



SNOW NEWS

Making It Snow!
PG 11



SUN VALLEY NEWS

Bald Mountain
PG 4



COMMUNITY NEWS

Joy That's Shared
PG 11

SUN VALLEY KETCHUM HAILEY



BELLEVUE PICABO CAREY

WOOD RIVER WEEKLY

YOUR VOICE IN THE WOOD RIVER VALLEY

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"If the world seems cold to you, kindle fires to warm it."
- Lucy Larcom

INDULGE IN CONTEMPORARY SOUTHERN CUISINE

Fundraising dinner supports SVCI Student Professional Fund

BY SABINA DANA PLASSE

Since the Sun Valley Culinary Institute (SVCI) opened its doors in March 2020, it has brought new life and interests in the culinary arts to the Wood River Valley. As a school, SVCI's one-year program, an on-site culinary arts education that includes working and paid restaurant experience to prepare students for a career in the food service industry, has successfully produced graduates working in the Valley today. A solution to a service industry issue that is not only a Wood River Valley problem but one across the nation, SVCI has also introduced a culinary culture to residents and visitors, elevating the mountain-town food and dining experience.

It has become a financial struggle for today's high school graduates to continue their education as the rising tuition and housing costs are daunting, while the need for culinary arts vocational education to provide competent workers in the food service industry is paramount.

"The two questions prospective students always ask me is how much it costs and if there is housing," said SVCI's executive director, Karl Uri. "We've been fortunate to work with the community and our supporters to provide housing and financial assistance, which has made SVCI an attractive learning environment for its one-year program. However, tuition and housing support continues and is a focus for SVCI."

Supporting the school and its role in the community, SVCI is a space for food lovers and those interested in culinary experiences to enrich their lives in Sun Valley. From cooking classes, food-inspired events and available space for private parties and occasions, SVCI has allowed food to become a centerpiece for celebrations and continuing education, all of which returns in funds to the school to keep it operating through SVCI's Student Professional Fund. The Fund supports enrolled students with educational needs and function for quality culinary education.

"SVCI has been able to provide a unique and hands-on education for its students, offering a culinary hub for those looking to enhance their lives through the culinary arts while visiting or living in the Valley," said Uri. "The idea of food tourism is a growing trend that fits our Sun Valley lifestyle and community. World-renowned chefs want to come to Sun Valley, and they provide food experiences that last beyond the chopping board and dinner table."

SVCI has brought James Beard Award-winning chefs to Sun Valley on several occasions. Students learn side-by-side from these masters as patrons enjoy unique and unforgettable dining experiences, often repeated as fundraising opportunities, allowing the chefs to return to Sun Valley to do more—it's a win-win for everyone involved.

As part of a series of fundraisers to support its Student Professional Fund, SVCI presents an extraordinary culinary and wine event on Friday, December 15, at 6 p.m. featuring an exceptionally crafted five-course dinner with James Beard Award-winning Chefs John Currence and Vish Bhatt, with select wines provided by Blackbird Vineyards of Napa Valley. This unique food experience will be a sensational epicurean event, limited to 30 guests.

On a rare occasion for food enthusiasts, SVCI has brought together two of the most innovative and extraordinary chefs in Southern cuisine whose expertise and forward-thinking culinary capabilities have made them world-renowned outside their home and restaurants in Oxford, Mississippi, a contemporary Southern food mecca.

Chef John Currence settled in Oxford, Mississippi, and in 1992 opened City Grocery. Since then, the City Grocery Restaurant Group has opened Bouré, Big Bad Breakfast, and Snackbar. In 2009, Currence received the James Beard Award for Best Chef South. In addition,



The Sun Valley Culinary Institute presents an extraordinary culinary and wine event on Friday, December 15, at 6 p.m. featuring an exceptionally crafted five-course dinner with James Beard Award-winning Chefs John Currence and Vish Bhatt. Photo courtesy: Sun Valley Culinary Institute

he won the Charleston Food and Wine Festival's Iron Chef Challenge in 2009 and was a Top Chef Masters contestant for season three. Currence is the author of three best-selling books: Pickles, Pigs and Whiskey, Big Bad Breakfast and Tailgreat.

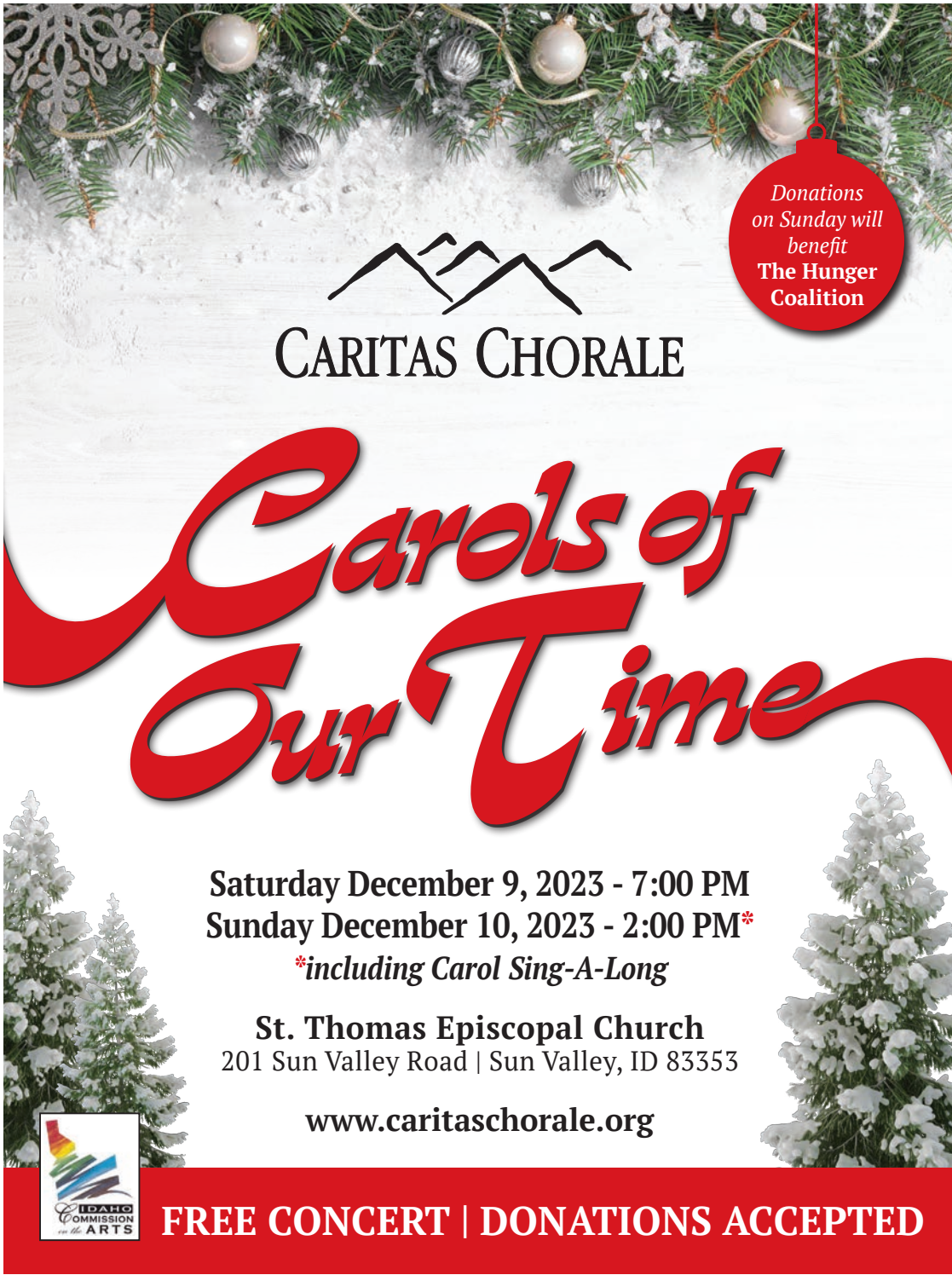
Chef Vishwesh Bhatt is a James Beard Award-winning chef and author of the critically acclaimed *I Am From Here: Stories and Recipes from a Southern Chef*. In 2019, Bhatt was awarded Southern Living's Southerner of the Year and the James Beard Foundation Best Chef South. Bhatt has been a part of Chef John Currence's City Grocery Restaurant Group since 1997, where he began his career as a prep cook at City Grocery and advanced to executive chef at Snackbar, which opened in 2009. At Snackbar, using his years of culinary experience and exposure to worldwide cultures, Bhatt developed a menu that intertwines Southern and subcontinental foodways—an innovative and delicious contribution to Southern cuisine.

