

Authorities in central Idaho say the body of a man missing since late February has been found burned and buried in Custer County. They say this is being considered a homicide. 23-year-old Charles McBride of Challis was last seen Feb. 25 when he was going to work. A missing person investigation led to the Morgan Creek drainage area. The sheriff's office says they unearthed McBride's body, which had been burned.

In an effort to move toward clean energy, Idaho Power says they will buy up to 120 megawatts of solar power from a project south of Twin Falls. They also have a goal to provide 100-percent clean energy by 2045 which means all would be coming from hydro, solar, geothermal, wind and biomass sources.

Twin Falls County Commissioners are moving forward with a project to build additional parking for the county courthouse downtown. They are proposing to build the lot directly across the street from the jail in Twin Falls where old homes were torn down.

A House committee on Tuesday passed legislation that would dramatically toughen the requirements to get an initiative or referendum on the Idaho ballot. The House State Affairs Committee voted 10-5 to send to the House the bill that has become some of the most contentious legislation of the session and that opponents say will make the Idaho initiative process impossible.

The Idaho Hispanic Chamber of Commerce has dropped the state's Republican lieutenant governor from the list of speakers for a women entrepreneurs' conference. Lt. Gov. Janice McGeachin faced backlash last month after she posted on Facebook a photo of herself with members of an anti-government group with supporters of Todd Engel, who was sentenced to 14 years in prison last summer for his role in a 2014 standoff near a Nevada ranch.

Legislation that supporters say is critical to preserving a historic water agreement between two sets of water users and is intended to prevent declines in a giant Idaho aquifer relied on by farmers and cities is heading to the governor. The House voted 67-0 on Monday to approve the bill to give the state additional authority to cut off water to groundwater pumpers ignoring the agreement.

U.S. District court judge Edward Lodge has issued a ruling in the case of Joseph Edward Duncan III. The judge denied Duncan's petition to vacate his 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder sentences. On November 3, 2008, the court sentenced Duncan to be executed following the 2005 kidnappings and murders of members of the Groene family of Coeur d'Alene.

Timothy Stadelmeir has submitted his resignation as a coach for the Twin Falls High School's baseball team. Stadelmeir was arrested in February for allegedly driving under the influence of alcohol. He remains employed as a teacher at the Twin Falls High School.

The Daycare for children up to 18 months at St. Luke's in Twin Falls said they will close the doors. The facility at the hospital has been in business for more than 25 years. The closure is expected by July 30<sup>th</sup>.

Idaho Gov. Brad Little has signed legislation to designate a roadway that crosses southern Idaho as the Idaho Medal of Honor Highway. In Idaho U.S. Highway 20 starts near Parma and ends on Targhee Pass where it enters Montana. The estimated cost to the state is expected to be less than \$30,000.

Legislation to legalize hemp in Idaho is headed to the Senate for potential amendments that Gov. Brad Little says could be enough to get his approval. The Senate State Affairs Committee yesterday voted unanimously to send to the full Senate the bill that has already passed the House.

North Country Smokehouse is recalling over 26-hundred pounds of ready to eat Kielbasa sausage products that may be contaminated with Metal. Consumers are urged to return the product to the place of purchase or throw it away. The sausages were shipped nationwide.

Magic Valley Rehabilitation Services say they will close their doors on April 12<sup>th</sup>. The service has served adults with disabilities for 46-years from Twin Falls to all of southern Idaho.

Legislation that would dramatically toughen the requirements to get an initiative or referendum on the Idaho ballot has narrowly passed the Senate. Senators voted 18-17 on Friday to send to the House the bill. The bill would require those seeking ballot initiatives to get signatures from 10 percent of voters in 32 of Idaho's 35 districts, compared to current rules that require signatures from 6 percent of voters in 18 districts. The bill would also cut the time allowed to gather the signatures from 18 months to about six months.

A piece of Medicaid expansion legislation introduced Friday is already dead, but the sponsor says it will form the basis for an interim study. The House Health and Welfare Committee introduced and voted 10-0 on Friday to approve the legislation, which sought to help pay for Medicaid expansion in Idaho by redirecting money that counties spend to pay medical bills for uninsured residents who seek care. The bill stalled as lawmakers consider two other Medicaid expansion measures.

