

### **EDUCATION**

The Best of Both Schooling Worlds PG 4



**DOVE** A New Message PG9



#### **NUESTRA VOZ CUENTA**

Mentorship At Its Finest PG 10

SUN VALLEY KETCHUM HAILEY

BELLEVUE PICABO CAREY

R VOICE IN THE WOOD RIVER VAL

Free | Sept 18 - Oct 1, 2024 | Vol. 5 - No. 19 | woodriverweekly.com

"And all at once, summer collapsed into fall"

# LIBERTY THEATER AS GO-TO VENUE



The Liberty Theater in downtown Hailey. Photo credit: WRW Staff

### Excitement Builds for new Calendar

BY ISAIAH FRIZZELL

he Liberty Theater has been a vital source of the Hailey arts and entertainment scene for nearly 80 years. Built in 1938, the Art Deco beauty became a community centerpiece for movies, live performances and engaging speakers. It's widely known that Bruce Willis and Demi Moore, along with investors, purchased the Liberty in 1995, along with several other buildings, in an effort to revitalize Hailey. In 1996, Company of Fools moved into the theater and proceeded to put on a variety of nationally renowned productions, making Hailey an arts destination. In 2013, the Sun Valley Center for the Arts merged with Company of Fools to form a powerhouse art troupe combining visual, performing and educational art events that solidified the entity as both an historic and cultural arts treasure.

As with all buildings of that age, the maintenance, structural and financial issues took their toll and by the time that great destroyer, the pandemic of 2019, had passed, The Liberty Theater was finished, officially closing in 2020.

#### **Enter Pete**

Pete Vallimarescu has been coming to Sun Valley most of his life. Growing up in New York City, the arts were abundant. Vallimarescu's sister was a figure skater with a coach who trained summers in Sun Sun Valley Resort, and have been wintering here ever but, you know, I wouldn't say there's anywhere that exsince. The year before Vallimarescu was to ship off to grad school, "I decided to spend my year in Sun Valley, skiing and teaching skiing, and working at The Pio (Pioneer Saloon) and met a lot of my close friends that are still living there today."

Vallimarescu set up shop in California and has spent the last seven years putting on events and live shows in the Bay Area. When his friend Logan Frederickson, one of the new owners of The Liberty, tapped him to be the promoter and venue manager, Vallimarescu jumped at the chance. "I had always wanted to run my own venue. I'd always wanted to have my own space. And so it was just one of those things where it was a little bit too good to be true, and I couldn't say no."

Much thought was put into the life of the space, and with younger blood in charge, how to honor the history of the building and perpetuate its place as a community space by and for the community. But most definitely The Liberty Theater is about music. "We all kind of had the idea of this place becoming a music venue. You know, obviously, many things, in addition to being a music venue, but definitely the music was one factor that, really, everyone felt strongly about making that space a cool place for bands to come and play. It's amazing, you know, that everybody in town loves music, but that there's not necessarily a music venue in

Valley. The family came out for a summer, discovered town. I mean, there are places where music is played, clusively considers themselves a music venue. And so, the hope was to at least kind of fill a little bit of that, that hole or that void. And then, in addition, doing a lot of other things to help bring the community together in a space where people can come and congregate and use the space for their own needs."

Vallimarescu and friends agreed 100% on the idea of creating a destination for artists of every tier to perform in, be it theater, magic, circus, films, entertaining speakers and whatever else the community wants. So far they've had a comedian/magician, live music, a repertory cinema and, just a week ago, a 'Wild West Burlesque,' and for the next few weeks a stage production of Little Shop of Horrors will be put on by The Liberty Theatre Company, who are a separate entity, not to be confused with The Liberty Theater itself.

The venue seats 220 people, with standing room, in the front, for around 120. Plans are for any and everything Vallimarescu takes a shine to. As the sole managing promoter, and sometimes performer, Vallimarescu has one of the best jobs in the world—bringing intrigue to a community.

2

NEWS ARTS

## Excitement Builds for new Calendar

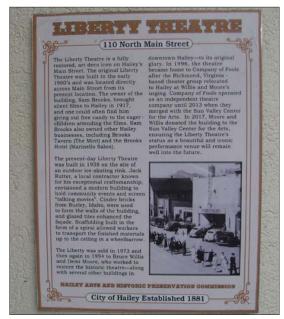
Continued from Page 1

The lineup for the past few months alone is a testament to his indelible commitment to diverse arts and entertainment. The Liberty Theater is currently being rented by a completely separate entity, called The Liberty Theatre Company, for a stage production of Little Shop of Horrors. Just after this, "For the whole week of Halloween, we're going to be doing a different movie every night, which I'm very excited about. And maybe, you know, fingers crossed, we might try and squeeze a concert in there to go with the Halloween theme." Spooky cinema looms!

"The Wolf Project is going to be doing a small performance, which I'm excited for, so that'll be fascinating. And then, obviously, you know, we're trying to bring some more concerts in and, specifically, we are going to be doing—shhh, it hasn't been announced officially yet—but we will be doing a New Year's Eve event with the band Boot Juice." Vallimarescu's voice is pure excitement as the man who can.

While many have decried the lack of a music scene or even proper nightlife in the Valley, The Liberty Theater is poised to change all of that. And how!

The theater is available to rent and everything is negotiable. As a community space, the eye is on the community. Are you ready to take your act public? Vallimarescu encourages any act to reach out. "I'm an open book, open phone. When people want to reach out, I'm more than happy to talk about anything and everything, even if it's



Sign of the history of The Liberty Theater. Photo credit: WRW Staff

just bouncing ideas around. We just look forward to doing more and having everybody kind of rally around the theater down there."

If you'd like to put on an event or have any booking questions for Vallimarescu, you can email him at booking@libertytheaterhailey.com or on their website at https://www.libertytheaterhailey.com.

NEWS

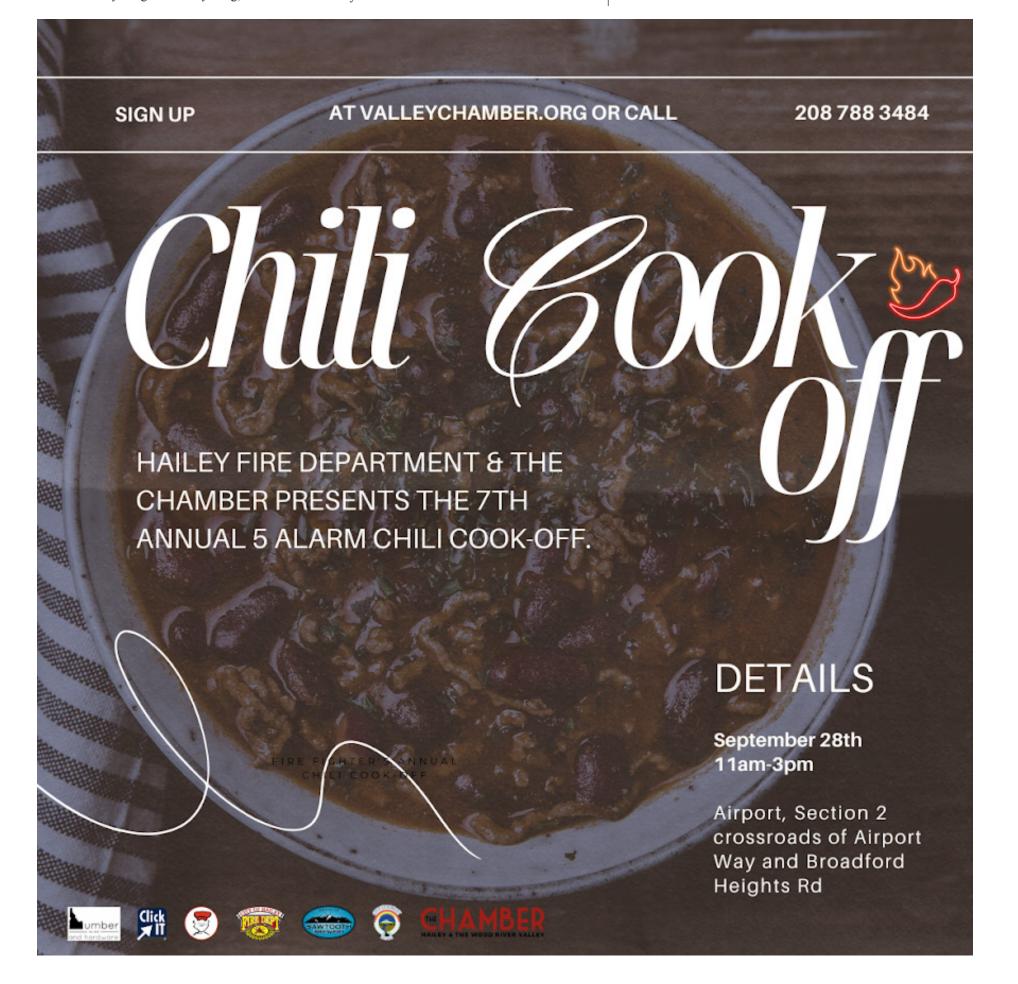
#### **Learn Traditional Oaxacan Dance & Song**

