

EDUCATION NEWS

PIQE To Return For Third Year PG 6



COMMUNITY NEWS

Rotary Celebrates Foundation Milestone PG 5



SCIENCE OF PLACE High-Rises

High-Rises In The Sage PG 8

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WOOD-RIVER-WEEKLY

YOUR VOICE IN THE WOOD RIVER VALLEY

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"Happily we bask in this warm September sun, which illuminates all creatures."
- Henry David Thoreau

OVERVIEW OF WAPITI FIRE



The Wapiti Fire was started by lightning late in the evening of July 24, 2024. Steep terrain, difficult access and unfavorable weather conditions have challenged firefighters. Photo courtesy of Inciweh

Tough Decisions To Evacuate

BY ISAIAH FRIZZELL

ature is always in control. It's bigger than we are and sometimes we have to work hard to coexist. The Wapiti Fire, which was started by lightning on the evening of July 24, 2024, nearly two miles southwest of Grandjean, on the Boise National Forest, continues to be a huge, ongoing battle.

What do you do in the event that your land and environment are in critical danger? For residents of Stanley and surrounding enclaves, many have had to make the tough decision to evacuate and potentially let go of homes and belongings.

Rocky Mountain Incident Management (RMIM)

On August 29 the RMIM held a public meeting to discuss progress as many crews battle the fire over an area estimated at 89,714 acres. While the blaze remains a threat, much of it has been contained due to the perseverance and teamwork of all involved.

Operational Update

Operation Sections Chief Lance Martin gave a round-robin overview beginning in the southwest and moving clockwise around the Wapiti Fire.

- The Bear Creek summer home area is under heavy guard, but looks to be nearly under control.
 - Near Warm Springs landing strip intakes new

resources. The fire is still growing just north of the landing strip area in very rough terrain and the intent is to contain it north of High 21.

- The Seven Peaks and Sourdough area receives more resources with new crew and much hoses deployed in the north.
- The fire appears to be slowed by natural features farther north and into the Bull Trout Lake area. From Highway 21 to Bull Trout Lake, it was successfully contained toward Martin Lake.
- North toward Boy Scout, a number of crews are prepping along the road heading toward Boy Scout camp.
- Resources are heavily deployed toward the northeast of the fire around Boy Scout camp in case the flow comes out of Hatcher and crosses Highway 21
- Farther down the Highway 21 corridor, moving south toward Valley Creek, crews are set up to assess changes, such as a potential southerly wind, but the area is largely under control.
- On the east side of Highway 21 in Valley Creek, a large number of resources are doing structural assessment where all appears to be contained and well fortified.
- Toward the Crooked Creek and Homestead areas, continuing southeast of the fire, the coming days will see heavy deployment of resources to burn out

any potential hotspots.

- The spot fire near lower Stanley, close to Nip and Tuck, is completely under control and with zero new growth the area is kempt.
- South toward the Iron Creek community, a successful burnout operation on Wednesday, August 28, shut out the fire. While it is possible the blaze could come back, crews are building a large buffer behind the Iron Creek community, working south toward where the Bench Lake Fire raged earlier this summer. Depending on weather, there is potential for the fire to burn down farther into the Sawtooths.

Weather

Incident Meteorologist Trainee Woody Unrue presented a General Weather outlook showing a number of critical conditions from Friday through Monday when it is projected weather threats should begin to decrease. As the high-pressure system dissipates, a low-pressure system should bring scattered precipitation on Monday. Dry and dangerous conditions return shortly after, however.

Continued Wapiti Fire Page 4



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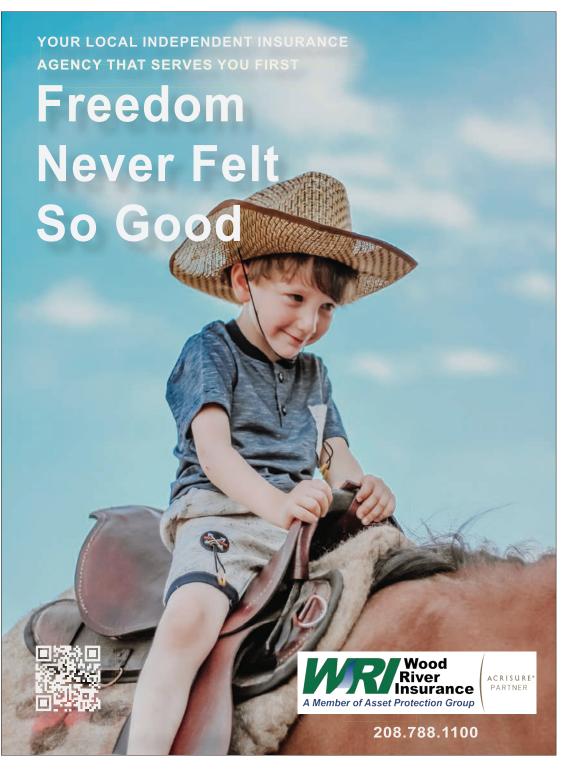
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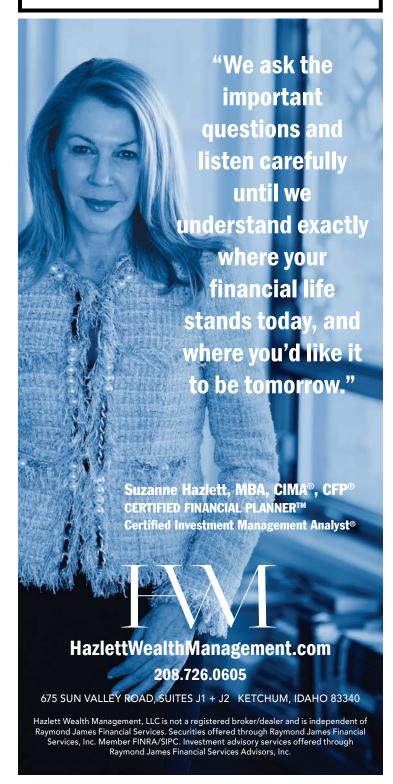




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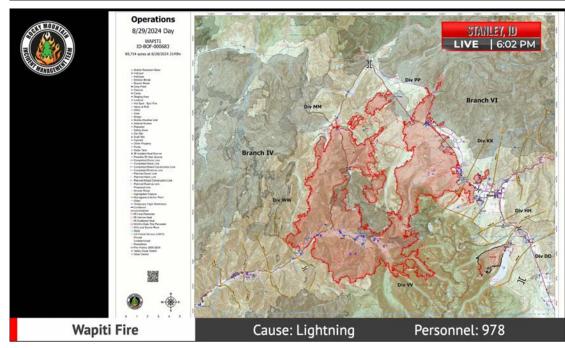




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NEWS



Map of Wapiti Fire. Photo credit: Wapiti Fire Information 2024 Facebook page

Tough Decisions To Evacuate

Continued from Page 1

Behavior

Fire Behavior Analyst Glen Lewis spoke on the abundance of dry 'fuels' (anything that will burn) that helped the fire burn strong while efforts largely kept it in place. When heavy dry fuels come into alignment with a slope, the fire runs up the hill. Fire tends to flow like water, although somewhat in reverse, tending to run uphill. Fire at the top of a slope loses alignment and stops. Lewis describes a pulsing scenario as this fire ran up, down and jumped slopes in alignment with the weather and fuel. One of the biggest issues are flying embers, which can create adjacent hotspots.