Idaho prison officials must release several documents on the death penalty, a judge ruled, including some that will reveal where the state obtained the lethal injection drugs used in its last execution seven years ago. Prison officials have long said they fear they won't be able to obtain drugs for future executions if their potential sources believe they could be exposed. Major pharmaceutical companies have refused to sell medications to states if they think they will be used for executions, forcing some states to look for more novel sources, including compounding pharmacies and drugs from other countries like India.

Legislation to increase penalties for a person who attacks an Idaho Parks and Recreation employee authorized to enforce state laws is heading to Gov. Brad Little. The House voted 37-28 on Thursday to approve the change to make the punishment for assaulting a Idaho parks compliance enforcement officer the same as assaulting police officers, public defenders, correctional officers, firefighter and others.

Gas prices for Idaho drivers continue to be well below the national average. Today, the state average dropped to 2-dollars 29 cents per gallon while the average price checked in at 2-dollars 32 cents. The trend has now lasted for more than a month according to triple-A.

Teachers in Idaho will soon be paid more. Earlier this week, Governor Brad Little signed into law an increase that will raise pay up to 40-thousand dollars over the course of two years. Now teacher pay starts at 35-thousand 800 dollars a day.

Idaho Power wants to get out of using coal for electrical generation. The company has finalized an agreement to end its participation in the coal fired plant in Nevada by 2025.

New mobile Jail Pods will soon be part of the Twin Falls detention facility. The county has agreed to spend 601-thousand dollars to replace three after fire damaged one of the pods last November.

41 year old Jeremy Hill was sentenced this week to 10 years and 10 months in prison for possessing Methamphetamine with intent to distribute. Court records state Idaho State Police troopers saw Hill driving a Chevrolet Blazer in February 2018 without mud flaps and attempted to pull him over. He fled at a high speed and threw meth out of his car before crashing the vehicle.

The National Weather Service has issued a flood watch some local areas from this afternoon to Sunday afternoon. The watch area includes Shoshone, Richfield, Carey, Hailey, Bellevue, Picabo, Mackay, Arco, Mud Lake, the Idaho National Laboratory, Craters of the Moon National Monument, Idaho Falls, Rexburg, St. Anthony, Howe, and surrounding areas. Water from melting snow could cause streams to become full and overflow.

Legislation to allow Idaho theaters on the National Register of Historic Places to obtain licenses to sell beer and wine has been signed into law by Gov. Brad Little. It applies to a handful of theaters built before 1950.

A House panel has approved a joint memorial intervening in a fight over water in the Salmon River in central Idaho involving irrigators and federally protected salmon, steelhead and bull trout. The House Resources and Conservation Committee voted to send to the House the memorial requesting Congress, President Donald Trump and federal agencies respect Idaho's sovereignty over water.

The Idaho Fish and Game are suspecting a mountain lion could be blamed for the deaths of two goats near Buhl earlier this week. The wounds look like a mountain lion may have attacked the goats but there have not been any reported sightings in the area.

Don't be looking for the circus in Gooding any time soon. Recently the King Cole Circus left free tickets with area businesses and the schools and began selling tickets for an event that was going to be at the Shu-Fly arena in Gooding on March 30. Problem is that there was no contract with the owners of the property.

An Wendell man is facing four felony charges after investigators say he drove drunk, fell asleep at the wheel and was in a collision that killed a pregnant woman. 21-year-old Daniel Cruz Ortiz is charged with killing 26-year-old Jessie Otton of Twin Falls near Wendell in a head on collision. Cruz Ortiz has not yet had the opportunity to enter a plea.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals have sent a letter to the Cassia County prosecutor's office wanting to file criminal charges against Ida-Beef in Burley for difficulties killing two cows. The conduct appears to violate Idaho law which allows workers to be held criminally liable.

A bill that would dramatically toughen the requirements to get an initiative or referendum on the Idaho ballot is headed to the state Senate for possible changes. The Senate State Affairs committee voted to send the bill to the full Senate for amendments.

Two semi-trucks collided yesterday morning blocking both lanes of U.S. Highway 30 between Hansen and Murtaugh. The road was closed for about two hours. One truck pulled into the path of another attempting to turn onto East 37-hundred North. No one was injured.

The Twin Falls City Council gave the green light to the hotel management company to build a 60 foot four story hotel behind the Visitors Center near the Perrine Bridge. The decision comes following a hour and a half of public testimony. 15 people in favor and 16 opposed. Four council members said yes while two said no.

Governor Brad Little has designated this week as flood awareness week prompting the Twin Falls County of Emergency Management to warn residents they need to clean out their ditches. Officials say not only will it allow water to flow freely it will remove fuels for possible fire issues.