The Hailey Public Library has invited traditional dancer Dirce Flores to teach a free dance class for adults in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. The three-part series will feature traditional Oaxacan dances and songs and be offered from 6–7:30 p.m. on Thursdays, September 12, 19 and 26 at Town Center West. Spots are limited for this fun class and preregistration is required by emailing kristin.fletcher@haileypubliclibrary.org.

"We're delighted to invite Dirce back to help us celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month," commented Kristin Fletcher, the library's programs and outreach manager. "Last year she shared wonderful stories about the history and culture of Oaxaca, an amazing part of Mexico which wholeheartedly embraces its rich heritage. This time she's taking us deeper into her culture by teaching traditional dances steps and accompanying folk songs. She will also talk a bit about Oaxaca's multiple ethnic groups, ceremonial centers and Indigenous cultural celebrations to help place the dances in context.

Dirce Flores was born in a small town just 30 minutes away from Oaxaca de Juárez, the capital of the state. The area has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site because of significant pre-Hispanic archeological sites and vibrant Zapotec and Mixtec cultures. Each year Oaxacan dance and music from local regions is celebrated during a grand, month-long cultural festival called the Guelaguetza. Inspired by the cultural richness around her, Dirce grew up learning dance and later became a professional dancer in the genres of ballet, contemporary dance and Mexican folk dance. She moved to Oregon to continue her education and later moved to Hailey, becoming a property manager in 2010.

Hailey Town Center West is located across from the library at 116 South River Street in Hailey. The Hailey Public Library is located at 7 West Croy Street. For more information, contact the library at (208) 788-2036 or visit www.haileypubliclibrary.org.



### **WRW STAFF**

#### **PUBLISHER**

Christopher Seldon (208) 788-4789 publisher@woodriverweekly.com

#### **MARKETING & SALES**

Mandi Iverson (208) 721-7588 mandi@woodriverweekly.com

#### **NEWS EDITOR**

news@woodriverweekly.com

#### **CALENDAR**

mandi@woodriverweekly.com

#### **PRODUCTION & DESIGN**

Mandi Iverson mandi@woodriverweekly.com

Christopher Seldon chris@woodriverweekly.com

#### **ACCOUNTING**

accounting@woodriverweekly.com

#### **DEADLINES**

Display & Classified Ads, Monday 5 p.m. Calendar Submissions — Friday 5 p.m.

#### CONTACT

Wood River Weekly P.O. Box 3483 Hailey, Idaho 83333 (208) 788-4789 woodriverweekly.com

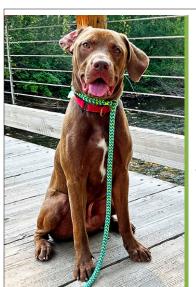




# Submit A Pet Obituary

Honor the memory of your pet in The Wood River Weekly. This year, we're offering 20% OFF our regular obituary rate for pet obituaries. Pet obituaries cost just 16¢ per word and include a large color photo.

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



### CHARLIE 3 Years Old

3 Years Old

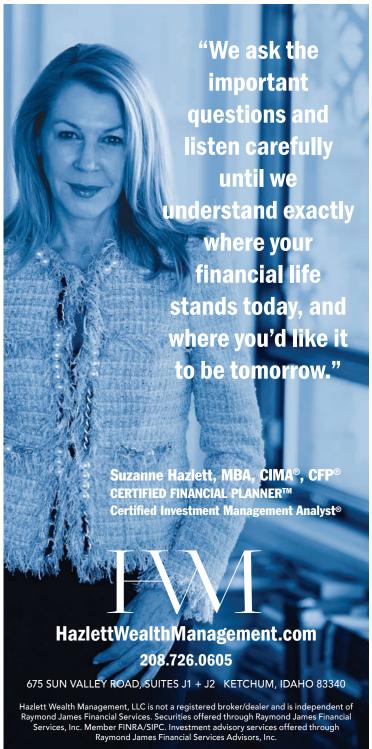
Charlie's enthusiasm for life is contagious. He is always ready for some fun and games – especially enrichment toys. If you're an outdoor enthusiast, Charlie is your perfect match. He would make an excellent hiking and running buddy, always eager to explore new trails and stay active. Despite his energetic nature, Charlie has a semi-quiet demeanor, making him a pleasant companion both indoors and out. He has a special affinity for women, and he thrives in their company. He's looking for a loving home where he can share his zest for life, enjoy plenty of playtime, and have lots of adventures. If you're ready for a lively and affectionate friend, come meet Charlie!

101 Croy Creek Rd, Hailey
mountainhumane.org
208-788-4351





**NEWS** 





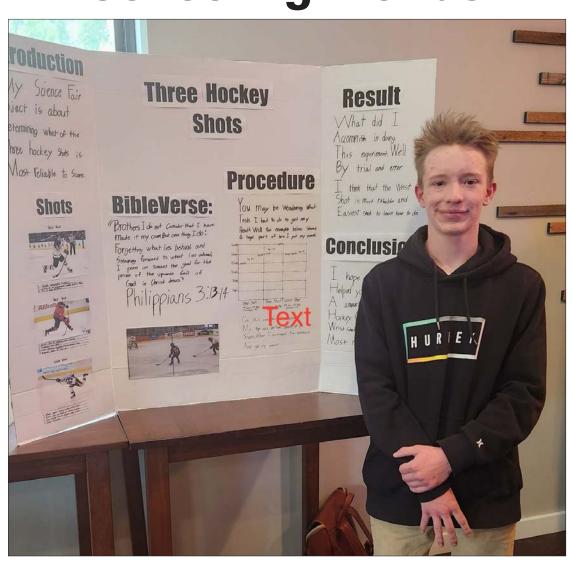




Please consider supporting our newspaper by sending us some Bitcoin (BTC) using the QR code ~Thanks!



# The Best of Both Schooling Worlds



Caleb Rosser at the Science Fair. Photo credit: Vicky Verst

#### BY ISAIAH FRIZZELL

The post-pandemic world is a rolling boil of changing ideals and concerns. Many families were faced, for the first time, with the challenge of educating their childre — is it possible to eschew the public schooling system? Should you if you can?

Roughly 10% of Idaho students were being homeschooled by the end of 2020 (https://www.idahoednews.org/top-news/defying-pandemic-era-predictions-homeschooling-remains-on-the-rise-in-idaho-and-beyond/) and it is estimated that around one-third of the jobs in Idaho can be performed remotely. (https://lmi.idaho.gov/data-tools/labor-force-statistics/)

How these two conditions come together can vary hugely, but the idea of homeschooling has caught the eye of a growing number of parents. To many, it's a challenge to be home, but with the rise of the University Model, a balance has been struck.

Lori Decker has been a teacher for 25 years, the last five of which she was the director of curriculum and instruction at a private Christian school in the Bay Area. When Jean Rosenlund, the founder of the Sun Valley Eagle Christian Academy (SVE-CA), asked Decker to be principal, she and her husband weren't quite ready, as their last child had yet to leave for college. Three years later, they're officially empty-nesters and Lori Decker has taken the reins as principal of the SVECA.

