solano; (Middle) Student of the Month - Loyalty: back: Catalaya Williamson, Kynley Guy; front: Braven Sears, Amaya Lopez, Kaden Young; not pictured: Zeke Haight, Rowan Boyd, Jaslene Castro-Mendez; (Above) Nez Perce Language Awards: back: Mia Largin, Lola Jackson, Avery Crawford, Catalaya Williamson; front: Finley Knuteson, Stetson Cooper; not pictured: Paizlee Sheppard; (Not pictured) Perfect Attendance: Sergio, Zayana, Gunnar, Trynity, Kyler, Kulani, Nico; Faithful Attendance: Larry, Cecilia, Jesko, Braydon, Roselyn, Hayley, Kynley; and School Spirit Award: Mrs. Bain's 2nd Grade Class.

MVSD sees uptick in Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease

"Mountain View School District 244 is experiencing an uptick of Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease in its schools," MVSD nurse Erin Blinn said on Wednesday, Jan. 14.

Typically, this virus presents as open sores/blisters on the hands, feet, face, and inside the mouth. It can appear on additional parts

of the body, as well, and can be accompanied by a fever.

"If your child has symptoms of HFMD and you have questions about him/her attending school, you can reach out to me," Blinn said.

She can be contacted at blinne@sd244.org or at 208-983-0400, ext. 3329



BRIEFS Continued from Page 6A

Valentine's dinner, karaoke on Feb. 14

KAMIAH — A Valentine's Day dinner and karaoke date night will be held at Grace Bible Church, 1115 Idaho Street, Kamiah, to raise funds for the church's worship team on Saturday, Feb. 14. \$25 per couple (collected upon arrival). Seating is limited, register soon at www.gracebiblekamiah.com/bemyvalentine.

Traditional beading is Feb. 14

KAMIAH — A free, introductory class on traditional beading will be led by Stella Sammaripa on Saturday, Feb. 14, at River Arts, 416 Main Street, Suite E, Kamiah. Ages 12 and older are welcome; an adult must accompany a child. Supplies fee is \$25; RSVP to attend at www.riverartskamiah.org/event/introduction-to-traditional-beading.

Boogy's blood drive, GEMS STEM grant Feb. 27

GRANGEVILLE — A blood drive will be held at the Grangeville Elementary Middle School gym, 400 S. Idaho Ave., on Friday, Feb. 27, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. To sign up, go online to vitalant.org and use the area zip code, or contact Erin Eldridge (Boogy's mom) or Joe Fairbanks at jfairbanks@vitalant.org or 559-790-0836. Boogy Eldridge was diagnosed with leukemia early in 2025, and her treatment has required many blood and platelet transfusions. Her family asks if those who can give to consider donating to help her and others in need.

House speaker, Moyle, keynote at Feb. 7 Lincoln Day Dinner

GRANGEVILLE — Idaho's Speaker of the House, Mike Moyle, will be the keynote speaker at the annual Lincoln Day Dinner, Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Grangeville Elks Lodge, hosted by the Idaho County Republican Central Committee.

Admission begins at 5:30 p.m. and the evening will feature games, raffles, and silent and a live auction. Dinner is being catered by Taste of Art, serving a choice of steak medallions or huckleberry bourbon chicken.

Ticket prices (including admission and dinner) start at \$50 for an individual, \$150 for a couple (which includes \$125 worth of raffle tickets for various prizes), and three different options to purchase entire tables starting at a White Table for \$750, a Blue Table at \$1,500, and a Patriot Table at \$2,500. Table purchases provide preferred seating, escalating value raffle tickets, advertising space in the event brochure and early event entry.

Purchase tickets online at www.ilincolndaydinner.org and or stop by Walker's Jewelry in Grangeville with questions.

Chernugel makes honor roll

SPOKANE, WASH. — Madison Chernugel, of Grangeville, earned a place on the Spokane Community College (SCC) honor roll for fall quarter 2025. Students must earn a GPA of 3.0 or above to be on the honor roll.

'Madhouse A Mystery' play is Feb. 7

RIGGINS — Salmon River Fine Arts Club will present 'Madhouse A Mystery' on Saturday, Feb. 7, at 1:30 p.m. and at 6 p.m. in the Salmon River multipurpose room. Doors open 30 minutes before each performance. Tickets available at the Riggins elementary and high school, or at the gate (while they last), for \$5 each. There will be a bake sale during intermission.

Watercolor beginner/advanced class starts Feb. 10

KAMIAH — A free, beginner or advanced four-class watercolor series, led by artist Pearl Maxner, will be held Tuesdays, Feb. 10, 17 and 24 and March 3. Explore watercolor painting with step-by-step instructions at River Arts, 416 Main Street, Suite E, Kamiah. All supplies provided. Ages 15 and older welcome. RSVP required at www.riverartskamiah.org/event/watercolor-with-pearl-beginner-2 or www.riverartskamiah.org/event/watercolor-with-pearl-advanced-2.

June vehicle show sponsors sought

WHITE BIRD — The White Bird Days will have its first annual car, tractor and motorcycle show, Cruis'n White Bird, on June 20, and is looking for sponsors and donations. The event is family-friendly and will have multiple categories and prizes, a live band, kids' games and the vehicles on display at the White Bird Recreation District, 315 River Street, on Saturday, June 20. Registration is 9 a.m.-2 p.m. for \$30.

To help, consider sponsoring one of the following categories: Gold-\$1,000; Silver-\$750; Bronze-\$500; Best in Show Trophy Sponsor-\$250; People's Choice Trophy Sponsor-\$250; Banner Sponsor-\$100. To donate or for information, email whitebirdcarshow@gmail.com, or you can call Gerald Lee Hosley, Jr. at 208-503-2759, Brooke Myers at 661-330-7887 or Jake Murray at 208-669-2498. Make checks payable to the City of White Bird and mail to: White Bird Car Show, C/O Brooke Myers, P.O. Box 225, White Bird ID 84554.

ORGANIZATION:

Card Parties

Pinochle (Jan. 24): 1. Irene Agee, 2. Toni Edwards, 3. Dorwayne Mifflin, 4. Les Lensing, 300 Pinochle — Women: Gina Lensing, Men: Les Lensing. 9s: Mazie Hightower. **Pinochle (Jan. 22):** 1. Gina Lensing, 2. Sandy Lyons, 3. Irene Agee, 4. Don Haukedahl. 300 Pinochle — Women: Ronnita Haukedahl, Men: Don Haukedahl. 9s: Les Lensing. **Pinochle (Jan. 20):** 1. Mary James, 2. Mary Ann Rawson, 3. Nancy Duffin, 4. Gina Lensing. 300 Pinochle — Women: Mary James, Men: Don Haukedahl.

Parties are held Tuesdays at 1 p.m., Thursdays and Saturdays at 6:30 p.m. at the VFW building, Bethman addition, Tamarack Rd., Kamiah. New players are welcome.

SENIOR MENUS:

Cottonwood

The Pioneer Senior Citizens meet Tuesdays at noon for lunch at the Cottonwood Community Center. Lunches are also available through grab and go or delivery. Call Lynn Thompson by 10 a.m. Tuesday, 208-962-3231. For information, visit PrairieMountainNutrition.org or Facebook.com/Prairie-Mountain-Nutrition.

Grangeville

The Grangeville Senior Center, on the Truck Route, serves lunch at noon every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Call 208-983-2033. Jan. 28: chicken and rice, green salad, mixed vegetables, fruit, dinner roll (sponsor: Columbia Bank); Jan. 30: ground beef stroganoff, green beans, green salad, fruit, whole wheat dinner roll; Feb. 2 (Groundhog Day): beef taco, refried beans, Spanish rice, lettuce salad, carrots, celery, fruit.

Kamiah

The Kamiah Mealsite serves lunch every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at noon, with Coffee Klatch, 8-10 a.m. Call 208-935-0244. Jan. 28: taco salad, mixed fruit, soup bar (congregate); Jan. 30: pizza, beets, pineapple.



PEOPLE

Fireman's Ball tickets available; 1906 to host Jan. 31 event

WHITE BIRD — The White Bird Volunteer Fire Department will host its annual Fireman's Ball on Saturday, Feb. 14, at the IOOF Rebekahs Hall at 149 River Street, White Bird. There will be dinner, drinks, a silent auction, a live auction, desserts, drawings and games! Doors open at 5 p.m. (silent auction and games begin). At 5:30 p.m., there will be a homemade dinner with tri-tip, potatoes, vegetables, salad and bread. Starting at 7 p.m., the fire department will present and speak. The silent auction ends, and then the live auction begins. Tickets will



**Brooke
MYERS**

White Bird Correspondent
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661-330-7887

be \$30 per person for pre-sales, and \$35 per person at the door. There will also be an option for event-only tickets at the door for \$5. All proceeds will benefit our local fire department and everyone in the 83554 zip

code. For information, to donate (item or monetary) or to purchase tickets, call Sandy Murphy at 208-507-1325 or Barb Lowe at 208-507-3292. Sandy is also looking for donations for gift baskets and bottles of wine. Can't wait to see everyone there. (21 years of age and older only).

1906 Brews will be hosting a special event on Saturday, Jan. 31, at 5:30 p.m. Char Osmers, from Zander Osmers Safaris, will be joining us from Africa to share tales of hunting and conservation and to teach people about his hunting outfit. They will be offering

Fireman's Ball raffle prizes

WHITE BIRD — Have you heard about the Date Night Raffle for the White Bird Fireman's Ball? There will be 25 amazing prizes, including two rifles (winner is subject to FFL background check), a dinner cruise by Hammer Down River Excursions, lot of meals from Red's Kitchen, 1906 Brews, The Trails, The Rib Gal, Shore Lodge in McCall, and many more. There will also be getaways, which will include the Creekside Air BnB, The White Bird Motel, Salmon River Motel, and others, as well as tons of baskets with themes of Sweetheart, Movie Night, Road Trips, Easy Dinners, Game Night and lots more, all for \$10 each ticket (only 500 will be sold)! And to save the best for last, a Bill Wisenor Memorial Raffle (\$5 per ticket), donated by Mille Wisenor, Brodie Robinett and Bryson Robinett, will be a \$1,000 cash prize! If you would like to purchase raffle tickets for any of the spectacular prizes listed above, reach out to Barb Lowe or Sandy Murphy.

food specials, too. For information, log on to Facebook to the 1906 Brews page.

• Cribbage winners this week: Mike Kunkel took first place again, and Dot McCulley took second place.

• White Bird Gun Club results for Week 3 (Camas Prairie Trapshoot). The weather was cold but sunny.

They had 16 shooters participate. Top scores were: Shane Paul, Jake Prow and Clay Robinson all shot 24's. Youth scores: Trayven Sickels shot a 21; Addison Kaschmitter shot 11; Jason Rupp shot 14. It warmed up enough to shoot some skin games after the Doubles were done.

• Progressive Bingo is at the Silver Dollar Bar each Thursday starting at 6 p.m. Each \$5 card

donation will go to the recipient at the time. Come have fun, win fabulous prizes, support a new 501©3 in our community, enjoy food from Chef Mardee's Food Truck, and of course, enjoy time with the community and your friends. No purchase necessary to play. Stop by this Thursday for a fun game of

See WHITE BIRD, page 9A

KHS Attendance Standouts



Kamiah High School additional attendance awardees for December include (top) Camryn Oatman, Hailey Wilson, Miles Snelling and Shay Korponay, who were presented with gift certificates for a lift ticket at Cottonwood Butte Ski Area by Kamiah High School Principal Dave Harrington. and (left) Kaelyn Walls was presented with a gift certificate for a pizza at Buckshot Pizza and Abigail Snyder was presented with a gift certificate for a burrito from Taqueria Gonzalez by Kamiah High School Principal Dave Harrington.

Facebook / Kamiah High School

Lunch and learn Feb. 4; plan to volunteer this year



**Norma
STAAF**

Clearwater Valley Correspondent
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208-993-0689

for the summer season. Through a concept called community supported agriculture (CSA), people can buy a full or half share in advance from a local farmer, then receive fresh seasonal vegetables from June through September. Shares are limited. For information, check out the www.tenbluebirdacres.com website or find them on Facebook.

Speaking of healthy eating, consider attending the next free monthly lunch and learn workshop focusing on the link between nutrition and mental health. The next workshop, "Balanced diet for mental health," focusing on nutrient-dense meals, will be held Wednesday, Feb. 4, at noon at the Teen Center community kitchen at 405 Main Street in Kamiah.