Thursday and Friday saw hot, dry and windy weather, which heavily propagated the fire. By Saturday, August 24, favorable moisture helped slow the fire. By Monday, the drying out created movement in many large spots. Tuesday, the weather became near critical, coming out of the southwest pushing the blaze farther to the northeast. Many successful firing operations secured Highway 21 northwest of Stanley.

A spot that burned heavily across Highway 21, northwest of Stanley, was anticipated by a computer model. In a beautiful human success, prior to the model, the operations managers' instincts had anticipated this spot. They were there, ready with a plan, a crew in place and put a line around it, keeping the hotspot steady in place.

A northwest wind change brought heavy, visible smoke and gave the fire some of its biggest pushes to grow toward the north and northeast while many spots took it farther.

The coming weather will produce more smoke and further grow the fire. The smoke itself, however, is somewhat of a mixed blessing as it lowers the temperature, much like cloud cover.

Smoke

Air Resource Advisor Amber Ortega espoused the need for smoke safety, pointing out that smoke intoxication is cumulative and leads from a slight cough or burning eyes to mental irritability and eventually cardiovascular damage. This can go unnoticed in the beginning stages.

You can readily get your area's smoke forecast, from Boise to Salmon, through the Fire and Smoke map at www.fire.airnow.gov, which will geolocate to your area. A color-coded Air Quality Index will give you a scale to judge your oxygen availability. The hazardous category has dominated for the last few days and will remain so in Stanley. Monitors placed at the Lowman Ranger Station on Highway 21, the Sawtooth National Recreation Area Headquarters on Highway 75, and a new one at the Valley Springs spike camp feed accurate data on air quality.

It is highly recommended to limit the time you keep doors and windows open, especially if in a hazardous zone. Smoke can become trapped inside during these days, however, and it is crucial to let it out on any favorable days. Box fans with furnace filters strapped to the intake are recommended and can filter your home's air dramatically.

Highways

Custer County Sheriff Levi Maydole explained that Highway 21 will remain closed indefinitely until further progress while Highway 75 is completely open with no intention of closing with-



standing future spotting fires.

Maydole explained the 'Ready, Set, Go' status of all affected areas as Ready - 'Prepare Now'; Set - 'Be Alert'; Go - 'Evacuate.' Efforts have lifted Lower Stanley and Gateway communities from 'Go' to 'Set.' Stanley is in 'Set.' Casino Creek is in 'Ready.'

Insurance

Bureau chief of the Idaho Department of Insurance (DOI) gave a breakdown of the best ways to keep abreast of any potential losses by updating your contact information with your insurance companies and having copies of as many policies as possible for everything you are concerned about losing. As the DOI holds all of the insurance companies licenses, it is best to contact them first to get the ball rolling. They can be reached at consumeraffairs@doi.idaho.gov or (208) 334-4250.

Closures & Values

After a big thank you from Stanley Mayor Steve Botti, agency representative Kirk Flannigan gave an update on the closure map. Closure starts at Hell Roaring Trailhead continuing west to Imogene Lake and across the Wilderness. The boundary trail is open, connecting to the Lowman area, butting up against the Nellie fire north up over Cape Horn and around the Salmon Challis Basin Creek back to Hell Roaring. A closure map can be found at https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/idbof-wapiti-fire.

Rocky Mountain Incident Manager Justin Conrad closed the briefing by stating the two primary value objectives: the first being firefighter and public safety, with community property coming in at a big second.

Redfish Lake and Lodge are open while Bench Lake and Point Campground stay closed.

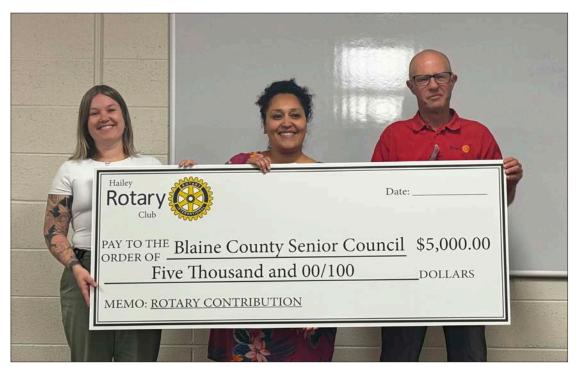
The Wapiti Fire has become national news and is currently the number one priority fire in the entire nation. Around 1200 firefighters are active along with 70 engines, including helicopters, scoopers, tankers and drones. As this is a values-driven (community property, woodland resources) situation, focus is on areas of high value within the massive fire's path.

This is not a "Let it burn" situation.

Take care if driving near affected areas. A video of the meeting can be found at https://www.facebook.com/wapitifireinfo2024/videos/1674776573319640

COMMUNITY

Hailey Rotary Celebrates Foundation Milestone



L-R, Brittany Werry, associate executive, Senior Connection; Jovita Pina, executive director, Senior Connection; Kevin Lupton, Hailey Rotary President. Photo credit: Shelly Siebel

BY ISAIAH FRIZZELL

The Hailey Rotary Club, serving the Wood River Valley since 1937, is one of the Valley's many charitable foundations consistently working to help the community thrive. With a core motto of "Service Above Self," the organization works to grow donations into actionable responses to everything from high school scholarships to helping eradicate diseases. "The Hailey Rotary Club is comprised of community members who come together on a weekly basis to create positive, lasting change in our community and around the world." (https://members.haileyidaho.com/list/ member/hailey-rotary-475)

Milestone Achieved

For nearly 20 years, Hailey Rotary has given nearly \$15,000 per year in college scholarships, but in 2007 the group established its own foundation with the goal of growing large enough to be able to give money, on an annual basis, to charities of its choice. A huge milestone for Hailey Rotary, it has now attained that goal and, for the first time, is distributing its earnings this year.

Recipients of the charity were chosen by members as Syringa Mountain School and The Senior Connection. Each group will receive \$25,000. The disbursements are to be made at a rate of \$5,000 every year for five years. This enables the receiving party a secure line of income they can count on every year and may thus plan to use accordingly.

