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# WOOD RIVER WEEKLY

YOUR VOICE IN THE WOOD RIVER VALLEY

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"Where there is love, there is life."  
- Mahatma Gandhi

## UPTICK IN VEHICLE ACCIDENTS

### Blaine County Driver Safety

BY ISAIHAH FRIZZELL

#### Interesting Fact

One doesn't need a driver's license to buy and register a vehicle in Idaho. Insurance is required, yes, and surely a license would be required for that, right? Nope. As well, you can get insurance without having a driver's license. State Farm, for instance, requires a driver's license to insure as they look to minimize risk; however, not all insurance companies do.

But why would you need a vehicle registered without proof of driver's license? Perhaps you have a vintage vehicle that you rarely drive, or maybe you enjoy the lifestyle of employing a chauffeur, or maybe a teen buys a car but is waiting to receive a license.

"In order to get a vehicle registration in Idaho, you need to be a resident of the state. Your vehicle must also be titled in Idaho. You are automatically considered an Idaho resident if you have been living in Idaho for at least 90 days. However, if you would like to go to the DMV and pay for a car registration earlier, you are allowed to declare residency in Idaho at any time. The 90-day timeframe is simply the maximum amount of time you are allowed to live in Idaho before you are declared a resident. In addition to getting the title, you will need to get your vehicle inspected. You will need to bring these documents along with a form of identification and a form of payment." (DMV.com)

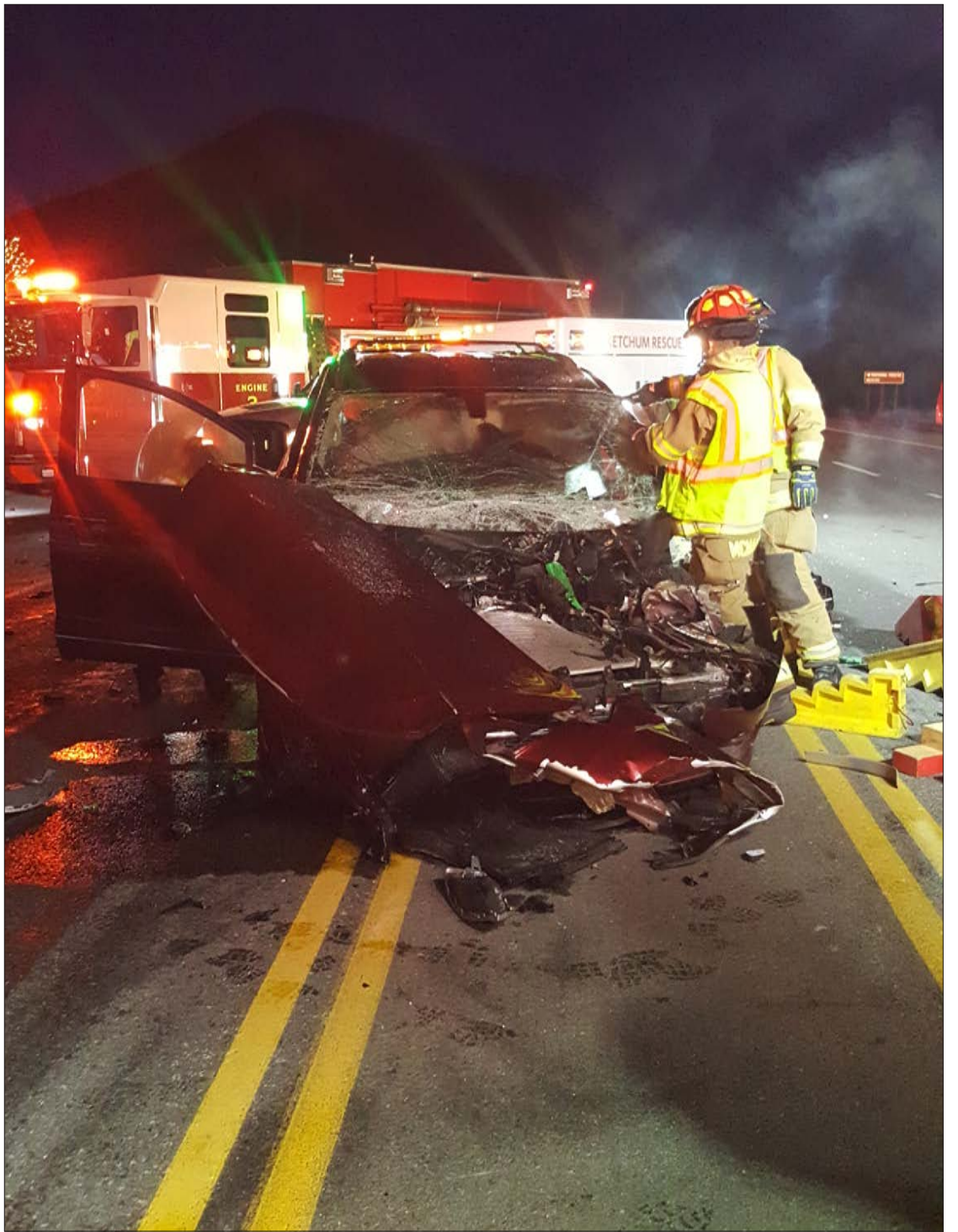
The penalty for driving without a license is \$150 for the first infraction, which is close to the average price of a speeding ticket.

What does it mean to have a driver's license? It means knowing the rules of the roads in Idaho, which are quite different from other states and countries. It means knowing the speed limit in all towns is 35 mph and often you'll even see 25 mph signs in between.

#### Driving Patterns in Blaine County

If you've been cut off or nearly missed a wreck due to a careless driver, you might take notice.

According to the Hailey Police Department, "Yes, accidents have gone up." While the fatalities have been low, "there's a ton of fender benders" and many of the accidents point toward road rage. As a dispatcher from Hailey PD puts it, "There's no code in Idaho for road rage," so determining cause and thus prevention is something of a dark art. Many people think it's aggressive drivers that cause accidents but sentiment at the Hailey PD is that it's the



Vehicle collision on Highway 75 and Heatherlands. Photo credit: WRW

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## WOOD RIVER EXTREME SKI JORING



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# Driver Safety

Continued from Previous Page

opposite. It's timid drivers who either don't know the laws, are inebriated or uncomfortable driving in Idaho traffic.

### Are We Living in an Angrier World?

There have been numerous accidents in and around Blaine County and seemingly with increasing frequency. There are daily wrecks near the junction of Highway 75, Ohio Gulch Road, and Elkhorn Road. Perhaps it's worth knowing to keep an eye out in these areas.

On a dark, rainy night in January, a female pedestrian was struck and injured. When the police arrived, the driver, who had not been speeding but had a blood alcohol level nearly three times the legal limit, committed suicide at the scene. According to the passenger with him, he had been on his cellphone, as well. This type of tragedy is not common, thankfully, but driving with a cellphone is. Whether it's looking at a map, texting or calling (even on speaker), basic common knowledge is that any distraction from the road is a cause for concern.