What makes the SVECA unique is both its approach to bringing all Christian denominations together and edifying the children through a trademarked University Model of schooling. Decker explains, "The kids are at school Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday for a full day, and then for Monday and Friday we call it school at home. It's still school, but the parents are asked to have input and guidance and assist with assignments, as needed. It really brings in the parents more. And then, for what we call Adventure Friday, we explore the beautiful outdoors. So our first Adventure Friday is at the Hurtig Shooting Center. We take them skeet shooting. We do hikes, we go snowshoeing, we go skiing. We're hoping to take a trip to the capital." All in all, it's a way of unifying the school and the various denominations that attend.

The University-Model concept was developed in the 1990s by John D. Turner as a way to combine academic rigor with family involvement. The first University-Model school was founded in 1993, in Arlington, Texas, and has become especially popular among Christian educators for its flexibility

in offering academic and spiritual growth.

SVECA is unique in the Valley and as a Christian school has a mission of bringing together all denominations of Christianity under one roof. They've been working with The Life Church in Hailey, since their inception. SVECA takes place at The Life Church as well as at the children's homes, engaging the parents and the community in the fostering of spiritual and educational achievement.

**EDUCATION** 

"It's all taught through a biblical worldview. We meet on the campus of The Life Church, but we're not a ministry of The Life Church. We have students who attend The Life Church, Big Wood, Calvary Bible, Calvary Chapel, Our Lady of the Snows. It's a nice mix of different denominations." Decker is 10 months into a new life in Sun Valley and loving the new challenges and successes ahead. "I'm still new to the Valley, so I'm learning the culture, but, you know, we're unified in the common belief of raising our kids in a biblical way and not so worried about denomination doctrines."

As a small academy, currently with three teachers and twenty-one students, tuition is required, but the majority of their funding comes from fundraisers and donations. Most of their students are from Hailey and Bellevue, but they've had some trek from as far away as Carey. Decker is excited about the direction. "We're just really intent on building people of character who can go out and be strong leaders."

SVECA follows the Blaine County School District's traditional calendar with a slightly later starting date. At the moment, they are middle and high school only, but are working on a partnership with [Presbyterian Church of the] Big Wood for their preschool and elementary programs. While they haven't started electives yet, quite a few of the current students are dual enrolled at Wood River High School and come to SVECA for their core subjects. The school is open to all; however, "our main requirement is that one parent has to be a church attender, and of course the student has to want to come so that it's a good fit all around."

For parents who are looking for a hybrid model, SVECA could be a good fit. With more parents working, at least a couple days, at-home new models like this can help them engage with their children's education while allowing for spiritual growth

Visit the Sun Valley Eagle Christian Academy's website at https://sveca.org/

#### **NEWS**

#### IN BRIEF

#### 'Learn to Knit' With Patricia Lirk Returns



"Learn to Knit," a free, four-part class taught by master knitter Patricia Lirk, returns from a summer break just in time for crisp autumn mornings! Classes will focus on basic knitting skills and be held at the Hailey Public Library, 7 West Croy Street, starting Tuesday, September 10, from 5:30–7 p.m. Subsequent classes will be held September 24, October 8 and October 22. Students need to provide their own yarn and needles. Class size is limited. To reserve a spot, email kristin.fletcher@haileypubliclibrary.org.

"We've been delighted by how many people, both men and women, are excited to learn how to knit!" commented organizer Kristin Fletcher, the library's programs and engagement manager. "Seeing folks go from 'all thumbs' to skilled knitters in just four classes is so rewarding. And the result is something that's both useful and beautiful. This time we're offering the class on the second and fourth Tuesdays in September and October to give students a week in between to practice their skills."

Lirk first leaned to knit through a store she worked at 30 years ago and has been hooked ever since. She opened Sun Valley Needle Arts in Ketchum in 2010 and shares her talents teaching classes for the general public, Girl Scout troops and attendees at local conferences.

For more information, contact the library at (208) 788-2036 or visit www.haileypubliclibrary.org.

#### Sun Valley Pickleball Classic Next Weekend, 9/18-22



2023 Men's Singles Winners (Lee Sponaugle, Silver; Ryan Nielson, Gold; Richard Brown, Bronze). Photo credit: Adam Taylor, VP WRPA

#### 160 players competing for medals in 21 events

The 2nd Annual SUN VALLEY Pickleball Classic will be held at the Sun Valley Tennis & Pickleball Center next Thursday, 9/18, through Sunday, 9/22. With nearly 20% more players than last year, the SVPC has become one of Idaho's premier pickleball events, with players traveling from 13 states across the country. Matches will be fun and competitive!

Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the country, with over 35 million people trying pickleball last year, surpassing participation in tennis, basketball, football and golf. This massive wave of popularity is because pickleball is easy to play and fun to learn, very social, and can be played whether you're 9 or 90!

The Sun Valley Pickleball Classic categories include: Men's & Women's Singles, Men's & Women's Doubles & Mixed Doubles, Social & Youth, across a range of ages and skill levels.

This year, the SVPC is very proud to announce the introduction of a new player category: youth aged 11-17, from local schools in the Wood River Valley.

"We are excited and enthusiastic that this year will be our best tournament and largest yet," said Lee Sponaugle, President, Wood River Pickleball Alliance. "We have received amazing support from our local community, including Sun Valley Resort, to be able to host such a large event. We encourage anyone interested to come watch our incredible players compete."

#### SVPC schedule

Friday: Men's Singles, Women's Doubles, Youth, Social (First timers) Saturday: Mixed Doubles

Sunday: Women's Singles, Men's Doubles





# **FALL into**Boulder Mountain Clayworks

We offer ceramics classes for all ages and abilities



Check out our website at www.bouldermtnclay.org for a full schedule of classes and events

#### **REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

208-726-4484 bouldermtclay@gmail.com www.bouldermtnclay.org Boulder Mountain Clayworks is a 501©3 nonprofit organization Partial Scholarships Available **NEWS EDUCATION** 

## LIBRARY WORKS TO BRIDGE LANGUAGE BARRIERS IN BLAINE COUNTY

By Monica Carrillo

ust last week, a native Spanish speaker and newcomer to the Wood River Valley stopped by the Hailey Public Library for the weekly Conversational English class.

And by the end of the class he was able to answer almost all of the questions for that night's lesson.

"He had a great accent. I was like, 'You studied English,' but no, he said no. I really doubted him, because he's a linguist," said Elizabeth Jeffery, tutor and leader of the Climate Action Coalition.

For the past three years, the Hailey Public Library has been offering weekly free English tutoring classes, or Tutoria in Spanish, alongside Conversational English classes back-to-back for the Hispanic/Latino community who want to improve their English skills.

Kristin Fletcher, the library's programs and engagement manager, said the first year, on average, they saw 10 to 12 people attending the classes and had help from tutors, like Jeffery, to steer the class.

However, the amount of people soon grew after that.

"The second and third years were the years that there were so many people coming into our community. I mean, you know, almost by the hundreds," Fletcher said. "I heard one time, and like, in a period of a week or two, there were 200 or 300 people who had arrived

in our community, and that's when our numbers really swelled."

Fletcher said that most people that attend are newcomers, although there are some who sporadically attend who have lived in the Valley 10 to 30 years who still struggle to speak English.

She also said they don't test the students weekly to track progress due to the varying levels of English comprehension in the class. However, she has observed that, regardless of their initial understanding—whether strong or limited—each student leaves with an improved grasp of the language.

"That's kind of the niche that we serve, that people can come and go as it fits," Fletcher said. "Our classes start at six and sometimes people work until seven in the summer because they're in construction or landscaping, they just can't come, and so it just opens a little wider door for people to learn."

According to the latest Census Bureau by Sun Valley Economic Development, Hispanic residents now make up 23.4% of Blaine County's population—up from 10.7% in 2000.

And in the Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs' latest data profile book, it reports at least 34% of that population speaks little to no English, making this program a crucial step in bridging the language barrier gap.

In addition, Fletcher said that someone who avidly

would check out books in the library, went up to her about a year and a half ago about doing an English/Spanish language exchange—also known as an intercambio, in Spanish.

"She had taken some Spanish, she was doing online Spanish, and one of the things they offered was this intercambio," Fletcher said. "And so she was doing intercambio with somebody in Colombia or someplace, and she said it's wonderful, but she'd like to do it in person.