"Rotary believes that serving others before yourself is the most important thing," Jennifer Bowen, expressing the core tenets of the group,

Rotary offers a helping hand where it's needed, which can include anything from painting houses, helping the elderly clean yards before the snow falls, fixing fences or responding to any request for help. Members recently constructed and painted the blue garbage cans you may see along Main

Rotary Rodeo

Every Fourth of July, Hailey Rotary runs the concession stand for the Sawtooth Rangers Rodeo at the Hailey Days of the Old West event. As its biggest fundraiser, the money made there is saved through the foundation and given out as scholarships or donated. Some of the many donees have been the Robotics team at Wood River High School, the Speech and Debate team, the Future Business Leaders of America and The Hunger Coalition. Hailey Rotary also bought a new mound

The organization operates within a framework called the Four-Way Trust, as Jennifer Bowen explains: "Is it the truth? Is it beneficial to everyone? Will it build goodwill and friendship? Is it fair? That's what Rotary is about."

Bowen has lived in Sun Valley since 1998, being a member of Rotary since 1999. She was president prior to the inauguration of Kevin Lupton several

"A couple of Rotary clubs might get together and contribute \$2,000 each and then our district will do half of those funds and then our international headquarters give another half of that and so we can multiply our funds to do things like dig freshwater wells in Vietnam, which we did 15 years ago."

Rotary is a nonpolitical, nonreligious, international organization operating in 200+ countries. They are civic clubs that seek to benefit their communities.

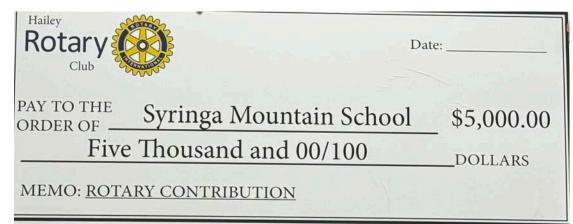
Having reached their goal, they are now able to use funds from their foundation to distribute money to local organizations who better the community. The organizations can use the money for anything at all.

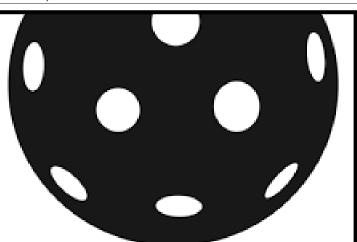
Rotary For All

"We chose those organizations this year as we felt they were organizations that aligned with us," said Bowen. "We actually were trying to choose one, but couldn't choose between those two, and so had to split it. We do a lot for our community and really welcome anyone in the community or business owners, because, you know, the more hands, the lighter the work!" Bowen speaks proudly about the group.

Anyone can join and there is another Rotary club in Ketchum, not to mention Twin Falls and farther out in Idaho and across the world.

For more information, to donate or volunteer, visit Hailey Rotary at https://www.haileyrotary.





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NEWS EDUCATION

'SUPER VALUABLE': PIQE TO RETURN

For a Third Year For Both Middle School And High School

By Monica Carrillo

Run by the local YMCA and Blaine County School District, PIQE (Parent Institute for Quality Education) is heading into its third year of helping parents in the community support their children's education and will host eight-week sessions in both the Wood River Middle School and Wood River High School for the academic school year.

And with 80% of the participants being Spanish-speaking families, it's clear this has been a need for the Hispanic community for quite some time.

Nevertheless, this program is open to any parent who is looking to be more involved in their children's education.

"Sometimes it's the only time they really feel like they can get this kind of volume of information or this kind of really engaged and personalized conversation in their native language," said Jason Shearer, executive director at the YMCA.

PIQE is a free eight-week parent-engagement session for middle and high school student families, using an evidence based curriculum and materials. These programs are offered in both Spanish and English, designed to raise the family's level of concern, give them resources and tools.

Staff from the YMCA call every family in eligible grades to invite them into the program. The program serves about 100 parents per session.

The first year that PIQE was launched, they ran it solely in the middle school before they transitioned to the high school for the second year. This is the first academic year that PIQE will be provided for both Wood River Middle School and Wood River High School.

As of right now, Shearer said the sessions in the high school will be held in the fall while for the middle school, they will be in the spring. The dates, however, are still being worked out.

Regardless, with a high success rate in participation last year, they expect the sessions to have a large turnout.

"The first year, I would say probably 30% of the participants had full attendance, and last year, I would say



Parents from Wood River High School who graduated from the Winter 2024 YMCA-PIQE program. Photo courtesy YMCA-PIQE

90% of participants had full attendance," Shearer said.

Hailey O'Reilly, a counselor at the Wood River Middle School, told the Wood River Weekly she did training and helped when they had PIQE at the middle school two years ago, and remembered seeing how valuable this program was for parents — especially Spanish-speakers in the community.

"The first year that we did it, and this is my experience, we had both an English speaking session and a Spanish speaking session, and the Spanish speaking session had a lot more participants and was very, very involved in it," O'Reilly said. "And I would say that that was super valuable, because — I mean, our educational system is so different and understanding you know how to help your kid and how to access the school and how to advocate for them."

According to DATA USA, Hailey's Hispanic population stands at 34.7% as of 2022, a 3.2% increase from 2020. Thirty-four percent of Hispanic households are also said to speak little to no English, according to the Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs' latest data pro-

file book.

In another study through the Hispanic Research Center, a national research organization, it says while roughly more than half of all Latino children have a parent with at least some college experience, the parents of 1 in 5 Latino children have not completed a high school degree.

Because of this, it can be hard for many Hispanic families to understand how to get involved.

PIQE, however, is changing that, one year at a time.

"This is critical information for all parents, but this might be only the level of detailed information that some Spanish speaking families may receive, and certainly to receive it without translation, is huge where you're getting it from somebody who speaks your native language," Shearer said.

For more information about PIQE, go to https://www.woodriverymca.org/programs/piqe-parent-institute-quality-education/.

NEWS EDUCACIÓN

SÚPER VALIOSO'

PIQE regresa por tercer año para la escuela secundaria y preparatoria

By Monica Carrillo

Distrito Escolar del Condado de Blaine, PIQE (Instituto para Padres para una Educación de Calidad) se dirige a su tercer año ayudando a los padres de la comunidad a apoyar la educación de sus hijos y organizará sesiones de ocho semanas tanto en la Escuela Secundaria Wood River como en Wood River High School para el año escolar académico.

Y dado que el 80% de los participantes son familias que hablan español, está claro que esta ha sido una necesidad para la comunidad hispana desde hace bastante tiempo.

Sin embargo, este programa está abierto a cualquier padre que desee participar más en la educación de sus hijos.

"A veces es el único momento en el que realmente sienten que pueden obtener este tipo de volumen de información o este tipo de conversación realmente interesante y personalizada en su idioma nativo", dijo Jason Shearer, director ejecutivo de la YMCA.

PIQE es una sesión gratuita de ocho semanas de participación de padres para familias de estudiantes de secundaria y preparatoria, utilizando un plan de estudios y materiales basados en evidencia. Estos programas se ofrecen tanto en español como en inglés, diseñados para elevar el nivel de vida de la familia, nivel de preocupación, brindarles recursos y herramientas.

