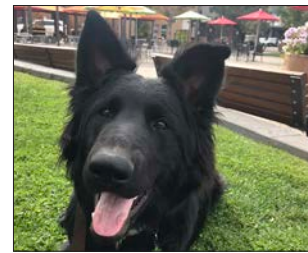




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WOOD RIVER WEEKLY

YOUR VOICE IN THE WOOD RIVER VALLEY

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"One benefit of summer was that each day we had more light to read by."
 - Jeanette Walls, *The Glass Castle*

BLAINE COUNTY AIR QUALITY



Smoky view of Bald Mountain from Sun Valley Resort. Photo credit: WRW Staff

Take a Deep Breath

BY ISAIHAH FRIZZELL

We're in the dog days of summer and wow are they intense. At this elevation it can feel as though you're pressed right up against the sun. With extreme summers come wildfires and while we all know of the Bench Lake Fire at Redfish, as of this writing there are 14 large fires scattered across Idaho blazing into a veritable 'Great Wall' stretching from the Idaho/Oregon border, west, nearly to the sea. These, the usual summer heat and pollution, all add up to make big changes to the quality of air.

Wildland Fires

A wildland fire is one that "occurs in an area where there is little to no human activity or development." That would be your forests, grasslands, shrublands, and wetlands. You can visualize these wildland fires at <https://idsmoke.blogspot.com/> and see many more, currently, in surrounding Montana and Washington. Although the direction of atmospheric wind currents and streams play a role in the changing potency of pollutants, wildland fires can amass to degrade the quality of air we all breathe. The metric to gauge this is known as the Air Quality Index (AQI).

Healthy adults shouldn't have much to worry about, but those who are pregnant, have small children, those with asthma, lung or heart disease can be impacted by the pollutants from a collection of wildland fires. To

help better prepare for these incidents, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Forest Service have created the AirNow Fire and Smoke Map at <https://fire.airnow.gov/> showing you precise conditions where the air may be healthy, harmful or somewhere in between.

Fiery Science

Every May, the EPA hosts an Air Quality Awareness Week and this year's theme was "Knowing Your Air." The Centers for Disease Control, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. National Park Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and U.S. Forest Service, along with tribal, local and state governments, pooled resources to educate the public about air quality.

The Interagency Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program (IWFAQR) was formed and at <https://outlooks.airfire.org/outlook> you can find, updated in near real time, Smoke Outlooks, which are collections of where smoke from fires could become a health issue. At <https://www.airnow.gov/aqi/> you will find resources and a heatmap with the "AQI Basics for Ozone and Particle Pollution." The AQI is color coded into six zones starting at green with an AQI of 0-50m, which poses no risk, and progressing to maroon with an AQI of 300+, which becomes a health warning for absolutely everyone. But what exactly is being measured?

"The EPA establishes an AQI for five major air pol-

lutants regulated by the Clean Air Act. Each of these pollutants has a national air quality standard set by the EPA to protect public health: ground-level ozone, particle pollution (also known as particulate matter, including PM2.5 and PM10), carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide" (<https://www.airnow.gov/aqi/aqi-basics/>).

You can think of the AQI as an easily read metric for how you'll be impacted in the zone you're looking for. They use temporary monitors and nearly 15,000 low-cost sensors to measure fine-particle pollution, which is the most deleterious pollutant in smoke. These sensors are placed near smoke plumes to provide near real-time updates on the AQI.

Minding The Children

Fine-particle pollution can be in the air whether you see it or not. Children often find it challenging to understand things they can't immediately see. To address this, AirNow has created a children's book called "Why Is Coco Red?" (<https://www.airnow.gov/education/why-is-coco-red/>) that aims to explain, visually, how these fire-based pollutants can cause lung issues during times of poor AQI.

Runny nose, burning eyes and symptoms of bron-

Continued
 Air Quality
 Page 2

Air Quality

Continued from Previous Page

chitis can be an early warning and for the asthmatic, the symptoms include heavy coughing and painful breathing. There are steps you can take to protect yourself in all zones but the most common sense is to leave the zone if it's at AQI 101 or beyond. Most Idahoans, knowing the dangers of fire season and increased traffic pollution from population growth, have air filters in home and modern smoke detectors typically offer carbon dioxide and monoxide sensors. There are a whole range of new air-quality sensors worth searching for at your nearest hardware store or online mercantile.

Passion for the Great Outdoors

We all love to get out during the summer but along with sunscreen, shades and water, it's a good idea to check the air quality in your neighborhood or near your next daycation, especially if you have loved ones in tow with sensitive lungs.

According to Amy Dillon, public information officer for the South Central Public Health District, "The AQI in Ketchum, which is the closest monitoring station, is at 61, and that's a good thing. Currently, the region is at the 'Moderate' level, in the yellow. This is an improvement compared to the last two to three weeks, where the AQI index ranged between 'Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups' and 'Unhealthy' in South Central Idaho.

"Anything at 101 AQI and above is unhealthy, especially to sensitive groups. These groups can include people with lung diseases, such as asthma, people with heart disease or diabetes, children and teens, those who are pregnant, older adults, and people who are active outdoors.

"To stay safe when air quality is unhealthy, people should limit the time they spend outdoors, reduce the intensity of any outdoor activity when they are outdoors, take more breaks, and keep any rescue inhalers close by, where applicable. People are encouraged to spend time indoors in filtered-air environments, and to replace any air filters as needed.

"To sensitive groups, it's recommended to make outdoor activities shorter and less intense. It can be OK to be active outdoors, but take more breaks. Watch for symptoms such as coughing or shortness of breath.

"People with asthma: Follow your asthma action plan and keep quick relief medicine handy.

"People with heart disease: Symptoms such as palpitations, shortness of breath, chest pain, or unusual fatigue may indicate a serious problem. If you have any of these, you definitely want to contact your healthcare provider.

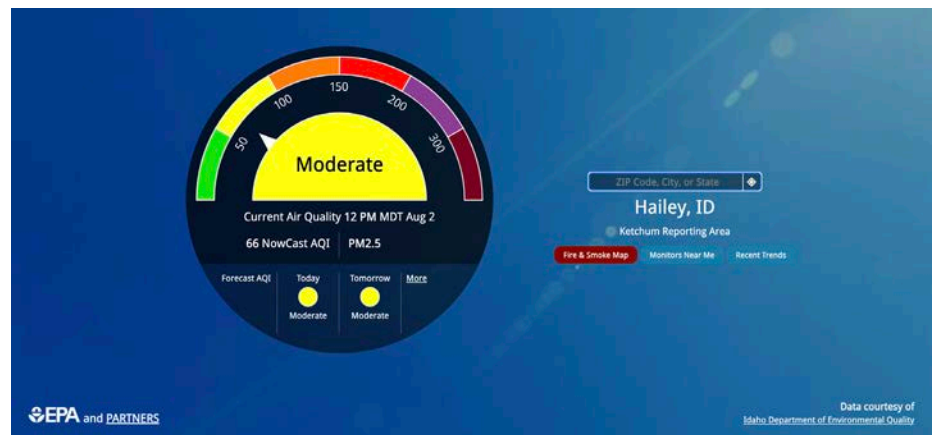
"And, of course, stay updated on air-quality reports from the smoke maps."