"So she asked if the library would be interested and I'm like, 'Sure."

Fletcher said although it was a rough start they usually have about six native Spanish and English speakers who attend the weekly sessions to practice language skills

"It gives both the native Spanish speakers a chance to practice English in a real conversational setting, and it gives English language speakers a chance to practice their Spanish in a conversational setting," Fletcher said.

The Hailey Public Library has officially started up the classes again after pausing briefly for the summer and will have multiple events for the Hispanic community as Hispanic Heritage Month begins.

Continued
LANGUAGE BARRIERS





208-733-2891 • 800-621-5247

TOYOTA.COM

Prototypes shown with options. Extra-cost colors shown. \*Qualified customers who finance a new 2024 Tundra can receive as low as 1.99% APR for 48 months with 48 monthly payments of \$21.69 for every \$1,000 financed. Terms available on approved credit through Toyota Financial Services (TFS) at participating Toyota dealers. For only very well qualified customers. Amount finance an ewa 2024 Tundra carn every a flow in a finance and a feet prices, other terms and offers may are a feet prices. For only very well qualified customers. Amount financed, down payment amount, and credit worthiness may impact availability of offer. Dealer contribution may vary and feet prices. Individual dealer prices, other terms and offers may are a valiability of offer. Dealer contribution may vary and feet prices. Individual dealer prices, other terms and offers may are a valiability of offer. Dealer contribution may vary and feet prices. Individual dealer prices, other terms and offers may are a valiability of offer. Dealer contribution may vary and feet prices. Individual dealer prices, other terms and offers may are a valiability. Cannot be combined with TFS Lease Cash, Down Payment Assistance, Customer Cash, Lease, Lease Subvention Cash. See your participating Toyota dealer for details. Dealer sets financed. Offer availability of offer. Dealer contribution of the variety of the variet Orner available in Ak, ID, MI, OV, M regardless of buyer's residency, void where pronibited. "Guatemers who re have a can receive as 16-0-84 for 72 months with 72 months with 72 months with 72 months with 73 months with 74 months w Continued from Page 6

### Language Barriers

Intercambio is from 6 to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays, while the conversational English class is taught by tutor Leonardo Padilla Sacha from 6 to 7 p.m. on Fridays. The English tutoring classes are from 5 to 6 p.m. on Fridays, as well.

"Many are just coming directly from working to two and a half hours of English," Jeffery said. "It's commitment; it's really impressive."

**NEWS** 

EDUCACIÓN

# 'ES UN COMPROMISO'

Hailey Public Library trabaja para superar las barreras del idioma en el condado de Blaine

POR MONICA CARRILLO

a semana pasada, un hablante nativo de español y recién llegado a Wood River pasó por la Biblioteca Pública de Hailey para las clases semanales de inglés conversacional.

Y al final de la clase, pudo responder casi todas las preguntas de la lección de esa noche.

"Tenía un gran acento. Le dije: 'estudiaste inglés' pero no, él dijo que no, "realmente dudé de él, porque es lingüista", dijo Elizabeth Jeffery, tutora y líder del Coalición de Acción Climática.

Durante los últimos tres años, la Hailey Public Library ha estado ofreciendo clases semanales gratuitas de tutoría de inglés, o Tutoría en español, junto con clases de inglés conversacional consecutivas para la comunidad hispana/latina que desea mejorar sus habilidades en inglés.

Kristin Fletcher, directora de programas y participación de la biblioteca, dijo que el primer año, en promedio, vieron de 10 a 12 personas asistir a las clases y contaron con la ayuda de tutores, como Jeffery, para dirigir la clase.

Sin embargo, la cantidad de gente pronto creció.

"El segundo y tercer año fueron los años en los que llegó tanta gente a nuestra comunidad. Quiero decir, ya sabes, casi por cientos, dijo Fletcher. "Escuché una vez, y en un período de una semana o dos, había dos o 300 personas que habían llegado a nuestra comunidad, y fue entonces cuando nuestro número realmente aumentó."

Fletcher dijo que la mayoría de las personas que asisten son recién llegados, aunque hay algunos que asisten esporádicamente y que han vivido en el valle entre 10 y 30 años y todavía tienen dificultades para hablar inglés.

También dijo que no evalúan a los estudiantes semanalmente para seguir el progreso debido a los diferentes niveles de comprensión del inglés en la clase. Sin embargo, ha observado que, independientemente de su comprensión inicial, ya sea fuerte o limitada, cada estudiante sale con una mejor comprensión del idioma.

"Ese es el nicho al que servimos: la gente puede entrar y salir cuando le convenga", dijo Fletcher. "Nuestras clases comienzan a las seis y a veces la gente trabaja hasta las siete en el verano porque están en construcción o paisajismo, simplemente no pueden venir, por lo que se abre una puerta un poco más amplia para que la gente aprenda."

Según la última Oficina del Censo de Sun Valley Economic and Development, los residentes hispanos ahora representan el 23,4% de la población del condado de Blaine. frente al 10,7% en 2000. Y en el último libro de datos de perfiles de la Comisión de Asuntos Hispanos de Idaho, se informa que al menos el 34% de esa población habla poco o nada de inglés, lo que convierte a este programa en un paso crucial para cerrar la brecha de la barrera del idioma.

Además, Fletcher dijo que alguien, que ávidamente sacaba libros en la biblioteca, se acercó a ella hace aproximadamente un año y medio para proponerle realizar un intercambio de idiomas inglés/español.

"Había tomado algo de español, estaba haciendo español en línea y una de las cosas que le ofrecieron fue este intercambio", dijo Fletcher. "Y entonces ella estaba haciendo intercambio con alguien en Colombia o en algún lugar, y ella dijo que es maravilloso, pero que le gustaría hacerlo en persona.

"Entonces ella dijo si la biblioteca estaría interesada y yo dije, 'seguro'".

Dijo que aunque fue un comienzo difícil, generalmente tienen alrededor de seis hablantes nativos de español e inglés que asisten a las sesiones semanales. practicar habilidades lingüísticas entre ellos.

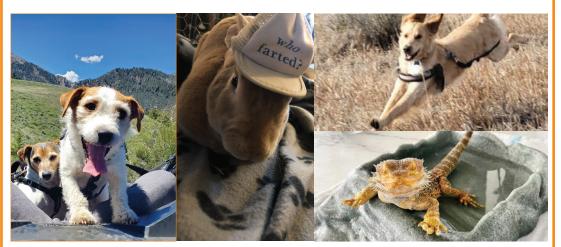
"Les da a los hablantes nativos de español la oportunidad de practicar inglés en un ambiente de conversación real, y les brinda a los hablantes de inglés la oportunidad de practicar su español en un ambiente de conversación", dijo Fletcher.

La Hailey Public Library ha reiniciado oficialmente las clases después de una breve pausa durante el verano y tendrá múltiples eventos para la comunidad hispana a medida que comienza el Mes de la Herencia Hispana.

La clase de intercambio es de 6 a 7 p.m. los miércoles, mientras que la clase de inglés conversacional es impartida por el tutor Leonardo Padilla Sacha de 6 a 7 p.m. los viernes. Las clases de tutoría de inglés son de 5 a 6 p.m. los viernes también.

"Muchos simplemente pasan del trabajo a dos horas y media de inglés", dijo Jeffery. "Es un compromiso; es realmente impresionante".

# EPETSECTION



Submit a photo of your pet to see it printed in this special section!

(Please include the name of your pet, breed/type and your name and contact information)

#### **RATES (including FULL COLOR)**

Quarter Junior Horizontal (5.78" x 3.875") - \$225 Quarter Junior Vertical (3.8" x 7.875") - \$185 Quarter (5.78" x 7.875") - \$325 Half Page (9.75" x 7.875") - \$575 Full Page (9.75" x 16") - \$925

#### Advertorials (you write them, we publish them)

Single Advertorial (250 words plus logo OR photo): \$55 Double Advertorial (500 words plus logo AND photo): \$100



Contact Mandi at 208.721.7588 or mandi@woodriverweekly.com

# jane's artifacts

arts // crafts // papers // office // party

### \*

### HALLOWEEN IS COMING!

Come And Get Your Scary On!