See CLEARWATER VALLEY, page 9A

CLEARWATER VALLEY — No snow here, but my young cousin's wife in Arkansas enjoyed sledding for the first time! Pretty crazy when the deep south gets more snow than North Central Idaho. As we begin 2026, the America 250 in Idaho committee called for a "Year of Volunteerism" in Idaho. They challenge residents to complete 250,000 acts of service. Although many people in the Clearwater Valley volunteer, some people sit on the sidelines and complain. Volunteer opportunities abound here, whether long-term commitments or helping with an event for a few hours. Local fire districts and ambulances often need more people to train as EMTs or to help with fundraising. Nonprofit causes in the valley range from delivering senior citizen meals, food banks, animal rescue, promoting local history, youth sports, visual arts, theater and education. It can also be a great way to spend time with people outside your own bubble. Consider answering the call to volunteer.

Are you looking to eat more fresh local vegetables but not up for growing a garden? Ten Blue Acres, located in the hills near Kooskia, is selling fresh vegetable subscriptions

beginning in January.

See CLEARWATER VALLEY, page 9A

beginning in January.

Bingo next week; dance fundraiser is Feb. 14



**Jeannie
FITCH**

Riggins Correspondent
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208-628-3845

certificates for a lift ticket at Cottonwood Butte Ski Area by Kamiah High School Principal Dave Harrington. and (left) Kaelyn Walls was presented with a gift certificate for a pizza at Buckshot Pizza and Abigail Snyder was presented with a gift certificate for a burrito from Taqueria Gonzalez by Kamiah High School Principal Dave Harrington.

Facebook / Kamiah High School

RIGGINS — Riggins Ambulance & Salmon River Ambulance District's Elly Elder, Madison Pottenger and Han Hammond passed their paramedic skills week, which is no small feat. The skills class includes multiple written exams, hands-on skills, testing and interviews. They are officially moving on to the next phase of their educational journey to becoming paramedics, which includes a 336-hour internship followed by more written exams. Thank you for putting in the work and committing to serving our Salmon River Canyon.

Get ready for the 2026 Salmon River High School & Riggins Elementary School Play, "Madhouse, A Mystery," Saturday, Feb. 7, at 1:30 and 6:30 p.m. in the SRHS multipurpose room. Doors open 30 minutes

before each performance. Our students have been working incredibly hard, rehearsing lines, building scenes and bringing the story to life since October 2025. The awesome play is directed by Miss Taylie Hopkins, SRHS teacher and theatrical director, along with Jenna Ewing, art teacher and scene director, and other teachers and volunteers.

Wednesday, Feb. 4, will feature Bingo for everyone

18 and older at Riggins Community Center beginning at 6:30 p.m.; doors open at 6 p.m. Wear your favorite Valentine's Day gear

or wear red to win a special prize for participating winners. Free snacks and

drinks will be provided.

A Valentine's dance fundraiser, featuring the Salmon River Fiddlers, followed by

a great live band, will be

held Saturday, Feb. 14, 6-9 p.m. at the Salmon River High School multipurpose room. The dance is open to everyone of all ages; \$10 per adult; \$25 per family. Finger foods will be provided. There will be a dessert sale and a silent auction; childcare will be provided. SmallFry Daycare is having this fundraiser to be able to continue the daycare service to families in our Salmon River Canyon.

Payette Land Trust presents SweetHeart Party and Auction, which will be held Saturday, Feb. 14, at Shore-Lodge & Auction beginning at 5:30 p.m. The Big Heart projects will be auctioned, as well as additional items. Join them for delicious food and an opportunity to support conservation in West Central Idaho.

• Kudos to Kay La Bella for working with the Payette Land

Trust and their Conserve the Heart of Idaho Student Heart Program. Kay was very encouraging of Raydin, Poppy and Remy, all from Salmon River High School, and Penny from McCall-Donnelly High School, with their beautiful creations (see all their projects in previous issues or at [www.idahocountyfreepress.com](http://idahocountyfreepress.com)). Kay gives a big shoutout to the Riggins Whitewater Market, The Idaho Banana Co. and Cottonwood Credit Union for displaying these Heart creations that will be sold at the SweetHeart Auction on Feb. 14. "I'm so proud of these girls and their art teachers for their amazing contributions," said Kay.

• Riggins Assembly of God Church is replacing the old entry doors with new glass doors to create a safer and more welcoming

See RIGGINS, page 9A



On Jan. 16, three crew members with Riggins Ambulance & Salmon River Ambulance District successfully passed their paramedic skills week. The trio move on to the next phase of their education journey to becoming paramedics, which includes a 336-hour internship followed by final written exams. Pictured are (L-R) Madison Pottenger, Elly Elder and Han Hammond.

Ee-too-tum-tine

NPTEC election information: Candidacy packets due Feb. 17



**Marilyn
BOWEN**

Ee-too-tum-tine?

kautsala@yahoo.com

208 935 8107

KAMIAH — The Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee (NPTEC) Non-Partisan Primary 2026 is

coming up. The following is a list of noncertified

candidates as of Jan. 23. All

candidacy packets must

be received by 4:30 p.m. on

Feb. 17, 2026.

Seat 1: Rachel Edwards *;

Seat 2: Ashton Picard*; Seat

3: Marie Baheza. * denotes

incumbent.

The primary election will

be held on Saturday, April

4. There are two meth-

ods of voting: absentee

ballot — your ballot must

be received by 4:30 p.m. on

April 4; in-person — April

4, at polling places, open 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Polling sites: Wa'Ayas Community Center in Kamiah, Teweepuu Community Center in Orofino and the Pi-Ne- Waus Community Center in

Lapwai.

Only one voting method allowed. Any enrolled member of the Nez Perce Tribe who is 18 or older shall be entitled to vote in primary elections. For information or questions, contact the general council election judge, Carey Reuben, at 208-553-7074 or Carey@nezperce.org.

Let me tell you all, this weather

is amazing, for now. A few rainy

days and a slight chill in the air,

but bearable. We have time to

prepare for freezing weather.

We don't know when to expect

it. Watching the news, we see

many states dealing with freezing

weather, snow-covered highways and winds. Many areas don't have

electricity.

Begin by winterizing your homes, stock up on supplies (water, food, flashlights, batteries, medication). If you are outside, dress in layers, keep at least half a tank of gas. Check on neighbors, bring pets indoors and ensure they have access to water that is not frozen. Be alert to weather advisories and warnings.

Prayers for the family of Cedric Ellenwood, we ask God for peace, strength and healing as they prepare for his final services. Continued prayers for Rev. Hunter Keen, as he's beginning his journey.

Rev. Hunter served as minister for the Nez Perce Indian Churches.

He and his wife, Barbara, spent many years serving at 1st and 2nd Church, Northfork, Spalding, Sities and Meadow Creek.

Prayers for the families affected by this winter storm. Prayers for our country, for some resolve to come forth, give wisdom to all our leaders. Prayers for families who are separated from their children.

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Free Press / Jamie Edmondson

An elk herd near Elk City.

Wolf, elk watch; President's Day events set for Dixie

ELK CITY — Quote of the week: "We, the people of the State of Idaho, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, to secure its blessings and promote our common welfare do establish this Constitution." - Preamble to the Constitution of the State of Idaho, approved July 3, 1890

The elk are back in larger numbers (see photo), and the wolves have followed them in. There have been sightings of wolf tracks near people's homes and their howling has been heard, as well. So, watch your kids and animals as they play outside or walk to school.

The High Country Snowmobile Club is putting on the President's Day event on Feb. 14-15 in Dixie. Saturday, Feb. 14, events: breakfast is 8-10 a.m. at the Dixie Community Center; sign up for the Poker Run between 10 a.m. and noon at Dixie Community Center; be back at the Gazebo at 5 p.m. to draw last hand and eat a



**Jamie
EDMONDSON**

Elk City Correspondent
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208-842-2452

spaghetti and soup dinner; then at 9 p.m., there will be fireworks. Sunday, Feb. 15 events: to be announced.

Here is the VFW Bingo game schedule through April: Feb. 7 and 21; March 7 and 21; April 4 and 18. They start at 2 p.m. and they will be serving homemade soup for donations. They encourage all to "Come, join the fun!"

Birthdays: Josie Cox, Daltina Ackermann, Bill Thompson and Emeric Bailey.

Syringa Hospital: Feb. 5-Dr. Wilson; March 5-Dr. Richins; April 2-Dr. Petersen; May 7-Dr. Told; June 4-Dr. Wilson; July 2-Dr. Petersen; Aug. 6-Dr. Richins; Sept. 3-Dr. Told; Oct. 1-Dr. Wilson; Nov. 5-Dr. Richins; Dec. 3-Dr. Petersen.

St. Mary's Hospital: Dr. Jones on Feb. 17.

Painting class series starts Feb. 4

KAMIAH — A four-class series on acrylic painting for beginner to intermediate painters, for ages 14 and older, will be led by Doug Boomer at River Arts, 416 Main Street, Suite E, Kamiah, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesdays, Feb. 4, 11, 18 and 25.

RSVP to attend at www.riverartskamiah.org/event-learning-acrylic-painting-four-class-series. All supplies provided.

WHITE BIRD:

Continued from 8A

Bingo for a great cause. • 1906 Brews serves soup every Monday-Thursday until it's gone. They also have Happy Hour Tuesday-Thursday, 3-6 p.m. Steak dinners are every Friday night starting at 5 p.m. (no reservations required) and trivia follows at 7 p.m.

• Birthdays: Jan. 28 - Cody Farmer, Lillee Stark, Trenton Rob-

erts; Jan. 29 - Chance Brumley, Payton Trivett; Jan. 31 - Cindy Zbinden, Cheryl Zehner; Feb. 1 - Tanya Schultz, Jim Weeks (heavenly birthday); Feb. 2 - Makenna Pineda, Darious Walker Jr., Statler Jack Marek, Keith Ray (heavenly birthday); Feb. 3 - Emily Kurnett, Stan Wilson (heavenly birthday). • Anniversaries: Jan. 28 - Dale and Kelly Rosenbaum; Feb. 2 - Jim and Carrie Marek.

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RIGGINS:

Continued from 8A

space for everyone. They need to raise \$4,500 for new glass doors. Every gift, big or small,

moves them closer to their goal. Your donation will help: Go to give.tithe.ly/?formid=2df3806e-59a7-46fa-9f78-94188ef5959&usedQrcode=true or donate directly to the church.

Buck's celebration of life

RIGGINS — Wow! More than 500 people gathered to celebrate and honor Buck and his family. We had a "Buck" memorial display, as well as a table filled with some of Buck's caps and cowboy hats and a sign, "was a man with many hats; Please take one." It was a wonderful, honoring, humorous celebration. Daughter, Julie, and granddaughter, Kylie, read Buck's obituary, and grandson, Phin, recited the Fitch Family's favorite poem, The Ballad of William Sycamore by Stephen Vincent Benet; Julie sang "Amazing Grace," her dad's favorite hymn. Friends and family shared some great stories and fun memories... some laughter and some tears, followed by a lot of hugs. The elder pastors from the Salmon River Community Church helped with the service. Jay Gonsalves was the emcee, Conrad Banez and Clint Greene gave opening and closing prayers, and Bruce Bovey accompanied Julie on her song, then sang, "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder."

The Riggins American Legion Post gave Buck full military honors, including a 21-gun salute followed by taps with an American flag presented to his wife, Jeannie. There was a light lunch and visiting following the service. The family and some friends held a graveside service for Buck in the afternoon. Jason McClanahan, Buck's son-in-law, welcomed the group and told a funny story, then Russ Adkins gave the opening prayer. Buck's four grandchildren, Kylie, Ty, Phin and Darby, presented the beautiful box urn with Buck's ashes made by friend Martin Balukas, then Phin lowered it into the grave. Friends and family shared some parting words. Several friends and family members helped put dirt in the grave; our friend Carl Killgore placed the grass on top of the hole. Julie and I placed a pine bough cross at the head of the grave; Darby put a "Buck" cap on top of the grave. Jason closed in prayer. Most of our family joined us at our home for an evening of visiting and just enjoying each other.

CLEARWATER VALLEY:

Continued from 8A

Register in advance to participate. Peyton Goodman, with Idaho North Central Health District, will lead the workshop, including cooking demonstrations, practical tips, group discussions and free lunch. These workshops will continue monthly for the rest of 2026.