There's An App For That

To make things even easier, you can download their mobile app at <https://www.airnow.gov/airnow-mobile-app/>. This app offers a smart routine check before traveling during this most heat-beleaguered season.

Air Quality Index		
AQI Category and Color	Index Value	Description of Air Quality
Good Green	0 to 50	Air quality is satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk.
Moderate Yellow	51 to 100	Air quality is acceptable. However, there may be a risk for some people, particularly those who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups Orange	101 to 150	Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The general public is less likely to be affected.
Unhealthy Red	151 to 200	Some members of the general public may experience health effects; members of sensitive groups may experience more serious health effects.
Very Unhealthy Purple	201 to 300	Health alert: The risk of health effects is increased for everyone.
Hazardous Maroon	301 and higher	Health warning of emergency conditions: everyone is more likely to be affected.

Air Quality Index (AQI). Image credit: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)



AirNow forecast for Hailey. Image credit: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

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Greenhorn Firefighter Housing Fully Occupied



Greenhorn prefab housing units for firefighters and first responders. Photo credit: WRW Staff

BY ISAIAH FRIZZELL

Greenhorn Station Housing is going swimmingly for the firefighters and first responders who call it home. The \$3.2-million housing project is at capacity and while a major boon to the community, it stands, also, as a beacon of how crucial workers and critical personnel might be accommodated by the rapidly growing, recreational, mountain towns that make up Sun Valley.

“It’s all about ensuring that we have a response in that mid-Valley corridor,” Taan Robrahn, fire chief of the Sun Valley Fire Department, said about the location.

“It’s one of those things being centrally located mid-Valley, by the river and the bike path. It’s the best of all worlds. It really benefits people and the community to have first responders right there.” Chief Robrahn points out that they’d only projected to hit 50% occupancy but are currently at 100%.

Location is everything and what is often referred to as the ‘housing crisis’ specifically costs

the community. Critical personnel and workers of all emergency services are often forced to find housing much farther south, resulting in greater wait times for response and mitigation in emergency situations where every second counts.

Priority was given to full-time firefighters and volunteers working for the city. The new tenants who call the housing complex home pay a monthly rent and must maintain all qualifications, training and call responses while living onsite.

Greenhorn housing was made possible by private donations, federal American Rescue Plan Act funds from Blaine County, the district and the City of Sun Valley. The complex consists of eight 870-square-foot prefabricated units situated on a 2.4-acre parcel leased from the Idaho Transportation Department.

Affectionately referred to as ‘Melrose Place,’ the vibe at Greenhorn is one of joviality, civic duty and just rights where the people who keep the community safe are better provided to do just that.



One of the eight new prefabricated housing units at the Greenhorn fire station. Photo credit: WRW Staff

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NEWS

IN BRIEF

Registration Now Open for 46th Annual Baldy Hill Climb

Online registration is now open for the 46th Annual Baldy Hill Climb, which will be held on Saturday, Sept. 28. For the past 45 years, come rain, sun, or even snow, runners and hikers have made their way up Bald Mountain in support of Sun Valley Ski Education Foundation (SVSEF) cross country programming.

“The Baldy Hill Climb holds a special place in the heart of our cross country teams,” said Kelley Yeates, SVSEF’s Cross Country Assistant Program Director. “It’s all hands on deck with our coaches, families, and athletes of all ages—many volunteering their time to help with the event and others conquering the hill climb to test their summer training in anticipation of the ski season ahead.”

Organized by the SVSEF Cross Country Ski Teams, the course challenges participants to a grueling 1.86 miles and 3,140 vertical feet—straight up from the bottom of Warm Springs to the summit of Bald Mountain at 9,020 feet. All participants receive a collectible event t-shirt and a refuel at the summit aid station. In addition, and in partnership with Sun Valley Company, participants receive a much-deserved ride down on the Challenger Lift after they finish.

“The Baldy Hill Climb marks the beginning of a new season for our cross country athletes,” said Becky Flynn, SVSEF’s Cross Country Program Director. “It’s so inspiring to see our community come together to enjoy an awesome hike, run, or race up Baldy in support of our programming from our youngest XC Striders to our athletes on the XC Gold Team competing on the world stage.”

“We are so grateful for our partnership with Sun Valley Company and all they do for SVSEF—we wouldn’t be where we are today without their belief in and commitment to our programs,” added Flynn. “We also owe a special thank you to Olin Glenne and Sturtevant’s for their title sponsorship—they are so incredibly generous across our entire community and we couldn’t be more appreciative for their support.”

A \$100 bonus is on the line in the race division for those who set a new course record. Morgan Arritola is the only woman to have beat the forty-minute mark in the history of the Baldy Hill Climb—she holds the women’s record set in 2010 at 39:51. Miles Havlick holds the men’s record with a time of 35:04, set in 2014.

IMPORTANT PARKING/SHUTTLE INFORMATION:

The Warm Springs and Upper Greyhawk lots will be closed due to construction.

Participants are encouraged to please carpool or utilize Mountain Rides from the YMCA. The Mountain Rides Blue Line departs every 30 minutes from the YMCA, with the first bus departing at 7:53 a.m. and arriving at the base of Warm Springs at 7:58 a.m. Please visit Mountain Rides Blue Line Schedule for any updates.

There is limited parking along the adjacent neighborhood streets. Please do not park in any areas marked with “No Parking” signs.

EVENT SCHEDULE:

8:00 a.m. Check-In Opens

8:30 a.m. Kinder Climb Start: Free for kids 11 years and under. No pre-registration.

9:00 a.m. Hike Start

10:00 a.m. Race Start

12:00 p.m. Awards at the summit

Online registration closes on Thursday, Sept. 26 at 11:59 p.m. There is no race day registration. Uphill lift service will NOT be available.

For more information, please visit www.svsef.org.

NEWS

PHOTOBOX



The Gardener fire which started on Saturday, Aug. 3rd, approximately three miles northwest of Picabo off of Gannet Rd. near U.S. Highway 20. Photo credit: Lyman Bridge



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Bench Lake Fire



Fire management began transitioning for Nevada Team 1 to local team management on Sunday August 4th. Local fire management will work alongside Nevada Team 1 to ensure a thorough transition in all facets of the fire operations and future planning. From that point on please direct all inquiries to the Sawtooth National Forest.

The Bench Lake Fire is showing minimal fire activity in the fire area. Now 90% contained, the fire has had no additional growth and is still 2,595 acres. Glowing embers and smoke may be visible from interior pockets but are not a threat to fire containment lines at this time.

There may be additional closures from neighboring forests that have ongoing incidents, for the safety of the public and fire personnel please take the necessary precautions and keep informed about local area closures and restrictions.