Los empleados de la YMCA llaman a todas las familias en los grados elegibles para invitarlas al programa. El programa atiende a unos 100 padres por sesión.

El primer año que se lanzó PIQE, lo ejecutaron únicamente en la escuela in-

termedia antes de hacer la transición a la escuela secundaria para el segundo año. Este es el primer año académico en el que se proporcionará PIQE tanto para la escuela secundaria Wood River como para la escuela secundaria Wood River.

A partir de ahora, Shearer dijo que las sesiones en la escuela secundaria se llevarán a cabo en el otoño, mientras que para la escuela intermedia serán en la primavera. Las fechas, sin embargo, aún están por definirse.

De todos modos, con una alta tasa de éxito en la participación el año pasado, esperan que las sesiones tengan una gran participación.

"El primer año, diría que probablemente el 30% de los participantes tuvo asistencia completa, y el año pasado, diría que el 90% de los participantes tuvo asistencia completa", dijo Shearer.

Hailey O'Reilly, consejera de la escuela secundaria Wood River, le dijo al Wood River Weekly que entrenó y ayudó cuando tenían PIQE en la escuela secundaria hace dos años, y recordó haber visto lo valioso que era este programa para los padres, especialmente los hispanos. hablantes de la comunidad.

"El primer año que lo hicimos, y esta es mi experiencia, tuvimos una sesión de habla inglesa y otra de habla hispana, y la sesión de habla hispana tuvo muchos más participantes y estuvimos muy, muy involucrados en ella", dijo O'Reilly. "Y yo diría que eso fue muy valioso, porque... quiero decir, nuestro sistema educativo es muy diferente y comprende que sabes cómo ayudar a tu hijo y cómo acceder a la escuela y cómo defenderlo".

Según DATA USA, la población hispana de Hailey es del 34,7% en 2022, un aumento del 3,2% con respecto a



Festividades para los graduados del programa YMCA-PIQE de invierno de 2024. Foto cortesía de YMCA-PIQE

2020. También se dice que el treinta y cuatro por ciento de los hogares hispanos hablan poco o nada de inglés, según el último informe de la Comisión de Asuntos Hispanos de Idaho.

En otro estudio realizado por el Centro de Investigación Hispana, una organización de investigación nacional, dice aunque aproximadamente más de la mitad de todos los niños latinos tienen padres con al menos algo de experiencia universitaria, los padres de 1 de cada 5 niños latinos no han completado un título de escuela secundaria.

Debido a esto, puede resultar difícil

para muchas familias hispanas entender cómo participar.

PIQE, sin embargo, está cambiando eso, año a año.

"Esta es información crítica para todos los padres, pero podría ser solo el nivel de información detallada que algunas familias hispanohablantes pueden recibir, y ciertamente recibirla sin traducción es enorme cuando la obtienes de alguien que habla tu idioma nativo.", dijo Shearer.

Para obtener más información sobre PIQE, vaya a https://www.woodrivery-mca.org/programs/piqe-parent-institute-quality-education/.

Statement from Morgan Ballis

Candidate for Blaine County Sheriff

By Morgan Ballis

y Republican opponent in the Blaine County Sheriff election has crossed the line of decency to spread false and serious accusations about me. Sadly, in our current political environment, some candidates resort to these tactics. While we are pursuing legal action for defamation, I want to take this opportunity to clarify the facts so we can return our campaign to the level of civil discourse that Blaine County deserves.

In recent weeks, sensitive juvenile records along with false accusations of crimes were sent anonymously to the Hailey Police Department (HPD), the City of Hailey Mayor and Council Members, the Blaine County School District Superintendent and Board Members, the Idaho Police Standards and Training Council (POST), and the Blaine County Commissioners in an attempt to harm my reputation and employment. Mr. Hughston was captured on security footage personally delivering one such package to the Blaine County School District Office and has since admitted to sending these records to POST and HPD.

Those anonymous attacks, which included allegations of rape, lacked credibility and were rejected out of hand by recipients who could readily see that the records he provided contradicted his false claims and did not contain anything meriting further review.

When that tactic failed, Hughston escalated his attacks by sending out a mailer and creating a dedicated website with even more baseless accusations.

I have always been open about my mistakes and wrongdoings as an adolescent. In 2002 when I was 16 years old, I was cited for minor consumption of alcohol and juvenile petitioned for felony theft. The theft involved damaging a vehicle and stealing a wallet. I deserved the consequences of my actions and was blessed to be placed in a diversion program while being mentored toward my goal of becoming a Marine. To be clear - I have never been arrested, charged, or convicted for anything else as a juvenile. As an adult, I was charged in 2011 with suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol; this charge was later dismissed. I have never been arrested or convicted of any crime as an adult.

I speak publicly about my juvenile experiences in school talks, campaign gatherings, and with youth on diversion. While these were difficult and painful experiences, the grace and guidance I received during that period of my life and the lessons I learned from those experiences were a source of huge personal growth and ultimately the driving force behind my commitment to service – first in our military, then in my community, and now with the Hailey Police Department and in our schools.

However, Mr. Hughston's recent attacks go far beyond distorting my past. He has falsely accused me of a drug-related offense, sexual assault, abusing my son, and has insinuated even more. If these outrageous claims were true, I would have lost custody of my son rather than being granted full and exclusive custody. I would have been dishonorably discharged from the military, not proudly served for eleven years with an honorable discharge. And I certainly would not be serving as a Hailey police officer or the School Resource Officer at Wood River High School.

Falsely accusing me of abusing my son is not only reckless – it is cruel. It breaks my heart to see my son caught in the crossfire of political attacks when he should be celebrating his four touchdowns from last week's football game. No 15-year-old should have to endure such indignities. This is indecent and inexcusable behavior.

Despite these distractions, I remain focused on what truly matters: taking care of my family and strengthening Blaine County through our shared values of integrity, truth, and positive leadership. I am committed to running a campaign that reflects these principles and to working to light up our community.

Morgan Ballis Blaine County Sheriff Candidate



The Ballis Family. Photo courtesy of Morgan Ballis

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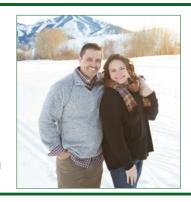
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FISHING REPORT



THE "WEEKLY" FISHING REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 4 - 17 FROM PICABO ANGLER

verall, Silver Creek has been fishing well. The Nature Conservancy, Double R Ranch, The Willows, and Point of Rocks have all been productive. As a rule, the Trico hatch has diminished, although the hatch can be prevalent at times. Small Baetis are present in the mornings, and Callibaetis have been strong on select afternoons. The Callibaetis are on the smaller size; use size 16 and 18 patterns. We anticipate the appearance of the Mahogany Dun soon. This hatch is one of our favorites; the bugs don't mind the wind, and the fish will key in on the Mahogany even when just a few naturals are present. Keep an eye out for October caddis and flying ants, and don't put away your hoppers until October.