In anticipation of Valentine's Day, River Arts Kamiah is planning a poetry workshop on Saturday, Feb. 7, 10 a.m.-noon, at the art center, 416 Main Street. Led by Theresa Henson, the "How Do I Love Thee" workshop will include reading and discussing poetry, plus writing exercises with creative prompts. On Saturday, Feb. 14, Stella Sammaripa will teach an "Introduction to Traditional Beading" class from 10 a.m. to noon. Space is limited for classes. Sign up in advance on their website www.riverartskamiah.org

or by calling 208-451-3206. Open studio and gallery hours are offered from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays, plus Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. The walls are adorned with local artists' creations, so stop by and check it out.

Civic protests in the streets are not common in the Clearwater Valley, but people use their 1st Amendment rights to speak out. Support for state's rights over federal government overreach and 2nd Amendment rights have also endured here. The Declaration of Independence states that the government derives its powers from the "consent of the governed." In the past two weeks, federal government officers shot and killed U.S. citizens Renee Good and Alex Pretti in Minneapolis as they protested federal government actions. Their tragic deaths make me think of another turbulent time in our history, during the 1960s civil rights movement. "Blowing in the Wind" became an anthem of the civil rights movement.

Quote of the week: "How many deaths does it take 'til he knows that too many people have died? The answer, my friend, is blowing in the wind." — Bob Dylan, singer-songwriter

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SPONSORED CONTENT:

10 YEARS AGO

January 27, 2016

• SEARS CREEK ROAD — It's been 10 winters since 59-year-old Bear Claw moved to Idaho. Bear Claw lives without electricity or running water in a tiny cabin on a small plot of land that he shares with his horses and dogs. A battery-powered radio and an inverter with a truck battery that serves as a one-way phone are his means of communication.

20 YEARS AGO

January 25, 2006

• GRANGEVILLE — A Second District Court judge has recently denied a petition for Judicial Relief by convicted Idaho County double murderer Mark H. Lankford who claimed illegal procedure in his sentencing for execution.

30 YEARS AGO

January 24, 1996

• In light of a student walkout and parent protest last week, Kamiah High School principal Joe Anderson believes Kamiah schools will give the Martin Luther King holiday more attention next year. "Serious consideration is given whether or not to have school on Martin Luther King Day next year," Anderson said Friday.

40 YEARS AGO

January 29, 1986

• "I've done it my way," is the way Gertrude Maxwell of Elk City might describe her life. She dresses in pink, wears a pink cowboy hat, drives a pink car, and now Gertrude has written a book called "My Yesterdays in Elk City," with a pink cover, of course.

50 YEARS AGO

January 28, 1976

• A county property tax hike looms for residents in Idaho County. Idaho County Commissioners have called a public hearing for Feb. 9 at 10 a.m. at the county courthouse to consider an estimated \$2,268,588.17 budget, according to a legal notice in this week's Free Press.

60 YEARS AGO

January 27, 1956

• Grangeville Jaycees presented their Distinguished Service Award to Jack Heartburg, named Vern Workman the outstanding Young Farmer, and John R. Miodragovich the Boss of the Year.

70 YEARS AGO

January 19, 1956

• Stites is leading the polio fund drive with a contribution of \$197.90.

80 YEARS AGO

January 24, 1946

• Sister M. Alfreda announced her book "Pioneer Days in Idaho County," is in the hands of the publishers.

90 YEARS AGO

January 30, 1936

• Visitors at the Grangeville telephone office numbered 1,064, in response to an invitation from the company to visit the office.

100 YEARS AGO

January 28, 1926

• Dodge touring car, \$1,115; \$335 down and \$41.90 a month.

110 YEARS AGO

January 27, 1916

• For the year just ended, 97 marriage licenses were issued, while 21 persons sought divorces.

• School census lists 4,186 school children in Idaho County.

120 YEARS AGO

January 25, 1906

• W.A. Wylie came out from his stock ranch 40 miles above Elk City to secure a permit to run his stock there this year. The trip was made on snowshoes and the journey required three days.

• A great dramatic production marked the opening of the new Armory Opera House. There is great praise due the soldiers for the dash and splendor they added to the play.

130 YEARS AGO

January 24, 1896

• Idaho will receive \$271.72 from the state school fund on a basis of 1,550 school children.

• The entire front page of this issue of the Free Press was taken up with commissioners' proceedings and other advertising.

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Grangeville City Council

Ski hill manager proposes lodge expansion alternative

By David Rauzi, editor
Idaho County Free Press

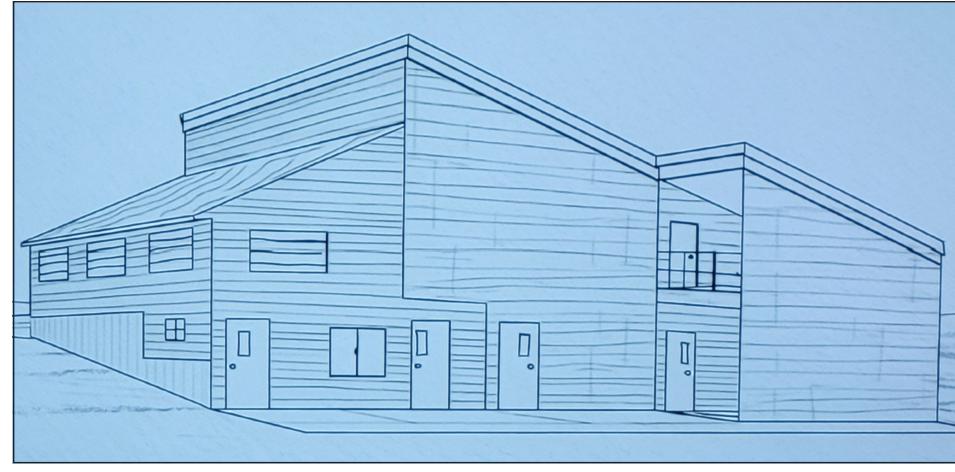
GRANGEVILLE — The clock is ticking. Plans for renovations at Snowhaven Ski Area are set to commence in May. Paying the lion's share of this is federal funding that must be spent by the end of the year.

Now, a redesign recommendation by ski hill manager Joel Wasem is under consideration by the city as to whether these options provide a better, more functional layout, and still come within the limited budget available.

At its Jan. 20 meeting, the Grangeville City Council approved to explore a major change to the planned Snowhaven lodge expansion, directing staff to meet with the project's contractor and architect to see whether a different design could deliver more space and fix longstanding building problems.

In his presentation, Wasem explained the currently approved expansion, "doesn't solve any of the major issues," arguing the lodge is routinely overcrowded and has aging infrastructure. "Right now, there's not enough capacity," he said, adding, "our normal day, we have 250 plus people up there," with the fire code allowing approximately 88.

The facility is stretched beyond its design, he said, with "lines crisscrossed,"



Free Press / David Rauzi

A sketch showing an exterior view of the proposed Snowhaven Ski Area lodge, which shows the deck area now within an expanded facility.

"no customer area for office administration," and no dedicated space for staff gear. "The carpet is shot," he said. "There's no question. We can't fix it again." He also flagged windows, the porch and accessibility needs: "The porch is in rough shape. It's a liability waiting to happen," and "there are no ADA bathrooms upstairs."

Wasem said the approved concept for expanding off the back side of the lodge would create poor customer flow and leave key issues unresolved.

His alternative would expand the lodge toward the front to add seating and improve circulation, while also addressing the porch and windows.

"My pros on this one are a lot bigger," he said, including that it "expands the upper lodge," would

"increase our occupancy numbers," and "solves our porch issues because we would be getting rid of the porch." He said his concept would also significantly enlarge the rental shop.

Meeting with Morris Arnen of Arnen Building Construction, city administrator Tonya Kennedy said he is willing to look at the proposal, in conjunction with Wasem and architect Rhonda Wemhoff to see if it's a more cost-effective addition.

"He did say it would be difficult to get it redesigned and ready to start in May," she said. It will also require a change order because now we already have an agreement," which is \$360,000.

Currently, the city has \$334,000 in ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds provided to the

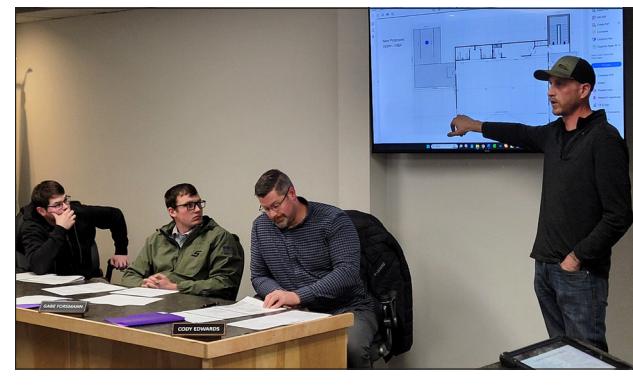
city in 2022, which must be spent by Dec. 31. Kennedy explained the financial side of the project, noting the \$26,000 short on the agreement, which will be met out of city investments. This would leave Snowhaven with \$120,000 for normal operations, whether startup costs and operating and paying expenses during the offseason.

Council consensus was to explore the possibility if Wasem's alternative were a better option.

"We've got to make this money go as far as we can. If it works within the budget, great. If not, we have something already in place," said councilor Jared Andrews.

IN OTHER BUSINESS:

- Public works director



Free Press / David Rauzi
At right, Snowhaven Ski Area Manager Joel Wasem explains his counterproposal for the lodge expansion project with (L-R) councilors Wyatt Perry, Gabe Forsmann and Cody Edwards listening.

Bob Mager gave an update on work at the city's Clearwater well, describing a series of setbacks that he said will keep the project from being completed until at least mid-February.

Mager said high winds disrupted a key stage of the work after PumpTech set equipment, forcing the contractor to leave before final adjustments were made. An attempted workaround resulted in the pump being shoved into the collar and jammed.

Around two weeks ago, a PumpTech worker was attempting to free the pump when a nut broke loose and his wrench struck him in the face, causing skull fractures.

Mager said the plan is to bring the pump out of the water: "The pump itself will be new," adding that the drive shaft and the spider bearings will be looked at for determination on

whether those need to be replaced, as well.

"Who's liable for all this?" questioned councilor Cody Edwards. "It's not on our dime," Mager responded, noting this is on the general contractor and subcontractor.

- Mayor Wes Lester updated the council on December storm damage to the Klein property and city-owned watershed. He noted 79 trees were down on the Klein property and a rough estimate of 240 to 320 trees down on the watershed.

Northwest Management Services, which oversees forest health and water quality for the city's watershed property, will be coordinating on logging services for the property. An agreement on the project is tentative to be presented at the Feb. 2 meeting.

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SPORTS

Salmon River Basketball

Both programs down Greenleaf, Horseshoe Bend

By Dana Greig
Idaho County Free Press

RIGGINS — The Salmon River men's basketball program persevered through a tough week to overcome a tight 48-45 loss to Pine Eagle, Ore. Jan. 22, to have back-to-back wins against Greenleaf Friends Academy (49-42) Jan. 23 and Horseshoe Bend (69-42) Jan. 24.

Junior Kingston Pyle led the boards against Greenleaf with 16 points and 11 rebounds, followed by Riley Davis (11 points, nine rebounds) and Blake Shepherd (10 points).

Davis then led scoring Saturday with 20 points

followed by Gage Crump (16) and Shepherd (12) as Pyle and Hayes Pratt shared rebound lead with 10 each.

The Savage women pushed their unblemished record with two wins, winning their GFA game by forfeit and commanding their HSB game 69-16. Senior Rylee Walters currently leads the league in average points per game with 21, which is 10 points ahead of second place. Junior Taylor Ewing currently leads the league in assists per game with five.

The Savages will host senior night this Friday, Jan. 30 with a 4:30 (MT) game time.



Free Press / Dana Greig

Salmon River's Kingston Pyle has been a driving force for the Savage offense, as seen here during a jump shot in a Jan. 9 game.

Malad conquers North/South wrestling duals

By Dana Greig
Idaho County Free Press

KOOSKIA — Clearwater Valley High School played host to one of Idaho's fiercest high school wrestling showcases last weekend, Jan. 23-24, as the long-standing North/South Duals were sanctioned by USA Wrestling for the first time. Malad High School emerged dominant, taking home first place and solidifying its status as a team to beat heading into the state championships. The next in the top four schools were Kellogg, St. Maries and Ririe.

