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Free | June 12 - 25, 2024 | Vol. 5 - No. 12 | woodriverweekly.com

"Believe that you can and you are halfway there."  
- Theodore Roosevelt

## BLAINE MANOR APARTMENTS STANDS AS SYMBOL OF COMMUNITY



Front of Blaine Manor Apartments on Main Street in Hailey. Photo credit: WRW

BY ISIAH FRIZZELL

**B**laine Manor Apartments is a noteworthy symbol for community devotion. A sparkling new complex comprised of buildings dedicated to seniors and families of low income — in other words, the people who have and do make the Valley's wheels turn — shines in splendor with full occupancy. As it stands, Blaine Manor Apartments has been open for nearly two years and with a happy set of residents and a mega-waiting list, things are running joyous and smoothly.

### Blaine Manor History

The first incarnation of Blaine Manor was as a nursing home. The structure was county-owned and served the elderly by providing long-term care. As a huge part of the community, the essential services they offered helped seniors live comfortably and gracefully in the community they helped build.

Over the years the normal wear and tear of a housing facility took its toll and the structure needed substantial maintenance and upgrades. The county could no longer afford to keep it running and so the decision was made to funnel remaining resources elsewhere and shutter the home. But, the residents had to go somewhere!

The county officially closed Blaine Manor in 2013.

### Affordable, Regional Community Housing (ARCH)

ARCH Community Housing Trust has been dedicated to finding, developing and preserving low- to moderate-income housing since its inception as a nonprofit in 2006. It began by acquiring older properties to create affordable rental units for local residents. ARCH partners with both the public sector and city governments like Hailey, Ketchum and Bellevue — local banks and financial institutions, corporate donors, foundations and philanthropic organizations. ARCH is absolutely embedded and dedicated to the community in Blaine County and is renowned for its community-centric

heroes who build much-needed infrastructure for the low- to moderate-income residents of the Valley.

ARCH acquired Blaine Manor in 2013 after the nursing home closed. Plans and renovations took place up until the COVID-19 pandemic when red tape and obfuscation of development mired the entire world in confusion. Two years ago, after the legal smoke and mirrors began to evaporate, Blaine Manor resurfaced, via the leadership at ARCH, as a low-income rental space, much to the delight of residents and families.

### One-Woman Show

Amy Hinton has been running Blaine Manor from the conception of its new incarnation. For over a year and a half she flew solo, until a few months ago when Hinton was able to employ a part-time assistant to help run the facilities. While they do not currently have a full-time maintenance person, it isn't entirely needed for such a new building. They outsource maintenance and landscaping to outfits who visit every few weeks from Boise or Twin Falls. As a new structure, things are going well.

Hinton shines in her role and only wishes they could house more. "I'd love to have 200 more apartments to house the need in this Valley but it's gone well, it's beautiful here and a great situation for everyone..." Amy speaks gently with joy in a buoyant tone of service and satisfaction. Speaking of the waiting list, "It's been a big process and if space and finances were not an issue, we could easily have 200-300 more rooms and house more people."

Hinton currently runs 200 rooms set up as two primary sets of buildings where each structure has 30 apartments. One set they refer to as the Family Building for, you guessed it, families, and the Senior Building caters to those 55 and over. The Family Building is for anyone; however, they do go by occupancy and prioritize households with two persons or more.

"There's not been a lot of turnover. We were full right away and people are really settled in and happy here.

The Senior Building has some good amenities... you know, there's a community building and a library... and there's a playground for the Family Building."

"We did do a rent increase last year. It was less than 10%. Unfortunately, rent increase is just part of the game. But it is very manageable. I have a broad range of different folks."

### A Community of Care

Blaine Manor is functioning well and hats off to ARCH for making it happen. The locals are very happy and, as mentioned, the waiting list is long. Perhaps the one thing that could make life easier would be if visitors to the sports amenities nearby would respect the parking of the people who actually live at Blaine Manor. The parking spots are literally the residents' driveways where they park to go into their home, carry in groceries and come and go to play outside with their children.

"Really, the only kink I have here is the parking situation," said Hinton. "We're by the ice rink, baseball and soccer field here so we have a lot of overflow, just people parking in our parking lot. I have to kick people out of here constantly and I even tow some sometimes, which I super hate doing, but I have to advocate for my tenants. We have signs up and the ice rink has even published a notice in the paper for parking but, I don't know why, sometimes people just don't care." As with any city structure, the melding of mindsets, as far as personal responsibility for way of life, can be a hurdle to overcome. Optimistically, as time goes on, people will begin to respect others and learn to find appropriate parking.

With happy tenants, a caring community and dextrous management, the boon to the Valley is that Blaine Manor thrives for all involved. You can even be put on the waiting list if you call. Amy Hinton can be reached by phone at (208) 519-8164 or via email at blainemanor@thehousingcompany.org.

# THANK YOU!

The Wood River Senior Bash Committee would like to thank all donors for their generous support of this year's event. With your partnership, we were able to provide a sober and fun graduation night for the Class of 2024 Graduates.

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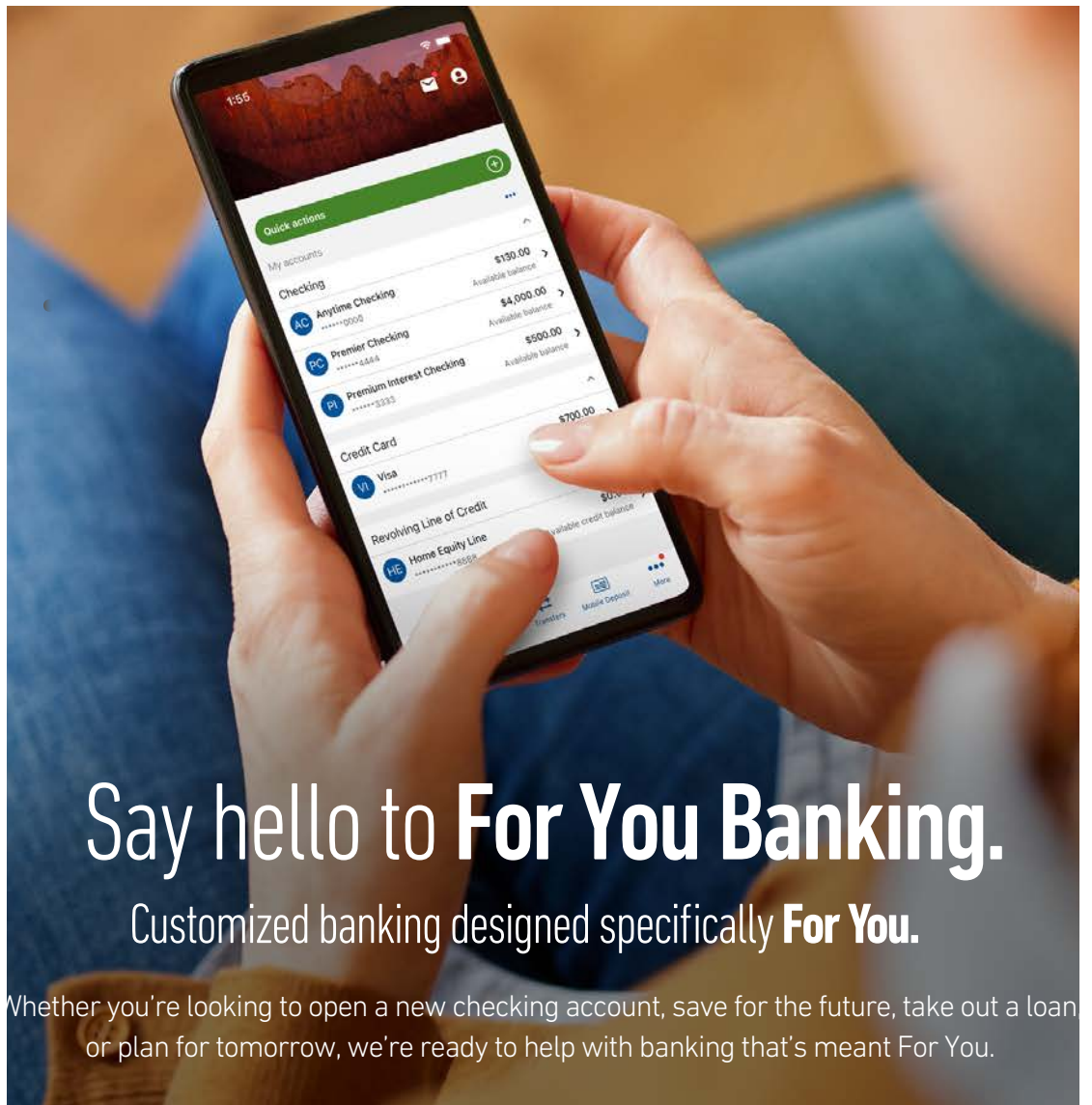
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To reserve space for an obituary or pet obituary, call Mandi at (208) 721-7588