The Big Wood River continues to fish well. Again, hoppers are one of the go-to bugs right now, and the hopper-dropper method is really producing fish. Use a small (size 16-20) Zebra Midge, Rainbow Warrior, or Copper John as your dropper, and target active fish at the heads of riffles and runs. Rumors of a few Western Red Quill (Hecuba) have been swirling; this hatch should start in earnest very soon. Your favorite Green Drake patterns are an effective imitation of this bug, as are H & L Variants, Parachute Hare's Ears, Parachute Adams, and Purple Haze in sizes 10-14.

The Upper Big Lost River system is productive during the afternoons; mornings are a bit cool in the high country and fish become more active as the water temperature rises. Look for fish in deeper pockets, along dark undercut banks, and along quiet current seams. Cover lots of water and fish tour favorite terrestrial patterns. The Western Red Quill will be found on the Upper Big Lost system as well as the Big Wood, so come prepared.

The Lower Big Lost River is still flowing strong at 370 CFS, which is still a tad high for safe, effective wading. We will see more moderate flows as the fall progresses, and the fishing should be quite good.

The Salmon River continues to fish well, using the same flies and methods that produce on the Big Wood and Upper Lost. Now is the time to take a last float or two down the Salmon before we see consistent, cooler weather.

Don't be afraid to get out your streamer box on all our waters right now.

Happy fishing, everyone!



Hwy 20 in Picabo info@picaboangler.com (208)788.3536 www.picaboangler.com

MMENTARY

NO BONES ABOUT IT

SOCIALIZATION - IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK

By Fran Jewell

ears ago, most people never bothered with socializing their dogs. As a kid, we never did, and yet our family dog was friendly with people and never ran off to play with other dogs. In fact, we were the only people on our block that had a dog! Now, dog owners have clearly gotten the message that socialization is extremely important to the development of their puppies.

Many behavior issues with dogs are often blamed on lack of socialization. What I see is that what should be socialization has become a free-for-all, with wild and out-of-control experiences with other dogs that aren't necessarily positive.

Dogs are pack animals. A pack is a clearly defined group of dogs that lives together in cooperation for their existence and continuation. It remains consistent with members and relationships that are only changed by death or the birth of puppies. It is not playing endlessly and happily with every dog he sees. In fact, as a pack animal, many dogs are not at all comfortable with unknown dogs. They see unknown dogs as a threat to their existing pack (which includes their people). And, yet, we humans are insisting that all our dogs learn to play with all the other dogs they see. We think pack means that they will love all the other dogs on the planet!

The reality is that most dogs cannot do this. We humans keep putting them in situations that are out of control and extremely uncomfortable for them, insisting they need to play. We see that as "socialization." Yes, some dogs can do this, but many more can-

be in uncontrolled dog-to-dog situations, the more often that goes wrong and what may have been merely uncomfortable feelings, become aggression. It is not improved. It is worsened.

What socialization should be is a controlled environment where each dog can slowly make acquaintance. No dog should be allowed to run up to another and "mug" the other in the name of being friendly. Imagine yourself in an elevator with all strangers, when three of the strangers put their arms around you, hugging and kissing you! It would be an invasion of your personal space and not socially acceptable. Keep your dog

'Oh, just let them work it out!" becomes the mantra. That's not fair either for a puppy that has no tools to work it out.

Taking puppies to controlled situations where friendly older dogs are on a leash, respecting their owners, will make a lasting, positive impression on the puppy. Puppies that learn to sit and wait until they are calm before being allowed to go engage with another puppy will result in a much safer and friendlier encounter.

It is our responsibility to help our dogs feel safe. If we don't, then chances are they will learn aggressive responses to defend themselves. Doing that means you should learn to read dog behavior without anthropomorphism (treating dogs as if they were people). Allow your puppy only to play after some protected relaxation so over-arousal doesn't cloud a friendly response. Teach your puppy or older dog not to mug other dogs.

Socialization needs to be safe, calm and not. The more pressure we put on our dog to with reliable older dogs. If the other dog has



Well-socialized dogs can control themselves in social situations and are slow and kind to approach new dogs. Photo credit: Fran Jewell

no self control or cannot be controlled by the owner, it is best to keep a puppy or dog clear from those types of encounters.

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

High-Rises in the Sage

BY HARRY WEEKES

They spring up seemingly overnight pillars distinct against the low backdrop of sage and bitterbrush. Unlike high-rises that humans build, which seem as much monuments to the builder and to engineering as anything else, these high-rises can go almost completely unnoticed, even when all the lights are on. I am talking about mullein, which has been on my mind for multiple reasons.

First. An increasingly distant memory of childhood spurred by the start of school. Walking out Indian Creek, I pass the first bus stop on one driver's route. When I was but the other important element of any highat Hemingway, these routes were color-cod-rise—its inhabitants. There were bees, wasps. ed for kids, but I'm sure they have a different technical name in the Bus Barn, like "Indian Creek."

The Indian Creek bus picks up its first riders at 6:45 a.m., making the bus an interesting clock; letting me know roughly what time it is wherever I might be on my route.

A bus like this used to drop my siblings and me off in Gimlet when we were kids (and when I managed to remember both that I was supposed to ride the bus and also what color I was supposed to be on). Gimlet then was a wee bit different, with our house being one of perhaps 10 or so, and we were four of six kids on our section of road ... which happened to be the longest.

The bus dropped us right after the bridge and we walked from there—probably about a mile to our house. Each of these mini-treks was a fantastic field trip and the fall invariably had Jack, my brother, and me breaking off dried mullein stalks and fencing all the way home. OK, we would fence for about thirty yards until we broke the stalks and had to find others.

The first bus this year passed me last week

and I smiled fondly at my former self dancing around with a mullein epee.

Second. There is a particularly fantastic mullein growing on our driveway. A trophy mullein, based on its size. With one central stalk and several adjoining spires, it represents a favorite waypoint on my walks down the road. I make a beeline towards it when it comes into view, because of the third reason.

Third. The lights. For mullein, the lights are its flowers which, when on, glow on the central stalk, making the whole plant a buttery beacon. Walking up to the trophy mullein revealed not only the beauty of the plant ants, various grasshoppers, butterflies, and skippers. Vowing to photograph them on my next walk was delayed by going out too early, then too late in the day, and then too late in the season. By the time I remembered to bring my phone, the lights were off. The flowers were gone and the stalk was covered with closed popcorn-like pods.

It also appeared that new renters had moved in—larger grasshoppers and mice (whose evidence was a kind of natural vandalismleaves chewed, the stalk nibbled, their droppings left behind).