The bill to legalize hemp in Idaho has passed the house with much support from Magic Valley Legislature. Hemp is used in the manufacturing of many products. The bill will now go to the senate.

Authorities in Kootenai County arrested a 13-year-old suspected of leading deputies on a high-speed chase at more than 100 mph. Deputies say the driver, who had a 15-year-old passenger along, sped the SUV through a stop sign on state Highway 54 at about 1 a.m., and then continued, on the highway at high speeds as deputies attempted to stop the vehicle. The driver finally stopped when a parent called one of them and "told them to stop for the police."

Nurses at a hospital in north-central Idaho are trying to unionize. Registered nurses with St. Joseph Regional Medical Center in Lewiston announced over the weekend that they are petitioning to join the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. St. Joseph Regional Medical Center was a nonprofit hospital until two years ago, when the Catholic medical care organization Ascension Health sold the medical center to RCCH Healthcare Partners, a for-profit company.

One man is dead and a teenage girl was injured when a home near the golf course in McCall exploded Sunday afternoon. The home explosion created a large crater and severely damaged two homes nearby. The girl was rescued.

A new Medicaid expansion "sideboard" bill that would require some Medicaid recipients to work at least 20 hours a week and require people over 100 percent of the federal poverty level to keep private insurance was introduced in the Idaho House Health and Welfare Committee yesterday. A hearing on the bill is expected to be held tomorrow.

Idaho Democrats are introducing legislation to protect the referendum process after a bill was introduced that would make it more difficult for Idahoans to put an initiative on the ballot. Democrats say only wealthy special interest groups would be able to gather enough signatures in the time allowed because it would be too costly for average Idahoans.

The Idaho Department of Transportation has reopened Highway 21 at Grandjean, which connects Lowman to Stanley. The stretch of highway has been closed for 25 days, because of more than 50 avalanches burying the road. Crews have been working to remove up to 60 feet of snow off the roadway.

The search has resumed in the Boise foothills for a hiker who went missing more than a month ago. 27 year old Kyle Crowden of Mountain Home has been missing since Saturday, Feb. 9 after going for a hike on the Dry Creek Trail off of Bogus Basin Road. Searchers found his Toyota Camry parked at the trailhead about 4.5 miles up Bogus Basin Road. The car was covered in a thick layer of snow.

A Southeast Idaho woman has mysteriously vanished and authorities are asking for the public's help in locating her. Shari Christopherson was last seen Saturday afternoon when she left her Malad home to go to a local pharmacy, the Oneida County Sheriff's Office reported. She hasn't been seen or heard from since. She was driving a green 2015 Jeep Renegade when she left her home on Saturday afternoon. The vehicle's license plate number is 1O23169.

Authorities continue to investigate two separate accidents that occurred over the weekend. On Saturday morning around 6:30, 26 year old Jessie Otton of Twin Falls was northbound on State Highway 46 when she collided head-on with a vehicle driven by 21 year old Daniel Ortiz of Wendell. Police say Ortiz fell asleep at the wheel. Otton died at the scene. Then on Sunday just before 1 am in the morning a car was traveling the wrong way on the freeway near the Wendell exit. The unknown driver crashed with a car near the Tuttle Exit just after 1. The driver and his passenger fled the scene on foot.

The parents of a 3-year-old child who died a few days after a mass stabbing at a Boise apartment complex last June, don't want to see the man charged in the violent crime be allowed to change his name before he's tried in the case. 31 year old Timmy Earl Kinner Jr. who is charged with first-degree murder and eight counts of felony aggravated battery in connection with the stabbing and slashing of eight others, is seeking to change his name to "Eternal Love." In their motion the parents said that Kinner has not raised any "meaningful reason" for seeking a name change, according to their motion.

The House has voted along party lines to lower the legal age to 18 to carry a concealed handgun without a permit in Idaho cities. In 2016, Idaho passed a constitutional carry bill that allows someone 18 or older to, without a permit, conceal-carry firearms anywhere in the state. That came with an exception that 18- to 20-year-olds could not carry a concealed handgun within city limits. Under the proposed law, that exception would go away.

At tonight's Twin Falls city council meeting a request has been made to enter into contract with Teton Communications for a trunked 2-way radio system that would cost 670-thousand 720 dollars. The system will provide a new radio system for the City's Police and Fire departments.