Chef Currence and Chef Bhatt prepare their SVCI five-course sensational dining experience with exquisite wine pairings from the highly sought-after portfolio of merlots, red blends, rosé, and whites handcrafted by Blackbird Vineyards. Acclaimed "Winemaker of the Year," Aaron Pott produces Bordeaux-inspired wine sourced from the best Napa Valley grapes from around the Valley at Blackbird Vineyards.

Limited tickets are available, and SVCI encourages you to reserve your seat at this table as soon as possible for this unforgettable, special culinary and wine occasion on Friday, December 15, at 6 p.m. For tickets and reservations, visit sunvalleyculinary.org.



Select wines provided by Blackbird Vineyards of Napa Valley. Photo courtesy: Sun Valley Culinary Institute



Donations on Sunday will benefit The Hunger Coalition


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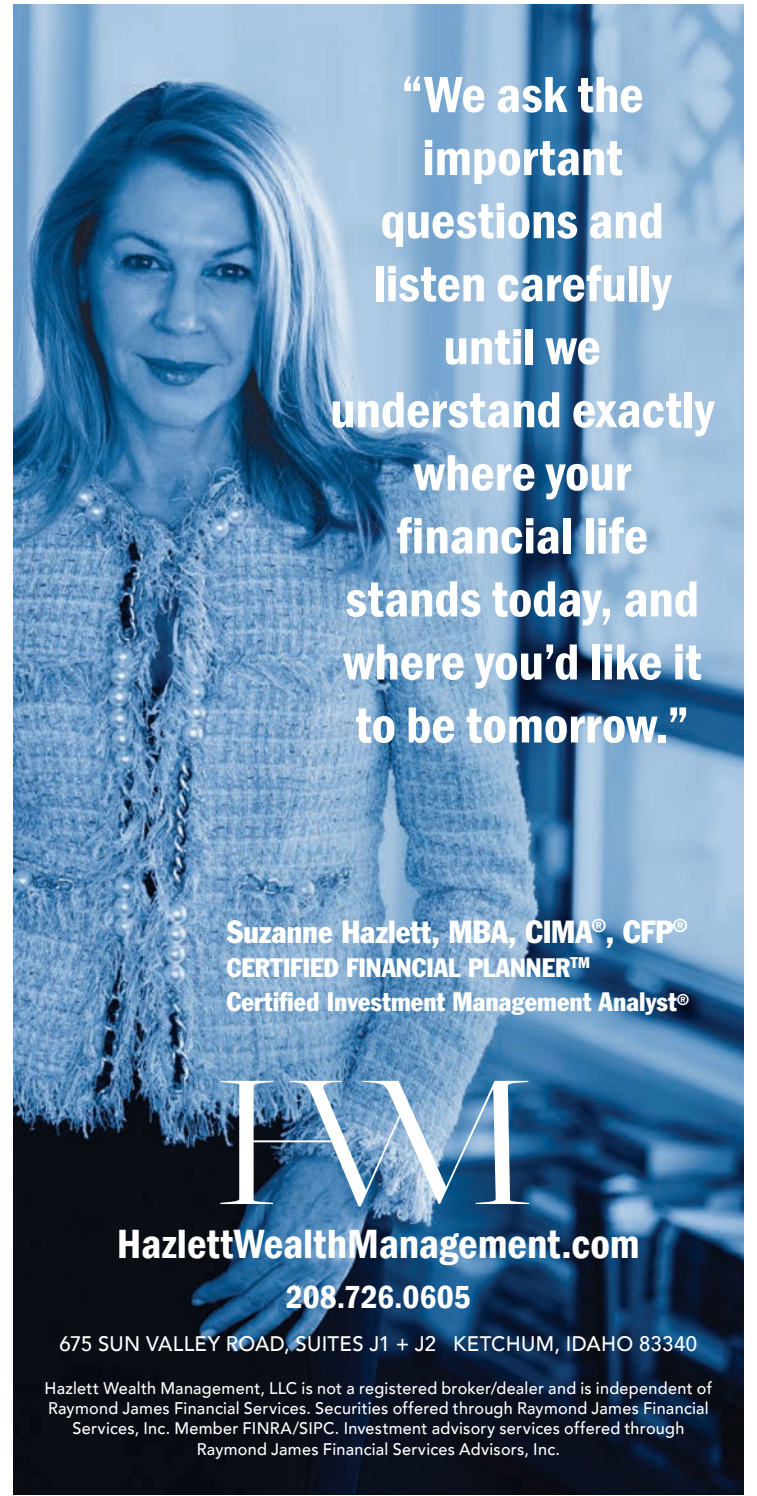
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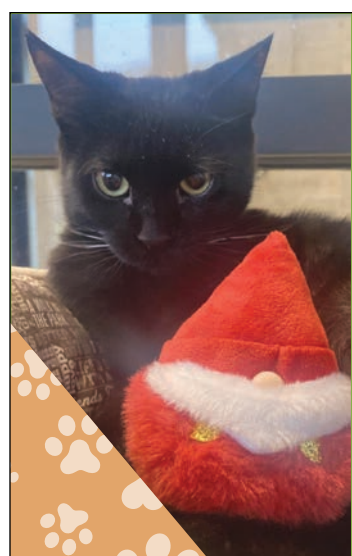


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Bald Mountain Thanksgiving



Lift at the top of Bald Mountain at Sun Valley Resort. Photo credit: Adobe Stock

Black Friday at Sun Valley

BY ISAIAH FRIZZELL

You've had your turkey, pumpkin pie and a warm night under the blankets. Now for the good stuff: Did you spend Black Friday buying stockings or stocking stuffers? You may not want to miss those deals but it's important to note that Sun Valley had its official opening on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 23.

Now, while the mountain itself is open to fanged fauna and hearty, cold-weather flora, every day all year the humans among us have to wait until we get the go-ahead from the staff and workers who make these recreational adventures possible. But adventure is now available as the 2023-2024 season has begun.

If you made it to the Thanksgiving buffet in the Limelight Ballroom, hot cocoa in hand, you had plenty of things to do. There was Sacred Sound Yoga, virtual golf, bowling, plenty of live music and, well, not much snow.

While the Farmer's Almanac has suggested a "seasonably cold and wet" winter, as of yet the snow has been fleeting with perhaps a tiny flurry here and there. Officially beginning on the winter solstice, December 21, 2023, this season is predicted to be heavily influenced by El Niño in the South, bringing precipitation and cold to the lower regions of the lower 48. Meteorological winter starts on December 1, however, and with tricks up their sleeve, we could soon see snow at the resorts.

Black Friday at Sun Valley gave a much better option than a day on Amazon by offering the Bald Mountain Open, more virtual golf, and the delights of Happy Hour. Live music played all week into the weekend and memories were made to kick off the new season. Should we do a snow dance?

But perhaps most important, did you win a Sun Valley opening day mug?

In the meantime, it's good weather for a chilly hike, a ski-lift adventure or the good old joys of Magic Mountain. What will you do this winter?