### Solutions

It's that time of year when snow or rain can create black ice. Keeping your eyes on the road and being hyper-aware of the drivers around you can help. Update your tires for fresh tread, make sure all lights and blinkers work and, of course, if you plan to have a drink, it's wise to plan to have a designated driver or call a taxi service for your commute.

The Idaho Transportation Department provides a helpful web app to measure traffic volume through their Automatic Traffic Recorders. This data can be visualized online at <https://itd.idaho.gov/road-data/>

Blaine County traffic volume in 2023 was lower than 2022 for the entire year, with only a small surge in January and again in November. Idaho has seen a massive influx of people from all over, including those from



Road rage is on the rise due to careless drivers in the Wood River Valley. Photo credit: Adobe Stock

the 'California diaspora,' as well as abroad. There are more drivers on the road and that means a higher probability for accidents.

The good news is the Gateway District Urban Renewal Project for all of Blaine County, but especially focused on Hailey, intends to bring the goods. In addition to business and arts funding, the GDUR is committed to making Hailey a better equipped city for pe-

destrians and bicycles. In the meantime, it's up to the community to prevent accidents by driving safely.

(Note for editor: I intended to link to the "Community Under Construction" article about the GDUR on WRW but it isn't coming up in searches on the WRW site or on DDG or Google? )

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# A Changing of the Guard at BCRW



New Blaine County Republican Women's President, Tania Lopez. Photo courtesy: Tania Lopez

## Republican Women's Latina President

BY ISIAH FRIZZELL

### Ending Division

A changing of the guard has taken place in the Blaine County Republican Women's group (BCRW). With new president Tania Lopez and treasurer Andrea Parker, young and active mothers, the group has set its sights on increasing education and awareness in the community—to remind people of the values enshrined in the Constitution of the United States through cooperation across party lines.

"The thing is we're all humans, we're all Americans and we have to do this together," said Lopez. "We can have different opinions—yes please, they make for good conversation!" she added.

Lopez speaks fluidly and with a definitive honesty. "I don't believe in fighting with the other side, you know, slandering or mudslinging. I don't believe in silencing people. All of our voices need to be heard."

### Latina First Lady

Born in Twin Falls and raised in Bellevue, Idaho, president Lopez's family is from Jalisco, Mexico—the Free and Sovereign State of Jalisco, as it's officially known. She is Mexican and Indigenous Peruvian, specifically of the Quechua of Peru, who are the largest Indigenous population group in South America.

Growing up in a single-parent home, Lopez knows what it's like to do without. "I come from nothing. I've been there and you know it was family that kept us going. My people are well-known for our family values and traditions. My mom worked her butt off, she bought our little trailer and kept us fed, in school and in our faith. My aunts and uncles were always there to talk to for advice or questions."

Lopez attended Wood River High School in Hailey, achieving a diploma from Silver Creek High School, also Hailey, to graduate early. She attended college but left to stay home with her children, focusing on building a strong family when her husband went into the military as an infantryman. Lopez and her husband were high school sweethearts whose love and dedication to family has kept them together for nearly 15 years. Firmly American, their family is a military family. "It wasn't easy," said Lopez. "I cried but my husband told me 'I'm the man of the house, I'm going to provide for my family and I want to serve my country.' And I got it... and you know, to some it seems so extreme—the willingness

to defend your country—but that's where values come in. Conservative values speak for themselves. I think Latinos in particular are almost conservative by nature. We have big, strong families, we're faith-based and we like to work hard. A strong family unit leads to a strong community and a strong community spreads out into a strong nation.

Faith is a core value for Lopez. As a Baptist Christian, she acknowledges the role faith has played in the well-being of her family and community and as a constitutionalist she firmly holds that even still there is a need for separation of church and state.

"My main goals, really... I want to grow the group and help conservative values grow in the community. However, I don't partake in the division. That's where you could say, while I am Republican and somewhat Libertarian, I'm more of a constitutionalist. I don't believe in slandering or attacking the other side. They have the same rights I have even if I don't agree with their opinions."

### American Treasure, Mrs. Parker

New treasurer Andrea Parker comes to the group in much the same way. Parker is an Idahoan mother of four who has also built a strong family with her husband for over 15 years. Born and raised in Idaho, Parker has been a treasurer on numerous local and state campaigns—she's been behind the scenes and has a feel for what needs to change.

"I feel like when the founding fathers created our republic, initially, serving office was supposed to be an actual type of service, almost even a hardship, and temporary. We've gotten away from that. These career politicians that try to represent us are so far removed from the issues that everyday citizens deal with that it's hard to feel adequately represented. With our group's effort, I hope we can see more real Americans step up and serve their country and the state of Idaho. I want to see everyone's rights respected and I think we can do that. I think, in the community, we can show that we are Constitutionally minded... Democrats included, that our rights and their rights both mean something and we'd like to play fairly and not be viewed as the enemy."

Lopez and Parker are both extremely expressive about the new board being equitable and ser-

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NEWS

POLITICS

# Republican Women

*Continued from Previous Page*

vice-oriented. Parker speaks with determination. “The new board is younger, we have families and so it is a service that we’re doing and it might even be a little harder for us than maybe someone who’s retired.” Dedication, commitment, unity—these are the constants and themes of the new board running the BCRW.

When either woman speaks, it’s clear that they’re willing to lead by example and put in the work for what they want to see in their community. Lopez is adamant about education and both for the community as a whole, as Americans, and the individual community members that need it most.

“We really need to focus on Idaho kids. Higher literacy rates, higher math skills. Mental health is a huge issue. We have to lower the depression and suicide rates. So many people right here in our community have committed suicide this year.”

Lopez has firsthand knowledge. She worked with the family of a recently deceased 14-year-old who committed suicide in Blaine County. “His youngest brother was one of my students when I worked at the preschool. It hurts and that’s where the fight is. Our politics may differ but we can’t ignore the problems with the children in the community. We’re all doing this together, as a community.”

### And How

“It’s important that we value one another and value the fact that our differences in belief are what create great ideas, great debates... we can’t silence one another. And I think that the things we [BCRW] are trying to bring in, like getting parents way more involved, showing them they have the right to speak up at the school district, you know, even California, which is maybe the most liberal state, it’s in the law, and we’re a red state and not practicing our First Amendment rights and I think we can all agree as Americans that is a right, it’s a middleground for both sides.”

As a child who went to public school, a mother with children to educate, and as a tutor, Lopez has seen all sides of the academic paradigm. She knows firsthand how racism affects youth. “In an after-school program where I worked, we were required to take a class; it was basically anti-white and they told us that all the things that we do to succeed, like being clean, being on time, that it’s all the influence of white people, of white supremacy. It gave us the idea that to be a real Hispanic, that hasn’t been influenced by ‘white’ people, I had to be ghetto and dirty and late. That’s where I can’t stay silent. I won’t allow anyone to silence me. They straight up said they wanted to get all the little boys and give them a lesson on toxic masculinity because they all came from toxic households because they’re Mexican. I quit that organization in tears. How dare they say that and here I am brown with black hair.”