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# 15th Annual Challis Car Show



Paul Warmouth's '57 Chevy Bel Air. Photo courtesy: Isaiah Frizzell

## Hot Cars In Challis

BY ISAIAH FRIZZELL

### The Center of Idaho

Challis, is a bustling little cluster of a town with no real stoplight and a bounty of hardcore ranchers and mechanics. The most happening spot in the area is the Allied hardware store or your flavor of church. The local art scene flourishes at MadDog Gallery supported by the Challis Arts Council where you can find all manner of beautiful leather art, silver and stone jewelry along with pottery, photography and paintings.

With a population of around 900, Challis is a unique mountain town made up of a handful of streets, lots of desert mountains and the Salmon River. The River of No Return Endurance Runs brings a huge crowd, while the hot springs and hikes are a big seasonal draw, with one colloquially known as 'Goldbug' being a bit of both.

There's a ton of backcountry recreation to be had in the sleepy town but occasionally something pops up that draws statewide attention.

### Mechanical Melodies

Every first Saturday in June, Challis Classy Chassis holds the annual Show N' Shine car show, with gorgeous vehicular entries from all over the state, this year including glazed Cobras, golden-spoked Chevy Bel Airs, a '67 Dodge Daytona and any number of fleeked-out trucks dating back to the early 1930s.

This most recent Show N' Shine marked the group's 15th year, and also took place while the local Farmers' Market held up a hefty hodgepodge of local bounty. Fresh clean vegetables, honey, crafts, and cars. It was genuine bucolic bliss.

At Show N' Shine, people from all over the state parked their hotrods and set up tents—hoods held high and engines chromed out. The old-school blast was in full swing as Jukebox Charlie, Chuck Felton, pumped the classic American tunes in his portable hubcap-holstered DJ booth, with everything from Elvis, The Everly Brothers and Bread to the DJ's namesake, Johnny Paycheck.

The sun was warm and bright in spite of several cloudy thunderstorm moments. This is Idaho, after all, and the weather changes quicker than a hare on a hunt.

A large crowd ogled the jalopies, enjoying BBQ from Real Deal Smokehouse and dollar beers from

the Challis Lodge. Sourdough pancakes, sausage and egg were sold early in the day by the Legionnaires from the Philip Kirk Post No. 109 in Challis while local firefighters raised money selling their own ice cream. Later in the day, Farm Bureau Insurance began giving out soft-serve ice cream for free.

There were 41 gorgeous classic cars with a few modern Mustangs maintained to peak condition and driven to Challis from all over the state. It's always a fun and free show without an entry fee or admission. While not exactly competitive, the show does give prizes along with T-shirts and a raffle. This year a brand new Michelob Ultra golf bag and a Busch Light camping chair were raffled as well as a \$5 potluck where the winner won the entire pot of \$315.

### The prize categories were for:

#### Top 10 – Participants' Favorites

1. 1934 Ford 2-Door Sedan by Mike and Connie McGowan of Challis
2. 1977 K-20 Pickup by Steve Arnison of Challis
3. 1947 Ford Pickup by Connie and Mike McGowan of Challis
4. 1957 Ford Pickup by Jack Anderson of Challis
5. 1952 Nash by Bill Price of Twin Falls
6. 1952 Ford F-1 by Jordan Ganow of Salmon
7. 1967 Chevy Camaro by Sherry Johnston of Hansen
8. 1969 Mustang Fastback by Monte and Penny Stein of Pocatello
9. 1969 Plymouth Roadrunner by Randy Batin of Mackay
10. 1937 Ford Coupe by Judy Lysinger of Challis

#### Club Founders Award

1957 Ford Pickup by Jack Anderson of Challis

#### Best of Show

1964 Chevy El Camino by Rick Boyles of Idaho Falls

#### Kids' Choice

1969 Plymouth Roadrunner by Randy Batin of Mackay

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NEWS

IN BRIEF

**Sun Valley Forum Holds Event For Sustainability**

The 9th Sun Valley Forum, "Restoring Harmony with Nature," is dedicated to finding natural solutions to emerging issues in multiple sectors from food to finance.

"The 2024 Sun Valley Forum advances transformative climate solutions featuring:

Knowledge: Learning from nature and Indigenous people

Innovation: Scaling solutions for nature

Culture: Shifting the human relationship with nature through art, stories and experiences

Systems Change: Transforming food, energy, business and finance to restore nature ([acelevents.com/e/sunvalleyforum](https://www.acelevents.com/e/sunvalleyforum))

Regardless of the business you're in or planning, there will be think-tanking and community discussion on all vectors where nature and society meet.

From Monday–Thursday, July 15–18, Sun Valley Forum will host four days of speaking and adventure to embroider the ideals of managing the nature/industry balance. From 6 a.m.–10:59 p.m. (MDT) you can take part in a series of keynote speeches and fun backcountry events held around climate-friendly solutions. From main stage sessions, lunches and even hikes, to a final BBQ at Galena Lodge.

"The Sun Valley Forum convenes leaders, innovators, and change-makers across sectors to create a better future for all. With a track record of impact, the Forum surfaces the strategies, technologies, business models and financing that can power the urgent transformation of our energy and food systems, restoration of nature and revitalization of communities across the globe." ([acelevents.com/e/sunvalleyforum](https://www.acelevents.com/e/sunvalleyforum))

You can register at the shortened link here: <https://www.acelevents.com/e/sunvalleyforum> and catch names such as Amy Mattias from Sun Valley Institute for Resilience, Alejandro Carrillo of Grasslands Regeneration Project, Holly Lichtenfeld of Nia Impact Capital and 50 other leaders in the sustainable development field for enlightening, impactful discussions on solutions pertaining to all industries.

Get your tickets and room rentals now. Sun Valley Forum has partnered with Limelight Hotel to offer a discounted group rate. Make sure to apply soon before it sells out by calling (855) 441-2250. They've also partnered with Best Western Plus Kentwood Lodge for 5% off of market rate while rooms last.

The forum main stage will be at the Argyros Performing Arts Center in Ketchum.

**Historic Hailey Walking Tour**

To help celebrate the Fourth of July, the Hailey Public Library has invited local author and historian Rob Lonning to lead a 90-minute walking tour through historic downtown Hailey. Participants should meet on the library's west patio, ready to leave at 11 a.m. on Thursday, June 27. The tour will begin with a look at some of the library's collection of Martyn Mallory turn-of-the-century images taken in Hailey around the Fourth of July.