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"Frankie" — 2003-2018

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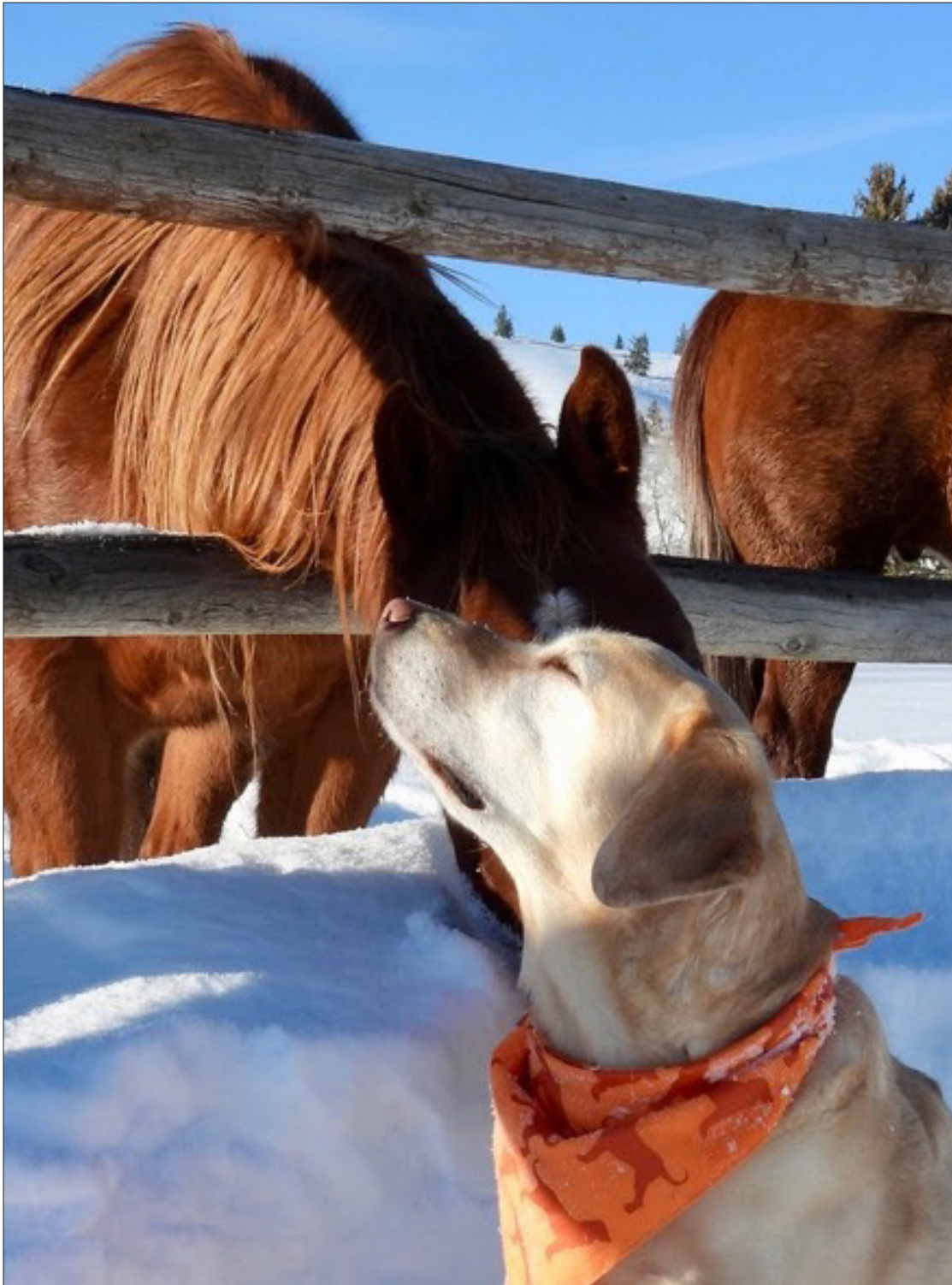
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PET & ANIMAL SECTION



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BELLA



Bella, yellow Lab, owner is Linda Peterson.

Bella and Linda Peterson win a \$50 gift certificate kindly provided by Jane's Artifacts

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NOTABLE MENTIONS



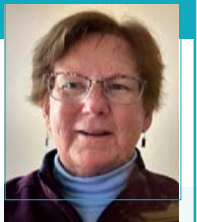
Wilson aka Willie, parti-poodle, owner is Denise Hamilton.



Coco, Cavalier King Charles, owner is Sal Lopez.

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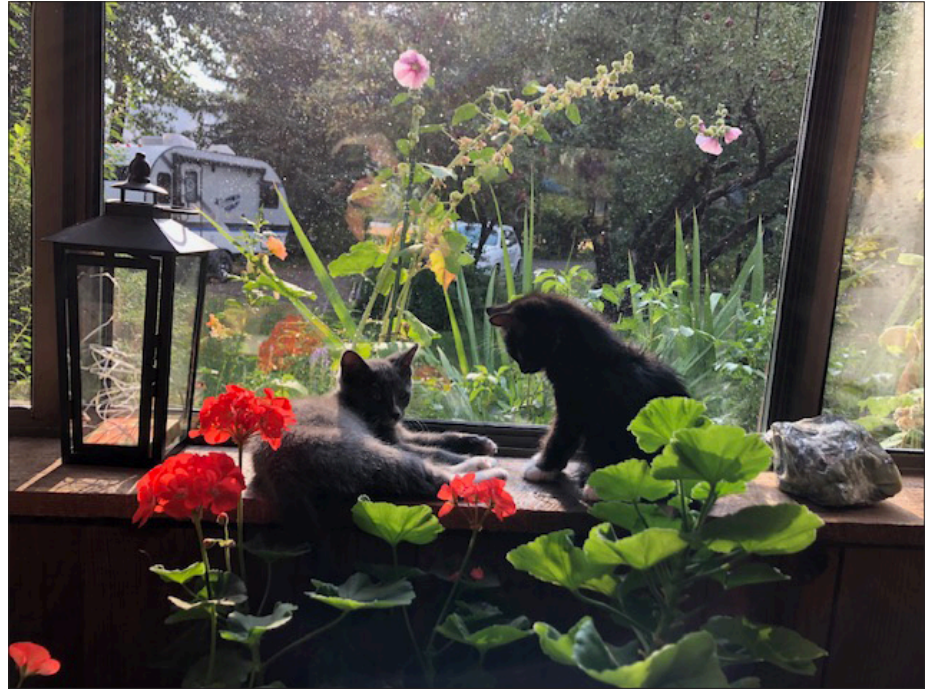


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Readers Pets



Felicia Keys, blue nose Pitbull, Luna, English bulldog, owner is Gabe Douglas.



Oz and Sunny , owner is Lynn Clarke.



Maple and Clover, Irish setters, owner is Janet Freeman.



Fischer, German shorthair pointer, Kona, Bassett hound, owner is Jeff Schoen.



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PETS SPECIAL

FRAN JEWELL

Winner! Winner! Chicken Dinner!



In my house, the one that gets to me first gets the 'chicken dinner!' Photo credit: Fran Jewell

BY FRAN JEWELL

This is about the power of competition in the multiple-dog household. It can be your worst enemy or your best friend if you know how to make competition work for you. I know only barely a few folks that do not have multiple dogs in their home. Competition can lead to aggression in the worst cases, but the skilled knowledge of the owner can turn it into a tool for quick and gleeful obedience.

First, one must plan ahead to think about places where competition could become an issue. The door is the first thing that comes to my mind. All my dogs want out the second the door opens. This can be very dangerous, especially if it is the front door that opens to a nearby busy street or out of the car at the vet. I have everyone sit before I open the door. The dog that sits first goes out first.

Getting out of the car at a trailhead, the dog who sits first gets a treat. During your hike, when you call the dogs, the one that gets back to you first gets the "chicken dinner." The more you practice this game, the faster they get at coming to you. Getting back into the car at a trailhead can be frustrating, but if the dog that gets in first gets a treat, pretty soon getting in becomes effortless on your part. If they all climb in quickly, then make the problem a little harder — they get in, and then the one that lays down first gets the treat.

Right now I have a visiting dog that is learning how to go potty on a grass pad. If he doesn't go quickly, one of my dogs gets the treat he wants.

Barking at the front door can be a horrible situation in a multiple-dog household. Well, if one dog does NOT run and bark at the door, she gets the treat. Imagine how quickly the others will stop barking and charging the door if they know that NOT barking and charging the door gets them a treat.

Food aggression can become a huge competition in multiple-dog households. I had a Labrador retriever training with me. When she turned two, she decided she was going to growl and snap at any other dog that came near her bowl. This had to do with her maturity and confidence. The second she did that, I pushed her away from her bowl, then took her bowl of food and gave it to the dog she growled at. Imagine her surprise! She never did it again. This also meant I had to be supervising feeding time ALL the time. It also meant I had to have a relationship of respect with her already so I knew I could approach her without her reprisal.

The hard thing for we humans is that we always want things to be fair with all the dogs. In the dog world, NOTHING is fair. It's all about hierarchy. If I use that to my advantage by controlling food and giving treats only to the well-behaved dog, then very quickly I become a ridiculously powerful leader without much effort, and my pack begins to behave quite quickly.

With multiple dogs, human safety is always first. If I use competition between the dogs to my advantage, I can keep my pack motivated, happy and doing the things that keep me safe.



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Readers Pet



Lonesome Dove, Akbash, owner is Marilyn Walker.



Bella, German shorthair pointer, owner is Chris Keirn.