### Women, Men and Media

“The media and others like to label the Republican Party as racist and I’ve seen it in schools. Kids are told this and they avoid certain schools that get labeled as Republican schools because they’re afraid they’ll be discriminated against. It’s incredible. As a constitutional Republican, I’m living proof and I want to show the Latino community that the Republican Party is welcoming of all. And it’s clear, the values of the Latino community reflect conservative values inherently. And while I’m Christian, and I want to see my children take on those Christian values, you know, maybe I don’t want other faiths influencing my kids through school, but I respect their faith as well and if they feel the same, you know, school is for teaching children things like mathematics and reading comprehension, so if we’re going to take one out, take them all out.” Lopez is willing to create a fair and equitable playing field for all, with the kids being of utmost importance.

Parker speaks of polarization and media tactics. “The media has given us a bad name, that everyone in the Republican Party is far right. That’s not at all how it is and we want to let people see that we’re not the Republican Party the media is bashing. We want it to be clear that we are taking a Big Tent approach, a Constitutional approach, and show the community that we want to include everyone. You can show up to one of our meetings. You can go online and join us. If you’re not sure, or you’re just thinking about it, you can volunteer. We’ll get you involved and you can see if you agree with what we’re doing.”

BCRW is a women’s group. Does that mean men, too?

“Our events are open to everyone. Men are always invited and always show up. I think it’s time that both sides come to an agreement that we’re all humans, we’re all Americans, we all believe in community and love our families and children. And though we may approach it in different ways, at the end of the day we live in this country together and it’s important that we value one another and value our differences.”

“We want to be a beacon of light for family values, social cohesion and a strong united country,” says Lopez with a smile in her voice.

One of the goals of the BCRW is to create a youth group and crucial is informing members, as time is of the essence, of upcoming legislation and events where they can make their voice heard. From public barbecues, to local debates, family-oriented events and new social media events, the BCRW group is in a major transition with big plans for the year. The next event is already scheduled for February 22, with details coming soon.

The Blaine County Republican Women’s group can be found online at <https://bcrwidaho.com/> Membership fees are a \$40 general membership for women with \$30 associate memberships for men.

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# BRING ON PRESIDENTS' DAY WEEKEND!



Presented by the Wood River Extreme Skijoring Association races feature cowboys and cowgirls with their fast horses racing with brave skiers and snowboarders. Photo credit: Mark LaRowe

## *There is plenty to do on and off the snow*

BY SABINA DANA PLASSE

Despite the snow conditions, Presidents' Day weekend in Sun Valley is shaping up to be a great holiday weekend to enjoy our mountain town through arts, culture and, of course, skiing and recreating. There is something for everyone to partake in, whether for the whole family, a single getaway long weekend or just plain kid and adult fun.

### Sun Valley Resort

At the Sun Valley Resort, President's Day Weekend Events will take place Friday, Feb. 16, through Monday, Feb. 19, which will include Après Music at River Run Lodge, from 2 to 5 p.m. featuring Kevin Ware Taylor

and Swift Eras Tour Skate Night at the Outdoor Ice Rink at the Resort, from 5 to 8 p.m.

On Saturday, Feb. 17, it's a live DJ at River Run Base from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., followed by Après Music at River Run Lodge from 2 to 5 p.m. featuring Ketchum's own Pisten Bullies and night skiing at Dollar Mountain from 6 to 9 p.m., which is a family-friendly event welcoming younger kids, families, parents and friends to ski Quarter Dollar.

While your little ones hit the slopes, gather at the base area for an evening filled with socializing and enjoy fantastic food and beverage options inside Carol's Dollar Mountain Lodge. The Resort will also feature Comedy

Night at the Sun Valley Opera House with Kevin Bozeman at 7 p.m.

For Sunday, Feb. 18, enjoy something new on the Seattle Ridge Lodge Patio Après with a live DJ from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and Après Music at River Run Lodge from 2 to 5 p.m. featuring Adam Williams Band. Night Skiing at Dollar Mountain continues for another evening from 6 to 9 p.m., where you can hang out at the unique Revelshine-sponsored Wine Lounge. This cozy area will feature wine tastings and purchases, comfy lounge area furniture, outdoor firepits and s'mores. It will be a fun and lively atmosphere with a live DJ, promising an evening filled with music and entertainment.

Wrapping up a great long weekend will be Après Music at River Run, from 2 to 5 p.m., featuring the Valley's very own Kim Stocking Band on Monday, Feb. 19. For Saturday and Sunday, Night Skiing at Dollar Mountain is \$55 for adults and \$45 for kids. Season Passes are not valid for this event. In addition, check movie listings at the Sun Valley Opera House for new releases.

### Sun Valley Gallery Association

Adding to the cultural activities for President's Day Weekend, the Sun Valley Gallery Association will host a Gallery Walk from 5 to 7:30 p.m., on Friday, February 16, which is free to the public, where locals and visitors alike take in thought-provoking exhibitions of newly installed art, enjoy wine, mingle with friends and often meet the artists. Visit [svgalleries.org](http://svgalleries.org) to learn more about participating galleries with new exhibits and emerging and established artists.

### Wood River Extreme Skijoring

In Bellevue, Presidents' Day weekend includes the annual Wood River Extreme Skijoring Races, February 17-18. Presented by the Wood Extreme Skijoring Association, the Wood River Extreme Skijoring Races features cowboys with their fast horses racing with brave skiers and snowboarders. It promises a weekend of fast-action fun that the whole family will enjoy. Skijoring is a winter sport in which a person on skis is pulled by a horse, a dog or a motor vehicle. It is derived from the Norwegian word skikjøring, meaning "ski driving." In the Wood



Après-ski at River Run Lodge is a weekend favorite. Photo credit Sun Valley Resort

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# Presidents' Day Weekend



Bloom #30 by Sage Barnes. Mixed media layered resin on canvas-wrapped panel, 60" x 60", at Sun Valley Contemporary Gallery.

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River Valley, horses are used.

Races will occur at 81 Browning Lane in Bellevue on Saturday, Feb. 17, and Sunday, Feb. 18, starting at 12 p.m. each day. There is an admission fee of \$10 per spectator, with children 12 and under free, and a portion of the fees will be donated to the Wood River High School Rodeo Team. Spectators are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, but dogs are not allowed. This family-friendly weekend event will also feature concessions at the races, a raffle to support a local area non-profit and evening events that include a team auction on Saturday night, 6:30 p.m. at Mahoney's Bar & Grill in Bellevue.



Stanley Winterfest's popular Outhouse Race takes place on Ace of Diamonds Street in the heart of Stanley. Photo courtesy of Stanley Winterfest

ue awards party on Sunday night, 5:30 p.m. at 7 Fuego restaurant in Gannett. Learn more at woodriversja.com.