"Rob led a terrific walking tour for us back in 2019 when the library celebrated its 100th anniversary and we're delighted to have him back," commented Kristin Fletcher, the library's programs and community engagement manager. "The City of Hailey has thoughtfully preserved many historic buildings and Rob is so knowledgeable that he's able to paint with words a vivid picture of how the town once looked."

Since moving to the Wood River Valley over 20 years ago, Lonning has been keenly interested in Hailey history and Martyn Mallory's iconic photographic images of Hailey and Cntral Idaho taken in the 1880s-1930s. He was chair of the Hailey Historic Preservation Commission and played a key role in recognizing the name 'Wertheimer Park' for the area at the entrance to Hailey, which houses the skate park, ice arena and rodeo grounds. His pictorial book Images of America – Hailey was published in 2012.

For more information, visit [www.haileypubliclibrary.org](http://www.haileypubliclibrary.org).

**Pavilion Talk Single Event Tickets on Sale**

This July 20-22, the 30th Anniversary of the Sun Valley Writers' Conference will feature some of the country's brightest minds and most influential authors on the Sun Valley Pavilion stage. Even if you don't have a full-access Conference pass, you can still see select talks inside the Sun Valley Pavilion. These single event tickets are available to purchase starting Wednesday, June 5 at 9:00am (Mountain Time) for \$35 each. There is a limited supply, and tickets are expected to sell out quickly.

Speakers include 2024 Writer in the World prize recipient Margaret Atwood in conversation with Ayad Akhtar, the legendary Judy Blume speaking with her friend Jeffrey Brown of the PBS NewsHour, Irish-born poet Paul Muldoon giving a poetry reading, renowned historian Niall Ferguson talking to journalist Evan Osnos about the complicated legacy of Henry Kissinger, Erik Larson discussing his enthralling account of the Civil War in "The Demon of Unrest," and the beloved Anne Lamott closing out the 30th Anniversary with the Frank McCourt Memorial Lecture—touching on faith and family and loss and love and moving us with her signature humor and honesty.

Tickets will be available for purchase via the SVWC website at [svwc.com/single-event-tickets](http://svwc.com/single-event-tickets) starting Wednesday, June 5 at 9:00am (Mountain Time). As always, if you are a local Wood River Valley student or teacher, you are welcome to attend any Pavilion talk for free (limited seating, as available).

Please see the Single Event Tickets page for full schedule and details.

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SCAN ME

# Doug Niedrich and the Pursuit of Pickleball



The pickleball courts at Atkinsons' Park are free and extremely social. Look at the sign on the gate or at [woodriverpickleball.org](http://woodriverpickleball.org) for the schedule. All photos: Parry Zielinski

## Pickleball Grows As A Community-Building Sport

BY ISIAH FRIZZELL

**D**oug Niedrich is a Blaine County pickleball hero. Not only did the sport save his life but it keeps him going as he patents and manufactures paddles and protective clothing for the massively popular, community-centric sport.

### Do you ball?

Pickleball began in 1965 when three fathers went to entertain their kids with badminton in Bainbridge Island, Washington. As the story goes, the parents didn't have badminton gear on hand and so improvised with a Wiffle ball and some plywood paddles. Necessity being the mother of invention, a beloved new game grew from this composite and has since blasted onto the scene to become one of the fastest growing sports in the world. Highly standardized, at the upper levels, the USA Pickleball Association (USAPA) and the International Federation of Pickleball (IFP) have sprung up to publish rules, update developments and promote tournaments.

The ascension of pickleball did not come without its share of controversy. Perhaps that it was originally designed for children, the humorous name or with the relatively low barrier to entry at blame, pickleball was, and still is, occasionally, scoffed at by some — maybe most aggressively by a few tennis diehards. But it's tough to ignore a sport with championship tournaments held across the world with sponsors like American Sports Builders Association and Association of Chief Executives of Sport. Although similar in many aspects of play, tennis is not exactly the big brother to pickleball. From modest beginnings to gear now designed specifically for the sport, pickleball owns its own niche in social recreation.

Pickleball is played on a doubles badminton court, smaller than a tennis court, with textured paddles and a molded plastic ball possessing strong bounce and some degree of hardness, similar to the original Wiffle ball. There are various ways to grip the paddle, including Continental, Eastern and Western and the object is to serve the ball over the net such that the opponent isn't able to return it. Paddles are manufactured from a range of materials, including plastic, wood, graphite and fiberglass. Your choice in paddle all depends on your style of play. There are even shoes one can buy for the game but, of course, they aren't precisely required.

### Enter Doug Niedrich

Doug Niedrich moved to Sun Valley in 1978 at the age of 17. He's raised four children in the Valley and has seven grandkids here. "The kids on my wife's side are actually seventh generation Idahoan." Niedrich couldn't do all he does without the efficient care and camaraderie of his wife, Lisa. "Lisa is definitely the backbone of my existence. She's raised four kids, does our books and keeps track of everything I've got going on."

And a lot going on Niedrich has. He's been a serial entrepreneur his entire life involved in the inception of many firsts in the Valley. "I'm approaching retirement age but I probably never will." While Niedrich has overcome much in his journey with tennis and pickleball, he has dedicated his life to sports and the community. He put on the first mountain bike races in Idaho in the early '80s, put on the National Mountain Bike Championships in 1988 and built the first rock climbing gym in the Valley in the early 1990s, which he eventually donated to the YMCA in Ketchum in 2006.

Niedrich is also currently a real estate agent saving buildings for affordable housing. He's moved over 40 structures to date that were set to be demolished — transitioning them into living facilities for locals. A true community hero, Niedrich loves Sun Valley to the core. "Real estate has always been a passion of mine. I love real



Doug Niedrich

estate and I love people. I got my license in, like, '88, and the education I got helped me build the rock climbing gym and Warm Springs Nordic." Niedrich did sleigh rides and groomed trails at Warm Springs Ranch under the name Warm Springs Nordic, which led to quite a surprise.

### Maybe I'm Amazed

"People started calling and wanting me to groom ski trails outside of their houses. We had the only snow in town in 1989 or '90 and Steve from the Steve Miller Band came in during that time. He became a client of mine. I was his personal trainer-slash-ski coach for seven years. I showed up to work one morning and Sir Paul McCartney was in his kitchen! Steve goes, 'Hey, Doug, this is a buddy of mine,' and I said, 'I think I know who this is...' And it was like meeting an old friend. Paul was a sweetheart. He was incredible. Paul said, 'I need you to be camp counselor for the McCartney family for 10 days, are you available?' I made myself available."

"It was just incredible. I gave them ski lessons, snowboard lessons, backcountry snowmobile lessons and they were just lovely. Nobody knew they were here. Paul was recording some music with Steve at his home studio so they were in town for awhile. It was wild. There was nothing showy about them at all. They drove beater cars, they dressed down and it was really fun getting to know the family. We got to eat a ton of Linda's vegetarian TV dinners and they were great!"

### With a Little Luck

Niedrich found pickleball after a life-altering event. "I got diagnosed with an autoimmune disease that about killed me. I had to have a major surgery to save my life. But the real thing that brought me back from the dead is pickleball. It started in Abu Dhabi while visiting our daughter. I was losing blood, they sent me to the University of Utah who couldn't help me so they sent me to a surgeon in around 2016. My body went from attacking my digestive tract to attacking my muscles and joints so I almost couldn't get moving. It took three and a half years after surgery to even get up." Niedrich laughs. "But it's funny, a friend of mine, Dale Bates, had tried to get me to play pickleball for years but I was, I don't know, maybe a tennis snob, and I couldn't see it. Then after surgery I discovered it and I got moving! I was motivated and started to enjoy life more. It's given me a new quality of life... it's miraculous. It really saved my life."

A tennis snob? Tennis is one of the most precision-perfected sports, thrilling both to play or watch. Niedrich is no stranger to the tennis court.