Smoke remains visible in the area coming from incidences throughout the western United States. Check out the Fire and Smoke Map (airnow.gov) for more information on air quality. Check out <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/>



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ST. LUKE'S DOCTOR ENCOURAGES HISPANIC RESIDENTS



St. Luke's Wood River, the flagship hospital of the Wood River Valley. Photo credit: WRW

Highlights Support Services, Advises To Seek Medical Care As Needed

BY MONICA CARRILLO

Not too long ago, family medicine doctor, Peter Ferrara, said he had a patient stop-in the other day who has rheumatoid arthritis, which causes his joints to hurt every day.

However, when the patient was prescribed medicine for the pain, he never picked it up at the pharmacy because he was worried about the possibility of an expensive cost.

"I tried to express how important it was to use these meds in order so that he can work, because, you know, he's worried about how he can't work," Ferrara said.

Acknowledging their large number of bilingual providers and payment assistance directories, new family medicine doctor at St. Luke's, Ferrara encourages Hispanic residents in Blaine County to get check-ups, as he shares his experience serving as a primary doctor for many Hispanic community members through his work in Idaho and, most specifically, Jerome in the last few years.

Ferrara told the Wood River Weekly he started working in Idaho five years ago, working in Jerome for St. Luke's, aiding to the large Hispanic community in the area.

Although he is not Hispanic, he grew up taking Spanish classes in high school and eventually took a few classes in college as well, helping him become a trusted doctor for many Spanish-speaking residents who might've not made an appointment in the past because of the language barrier.

"I've worked hard to get a good accent, whether or not I have great grammar, so I can walk the walk and talk the talk a little," he said.

After working in Jerome for five years, he transitioned to the Blaine County area and said that even though it's not that far of a drive, he's seen a few similarities and differences with both areas.

"The patients down in Jerome are mostly of Mexican, you know, heritage, and the patients that currently live in the Wood River Valley are of Peruvian heritage here, and both have similar needs in the sense that they're un-

derserved," Ferrara said.

"But what the difference is, I think, in Jerome, is that many of the Mexican Americans are mainly, getting to be second and third generation Mexican Americans, and some speak more English, and their grandparents or parents don't – Here, the majority of patients that I've seen so far in, you know, the months that I've been working here is that they're newly arrived to the area."

According to data from the Commission on Hispanic Affairs, Carey has the largest percentage of Hispanic residents proportional to its total population. As of 2021, 639 residents were white and 682 residents were Hispanic—51.6% of the population.

Hailey has 2,837 Hispanic residents making up 31.5% of the city's population, while Bellevue has 774 Hispanic residents, making up 30.9% of the population.

And with the Hispanic community only continuing to grow, he encourages residents to confide in their clinics for assistance or for help.

"There are a good amount of [spanish providers], and they've been taking good care of this community before I arrived," Ferrara said. "I'm amazed and appreciative that there are a lot of nursing staff and secretarial staff, front office staff that speak Spanish, and they play a huge role in helping the patients get in to see the provider that they need."

One of the ways St. Luke's Wood River works to address these determinants is through its Center for Community Health (CCH), located in the Hailey Clinic.

The center serves the community through bilingual, comprehensive and coordinated health and wellness prevention services, including health promotion and education, health screenings, information and referral to local and regional health and social services, access to insurance and health care, emergency financial assistance, support groups, parent and family education, and community action.

Individuals with limited or no resources seek assistance in a variety of ways including financial assistance for medical care, mental health services, prescriptions, transportation, rent, food and more.

Additionally, CCH partners with St. Luke's clinical providers by referring to their services, being a resource to their patients who need additional support, promoting their expertise through our education programs and screenings, and providing office space for them to deliver services out of the center.

Ferrara told the Wood River Weekly that right after he heard of his patient with rheumatoid arthritis, he referred him to CCH to help him with his financial concerns and hopes he and St. Luke's can help others in the same way.

"You know, that can be scary to fill out paperwork that has all your information if you're not a citizen," Ferrara said.

"So if you could relay that information to the Community Center for Health and Wellness, you know, they're going to take some of your information, and it's private health information. We don't give that stuff away."



Peter B. Ferrara, M.D., is experienced in family medicine and obstetrics. Photo credit: St. Luke's

EL MÉDICO DE ST. LUKE'S ANIMA A LOS RESIDENTES HISPANOS



El edificio que alberga el consultorio médico en St. Luke's Wood River. Autor de la Foto: WRW

Destaca Los Servicios De Apoyo Y Aconseja Buscar Atención Médica Según Sea Necesario

POR MONICA CARRILLO

No hace mucho, el médico de familia, Peter Ferrara, dijo que el otro día visitó a un paciente que tenía artritis reumatoide, lo que hace que le duelan las articulaciones todos los días.

Sin embargo, cuando al paciente le recetaron medicamentos para el dolor, nunca los recogió en la farmacia porque le preocupaba la posibilidad de un coste elevado.

“Traté de expresar lo importante que era usar estos medicamentos en orden para que él pudiera trabajar, porque, ya sabes, le preocupa no poder trabajar”, dijo Ferrara.

Reconociendo su gran número de proveedores bilingües y directorios de asistencia con pagos, nuevo Médico de familia en St. Lucas, Ferrara alienta a los residentes hispanos en el condado de Blaine a hacerse chequeos, ya que comparte su experiencia como médico de atención primaria para muchos miembros de la comunidad hispana a través de su trabajo en Idaho y, más específicamente, Jerome en los últimos años.

Ferrara le dijo al Wood River Weekly que comenzó a trabajar en Idaho hace cinco años, trabajando en Jerome para St. Luke's, ayudando a la gran comunidad hispana del área.

Aunque no es hispano, creció tomando clases de español en la escuela secundaria y eventualmente también tomó algunas clases en la universidad, lo que lo ayudó a convertirse en un médico de confianza para muchos residentes de habla hispana que tal vez no hubieran concertado una cita en el pasado por la dificultad de entender el idioma.

“He trabajado duro para conseguir un buen acento, tenga o no buena gramática, para poder seguir el camino y hablar la charla un poco”, dijo.

Después de trabajar en Jerome durante cinco años, hizo la transición al área del condado de Blaine y dijo que, aunque no está tan lejos, ha visto algunas similitudes y diferencias con ambas áreas.

“Los pacientes en Jerome son en su mayoría de ascendencia mexicana, ya sabes, y

los pacientes que actualmente viven en Wood River Valley son de ascendencia peruana aquí, y ambos tienen necesidades similares en el sentido de que están desatendidos”, dijo Ferrara.

“Pero creo que la diferencia en Jerome es que muchos de los mexicano-estadounidenses son principalmente mexicano-estadounidenses de segunda y tercera generación, y algunos hablan más inglés, y sus abuelos o padres no. Aquí, la mayoría de los pacientes que he atendido hasta ahora en los meses que he estado trabajando aquí son recién llegados al área”.

Según datos de la Comisión de Asuntos Hispánicos, Carey tiene el mayor porcentaje de residentes hispanos proporcional a su población total. En 2021, 639 residentes eran blancos y 682 residentes eran hispanos: el 51,6% de la población.

Hailey tiene 2.837 residentes hispanos que representan el 31,5% de la población de la ciudad, mientras que Bellevue tiene 774 residentes hispanos, que representan el 30,9% de la población.