### Stanley's Winterfest

Up north in the Sawtooth Valley in Stanley, Idaho, if wacky and weird in the wilds of winter sounds appealing, then Stanley's annual Winterfest is another President's Day weekend event to enjoy, which will not disappoint. Live music, street dances, drag races, outhouse races, and more make for an unforgettable weekend in Stanley. In addition, there are après ski events at Whiskey's on Main, Sun Valley Suns Ice Hockey games at the Campion Ice House in Hailey, and many more happenings to enjoy the Wood River and Sawtooths Valley in the heart of winter, whether a few inches or several feet of snow. For more community events, visit [visitsunvalley.com/calendar/](http://visitsunvalley.com/calendar/).



The Pisten Bullies. Photo courtesy of The Pisten Bullies

## Fun, Free Nordic Race for Kids

The Papoose Club, a local volunteer nonprofit supporting youth-oriented activities, is hosting the Nordic Cup, a community event, on Sunday, February 18. This event has been held in the Wood River Valley since 2006. Depending on snow conditions, the event is held at Quigley Nordic Center in Hailey. The cross-country event is open to youth aged 3-13 who may race in skate or classic disciplines.

This free community event is put on by Papoose Club volunteers in partnership with the Sun Valley Ski Education Foundation's Nordic ski program and the Blaine County Recreation District. Volunteers are needed and more information can be found at [papooseclub.org](http://papooseclub.org).

## Classic Flicks at HPL

Classic Flicks, a monthly series hosted by the Hailey Public Library, continues with a 1974 film featuring Robert Redford and Mia Farrow and offered as part of the 2024 Winter Read. The showing will be held on Thursday, February 8, at 6 p.m., at Town Center West. The romantic drama features social class conflicts, the American dream, glamour, obsession, and the extravagant parties of the 1920s.

"Each year Winter Read fosters a wonderful community conversation around a worthy book," commented Kristin Fletcher, the library's programs manager. "This year we've added a new twist by showing a movie based on this 1925 masterpiece written by F. Scott Fitzgerald."

Fletcher continued, "The March Classic Flick will feature Henry Fonda starring in a drama about an Oklahoma family during the Dust Bowl. Upcoming films star Cary Grant and Katherine Hepburn in a romantic comedy, Fred Astaire showing off his famous dance steps, and conclude with an iconic 1933 Marx Brothers comedy."

For details about these films visit [www.haileypubliclibrary.org](http://www.haileypubliclibrary.org).

## David Gere: "Can Art Save Lives?"

Sun Valley Museum of Art (SVMoA) proudly presents David Gere, the founding director of the UCLA Art & Global Health Center, on Monday, February 12 at 6 p.m. Gere will be speaking as part of the Museum's larger program as part of Bodies of Work: Art & Healing exhibition.

As Sun Valley Museum of Art explores the topic of art's power to heal through its current exhibition, Bodies of Work, the Museum has invited David Gere to speak about his work and commitment to using art as a way to improve public health and health outcomes. His extensive writing and global curatorial projects address arts-based public health interventions and projects.



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FEBRUARY 7 - 20  
FROM PICABO ANGLER

Do your snow dance! Our local snowpack levels leave a bit to be desired at the moment; currently, we sit at approximately 75% of normal. While we have good base flows in area rivers, a healthy water table, and relatively full reservoirs, we do need additional high-mountain snow to boost snowpack levels and ensure excellent summer flows on local waters.

Area fisheries have been productive under the right conditions. On Silver Creek, the midge activity should start to pick up. Long, light leaders and delicate presentations are required to fool midging trout; 12–15-foot leaders tapered to 6X or 6.5X are the norm. Trailing-shuck midges, tie-down midges, Griffith's Gnats, and Frippe midges have all been effective patterns (size 18–22).

The water level in the creek is up, so streamer fishing should continue to produce. Sparkle Minnows, Zonkers, Clouser Minnows, and other baitfish imitations are very effective, as are small, dark leeches and buggers. If you decide to get in the float tube and fish Kilpatrick Pond, dress warm and don't overdo it. Keep in mind that fishing on The Nature Conservancy's Silver Creek Preserve is closed until Memorial Day weekend. The open sections of Silver Creek are Kilpatrick Pond and downstream of the Highway 20 bridge.

Fishing is good on the Big Wood River, as well. Look for foam lines and back eddies, and you will find rising trout. Standard midge imitations, along with a tiny zebra midge dropper, are the way to go. Nymphing and streamer fishing continues to produce, while tried-and-true patterns are always effective (Copper Johns, Prince Nymphs, Rubber Legs, etc.). Don't be afraid to show the fish something a little different.

If you're looking to take a drive, both the Lower Big Lost River and South Fork Boise River have been productive lately under the right conditions. Again, midges, nymphs and streamers are all producing at times.

While February is the shortest month of the year, sometimes it certainly feels like the longest. In addition to the local fishing opportunities, now is a good time to take a look at your gear and do any maintenance or replacement that's needed.

Keep your fingers crossed for a little more snow and, as always, be safe out there.

Happy fishing, everyone!



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## COMMENTARY

NO BONES ABOUT IT

FRAN JEWELL

## WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

BY FRAN JEWELL

Recently, I have been so dismayed by the lack of EARLY dog training with puppies. I am not sure where this is coming from, but early training and socialization is imperative to have a dog you can live with.

What do I mean by EARLY? Before 16 weeks of age! Not AFTER they have finished their shots. By then, puppies have missed a critical imprinting period that helps them to live comfortably in our world. If puppies are not socialized with people, other dogs and new places during this period, they may fear them the rest of their lives. A fearful dog is NOT easy to live with and can eventually become fear aggressive.

When I talk about socializing with people, I mean both adults and children. Include people that are disabled and maybe in a wheelchair, on crutches, or using a walker. If dogs are not introduced to all of these things before that 16-week period is over, it can create a plethora of problems later on.

These experiences must be positive ones, which mean you have to take the responsibility to provide SAFE socialization. It does NOT mean taking your puppy to the DOG PARK and letting other dogs run up to your puppy and terrorize or bully him. It means letting your puppy have safe experiences with fair, friendly and healthy dogs that belong to your friends in a virus-free environment such as a fenced-in backyard. It also means asking your friends with dog-experienced children to help provide positive experiences with youngsters. Borrow a wheelchair, walker, cane or crutches from someone to let your pup see. Put pieces of food on them so the pup will go up, sniff the equipment and get rewarded for it. Wear silly hats, dark glasses and floppy clothes, or Halloween costumes, so your pup understands it's alright and not something to bark at or shy away from. Have a puppy party, where you ask all your friends to come over in 10-minute intervals to have a cracker-and-cheese party, where you can have your puppy sit nicely for treats upon each person's arrival. Be sure you invite everyone — male, female, and children. Leave other dogs home for another time.

As for training, the more you can teach your dog before the 16 weeks is up, the easier it is to work with your dog as s/he hits his/her "teenage years," meaning from six months to a year old.