Refreshments Served

12 EAST BULLION, HAILEY 208.928.7055 • JANESARTIFACTS@COX.NET

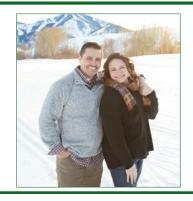
106 S. MAIN, HAILEY 208.788.0848 • JANESARTIFACTS2@GMAIL.COM

#### **Harrison Insurance**

an authorized select independent agency "For All Your Insurance Needs!"

One-stop shopping for Business, Commercial, Home, Auto, Umbrella, Life, Health and Medigap insurance policies

208.788.3255 - nathan@harrisonins.com 101 E. Bullion Ste. 2A Hailey, ID





Publishing / Airing 3 local news stories per day 3 local news videos per week EyeOnSunValley.com

The Eye On Sun Valley Show, Cox Channel 13 Contact Leisa at (208) 450-9993 or leisahollister@gmail.com

### FISHING REPORT



THE "WEEKLY" FISHING REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 18 - OCTOBER 1 FROM PICABO ANGLER

The cooler temperatures in the forecast will put fish on the move and have them feeding in earnest in preparation for fall spawning and the harsher conditions of winter. Now is the time to hunt trophy trout—big browns on Silver Creek, 20inch cutthroat on the Upper Big Lost River, and the robust rainbows on the Big Wood River are all prime targets right now.

On Silver Creek, late-morning activity will center on small Baetis (Blue-Winged Olives). Have long, light leaders and a variety of emergers, duns, and spinners on hand. The Callibaetis will start to wane with the cooler weather, but we'll see the Mahogany Dun and October Caddis in stronger numbers. Both bugs prefer the cooler weather of fall and appear during the most pleasant part of the da— late morning to mid-afternoon. Hoppers, beetles, and ants will still produce on the Creek; don't put these bugs away until we get a couple good, hard freezes.

The Big Wood during autumn sees one of our favorite hatches—the Western Red Quill (Hecuba). Large Parachute Adams, Parachute Hare's Ears, H&L Variants, Ausable Wulffs, and Purple Hazes (all in size 10-12) will fool plenty of fish once this bug appears. Your favorite green drake and brown drake patterns will work as well.

The Upper Big Lost River system is a great option right now. No need to get there early; hit the river at mid-afternoon and fish your favorite hopper and Western Red Quill patterns. For the Lower Lost, keep an eye out for Baetis and Tricos. The nymphing will be very good on this water throughout the fall as flows drop. The river is currently at 400 CFS; a bit lower and the wading will be more consistent.

The Salmon River continues to fish well for both floating and wading anglers. Again, the way to go is with hopper/droppers, small attractor dries, and streamers.

Remember that now is when streamers really shine. The Coffey's Sparkle Minnow is a great all-around streamer for our local waters.

Happy fishing, everyone!



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

# MMENTARY

NO BONES ABOUT IT

# ROUND DOGS, SQUARE HOLES

BY FRAN JEWELL

dog is not just a dog. Dogs were domesticated by selecting wolves that were the most able to work with and enjoy the company of humans. Once the wolves were brought into the human domain, man then started taking certain characteristics of the wolves and began to use those characteristics to help man.

Dogs were not just companions. They were carefully developed as working companions to help with everyday chores man had. This was when different breeds were developed. The wolves were not domesticated just for love. Each breed had a job they did. When you watch the AKC dog shows, such as Westminster, you will see the different "Groups." There are seven different "groups" of dog, according to what they were bred to do. They are: Herding, Sporting, Working, Terriers, Toys, Non-Sporting, and Hounds. Each group has

When you choose a dog, knowing what your dog was bred for can help you in determining the best dog for you and your family. Not all dogs are created equal. As an example, a dog from the herding group will have a tendency to stay closer and keep your family together when you go for walks. They are also more likely to nip or bite things that move.

A dog from the working group may be more protective of you, your home, and your livestock, if you have any. Many are not known for being social with other dogs. Their mission is WORK.

What is difficult for many people to understand is that even if you have a mixed-breed dog, it does not mean that the dog will inherit the traits equally from each breed. If a dog is a mix of many breeds, the instincts may not blend equally. That means that if you have a half-border collie and half-Labrador retriever, or the ever-popular half-Labrador and half-poodle, you may not see the traits you are hoping for. The border collie/Labrador may not be as mellow as many Labradors are, but may inherit a lot of the herding traits and some suspicion. Many times, border collies can be suspicious. The friendliness of the Labrador may not be the dominant personality

When we take any dog into our homes, we must consider the breed or breeds carefully to know if we have a match for our lifestyle and personality. Looking at a dog for its cuteness might not be a good reason to adopt or buy a particular dog.

Dogs are like shoes. Yes, shoes. There are hiking boots, rock-climbing shoes, snow boots, river shoes, school shoes, dinner-party shoes, and so on. You would not choose a snow boot to wear on a river trip. Once you decide on the breed characteristics that fit for you and your personality, then you have to decide on the size. Picking a river shoe ing LLC and can be reached at (208) 721-7221.



All dogs are not equal. It is incredibly important to honor a dog for who he or she inherently is. Photo credit: Fran Jewell.

three sizes too small will be very uncomfortable for the rest of your life and you probably won't wear it. Forcing your foot into that shoe is like forcing some working breeds to be social with every dog they see if that is what you want. It's not fair to your foot or your dog!!! We need to honor a dog for who he is.

The key to successful dog ownership is always to choose a dog with your head and your heart, not JUST your heart. I might like those darned river shoes, but if I intend on wearing them in the winter, I am going to be very sorry. Take your time. Explore breeds you are interested in. If you don't know the breed of a dog you like, have a DNA test done so you do know what you are committing to for the next 12 to 15 years. Never feel pressured into taking a dog. If you go to a good breeder, they will help you decide if that breed is a good fit for you. Be selective so you know your new dog will be a good fit, not like trying to put a round dog into a square hole.

Fran Jewell is a dog behavior consultant, NADOI-certified instructor and vice president. She owns Positive Puppy Dog Train-

#### SCIENCE OF PLACE

HARRY WEEKES

# **RIDDLE ME THIS**

BY HARRY WEEKES

This August, we became empty-nesters. My experience of this, so far, is that like so many things, empty-nesting is a process comprised of hundreds of small events, more than one major event. One of these small events was me traveling back with Olive, the oldest of our mini-Dachshunds. For those of you familiar with flying with dogs, you can only have one dog per person. With no kids coming home, Hilary and I divided and conquered, and Olive came with me.

Olive and I have been spending a lot of time together, as we have over her entire 10 years.

So here is what happened.

Each morning, I take Olive on a short walk—to greet the day, to go to the bathroom, to explore the thousand or so scent trails left by the creatures of the night. Invariably, Olive gets into the gravel of the driveway and urinates right away.

This morning was no different.

What was different was that almost immediately, she lowered her head and picked up a scent that had her weaving both slowly and also with her head close to the ground (or, closer to the ground). We walked this way for a bit and then started a normal walk.

When we returned, we got to a point where Olive seemed to pick up a scent again, and she started methodically working back and forth up the driveway. The peculiar thing happened when she got to where she went to the bathroom. Here, she very intentionally smelled all around and then just as intentionally started shoveling gravel to cover where she peed.

It took her no more than two minutes to satisfyingly, based on her assessment of the work, cover her tracks, so to speak.

Almost sheepishly, she walked away and into the house, her nose dusted with dirt and fine gravel.

Olive has never done anything like this before. And perhaps as interestingly, did not do the same thing the next morning, or any subsequent morning since.

The smell-scape of dogs is a constant mysery to me. This event, so far, was unique. What was out there that morning? What creature crossed over the driveway and left some olfactory track that inspired (scared? worried?) Olive into covering her own? What about the day after removed the concern? Was this even an external thing? Could Olive have felt sick and wanted to hide the fact that she wasn't doing well to any would-be predators? And why, in a decade of walks, has this happened precisely once?