From here, I know what happens; the great velvety leaves at the base will dry as the stalk does and the plant will become a kind of derelict brown reminder of the growing season. Mullein was and is used for many things, and is known to help with sore throats, colds, coughs, and "afflictions related to the lungs."

Variously, my brother convinced me it was Indian toilet paper and chewing gumyou can gnaw on the dried inner material of the stalk (not particularly delicious and no bubbles).

For me, like its inhabitants, more than a fledging in Vermont.



hundred uses, it is a hundred stories, whispered from the side of the road.

Harry Weekes is the founder and head of school at The Sage School in Hailey. This is his 53rd year in the Wood River Valley, where he lives with Hilary and two mini-Dachshunds. The baby members of their flock have now become adults—Georgia and Simon are fledging in North Carolina, and Penelope is SUZANNE HAZLETT

of Hazlett Wealth Manage-

ON LIFE'S TERMS

SEASONS IN THE SUN

BY SUZANNE HAZLETT, MBA, CIMA®, CFP®

"Autumn carries more gold in its pocket than all the other seasons." – Jim Bishop

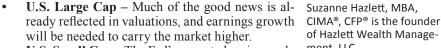
ccording to the Stock Trader's Almanac, since 1950, September has been the worst performing month of the year for the Dow Jones Industrial Average, Lathe S&P 500 Stock Index, and Russell 1000, and the worst for the Nasdaq Composite since 1971, and the small-cap Russell 2000 since 1979.

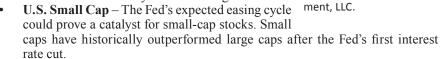
September seasonal weakness and October phobia loom large, but there may be too much negativity. Expect some volatility and sideways action over the next 60 days or so, with a likely test of the market's 2024 lows.

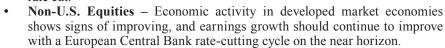
Market fundamentals, including valuation, drive near-term returns and are essen-

tial to identifying opportunities. Markets that are inexpensive, or even cheap, tend to produce higher returns in the future. And while expensive markets may remain expensive for a long time, inexpensive markets typically don't stay that way. Put more simply, heed Warren Buffet's advice: "Look at market fluctuations as your friend rather than your enemy; profit from folly rather than participate in it."

A tactical asset allocation may be worth considering for investors who choose to be more active in their portfolios based on a shorter-term outlook.







- Fixed Income Longer duration munis remain attractive for investors in the highest income brackets.
- Cash Investors have been compensated with cash equivalent yields above 5%. Opportunities may arise to redeploy excess idle cash into the markets

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MAGIC MOMENTS

have come to the conclusion that frequency is the controlling factor in our lives

Truly, where our focus goes, energy flows. What you think about, what you spend your energy on, is the reality you are going to experience. According to Dr. Joe Dispenza's work, you don't even have to have an experience; the energy can come from something you read, something you watched on TV or even something you heard. If you let horror, war devastation, or brutality into your thoughts, it is going to affect you. Depending on the level of the experience and how much you focus on it will determine the level it affects you. If you focus on the little things that bring you joy, your vibration moves higher.



It is so simple to control the energy you let into your world. Become conscious of where you place your focus. However, we do have to become introspective to determine that which elevates our energy. I know music can move me to tears of joy and makes my heart swell, so can watching the wildlife all around me. Flowers' depth of color amazes my imagination and I wonder how they create such beauty. The smell of good food cooking, or garlic cooking in wine or bread baking cause me to anticipate the taste of delightful food. Working with beautiful fabric or creating things with crystals occupies my whole focus. Growing things in my garden is magical and delicious. Being able to create fills my soul.

I have come to know myself well enough to know what raises my thoughts to that of joy. Riding my Gracie ebike brings laughter and freedom that takes my breath away. I have the ability to change my vibration at a change in activity.

I am blessed to have had work that I loved for 64 years and now I have the ability to create change on a daily basis, but the bottom line is, my dominant focus can be joy. When you become conscious of how you think about things and what you expose your mind to, you learn to know yourself well enough to know how to fill your own tank. You don't need outside energy to raise your energy. To me, that is the essence of freedom—choosing each day what I will create. I have yet to find joy in dusting, but I do love the result.

I wish you all the greatest of knowledge in yourself to find a little time each day to focus on something that brings you joy, if even only for a few minutes, because the result carries far-reaching effects that can neutralize almost any of the negative input. Take charge of your energy, make your dominant focus that of joy. After all, my guardian angel told me, "Life is a gift. The purpose is joy." Blessings, Dove

NAPPING POLLYANNA

BY JOELLEN COLLINS

have never been a nap person, but I find myself, as I grow older, enjoying the respite from some of the non-urgent responsibilities I have and am still shocked when, after reading for a while, I find myself with eyes closed, head drooping, and book still open. I do know that that behavior is O.K., and that I do not need to apologize for taking a break now and then from the real world, with renewed strength and a fresh smile on my face. I had a Peace Corps friend who could nap for 10 minutes, and then pop up with restored energy. Ah! I wish...

For many years I have occasionally been called Pollyanna, and I acknowledge its

accuracy. I do prefer rose-colored glasses but usually accept the realities when I take them off. In today's chaotic and very public display of angst, sadness and violence, I often wish I could tune in more easily to the charms and hopes of my napping Pollyanna. I hope she is still there, ready to give comfort, even if only

You see, I am facing more often than I would wish the challenges of what one can do when one can do nothing. My closest lifelong friend has very recently experienced the death of her beloved husband, and just this week has had to confront her daughter's diagnosis of a very possibly large malignant tumor and the reality of a very long, invasive surgery. I no longer drive but can Uber to most locations in the Bay Area, so I hoped to help by sitting at my friend's side through the hours of waiting for the surgical results. For decades I have fully felt part of this stricken family like a sister and aunt. After several emails, texts and phone calls, I accepted the news that my presence wasn't the best option for that time and didn't want to cause any friction during the many hours of the operation. I understood that limitation, even though I believe, deep in my soul, that it would have helped for me to be in that waiting room, next to my special buddy.



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.

Now I just hope for chances to help in my "niece's" recovery, even though I don't have easy proximity to her house. Sans automobile, I will just have to plan longer times to head many miles north of my residence to aid in any physical manner. Of course, I will still send notes (she's in the floral décor business, so her home will be full of fresh blooms) and perhaps gifts or reading material, which may help in her long healing days. There are many other obstacles to prevent my spending more time with her, but at least I know her many friends will also be ready to give comfort. I will continue exploring ways I may help, even if I am far away. I know that prayers and positive incantations are necessary, but I am still frustrated.

Oh, Pollyanna, please wake up!

WRANGLER'S WRITINGS

BRYCE ANGELL

APPLEJACK

Applejack surprised us when he showed one summer morn'. We weren't aware of any Appaloosa to be born.