Y dado que la comunidad hispana sigue creciendo, anima a los residentes a confiar en sus clínicas en busca de asistencia o ayuda.

“Hay una buena cantidad de [proveedores que hablan español] y han cuidado muy bien a esta comunidad antes de que yo llegara”, dijo Ferrara. “Me sorprende y agradezco que haya una gran cantidad de personal de enfermería, secretariado y personal de recepción que habla español y que desempeñan un papel muy importante al ayudar a los pacientes a ver al proveedor que necesitan”.

Una de las formas en que St. Luke's Wood River trabaja para abordar estos determinantes, es a través de su Centro de Salud Comunitaria (CCH), ubicado en la Clínica de Hailey.

El centro presta servicios a la comunidad a través de servicios bilingües, integrales y coordinados de prevención de salud y bienestar, que incluyen promoción y educación de la salud, exámenes de salud, información y referencias a servicios sociales y de salud locales y regionales, acceso a seguros y atención médica, asistencia financiera de emergencia, apoyo. grupos, educación para padres y familias, y acción comunitaria.

Las personas con recursos limitados o nulos buscan asistencia de diversas maneras, incluida asistencia financiera para atención médica, servicios de salud mental, recetas, transporte, alquiler, comida y más.

Además, CCH se asocia con los proveedores clínicos de St. Luke al referirse a sus servicios, siendo un recurso para sus pacientes que necesitan apoyo adicional, promoviendo su experiencia a través de nuestros programas educativos y exámenes, y brindándoles espacio de oficina para brindar servicios fuera del centro.

Ferrara le dijo al Wood River Weekly que inmediatamente después de enterarse de su paciente con artritis reumatoide, lo remitió a CCH para ayudarlo con sus preocupaciones financieras y espera que él y St. Luke's puedan ayudar a otros de la misma manera.

“Sabes, eso puede dar miedo, llenar documentos que contengan toda tu información si no eres ciudadano”, dijo Ferrara.

“Entonces, si pudieras transmitir esa información para el Centro Comunitario para la Salud y el Bienestar, tomarán parte de tu información, y es información de salud privada. Eso no se lo damos a nadie.”



Autor de la Foto: WRW

WEED OF THE WEEK

BLAINE BUG CREW

DIFFUSE KNAPWEED

BY BLAINE BUG CREW

The hottest part of summer ushers in one of south-central Idaho's most noxious invaders, diffuse knapweed. The hot, dry season this time of year mirrors the conditions of knapweed's home turf, the Mediterranean. This weed is particularly prickly and invasive. Its seed heads are surrounded by thorns, thwarting any attempts to mechanically pull it, or have herd animals graze it. Hopefully, as we highlight this weed and its attributes, you will be better able to identify it and make a game plan to keep it from spreading.

Diffuse knapweed is a biennial, or short-lived, perennial reproducing entirely by seed and producing up to 18,000 seeds per plant. Flowers occur singly or in clusters, bloom from July to September, and may be white, pink or lavender. The bracts of the flower heads are tipped with a long, slender spine fringed with smaller spines. Seeds are blackish-brown with vertical brown and gray stripes and about 0.1 inch long. Stems are typically 6 inches to 2 feet tall with deeply divided leaves.

Diffuse knapweed prefers well-drained, light-textured soils and is intolerant of shade. This plant is common along roadsides, at disturbed sites, and in abandoned areas. To

date, 13 biological control agents have been approved for release for the knapweed complex, which includes diffuse knapweed.

Knapweed Seed Head Weevil (SHW) include LA spp. *Larinus minutus* which are abundant biological control agents that can utilize spotted, diffuse and squarrose knapweed. *Larinus* overwinter as adults which emerge in the spring when they begin to feed on knapweed foliage. Females produce between 28 and 130 eggs, which they lay in clusters in open flowers. Eggs hatch into larvae, which feed on seeds and receptacle tissue for about a month. Larvae construct cocoons within the seedheads using pappus hairs and pupate. Emerging adults chew a characteristic round hole in the top of the cocoon that is visible when viewed from above.

Knapweed is an invasive plant that can produce thousands of seeds in the areas we live in. It can spread at rapid speeds, leaving more weeds in your yard, but we can stop them with bugs. If you have a problem with diffuse knapweed invading your property, you can call Morgan Baird, (208) 788-5543, at the Blaine County Weed Department. She can answer any questions you may have and potentially refer you to the Blaine Bug Crew.



Diffuse knapweed is considered an invasive species in some parts of North America, having established itself in many areas of the continent. Photo credit: Thayne Tuason - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0

FISHING REPORT



THE "WEEKLY"
FISHING REPORT FOR
AUGUST 7 - 20
FROM PICABO ANGLER

The recent let up in temperatures, as well as a bit of rain, has refreshed our fisheries, and the fishing has picked up. Another heat wave is in the works, but water temperatures have been holding on locally.

On Silver Creek, look for Tricos to continue to be the main player in the mornings. As always, tiny Baetis tend to sneak in among the Tricos and will often be preferred by the Creek's finicky trout. As the day heats up, Callibaetis, Damsels, Hoppers, Beetles and Ants will be on the menu, and the terrestrial fishing can be great with a bit of a breeze. Remember to fish the heaviest tippet you can get away with, play fish quickly, and keep them in the water as much as possible.

The Big Wood River continues to fish well, and mornings see a mix of Tricos, Caddis, and a variety of small mayflies. Afternoons are dominated by Hoppers and Hopper/Droppers, and it pays to fish fast-moving riffles and runs.

We are still floating the Salmon River, and fishing is productive for the river's resident cutthroats. Hoppers are a good fly choice, but make sure to have plenty of small bugs on hand if the fish get fussy.

The Lower Big Lost River below Mackay Reservoir has come down to about 475 CFS, and strong waders are finding fish that are willing to eat PMDs, Hoppers and Craneflies.

Copper Basin (Upper Big Lost River system) is a great option right now. The fish have gotten a bit wary, so always make your first cast count. Again, Hoppers, Hopper/Droppers, Caddis, Flavs and PMDs are good flies to fill your boxes with.

Lastly, floating the South Fork Boise River (1240 CFS) is worth your time. Hoppers, Hopper/Droppers, Caddis and Pink Alberts are the way to go.

Happy fishing, everyone!



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COMMENTARY

NO BONES ABOUT IT

FRAN JEWELL

Unseen Dog Aggression

BY FRAN JEWELL

Last fall, I had a very disturbing incident happen to my puppy, Cloud, and me, at Ketchum Town Square. I had avoided taking Cloud to Ketchum to work on distractions with his obedience training because it was so busy and hot all summer. The timing seemed perfect, since it was quiet before our holiday visitors come. As a puppy, too many folks at one time could be overwhelming for Cloud.