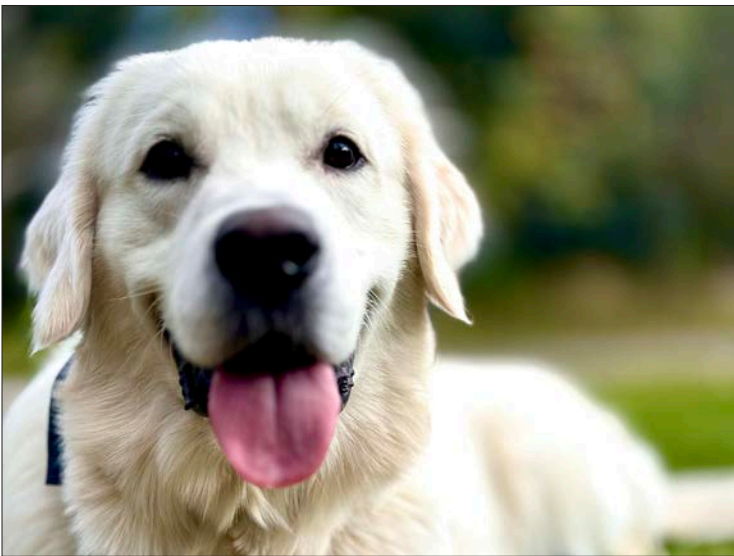
Bounce, Australian shepherd, owner is Teresa Golden.



Elliot, mix, owner is Kris Bowman.



Bubba, Chihuahua, Italian greyhound, Australian shepherd, collie, and American Eskimo mix, owner is Yvonne Lame.



Colby, cream retriever, owner is Debbie Emberson.



Kira, a golden retriever, and her elk buddy, owner is Patti Felton.



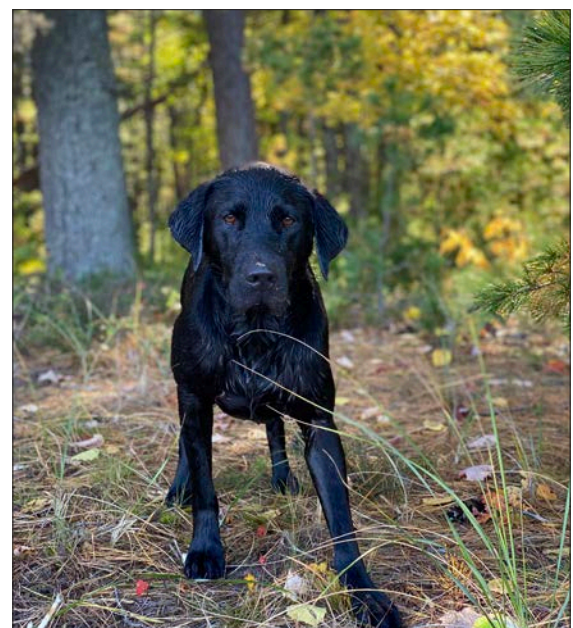
Teddy Roosevelt, lab mix, owner is Lauren Chiara.



Elli, Newfoundland, owner is Doro Schinella.



Henry, golden retriever, owner is Susan Mahoney.



Jerry, black Lab, owner is Kate Dugan.



Kuuper, Australian shepherd, owner is Sheri Lamm.

TS



Cheyenne, golden retriever, owner is Janet Lowery.



Blaze and Biscuit, owner is Kris Bowman.



Annie, Cavalier King Charles spaniel, owner is Debbie Emberson



Yankee, Jack Russell, owners are Patty and Sunny Healey.



Leo, blue nose Pitbull, owner is Eduardo Zavala.



Tazo and Roxy, owner is Erin Pfaeffle.



shepherd mix Mott.



Muffin, Shih Tzu/Bichon, and Maximus, Dorkie, owner is Cindy Karst.



Marlee, Dorkie, owner is Kathy Swanson.



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Readers Pets



Zeke, Anatolian Pyrenees, owner is Nick Doyle.



Siri, borgie, owners are Barb Patterson and Kelly Wardell.



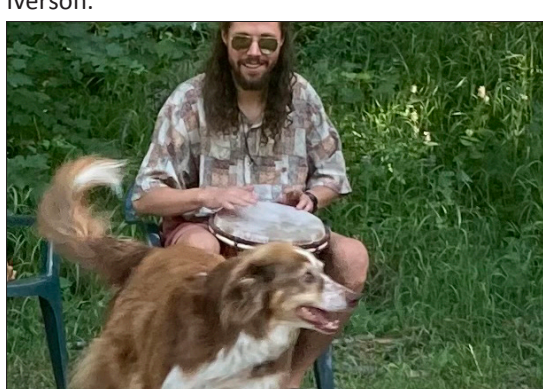
Sally, border collie, and Sunday, German shepherd, owners are Collins Family and the Pressman Family.



Tex, Jack Russell Terrier, Rusty, rex rabbit, and Macie, border collie, owners are Aric and Mandi Iverson.



Ruby, goldendoodle, owner is Linda Parsons.



Sally, border collie, Australian shepherd, owner is Rae DeVito.



Oliver, Welsh terrier, owner is Patty Frye.



Lucy, squirrel, friends with Mandi Iverson.



Spike, bearded dragon, owner is Lee Edgerton.



Vega, goldendoodle, owners are Jane and Peter Dyndiuk.



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Teddy, mixed breed, owner is Sally Metcalf.



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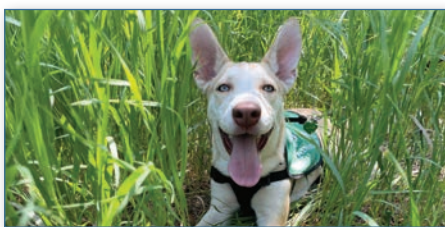
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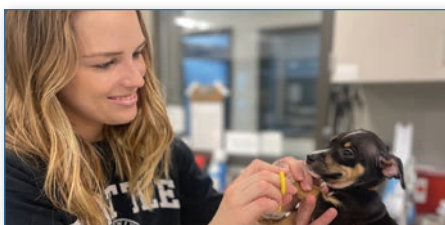
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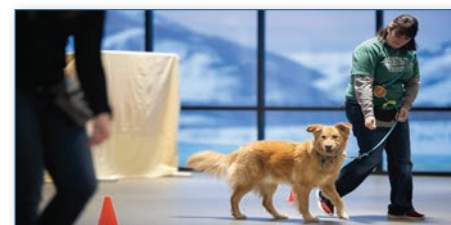
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Making It Snow!

Ski season ramps up with silver science

BY ISAIAH FRIZZELL

Ski season is upon us!

With three great ski resorts in Blaine County, Bald Mountain Ski Area, Soldier Mountain Ski Area is home to one of the oldest ski resorts in the USA, Sun Valley, since 1936 to be (roughly) exact. Roughly? Give or take six months—and what's six months? Six months is about the length of the average ski season. From November to April backcountry enthusiasts, EMTs and resort staff brace themselves as skiers grab a slice of toasted pumpkin with pumpkin butter and click into those Pesca-do's—pumped and primed to lay their planks on some prime powder.

Nearly everyone is looking for snow. Ski resort managers routinely check forecasts hoping for a nice pack while DOT readies its plows to help everyone get "Idaho Ready" (itd.idaho.gov). Don't forget tire chains, subzero sleeping bags, extra blankets, and a first-aid kit with plenty of water in your car, just in case!

But What if It Doesn't Snow?

On average, Sun Valley gets an average of 164 inches of soft-water crystals per year from around 43 days of snowfall. Compare that to the 2022-2023 season that had 62 days of snowfall meeting the 164-inch average. With an average base depth of 56 inches and summit depth of 75 inches, we're peering into 5 to 6 feet of snow at Sun Valley. The biggest snowfall was 16 inches; however, in the 2018-2019 season, it was 29 inches! (onthesnow.com)

With moving averages and variations in the hydrological cycle, it begs the question: "What if there isn't enough snow?" Not to worry. Geologists and chemists have long been at this study and have some semi-solid solutions.

Making Snow Angels

Water keeps a mountain, and, of course, a person, healthy. It's not only vital for skiing but for agriculture, the growth of flora and fauna as well as the runoff that feeds the rivers and helps the sockeye, chinook and steelhead get what they need on the way to their final destination.