ALL dogs go through this period where they test you and what you are going to do about everything — whether they really have to come when they are called, or if they HAVE to sit by the door instead of



SAFE socialization with other dogs, people and places is IMPERATIVE for puppies under 16 weeks of age. Here, my puppy Steel is playing with a new friend in a safe yard. We combined both obedience and playtime! Photo credit: Fran Jewell

bolting out into the street. Imprinting behaviors like "leave it" and "come" are critical at this time, as well as how to walk nicely on a leash.

THE LONGER YOU WAIT TO TRAIN, THE HARDER IT IS because you have to UNDO all the bad behaviors your dog learns during that 16-week period to replace them with the good behaviors. TRAINING TAKES LONGER THE LONGER YOU WAIT. Just like human babies, give your pup the BEST start in life.

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

SCIENCE OF PLACE

HARRY WEEKES

## Extended Mind

BY HARRY WEEKES

It is the beginning of November. I am walking from my hotel to the classroom building where the Society for Human Ecology conference is being held. I am on the University of Arizona campus in Tucson, a place I have never been. Walking down the street is a combination of taking in a new city, navigating through a major university, and working to understand the landscape of an unfamiliar place.

The robots are the most obvious oddity. These are effectively coolers on wheels, each with a small pole sticking out the top adorned with a flashing light. These coolers chug down the sidewalk, light blinking. When they get to an intersection, they pause. The light starts to blink rapidly. Cars stop. People sidestep them. And they proceed. I later found out these were automated delivery vehicles, carrying different kinds of snacks to different locations on campus. I can only imagine how many of these have been hijacked and pried open for what they are carrying, like a kind of robotic pomegranate.

It is not until I am on the street outside of the conference center that one sound immediately perks my ears. It is high pitched and comes in a series of bursts. I don't know that it was the loudest sound, just the most piercing. It is disorientingly familiar. I know the sound, but I am struggling to recognize it. It is kind of like seeing someone from your hometown in a different city, or when you run into someone in the supermarket who you only know in a completely different context.

But this sound is one that is more than just an acquaintance. It is a kestrel. An American kestrel. It is its alarm call. Or maybe its irritation call. It is the one the birds give when they are unhappy. The bursts are undulating. The bird is in flight and it is disgruntled. I do not know this bird, but I know this call. I look into the blue sky and, sure enough, my pointy-winged friend is moving like a feathered sine wave in the sky.

This past fall, my students and I learned about "the extended mind"—a term psychologists and sociologists use to refer to our ability to have elements of our surroundings become an extension of our mind. The obvious example they use is a smart phone, that repository for calendars, photos, contacts, and increasingly the place where everything is stored. We spend so much time on and with our phones that now people are having tactile hallucinations that their phone is vibrating when it's not even on them. The phone, in this case, has become assimilated into our nervous systems.

I think the human mind was born extended, with one of the most tragic elements of our march toward civilization being a gradual trimming of so many of the extensions that connected us to the natu-



A Yandex food delivery robot. Photo courtesy of Yandex.

ral world. Our almost obsessive desire to be apart from our environment has turned the great and labyrinthine forest of our mind into a kind of mental bonsai.

Hearing this bird not only expanded my awareness, it connected me instantaneously to a broader world. Yes, it connected me to this bird. It also connected me to another one. You see, a kestrel makes this noise in response to something. And that something is not a cactus. I stood there and scanned as much of the skyline as I could see—the geometric lines of buildings, vents, and antennae, and... there. Sitting on the edge of the building. A raptor in its quintessential raptor hunch.

"Ahhh, yes... there you are."

I had no idea who the raptor was, so I just stood there for a while, watching and listening. And gently feeding and coaxing that little unruly branch poking out of the topiary.

"Grow. Grow."

*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

## 'DON'T FIGHT THE FED'

BY SUZANNE HAZLETT, MBA, CIMA®, CFP®

## What is the FOMC

The Federal Reserve Act of 1913 gave the U.S. Federal Reserve the responsibility for setting monetary policy. When you hear about the Fed meeting, the Federal Open Market Committee, or FOMC, holds eight regularly scheduled meetings per year. The Committee comprises Reserve Bank presidents who participate in discussions and contribute to assessing the economy and policy options.

## What the FOMC Does

The Committee adjusts interest rates by setting a target for the Fed funds rate. This is the rate that banks charge each other for overnight loans, known as Fed funds. Banks use these loans to ensure they have enough to meet the Fed's reserve requirement. Banks must keep this reserve each night at their local Federal Reserve Bank or in cash in their vaults.

The Committee announces its decisions at its eight meetings per year. It explains its actions by commenting on how well the economy performs, especially inflation and unemployment.

Last week, the Federal Reserve announced they were keeping the federal funds rate unchanged during their first FOMC meeting of 2024, despite expectations of a rate cut at the March meeting. That marks six months since the Fed last changed the base rate. The announcement included comments suggesting further rate hikes may be behind us while lower rates must wait.

## How the FOMC Affects You

The FOMC affects you through control of the Fed funds rate. Banks use this rate to guide all other interest rates. As a result, the Fed funds rate controls the availability of money to invest in houses, businesses and, ultimately, your salary and investment returns. This directly affects the value of your retirement portfolio, the cost of your next mortgage, the selling price of your home, and the potential for your next raise.

Inflation has continued to trend lower, though it has not yet reached the Committee's preferred rate of 2 percent. The Personal Consumption Expenditure price index has been below 3 percent for several months. Despite the promising trend, the Committee remains data-dependent and is expected to continue to monitor income data before the March FOMC meeting. Pay close attention to the FOMC meeting announcements so you can anticipate economic changes and take steps to enhance or protect your finances.

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

## ON LIFE'S TERMS

JOELLEN COLLINS

## THREE MONTHS ADAPTING

BY JOELLEN COLLINS

There is a phase in any move where one must adjust to new circumstances. Even too many POSITIVE changes in a short time can cause stress, in spite of one being excited with the new. I imagined that my relocation would be easier than it has been, but with some tweaks, at just three months, I find myself smiling a lot, laughing often, meeting new people, and getting involved in a bit more of the world outside my residence. I smile when I remind others that I arrived in Walnut Creek the night before Halloween, without a broomstick. As silly as that thought is, I have discovered that acknowledging my own personality and qualities has been just fine. I am not competing with anyone or fearing that if I give out a compliment, someone will think I'm just insecure and flattering. I just do what I feel is right for me.

I recognize my flaws: I know I talk too much, I am compelled to make mild jokes, and I probably comment too often on things I notice around me, especially sweet events, good conversations, engaging books, and our very accommodating staff. Maybe no one needs to hear me effuse about the food, someone's new haircut or the pleasure of meeting new people. Obviously, this behavior is inbred but also serves to mask some of my sadness at not being close to my former neighbors and events in the Wood River Valley.

I do miss my former life, but because I am hopelessly possessed of a cheery attitude, I believe I notice lovely things almost every day. My dog Suki, music, literature, good television, and healthy activities are accessible, but so is peace and quiet. I am learning to enjoy this weather and many short but beautiful walks. This morning, right outside my window, were two daffodils blooming, with others ready to pop. I appreciate seeing this bright yellow delight even in winter.

