

Established 1905

The Owyhee Advertiser

Tour Silver City buildings this weekend, Page 12

The importance of PILT, Page 5

County treasurer meets with federal leaders about continuing payments

Still rolling, Page 15

Homedale, Marsing tackle two more football victories

VOL. 26, NO. 37 75 CENTS

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2011

Three-way

mayoral race

set in Homedale

Fink back in picture; all three cities to hold council elections

If no write-in candidates come forward in the next three weeks, there will be only one mayoral race in the county's municipal elections Nov. 8.

Incumbent Keith Green is the only candidate who filed in Marsing, and sitting city council person Tammy Payne has submitted paperwork to seek the position currently held by Paul Spang in Grand View.



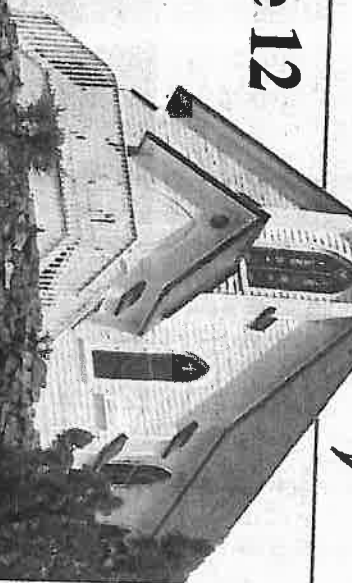
NEVER FORGET: Locals commemorate Sept. 11

EMS volunteers lauded in three remembrances

Homedale Matt Zimmerman paid the highest tribute possible to emergency responders Sunday.

"Those people standing are the reason I'm alive today," the Adrian horseman said during a brief testimony at the Mountain View Church of the Nazarene Family Fair and Round-Up at the Owyhee County Fairgrounds.

"They're the reason my kids have a dad



See Homedale page 10

County treasurer works in D.C. to preserve PILT

Richards meets with Labrador, others today

Owyhee County Treasurer Brenda Richards is in Washington D.C. this week as part of a national delegation trying to preserve federal funding for counties.

Richards is part of the National Association of Counties' annual PILT Fly-in.

She says that, although NACo mounts a Payment In Lieu of Taxes lobbying effort each year, this week's visit is most crucial to Owyhee County and other government entities because of the uncertain future of the compensatory payments for the loss of property tax revenue because of federal lands.

"If PILT funding is decreased or completely taken away, the amount will have to be raised through the private tax base," Richards said. "By attending this PILT 'Fly-in', I hope to be able to help impress the importance to our Idaho counties' economic stability of fully funding PILT."

"I hope to be able to help impress the importance to our Idaho counties' economic stability of fully funding PILT."



—Brenda Richards
Owyhee County treasurer

Owyhee County has received more than \$1.2 million each of the past two years, and is guaranteed only one more full payment for fiscal year 2012. Officials worry that when the PILT Act of 1976 comes up for reauthorization again that Congress will either decrease payments below 100 percent levels of today or do away with the program altogether.

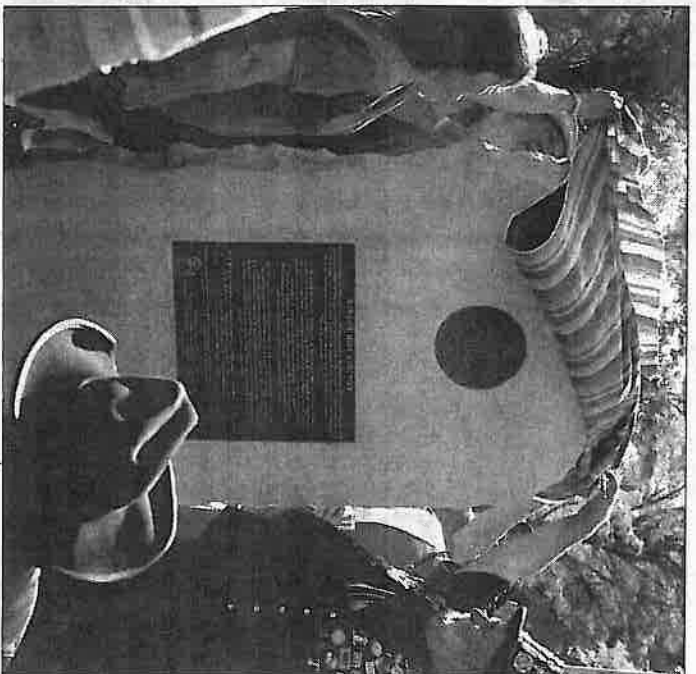
The Board of County Commissioners has placed recent payments directly into annual budgets to avert raising the tax levy each year. Previously, some PILT funds were diverted to a fund to build money for a new county courthouse.