I was sitting on one of the benches near Starbucks doing some "attention" work with Cloud and letting him hear and see the sounds of the town when a car pulled up and parked close to us. A dog came out of the car with a leash on but was not attached to its owner. Cloud barked once. I told him to sit next to me, which he did. The dog came flying over to Cloud and postured him, with his teeth bared and a very hard eye. The loose dog was within about 2 feet of my face and leaning over my knees to get closer to Cloud. Cloud continued to stay on my right. He never barked again, didn't growl, but sat there motionless. In an attempt to stop the confrontation, I thought breaking the eye contact would be best, so I told Cloud to "down," which he did without hesitation.

From the loose dog owner's point of view, he could see nothing other than his dog had run up to Cloud. The other dog had a jacket on, so there was no way to see hackles. There was no way for the owner to see the face of this dog with his hard, aggressive eye or his teeth bared, nor could he hear the deep growl from his dog at that distance. I, on the other hand, had his dog's face within inches of my face where I would be in the

line of fire if his dog had decided to attack Cloud.

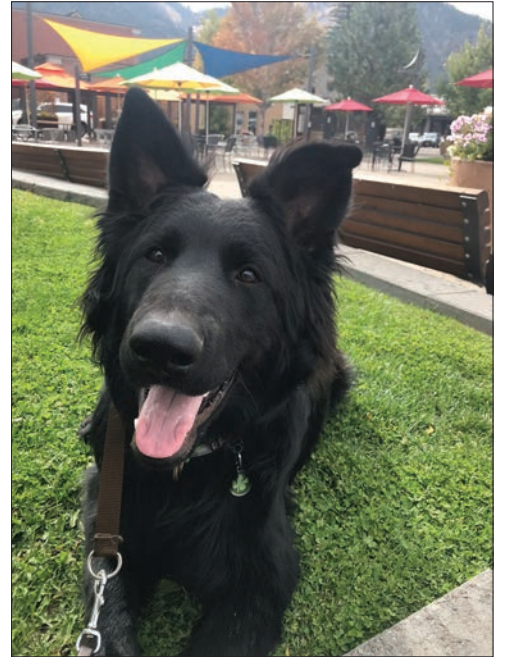
Cloud's action diffused the situation when the eye contact was broken. Just at that moment, the loose dog's owner called his dog and, fortunately, the dog responded by leaving.

While I understand the loose-dog owner's point of view, I cannot excuse the fact that the dog was allowed to run over to Cloud in the first place. I am sure that from the owner's point of view, he had no idea exactly how aggressive this incident was and the potential behind it. Cloud, being less than a year old, could have been emotionally scarred for life if he had been attacked. The first year for a dog is so critical. An event like this, if it happens during a fear period, could cause irreparable damage and set a puppy up to be afraid of other dogs forever.

When a dog runs loose, and you see an interaction from behind, it is common to not see all the body language to properly assess how your dog is responding to other dogs. What you may perceive as friendly may, in fact, be horribly aggressive for other dogs or even people.

Things to look for from behind are a wide stance from the rear legs; a tail held high, even if it is wagging, can also clue you in that your dog may be trying to posture the other dog. A stiff tail held high is even more of a clue as to the level of aggression. A ridged back is another clue. Dogs with their hackles up are certainly a good clue, but a dog with a coat on can lead you to false conclusions.

Regardless of how friendly you think your dog is, any dog can decide he doesn't like another dog. Just like with people, not ev-



Aggression toward a puppy during its first year can be devastating and affect the puppy for the rest of its life. Photo credit: Fran Jewell

everyone is our best friend. We all have people we are close to, we have acquaintances, and we have those folks we just don't like. Dogs are the same way. The best way to handle this is prevention. In public areas, keep your dog on a leash and attached to you. Let's keep other dogs safe, especially puppies!

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

A Giggle of Dragonflies

BY HARRY WEEKES

You may have heard this reply or made it yourself in answer to a question about a certain kind of animal. It goes like this:

"Do you like spiders?" (or worms, or snakes, or bats—insert the appropriate animal here)

"I don't mind them ... if there aren't too many of them."

This always brings up the obvious next question, "How many is too many?"

We know the common collective nouns—school, herd, flock, pride, pack. These have a certain pleasantness to them. "Oh look, a gaggle of geese. A colony of badgers. A parliament of bears."

But those terms don't quite capture that feeling that happens when a threshold is crossed, when one, two or three of something you don't mind becomes a nest of snakes. Or a shiver of sharks. Or a mischief of rats.

I visit my in-laws in Connecticut in July. Dragonflies are not unusual. I wouldn't say that they are uncommon, but if someone asked me before this summer if there were a lot of dragonflies in Guilford (the town I visit), I would probably look up to the right and respond, "Uhhhh... no. Not a lot. I mean, we see dragonflies, but I wouldn't say there are a lot."

To me, dragonflies always seem a little bit solitary, even when there are a handful of them flitting about a pond. Sure, there might be 10-20 at any one time, but they never appear coordinated; they aren't in some cluster like the ducks or flying together like the geese.

Until...

There were just a lot of dragonflies. I mean, A LOT.

Looking outside, they moved like a thousand small drones. They emerged from the

mist over the ocean and moved onto land in their darting, hovering, floating kind of a way. A portion of the larger cloud made its way into the house and immediately started dancing against the windows and the screens, their cellophane wings and exoskeletons making a characteristic crinkling noise as they thumped around.

There were enough that I jumped right to the second question, "How many dragonflies would freak you out?"

How about tens of thousands in a three-minute inundation? This is what happened at Misquamicut Beach in Rhode Island where my son happened to be.

While we were marveling at our flock, he was experiencing an unprecedented swarm of dragonflies that descended onto the beach. One notable sound bite captured the scene

and created a possible collective noun: "It's apocalyptic."

An apocalypse of dragonflies. Now that captures something for sure.

I am pretty confident the people screaming and running were ones whose numerical threshold had been crossed. They were in the biblical experience. Their collective nouns were implied—a ravage, a terror, a smog. An apocalypse.

And then, there was something else captured in all the ways that social media and the news now capture such things. These were the beachgoers and the people at the folk festival who looked around in a kind of wonder and awe and then reached toward it. Toward them. These were arms lifted, hands extended, and dragonflies landing on outstretched fingers.

In place of lighters flickering and waving, it was dragonflies alighting.

There were smiles and raised eyebrows and fleeting moments of wonder. This was a totally different set of collective nouns—an unexpected, a surprise, a giggle.

I think I like that one the best—a giggle of dragonflies.

Imagine how differently you would think about that news story: "Tonight, a giggle of dragonflies descended on the music festival."

Since the giggle has come and gone, my plan today is to go out and look for a few smirks here and there. I don't think I would mind that at all.

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).



Photo credit: Shyamal, Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported license

MONEY MATTERS

SUZANNE HAZLETT

VERY INTERESTING

BY SUZANNE HAZLETT, MBA, CIMA®, CFP®

With evidence showing inflation is progressing towards its stated 2% target, the Federal Reserve (Fed) could consider cutting rates as soon as September's FOMC meeting.