"Tennis was my business for almost 20 years. We owned and operated The Prospector Tennis and Swim Club out in Warm Springs and, you know, it was built in the early '70s... it was a dirt road when we started there." Things have certainly changed. "I was there in 1982 and in 1986 we negotiated a lease. We owned the business, leased the facility and made our living teaching tennis. Lisa did swim lessons and we sold memberships. It was a great run."

### McEnroe Theater

Nearly everyone of middle age remembers the great tennis public meltdowns and what could be called the 'McEnroe Theater.' "Pickleball seems to be a lot more gentlemanly with a lot more sportsmanship and community building. You don't see the McEnroe meltdowns and you know the barrier to entry is sort of low so you can get out on the court and have fun with it and amaze yourself. Tennis is very technical and takes years to learn, lessons are expensive, equipment is expensive, court time is expensive. Pickleball is like, free paddles at the park, free balls, you show up and it's free and you just have fun. As you get serious, you might buy your own specific paddle and choose the ball you prefer." Niedrich prefers the tournament balls.

"It's funny because McEnroe is going to be playing here at an upcoming exhibition. He's an investor in pickleball and plays it and loves it. McEnroe, Ivan Lendl, Michael Chang, there's a long list and it's incredible all the former tennis greats who are loving pickleball. There's always some laughter even as serious as it gets." McEnroe still puts on a show. He recently threw his paddle and raised his arms after losing a pickleball doubles match with Michael Chang to Andre Agassi and Andy Roddick!

The feud is not as dire as it is hyped. The older tennis players are embracing the sport—former Penn State championship tennis player Lee Sponaugle included. "He hated, hated pickleball but now he's all in." Sponaugle is the current president of Wood River Pickleball Alliance, a nonprofit, volunteer-run 501(c)(3). "Mats Wilander publicly stated how he hated pickleball and now he loves and uses it as a tool to help his wife Sonia's nonprofit." The Wilanders, Hailey residents who opened Gravity Fitness and Men's Second Chance Living (MSCL), also run Higher Ground to rehabilitate veterans with PTSD through therapeutic sports, namely pickleball.

### Community Pickling

There's something about the physical ease and mental strategy of pickleball that brings people together. It's a low-impact sport that affords the opportunity to be active, social and strategic without the high-impact demands of sports like racquetball or tennis. Pickleball is a community builder designed for all ages. "Eight or nine years ago the top players in the world were over 60 and now the top players are anywhere between 16 and 20. Kids are picking it up and loving it and changing the sport." The evolution of pickleball play, like everything, evolves with technology and materials science and Niedrich has evolved with it.

"They third-party test the friction on the paddles. It's very expensive. Recently, hot paddles [paddles manufactured to give an unfair advantage] were banned. People were getting black eyes and big bruises. They'll test them right on site and shut a player down for using an illegal paddle. And this is all kinda new within the last few weeks." USAPA and IFP inspect each paddle before a tournament and yank players if they've been modified or made for extra friction.

Niedrich is invested in pickleball gear. He holds two U.S. patents, one for a multi-functional exercise system and another for UV protection headwear. "I have a patent pending on an anti-vibration shock reduction system for pickleball paddles."

"Since I manufacture my own brand of pickleball equipment, Sundrop, I make paddles, some clothing, hats and shirts. I'm not launching it nationwide at the moment. It's all word of mouth, it's local. I make some very high-end paddles but I also have some economy starter packs." Niedrich's Sundrop paddles can be found for anywhere from \$75-\$200. He has all of his paddles tested. "It's expensive to get your certification. My latest round is a thermoformed hot press paddle so it's all one piece with an edge guard and they have a light texture for putting English on a ball. It's a more technical process than the common sandwich, cold pressed paddles with no texture. If you get that light texture you get a little more spin." Niedrich speaks of the notorious top and bottom spin, or "english," that can be achieved in ball sports, most commonly in tennis and pool.



Niedrich's Sundrop paddles can be found for anywhere from \$75-\$200

### The Progression of Peace

And here might be where the gears can grind in the tennis/pickleball feud. "Sun Valley tennis has converted two tennis courts into eight pickleball courts. You can get four times more people in the same real estate. Elkhorn did it right—they tore out several courts to build eight courts and they are dedicated, true pickleball courts. At Atkinsons Park we have four and some temporary courts with temporary nets... the City of Ketchum, it's political, you know, they've held off converting courts to pickleball to protect the tennis community. But if you go any evening you see for yourself how busy the pickleball courts are compared to the tennis scene. We had some very aggressive tennis players trying to shut pickleball down. You pickleball people are a cancer... that kind of sentiment. It's like, wow, where is this anger coming from?"

Community building is the key. "This is community building. We need to look for cooperation rather than competition. In order for the world to survive, that's the mindset we need to have as a planet. Cooperation!"

The love of community and sport shows. Maybe it's not about televised ball games and beer. Community is built in the flesh, getting outside, meeting new friends and having a go at an endeavor together. Siri, "what is community bonding?" How can we better weave and embroider the fabric of our communities for resilience and general thriving? By doing it. Maybe it's pickleball, maybe it's a sunny hike, perhaps it's even just meeting for coffee. A strong community is a safe community.

### Where Do We Ball?

Pickleball is open to everyone and although there exists some similarity to tennis with the necessary hand eye coordination, whether you've played ping pong, badminton or baseball before, none of that matters. You can go to the park and get your game on with minimal stress, or maybe just the right amount of eustress.

"The Wood River Pickleball Alliance is the go-to pickleball Shangri-La. I teach clinics as does Chris [Seldon, editor of Wood River Weekly]. You can join and get all the beta." Beta is a term meaning 'fresh info, strategy or knowledge' it comes from the climbing community but stretches over — somewhat like the term 'alpha' in the financial and crypto trading community.

Although not completely a tournament competitor, Niedrich will be playing June 21st where you can catch him at the Valley Club tournament.

Check out the Wood River Pickleball Alliance at [woodriverpickleball.org](http://woodriverpickleball.org) for all the beta.

Join as a member and find clinics, fresh beta and a rapidly growing, motile community at <https://wrpa.wildapricot.org/>

Niedrich's Sundrop paddles and gear can be found very soon at <https://www.sundrop.co/> In the meantime if you'd like to peruse or order his fresh tech'd paddles and gear, shoot him an email: [Doug@SunDrop.com](mailto:Doug@SunDrop.com)



Pickleball is literally for everyone.

## Ryan Crofts Celebration Of Life June 22nd, 2pm-4pm



We invite you to join family and friends as we remember and celebrate the life of Ryan Iseley Crofts on June 22nd from 2-4 at Heagle Park in Hailey. Please come and share your memories and stories of the times we spent with Ryan.

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## FISHING REPORT



THE "WEEKLY"  
FISHING REPORT FOR  
JUNE 12 - 25  
FROM PICABO ANGLER

"If you ain't first, you're last."

A wise man once uttered those words, and they certainly hold true during the brown drake hatch. As of this writing, the hatch should be in full swing. The weather on the Creek is spectacular, the sunsets are amazing, and the camaraderie on the water is truly special. We've got all the brown drake essentials here at the shop; a fantastic selection of flies, leaders and tippet, bug spray, sunblock, custom Picabo Angler Buffs, and Bug Stopper hoodies from Simms. Come down to the shop and take a look.

Silver Creek continues to fish well throughout its entirety, with PMDs, Blue-Winged Olives, and Callibaetis remaining the primary hatch activity. Large foam beetles and ants are still a great fly choice, especially on days with a bit of a breeze.

It seems as if no one section of the Creek is out-producing any other; at select times, the S-Turns, Kilpatrick Pond, the upper Conservancy, Sullivan's Lake, the Willows and Point of Rocks have all been hot spots.