So little things have taken on larger meanings, encouraging me to be more aware of the everyday events that nourish us. The server in the dining hall who loves to sing as he greets us is a happy example. He's not asking for a tip (servers are salaried here) but expressing his delight at a new day and the people around him.

Many of my recent acquaintances have grievous physical ailments but manage their lives in admirable ways. It doesn't hurt and makes me happy to greet them, the attentive staff, and others with a "Hello" or "Goodnight" and mean it. That's daily reinforcement of my gratitude for being here and now. If I lose my dog, receive bad news about friends and family and acquire some afflictions, I will still try to remember how I have been blessed.

In a letter to a suffering friend, the poet Keats said, "Thank heaven for what happiness you have, and after thinking a moment or two that you suffer with all mankind, hold it not a sin to regain your cheerfulness."



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."

## INSPIRATIONS FROM MY HEART

DOVE

## Secrets From The Magic Swan

BY DOVE

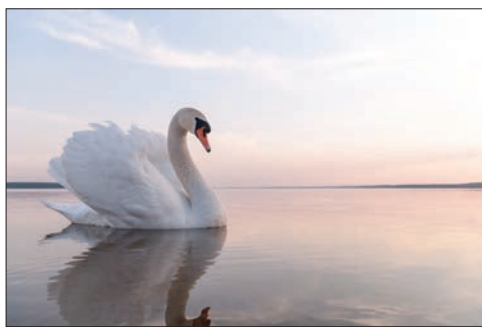
My daughter has a very strong personality and when she was growing up she often times could not find a solution to issues with her friends. When I put her to bed at night, I would tell her a story about this magic swan that had a problem very similar to hers and the magic swan could always find a kind solution. Mom was not someone to take advice from, but she could hear the magic swan. As she grew up and went to college, she sent me a lovely composition called "Secrets From the Magic Swan." It goes like this: **1. Nothing is permanent. 2. Be still and know. 3. Passion plus action equals satisfaction. 4. The only security you can really have is your grounded self. 5. Be true to yourself, but respectful of others. 6. Be here now. 7. Think before you speak. 8. Maintain the mystery. 9. Go Forward with confidence.**

As I go back and review these jewels of wisdom, I ask myself, can I follow them under trying conditions? For instance, what if we had actual space beings come for a visit. Would I go into fear and become combative or would I have an open mind, stay grounded and let my higher self guide me on my path? After all, nothing will ever stay the same. Can I change peacefully with each new event? What if our planet passed through a photon belt and we had no sun, or moon, or stars for a few days. Would I panic or would I always be prepared for unusual and new events?

Do I take responsibility for having all I need in supply to sustain those I love in the case of strange and new adventures? As we move into the events of 2024, I suggest that we all open our minds, get really in touch with any fears we hold, and accept them. Then do what you can to prepare for new realities. Our planet is a growing, living, changing being. In order to grow with it, we must change and grow also. Accept our fears, explore them, and then have the faith to know you are loved beyond measure and you will be guided in all instances. This would be my way of dealing with such changes, I hope.

We never know how we would react until faced with new circumstances, but we can hope we will breathe deeply, ground ourselves and move into peace and love no matter what. Hold truth and love in your heart and you will always be prepared for change. Always be true to yourself and think before you react.

Life is a gift and the purpose is joy. Go forward with confidence and know nothing is permanent. Change is inevitable. Blessings, Dove



## WRANGLER'S WRITINGS

BRYCE ANGELL

## A Snail's Pace

We'd saddled up our horses at the trailhead in the Park. For a ride through Yellowstone in hopes of getting done 'fore dark.

We started at Old Faithful on a brisk October day and were aiming for the Ranger Station thirty miles away.

I could hear the click as saddle bags were buckled in their places. I don't believe I've ever seen so many grinning faces.

The horses' breaths were steaming in the cold October air. An hour into daylight, not a minute's time to spare.

With four new lady riders who'd be bringing up the tail, our traveling would be slower than a ninety-year-old snail.

The ladies were beginners. I'm not saying they weren't smart. But they made the biggest blunder stopping at a Mini-Mart.

The gals tanked down on Diet Coke like there was no tomorrow. If only they'd have realized no daylight time to borrow.

We'd barely left the trailhead, only rode a mile or so. When their Diet Coke would travel south. So then they had to "Go."

We helped the ladies climb on down. Into the woods they went. Then helped each one back on her horse, just like a proper gent.

The snail brigade moved down the trail but stopped when (wouldn't you know?) Another lady called out loud, "I really gotta go!"

So once again we helped her down and then back on her steed. I warned them all, "We're running late! We should pick up the speed."

We rode a few more miles, and then I heard a desperate plea, "I know we're short of time, but please, I really gotta pee!"

How many times in one day can a person really go? I hesitated asking 'cuz I didn't want to know.

We stopped along the river's edge and wolfed down every bite. We'd soon be riding in the dark and trust the horses' sight.

Our day was done. The sun went down. The ride had gone too slow. But after dark I never heard, "I really gotta go."

We finally reached the station. Yes, our patience had been tried. My body was a total wreck. I'd say completely fried.

So next time when you ride with us, please take my sound advice. "Leave all the soda pop at home! Next time we won't be nice!"

— 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.



# Bridging Wealth Gaps: Homeownership's Stand Against Inflation

BY ANNA & MICHELLE

When exploring the benefits of homeownership, it's more than just having a place to call your own. Among its many advantages, homeownership stands as a formidable safeguard against inflation and a strong vehicle for long-term wealth accumulation. This article will delve into the dynamics of appreciation and amortization, explaining why owning a home can be one of the most impactful financial decisions you can make.

Inflation, the overall upward price movement of goods and services in an economy, erodes the purchasing power of money. In simpler terms, as inflation rises, each dollar you have buys a smaller percentage of a good or service. The same inflation that is driving rising mortgage rates is putting upward pressure on home prices.

Over the past 60 years, homes have appreciated in value at an annual appreciation rate of 5.56%, according to the Federal Reserve Economic Data. As a homeowner, you want to benefit from the appreciation. Inflation for the same period averaged 3.7% (Bureau of Labor Statistics), making homes an effective hedge against inflation.

Real estate, unlike many other assets, is a tangible, real asset. History has shown that over the long term, the value of real assets tends to rise at a rate that at least matches, if not outpaces, inflation. So, as the price of goods and services increases, so does the value of real estate, making homeownership a strategic move against inflationary pressures.

With a fixed-rate mortgage, your monthly principal and interest payment remains constant. As a result, while other costs may rise due to inflation, your primary housing cost (if you exclude taxes and maintenance) remains stable, shielding you from the full impact of inflation.

Home appreciation refers to the increase in the home's value over time. Given the finite nature of land and the ever-growing demand for housing, especially in thriving areas, real estate often appreciates. This appreciation can result in substantial equity gains for homeowners, creating a form of 'forced savings' and making it a



powerful tool for wealth accumulation.