Here are some key takeaways following the July 2024 FOMC meeting:

- The Fed elected not to raise or lower the federal funds rate.
- With more evidence that the Fed will cut interest rates, economically sensitive areas of the economy such as small-caps, technology, consumer discretionary, and industrials have gained.
- Bond valuations continue to increase due to the prospect of the Fed cutting interest rates.

So, how should investors prepare?

Seasoned investors with diversified portfolios and a focus on the long term know it isn't prudent to make significant changes just because the Fed's policy approach is evolving. Yet, if rebalancing your portfolio is appropriate, certain market areas and sectors have historically performed better in lower-rate environments.

GROWTH STOCKS A decline in borrowing costs can positively affect growth stocks, reducing the interest companies pay on loans and increasing future earnings potential. Investors seeking high-quality growth stocks may want to focus on the technology and communication services sectors.

REAL ESTATE Lower borrowing costs also benefit the real estate sector. When interest rates rise, the cost of borrowing increases, leading to higher interest expenses for REITs (Real Estate Investment Trusts), squeezing profit margins, and reducing the funds available to reward shareholders. Lower borrowing costs can increase profitability and improve cash flow, benefiting investors with increased potential for appreciation and higher dividends.

SMALL-CAPS Publicly traded small companies, or small-caps, are another asset class that tends to do well when interest rates are lower. Small-caps are inherently more sensitive to interest rates than their larger counterparts since smaller companies borrow more outside funds to support their growth.

Investors should always take a comprehensive view of their portfolio and the economy in general before making any significant changes to their investment strategy.

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INSPIRATIONS FROM MY HEART

DOVE

Magnificence

BY DOVE

Are you willing to be magnificent? This is a question that was posed on a YouTube video I was watching, and I asked myself, Am I willing to be magnificent?

This is a large question to ponder, especially when it pertains to yourself and your own ego. We have been programmed to be humble; no one likes someone who is braggadocio, let alone always tooting their own horn. However, whenever you think about yourself, do you do it in positive terms or do you only focus on the aspects of yourself you hold as less than you want? Do you ever make a list of your good attributes and give them as much energy as you give the focus on your perceived less-than-perfect aspects?

There is a wonderful movie with Pat Boone called "The Mulligan." This is a story about an old golf pro who instructs people about second chances. First, they have to figure out where they are in their work practices, their personal relationships and their relationship with God. He does this all using the game of golf as a tool to explore who you are. A Mulligan is a second chance to do something over, to take a golf shot over. How many times do we wish we had the opportunity to change past behaviors or decisions we made? Are we always judging our shortcomings?

When you put your focus on all that you are not, you are energizing the lesser parts of yourself, and you will only create a life that does not live up to your expectations.

What if you had a belief system that God was your pro for whatever endeavor you choose? What if your focus about yourself was how much God (Source) loves you and sees only the best in you? What if you made a list of all the wonderful things you are on one side of a piece of paper and all the things you would like to change about yourself on the opposite side? You would come to know yourself rather than just going down the same old path with no self-awareness.

When you truly know yourself, you will come to know God (Source) and the items you don't love about yourself will have the opportunity to shift. If we all change our energy to one of putting our focus on all the beautiful energies that we are, we will shift our reality so that we begin to love the life we are creating.

Let go of all the chaos around you and look for the joy in the little things. The joy will become your focus and then watch your life change. After all, my guardian angel told me many years ago, "Life is a gift and the purpose is joy." Find yours.

Blessings, Dove



ON LIFE'S TERMS

JOELLEN COLLINS

FASCINATING MYSTERIES

BY JOELLEN COLLINS

I have found a new place to explore what I learn about people in varied situations. I am hearing more good stories wherein I and other neighbors can empathize, identify, or simply anticipate the results of life events. I might imagine what it must be like to have experienced some of these. I have spent most of my life telling stories, teaching literature and performing in choirs where one's emotions translate as a group. I am now living in California with about 100 other residents of my generation. Except with close friends, I haven't fully learned some of the experiences of people who were most likely alive around the time of WWII, the Korean and Vietnam wars, and the era of the '60s with changes in behaviors and public attention to civil and women's rights, and, most heavily, the rise of computer and media communication, which has altered even a habit as liking to write on yellow legal tablets.

However, from a group of people who survived these changes, I meet daily yet another person who has lived a full and textured life. I believe everyone has a fascinating story to tell. I may not learn more about different societies as I did through some extensive travels, but I have human encyclopedias here encouraging me to maintain an open mind about other cultures. Just this week I had conversations with three fellow residents who related details about their lives that could easily become novels or cinema sensations. Of course, I will not use names or revelatory details. These three meetings represent amazing options for the impressive ways humans can deal with frightful or unusual occurrences that shape their values and strengths.

The story of a man I met in our courtyard reminded me of the courage behind so many human endeavors. He was a Hungarian citizen in his early twenties living under Russian communist rule. Luckily avoiding a police search of his boarding house, he eventually risked his life, escaping from his beloved but now-dangerous country in 1956. Eventually, he was able to use his medical studies and obtain new licensing to become a physician here in America.

This week I welcomed a new neighbor, whose tales of her life fascinated me. In her nineties, she is articulate, positive, and friendly. Born in Hong Kong, she and her family relocated to mainland China, where she remained until 1949, when Mao Tse-Tung and communism necessitated their eventual move back to Hong Kong. She was a teacher and a happy resident there. I can't wait to hear more of her experiences.

During a recent discussion of our school years, a friend spoke of her early learning in a one-room schoolhouse in rural Indiana. Of 12 students, she was the only one in her age level. That did not hinder her becoming a surgical nurse married to a high school principal.

Recent studies confirm that companionship is one strong key to experience a contented older age. I'm counting on more of the stories we all have.



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

Birthday BB Gun

Recently, my cousin showed up here, in Island Park, for a visit. Growing up, he and I lived less than a mile apart. We were closer to each other than to our own brothers. Now, we live about 50 miles apart and say hello only two to three times a year. Needless to say, I was more than happy to see him coming down the driveway.

After a short greeting, we went into the house where my wife talked us into a bowl of chocolate ice cream. Ross would never turn down a bowl of any kind of ice cream. We polished off the chocolate ice cream and then grabbed the tub of vanilla.

While gorging ourselves, we started to reminisce. During our conversation, we both agreed our growing up years were ideal for two country boys. We worked hard and played hard—the best part of growing up on a farm.

As I was scraping the last of the vanilla, my cousin asked me if I remembered the day I got a BB gun for my birthday. A smile crossed my face, as I hadn't thought about that day for a quarter of a century. As it happened, in our family, when we turned eight years old we got a BB gun as our main birthday gift. That morning, Ross drove the Massey Ferguson down to the house carrying his pellet gun. We eagerly headed out to the pasture for some target practice. As we left the house, I will never forget my mother's words. She said, "You only have two eyes. Don't shoot one of them out."

First, we stopped at the corral and drew a face on one of the corral posts. The distorted ugly face even had a cigar sticking out of its mouth. The trick was to see how many times we could hit the cigar. I cocked the rifle, and with all the confidence of Matt Dillon, pulled the trigger. The BB hit the evil face but then it came flying straight back toward me. I wasn't fast enough to duck. The shiny little pellet hit the bridge of my nose right between my eyes.