Snowpack at high elevation is considered a primary resource according to the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR). Maintaining this water resource is key, not only for Idaho but for the entire country, as well. One of the ways this has been enhanced is by a process called cloud seeding, which was experimented with as early as 1941 by American chemist and meteorologist Vincent J. Schaefer. Since then, it has become a mainstay of making it rain (and snow) via aircraft, cannon and ground generators (britannica.com). After much study and experimentation, it was in 2003 that Idaho Power began using cloud seeding (idahopower.com).

Chemical Ice-Nucleation

The process has changed over the years but generally involves the gathering of extensive meteorological data fed into high-performance computing models. In action, the seeding material, generally silver iodide, is injected into clouds and storms to enhance or at the very least induce precipitation. The silver iodide uses a process called "chemical ice-nucleation" to bond with and freeze small particles of water so they fall as snow. One of the key aspects is the shape of the molecules being hexagonal and new materials are being studied such as graphene for this very property which aligns geometrically with the crystalline structure of snow (nature.com).

Cloud seeding is done either by airplane or ground station with Idaho Power commanding over 32 ground stations and two airplanes in the Central Idaho Mountains. The primary equipment used are ground generators spraying silver iodide or liquid propane and many airplane-mounted methods including end-burning flares, hygroscopic flares, ejectable flares or even the deployment of dry-ice pellets (nawmc.org).

Idaho Power's programs, in the Payette, Boise, Wood River and Snake River basins, that use this process have shown yields of around a 10% increase in precipitation, or



The City of Ketchum, as viewed from atop the mountain. Photo credit: Adobe Stock

"approximately 600,000 acre-feet of additional water in the Payette, Boise and Wood River basins as well as over 400,000 acre-feet of additional water each year in the upper Snake River basin. One million acre-feet of water can generate approximately 844,500 megawatt-hours if used for hydroelectric production — enough to power roughly 74,000 homes" (idahopower.com). Freeze Energy! There are plans to expand these programs, one in particular was greenlit in the Idaho area of the Bear River Basin in 2017 (idahostatejournal.com).

Pumping Pie in the Ski

Cloud-seeding programs are popping up everywhere, and as recently as last week, on Nov. 15, the North American Weather Modification Council held an educational event at the Idaho Department of Water Resources, on Front Street in Boise, to address the expanding use of cloud seeding in Idaho. Can we expect to see more snow this year? Ski resorts have long used snow machines, but have recently ramped up cloud-seeding programs to augment their snowpack in the hopes of delivering a more predictable recreation experience (martinandwoodwaterconsultants.com).

While cloud seeding and weather modification is not new, it's been used for decades perhaps most famously at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing in a thorough program designed at Beijing's Weather Modification Office, the techniques have progressed (technologyreview.com).

Rain or shine, water reservoirs must stay full and that's why we have a North American Weather Modification Council. The dangers of spraying silver iodide, propane or any other seeding material into the hydrological stream have largely been disputed through studies explaining, for example, since silver iodide is insoluble in water and thus likely poses no threat (idahopower.com). And what of the other methods or accumulation in the biologies of the ecosystem? Only time, more studies and more money will tell. The Aaerage IWRB cloud-seeding program costs \$1.62 million in taxpayer funding (idwr.idaho.gov).

With the ever-reaching ingenuity of scientists and technology, backcountry enthusiasts should have no lack of gear to pack when it comes to being safe while having fun. Cloud seeding is advancing not only across the world but in the study itself. So whether you're skiing, saving lives or serving, having fun in the cold has gotten a boost. Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's — it's the end of harvest time in these parts and the time of year to be grateful for all the bounty. The skier and surrounding cottage industries have the scientists to thank for doing their extra little bit to help enhance the environment.

The Salvation Army is Recruiting in Ketchum

Salvation by any other name

BY ISAIAH FRIZZELL

Red, rosy, cold, snowy noses, crimson jumpsuits and abundance all come to mind as we are nearing the finish line for 2023. About a month away from the biggest holiday of the year, the Salvation Army elves are out to bring the ring—a ringing bell, that is—to Atkinsons' Market in Ketchum.

What is Christmas but remembrance of piety, family and the joy of helping others. It's the time to be thankful and share the abundance. The Salvation Army strives to "DO THE MOST GOOD" and, as a mission statement goes, it's about as good as good gets.

"The donations we collect during the holiday season not only help us provide gifts to children who would otherwise go without, but they also help us provide food, shelter, and utility assistance to those who need it most every day of the year." (give.salvationarmyusa.org)

There are so many ways to share joy and love with our community and families. You can give an anonymous gift to someone who might need it, donate to charity or toss in your spare change—and maybe some paper money—to the Salvation Army coffers, until mid-December, for helping those who need it.

They say "what comes around, goes around"; watch a smile travel through a group, or a laugh start with a friend and lead back to you. If the world was a never-ending Christmas party, is it fair to say we'd want everyone laughing, joking and maybe even dancing. If you go by Atkinsons', you'll have the chance to give the gift of surprise to someone through the helping arms of the Salvation Army.

Over their 150-year lifespan, the Salvation Army has financially provided for nearly 3.1 million people, served almost 160 million meals, and given over 8 million nights of shelter to those in need. The Salvation Army is currently still looking to recruit those with the mind and heart to donate their time and join the ranks of over 1.4 million volunteers who have helped bring more to those who have less.

Search Salvation Army Volunteers to sign up, and have a happy, safe and loving holiday season!

Caritas Chorale to Perform 'Carols of Our Time'

Sun Valley's Caritas Chorale will perform selections from the recently published anthology, "Carols of Our Time," at its Holiday Concert Dec. 9 and Dec. 10. Both concerts are slated to be held at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Sun Valley (201 Sun Valley Road). The Saturday concert will be at 7 p.m. and the Sunday concert at 2 p.m. Conducting responsibilities for these concerts will be shared by musical leaders, R.L. Rowsey and Joel Bejot.



"Carols of Our Time" has been compiled and edited by Sarah MacDonald and Timothy Rogers. It was published on July 13, 2023. A unique feature of this anthology is that all of the carols are composed by women. According to the publisher's website, "This volume brings together a broad selection of exceptionally well-crafted carols encompassing a variety of styles, moods and characters. There is a practical mix of accompanied and unaccompanied pieces, much imaginative and technically sophisticated use of melody, harmony, rhythm and texture, and a range of levels of difficulty. Overall, the musical content is convincing and functional and, above all, festive."

Caritas intends to present the Sunday concert in part as a sing-along, singing selections from the anthology and inviting the audience to join in singing familiar carols, as well. We are pleased to announce that donations at the Sunday sing-along concert will once again benefit The Hunger Coalition (thehungercoalition.org).

More information is available on the web at www.caritaschorale.org or by calling (814) 251-2852.



FISHING REPORT



THE "WEEKLY"
FISHING REPORT FOR
NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 12
FROM PICABO ANGLER

It's time to work off some of that Thanksgiving feast. There is no better way to do that than by making fresh tracks up or down one of your favorite Idaho trout streams. So, grab your fly rod, your winter fly box, and go enjoy some of the most beautiful scenes Idaho serves up all season long.

Speaking of that winter fly box... be sure you have a great assortment of Midges. Zebra Midges and Tie-Down Midges are a great place to start. A few other nymphs to carry include Hare's Ears, Girdle Bugs, Rubber Legs, Copper Johns, Prince Nymphs and Brassies. Have all of your nymphs in a variety of colors; red, black, olive, and brown are hard to beat.

Streamers are a wintertime staple on all of our area rivers, especially on Silver Creek.

On our freestone and tailwater rivers, fish weighted flies and get them to the bottom. If you are fishing Silver Creek, don't bother with weight and fish your Streamers just under the surface. It is a lot of fun watching the fish wake behind the fly and leave a boil as they eat. If you fish streamers, beef up your tippets to 1X or 0X in case a toothy brown trout shows up.

We are probably a few weeks away from prolific dry-fly activity on the Big Wood, but it would still be a good idea to have a few Griffith's Gnats and Tie-Down Midges, along with your favorite powder floatant and some 6X tippet. Be sure you keep the trailing shuck on the Tie-Down Midge wet and in the film. The shuck is what will bring the fish to your fly out of the thousands of real midges that can be on the water at any given time during the winter.

Have a ton of fun out there. Be safe if you are driving and on the water. It is a time of the season where little mishaps can be amplified. Have a full tank of gas, full cellphone battery, extra clothes, and food and water. Prepare for the worst and you can enjoy your day that much more. A little peace of mind will even up your fishing game.