The Big Wood, Little Wood, and Big Lost river systems remain high and off-color, and great fishing on those waters is still a few weeks away.

Floating the South Fork of the Boise below Anderson Ranch Dam has been very good recently. Big foam bugs that imitate cicadas and stoneflies have been effective, and nymphing with a big Rubber Legs is a great bet right now. Floating the river is the best way to go at the moment.

Keep your eye on our website and our social media for up-to-the-minute brown drake information or give us a call at the shop at (208) 788-3536.

Happy fishing, everyone!



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## COMMENTARY

NO BONES ABOUT IT

FRAN JEWELL

## Backyard Paradise

BY FRAN JEWELL

As our love for dogs and these incredible natural surroundings grow, so does the pressure on our dogs and the environment. Sadly, many popular places where we walk our dogs are becoming filled with trash – dog trash, as in poop. The risk of disease comes along with that, especially for younger puppies.

Pressure mounts on our dogs in terms of having to deal with other dogs that are true bullies. Bullies are dogs that disrespect another dog's personal space by rushing up to them, barking and flagging with a stiff tail. The owners gleefully yell, "He's friendly!" when other dogs know in an instant this is not friendly behavior, but intimidation. Many dogs enjoy the walk experience but are not comfortable with other dogs, yet so many owners force them into these situations, believing that the dog needs more socialization to get over it. The reality is that taking dogs into these situations over and over can increase their uncomfortable feelings until, finally, they erupt into defensive aggression. During the summer in the Valley, there is virtually no place to go anymore where a dog can walk with you and not encounter another dog out of control.

We want to spend lovely time walking or hiking and we cherish taking our dogs with us. Sometimes, to keep our dogs happy, it might be a better choice to make the backyard a paradise. How do we do that?

Keep pesticides to a minimum. Spraying your lawn with lawn care products, no matter how "organic" they are, still kill weeds. If it kills weeds, it is most likely toxic to your dog. Studies have proven that regardless of the safety touted by the manufacturer, dogs have a 50% or more increased risk of cancer if they are exposed to lawn sprays the recommended three times a summer. A dog paradise will mean just a bit less pesticide.

A dog paradise will not have toxic plants. We love the beauty of so many plants and incredible landscapes; however, check before planting about the toxicity to your dog. There are wonderful apps you can get for your phone that can help you identify toxic plants and weeds that might be in your yard. You can reduce those plants/weeds by using vinegar right on the plant.

Paradise means different textures like rocks, logs for jumping, natural bark, pine needles and so on. The more variety in your dog's space, the healthier his mind is. There is correlation between varied



My puppy, Steel, loves the tetherball in the backyard. I frequently change the toy on the end. What good exercise! Photo credit: Fran Jewell

textures and obstacles that keep your dog healthy, happy and interested. Fields of grass can become very boring for a scent-sensitive dog. The result can mean digging to find new odors for a dog to self soothe his curiosity and boredom. Hills, shade, a sand box and natural obstacles can mean endless hours of entertainment to an active dog. Climbing, jumping, new smells and running are excellent ways for a dog to get exercise both mentally and physically.

I place food in my yard for the dogs to find, like treats or a treat toy hidden under bushes or vegetation. I often make hardboiled eggs that are nutritious, nice and smelly, and then hide slices of them all over the backyard for the dogs to find. They LOVE that game!

Now, if you join your dog in ball play or finding fresh new scents, the backyard becomes a place of safe enrichment!!! Don't forget the wonderful places right at home that make having a dog fun for both of you!

*Fran Jewell is a dog behavior consultant, NADOI-certified instructor and vice president. She owns Positive Puppy Dog Training LLC and can be reached at (208) 721-7221.*

SCIENCE OF PLACE

HARRY WEEKES

## The Gift of a Good Yellow Jacket

BY HARRY WEEKES

Late in September, on one of those beautiful early fall days, I sat with a group of friends, gathered around a picnic table, finishing off a smattering of appetizers. In swooped the first wasp—a yellow jacket.

I marvel at yellow jackets around any food containing meat. I particularly like the bold ones who fly right onto the piece of ham you are holding, carve out a crescent as quickly as possible, and then disappear to stash the food before returning to repeat the process again.

My companions were less enamored of wasps as the "I hate these things" comment announced. What ensued was one of those peculiar conversations that originally I was in, and then gradually I became "adjacent to."

The prime wasp conversant represented Stanford University, and was joined by graduates of Berkeley, Dartmouth and Princeton, to name but a few of the major universities represented. I include this as foreshadowing to the rest of the discussion.

Beyond "I hate these things," other salient comments were: "They annoy me so much," "Do these things serve any purpose?," and "How do you get rid of them?"

This last remark led to a discussion of a foolproof wasp trap whose design was so genius simply because it "takes advantage of the fact that wasps have to drop down before they take off." The design is to "paint" cat food onto the underside of a board, then place the board over a bowl of water. The wasps crawl to get the cat food then take off into the water where they drown.

This is the kind of conversation that stupefies me on multiple levels.

The first, the ongoing need to define the worth of something through a human lens. "What good is this thing for me?"

The second, the definitive declaration of something that is not true—"Wasps must



Yellowjacket eating an apple. Photo credit: fir0002flagstaffotos@gmail.com - Own work, GFDL 1.2, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=194855>

drop down before they take off." Really? Then how do they ever get off the floor?

The third, the immediate use of an example that counters a previous statement. "So, you're telling me that wasps have to drop down before they take off, and the trap you set has them effectively upside down where they take off by jumping up?"

And finally, for now, that all of this took place amidst as many smartphones as there were people, and on the edge of someone's vegetable garden.

Several minutes, at most, of thinking about this scenario and observing the wasps themselves, and then taking 15-30 seconds searching yellow jackets would give you this information: wasps can take off in a bunch of different ways, mostly by pushing off with their legs and jumping into the air (why forcing them to take off where their 'up' is actually into water is so effective). You will notice this every time a wasp carves out a bit of your ham sandwich.

You will also find the answer to a couple of questions: "Why do they like meat so much?"

and "What do they do for me?" Well, these yellow jackets are prime predators of flies and caterpillars and many insects that simply love to ravage vegetables. The meat they are used to capturing is all the creatures crawling around on and devouring the leaves of the plants in your garden. "You know, that garden right behind you."

We live in a time when we choose to know so little about so much. My hope, as the days warm and we get back into the insect-y time of year, is that we'll sit back and marvel at the monumental diversity of this world, with the gift of wonder and curiosity answer enough to "What good is this thing to me?"

*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

# Strategic vs. Tactical

BY SUZANNE HAZLETT, MBA, CIMA®, CFP®

*Strategy without tactics is the slowest route to victory. Tactics without strategy are the noise before defeat. – Sun Tzu*

Long-term strategy matters and will always be a spot on the horizon for investors to focus. At the same time, history can offer us a lens through which we may wish to view the future and engage in some degree of tactical navigation.

When financial markets shift, they can impact the balance of different types of assets within a portfolio. Rebalancing is clever when your investments get over-weighted in some areas and underweighted in others. For investors who choose to be more active in their portfolios and make adjustments based on a shorter-term outlook, a tactical asset allocation can be appropriate when factoring in an individual's asset allocation policy, risk tolerance, and investment objectives.

## U.S. Large Companies (Large Cap)

The S&P 500 Stock Index returned over 20% in 2023, surpassing even the most bullish expectations. Prices are trading near the top of the market's 20-year range. Investors should temper their expectations given upcoming federal elections and expected interest rate-induced volatility.