The tournament, originally created by Carlos Martinez with the intent to help northern Idaho teams earn better seeding at state, has evolved into a full-scale showdown to bring out the best from programs in both regions.

From southern teams arriving in charter buses, to some northern teams being able to fit all their athletes in a van, the tournament's aim is to help prep athletes for state.

Despite the disparities in resources and team sizes, northern teams held their own, battling through

See WRESTLING, page 10B

Prairie Basketball

Schumacher scores 1,000th career point

COTTONWOOD — After securing two league wins last week against Logos (53-20) and Troy (56-23), the Lady Pirate basketball program (11-1) is now ranked first in the 2A Whitepine League, one game ahead of second seed, Lapwai (10-1).

During last week's games, senior Kylie Schumacher achieved 1,000

career points, having started this season with 877 points. All seniors were honored last night in their last home game, where they faced Logos again with results not available as of press time.

Senior night photos are available online at idahocountyfree-press.com and on the Free Press Facebook page.

The Prairie men also saw success last week as they dominated league opponent Troy 62-24, maintaining their ranking of second in the league (6-1) just one game behind Kendrick (7-0).

The men travel to Kamiah tonight, Jan. 28, and Logos Thursday, and the women travel to Kamiah, Thursday, Jan. 29.



Prairie senior Kylie Schumacher has achieved scoring more than 1,000 points during her varsity career as a Pirate.



Prairie's Patrick Schlader drives the ball down court during the men's only league loss to Kendrick Jan. 16.

Bulldogs Remain Number One



Free Press / Dana Greig

With a spotless 5-0 league record, the Grangeville women's basketball program remains first in the 3A Central Idaho League. Pictured, sophomore Autumn Long passes over an opponent during a Jan. 10 victory at home. GHS will honor Doug Carver before tonight's game at 6:45 p.m., and will honor the senior women at this Saturday's game against Kellogg.

RAM of the Week

Rice strives to push herself, win or lose

By Hannah Hale
Idaho County Free Press

KOOSKIA — Clearwater Valley High School sophomore Jesse Rice, daughter of Lacey Rice, is Ram of the week for her outstanding wrestling season.

"Jesse certainly deserves it," said CV-O head coach Ian Anderson. "She is a stellar student and athlete."

This season marks Rice's 12th year as a wrestler. She won at a tournament in Joseph, Ore., crediting it as a favorite win this season due to having to wrestle 30 pounds

above her usual weight class of 140.

Rice said individuality is her favorite part of wrestling.

"Definitely coaches and knowing that what you put into the sport is what you get out," said Rice of what drives her.

With her coaches, her teammates, and her mother giving her support, Rice is able to balance both sports and her academics. Rice explained the hardest part of wrestling is the mental aspect, competing against tough opponents on your own.

"Definitely the mental part. If you're going against really tough

kids, you know it's going to be a tough match, and no matter what, you still have to go out and wrestle them. You can't just sub somebody else in for you," said Rice.

With five tournaments left including state, Rice said that her goal for the rest of the season is "just to push myself and do my best no matter what, win or lose."

Rice recently suffered a serious foot injury while competing against a Malad wrestler on Jan. 24. Her current plan is to rest the next few weeks, in hopes of possibly returning in time to qualify for state.



JESSE RICE



This RAM OF THE WEEK ATHLETE highlight is brought to you by: KAMIAH CRAB FEED

OBITUARIES/RECORDS

Hannah
RAUZI

Online Editor, Idaho County Free Press
hrauzi@idahocountyfreepress.com

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IDAHO COUNTY

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Jan. 19 - 25, 2026

- Monday, Jan. 19: · Grangeville/Riggins - Noninjury accident, Hwy 95 MP 203; Noninjury accident, Tolo Lake and Lake Rd; Noninjury accident, Ctwd Butte Rd; Animal neglect, Riggins area; Unk injury accident, Hwy 162 MP 13; DWP, Hwy 95 MP 239; Disabled vehicle, Hwy 95 MP 227; Noninjury accident, Hwy 95 MP 241. · Kooskia/Elk City - Welfare check, Franklin Dr; Welfare check, Clearwater Str; Domestic dispute, Yakus Creek. · GPD - Noninjury accident; DWP.
- Tuesday, Jan. 20: · Grangeville/Riggins - Fraud, Seven Devils Rd; Traffic offense, Hwy 95 MP 243; Traffic hazard, Slate Creek Rd and Hwy 95; Traffic drugs, Hwy 95 MP 233. · Kooskia/Elk City - Abandoned vehicle, Adams Grade; Littering, Woodland Rd; Explosives, Ridgewood Rd. · GPD - Disabled vehicle; Weapon offense; Fraud.
- Wednesday, Jan. 21: · Grangeville/Riggins - Traffic drugs, Hwy 95 MP 247; Agency assist, River Str; Animal neglect, Cottonwood City; Dog at large, Heath Dr; Search warrant, Airport Rd; Animal problem, Hwy 95 MP 203; Loitering, Cottonwood City; DWP, Greencreek Rd. · Kooskia/Elk City - DWP, Hwy 12 and Woodland Rd; Domestic dispute, Tinker Rd; Vehicle fire, Selway Rd; Agency assist, South Str; Welfare check, Yakus Creek Dr. · GPD - Agency assist; Welfare check; Juvenile problem; Animal neglect; Suspicious vehicle.
- Thursday, Jan. 22: · Grangeville/Riggins - Custodial interference, Cottonwood city; Noninjury accident, S Main Str; Animal problem, Hwy 95 MP 210. · Kooskia/Elk City - DUI, N Front Str; Sex offense, Winter Ave; Suspicious vehicle, Stites Rd and Reservation Line. · GPD - Welfare check; Parking problem.
- Friday, Jan. 23: · Grangeville/Riggins - Welfare check, Division Str; Noninjury accident, Camas Rd and Prairie Rd; Child abuse, Heath Dr; Theft, Hwy 95 S; Noninjury accident, Milner Trail Rd and Mt Idaho Loop Rd....

LEWIS COUNTY

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dec. 28, 2025 - Jan. 3, 2026

- Dec. 28: · Possible DUI - reporting party (RP) advised subject is in her car getting ready to drive away, motor is running but she hasn't left yet - Traffic offense - ex-husband dropped off kids and he was drinking, toward Orofino in red Ford Expedition, Orofino dire. dept. sticker on it, left taking shots and had Twisted Tea.
- Dec. 29: · Traffic offense - white Ford Escape, possible DUI, not maintaining lane, speeding and going into opposite lane with oncoming traffic.
- Dec. 30: · Probation violation - subject was at home when 2109 and 2110 tried to serve civil papers, probation check and she closed the door in their faces and refused to come out.
- Dec. 31: · Alarm - fire alarm, alarm company talked with subject and it was advised it was a test. · Juvenile problem - four juveniles are running into traffic and cursing at vehicles driving by.
- Suspicious circumstance - RP advised she can hear something outside her home and it is scaring her, RP is too scared to look and has all house lights on.
- Jan. 1: · Assault - RP stated a female assisted at a residence across the street from the school, person and RP are heading back to RP's residence.
- Jan. 2: · Theft automobile - 2023 grey Ford Ranger, daughter and friend took vehicle with permission on Dec. 29, 2025, RP got a text saying it would be back at 10:30 last night but never showed up, RP drove by the place the vehicle should be but it was too dark to see, daughter is an addict but has been clean 2 weeks. · Malicious injury - RP stated someone spray painted on the storage unit walls, happened in the last few days. · Animal problem - 2 dogs came from another property and chased a child on her scooter, juvenile put scooter between her and the dogs that tried to bite her....

For complete dispatch log:

SCAN
ME

Robert 'Bob' Jackson, 79

October 19, 1946 - January 20, 2026



Robert (Bob) Wayne Jackson passed away on Jan. 20, 2026, peacefully in his home on Battle Ridge, Kooskia, Idaho.

Bob was born Oct. 19, 1946, to Jim and Mary Jackson in Grangeville, Idaho. He grew up near Kamiah, Idaho, spending most of his time with his dad in the mountains going on horse packing trips, fishing in lakes, hound hunting, elk hunting and snowmobiling. He also helped his dad build and run Jim's Cashway (now known as Dale and Jill's Sporting Goods) near Kamiah.

He went to the Clearwater Valley schools where he played football, basketball, baseball and he also met his high school sweetheart, Florence (Flo) Teats. During this time, he also began logging and learned to operate equipment.

Bob and Flo were married July 1, 1966. They spent their first summer living in a wall tent on the North Fork River, where Bob was working on a road crew. Soon after, they began a life of ranching, farming and raising cattle. They had three children and have been together 59 wonderful years.

Bob spent hours chasing hounds through the mountains with his wife, kids, grandkids, relatives and friends. Bob and Flo entered hound hunting competitions, winning many awards. In 1983, they purchased a rundown ranch on Battle Ridge. With the help of their children and grandchildren, they have made it into a beautiful working ranch and home for 40 years. Bob also had an excavation business, rock crushing business, and a land farm throughout his life.

There was no denying his love of hunting and the outdoors. The sales yards and neighbors recognized Bob as one of the best cattlemen they knew. He was known for his appreciation of well-trained cow dogs and hounds.

Bob is survived by his wife, Flo; children: Tracy Straw (Daniel), Carrie Squires (Larry) and Wayne Jackson (Jessica); 10 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; sister, Brenda Movius (Ted); brother, Roy Jackson (Myra); nephew, Eric Jackson (Sam); and many relatives and friends. Bob was admired and loved by all. It was Bob's wish not to have a funeral service.

Eugene 'Dee' Webb, 62

Eugene "Dee" Webb, 62, of Grangeville, Idaho, died Saturday, Jan. 24, 2026, at Orchard's View Post Acute Care, Lewiston, Idaho. Arrangements are under the direction of Blackmer Funeral Home, Grangeville.

William E. 'Bill' Sommers, 81

William E. "Bill" Sommers, 81, of Cottonwood, Idaho, died Monday, Jan. 26, 2026, at St. Mary's Hospital, Cottonwood. Arrangements are under the direction of Blackmer Funeral Home, Grangeville, Idaho.

Roxanne Marie Simler, 70

July 8, 1955 - January 13, 2026



Roxanne Marie Simler, of Kamiah, Idaho, passed away peacefully at her home on Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2026, with her devoted husband by her side, at the age of 70.

Roxanne was born on July 8, 1955, to Milton and Barbara (Brooks) King in Bennington, Vt. At the age of 11, she moved with her family to Kamiah, where she attended elementary and high school, graduating in 1973. During her high school years, she met the love of her life, Dale E. Simler of Woodland, Idaho. The two were married on Sept. 24, 1971, in Woodland.

Together, Roxanne and Dale built a life rooted in family and love. They welcomed their daughter, Stacy Jo, in 1972, followed by their son, Jeffrey Dale, in 1974.

Roxanne was known for her many talents and passions. She was an excellent cook and for many years took great joy in making and decorating "fancy" cakes for special occasions, sharing her creativity with friends, family and the community. She also owned and operated Roxanne's Cards and Gifts in Kamiah for many years, a business that reflected her love for thoughtful details and giving.

She had a well-known fondness for online

shopping and could never resist a shirt she loved—especially when it came in multiple colors. Roxanne cherished being surrounded by family and eagerly anticipated family reunions, always arriving with gifts for everyone, no matter the occasion. Giving was one of the many ways she showed her love.

Roxanne was preceded in death by her parents, Milton and Barbara King; her brother, Tim King; and her daughter, Stacy Jo Simler.

She is survived by her loving husband, Dale E. Simler; her son, Jeff Simler (Angie); granddaughters: Shelby, Ava, Carleigh, Jordy and Regan; and great-granddaughters, Harper and Ruthie, all of whom were the light of her life.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. at The Life Center in Kamiah. Arrangements are under the direction of Blackmer Funeral Home, Grangeville, Idaho. Send condolences to the family at blackmerfuneralhome.com.

Roxanne will be remembered for her generous heart, unwavering love for her family, and the quiet ways she made everyone around her feel special.