Uldis Roze, known for his work on North American porcupines, says that in "wildlife research, we follow a subject with a will and personality of its own. We must always wonder whether the behavior observed is typical of the species, typical of the individual animal, or not typical of anything."

I am not sure how many other dogs do this. Scanning my memory of our various canine companions over the years, I don't come up with another incident. As for Olive, this has not been one of her behaviors. And in terms of "not typical of anything?" Well, I just can't quite believe this was nothing.

And so, the stories continue to flow and ebb. Perhaps that single jackrabbit I see at *fledging in Vermont*.



random times throughout the year just happened to cross here. Or maybe one of the rubber boas slithered through this precise place. Or maybe...

Certain riddles will never be solved. And that is okay with me.

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

Suzanne Hazlett, MBA

ment, LLC.

CIMA®, CFP® is the founder

of Hazlett Wealth Manage-

# **Year-end Tax Planning**

BY SUZANNE HAZLETT, MBA, CIMA®, CFP®

merican author and humorist Dave Barry would tell us about tax planning: "It's time to gather those receipts, sharpen that pencil, and stab yourself in the aorta." Hopefully, this checklist will help make organizing your year-end tax planning a little easier. While not intended to be comprehensive, it may help you prepare to discuss your situation with your financial advisor and tax professional.

The following are some topics you may wish to consider:

#### **INCOME AND TAXES – Different types of income carry different tax rates:**

- Salary
- Interest & dividends
- Short & long-term gains
- Social Security
- IRA withdrawals
- Other income

#### RETIREMENT PLANNING - Consider whether you:

- Are you maximizing your retirement plan contributions and catch-up provisions
- Should convert to a Roth IRA
- Should complete required minimum distributions (RMDs)

#### **CHARITABLE GIVING – Consider whether you:**

- Can make a charitable contribution this year
- Can maximize giving contribution limits
- Have highly appreciated assets that could be part of your giving strategy
- May wish to make a tax-free distribution directly to a charity

#### SMALL-BUSINESS OWNERS – Consider whether you:

- Are eligible for additional retirement contributions
- Can control income and deductions

#### **ESTATE PLANNING – Consider whether you:**

- Should review estate planning objectives and existing documents
- Should gift to family members to reduce future estate taxes
- Can you fund college education savings with a tax-deferred plan
- Have adequate life insurance to provide for your family or liquidity for your estate

#### **KEY DATES FOR TAX YEAR 2024**

10/15/2024 — Deadline to file your 2023 personal income tax return if you received an extension

12/31/2024 — Last day to complete charitable contributions in 2024

1/15/2025 — Fourth estimated payment for 2024 is due

4/15/2025 — Last day to contribute to traditional and Roth IRAs for 2024

Suzanne Hazlett, MBA, CIMA®, CFP®, is a Certified Investment Management Analyst® and CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNERTM professional. Investment advisory services are offered through Raymond James Financial Services Advisors, Inc. Securities are offered through Raymond James Financial Services, Inc., member FINRA/SIPC. All investments bear risk of principal loss. Past results are no guarantee of future performance. HAZLETT WEALTH MANAGEMENT, LLC is independent of Raymond James and is not a registered broker/dealer. 675 Sun Valley Road, Suite J1 + J2, Ketchum, Idaho, 83340 208.726.0605 HazlettWealthManagement.com

#### INSPIRATIONS FROM MY HEART

DOVE

# A NEW MESSAGE

BY DOV

round Christmastime, I invested in one of those smart watches that gives you all kinds of interesting information about yourself. I was curious to see how many steps I took each day and numerous other stats about my physical body. It has been a most informative experience, some good, some bad. It does put your focus on items you don't really need to track every day; once a week would be great and you can become addicted to all the information even if it is not completely accurate.

Yesterday I received a new message from my smart watch that, in the eight months I have been wearing it, I had never received. I had just finished doing a memory meditation exercise for seventeen minutes and I put the headphones aside and was going up to bed when my "Smart Watch" pops up with the message, "Well Done." I am not sure what the message was referring to but, wow, now the electric terms to but, wow, now the electric terms to but, wow, now the electric terms and the message was referring to but, wow, now the electric terms and the message was referring to but, wow, now the electric terms and the message was referring to but, wow, now the electric terms and the message was referring to but, we would be a second to the content of the terms and the message was referring to but.



the message was referring to but, wow, now the electronics are praising my efforts! Wouldn't it be nice if we all had such a cheering squad that praised us for all the wonderful things we think, do and share. Maybe someone can invent a device that makes you feel good about yourself. Constant positive statements to keep you going. They would, of course, have to be sincere, but it would bring your focus to the uplifting aspects of who you are. Nature just does its thing. It does not stop to question, Is this the time for trees to put on leaves? What if I put on too many leaves, or I put them on in a non-symmetrical arrangement. Would it matter? I think not because I think nature is always in tune with its identity. It never tries to be something it is not. Nature embraces all of who and what it is without judgment.

If we practice accepting ourselves as nature, the trees, flowers and bees do, how blessed with joy we could become. A flower never says it should be a different color. I have lots of white yarrow that automatically comes up in my yard and garden but now some bright pink ones have popped up also. I don't know how the pink ones got there but they are beautiful and so are we. Just as we are. We have done a job "Well Done" by experiencing the journey of being human. It takes great courage, but we are magnificent because, of all life forms, we have the greatest ability to feel. If we focus on love for all, we change the world.

Forget politics, embrace the love, and the politics will reflect who we are. Take a chance to just be love. I double dog dare you. Blessings, Dove

#### ON LIFE'S TERMS

JOELLEN COLLINS

# **BABY BINGO**

BY JOELLEN COLLINS

Thave found a way to enjoy a game I swore I'd never play. As you may know, I now live in a community of seniors, many enduring pain or disabilities in a place that helps those coping with age-related issues. Healthy and interesting activities are offered daily, from stretching and balance, yoga and walking, to presentations of excellent videos and movies, to small group discussions of silly to complicated subjects. I cannot attend everything, especially as I am often with my small dog and especially if one has "outside" responsibilities, as I do.

Games like bridge, Rummikub and Trivial Pursuit appeal to several abilities as do games like "The New York Times" growing number of intellectual exercises. Every

morning my family starts the day with Wordle online, and then, if time allows, we play some other challenges and then text our results. I am OK with letters, but number and placement games like chess are beyond me. I yearn for Scrabble and other word games, and crave the solitary joy of crossword puzzles, though the ones in the "Times" are becoming more difficult than the Sunday efforts I have tried for years.

One game offered to my friends here is bingo. I admit to a childish disdain of the game, associating it with the minds and actions of people who, it was hinted, liked a game relying entirely on luck, without using their intellect and education. I will admit I felt "above" the "waste of time" used up in an hour or so. However, I was basing my understanding of poor care presented in former days when seniors were often quite unhappy, so, as I thought, people were trained to be distracted from the misery by this "meaningless" filling of precious hours most of us want to spend with family and friends. The many exciting things we used to do, like traveling and attending brilliant theater, symposiums, music, and dance, shouldn't be replaced by this "silly" activity. TV and other media made fun of Bingoers



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.

It was a judgment by hypocrites who found lots of other ways to "waste time."

That thinking is part of an intellectual snobbery I hoped I didn't possess. Now, being here, I understand why bingo helps. First, it encourages gentle interaction with many people new to us, as do our book groups, musical and festive events, and delicious food cooked in a kitchen (in my case powered by excellent cooks and a French chef}. I am grateful that we are offered more activities than I could fit into my less-than-usual but still busy life. Today we played bingo with local elementary school students, and I loved it! Being with fresh, sweet faces, "rooting" for them, and simply relaxing was a blessing. Who cares what the game is if players laugh and smile during it?

A zippy friend here, now gone, loved bingo. After winning all the games one afternoon, she mentioned that she was embarrassed. In our mutual teasing manner, I said, "Oh, get used to it. I'm now calling you Baby Bingo." She smiled and kept the moniker.

#### WRANGLER'S WRITINGS

BRYCE ANGELL

### Bellies, Buckets, and Blazes

The cows and calves were tossed some hay. His brother's horse was fed. The chicken coop gave up twelve eggs while he thumped the rooster's head.