## U.S. Small Companies (Small Cap)

Small caps historically outperform large caps coming out of a recession. Small-cap stocks also historically outperformed large caps following the first Fed interest rate cut. Since small caps are trading at a discount relative to large-cap equities, investors may want to check their allocation toward the smaller market counterparts.

## Ex-U.S. Companies (Developed + Emerging International Markets)

Developed market international equities are cheap relative to U.S. equities, but political headwinds could disappoint in the near term. Emerging markets remain a long-term opportunity for investors, especially with a modest weakening in the dollar and a rebound in economic growth in Asia and Latin America. Select opportunities in India and Mexico provide a foundation for growth.

Every market can present opportunities and provide valuable reminders. Periodically reassess your plan and confirm your investments align with your intended strategy. If the allocation or percentage of one more asset type is out of your intended proportion, it's time to rebalance.

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

## INSPIRATIONS FROM MY HEART

DOVE

# Grace, Faith, Hope and Charity

BY DOVE

I shared with you before about the Johnson girls in my high school when I was growing up. Grace, Faith, Hope and Charity were all sisters. You guessed it, their father was a minister in the small North Idaho town in which I grew up. Now, these girls were beautiful on the inside and outside and I was in awe of their beauty and kindness. As we celebrate Father's Day, I often wonder where the minister had the courage to make such a statement as to name his children by the above attributes. He truly surrounded himself with the qualities he wished to experience. It took a lot of



"I don't care what people think. My Faith is strong enough to be different."

I have no idea whatever happened to the girls, but I can still see them in my mind. They were unforgettable in my book. I ask you, what have you stood for that is unforgettable in your life, not for anyone else but for yourself? Have you had the courage to be different, to move out of the accepted norm? What if someone notices me? Is invisibility the best course of action? Maybe I can just stay comfortable. What if you had the courage to stand largely for truth, justice and fairness and powerfully vindictive people wanted to take you down? Would you still stand?

I watch what is going on in our country and I marvel at the injustice from my perspective. I ask myself, would I be willing to tolerate being treated with injustice and still keep my faith? Would I be willing to hold firm to my truth when everyone around me tries to ridicule my position? I don't know. I rarely put myself in those positions.

Now is the time for all of us to decide what we are going to support. Truth and justice: Is everyone is governed by the same laws or is it who has the most money and influence and greases the palms of officials to give them the results determined to be the most advantageous to the controlling interests? From my perspective, now is the time to educate yourself, family and friends to truth, if you can find it.

Think first, and when you feel truth in your gut, you can speak it. Otherwise, be silent. Take a stand only for those truths you embrace. I believe all must be treated equally regardless of color, religion, sexual orientation, education and financial position. Be prepared for truth to come forward and it may not be pretty, but we must come to a common justice for all.

May we be guided by truth, fairness, justice and hope for everyone. Blessings, Dove

## ON LIFE'S TERMS

JOELLEN COLLINS

# Why Memorial Services

BY JOELLEN COLLINS

I spoke this week with a few new friends about the traditions of memorials after the death of a loved one or acquaintance. I am only writing this column now because I am involved in a very beautiful commemoration this week. This will honor the passing of my longest lifetime friend's husband. I loved him like a brother.

Since I am no longer residing in the Wood River Valley, I have been keeping up with obituaries noting the passings of several people I enjoyed knowing during the forty-two years I lived in Idaho. Last week's news mentioned the deaths of two friends of mine, one a short-term boyfriend and the other a charming man who shared a love of writing with me. We were simply friends who together could laugh, write, and share our enthusiasm for this area and our neighbors.

While I was discussing this with another resident of my place, she said she just couldn't understand why we called the gatherings after death "celebrations." Aren't they, she said, just gloomy and unnecessary? I have given much thought to that statement as I face recent losses, especially since I am now an "elderly" woman saying goodbye to ones I will not see on earth again. I've always hated good-byes.

Even so, I have concluded that these celebrations are, for the most part, necessary for sharing grief and memories which may ease the mourning somewhat and should not be dismissed as selfish or frivolous. After all, we are joyful at births, the first part of our collective journeys. So why not accept observances of the end of life, with religious/spiritual and often private ways to say "goodbye"?

When I was very little, I attended Salvation Army funerals with my family, who were descendants of members of that faith. I vividly recall the "Hallelujahs" and joy when the cleric would remind guests that the recently departed had been "promoted to glory." Naturally, there were tears, but also an acceptance of this final phase of life and a belief that our souls survive in the afterlife.

I attended a lovely service in Idaho where, when the congregation departed, we all joined in singing "When the Saints Go Marching In." We shared smiles with our tears, glad we had been able to spend part of our lives with such a good man.

So, I have come to the conviction that ceremonies, celebrations, commemorations, or (even) funerals are appropriate for the most part. I don't want mine to happen this minute, but I hope that when I leave this life, I can know that those who liked or loved me will gather and occasionally smile and rejoice in the times we had together in our physical forms. I hope people will be able to laugh at some of the memories. There is nothing better than a sense of humor, something I admire more each day. There's no reason not to enjoy the shared memories, accept the loss, and celebrate the lives of those passed.



Joellen Collins—a longtime resident of the Wood River Valley, now residing in San Francisco—is an Idaho Press Club award-winning columnist, a teacher, novelist, fabric artist, choir member and proud grandma.

## WRANGLER'S WRITINGS

BRYCE ANGELL

# INTEGRITY

The story goes of two old ranchers trading off their land. They promised with a handshake. Something we don't understand.

Both cowboys stood true to their word. A handshake was the rule. They'd both learned honesty was better than a crooked fool.

In the good old days a promise with a handshake closed the deal. It didn't need a witness with a signature and seal.

But time and personalities have pushed the trusted line. We fudge a little here and there. Declare, "It's all just fine."

To say your word is worth the paper that it's written on, requires the most integrity. Those days of trust are gone.

Now when we make a promise, shake our hands the golden style. You gotta wonder what's behind the corners of a smile.

Our attorneys give us council. They are masters of the law. Do we heed their sound advice or push the trusted line to raw?

Integrity will show the world what kind of man you are. 'Cuz John Q. Public turns away if you ain't no shining star.

Grandma taught me, "Reputation follows you around. If your work is so darned shady, brother, you are going down.

"But if you've worked to keep your name with honest country souls, your reflection in the mirror shows what the world already knows."

My father's words were, "Keep your promise. Show integrity. Your reputation's earned if you're one crooked SOB.

"If your handshake causes you to lose a little cash. Remember, keep your promise. Then your name no one can bash.

"Don't forget the little guy. We tend to overlook. Keep your promise to be fair and he won't feel like he's been took."

His words were so compelling like a punched and bloody nose. Or when I yelled at Mom. She spanked me with the garden hose.

I told my father I would always think of his good name. I made a promise that I'd keep a good name just the same.

And when I go to bed at night there's one thing I don't fear. 'Cuz Grandma got it right as I gaze squarely in the mirror.

— 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.*



NUESTRA VOZ CUENTA

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NUESTRA VOZ CUENTA

¿Sabías que Bellevue fue casi la capital?

Acérquese para compartir comida y la historia única y diversa de Bellevue que ha ayudado a dar forma al Valle de Wood River. Ven y descubre qué historia hay por descubrir.

Habrán hot dogs y hamburguesas.

Por favor traiga una comida para compartir, una bebida, manta o silla.

- \*Entretención
- \*Ceremonia de entrega de llave
- \*Concurso de disfraces históricos
- \*Tesoros locales descubiertos a cargo del Museo de Bellevue

¿Quieres ser voluntario?

OUR VOICE COUNTS

Did you know that Bellevue was almost the capital?

Come along to share food and Bellevue's unique, diverse history that has helped shape the Wood River Valley. Come and discover what history there is to discover.

There will be hot dogs and hamburgers. Please bring a meal to share, a drink, blanket or chair.