Happy fishing, everyone!



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COMMENTARY

NO BONES ABOUT IT

FRAN JEWELL

LEASH WALKING PUPPIES

BY FRAN JEWELL

It is of HUGE importance that puppies remain on a leash until they have a flawless recall. In puppy development, almost all puppies are preprogrammed by Mother Nature to follow the leader until they are approximately 19 weeks old. That can lure us into believing they have learned how to come when they are called. However, at this critical time of 19 weeks or so, they begin to feel confident and will start to look at you as if to flip you the paw! "I'm busy sniffing over here; I'll come when I want to!" If our puppies have been given the freedom to be off leash when out of a confined area, this can become a life-threatening situation.

I see many people taking this to heart and keeping their puppies on a leash for walks, usually a short leash of about 6 feet, or a Flexi. While I am filled with gratitude that people are keeping their puppy on a leash, it is also important to realize that puppies asked to heel at a young age become very frustrated and will bite at the leash, pull hard on your clothing, bite you, or start barking at anything. Puppies need to explore their environment to be satisfied mentally and physically. Teaching short-leash walking takes knowledge, patience and LOTS of time before expecting a puppy to go any distance.

So, how do we keep a puppy from becoming overloaded by frustration and beginning to develop horrible leash habits? I think a long line of about 20 - 30 feet long, depending on the size of your dog, is the solution. Yes, it can be very difficult to walk a puppy on a sidewalk, bike path or foot trail on a long leash. Because of that, many people will not use the long leash. A long leash can drive many people insane trying to keep it rolled up so it doesn't drag on the ground. There is technique to learn as well so YOU don't become too frustrated! The KIND of long line you have can help. I use "biothane" leashes that slide through the sage, and can be easily washed when dirty. They are not hard to hold when they are wet, either.

There are many things you can do with the long line. Start by finding an open space to walk in. I do NOT suggest the dog park for a plethora of reasons at this early age. But, there are many, MANY open areas or old dirt roads that work wonderfully. This gives your puppy a chance to explore his environment, sniff, run, and bark in safety. It also gives you the opportunity to practice "come" whenever the long line is taut, then rewarding your puppy for quick returns. It allows the puppy to learn where the end of the leash is without pulling you over and creating that adversarial position between you, the puppy and the leash. When the puppy comes near you on either side, offering a treat for that behavior can be the beginning of teaching



Please use extreme caution if you have balance or vision issues. Long-line training can be much more difficult. Short-leash walking takes lots of patience, knowledge and TIME before a pup can go any distance. This puppy has a yellow long line so she can safely hike in the woods. Photo credit: Fran Jewell

him to walk nicely next to you without pulling. If done correctly, the puppy will never learn to pull on a short leash.

Think of walking nicely on a short leash as being similar to learning something in high school, when your pup is still in elementary school. Set your pup up for success by not asking for too much too soon and understanding what he needs to learn and CAN learn at an early age. Unless you are a full-time dog trainer, it can be very difficult to teach a young pup to walk on a loose short leash too early.

Keep your puppy safe on a leash, but make it a 30-foot-long line instead of a short leash. Help him to explore and learn in a guided fashion. The both of you will enjoy each other so much more!

Fran Jewell is an IAABC Certified Dog Behavior Consultant, NA-DOI Certified Instructor and the owner of Positive Puppy Dog Training, LLC in Sun Valley. For more information, visit positivepuppy.com or call 208-578-1565.

SCIENCE OF PLACE

HARRY WEEKES

WINTER IS COMING! MAYBE

BY HARRY WEEKES

For starters, titles aside, winter actually is coming. I went to confirm when exactly it would be here and opened an unanticipated wormhole that can be synopsized like this: there are two starts to winter, one astronomical (based on the position of the Sun in regards to the Earth) and one meteorological (based on a "12-month civil calendar and temperature cycle"). Who knew? Well, a bunch of people, but not me. Astronomically, then, winter is coming at 8:27 p.m. MST, Thursday, December 21. Meteorologically, winter starts December 1.

Oddly, folks, this isn't even for what I was initially searching. I was looking up the furcular fat on birds.

At the start of October, my students and I took our semi-annual pilgrimage to the Intermountain Bird Observatory at Lucky Peak, outside of Boise. This year was the perfect storm, literally. For the two days before we arrived, dense clouds and rain hung over the mountains, temperatures dropped, and a low-pressure system conspired to keep birds in the trees and hunkered down. Since this was prime migration season, this kind of forced relaxation competed with the birds' drive to get south —NOW!

We showed up on the first gorgeous afternoon in three days to a kettle of over 150 turkey vultures taking to the sky. Record numbers of birds flew past us all afternoon before the sun went down, the slight winds calmed, and we got ready for the owls.

The owls are fantastic for many reasons. The two most frequently caught, the Northern saw-whet and the flammulated, are quite simply the cutest birds you will ever see. Owls, being primarily nocturnal, are still

curious birds of wonder; staying up in the darkness throughout the evening and into the early hours invariably feels like a challenge and a treat, and the owls are the rarest of the birds we encounter at Lucky Peak.

Until this year.

Over the course of two nights, the banding team captured 125 owls. Our previous record had been single digits. Beyond the sheer number of owls, the most noteworthy thing that happened was overheard with greater and greater frequency as the birds were weighed, measured, and generally assessed. It went like this: "Furcula fat... Whoa... a 4, definitely." And then the next bird: "OK, we've got another butterball. Furcula fat, 4." This happened again and again. "Furcula. Fat 4."

Birds, constrained by flight, wear fat reserves like a sweater vest. A light puff of breath on their chest reveals the extent of this vest. And furcular fat is kind of like an ascot of lipids tucked under a bird's chin.

As a bystander, I asked the simple question, "What does that mean?"

The answer was as simple: "The birds have been eating really well and are ready for migration."

Then, my Farmer's Almanac brain kicked in. "Do you think this means anything more? Like maybe there's a big winter coming?"

As you might imagine from a group of field scientists, there were a few chuckles, but not much commitment to the idea. So, I figured I would run with it. And folks, remember, you heard this here first.

"The rusty band of the woolly bear caterpillars is narrow, the paper wasp nests are hanging low, and have you checked out the furcular fat on the saw-whet owls? Well, it's going to be a doozy of a winter. You better



Processing a "Butterball" (Northern Saw-whet). Photo credit- Reese Hodges

get firewood and plenty of canned food."

Oh, an important aside. The other, more common name for the furcula is the wishbone. A guy can make a few wishes based on the saw-whets, can't he?

Harry Weekes is the founder and head of school at The Sage School in Hailey. This is his 52nd year in the Wood River Valley, where he lives with Hilary and one of their three baby adults—Simon. The other members of the flock are Georgia and Penelope (Georgia recently fledged from Davidson College in North Carolina and Penelope is at Middlebury College in Vermont).

MONEY MATTERS

SUZANNE HAZLETT

WHAT IS PHILANTHROPY?

BY SUZANNE HAZLETT, MBA, CIMA®, CFP®

Personal finance involves more than the machinations of transactions, compounded interest, and the downfall of overextending. It's about identifying our priorities and where we attribute the most value. It's about working toward a successful outcome and sometimes failing.

Twenty-one years ago, when I was a new resident of our valley, I contacted the local schools to create a financial curriculum that would appeal to middle and high school students. It was a middle school teacher who took me up on my offer.

We agreed we wanted to create experiences over the academic term that would particularly interest eighth-graders. I suggested we ask the kids themselves what was on their minds. What about personal finance, did they wonder? They responded with lots of questions.

"WHAT IS PHILANTHROPY?" Charity and donations were familiar terms to these students; philanthropy was not. Philanthropy entails a broader scope of passion and selfless concern for a cause. We took this topic on, and we explored regional charitable organizations with the students.

It was essential to identify a cause that resonated with them emotionally. When I asked how many in the class had rescued pets, nearly every hand in the room was raised. We had our hook. The students selected our local animal shelter as an organization they would like to learn more about. During one class session, we invited staff members and a couple of their four-legged charges. The children learned the difference between a for-profit enterprise and a tax-exempt nonprofit. They gained an appreciation of the organization's daily costs and how donations of money, in-kind gifts, and volunteer support help sustain the care and feeding of animals they shelter.