The morning chores were finished. He had breakfast with his wife. Three fried eggs and buttered toast, the same breakfast most of his life.

Then to a quiet morning with his cup filled to the brim, he reflected on the little

things that meant the most to him.

His tomatoes had escaped their fate from early frost last night. They were under-

neath a blanket staying red and juicy ripe,

In the distance he could hear a flock of hungry honking geese. Today those mo-

ments filled him with a quiet sense of peace.

But his peaceful, tranquil morning was about to turn to dire. Somewhere in the distance a shrieking voice was screaming, fire!

He stood up to attention. Took a whiff to smell some smoke. Then crossed his fingers and his toes and hoped it was a joke.

Then he saw the smoke come rolling from the barn up to the sky. He'd paid his fire insurance and now he knew the reason why.

When the hay barn catches fire and the tractor's still inside, there ain't no time to

dawdle or your Massey will be fried.

He grabbed an orange bucket, the first one he could find. And he prayed the ditch

had water. He was racing, running blind.

He found some water in the ditch and filled his bucket full. Then couldn't help but notice he'd grabbed a bucket with a hole.

He poured his half-full bucket on the tractor and the fire. Could he invent a better way? He sure weren't no MacGyver.

By now he had no energy and completely out of breath. The spare tire around his middle might just be his early death.

A good friend told him years ago, "Your gut ain't no disgrace. It helps you look much younger, pulls the wrinkles from your face."

A fire truck sped on past him and they promptly doused the blaze. Being out of breath and dizzy he was standing in a haze.

The firemen gave him 02 and they brought him back to worth. He thanked the men and promised that he'd rid his extra girth.

His proud wife baked a chocolate cake. He could eat with every meal. And the devil on his shoulder said, "Go ahead, it's no big deal."

— 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: Eric Marin

## **Mentorship At Its Finest**

BY NATALIE ZARAGOZA MARTINEZ

#### **OUR VOICE COUNTS**

Working on Chris Hansen's Democratic campaign has been a transformative journey for me, rooted deeply in my personal and professional experiences. My involvement began when I became co-president of Latinos in STEM at my school. Chris Hansen, who served as our advisor, inspired me profoundly. Working with young Latino students, I saw firsthand the potential they have and the barriers they face. It became clear to me that empowering these kids, helping them dream big, and showing them the opportunities available was crucial.

Chris Hansen's campaign resonates with me because it reflects my values and aspirations. Supporting this campaign is about more than politics—it's about advocating for vital issues such as robust public schools and programs like Manejando Sin Miedo, which directly impact our community in the Valley. As a current business management and entrepreneurship student, I'm passionate about supporting and uplifting my community. My goal is to open businesses that contribute to our local economy and provide more opportunities

Encouraging Latino voters to support Hansen's campaign is a way for me to give back and make a meaningful difference. It's about ensuring our voices are heard and that our needs are addressed. I believe in Hansen's vision and commitment to our community, and I'm dedicated to be rallying support to make positive changes happen.

#### **NUESTRA VOZ CUENTA**

Trabajar en la campaña demócrata de Chris Hansen ha sido una experiencia transformadora para mí, profundamente arraigada en mis experiencias personales y profesionales. Mi participación comenzó cuando me convertí en copresidenta de Latinos in STEM en mi escuela. Chris Hansen, quien se desempeñó como nuestro asesor, me inspiró profundamente. Al trabajar con jóvenes estudiantes latinos, vi de primera mano el potencial que tienen y las barreras que enfrentan. Me quedó claro que empoderar a estos niños, ayudarlos a soñar en grande y mostrarles las oportunidades disponibles era crucial. La campaña de Chris Hansen resuena en mí porque refleja mis valores y aspiraciones. Apoyar esta campaña es más que política; se trata de defender cuestiones vitales como escuelas públicas sólidas y programas como Manejando Sin Miedo, que impactan directamente a nuestra comunidad en el Valle. Como estudiante actual de administración de empresas y emprendimiento, me apasiona apoyar y mejorar mi comunidad. Mi objetivo es abrir negocios que contribuyan a nuestra economía local y brinden más oportunidades a los residentes. Animar a los votantes latinos a que apoyen la campaña de Hansen es una manera de contribuir y marcar una diferencia significativa. Se trata de asegurar que nuestras voces sean escuchadas y que nuestras necesidades sean atendidas. Creo en la visión y el compromiso de Hansen con nuestra comunidad, y estoy dedicada a conseguir apoyo para que se produzcan cambios positivos.



#### BETTER HOMEOWNERS NEWS



# **CONVENIENT BUT NOT ACCURATE CAN COST YOU MONEY**

BY ANNA & MICHELLE

nline estimates like Zillow, realtor.com, Redfin, & Homes.com are convenient, but typically lack accuracy and may have a significant margin of error. They are constructed using a computer-generated algorithm that utilizes historical public sales data and trends called an Automated Value Model, AVM.

National AVMs derive values from automated computer modeling of public records and may not reflect the true value of a home due to the nuances of local markets. An experienced agent, familiar with home sales in the area, takes several steps to arrive at a more accurate fair market value.

Real estate agents provide invaluable expertise by leveraging their deep understanding of local market conditions. This includes insights into neighborhood trends, recent sales data, and current inventory levels. By tapping into this knowledge, agents can accurately assess the fair market value of a home. They conduct thorough property inspections, meticulously noting its condition, unique features, and any upgrades or renovations that could impact its value. This hands-on approach ensures a comprehensive evaluation that goes beyond surface-level data, allowing agents to provide more accurate and nuanced

Furthermore, agents excel at analyzing comparable properties to determine a home's value. They meticulously review recent sales of similar properties, considering factors such as size, location, amenities, upgrades, and condition. Agents then adjust these comparable properties to account for any differences with the subject property, ensuring a more precise comparison. This meticulous process allows agents to offer a valuation that reflects the specific characteristics and nuances of the home being evaluated, providing clients with a more accurate understanding of its worth in the current market.

Additionally, real estate agents are adept at considering broader market trends and buyer preferences. They assess factors like supply and demand, interest rates, and economic conditions to understand their potential impact on property value.

By staying attuned to market dynamics, agents can offer informed insights into how these trends may affect a home's value over time. Furthermore, agents gather feedback from showings and potential buyers, allowing them to gauge how the property is perceived in the market and adjust their valuation accordingly.

This holistic approach, combined with ongoing education and transparent communication with clients, sets agents apart in delivering accurate and reliable valuations that help clients make informed decisions about their real estate investments.

Contact an experienced real estate professional, familiar with your market area, to supply you with complete information necessary to maximize your home sale proceeds.



**NEWS** 

#### Hailey Public Library Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

The Hailey Public Library takes great pleasure in celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month and our community's many rich Hispanic traditions with an outstanding series of programs. Established in 1968 by President Lyndon B. Johnson, Hispanic Heritage Month runs from September 15-October 15 and recognizes the anniversaries of independence of a number of Latin American countries.

HPL launches the month with a Family Friendly Kickoff from 4–7 p.m. on Friday, September 13, at Town Center West. Father and son duo Quinta Generacion return with lively songs and great music. Local Salvadorian restaurant Lago Azul will offer delicious food, with the first 50 meals free. Kids' activities are the heart and soul of the Kickoff. This year's activities include face painting, tissue paper flowers and piñatas for the kids. The evening concludes with rousing rounds of lotería, a traditional Mexican game similar to bingo but played with pinto beans as markers on special cards. Bilingual callers Herbert Romero and friends get the whole family involved and winners of each round get great prizes.

This year's children's StoryWalk© display will feature the delightfully rhyming, bilingual book We Are All Connected/Todos Estamos Conectados: Caring for Each Other & the Earth by Gabi Garcia. The story celebrates empathy, understanding, and respect. The StoryWalk© will be on display outside Town Center West from September 15-October 15.

The theme of this year's Hispanic Heritage Month is Honoring Heritage. HPL aspires to honor all the cultural threads that weave together the fabric of our community with a new window display, "Honor YourHeritage." Community members young and old have submitted stories, poems, photographs, drawings or whatever, honoring their family's heritage or heritages. Come celebrate with them!

In addition, national flags from Mexico and many Central and South American countries will be on display in the library.