(With PILT payments) being

put into the County's Budget revenue line, it is substantial to the county taxpayers," Richards said.

Richards flew to D.C. on Tuesday and this afternoon will visit federal government officials to discuss how PILT helps counties, including all 44 in Idaho. The Reynolds Creek rancher who serves on the Idaho Association of Counties public lands committee will visit with U.S. Rep. Raul Labrador (R-Idaho), who serves on the House of Representatives National Resources Committee and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Richards returns Thursday. —JPB



Nadine Givens, left, helps unveil a historical marker at Givens Hot Springs during a Saturday ceremony.

Local history buffs honor Givens Hot Springs

The Ancient & Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus Snake River Chapter No. 1811 placed a historical marker at Givens Hot Springs on Saturday.

The fraternal organization, whose members shout "Satisfactory!" to show approval of speeches, embraces

the local history in the areas it serves. Chapter Historian Bob Faircloth spoke about the Oregon Trail and how the Givens family traveled the southern alternate and settled in the area.

Snake River Chapter No. 1811 also became chartered in a ceremony later in the day.

Commentary

Baxter Black, DVM



On the edge of common sense The misery index 2011

Economists have a mythical figure called the misery index. It is the total of the unemployment rate added to the inflation rate. This summer in the U.S., it's running about 13.0. The lower the better. In both the 1990s and 2000s, it's been as low as 7.

To calculate indexes like this, the conclusion can be broadly accurate. But, to make it more personal, one can include more variables. For instance, take one inch of rain as a factor. The misery index of an alfalfa farmer with hay on the ground would be 15.6. It would have been 16.0 except his prize pumpkin patch was getting parched.

Or say you were entered up in Cheyenne at the big rodeo and that one inch of rain fell the hour before you were to compete in the bull dogging. Your misery index could be as high as the weight of your hazel!

Another broad category would be the temperature. At the winter Olympics, the misery index would rise as the temperature did. But say Billy Bob went to the three-day tailgate party at the Oklahoma vs Kansas football game.

Jon P. Brown, managing editor

Eyes on Owyhee The red shirt of absurdity

History is serious business for the boys of E Clampus Vitis.

The rest, well, is just life.

In the most dazzling use of the color red since 1953's Bully for Bugs cartoon, the Clampers recently invaded Givens Hot Springs with one thing on their mind. OK, two.

Honoring the 130th anniversary of the founding of the historical landmark and honoring the age-old tradition of the fraternal order not taking itself seriously — at all.

At this point, you may be asking yourself ... who are the Clampers?

The short answer is they are a bunch of red-shirted scoundrels who revel in preserving regional history wherever they may roam. And who scream "Satisfactory" whenever a member utters something remotely profound — or audible.

The long answer is probably too convoluted to understand.

According to Snake River Chapter No. 1811 historian Michael Faircloth Sr., the modern version of the Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitis bubbled to the surface in 1939. The Snake River Chapter is only five years old and only received its charter on Sept. 10 when the whole gang camped out, christened a new historical plaque and initiated some new Poor Blind Candidates at Givens.

The Clampers originated in 19th century mining camps — hence the copious use of red (the



organization as a parody of other fraternal orders such as the Masons and the Odd Fellows.

Of course, after spending a few moments with the Men in Red, one wonders which came first ... the Odd Fellows or the odd fellows who prefer to call their leader a Humbug.