Takeaway: If charity is vital to your family, teach your child to give. Provide the child in your life with a list of charitable organizations to choose from and a proposed donation amount. With them, research the variety of organizations that pique their interest. Design the review process to fit your child's abilities and comprehension. Then, find the cause that touches them. Visit the organization with your child. Make the gift in the child's name and ask that the charity's acknowledgment and thanks be sent to your child.

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Suzanne Hazlett, MBA, CIMA®, CFP® is the founder of Hazlett Wealth Management, LLC.

INSPIRATIONS FROM MY HEART

DOVE

GRACE

BY DOVE

We all have certain words that trigger feelings in our soul. Grace is one of those words for me. When I think "Grace," a peace and calm descend over my being. I love the feeling. Maybe that's why I named my wonderful bicycle "Grace," because I feel such joy when I ride as many miles as possible during the season. When it is time to put my bike away for the winter, there is a nostalgia that fills my heart, but I know that soon spring will come and "Grace" and I will be riding the trails with abandon.

Grace is also something my family participated in at meals. I grew up in a commune-type situation where all my family — grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins — lived on the same street. Everyone had their own house, but on holidays we all gathered. There were at least 20 of us and anyone else who had no place to go came for dinner.

My family was very musical, and we would sing "the grace" before dinner. We had an amazing choral group with all the parts — soprano, alto, tenor and bass — each trying to out-sing the other. I can still hear the words, "Be present at our table, Lord, be here and everywhere adored. These mercies bless and grant that we may live in fellowship with thee."

There are only four members of the chorus left and some are not mobile, and some have no memory to sing with. I look back at those times and I realize how blessed we were to share. There was never any conflict between families — we all supported each other in whatever ways were needed.

As I pass into my eighth decade of life, I am so grateful for Grace. I feel it in my heart and soul. There is a peace that I choose to project to each and all of nature, humanity, and all life force.

Take the time now to hold those thoughts of what Grace means to you. Can you feel the energy in your body? Can you choose to focus on the kindness that Grace represents? Grace has no religion or gender or color. It simply is an energy we can choose to hold.

There is much to be said for counting your blessings on a daily basis. I watched the bunnies running and chasing each other this morning. They are wild bunnies living under my neighbor's deck, but they were having a marvelous time. How lucky I am to live where wildlife flourishes and is so abundant. How can you not embrace the true gift of all life when we live in such beauty.

May this season hold peace and joy in your bones and may God, Source, grant us each the gift of eternal Grace. Much love, Dove



ON LIFE'S TERMS

JOELLEN COLLINS

A CHORE

BY JOELLEN COLLINS

I hate housework and have owned up to it by announcing that the inscription on my tombstone would sum up my legacy as "She left the dishes in the sink." I'd imagined it not to scold me posthumously but to convey something finer, that I would almost always choose to spend my time with something other than completing domestic chores. I'd rather engage in enjoying my love of children, teaching, family, and the wonderful friends I have accumulated all these years. I'd like to be remembered for having left the world, as my mother told me, "a little better for your having been in it." Ah, dream on.

I do not deny the virtue of the discipline of accomplishing domestic chores. I acknowledge and admire those who keep an immaculate home or office. Still, I would rather do most things without standing at a sink; I can fulfill the goals of a "clean life," and wash away the dregs of negativity in the process.

I met a woman last week who was born in Uganda and at the age of seventeen moved to India, home to her larger family. Next to her was seated a woman of Japanese heritage, and across the table another new friend was celebrating her 100th birthday. She is an Australian artist who has lived in many different countries and manages to achieve a balance between the solitude of her art and generous hospitality to others.

After meeting these women, all "seniors," as I am, I returned to my new apartment with a mixed sense of admiration for the vitality I had encountered and reflection upon my own life story. While I jokingly thought of that silly epitaph I imagine after my passing, I also remembered the time in India when I met Mother Teresa. She once stated, upon winning the Nobel Peace Prize, "We can do no great things, only small things with great love." I find that a fitting view from an honored woman who chose to serve the poor, those often forgotten people, without constant accolades for her efforts.

We all have some chores in life that remain unattended; I will keep leaving some things undone, even pleasurable ones, in my quest for new vistas, ideas and compatriots in trying to live up to my mother's entreaty. I may not have an immaculate home, but I can still aspire to travel, to read more books with inspiring language, to spend time with good companions, to create my own art, to volunteer for meaningful causes, and to work more diligently on listening more rather than talking.

I do remember that washing dishes with my sweet mother did not seem like a chore for me; it was a joy because I was helping HER. Perhaps if I imagined Mama next to me at my new sink, I could do better with that chore, a small thing done but "with great love."



JoEllen Collins—a longtime resident of the Wood River Valley—is an Idaho Press Club award-winning columnist, a teacher, writer, fabric artist, choir member and unabashedly proud grandma known as "Bibi Jo."

WRANGLER'S WRITINGS

BRYCE ANGELL

Aunt Edna's Turkey

My great-Aunt Edna, from the Yaak, lacked culinary skills. She lived up in Montana, all alone in them there hills.

Last week Aunt Edna sent an invitation to her kin. Her invite claimed she'd learned to cook. Was Edna sipping gin?

She said she'd corresponded with a chef from Paris, France. And she'd like to serve a turkey feast if we would give her this one chance.

I cornered my physician. Would he lie and claim I'm ill? But the Doc said, "That's unethical." Should've shown him my last bill.

Not a single other kin was going to drive to Yaak that day. My heart was feeling heavy for old Edna, in a way.

I looked at Hap. He gave a bark and then he shook his head. He'd tasted Edna's table scraps. I bet Hap thought, "I'm dead!"

But when a man is dying, maybe poisoned in the end, I'd say it is a privilege to go out with man's best friend.

So, Hap and I drove to the Yaak. We knocked on Edna's door. She yanked us in. That's when I noticed feathers on her floor.

I'm not the sharpest fellow, but a turkey came to mind. The smell of burning feathers, yes, a turkey's what we'd find.

Depending on the time of year and temperature outside, Aunt Edna's home would be a place for her animals to abide.

The chickens roamed about the house — but cage-free hens no less. And where to find the eggs, I'd say, was anybody's guess.

Edna's voice, more shriek than loud, not like the aunts of mine, came screeching out those dreadful words, "Please sit. It's time to dine."

I offered grace but didn't really get a chance to say, "Please bless this food, and by the way, don't let us die today."

The biscuits were a golden brown, but hard and extra heavy. The turkey was so tough I bet she had to grind the gravy.

The pie is still a mystery. Not pumpkin a la mode. But maybe squash or canned mincemeat, outdated and too old.

I'd have to say that Edna's cooking hadn't changed a bit. And if you were a dinner guest you had to have some grit.

But one fine thing 'bout Edna, at the end of every day, she'll share her turkey from a flask. "Wild Turkey" you could say.

— Bryce Angell



Bryce Angell - The outdoors has always been a large part of my life. My father was an outfitter and guide for 35 years and I was there to shoe and care for the horses and help him do the cooking. We took many great trips into the Yellowstone area. Even now that I'm older, we still ride into the Tetons, Yellowstone and surrounding areas. My poems are mostly of personal experience. I am now retired and enjoying life to the fullest. I plan to do more riding and writing.

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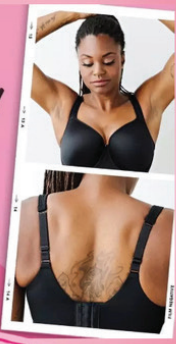


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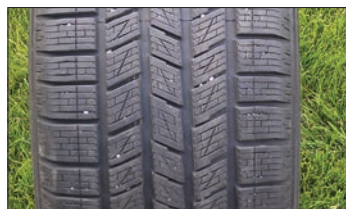


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DIDDLY	SHEIK	TANLINE	
ANDES	OTISREDDING	DOM	
RAID	EVEN	OINK	TIVO
INN	LAWABIDING	MONET	
NEGS	ELS	OPEN	TANGLE
	AMC	SNOW	SWAT
BLEWIT	EPA	LAKEERIE	
VINYLSIDING	NOKIDDING		
DOYEN	DITZY	AMEN	ALSO
SNARE	STEAM	GONG	METS

SUDOKU

answer from page 12

6	2	3	7	5	9	1	8	4
1	9	4	8	2	3	7	5	6
5	8	7	1	4	6	2	9	3
4	7	2	9	6	8	3	1	5
9	6	1	3	7	5	8	4	2
8	3	5	2	1	4	9	6	7
3	1	6	4	9	2	5	7	8
2	5	9	6	8	7	4	3	1
7	4	8	5	3	1	6	2	9



Wood River Weekly Advertorials



Advertorials are a cost-effective way to get the word out about your company, cause, product or service. You write it, our editor will help edit it, and the Wood River Weekly will publish it.