We raised him from a colt. He was tough as a rhino's hide. He could pack a half an elk all day and never break his stride. He had the best of qualities; I'd say except for one. 'Cuz when you put a shoe on

him that horse would come undone. To think you would control him was a notion without hope. He'd unravel faster than a brand new cheap five-dollar rope.

Given choice of shoeing Applejack and pounding in my brain, I'd choose nailing apple jelly to a runaway train.

The last cowboy who'd shod the horse still wore his right arm sling and looked

like he'd gone fifteen with Mike Tyson in the ring. So, when Applejack was needing shoes I hoped that he'd give in. But when I

looked into his eyes, I saw the devil's kin. I picked up Applejack's right foot. He didn't move an inch. I wondered if this was the time. Would this shoeing be a cinch?

But then he jerked his hoof and gave the halter rope a fling. Applejack was madder than a rooster on caffeine.

He was blowing snot, his eyes were wide, and being just plain rude. Applejack was proving his tornado attitude.

He reared up too far backward, then fell down and hit his head. I swear I heard my brother say, "Let's hope that horse is dead!" He wasn't dead, just plumb knocked out. I thought, "Good time to shoe." I tried

to grab his leg again, then Applejack came to. He struggled, then he stood right up and looked like he was lost. His expression

so bewildered, 'cuz both his eyes were crossed. I picked up Applejack's hind leg and nailed a brand-new shoe. The other three

went on so fast, he didn't have a clue. For three whole hours old Applejack just stood and stared ahead. I'm sure he must have felt like his poor head was made of lead.

Now I'm not recommending how to shoe an ornery cuss. But when a horse tips over, then it might just be a plus.

And if you're wondering, did the headache cure old Applejack? It didn't help a doggone bit. That old devil came right back.

- 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



Photo credit: Herbert Romero

Hailey Hispanic Heritage Festival

BY HERBERT ROMERO

OUR VOICE COUNTS

Projectoolsuccess presents the annual Hailey Hispanic Heritage Festival, Saturday, Sept. 14, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Hailey Town Center West, recognizing our contributions and achievements and celebrating the Independence of South America, Central America and Mexico.

- Friday, Sept. 13: Festival kick-off | 4–7 p.m.
- Saturday, Sept.14: Festival | 10 a.m.–8 p.m.
- Sunday, Sept. 15: Final celebration at Kiwanis Park | 12–7 p.m.

There will be guest speakers, food, piñatas, loteria, jumpers, face painting and resources! For more information contact Herbert Romero at (208) 309-5902.

Hailey Festival de Herencia Hispana

NUESTRA VOZ CUENTA

Projectoolsucess presenta el Festival anual de Herencia Hispana en Hailey que se llevará a cabo el sábado 14 de Septiembre desde las 10 am hasta las 8pm en el Hailey Town Center West (Calle Croy).

Acompáñenos a esta celebración que reconoce nuestras contribuciones, logros y la Independencia de Sur y Centro América y México.

Eventos:

- Viernes 13 de Septiembre: Inicio del estival | 4:00 -
- Sábado 14 de Septiembre: Festival | 10:00 am 8:00 pm
- Domingo 15 de Septiembre: Celebración de Clausura | 12:00 - 7:00 pm

Habrá oradores invitados, comida, piñatas, lotería, jumpers, face painting e información de recursos a la comunidad. Para más información, comunicarse con Herbert Romero (208) 309-5902

PROJECTOOLSUCCESS

BETTER HOMEOWNERS NEWS



KEY CONSIDERATIONS WHEN DOWNSIZING **YOUR HOME**

BY ANNA & MICHELLE

hile the process of downsizing may initially focus on finding a smaller property, it's essential for homeowners to also think ahead and plan for the future by including considerations such as aging in place, healthcare needs, and financial security, and offer guidance on creating a comprehensive plan for the years ahead.

Assessing Long-Term Needs

Before downsizing, take the time to assess your long-term needs and goals. Consider factors such as your health, mobility, and lifestyle preferences, as well as any anticipated changes in family dynamics or caregiving responsibilities. Think about how your housing needs may evolve as you age and whether your downsized home will be able to accommodate these changes.

Aging in Place

Many homeowners choose to downsize with the intention of aging in place, remaining in their home as they grow older. When selecting a downsized property, prioritize features that support aging in place, such as single-level living, wide doorways and hallways, accessible bathrooms, and minimal maintenance requirements. Consider consulting with an aging-in-place specialist to assess your home's suitability and make any necessary modifications.

Healthcare Needs

As you plan, consider how your healthcare needs may change over time. Evaluate your access to medical facilities, specialists, and support services in

your downsized community. Explore options for home healthcare, assisted living, or other forms of senior care, and ensure that your downsized home can accommodate any necessary accommodations or modifications.

Financial Security

Downsizing can offer financial benefits, including reduced mortgage payments, lower property taxes, and decreased maintenance costs. However, it's essential to consider the broader financial implications of downsizing, including how it may impact your retirement savings, investment portfolio, and overall financial security. Consult with a financial advisor to assess your financial situation, develop a budget, and create a plan for achieving your long-term financial goals.

Creating a Comprehensive Plan

Develop a comprehensive plan that addresses all aspects of your future needs and goals. Consider creating a written document that outlines your housing preferences, healthcare preferences, financial objectives, and contingency plans for unexpected events. Review and update your plan regularly as your circumstances change and communicate your wishes with your loved ones to ensure that everyone is on the same page.

For more information, download our Downsizing Your Home guide. If you'd like information on what your home is worth, contact us for a quick, no-obligation estimate.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Law Enforcement Choices

Sheriffs are considered the top law enforcement officers in their jurisdiction, typically counties. They are also the highest authority in their county, meaning, no other authority, Chief of Police, State Police, or even the Governor out ranks them

When I was very young growing up in Boise, Idaho, my father was elected Sheriff of Ada County in 1959.

I was four years old and my father was twenty-seven. He held the office of Sheriff for three, two year terms, then went to work in the private sector as a detective and head of security for a large corporation.

When I was about seventeen, my father headed the campaign to elect a new Sheriff in Ada County, and was then appointed the title of Director, Inspector, Captain of the Ada County Sheriff's Department, I helped a lot in that campaign, and we did win.

The upcoming election for Sheriff in Blaine County is very important due to the fact that integrity is paramount. Morgan Ballis and Aaron Hughston are the two candidates for the office of Sheriff in Blaine County.

I have lived in Blaine County for forty-three years, and personally knew two of the past three Sheriffs, well. I don't know Mr. Ballis personally, but what I've read about him and what I have heard about him from many people is that hands down he's the best candidate for the office of Sheriff.

Ballis sounds like he has integrity.

Aaron Hughston on the other hand, I do know, not very well, just enough to know that he is an unsavory character. The few times I've dealt with him, he left an impression on me like no one ever. Integrity is not a trait known to Hughston.