After I was able to focus, I looked at Ross and his eyes were big as saucers. Luckily, there was no serious injury to me other than a damaged ego.

Next thought was my mother's words, "Don't shoot your eye out." How was I



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



Photo credit: Herbert Romero

Grilling Hope

BY NICOLE FUENTES

OUR VOICE COUNTS

I want to extend a huge thank you to Antonio from The Burger Grill in Ketchum. Antonio agreed to host an all-day proceeds event to benefit Syringa Mountain Public Charter School in Hailey, despite this time of economic hardship.

“Business is really suffering. I told my wife I am not sure what we are going to do.” In that conversation, I felt Antonio’s heart for his business and his family. He shared how this summer has really taken a toll on the restaurant and staff. The local radio station, 99.1 La Perrona, hosted a conversation between Herbert Romero and myself about the proceeds event and the generosity of Antonio’s family. Efforts were made to get the word out.

As I passed out flyers in the community, the number one thing I heard is how much respect and love people have for Antonio and his restaurant. Due to summer being in full swing, the event went well but did not see the turnout hoped for. Antonio did not waiver at all in his desire to help the school. On July 31, with a big smile on his face, Antonio wrote a check to the school. He was grateful for the opportunity to help his community.

Antonio was optimistic that we could partner again to do another proceeds night in September when school starts back up. I hope you have a chance to enjoy a meal at Antonio’s restaurant. If you missed this event, please consider joining us in September.

NUESTRA VOZ CUENTA

Quiero agradecer enormemente a Antonio de The Burger Grill en Ketchum. Antonio acordó organizar un evento con ganancias de TODO el día en beneficio de la Escuela Pública Chárter Syringa Mountain en Hailey, a pesar de este momento de dificultades económicas.

“El negocio está realmente sufriendo. Le dije a mi esposa que no estoy seguro de lo que vamos a hacer”. En esa conversación sentí el corazón de Antonio por su negocio y su familia. Compartió cómo este verano realmente ha pasado factura al restaurante y al personal. La estación de radio local 99.1 La Perrona organizó una conversación entre Herbert Romero y yo sobre las ganancias del evento y la generosidad de la familia de Antonio. Se hicieron esfuerzos para hacer correr la voz.

Mientras repartía folletos en la comunidad, lo primero que escuché es cuánto respeto y amor tiene la gente por Antonio y su restaurante. Debido a que el verano estaba en pleno apogeo, el evento transcurrió bien, pero no obtuvo la participación esperada.

Antonio no cejó en absoluto en su deseo de ayudar al colegio. El 31 de julio, con una gran sonrisa en su rostro, Antonio escribió un cheque a nombre de la escuela. Estaba agradecido por la oportunidad de ayudar a su comunidad.

Antonio se mostró optimista de que podríamos asociarnos nuevamente para hacer otra noche de ganancias en septiembre, cuando las clases comiencen de nuevo. Espero que tengas la oportunidad de disfrutar de una comida en el restaurante de Antonio. Si se perdió este evento, considere unirse a nosotros en septiembre.

PROJECTOOLSUCCESS

BETTER HOMEOWNERS NEWS

ANNA AND MICHELLE



WHAT TO DO IF YOUR HOUSE DOESN'T SELL

BY ANNA & MICHELLE

If your home has been listed for a long time and still hasn't sold, it's totally natural to feel a mix of frustration and disappointment. And as you're working through that, you're probably also wondering what has gone wrong and what you should do.

If you still want to move, here are some things to consider as you look back.

Was Your Home Priced for Today's Market?

Setting the right price from the start is key. While it might be tempting to try shooting high with your price, that can slow down the selling process big time. If your house was priced higher than others similar to it, it may have turned away buyers. And that's likely why it sat on the market. As Rocket Mortgage explains:

“Buyer interest in your home is highest when it first comes on the market. That's why it's so important to start with the right price on day one... **If you overprice your house, buyers may just raise an eyebrow and move on to the next listing without even coming for a showing...** It can be easy to think your home is worth more but try not to let sentimental value color your judgment. **Your home's true value is whatever a buyer is willing to pay for it.**”

Was Your Home Easy for Buyers To Tour?

One of the biggest mistakes you can make when selling your house is overly restricting the days and times when potential buyers can tour it. Even though it might feel stressful to drop everything and leave when buyers want to see your house, being flexible with your schedule is important. After all, minimal access means minimal exposure to buyers. Showing-Time advises:

“...do your best to be as flexible as possible when granting access to your house for showings.”

Was Your Home Set Up To Make the Best Impression on Buyers?

If buyers weren't interested in your house, it's worth taking another look at your home through their eyes. Are there outstanding repairs that may be distracting them? Even if it's a small thing, some buyers may see it as a sign the maintenance on the home is falling behind.

Just remember, you don't always need to make big upgrades. Selective small repairs or touchups go a long way. Things like tidying up your *landscaping*,

a fresh coat of paint inside, or removing personal items and clutter can work wonders in sprucing up the house for potential buyers. You could also consider staging the home.

Were You Willing To Negotiate?

If there were offers coming in, but you weren't ready to negotiate, that may be another reason why your house didn't sell. While you want to get top dollar for your house, you also need to be realistic about what your house can net in today's market. The market is still tipped in a *seller's favor*, but the supply of *homes for sale* is growing and buyers are feeling the sting of higher mortgage rates. So being willing to play ball can make closing a deal a whole lot easier. A skilled agent can help. As Ramsey Solutions explains:

“If you don't have the money or time to fix home issues, consider offering some other form of incentive to buyers... **An experienced real estate agent can help you arrange a deal where you and your buyer both come out on top.**”

Did You Listen To Your Agent?

If you want an *expert's advice* on why your home didn't sell, rely on a trusted real estate agent. Whether that's the agent you used previously or a new one once the listing has officially expired, a great agent will sit down and take the time to talk it over with you. They'll want to hear your honest opinion on what worked and what didn't, and where you want to go from here.

Then, they'll offer their perspective. This includes tailored advice and effective strategies for re-listing your house to get it sold. As Better Homes & Gardens says, an agent should be your go-to resource in this situation:

“If you're frustrated with the timeline of your sale, chat with your real estate agent. **Agents want what is best for you and the sale of your home, and having open communication about any frustrations will be key.**”

Bottom Line

It's natural to feel disappointed when your listing has expired and your house didn't sell. Connect with a reliable real estate agent to determine what happened, and what changes you should make to get your house back on the market.

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WRANGLER'S WRITINGS

BRYCE ANGELL

Birthday BB Gun

Continued from Page 9

going to explain what happened and take a chance of losing the BB gun. So, we devised a story about how I bumped into a 20-penny nail sticking out from a slab on the corral fence. To this day, I don't know if my folks really believed me. But I kept the BB gun and my eyes for years to come.

Flash forward to 1983. “A Christmas Story,” with Peter Billingsley, came to

the theaters and my own BB gun memories came flooding back. I believe it was his mother who said, “You'll shoot your eye out!” I wonder if Ralphie ever came clean about how his glasses were broken? My folks have passed away so I won't be telling them what really caused the large knot on my nose all those years ago.