Idaho County District Court

Jan. 8 - 18, 2026

Rickey Dale Adams, 64, fail to provide proof of vehicle insurance, \$131.50;

Lukas P. Bennett, 19, fail to secure vehicle registration, \$67;

Wade Lee Broncheau, 18, operate vehicle without a current or valid class D/operator's license, \$307.50; driving-stop sign and yield sign violations, \$90;

Jacey Langston, 30, fail to register vehicle annually, \$67;

Darrin James Miller, 29, battery, jail time 89 days (credit time 89 days), \$157.50; domestic violence-violation of protection order, jail time 89 days (credit time 89 days), \$187.50;

Andres Avelino Bueno, 50, controlled substance-possession of marijuana, \$497.50; drug paraphernalia-use or possess with intent to use, \$200;

Nathan Michael Cole, 38, vehicle-fictitious display of plate or registration card, \$115;

Eva Drapper, 61, fail to provide proof of vehicle insurance, \$131.50;

Caleb Gavinhart Gordon, 21, operating vehicle without registration, assigned license plate or sticker, \$101;

Gregory Paul Gresham, 76, driving-stop sign and yield sign violations, \$90;

Andrew James Griffin, 26, F/G-game tag-no appropriate tag, probation 3 months, \$765;

Erick Nathan Haney, 29, operating vehicle without registration, assigned license plate or sticker, \$101;

Brandon G. Kindrick, 22,

operate vehicle without liability insurance, \$131.50;

Shane Gregory Kozak, 36, operate vehicle without a current or valid class D/operator's license, \$307.50; driving-stop sign and yield sign violations, \$90;

Jacey Langston, 30, fail to register vehicle annually, \$67;

Darrin James Miller, 29, battery, jail time 89 days (credit time 89 days), \$157.50; domestic violence-violation of protection order, jail time 89 days (credit time 89 days), \$187.50;

Aaron S.E. Norgard, 20, operate vehicle without a current or valid class D/operator's license, \$307.50; alcoholic beverage-under 21 YOA unlawful to purchase, consume or possess, \$487.50;

Jenny Jean Osborn, 37, dogs running at large violation [4 counts], \$288;

Brianna T. Palmer, 34, fail to provide proof of vehicle insurance, \$131.50;

Lane Drexel Schilling, 25, fail to register vehicle annually, \$67;

Leslie Renee Thompson, 45, fail to carry vehicle registration in vehicle, \$67; driving-stop sign and yield sign violations, \$90;

Elizabeth K. Tow, 17, alcoholic beverage-under 21 YOA unlawful to purchase, consume or possess, \$101;

sess, \$487.50;

Debbie M. Webb, 25, dogs running at large violation, \$72;

Taylor Reanne Whipple, 30, driving inattentive or careless, probation 3 months, \$200;

William Jared Wingfield, 42, fail to register vehicle annually, \$67.

Speeding:

Ethan Paul Anderberg, 26, \$90; Molly Elizabeth Birch, 22, \$155; Wade Lee Broncheau, 18, \$90; Blake Alexander Brussee, 24, \$155; Caleb Gavinhart Gordon, 21, \$155; Makkela Byrne Hubner, 22, \$155; Theron Jay Moore, 54, \$155; Tamara Ranee Morganroth, 62, \$90; Tyrell J. Pierce, 16, \$90; Jeremy John Pohlman, 37, fail to carry vehicle registration in vehicle, \$67; Reva Gay Reese, 59, \$155; Jeewanjot Singh, 24, \$155; Anilan Tao, 27, \$155; Daniel Lynn Wallace, 38, \$155; Lucas Patrick Wren, 18, \$155; Molly Michelle Zender, 39, \$90.

Civil Disposition:

Tammy Burke (plaintiff) vs. Hampton Northwest LLC dba: Hells Canyon Performance (defendant), \$6,731, default judgment in favor of Tammy Burke on Jan. 16, 2026.

Illegal deer, moose killings lead to jail time, lifetime hunting ban



Contributed photo / Idaho Fish and Game
Carl Van Loon pictured with unlawfully harvested moose, shot on his property.

A Cottonwood man was sentenced earlier this fall after Idaho Fish and Game officers uncovered multiple wildlife violations, including killing game out of season and illegally baiting animals in Idaho County.

At sentencing in Idaho County District Court, Carl R. Van Loon, 68, of Cottonwood a lifetime revocation of his hunting, fishing and trapping privileges, 10 days in jail and \$10,253 in civil penalties and fees for the unlawful moose. In total, the case involved six felony charges, nine misdemeanors and one infraction. As part of the plea deal, all deer-related charges were dismissed.

District Judge Adam Green withheld judgment in the matter, placing Van Loon on supervised felony probation for three years. If Van Loon satisfactorily completes the terms of his probation, the case will be dismissed.

According to Idaho Fish and Game (IFG), the case initiated in early October 2024 when a local rancher reported a suspicious cardboard box found along a backcountry road. Deer season had not yet opened, and an IFG officer responded and found the blood-soaked box contained a freshly skinned deer hide, legs and hooves. A shipping label on the box listed a local address.

The officer went to the address and contacted the property owner, Carl Van Loon, who initially denied ownership of the box. After being shown the shipping label, Van Loon said the box belonged to his address, but claimed someone else must have taken it from a dumpster in Cottonwood, more than 22 miles away, and dumped it near his property. The officer said the explanation was unlikely and told Van Loon he

believed deer meat from the same animal would be found in his coolers. Van Loon then admitted he had killed the deer 12 days before the season opened and without a valid Idaho license or tags. The officer seized the deer meat and antlers and issued citations for littering and unlawful possession of a deer taken during a closed season.

The following day, the same officer heard a large-caliber gunshot near Van Loon's property and received similar reports from neighbors. While checking the area, the officer found a hunting blind and what was identified as an active bait site, including a salt block, water trough, feeder with hay and a feed bin containing a molasses-like mixture of oats and grains. Baiting deer and elk is illegal in Idaho. A search warrant was served at Van Loon's residence, where officers found additional baiting materials. Photos and text messages on Van Loon's phone showed evidence of multiple deer taken out of season and a closed season unlawfully killed moose from Unit 13. Messages indicated bait was placed to harvest deer illegally and included instructions to avoid discussing the animals.

In an IFG statement: "The truth is that Idaho's wildlife belongs to all of us. By taking game illegally, Carl was stealing wildlife from his neighbors who enjoyed viewing them. Carl Van Loon was stealing the chance for Idaho sportspersons to be allowed a legal opportunity for fair and ethical chase under Idaho's game laws."

Sentencing was held Nov. 3, 2025. Prosecuting the case was Brennan Wright, and Van Loon was defended by attorney Samuel Harrich.

Garden Clippings

Winter composting is simple

You may be thinking that I am suggesting that we should all be outside turning and mixing outdoor compost piles, all winter long. On the contrary, my dear reader, as I am not a winter gardener. I am perfectly content to wait until the warmth of spring; however, it would be a waste of materials if we didn't continue to pile it on all winter. There are so many compostable inputs that are available at our fingertips all year, even in winter. All we need to do is gather them to place them in a hand-dug hole in our compost pile, make sure they are covered by some handy brown material, like leaves or pine needles.

I am confident that most of you have a small tin or plastic bucket in



Linda
MORRISON
Garden Clippings

your kitchen to gather food waste. Perhaps you even removed the garbage disposal that was installed when you purchased your home. Everything from carrot and potato peelings to leftover coffee at the bottom of the pot, to that last bit of salad or broccoli, or the corner of a crust of bread goes in that bucket. Nothing goes in the garbage bin except extra plastic containers and tin cans, plastic advertisements and shiny magazines; they will neither burn in the wood stove nor break down in the compost pile. Plastic containers take from 20 to

1,000 years to break down into microplastics, which will persist in the environment for centuries.

Do you save the water from cooking vegetables like broccoli or asparagus for adding to soups? If not, all those nutrients would give your compost a boost. Do you have a wood-burning fireplace? There are probably some little wood pieces around the wood pile or the wood stove when you sweep. Those make excellent brown inputs and will break down into compost in no time.

Do you make your own coffee, or do you drink a cup of tea each morning or an herbal variety in the evening? All the coffee grounds and tea bags are great for the compost. What about that pile of fur after you brushed your dog or other pet? Or your spouse's hair clippings, when you trim his/her hair?

What about fish skeletons or bones? Does

somebody in your house spend hours down at the river trying to hook a keeper? That's a lot of time and effort, so you don't want to waste a bit of it. Bury the fish skeleton a little deeper in your pile. You don't want to learn that some critter came prowling around to dig it up. We have never had that happen, but you don't want to take the chance. When it is eventually time to harvest the compost and carry it by the bucket to the garden beds, I occasionally find a sliver of a bone, but nothing more.

Keep your eyes and your mind open to continue to collect new inputs: that dead bouquet of flowers, old houseplant soil when you repotted it, dryer lint, feathers, pieces of thread or yarn, outdated supplements (but no prescription drugs), ashes from the woodstove (but only very minimally) and sprinkle on; they tend to clump. You get the picture! Keep going



Free Press / Linda Morrison

Lots of winter inputs for the compost, including kitchen waste, dryer lint, torn paper bag, dead houseplant, leaves and old potting soil.

all winter.

Linda Morrison, a University of Washington graduate, lives in K-
miah with her husband, Jim. They enjoy gardening, canning, camping, berry picking and spending time with their grandchildren.

Beef industry seeing high demand, growth in last two decades

By Lyn Krzeminski
Idaho County Free Press

COTTONWOOD — "If your cattle all have names, you're probably in more of a hobby than a business. My rule is, if you have fewer than 20 head of cattle, you can name them," said University of Idaho's (U of I) Dr. Phil Bass, humorously opening a class on today's beef industry.

With a combination of academic knowledge, years of work experience in the business, and a teacher's skill for entertaining, Bass, a faculty member of the U of I's Veterinary and Food Sciences Department, conducted the U of I Extension class for about 35 local cattle-raising residents of Idaho County in Cottonwood, Jan. 21.

Topics included the rise in average carcass size, identification of meat grading based on fat marbling, and a hands-on demonstration of cutting rib-eye steaks. He noted that beef is enjoying one of its strongest markets in years. ("You guys remember 2009? You need a big drink to forget 2009!").

Bass then moved into genetics, explaining why cattle don't always fit a textbook description, even within the same breed. He cited the case of one of his own purebred black Angus



Free Press / Lyn Krzeminski

Phil Bass, U of I Department of Veterinary and Food Sciences, demonstrates cutting rib-eye steaks.

to determine whether the cut is designated as prime, choice, or select (with even more grades within those categories).

The class concluded with Bass wielding a couple of very sharp knives to slice a

large slab of meat into rib-eye steaks.

Surprisingly, in light of extremely high beef prices today, he told the gathering that consumption has not gone down and demand remains unchanged, and



Free Press / Lyn Krzeminski

A young cattleman engages with Dr. Phil Bass at the Jan. 21 beef class in Cottonwood.

"people are paying the prices." It is a very good time to be raising beef!

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NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE

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The Train Station, Suite 201
13th and Main Streets
P.O. Drawer 285
Lewiston, Idaho 83501
Telephone: (208) 743-9516
darla@clarkandfeeney.com

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF IDAHO

In the Matter of the Application for the Change of Name of

TANESSA RENE WHITE,

An adult.

Case No. CV25-26-0017

NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE

A Petition to change the name of Tanessa Rene White, now residing in the City of Stites, State of Idaho, has been filed in the District Court in Idaho County, Idaho.

The name will change will be to Tanessa Rene Alces.

A hearing on the petition is scheduled for **March 4, 2026, at 8:45 a.m.** at the Idaho County Courthouse. Objections may be filed by any person who can show the court a good reason against the name change.

DATED This 12TH day of January, 2026.

CLARK AND FEENEY, LLP

By: W. Jeremy Carr

Attorney for Petitioner

(JAN21-FEB11)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ROAD VACATION

Grangeville Highway District
TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held before the Grangeville Highway District Board of Commissioners to consider the declaration of certain real property in the SW1/4SW1/4 of Section 24, Township 30 North, Range 3 East, Boise Meridian, Idaho County, Idaho.

The date, time and location of the hearing are as follows:

Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Place: Grangeville Highway District Shop

N. Hill & A Streets
Grangeville, ID 83530
Phone: 208.983.2880

A copy of the petition and any supporting papers may be viewed by contacting the District at 208.983.2880.

Dated this 13th day of January, 2026.