- \*Entertainment
- \*Key handover ceremony
- \*Historical costume contest
- \*Local treasures discovered by the Bellevue Museum

Do you want to volunteer?



BETTER HOMEOWNERS NEWS ANNA AND MICHELLE



## What To Expect if You Buy or Sell a Home This June

BY ANNA & MICHELLE

June is a busy month in the housing market because a lot of people buy and sell this time of year. So, if you've got a move on your mind and you're looking to make it happen this month, here's a snapshot of what you need to know to make sure you're ready.

### If You're Buying This June

A lot of homebuyers with children like to move after one school year ends and before the next one begins. That's one reason why late spring into summer is a popular time for homes to change hands. And whether that's a motivator for you or not, it's important to realize more buyers are going to be looking right now — and that means you'll want to be ready for a bit more competition. But there is a silver lining to a move this time of year. This is also when more sellers will list — so you should find you have more options. As an article from Bankrate says:

**"Late spring and early summer are the busiest and most competitive time of year for the real estate market. There's usually more inventory listed for sale than other times of year... This is a double-edged sword for a buyer, as you will be met with more opportunities but [also] much more competition."**

During this busy season, it's extra important to work with a trusted real estate agent. Your agent will help you stay on top of the latest listings, share expertise on how to make a strong offer in a competitive market, and give you insight into things like what the home is actually worth so you can make an informed decision when you buy. As Forbes says:

**"Approaching the market confidently, armed with good information and grounded expectations, will take you far. Don't let the hustle of the market convince you to buy something that's not in your budget, or not right for your lifestyle."**

### If You're Selling This June

Because there are more buyers this time of year, you're in a great spot as a seller. Many of those buyers are highly motivated to make their move happen before the next school year kicks off — so they'll likely put in strong offers to try to make that possible. That means, if your house shows well and is listed at market value, you could see your house sell faster or for a higher price. According to the National Association of Realtors (NAR):

**"Warmer weather and the end of the school year encourage more people to buy and sell, respectively. Buyers are looking to move and settle before the new school year begins, contributing to increased competition and, consequently, higher prices."**

You want to be sure you've got a great agent on your side to help you with the contingencies on those offers and any negotiations that take place so you can pick the best offer. Make sure you go over closing dates with your agent. Buyers trying to time their move with the school year may need to delay a bit or move faster. This can depend on the school calendar where you live. As U.S. News Real Estate explains:

**"...if your house goes under contract in early summer, the buyer may ask for a delay in closing or move-in until the school year finishes or their current home has sold. Alternatively, a buyer later in summer may be looking to close quickly and move in under a month. Remain flexible to keep the deal running smoothly, and your buyer may be willing to throw in concessions, like covering some of your closing costs or overlooking the old roof."**

### Bottom Line

If you're looking to make a move this June, let's chat so you know what to expect. We'll come up with a plan that factors in current market conditions, but still works for you.



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WEED OF THE WEEK

BLAINE BUG CREW

# WELCOME BACK

BY: BLAINE BUG CREW



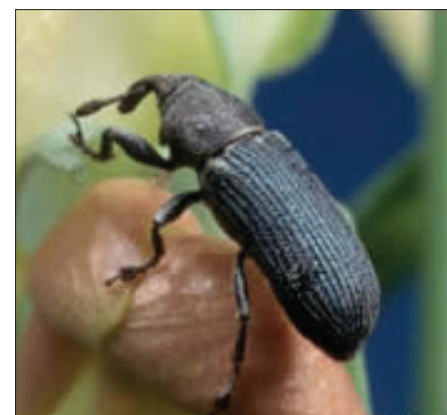
Yellow toadflax. Photo credit: ArcziPL - Own work, CC BY-SA 2.5, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1531458>

The summer of 2024 is an exciting time for the Blaine Bug Crew. This represents the beginning of warm weather and an exciting season of biological control. We are looking forward to continuing our fight to keep Blaine County native, green, and noxious-weed free. We have been out in the field already and are excited to report our Dalmation toadflax seed head eating weavels, Mecinus janiformus, are already emerged as adults and are happily eating Dalmation toadflax even before the snow has left the Wood River Valley peaks.

This year on our crew we have some new recruits as well as veteran crew members. This is the first year for RaeLyn Van Kleeck and Si-

enna Norman while Kaitlyn Denning, Chase Norman, and Christopher Romero have returned to the crew once more with several years under our belts. The moist, cool spring has generated very healthy weed populations, which means we have our work cut out for us.

In addition to monitoring vegetation and insect populations, the bug crew is also responsible to educate the public about noxious-weeds, give presentations to civic organizations, be a presence at fairs and parades, and make sure that noxious-weeds and their predator agents come in contact with one another. If you are out for a drive in Blaine County's beautiful bi-ways and see kids with tape measures, monitoring equipment, or sweep nets feel free to stop by and say "hi" to your local bug crew.



Yellow toadflax stem weevil. Photo courtesy of Washington State University

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## CROSSWORD

answer from page 12

M	F	A	S	T	R	I	B	E	S	E	V	E	S	C	C	C	P				
C	L	A	P	R	E	T	E	L	L	L	I	N	K	O	O	Z	E				
R	U	B	Y	T	U	E	S	D	A	Y	M	E	D	I	S	N	A	G			
I	M	B	O	R	E	D	I	T	G	O	W	E	B	S	T	E	R	S			
B	E	A	N	E	E	M	E	R	G	E	A	O	N	E							
				F	U	N	D	S	I	L	V	E	R	B	U	L	L	E	T		
S	P	A	T	F	O	A	M	N	E	I	L	G	L	O	V	E					
T	I	N	W	O	O	D	M	A	N	R	A	M	P	S	O	D	I	N			
L	E	N	I	N	S	A	V	O	R	N	O	O	N	S	G	T	O				
O	R	A	N	G	E	M	E	T	E	D	S	O	I	H	E	A	R				
				G	O	L	D	E	N	P	A	R	A	C	H	U	T	E			
O	N	L	E	A	V	E	C	L	O	T	H	T	O	M	M	I	X				
N	E	O	L	E	N	T	O	M	O	L	A	R	U	S	A	G	E				
R	E	N	T	S	T	U	F	F	P	A	P	E	R	T	I	G	E				
E	D	G	E	R	R	O	L	E	S	T	A	B	N	I	T	S					
D	I	A	M	O	N	D	F	L	U	S	H	E	P	I	C						
				P	L	E	A	D	I	C	I	E	R	A	S	A	H	I			
R	A	T	T	L	E	R	S	D	A	D	S	A	B	A	N	D	O	N			
A	L	A	I	D	R	A	B	P	E	A	R	L	O	N	I	O	N	S			
T	U	R	N	L	O	R	E	E	I	L	E	E	N	F	R	E					
S	M	O	G	E	W	A	N	E	N	E	S	C	O	F	E	S	T				

## SUDOKU

answer from page 12

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

**Happy Spring!**



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CHAMBER CORNER

MIKE MCKENNA

# Samson's Romp Around Hailey

## Celebrating the Fourth of July, circus-style

BY MIKE MCKENNA

There once was a time before cellphones, zoos and Top Golf when entertainment wasn't so easy to come by. The circus coming to town—especially a small town in the middle-of-nowhere Idaho—was a really big deal.

Just a few years after Hailey became an official town, W.W. Cole's Colossal Circus made a stop in the Wood River Valley.

It was 1884 and folks of all ages came from miles around to see the circus. It's estimated that 6,000 people traveled to Hailey, roughly doubling the town's population. The Daily Wood River Times still complained, however, saying that the numbers would have been higher with better advertising.

The influx of visitors certainly must have been good news for Hailey's 18 saloons and 12 gambling halls!