For the Snake River Chapter, that would be Robert "Barbarosa" Haines, in case you're scoring at home.

The Clampers might be mistaken for a biker gang if it weren't for their intellect, compassion — and utter lack of motorcycles.

The group likes to party — respectfully, Givens owner Steve Givens points out, and without a hint of their rowdy nature when in mixed company — but they also like to give back in the tradition of their Clamcestors (that's "ancestors" to the uninitiated).

The original Clampers were a benevolent bunch, helping out the widows and orphans of fellow miners killed in accidents. According to Faircloth, the good will was meted out under the cover of darkness, and usually at Christmas, sort of like the other big guy in red who is perpetually jolly.

None of the Clampers ever sought credit for their deeds.

There's probably no connection between that quest for anonymity and the slide into oblivion, but the original Clampers movement disappeared a few years after the 1906 San Francisco quake until — fittingly — a bunch of historians revived the tradition in the 1930s.

Commentary

Financial management

Don't dwell on the Dow to determine your market moves

Dear Dave,

We hear all kinds of numbers relating to the economy every night on the news. To be honest, I have no idea what most of them mean. Can you tell me more about the Dow Jones Industrial Average?

— Ken



by Dave Ramsey
www.daveramsey.org

better measure of what the market is doing, because it represents the stock-price activity of 500 companies.

Let's say you're watching the news, and a reporter tells you the market just went down 300 points and it was at 10,000. That represents only a three percent change, and that's not big news — regardless of what some of the "experts" say.

Great question, Ken!

Dear Dave,

My husband and I have been

married for three months, and we're debt-free. Right now, we're trying to save up a 20 percent down payment for a house. I work for a real estate company, and they're really pushing us to take advantage of a first-time homebuyer deal. The program offers 100 percent financing, no money down and no private mortgage insurance. They say it's a great deal. What do you think?

— Stacy

Dear Stacy,

You guys are off to a great start! Don't blow it now. Those people are wrong. I grew up in the real estate world, and this is a bad idea.

Slow down. It's great that you guys are young and debt-free, but you need to do things that are smart for you. And for you, smart includes a couple of things.

First, make sure you have an emergency fund of three to six months of expenses in place. Then, keep saving up for a big down payment.

each other even better, before making what will be your largest asset purchase.

— Dave

You know, when I hear the advice you were given I just want to smack somebody. Haven't the mortgage lenders learned anything from the past few years? Nothing down, interest-only and sub-prime loans are a big part of the reason for the financial debacle in this country. A house is not a blessing when you're broke, and a bargain is only a bargain when you're ready to buy!

I always recommend waiting at least a year after you're married to buy a house. It takes that long to decide how close you want to live to your in-laws! Plus, you want to spend some time getting used to each other, and knowing

Dave Ramsey is the bestselling author of The Total Money Makeover. His new book, Entrepreneurship: 20 Years of Practical Business Wisdom from the Trenches, is available at retail outlets now. He also is the host of The Dave Ramsey Show that airs at 6 p.m. daily on the Fox Business Channel. He also has a radio call-in show. You can find tools to help with finances or previous columns at Davesays.org. For more financial advice, visit the Web site or call (888) 22-PEACE. Have a question for Dave? Send correspondence to syndication@daveramsey.com or write Dave Says, 1749 Mallory Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027.

Letter

to the editor

OCCSO deputy ready to seek 'honorable position' of sheriff

✓ Absurdity: Historical landmark christened

From Page 18

have published research to qualify, Faircloth said. That qualification eventually was scrapped.

Today, there are 100 Clammers in Idaho, Faircloth said, and each follows a simple credo:

"Quia Absurdum — I believe because it is absurd."

The Idaho Clammers strive to promote the history of the state, including the south alternate of the Oregon

Trail and its landmarks, such as Givens Hot Springs. A piece of granite with artwork by Lincoln and Washington sculptor Avarad T. Fairbanks and a brief history of the Givens family and its settlement of the area now sits right off Idaho 78, a stone's throw from the State of Idaho historical marker at the hot springs.

The monument is much more than satisfactory