By: Jeff Wilkins
Jeff Wilkins, GHD Board Chairman
(JAN28-FEB4)

SOLICITATION FOR BIDS FOR SURPLUS PROPERTY

The Board of Commissioners of Grangeville Highway District have declared surplus the following property and will sell the same by sealed bids:

Mack CL-700 Dump Truck
Items will be sold "as-is where is". For information about the item or to inspect the same, contact John Bentley at the District building or phone (208) 983-2880.

Sealed bids will be opened at the meeting of Commissioners, Thursday February 12, 2026 at 7:30 am at the District shed, 840 North A Street Grangeville, Idaho. Mail bids to Joe Forssmann, Clerk of the Board, P.O. Box 269, Grangeville, Idaho 83530 or deliver to 840 North A Street, Grangeville, Idaho. Bids may be hand delivered at the time and place of opening bids. The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Terms are cash or bankable check at time of pickup.

Published in the Idaho County Free Press
(JAN28-FEB4)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REQUEST FOR WAIVER

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held before the Idaho County Commissioners, pursuant to Articles III(A) and IX of the Idaho County Subdivision Ordinance No. 70 on the Application for Subdivision Waiver filed by Moei Woen Rupp to provide legal separation of the parcel described below.

Twilegar Addition Amend #2, Tract 2-A

The hearing will be held on:

DATE: Tuesday, February 10, 2026

TIME: 10:30 a.m.

PLACE: Commissioners' Room, Idaho County Courthouse, 320 West Main, Grangeville, Idaho

A copy of the Application for Subdivision Waiver with supporting papers and complete legal description is available for inspection at the Idaho County

Clerk's Office, Idaho County Courthouse, 320 W. Main Street, Grangeville, ID 83530, during normal business hours.

Kathy M. Ackerman, Clerk Idaho County Commissioners
(JAN28)

Legal Notice

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

11-12049

DOREL ANTIMIE

527 AURORA DR

NAMPA, ID 83686-8296

LIGIA ANTIMIE

527 AURORA DR

NAMPA, ID 83686-8296

Point of Diversion SESE S35

T32N R05E IDAHO County

Source SPRING, Tributary

sinks

Use: DOMESTIC

01/01 to 12/31

0.06 CFS

Total Diversion: 0.6 CFS

Date Filed: 9-25-2025

Place of Use: DOMESTIC

T32N R05E S35 SESE

Total Acres: 5

Permits will be subject to all prior water rights. For additional information concerning the property location, contact the Northern office at (208) 762-2800; or for a full description of the right(s), please see <https://research.idwr.idaho.gov/apps/waterrights/wrapPLICATIONRESULTS>. Protests may be submitted based on the criteria of Idaho Code § 42-203A. Any protest against the approval of this application must be filed with the Director, Dept. of Water Resources, Northern Region, 7600 N MINERAL DR STE 100, COEUR D'ALENE ID 83815-7763 together with a protest fee of \$25.00 for each application on or before 2/9/2026. The protestant must also send a copy of the protest to the applicant.

MATHEW WEAVER, Director
(JAN21-JAN28)

NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE

Josiah James Smith-Iselin
204 Vrieling Rd
Grangeville, ID 83530

208-451-3705

iselinjosiah@gmail.com

IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

FOR THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF Idaho

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF IDAHO

In the Matter of the Estate of Richard C. Davis, Deceased.

Case No.: CV25-25-0620

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Wilma Woods, whose address is

Wilma Woods c/o Kirsch &

Clark, PLLC, PO Box 9384, has been appointed Personal Representative of the estate of

Richard C. Davis, who died on

September 21, 2025.

Creditors of the estate are hereby notified to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or be forever barred.

Claims must be presented to the Personal Representative at the address above and filed with the Clerk of the District Court.

Dated: 1/21/2026

Signed: Forrest Millikin

Forrest Millikin, Attorney for

Personal Representative

(JAN21-FEB4)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

KIRK A. MacGREGOR, ISB

MacGregor Law Office

416 W. Main

P.O. Box 463

Grangeville, ID 83530

(208) 983-0250

(208) 983-3919 - Fax

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF IDAHO

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE

of

MARILYN FORSMANN,

Deceased.

Case No.: CV25-26-0024

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned have been appointed the joint co-personal representatives of the above

entitled estate. All persons

having claims against the said

deceased are required to pres-

ent their claims within four (4)

IN RE: Josiah James Smith-Iselin

Case No. CV25-26-0013

NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE

(Adult or Emancipated Minor)

A Petition to change the name of Josiah James Smith-Iselin, now residing in the City of Grangeville, State of Idaho, has been filed in the District Court in Idaho County, Idaho. The name will change to Josiah James Iselin.

The reason for the change in name is: It's not necessary to have my mom's maiden name. Last name too long. I only want my dad's last name.

A hearing on the petition is scheduled for 9:00 o'clock a.m. on 2/11/2026 at the Idaho County Courthouse. Objections may be filed by any person who can show the court a good reason against the name change.

Date: 1-09-2026

CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT

Alicia Jones

By: Alicia Jones

Deputy Clerk

(JAN14-FEB4)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO,

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF IDAHO,

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE

OF

ARNOLD MARVIN CHERIN,

Deceased.

Case No. CV25-25-0625

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that the undersigned has been

appointed the Personal Repre-

sentatives of the above

entitled estate. All persons

having claims against the said

deceased are required to pres-

ent their claims within four (4)

months after the date of the

first publication of this notice

or said claims will be forever

barred. Claims must be pre-

sent to MACGREGOR LAW,

LLC., 416 West Main, P. O. Box

463, Grangeville, Idaho 83530

and filed with the Court.

DATED this 16th day of January, 2026.

/s/ Eric S. Forssmann

ERIC S. FORSMANN

/s/ Mark B. Forssmann

MARK B. FORSMANN

**Linda
MORT**

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lmort@idahocountyfreepress.com

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Help Wanted
 Idaho County Recorder's Office is accepting applications for a full-time (37.5 hours/week) deputy clerk. Minimum requirements include high school diploma or GED, proficiency in typing and general office skills. Position requires attention to detail and ability to work with the public. Starting wage is \$16.00 per hour, plus benefits. An employment application can be found at www.idahocounty.org. Send completed application to Idaho County Clerk Kathy Ackerman, 320 West Main St., Room 5, Grangeville ID 83530 or kackerman@idahocounty.org no later than February 6. Position is open until filled. Idaho County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Miscellaneous

NEW HP 950 Black Ink Cartridge. Bought new printer and can't use this cartridge. Paid \$44.00 (at Staples), will sell for \$25. Call 208-983-1200, ask for Linda.

Miscellaneous Wanted
 WANTED TO BUY
 Used Furniture, Appliances, Guns, Tools, TVs & much more! We buy one piece to whole estates! B&B Bargain, 104 E South St, Grangeville. 208-983-0381.
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SET OF 4 2013 Factory Chevy 2500 18" 8-hole rims with good snow tires, \$400. Call 208-935-8772.

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25 FT. JAYCO travel trailer with 10 ft. slide, propane or electric refrigerator. Rarely used. Has skylight and vent in bathroom. \$12,000 or best offer. Call 208-519-8056 for details.

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Dennis Rowland 208-983-7400

Brent Rowland 208-451-4415 Jim Church - Field Rep. 208-983-7365

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Flat Fender Jeep, 1948 CJ2A, new top, green color. Call 208-507-0796.

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MLS#98945157. **\$675,000** for house and 227 acres or **\$749,900** for house and all 429 acres. Note: Additional land not sold separately without house selling first. One of the finest views in the country here can be enjoyed from this beautiful custom home, overlooking the Salmon River Canyon and surrounding mountain ranges. Features are huge wrapped around deck, wonderful interior woodwork, spacious master bedroom, Country Charm! There's a nice 36x48 shop, large doors, complete with a reloading room and target range right out the door! Fruit trees, garden area, woodshed, neat and clean, well loved! #25-004. **\$749,900 or \$675,000.**

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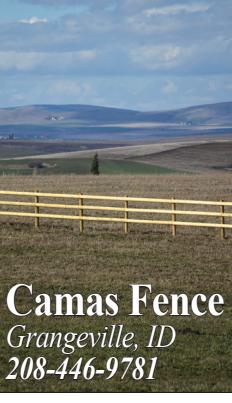
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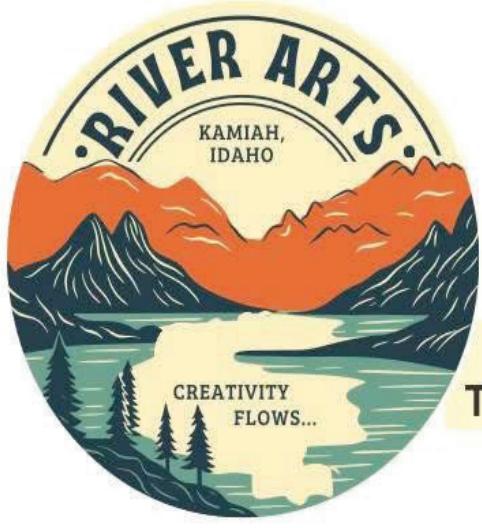

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January-March 2026

January 10

Create a Vision Board, 10 a.m. to noon

January 17

Mosaic Ornaments, 10 a.m. to noon

January 24

Stumpwork: Sculptural Embroidery,
10 a.m. to noon

January 31

Create a Sanity Journal, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



March 7

Ceramic Coil Pots, 10 a.m. to noon

March 14

Needle Felting: Easter Bunny, 10 a.m. to noon

March 21

Spring Poetry Workshop: Finding Voice in
Bloom, 10 a.m. to noon



February 7

How Do I Love Thee?
A Love Poetry Workshop, 10 a.m. to noon

February 10-March 3

Watercolor Classes, Tuesdays

Beginner: 10 a.m. to noon,
Advanced 12:30 to 2:30

February 14

Introduction to Traditional Beading,
10 a.m. to noon

February 21

Decorative Tiles With Fusion Paint,
10 a.m. to noon

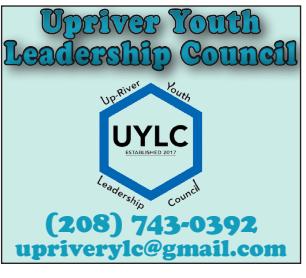
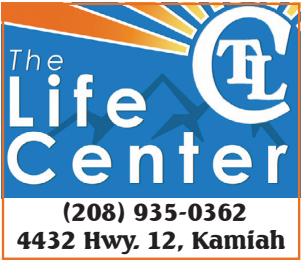
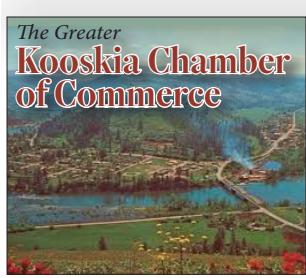
February 28

Pine Needle Baskets, 10 a.m. to noon

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Would your organization benefit by a feature on this monthly Community Activity Page?

Submit your fresh photographs and organization information to:
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Jeri Cox

YOUTH IN FOCUS

For the seventh year in a row, the Free Press is taking the opportunity to interview youth throughout the community. We identify these stories under the heading "Youth in Focus," not simply because we are highlighting them, but also because their thoughts, plans, ideas and niche in their communities is, indeed, in focus. We hope you enjoy the stories that shine a light on some of our area youth and their insights, hopes and goals.



Jeri Cox is a senior at Grangeville High School.
Free Press / Lorie Palmer

Science, music, drama at the top of her favorites list

By Lorie Palmer
Idaho County Free Press

GRANGEVILLE — Tentative, thoughtful, kind and well-spoken could all be terms used to describe 18-year-old Grangeville High School senior Jeri Cox. She might add a different word.

"I'm definitely kind of shy," she smiled.

Jeri, the daughter of Frank Cox of Grangeville and Amanda Shriver of Orofino, is named after her grandfather, Jerry Cox.

Although she is the youngest of seven siblings, she is one of the oldest in her class, she said. Part of this is due to her repeating kindergarten. That is when they found out she had a challenge in processing information.

"So, I have an IEP and a 504," she explained. An IEP (individualized

education plan) is for students who qualify for special education services and the 504 plan makes sure there is equal access to education through a variety of accommodations. An example of this for Jeri is her comprehension.

"I comprehend and process best if I can read and hear the words, as well, at the same time," she said.