By this time, my cousin and I had consumed all the ice cream in the house. I suggested we head to Sam Patch's grocery for another couple of gallons. He said he enjoyed the walk down memory lane but needed to get home.

As I look back at the experience, 63 years ago, did I learn anything from the BB hitting me between the eyes? Dang right I did! It hurts like the dickens to get hit in the nose by a ricocheted, deflected, boomeranged, stupid BB.

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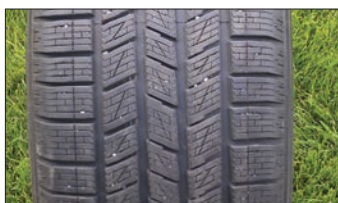


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CROSSWORD

answer from page 11

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

SUDOKU

answer from page 11

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



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Airborne Beaver Festival

Did you know that a select group of dam-building beavers went parachuting into remote areas just north of Ketchum? A new festival aims to educate children, families and all patrons at the inaugural Airborne Beaver Festival on Aug. 17, 2024, at Forest Service Park, followed by a field trip to 4th of July trail on August 18.



Geronimo!

As the story goes, in the 1940s various Idaho towns, including McCall, had had it with the glut of beavers clogging up their waterways. Water being a valuable resource for agrarian communities and beavers being of single mind with water and dams, well, they simply could not coexist. Fish & Game was called to safely relocate the beavers, the process of which quickly became a logistical nightmare. Attempting to transport the wily creatures via horseback just was fraught with tail-slapping antics as the creatures became anxious on the journey outside of water. A plan was hatched to use parachutes, in huge surplus post WWII, to drop them into remote areas where they could continue their wood-chewing ways.

Special pine boxes were constructed to hold small armies of beavers and, attached to parachutes, these beaver boxes were distributed across remote areas in Idaho, including Baugh Creek in Blaine County. During the progression of the program, one beaver, nicknamed Geronimo, went on 11 flights. This brave boy became a mascot after willingly climbing into the planes and helping other beavers feel safe in their boxes.

What started as a fix for the agricultural industry ended up being a fascinating story of fire resilience as these water-loving mammals tend to create wetland complexes of greater biodiversity with higher drought and fire resistance through their dam machinations.

Airborne Beaver Circus

Paul "Dizzy Hips" Blair is the ringleader of this historical celebration. You may know him from his performing days with Velocity Circus, Bill Graham Productions and as the "Hoop Goat" most recently at Life Church's Family Fun Fourth of July community event.

There will be a plethora of games, juggling, face painting, unicycling, food, beaver costume contest, music, a 'pirate' tug-of-war and a unique build-your-own parachute contest for kids to make parachutes for a beaver effigy.

The event is at Forest Service Park in Ketchum on August 17 from 11 a.m.—6 p.m. and on the 18th the groups will meet to carpool out to 4th of July trail to go see the beavers in action. "I'm sure they'll come down from their beaver ponds and give us a ticker tape, you know, throw confetti," Blair laughs. He's even created a beaver dance for TikTok, sure to become the next big dance challenge to sweep the web.

If you'd like to be involved, they're still recruiting volunteers and face painters to help with the festivities. Contact Blair at (208) 913-9212.

And if you like to support family-friendly community events, there is a GoFundMe at <https://gofund.me/61686d01>



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

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

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NOTHING FANCY: Frill-free
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ACROSS

1 Hidden obstacles	79 Sounded discontented	3 Etoher's fluid
6 Taco topping	81 Novelist Beattie or Patchett	4 Window parts
11 "Right away!"	82 Barnyard youngster	5 No-frills
15 With no warranty	84 The Dalai ___	6 GNP or RBI
19 Postgame wrap-up	85 Quick cut	7 Helped out
20 Attach with string, say	87 <i>The Thinker</i> creator	8 Sports artist Neiman
21 Mrs. Zeus	90 Mister in Madrid	9 Italian white wine
22 Chain segment	94 Book's ID	10 How harp music sounds
23 Frozen voice Menzel	95 Tiny train or truck	11 Cry of discovery
24 "Not fun at all!"	96 Knowing better	12 Prefix for circular
25 Prayer's closing	98 West African nation	13 Rodeo venues
26 Prefix meaning "all"	99 Quiche serving	14 Inseam location
27 Baking setting around 350°	102 Reasonable suggestion	15 Shampoo's soother
30 Courageous	106 Environmental region	16 Monosaccharide, in chemistry
32 R-V connection	108 Payable now	17 Concave navel
33 Yarn spec	109 Maritime assent	18 Slides off course
35 Pub offering	110 Shearing day sound	28 Subtle glows
36 ___ Miz	112 Color TV pioneer	29 Taboo action
37 Inflation no.	113 Gets more out of	31 Eyecare brand
40 Comics canine's comment	117 NFL successes	34 Office subs
42 By nature	119 Sitcom interruptions	37 Brown beverage
45 What the IRS calls salaries and bonuses	122 Merchant's honorable conduct	38 Campus nickname
50 Conjecture	127 Cobbler's concern	39 Object of worship
52 Weaver's device	128 Name of 12 popes	41 Pond dweller
53 Composer of America's official march	130 "Me too!"	43 Pop singer Neil
54 May setting in L.A.	131 Trash can insert	44 Dwarf planet
56 Symbol in Tolkien novels	132 Was a passenger	46 Muslim leader
58 Supplemental insurance acronym	133 Austen novel	47 Brynner of films
60 Tall flowers, for short	134 Org. based in NYC	48 Author Asimov
62 Uttered	135 Event host	49 Low point
64 Quaint oath	136 Passed easily	51 Big mess
65 Janitorial tool	137 Vane direction	55 Stadium level
67 Strive (for)	138 Have an ___ the ground (be alert)	57 Genesis setting
68 "Take care"	139 Fully prepared	59 ___ salad (greens with bacon and egg)
70 Sound of discomfort		61 Makeup mishap
73 Scientific quest for knowledge	DOWN	63 Ship level
78 Winning streak	1 Shorten slightly	66 Good buds
	2 Start over with	69 Frat letters
		70 Hybrid citrus

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71 Hula skirt material
72 Homeowner's self-described dwelling
74 Dispatched
75 Figurative phrases
76 Deceives, so to speak
77 Cancel a project
80 Hyperactive
83 Auditor's recording
86 Composer Tchaikovsky
88 Web access co.
89 Brilliant introvert

91 Astronaut insignia
92 Avon alternative
93 Irritate
97 It's a snap for a map app
100 Central part
101 Person fleeing
103 Cavernous
104 Try to be like
105 Bike enthusiast
107 Washington city
110 Port of Iraq
111 Committee adjective

114 2010s First Daughter
115 Pillow filler
116 Moose's muzzle
118 Sticky mud
120 Oboe insert
121 Grand totals
123 T-Rex, e.g.
124 Peruvian ancestor
125 Yearn for
126 Name on teabags
129 Didn't get to play

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