Amortization has been considered the silent wealth builder. Each time you make a mortgage payment, a portion of that payment goes toward the loan's interest, and the rest pays down the principal, thus retiring your debt incrementally. This process means you're gradually building equity in the home with each payment. Over time, a larger portion of your payment goes toward the principal, accelerating your equity buildup.

Combined, appreciation and amortization can lead to significant wealth growth for homeowners. As the home's value rises and the mortgage balance decreases, homeowners often find themselves sitting on a substan-

tial asset, which can be leveraged in various ways, from securing loans to planning retirements.

While the emotional and social benefits of homeownership are often celebrated, the financial benefits are equally compelling. In a world of economic uncertainties and inflationary pressures, owning a home emerges not just as a source of stability but also as a strategy for long-term financial prosperity. By understanding and leveraging the twin forces of appreciation and amortization, homeowners can pave a path to meaningful wealth accumulation even during periods of relatively high mortgage rates.

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## NUESTRA VOZ CUENTA

## LUCHA LIBRE

# Lucha Libre - An Introduction

Lucha libre, meaning "freestyle wrestling" or literally translated as "free fight" is the term for the style of professional wrestling originating in Mexico. Since its introduction to Mexico in the early 20th century, it has developed into a unique form of the genre, characterized by colorful masks, rapid sequences of holds and maneuvers, and "high-flying" maneuvers, some of which have been adopted in the United States, Japan, and elsewhere. The wearing of masks has developed special significance, and matches are sometimes contested in which the loser must permanently remove his mask, which is a wager with a high degree of weight attached. Tag team wrestling is especially prevalent in lucha libre, particularly matches with three-member teams, called trios.

In the English language, the term refers exclusively to Mexican-style professional wrestling (staged performances with predetermined outcomes), while in Spanish it can refer to freestyle wrestling (es:lucha libre olimpica), professional wrestling (es:lucha libre profesional), and specifically Mexican professional wrestling (es:lucha libre mexicana).

Lucha libre wrestlers are known as luchadores (singular luchador, meaning "wrestler"). They usually come from extended wrestling families who form their own stables. One such line integrated to the United States professional wrestling scene is Los Guerreros (with their family name coincidentally being the Spanish word for "warrior").

Lucha libre has become a loanword in English, as evidenced by works such as Los Luchadores, ¡Mucha Lucha!, Lucha Mexico, and Nacho Libre. Lucha libre also appears in other pop culture such as mainstream advertising: In Canada, Telus's Koodo Mobile Post Paid cell service uses a cartoon lucha libre wrestler as its spokesperson/mascot.

On July 21, 2018, Mexican lucha libre was declared an intangible cultural heritage of Mexico City.

The antecedents of Mexican wrestling date back to 1863, during the French Intervention in Mexico, when Enrique Ugartechea, the first Mexican wrestler, developed and invented Mexican lucha libre from Greco-Roman wrestling.

In the early 1900s, professional wrestling was mostly a regional phenomenon in Mexico until Salvador Lutteroth founded the Empresa Mexicana de Lucha Libre (Mexican Wrestling Enterprise) in 1933, giving the sport



Mexican masked wrestlers Carístico and Místico. Photo credit: Secretaría de Cultura Ciudad de México, accessed via Wikipedia

a national foothold for the first time. The promotion flourished and quickly became the premier spot for wrestlers. As television surfaced as a viable entertainment medium during the 1950s, Lutteroth was then able to broadcast his wrestling across the nation, subsequently yielding a popularity explosion for the sport. Moreover, it was the emergence of television that allowed Lutteroth to promote lucha libre's first breakout superstar into a national pop-culture phenomenon.

In 1942, lucha libre would be forever changed when a silver-masked wrestler, known simply as El Santo (The Saint), first stepped into the ring. He made his debut in Mexico City by winning an 8-man battle royal. The public became in love with the mystique and secrecy of Santo's personality, and he quickly became the most popular luchador in Mexico. His wrestling career spanned nearly five decades, during which he became a folk hero and a symbol of justice for the common man through his appearances in comic books and movies, while the sport received an unparalleled degree of mainstream attention.

Other legendary luchadores who helped popularize the sport include Gory Guerrero, who is credited with developing moves and holds which are now commonplace in professional wrestling; Blue Demon, a contemporary of

Santo and possibly his greatest rival; and Mil Máscaras (Man of A Thousand Masks), who is credited with introducing the high flying moves of lucha libre to audiences around the world. He achieved international fame as one of the first high-flyers, something he was not considered in Mexico, where he fell under the mat-power category.

### Masks

Masks (máscaras) have been used dating back to the beginnings of lucha libre in the early part of the 20th century, and have a historical significance to Mexico in general, dating to the days of the Aztecs. Early masks were very simple with basic colors to distinguish the wrestler. In modern lucha libre, masks are colorfully designed to evoke the images of animals, gods, ancient heroes and other archetypes, whose identity the luchador takes on during a performance. Virtually all wrestlers in Mexico will start their careers wearing masks, but over the span of their careers, a large number of them will be unmasked. Sometimes, a wrestler slated for retirement will be unmasked in his final bout or at the beginning of a final tour, signifying a loss of identity as that character. Sometimes, losing the mask signifies the end of a gimmick with the wrestler moving on to a new gimmick and mask. The mask is considered sacred to a degree, so much so that fully removing an opponent's mask during a match is grounds for disqualification.

During their careers, masked luchadores will often be seen in public wearing their masks and keeping up the culture of lucha libre, while other masked wrestlers will interact with the public and press normally. However, they will still go to great lengths to conceal their true identities; in effect, the mask is synonymous with the luchador. El Santo continued wearing his mask after retirement, revealing his face only briefly in old age, and was eventually buried wearing his silver mask.

More recently, the masks luchadores wear have become iconic symbols of Mexican culture. Contemporary artists like Francisco Delgado and Xavier Garza incorporate wrestler masks in their paintings.

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answer from page 12

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BEST	LEFT	UNSAID
OREIDA		
ALA	OAF	SEEIN
PIANOS		
RIP	NTSB	TIM
MISTY		
AGATE	CINEMA	ESTEE
BAKE	TARTAN	PLAID
LAST		
AMORE	GROWER	GNOME
TURIN	EAR	EINE
ROT		
CLEANS	SAILS	DER
EW		
HEALUP	COMMITTEE	CHAIR
	MICRO	YAMAHA
ADEN		
PASO	AINT	ONE
STY		
ANISE	VEILS	DRAKE
LAD		
TOTASTE	DONT	BESON
AIVE		
HABITAT	EBONY	PROTEIN
SKYCAPS	DEBT	STRANDS

### SUDOKU

answer from page 12

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

Think Snow!



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# Locals Helping Locals: Blaine County Charitable Fund

BY MIKE MCKENNA

The good thing about hard times is that they often bring out the best in people. The Blaine County Charitable Fund is just such an example.