What others might consider to be a disability has not stopped the honor roll student. Her favorite academic class at GHS is science and she plans to attend Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston this fall and begin taking prerequisites that will lead her into the veterinary medicine field.

"I've always liked and had pets," she said. "I did my senior project as a job shadow at Tolo Veterinary Clinic." There, she was able to learn hands-on as she

viewed and assisted with procedures and pet checkups and emergencies.

"I really liked it," she smiled.

Jeri is quick to give credit to the many people at GHS who have been there for her to assist her throughout school.

"There's always someone willing to help," she said.

She loves her choir class and has been singing with Ms. Carla since kindergarten. She gives kudos to family and consumer sciences teacher Ms. Johnson for being available for most anything.

"She is just the perfect person for the job — and she doesn't make a big deal if you don't know something. If you need to learn how to do laundry or cook or sew and it's not in the regular class or you're not in the class, she says, 'Come in after school. Or before school. I'll

show you how to do it,'" Jeri said.

She places her parents at the top of her mentor list, as well as her Aunt Loni Woodford-Cox.

"Now, I'm kind of an Uber for her boys," she laughed.

Jeri has been in drama all four years of high school, and looks forward to her upcoming part as Mirium Throkmorten in "Two Heads Are Better Than One."

"I get nervous, but it's also really exciting and fun," she said.

In all, Jeri said her school experience has been a positive one and she looks forward to the future.

"I think my time here has set me up with the skills I need to succeed, so, even though it will be a little scary at first, I look forward to the future," Jeri smiled.

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CRIME BRIEFS

Joyce, Metzger arrested on felony possession charges

LOWELL — On Jan. 18, at approximately 11:18 p.m., an Idaho County deputy was conducting traffic safety enforcement on U.S. Highway 12.

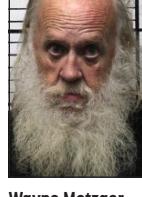


Elizabeth Joyce

He stopped a red SUV near milepost 97 at Lowell for expired license plates.

While speaking with the driver, K9 Millie arrived and alerted on the vehicle.

Elizabeth Joyce, 56, was arrested for felony possession of methamphetamine, misdemeanor possession of marijuana and misdemeanor possession of paraphernalia.



Wayne Metzger

Wayne Metzger, 61, was arrested for felony unlawful possession of a firearm, misdemeanor possession of marijuana and misdemeanor possession of paraphernalia.

In an ICSO statement: "This arrest demonstrates our commitment to traffic safety enforcement and addressing drug possession that endangers public safety on Idaho County roadways."

Kooskia man faces new felony charges related to witness intimidation

A Kooskia man waiting trial on a felony lewd conduct charge is now facing additional felony charges alleging he attempted to intimidate witnesses in the case.

William Smith, 36, is charged with two counts of intimidation of a witness and two counts of conspiracy to commit intimidation of a witness, all felonies, according to a criminal complaint filed Jan. 16 in Idaho County District Court.

Court records allege the offenses occurred between Dec. 17, 2025, and Jan. 5, 2026, and involved attempts to influence or interfere with witnesses connected to Smith's underlying criminal case. Prosecutors allege Smith engaged in communications intended to affect

testimony and cooperation with law enforcement.

The new charges stem from an investigation by the Idaho County Sheriff's Office

Smith was originally arrested on Sept. 27, 2025, on a charge of felony lewd conduct with a minor child under 16, following an investigation that began that August. That charge remains a separate case and is referenced in the new filings as the underlying matter tied to the alleged witness intimidation.

The charges listed are allegations at the time of arrest. All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Current case status and final dispositions are available through Idaho Supreme Court's public records at [https://portalidaho.tylertech.cloud/odysseyportal/Home/](https://portalidaho.tylertech.cloud/odysseyportal/Home/Dashboard/29) Dashboard/29. Victims can sign up for custody notifications at <https://www.vinelink.com/vinelink/initMap.do>.



William Smith

What a cutie!



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Kordell helping Mom check and feed the cows. Age 2.

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Photos should be high resolution with a description and name of person submitting the photo.

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LOCAL NEWS MATTERS.

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ABUNDANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
319 East Main Street
Grangeville, ID 83530
208-983-1538 or 208-451-6262
George Castell & Melitta Gates, Pastors
WEDNESDAY 6:00 P.M.
Women's Study, Men's Study, Youth Group
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.
WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 A.M.

GRANGEVILLE

GRANGEVILLE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
 N. 4th and Junction
Grangeville, ID 83530
CHURCH PHONE 208-983-0955
Sunday School 9:30 am
Sunday Worship 10:45 am
Contact Josh Burnson 208-507-3387
www.grangevillercrc.weebly.com

GRANGEVILLE

HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
311 S. Hall at E.S. 2nd
GRANGEVILLE, ID
Reverend Chris Hagenbuch
(cell: 208-451-0645)
Sundays 10:00 a.m.
Holy Communion
Email: cbholytrinity@hotmail.com

KAMIAH

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1115 Idaho Street • Kamiah, ID
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Bible-Believing
Family of Grace
Sunday School at 8:45am
1st Service 9am • 2nd Service 11am • Potluck brunch 10am
Childrens Church and Nursery available during service
Youth Group at 12:15pm
Wednesday evening Bible study/Potluck starting at 6:00pm
Office phone number: 208-802-0414 gracebiblekamiah.com

KAMIAH

The Life Center
"Making Life Better"
4432 Hwy. 12
(208) 935-0362
Visit us at www.lfc4me.cc
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:10 a.m. Sunday Worship
Life Groups - various days
Impact youth ministry and much more
Senior Pastor, Arby Shown

KAMIAH

Pine Ridge Baptist Church
108 Pine Road, Kamiah (208) 935-2360
SUNDAYS
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Worship 11 AM
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
Bible Study & Prayer 6 PM
Pastor Brian Neilson
www.prbc-id.org

KOOSKIA

Gateway Christian Fellowship
 A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians
Sunday School 10 AM
Church 11 AM
Praise & Prayer
Wednesday 7 PM
Bible Study Tuesday 4:30 PM
Moms & Dads in prayer Tues. 4:30pm
208-935-5744
501 Idaho St., Kooskia

Centennial Evangelical Free Church

408 N. College
Grangeville, ID 83530
208-983-0231
Sunday Service
10:00 am-11:30 am.
Children's Church
10:00 am.
Pastor Travis Jackson

GRANGEVILLE

GRANGEVILLE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
403 N. Boulevard
Grangeville, Idaho
Church office, 208-983-2110
Bishop Cory Smith
208-507-5399
Sacrament Meeting, 10 a.m.; Sunday School, 11:05 a.m., every 1st and 3rd Sundays, Priesthood and Relief Society Meetings, 11:05 a.m., every 2nd and 4th Sundays. Youth activity night, Wed., 7:00 p.m. Children's Primary, every Sunday at 11:05 a.m.
Visitors to all meetings are welcome.

STS. PETER & PAUL PARISH

Pastor Father Anthony Amadi
MASSES:
Grangeville: Saturday 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m.
White Bird: Saturday 9:00 a.m.
Nezperce: Sunday 10:00 a.m.
318 South B St
Grangeville, ID 208-983-0403

Bible Believers Fellowship

That Of Time Religion
Old Hymns - Old Bible
Sunday 10:30 a.m. - Expository Preaching
Wednesday 6:30 p.m. - Hymn Singing, Bible Study in Proverbs, Question & Answer Time
Kamiah Sr. Center
125 N. Maple St.
Anthony 208-400-0350
10:30 a.m. Sundays

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

3366 Willow St., Bethel Addition (208) 935-8352
Saturday Services
9:30 a.m. - Sabbath School
11:30 a.m. - Worship Service
Prayer Meeting
5 p.m. Wednesdays
Vespers 5:00 PM Friday
Pastor Steve Rogers (208) 827-4846 kamiahadventist.org

CLEARWATER

Clearwater First Baptist Church
158 Clearwater Main Street
208 926-7058 leave name & number
Sunday School 9:45 am
Worship 11 am
Intercessory Prayer & Bible study Wed. 6pm
1st Wed. Community luncheon noon
1st Friday prayer & visit 10-12 noon
Pastor Don Starn

CITY GATES CHURCH OF GOD

121 E.N. 2nd St
GRANGEVILLE, ID
Sunday at 11:00AM
and on
Wednesdays at 7:00PM
PASTOR
PAUL AND MINDY BALDWIN

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Highway 95 North
Church Phone 208-983-2705
Pastor Steve Rogers
(208) 827-4846
Saturday Services:
Bible Study 11:30am
Worship Service 10am.
Community Prayer
Tuesdays at 11:30am-1pm
Prayer Meeting
1st & 3rd Wed. at 6pm
Celebration Life in Recovery
Thursdays at 6pm-8pm

Trinity Lutheran Church

- Missouri Synod
Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School/Bible Study at 11:00 am.
Listen to the Lutheran Hour Sundays at 8:00 a.m. on www.lutheranhour.org
Pastor Steven Naylor
210 N. Mill St.
Grangeville, ID 208-983-0562

Community Presbyterian

1st & 3rd Sunday • 9:00 a.m.
(208) 553-0395
7th & Hill Street • Kamiah
Faith Lutheran Church
2nd & 4th Sunday • 9:00 a.m.
Men's 7:00 a.m. (at Bakery), Women's 10:00 a.m.
(208) 553-0395
6th & Idaho Street • Kamiah

St. Catherine's Catholic Church

7th & Idaho St., Kamiah
SUNDAY MORNING MASS, 8 A.M.
Father Bruno Mbamobi, SMMM
(208) 935-2130

Kamiah Bible Church

521 10th St., Kamiah
(208) 935-0146
Pastor Ed Stutmann
SUNDAYS
Sunday School, 9:45am
Worship Service, 11am
THURSDAYS
Bible Study & Prayer, 6:00pm
Kamiah Bible Academy (208) 935-2100

"Knowing Him & Making Him Known" View Church of the Nazarene

Sunday Service Times:
Sunday School - 9:30 am
Morning Worship - 11:00 am (Nursery & Children's Church Available)
Sunday Bible Study - 6:00 pm
Prayer Meeting / Men's Fellowship
Women's Studies / Youth Group
Pastor Kevin at 208-935-2343
102 N Front St, Hwy 12, MP 69.5
www.vvnazchurch.org

COTTONWOOD

Emmanuel Baptist Church
404 Foster, Cottonwood 208-962-7244
Pastor Dan Coburn
Sunday School for all ages at 8:45 AM
Sunday Worship is at 10 AM & 7 PM
Youth meet at 6:30 - 8 PM on Thursday nights
The AWANA Club meets every Wednesday night at 6:30 to 8 PM congruent with the school year.
Adult bible study is Wednesday night from 7-8 PM

STITES

Gospel Lighthouse Church of God
406 Main ~ Stites, ID 208-926-4766
Pastor Troy Hall, Jr.
Sunday Morning Worship
10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship
6:00 p.m.

Trinity Reformed Baptist Church

Sunday Worship - 10 a.m.
4313 Highway 13, Stites, ID
[www.trbcidaho.com](http://trbcidaho.com)
Pastor Eric Botzel (406) 956-0064

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Northwest Church

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Pastor Warren M. Campbell
Phone: 208-561-1609

Faith

daring the soul to go beyond what the eye can see.

Kubs face losses and a win in three games

By Hannah Hale
Idaho County Free Press

The Kamiah High School women's basketball team, led by head coach Shelby Cloninger, faced three teams last week, losing to the Lapwai Wildcats and the Genesee Bulldogs, and scoring a victory in an away game against the Kendrick Tigers on Jan. 24.

During an away game against the Wildcats on Jan. 20, the Kubs lost with a final score of 59-30. Cloninger called this game a "big eye opener for us in

terms of focus."

"We were up 8-3 and they were executing our game plan perfectly. Our focus was beating the press by pushing the ball up the floor and limiting dribbles. We did that for about four minutes, and then Lapwai pulled off their press and we lost our heads," said Cloninger.

"We really struggled with their half-court press. Too many turnovers, and we never really came back from that."

The next day, after only having one practice

after the Lapwai game, the Kubs played a home game against the Genesee Bulldogs on Jan. 21, with a nail biting 37-36 final.

"You would have thought we were a completely different team. They played with fire and energy. They locked in on defense, executed offensively," said Cloninger.

"We ended up losing by one, but I told the girls, 'You know things are starting to click when a loss feels like a win.' I can see the determination again. We never want to feel the way we

felt after the Lapwai game again," said Cloninger.