Since my first encounter with Hughston, many years ago, when he owned Tamarack Sports in Hailey, I couldn't believe how someone with his demeanor could possibly stay in business. I have yet to meet anyone that thought he was a good guy. Mostly I hear many explicit words describing him.

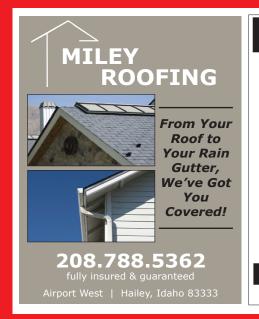
Just recently it has come to my attention that Aaron Hughston has perpetrated a smear campaign against Morgan Ballis with allegations that may or may not be true and maybe going back many years. This is unscrupulous, immoral, and downright dirty pool, and a sign of desperation.

I can't imagine what could possibly happen if Hughston was our Sheriff.

Vote for Morgan Ballis for Sheriff of Blaine County, 2024

Shean Gilbert Hailev

YOU CAN FIND IT IN BLAINE!



LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY ALERT

All public drinking water systems in Idaho must submit a Lead Service Line Inventory to Idaho Department of Environmental Quality by October 16, 2024.

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



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Space reservations: classifieds@woodriverweekly.com

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Wood River Weekly is looking for local writers/journalists to cover community stories and events. A journalism background would be a plus, but not required.

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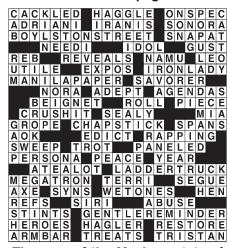
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CROSSWORD

answer from page 11



SUDOKU

answer from page 11

4	9	2	8	5	6	1	7	3
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CHAMBER CORNER

MIKE MCKENNA

Madison Poole's Brayden Olson

BY MIKE MCKENNA

rayden Olson feels pretty blessed to have been raised in the Wood River Valley, especially now that he's beginning his professional career.

"I was extremely lucky to grow up here," said Brayden, who's a whitewater kayak enthusiast. "The access to recreation here propelled all my passions in life and I had a ton of great mentors, in sports and school especially, that had really positive impacts on me."

Brayden moved to Hailey when he was just 2 when his dad, Chet, took a job teaching at Wood River High School. Over 20 years later, his father is still teaching computer, multimedia and video productions, while Brayden is a proud Wolverine grad.

After serving a mission in Ghana, Brayden returned to Idaho. He completed a Bachelor's in Finance at Boise State (BSU) in just three years and right after graduation Brayden took the "very tough" Series 65 Investment Advisor Exams.

Brayden's journey to the financial world began here in the Wood River Valley. He credits his former high school teachers, Bill Petzke and Lisa Hoskins, amongst others, for their guidance and mentorship. But the first big bump in the compass of Brayden's career path came when he served an internship with his grandfather, a commercial real estate investor based out of Salt Lake City.

"I learned a lot about real estate finance and got my real estate license," Brayden said. "But I found it kind of boring. I wanted to do something that had more person-to-person interactions and I realized that I needed a more formal education to be as knowledgeable as possible."

That led Brayden to BSU, which led to another impactful intersection in his life's journey. Brayden worked for BSU as an outdoor guide for students. During a trip through the Lost Coast of California, Brayden met another Idahoan named Heather and the rest, as they say, is history, as they are now happily married.

Brayden enrolled in the Entrepreneurship Program while studying at BSU. This led him to team up with his brother and dad to found Aquafur, which sells coldwater gear, like drysuits for

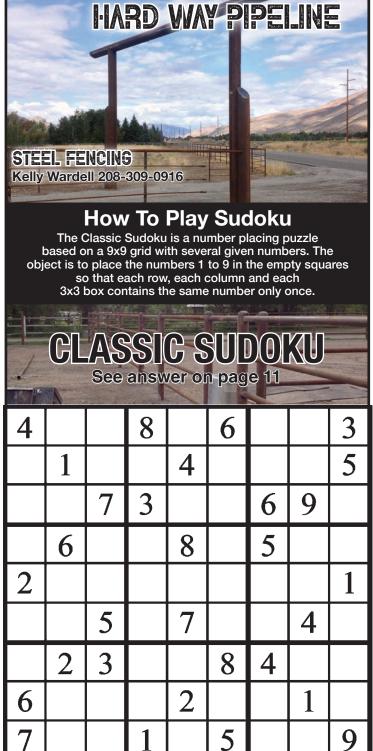


kayakers. It seemed a natural business product for Brayden, since he also founded the BSU Kayak Club. The Hailey-based small business is still going strong and growing.

The other big bridge that Brayden crossed during his career path was when he took a college internship with Madison Poole financial planners. It led to a job offer after graduation. Founded in 1987, Madison Poole has become one of the most trusted advisory groups in the Treasure Valley. They have over 2,500 clients of all levels.

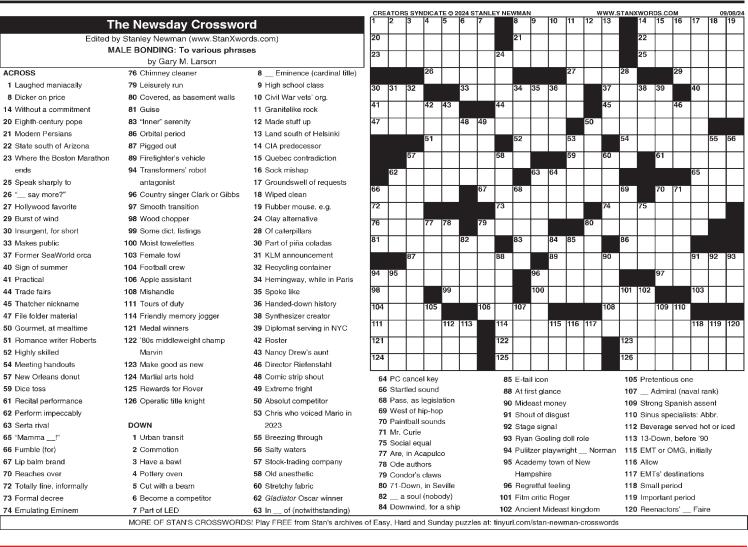
'What I like about working at Madison Poole is that they offer a lot of great guidance, help and mentorship. It's an environment where you can bring big questions and get expert, experienced guidance," Brayden said. "What I also really like is that we're financial advisors for the everyday working class. We're here to help everybody."

Find out more at MadisonPoole.com or by contacting Brayden at (208) 720-1466.



HAILEY & THE WOOD RIVER VALLEY





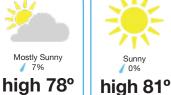
WOOD RIVER VALLEY 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

SATURDAY



low 50°

WEDNESDAY

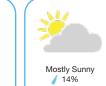


THURSDAY



FRIDAY





low 51°

SUNDAY







low 50°

TUESDAY



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