The large crowd lined Main Street as the circus made its "Grand Street Parade" from the train depot to the circus grounds. Covering nearly a mile, the parade included five elephants, a caravan of camels, several black stallions, a hippopotamus, a rhino, lions, tigers and snakes—and undoubtedly some snake oil salesmen, as well. It took over 300 men to manage the circus and its moving menagerie.

The circus included the largest Indian elephant ever in captivity at the time.

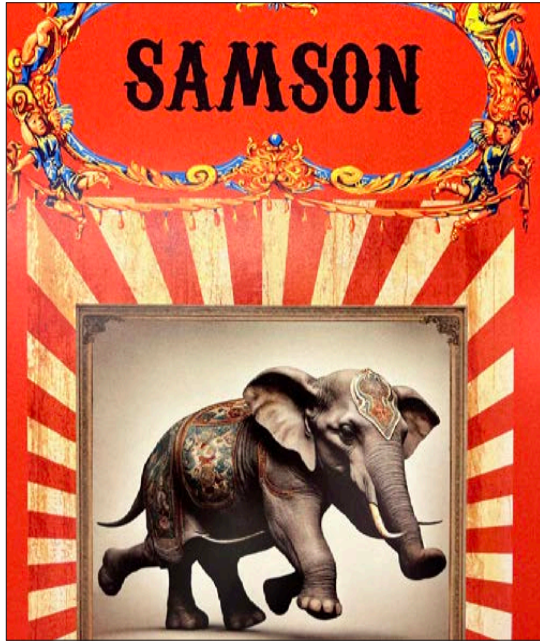
"Samson" weighed in at five tons and stood over 12 feet tall. Much like his namesake, Samson was also known for causing great damage when he was angry.

George Conklin was the head trainer for the Cole Circus. Conklin stated that about once a year, Samson would lose his cool and run amok. He'd then go back to being the fairly passive "mastodon," as they marketed him, that people loved.

Before the parade had even started, Samson had an incident with an empty train car, tossing it 20 feet with his trunk. Conklin hobbled Samson with leg chains as a punishment.

Shortly after the parade ended and Samson had dropped off a bunch of kids who rode on him during it, a Delilah-type situation got him fired up. Conklin believed it was because a younger male elephant was making the moves on one of Samson's females.

Whatever the reason, the largest land animal



on earth decided it was done being nice. Samson began by mauling a couple of mastiffs and then attacked the lion cage. Samson destroyed a few more wagons before rampaging through town.

Numerous attempts to shoot Samson had little impact until he got himself caught amongst some of the carnage he'd created back at the train depot. The handlers roped Samson up and walked him peacefully back to camp. Samson was soon welcoming curious onlookers again and, as the Times stated, "seemed to enjoy the fun" of his rampage.

Samson died in a fire many years later and his bones were collected and put on display in the Museum of Natural History in New York.

This year, Hailey's Fourth of July Parade will honor the 140th anniversary of Samson and the first-ever circus coming to town. Find out at more ValleyChamer.org or by visiting the Blaine County Historical Museum.



### 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

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

CROSSWORD

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See answer on page 11

The Newsday Crossword

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)  
ANNIVERSARIAL: Wedding-wise  
by Billie Truitt

- ACROSS
- 1 Curators' degs.
- 5 Big families
- 11 Nights before
- 15 Letters on Sputnik
- 19 Put your hands together
- 20 Narrate again
- 21 Website connection
- 22 Flow slowly
- 23 Casual restaurant chain [40th]
- 25 Prefix for care
- 26 Sweater mishap
- 27 "Entertain me"
- 28 Let \_\_\_ (decline to take action)
- 30 Name on many dictionaries
- 32 Moneyball subject Billy
- 33 Become famous
- 35 Top of the line
- 36 Endow
- 39 Simple, sure solution [25th]
- 44 Minor quarrel
- 48 Latte topper
- 50 Justice Gorsuch
- 51 Fielder's gear
- 52 Yellow Brick Road traveler [10th]
- 55 Highway exits
- 58 Valhalla VIP
- 59 First Soviet leader
- 60 Enjoy greatly
- 62 Lunch hours, often
- 64 Muscle car designation
- 65 Sherbet flavor
- 67 Parceled (out)
- 69 "That's what they say"
- 71 Sweet severance package [50th]
- 75 Enjoying a furlough
- 78 Piece of fabric
- 79 Star of silent oaters
- 83 Prefix for genre revivals
- 84 Slowly, on a score
- 87 Back tooth
- 89 Customary practice
- 90 Sign a lease
- 92 This and that
- 94 Empty threat [1st]
- 96 Landscaper's tool
- 98 Auditor's aim
- 100 Haphazard try
- 101 Petty complaints
- 102 What poker players catch red-handed [60th]
- 106 Spectacular tale
- 108 Request for help
- 109 Less certain
- 111 Japanese beer brand
- 116 Southwestern snakes
- 120 Family men
- 121 Dictionary's early "ditch"
- 123 Jai \_\_\_
- 124 Less than colorful
- 126 Garnish for Gibsons [30th]
- 128 Chance to play
- 129 Anecdotal knowledge
- 130 Astronaut Collins
- 131 Unrestrained
- 132 Air pollution
- 133 Actor McGregor
- 134 Romanian composer
- 135 Suffix meaning "celebration"
- DOWN
- 1 Seasonal fast-food sandwich
- 2 Water park slide
- 3 Limerick rhyme scheme
- 4 Watch furtively
- 5 Accurate
- 6 Clarinetist's purchase
- 7 Part of TGIF
- 8 Lower, as a light
- 9 Tickles pink
- 10 Smirk, say
- 11 Source of shade
- 12 Scenic sight
- 13 Make beloved
- 14 Snowbiking vehicle
- 15 "Who's on First?" comic
- 16 Funnel shape
- 17 Business titan
- 18 Violin pins
- 24 Not kosher
- 29 Bold observer
- 31 Cozy
- 33 Soybean appetizer
- 34 Perrier rival
- 37 Aerial enigma
- 38 Agrees silently
- 40 Patron saint of sailors
- 41 Hunter's cabin
- 42 Lloyd Webber musical
- 43 Opera hero, often
- 44 June 1944 target town
- 45 Docking site
- 46 Tolstoy's Karenina
- 47 Pang of guilt
- 49 Self-styled expert
- 53 Headed for a soccer net
- 54 Likely to offend, for short
- 56 Fancy schmancy
- 57 Pig's nose
- 61 Domain
- 63 Don't participate
- 66 Arctic assistants
- 68 Lose tautness
- 70 Confines
- 72 Bit of progress

CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2024 STANLEY NEWMAN WWW.STANXWORDS.COM 06/16/24

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19										21				22				
23				24						25				26				
27							28		29	30				31				
32										34		35						
36	37	38													41	42	43	
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- 73 Sky holder of myth
- 74 Club branch
- 75 When some rights are allowed
- 76 "... say more?"
- 77 What "play" and "say" have
- 80 Nativity scene trio
- 81 "... that a lot"
- 82 Millennials' parents
- 85 Home territory
- 86 From way back
- 88 Gather in
- 91 Designed to entice
- 93 Subject to change
- 95 Batter's stat
- 97 Bakery product
- 99 He got away
- 103 Pine tree product
- 104 Scopes Trial attorney
- 105 Use for concealment
- 107 James of *The Godfather*
- 110 Online transaction
- 112 Haughty reaction
- 113 Be very fond of
- 114 Fine-tunes
- 115 Map detail
- 116 Pied Piper's followers
- 117 Grad
- 118 Poi source
- 119 Detective novelist Paretsky
- 121 First Obi-Wan portrayer
- 122 Pro \_\_\_ (gratis)
- 125 Half an ice cream duo
- 127 Hi-\_\_\_ graphics

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