After a strain to a ligament in her knee kept her out for six weeks, senior Emma Krogh rejoined the team on Jan. 23 at Kendrick, where the Kubs defeated them in overtime 50-48.

"Emma Krogh's first game back, and man, does she make a difference," said Cloninger.

"It is nice to rely on her to make a play, but we can't have the girls reverting back to only relying on her," said Cloninger.



Free Press / Hannah Hale

Kamiah's Rainbow Moses (left) and Jackie Davis discuss strategy between plays during a home game Jan. 15.

a final home game against the Potlatch Loggers on Saturday, Jan. 31, at 1 p.m.

BRIEFS

GHS to honor longtime basketball clock volunteer Doug Carver tonight

GRANGEVILLE — Grangeville High School will honor longtime GEMS math teacher Doug Carver tonight, Jan. 28, at 6:45 p.m. in the GHS gym. Carver has given 45 years of service running the scoreboard and clocks at GHS.

Spring turkey hunt applications open Feb. 1

Hunters looking to apply for the Idaho 2026 spring controlled turkey hunts can apply Feb. 1 to March 1.

Hunters must have a 2026 hunting license to apply for controlled hunts, and there is a nonrefundable application fee of \$6.25 for residents and \$18 for nonresidents. Successful applicants will be notified no later than March 20. Hunters with a valid email address on file will be notified via email. Any leftover tags go on sale April 1. Apply online at GoOutdoorsIdaho.com, in-person by submitting applications at any license vendor location or a Fish and Game office or

call 1-800-554-8685.

Hunter's ed class Feb. 2-14

GRANGEVILLE — A hunter education class will be at the Grangeville Elks Lodge, Monday-Thursday, 6-8:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday, Feb. 2-14. Class is for ages 9 and older, class size limited to 20. Fee is \$9.75, register to attend idfg.idaho.gov/hunt/education. For information, call Roy Kinner at 208-983-8443.

Pathfinders banquet, auction is Feb. 28

GRANGEVILLE — The Idaho Pathfinders Association will hold a dinner with live and silent auctions, games and prizes on Saturday, Feb. 28, at the Grangeville Elks Club, 111 S. Meadow Street; doors open at 5 p.m., dinner is at 6 p.m. Cost is \$40 per person (get tickets before they sell out), purchase eight tickets to reserve a table. For information or tickets, call Dave Thompson at 208-413-2294, Todd Stenzel at 208-983-6033 or Bill Spencer at 208-983-6393.

Holman District Hoop Shoot Champ

After winning her 12-13-year-old girls bracket during the local Grangeville competition, Mackenzie Holman of Grangeville went on to also win the district Hoop Shoot title in Moscow Jan. 17, sinking 15 of her 25 free throw shots. Next, she advances with the other first-place finishers to the Idaho State Hoop Shoot to be held in Wallace Feb. 7.

Contributed photo
Full districts results included a great



showing by Grangeville youth in every category: BOYS: 12-to-13 — 1. Cohen Gimlin, Heights, 21-25; 2. Easton Bruegeman, Grangeville, 19-25; 3. Maxwell Chase, St. Maries, 18-25. 10-to-11 — 1. Slade Shelden, Heights, 23-25; 2. Byron Maynard, Grangeville, 16-25; 3. Hayes Robertson, Moscow, 16-25. 8-to-9 — 1. Driggs Sexton, St. Maries, 25-25; 2. Trace Shelden, Heights, 21-25; 3. Lincoln Jones, Grangeville, 20-25. GIRLS: 12-to-13 — Mackenzie Holman, Grangeville, 15-25; 2. Hope Whitford, St. Maries, 13-25; 3. Hannah Titus, Cornerstone. 10-to-11 — 1. Aria Rickman, Lapwai, 12-25; 2. Hailey Frei, Grangeville, 11-25; 3. Juliana Harner, Moscow, 11-25. 8-to-9 — 1. Piper Zumwalt, Camelot, 13-25; Maguire Sperber, St. Maries, 13-25; 3. Maci Arnen, Grangeville, 5-25.

BOWLING

Camas Lanes (Week 20) Monday Morning Mixed — Teams: Pin Pals 49, Misfits 34, Lady Eagles 53, All Stars 24. High Games & Series: Doug Halbert 186, Lynn Sonnen 484, Denis Casey 216-586, Jinny Cash 135-360.

Camas Lanes (Week 19) Sunday Mixed — Teams: Bowling Stones 50, LL&M 46, Laughing 10 Pins 46, Pin Pickers 40, Early Risers 38½, RAD 37, 2G&S 34, Mixed Nuts 28½. High Games & Series: Denis Casey 203, Sam McDow 208, 214-573, Abbie Hudson 196, Doug McRoberts 471, Heath Bradford 219-604, Cheyenne Hudson 205-214-615, William Patton 158-381, Mike Salancy 198, Paul Gilmore 508, Paul York 199-568, Mike Sonnen 214, 221-619. Thursday Merchants — Teams: B&B Bargains 13, Quality Heating 10, Granville Glass 10, Big John's Tackle 10, Camas Lanes 8, Walco, Inc. 6, Cash & Carry 4, Les Schwab Tires 3. High Games & Series:

Ray Jones 204, Denis Casey 548, Randy Fischer 169-497, Chase Bentley 203-555, Mike Wilsey 190, Mike Sonnen 530, Shawn Shaw 225-539, Lee Meisner 202, 222-623, Lane Pilant 190-552, Colten Pilant 197, Ty Paul 512.

Friday Night Mixed — Teams: River Rats 14, Turkey Hunters 11, Melinda's Minions 9, Bowling Stones 6. High Games & Series: Cheyenne Hudson 204-566, Mike Sonnen 201, 214-608, Denis Casey 193-534, Doug McRoberts 229-537.

Camas Lanes (Week 18) Tuesday Night Women's — Teams: Gortsema Motors 32, Finley Tree Service 38, Bye 26, Quality Heating 41, Inland Cellular 36, Super 8 30, Cross Continuous Rain Gutters 48, Triangle Tavern 35. High Games & Series: Meloni Gortsema 166-438, Paige Jarvis 150-403, Joni Bullock 202-430, Alta Clark 170-465, Jessica Adams 143-370, Yvette Wilde 175-471, Deidria Burgess 125-348.

GUN CLUB RESULTS

Cottonwood Gun Club

(Week 3) 51 shooters. Top: 25-Jacob Sisk; 24-Darrel Uhlorn, Derek Arnen, Clint Riner; 23-Derek Schaeffer, Philip Spencer, Bob Lustig, Dave Shears. Junior/High School Top 5: 22-Lane Mader; 21-Cooper Riner, Tate Uhlenkott; 19-Zane Duclos, Matt Frei.

Grangeville Gun Club

(Week 3) Singles: AA: 25-Brian Lorentz, 24-Bob Aiken; A: 24-Kyle Coonts, 23-Roy Schumacher, Brad Baker; B: 24-Bambi Baker, Brian Adams, Bryan Hayes, 23-Dale Wernhoff, Stephanie Bransford, Bill Stoltz; C: 23-Dillon Matson, 21-Cheryl Schumacher; D: 13-Ray Sluberski, 12-Nicole Coonts. Youth: 22-Colton Cox, Isaac Coursey; 20-Sean Blinn, Aiden Hayes, Cash Miller, Logan Palmer. Handicap: Short: 23-Bambi Baker, Kyle Coonts, Brett Hausladen, Shelia Davenport, 22-Matt Prewett, Mathew Bray; Mid: 23-Tim Schum-

acher, 21-Brad Baker, Jeff Coonts, Cody Vrieling; Long: 24-Brian Lorentz, 23-Dan Thompson. Doubles: A: 46-Dan Thompson, 45-Rod Behler; B: 41-Brett Hausladen, 36-Brad Baker; C: 40-Mark Baune, 38-Colton Thompson. Contingents: 22-Logan Schumacher, 21-Josh Bransford.

Kamiah Gun Club

(Week 3) 17 shooters. 24-Andy Hibbs, Ty Yates and Dave Woods. Junior: 15-August Trankle. Remember, the Kamiah Gun Club shoots trap every Sunday starting at 9 a.m. Everyone is welcome, even long-distance travelers. People are traveling far just to shoot at the Kamiah Gun Club, said an organizer.

White Bird Gun Club

(Week 3) 16 shooters. Top Scores: Shane Paul, Jake Prow, Clay Robinson-24s. Youth Scores: Trayven Sickels-21, Addison Kaschmitt-11, Jason Rupp-14.



Contributed photo / Kamiah Gun Club

L-R: Chase and Charlene Nuxoll, Amanda Davis and Denise Nuxoll of Cottonwood. These women slaughtered a huge number of clay pigeons. Chase and most of the other fellows said they were just being polite, letting the ladies clean their clocks with their scores.

WRESTLING:

Continued from 1B

one of the toughest tournament fields seen all season. The competition saw 660 total matches both Friday and Saturday, with 227 wrestlers competing including 32 women.

"Northern teams were represented well," said CV-O head coach Ian Anderson. "I'm happy with everybody's performance. It's a very hard, competitive tournament."

Examples of northern wrestlers doing well include Grangeville athletes Hollis Elliott with eight wins and two losses, Luke Stark with six wins and two losses, and Orrin Farmer with three wins

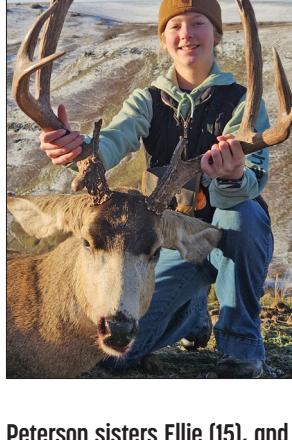
and three losses. For more results, see the links on the scoreboard on page 1B.

Northern teams included, but are not limited to, all Idaho County teams: CV-O, Kamiah, Grangeville and Prairie.

The event also served as a critical measuring stick for coaches and wrestlers alike. Facing opponents from the opposite end of the state—many of whom they may square off against again at the State Tournament—gave teams insight into what must be sharpened over the final stretch of the season.

"It's great for seeing what we need to work on before state," said Anderson.

Sisters Compete To Fill Freezer



Contributed photos / Luke Peterson

Peterson sisters Ellie (15), and Lizzy (13) harvested two mule deer bucks on the Camas Prairie two days apart from each other at the end of the season last month. "They both worked really hard hunting this year and I am incredibly proud of them for their perseverance," said the girls' father, Luke Peterson. "Ellie, a seasoned hunter, has taken bucks every year for the past five years, but this was Lizzy's first." Both taken in one shot, Ellie fired at 358 yards and Lizzy at 256 yards. "These two sisters had quite the rivalry going this year and the results speak for themselves," smiled Peterson. "Their uncle Jake unofficially scored the two bucks and the results were amazingly close, Ellie's scored 148 5/8" while Lizzy's scored 148 7/8", little sister won by 1/4". Hunting is the way we provide meat for our family, so we are always happy when God provides."

BULLDOG OF THE WEEK: Addisyn Vanderwall

Vanderwall consistent with multiple double-double games

By Dana Greig
Idaho County Free Press

GRANGEVILLE — Grangeville High School senior Addisyn Vanderwall, daughter of Mark and Jessica Vanderwall, is this week's Bulldog of the week for her recent performances against Timberlake and Kellogg.

Vanderwall had a team and career high 16 rebounds against Timberlake Jan. 23, followed by an outstanding offensive showing against Kellogg the next day, shooting 50% from the field, was

three for three in free throws, and racked up 11 rebounds, four assists and two steals.

"Addi is one of those kids who never gives up on a play and plays hard every single minute of the game," explained head coach Michelle Barger. "She has consistently been a dominant force on the boards."

Succeeding on both sides of the ball, Vanderwall said she enjoys defense the most.

"Our defense dictates our offense," explained Vanderwall.

"When we get the steals and the

good boards we run our offense a lot better."

Her goals for the rest of the year include winning districts and leaving everything she has on the court at state during her last high school performances.

"Our team is best at knowing our roles," explained Vanderwall, reflecting on this season. "Each of us contributes in a different way, being able to perform in that way is one of our team's biggest strengths."

Vanderwall will be honored among fellow seniors this Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at GHS.



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This Bulldog of the Week athlete highlight is brought to you by: P1FCU



Addisyn Vanderwall