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SCAN FOR MORE INFO

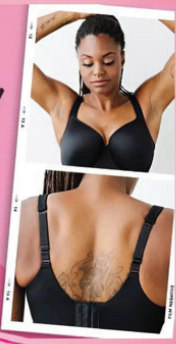


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Wood River Weekly
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Classifieds (Buy Stuff, Sell Stuff, Odds & Ends, Whatever):
Up To 25 Words \$10, Each Additional Word 20¢, Image \$5, Logo \$10

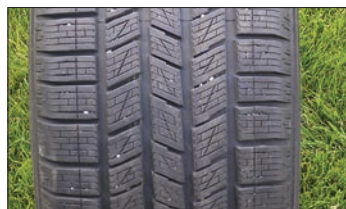


CLASSIFIEDS

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Wood River Weekly is looking for local writers/journalists to cover community stories and events. A journalism background would be a plus, but not required. Serious inquiries please email publisher@woodriverweekly.com



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CROSSWORD

answer from page 12

JEDI	PERM	TIPIN	PASTE
IRAN	EVES	IWISH	IDTAG
BARCODING	MOONLANDING		
ESCALATE	JUT	STORKS	
	SLEW	LEIS	SON
PURSES	BEAM	PSI	SHAG
ASIAN	DAYTRADING	AVE	
SECT	MONO	ROAN	INIT
TUE	MINDBENDING	ANGLO	
APPEASE	PARES	SLOGAN	
UNITE	CEDAR	SPOIL	
DIDDLY	SHEIK	TANLINE	
ANDES	OTISREDDING	DOM	
RAID	EVEN	OINK	TIVO
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NEGS	ELS	OPEN	TANGLE
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8	3	5	2	1	4	9	6	7
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20TH ANNUAL

HAILEY HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING

TOWN CENTER WEST

DECEMBER 1ST
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.



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COOKIES

HOT COCOA


LIVE CHRISTMAS MUSIC

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HARD WAY PIPELINE



STEEL FENCING
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The Classic Sudoku is a number placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once.

CLASSIC SUDOKU

See answer on page 11

6			7		9	1		
	9							6
		7		4				3
4	7	2			8			
	6			7			4	
			2			9	6	7
3				9		5		
2							3	
		8	5		1			9

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See answer on page 11

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
CLOSING BELL: A familiar sound
by Fred Piscop

ACROSS

1 Star Wars warrior

5 Salon styling

9 Easy basket

14 Tomato product

19 Country on the Caspian

20 12/24 and 12/31

21 "If only!"

22 Luggage attachment, for short

23 Print on product packages

25 Big event of 1969

27 Step up

28 Stick out

29 Heron cousins

30 Whole bunch

31 Luau souvenirs

33 Chip off the old block

34 Boxers' winnings

38 Smile broadly

39 Tire pressure fig.

41 Thick carpet

45 Thai or Taiwanese

46 Some stock-market activity

49 St. crosser

50 Shia or Sunni

51 Prefix like uni-

52 Colorful horse

53 "What's ___ for me?"

54 Mon. follower

55 Highly remarkable

59 ___-Saxon

60 Mollify

62 Trims back

63 Rallying cry

64 Integrate

65 Furniture wood

66 Dote on

67 Nothing, so to speak

69 Bahraini bigwig

70 Sunbathing evidence

73 Llamas' locale

74 "Dock of the Bay" singer

77 Perignon's title

78 Fridge foray

79 All tied up

80 Sty sound

81 VCR successor

82 Wayside stop

83 Upright

87 Manet contemporary

88 Darkroom strips, for short

90 South African golf pro

91 Not booked

92 Lock horns

93 Original *Mad Men* broadcaster

95 Chilly powder

96 Police crisis team

98 Blundered

101 Clean air org.

102 Toledo's water

107 It may be on the house

110 "Is that so?"

111 Senior member

112 Scatterbrained

113 Solemn agreement

114 To boot

115 Capture suddenly

116 Iron output

117 Cymbal relative

118 National League East team

DOWN

1 Match up

2 Memorable times

3 Ste. Jeanne

4 Ancient Peruvian

5 Goes around in cycles

6 Cyber-party notice

7 Take more issues

8 Flavor enhancer letters

9 Quarterback Tebow

10 Battleground of 1945

11 Devout

12 Fails to be

13 Stanley Cup org.

14 Colorful horse

15 Extra charges

16 Paint-can direction

17 Armored vehicle

18 Dairy dozen

24 Hollywood twins' surname

26 Give out

31 Permit

32 Musical sense

34 Pre-marathon meal

35 Deplete

36 Grainy dessert

37 Posed

38 "No alcohol provided"

39 Subatomic particles

40 Capture suddenly

42 Airborne sport

43 Saint Teresa's birthplace

44 Hop aboard

46 Gift recipient

47 "Go on..."

48 Less moist

51 Indistinct

53 How fries are fried

55 Sends with stamps

56 Fencing gear

57 Rock bottom

58 Donald Duck, e.g.

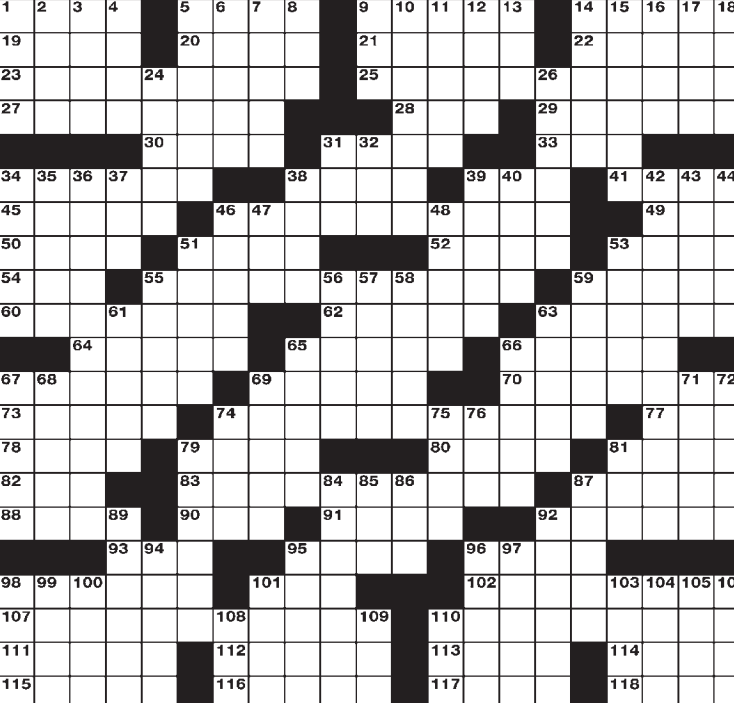
59 Parallel to

61 Done with

63 Paddywhack

65 Fine dinnerware

CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2023 STANLEY NEWMAN WWW.STANXWORDS.COM 12/3/23



66 Police operation

67 "Mack the Knife" singer

68 Pointless

69 Slow-cooker concoctions

71 Book of fiction

72 Overdo one's part

74 Cameo shape

75 Completely exhaust

76 Cacophony

79 Chooses for an office

81 Freight weight

84 Big windfall

85 NASDAQ debut

86 Morning phenomenon

87 Beat at chess

89 Twain preteen

92 Appropriating

94 Pooh's creator

95 Ill will

96 Replay effect

97 Greet the morning

98 Hanes alternatives

99 Literary celebrity

100 Irish singer

101 Tweak text

103 Dutch cheese

104 Tick off

105 Tech sch.

106 Psyche parts

108 Psyche parts


109 Place for a prom

110 Pick on

MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

THE WOOD RIVER VALLEY 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

Partly Cloudy 4%	Mostly Cloudy 4%	Mostly Cloudy 16%	AM Snow Showers 41%	Snow Showers 44%	Rain/Snow 47%	AM Snow Showers 54%
high 35° low 20°	high 32° low 20°	high 31° low 19°	high 31° low 20°	high 33° low 26°	high 38° low 28°	high 39° low 28°
WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY



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