When the COVID crisis hit Blaine County, lots of folks were struggling and didn't know where to turn for help. A small group of locals got together to try to figure out what they could do to help with the challenges facing our community.

While Blaine County is blessed with numerous nonprofits, the group realized that we were lacking a community financial assistance fund — the kind you can find in other ski towns like Aspen and Jackson Hole. Once they figured out their path to help, the Blaine County Charitable Fund hit the ground running.

"We needed broad coverage so that we could help the entire community," Mary Fauth said. "Within a couple weeks we were rolling, thanks to the help of lots of local nonprofits."

Mary worked full time as a volunteer for the first six months and became the executive director once the nonprofit became official. BCCF's founding board consists of Kevin Jones, Daryl Fauth, Sheila Moriarty, Herbert Romero, Penny Thayer and Steve Thompson, with guidance and support from Lynn Campion. They created a nonprofit that began to show its impact in no time flat.

By April of 2020, BCCF started allocating funds to people in need. Their applications then began doubling every week for months. Rent assistance was the biggest need then and is still part of what BCCF can help with, which includes security deposits and a Rapid Relief Fund for unexpected challenging expenses.

"One of the great things about our organization is that we can pivot quickly and be really nimble with how we can help," Mary said. "We were founded because of the crisis, but we are clearly needed in our community post-COVID."

In just a few years, the BCCF has already helped hundreds of locals get through everything from the global pandemic to the Limelight condos fire.



"We're trying to find the gaps in our community where people need assistance," Mary said. "We have great collaboration of resources and knowledge with our local nonprofits and other leaders, so we can have creative responses to our community's needs."

As the stats show, nearly half of our community is one crisis or challenge away from major issues with housing, food and healthcare. It's really important to have folks like the BCCF here for us.

"Every year we're finding more and more ways to help support the people we want to be able to live and work in our community," Mary said. "We're trying to make sure those people who feel invisible in our community are seen and heard and helped."

Even though COVID was tough, it helped inspire some locals to prove that Margaret Mead was right: "A small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world."

To help or find out more, go to [BlaineCF.org](http://BlaineCF.org) or come to the **February Business After Hours (BAH) on Thursday, February 15 from 5-7 p.m. at the BCCF offices in the Meriwether Building, 111 N. 1st Ave. in Hailey.**



## HARD WAY PIPELINE

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### How To Play Sudoku

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

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

### CROSSWORD

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### THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)  
**AI DEMONSTRATION: With seven different pronunciations**  
by Mark McClain

<b>ACROSS</b>	80 Italian auto center	11 Melodic
1 Net income	81 Barber's obstacle	12 Gets moving
8 Aid wrongfully	82 German article	13 Latin eggs
12 Table protectors	83 Go bad	14 Hard-drive capacity prefix
19 Library assessment	86 Sanitizes	15 Apple display area
20 Publicity ad, for short	88 Leaves the dock	16 Venue for van Gogh
21 Invade successfully	93 German article	17 Without delay
22 Taking of land for public use	94 Certain sheep	18 Evil smile
24 Former inmate	95 Get well	20 Haughty
25 Burro, for instance	96 Legislature leadership role	23 Lack of confidence
26 English racing town	99 "Small" starter	28 Be inclined (to)
27 Facts and figures	101 Honda alternative	30 Boxful to assemble
29 London-born superstar singer	102 Port of Yemen	32 ___ qua non
30 SAS alternative	103 El __, TX	34 Discontinue
31 Increases	106 Colloquial contraction	36 Vintage ski lift
33 "Shall we?" response	108 Small bill	37 Copter starter
35 Cold War adversary	109 Home for hogs	38 Without delay
36 Bangkok native	111 Biscotti flavoring	39 Unseen by the audience
39 Woodwind player	113 Keeps hidden	40 U-turn from NNW
42 Inappropriate	116 Duckling's dad	41 Mai __ cocktail
44 Wisely not mentioned	118 Young bloke	43 First rate
48 Big potato processor	121 Recipe's "as you like it"	45 Time-consuming
52 Very much like	123 "Lose your gullibility!"	46 Patronize, as a deli
53 Clumsy person	126 Natural environment	47 Spy's collection
54 Greet and seat	127 Dark wood	49 Very quick, in brand names
55 Saloon amenities	128 Dietary need	50 Fawns over, with "on"
56 Tear (apart)	129 Baggage handlers	51 So far
57 Accident investigation agcy.	130 Amount owed	58 Yankee catching great
59 Dickens boy	131 Spaghetti, essentially	60 Anything seen
62 Tearful		61 Theme
63 Stone used for marbles	<b>DOWN</b>	63 Assembly of photos from on high
64 The film industry	1 Court statement	64 Crow's comment
67 Lauder of cosmetics	2 Certain sheep	65 Ending like -esque
68 Word on oven dials	3 Escalator maker	66 Fresh Air ailer
71 Clan's colorful design	4 Swampy ground	68 Cookie quantity
74 Final	5 "Seems to me..."	69 Stubborn as __
75 Italian love	6 Evening hr.	70 East Asian peninsula
77 Garden figure	7 Firms up	72 Sculpted body
78 Garden figure	8 Inlet, for instance	
	9 Tropical snakes	
	10 Send forth	

CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2024 STANLEY NEWMAN WWW.STANXWORDS.COM 2/11/24

73 Gift recipient	96 Tapered shape	112 "¿Cómo __ usted?"
76 Tedium	97 Over yonder	114 Ear tip
79 Bygone Ford, familiarly	98 Foal food	115 Hoity-toity type
83 Get into a biography	100 Engrosses	117 Hieroglyphics reptiles
84 Tot's scrape	103 Woodland walkways	118 Legal claim
85 Gull cousin	104 Sturdy as __	119 Enthusiastic
87 Shelter org.	105 Do nothing	120 Ursine abodes
89 Novelist Tan	107 Helped get through, with "over"	122 Keg faucet
90 "___ little confused"	109 LPGA player's garment	124 Explosive letters
91 VIP's ride	110 Choral range	125 ___ loss for words
92 Wait		

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

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

<p>PM Snow Showers 32%</p> <p><b>high 32°</b> low 15°</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY</b></p>	<p>Partly Cloudy 19%</p> <p><b>high 32°</b> low 19°</p> <p><b>THURSDAY</b></p>	<p>PM Snow Showers 34%</p> <p><b>high 30°</b> low 15°</p> <p><b>FRIDAY</b></p>	<p>Partly Cloudy 17%</p> <p><b>high 33°</b> low 19°</p> <p><b>SATURDAY</b></p>	<p>Partly Cloudy 8%</p> <p><b>high 35°</b> low 18°</p> <p><b>SUNDAY</b></p>	<p>Partly Cloudy 6%</p> <p><b>high 34°</b> low 21°</p> <p><b>MONDAY</b></p>	<p>Partly Cloudy 12%</p> <p><b>high 36°</b> low 20°</p> <p><b>TUESDAY</b></p>
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