For more information, visit www.haileypubliclibrary.org.

# 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.

SWS Solutions, LLC can help develope

As a Certified Small System Operator for over 25 years in the drinking water business, Marc Longley has the experience to meet DEQ requirements in the formation of your inventory.



For a quote on your system, please call or email me

208.720.0252

IDAHOH2OSOLUTIONS@GMAIL.COM

# Advertise on this page for ONLY \$45/week!

(includes full color & free ad design)!

Space is limited, call today!



Call Mandi 208.721.7588

Advertise on this page for ONLY \$45/week. (includes full color & free ad design)

Shop Local

Mandi 208.721.7588

Wood River Weekly Find It In Blaine

### **Advertise in FiB for ONLY \$45/week!**

(includes full color & free ad design)



Wood River Weekly Classifieds

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



# CLASSIFIEDS

Text (up to 25 words): \$10 Additional Text: 20¢ per word Photos: \$5 per image • Logo: \$10 Deadline: Friday at 1 p.m

Space reservations: classifieds@woodriverweekly.com

#### **TIRES FOR SALE**



Pirelli Scorpion Ice & Snow 265/50 R19 110V. Used one winter. \$250 all four. (208) 481-0660

#### **WRITERS WANTED**

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

Serious inquiries please email publisher@woodriverweekly.com



YOUR VOICE IN THE WOOD RIVER VALLEY



#### **FINE FINISH CARPENTRY**

Custom Cabinetry • Interior Finish
Remodeling • Kitchen • Baths
CAD Cabinetry Design
Mike @ (208) 720-7250
Check out our Facebook page
www. FFCid.net

#### HOUSEKEEPING

Responsible, experienced & great references, housekeeper now accepting new clients.

Free estimates available for: homes, condos & offices.

beatrizq2003@hotmail.com, (208) 720-5973

#### **HELP WANTED**

Sales Representatives. Email mandi@woodriverweekly.com, send a resume, and/or ask questions.



#### **PRINTER FOR SALE**



HP Color Laser Enterprise M750. Works great! \$700 (208) 788-4789

#### **CROSSWORD**

answer from page 11



#### SUDOKU

answer from page 11

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

## **Wood River Weekly Advertorials**



Advertorials are a cost-effective way to get the word out about your company, cause, product or service.

You write it, our editor will help edit it, and the Wood River Weekly will publish it.

Purchase an advertorial 250 Words plus a logo or photo for only \$90 or 500 words plus a logo and photo for only \$170

#### CHAMBER CORNER

#### MIKE MCKENNA

### Living A Life Full Of Hope

A local success story

BY MIKE MCKENNA

f you had to pick a word to describe Marisa Elizarraras's life, you probably wouldn't choose "easy."

No, her life growing up locally was anything but easy. But once you've heard the story of Marisa's journey from broken homes to thriving local businesswoman, you'd likely choose terms like "resilient," "inspiring," and the word she likes to use to describe her life, "hopeful."

Marisa was born in Hailey and her parents' troubled marriage ended soon thereafter. She was thrown into the turmoil of dividing her time between two homes — one was with her mother, who had lifelong substance abuse issues. By the time she was just eight years old, her mother's issues had been passed over to Marisa and she began a long battle with substance abuse.

By the time Marisa reached adolescence, her once promising athletic abilities, as a swimmer and track athlete, had given way to nothing but trouble. For years she bounced from school to school and various rehab facilities. Friends, family and people of faith could only help her so much. Every time Marisa would get clean, another tragedy in her life would knock her back down the same old destruc-

Eventually, however, Marisa found the strength and faith to defeat her demons. Her "naughty years," as she calls them, are now well behind her and now Marisa is a thriving small-business owner, proud mom, and someone who is deeply committed to giving back and supporting others.

"It doesn't matter how many mistakes you make in life, you have to learn from them," Marisa said. Marisa married Joel Elizarraras in 2007 and they

have raised three kids. "I'm so blessed to raise kids here," she said.

Marisa has learned from and overcome her mistakes by working hard and finding a strong support group at The Life Church. Faith and hard work have led to Marisa's salvation.

"I love working," said Marisa, who had lots of jobs before owning her own businesses. She worked in the real estate world with both Windermere and Hallmark Properties. She's moonlighted at South Valley Pizzeria and at different local gas stations for decades.

In 2009, she and her husband founded a clean-



ing service called "Got Dirt." It was their second job and became a family affair. After working their day jobs, they would spend their evenings cleaning properties, with their kids in tow. Sometimes the kids would help clean or do their homework and they'd all take breaks for dinners together.

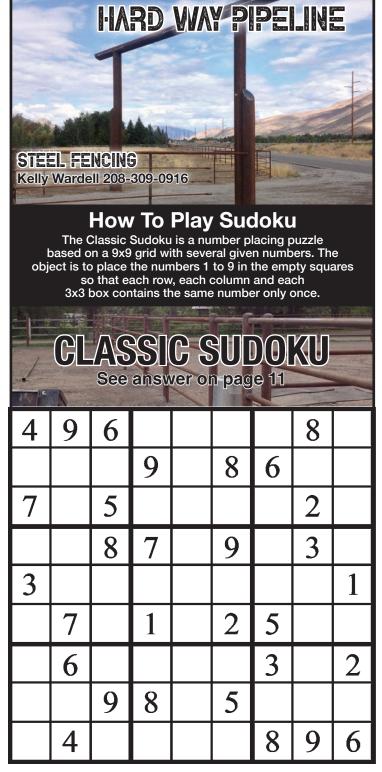
As their bilingual business began to grow, they changed its name and added property management. Now known as Mountain Valley Property Services, their booming business has nine employees. They also own Steri-Clean Idaho, offering cleaning services of every kind, and will soon take over a local BK Custom Painting and Fine Finishing business. Marisa's experiences, especially dealing with grief and loss, help her relate and empathize with many Steri-Clean clients.

The keys to their small-business success are, as Marisa explained, "consistency, integrity and hon-

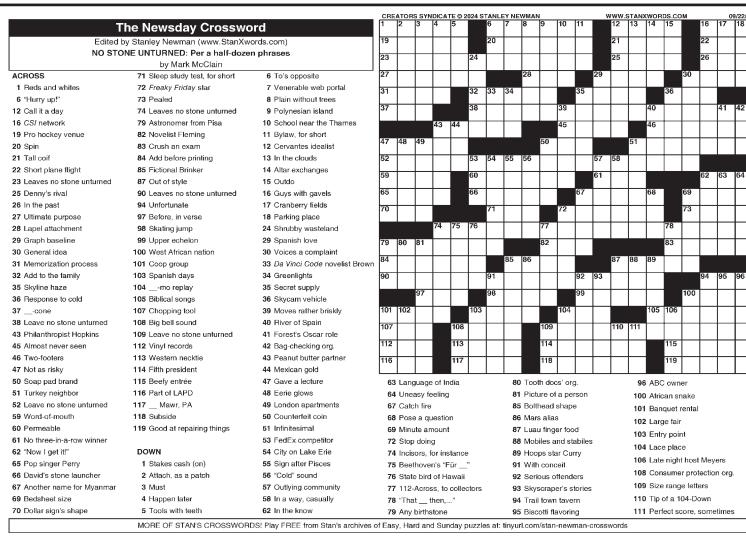
Ås for the key to turning her life from dysfunctional to dream-come-true, Marisa explained it at a talk she gave at The Life Church: "Live a life full of hope.

Find out more at MountainValleyPropertyService.com or call (208) 720-3399.

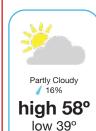




## CROSSWORD SPONSORED BY THE TRADER Consignment for the Home **Thursday Saturday** 11 to 4 Always available by appointment and if we're here 720-9206 or 788-0216 509 S. Main Street Bellevue, Idaho See answer on page 11



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



WEDNESDAY



THURSDAY



**FRIDAY** 





low 37°

**SATURDAY** 

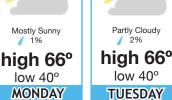




low 36°

**SUNDAY** 







Elevate your experience.

340 N Main Street in Ketchum

sturtevants-sv.com • 726-4501