Another Item on the City Council agenda is to approve an increase in Building height for a Hotel near the canyon rim. If approved the structure could be up to 60 feet tall. The property is located at 2151 Fillmore Street.

Officials with the Bureau of Reclamation say the Upper Snake Reservoir System is setting at 86-percent full. They plan to release more water today from the Palisades, American Falls and Minidoka Dams. More discharge is expected from the same reservoirs in the middle of the week, officials say.

Jeremy Presnell, the Jerome City Fire Chief is on Paid Administrative leave. According to City Administrator Mike Williams Presnell was placed on leave March 6th. Mike Harrison the Assistant Chief, is leading the department. No word on why the action was taken or when or if he will return.

The Shoshone Falls Grade in Twin Falls is open. Earlier this week it was closed due to the mist from the falls freezing on the steep roadway. Several vehicles had become stranded at the bottom of the grade.

29 year old Jacob Coomer of Southside Tennessee who was being escorted to Twin Falls County ran from sheriff deputies at the Boise Airport yesterday. He was handcuffed at the time and was quickly caught with help from the Boise Police Department.

Authorities in Jerome are searching for those involved in vandalizing the newly installed gate at the cemetery. A Post to city employee Walt Appell's facebook page indicates the vehicle was damaged judging from the amount of parts left behind after destroying one of the gates. Call the police if you can assist in the investigation.

Idahoans have more than 5 million dollars in unclaimed tax refunds. That's the portion of 1-point 4 billion dollars and 1.2 million taxpayers that did not file a 2015 form 1040 tax return. To collect, you must file no later than Monday April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Eden residents should know sometime today if they need to keep boiling their water. Officials there are waiting for the second round of test results to confirm the water is safe to drink.

A recount in Canyon county has been planned. Officials say this will be for the Vallivue school district's \$65.3 million bond that barely received approval. Unofficial results showed that the bond received 66.71 percent of the vote. They needed 66-point 67 percent for a super-majority in favor. The recount is sent to take place next week.

Idaho Speaker of the House Scott Bedke says he doesn't have enough votes to pass either a basic Medicaid expansion bill or a Medicaid expansion bill that includes work requirements, and it could be weeks before a compromise is found. Voters authorized Medicaid expansion in November through an initiative called Proposition 2 after years of inaction by the Legislature.

Tom Bowman is the interim Fire Chief for the Ketchum Fire Department. He has more than 30 years of public service in Blaine County. Bowman has been a former county planning and zoning commissioner and served as a volunteer for the fire department since 1984.

A bill to determine why so many Idaho women die while pregnant or from childbirth-related complications is headed to the governor's desk. Idaho's maternal death rate is slightly higher than the national average. If Gov. Brad Little signs the bill into law, the panel will be expected to gather data about maternal deaths and make recommendations about how to reduce such deaths.

Shoshone Falls and Dierkes Lake parks are closed to vehicles beyond the ticket booth because of the wind blowing a mist from the falls onto the roadway that freezes. Pedestrians are asked to avoid the area as well.

Three men have been arrested in north-central Idaho on suspicion of cashing phony lottery tickets. Lucas S. Chane and John W. Day of Spokane, Washington and Rodney K. Olson of Post Falls, Idaho, were arrested and charged with felony possession of counterfeit state lottery tickets after police received reports that some men were cashing in fake tickets at two Lewiston businesses.

Idaho State Police has identified the man accused of causing a string of crashes in Meridian and Boise Tuesday morning. Twenty-year-old Daniel C. Edison of Nampa has been cited for DUI, and more charges are pending, according to police. Edison, who was injured in the final wreck, remains at Saint Alphonsus. Edison is currently listed in fair condition. He is responsible for a series of hit and runs ending up in a multiple-vehicle wreck at the intersection of Cole and Emerald at 7:02 a.m.

No! That's what voters told school districts with the three largest school bonds. Cassia County, Filer and Minidoka County all were defeated. Jerome's 2-year 800-thousand dollar annual levy passed as did the Twin Falls 2-year 5-million dollar annual supplemental levy. Murtaugh voters also said yes to a 2-million dollar bond for an athletic complex and Gooding, Camas County and Hansen districts all passed their levies.

If you are in the City of Eden, boil your water. This is the warning from the city hall after a generator failed around 3 pm yesterday afternoon. The DEQ will be monitoring the situation.

The price per vehicle visiting the Shoshone Falls and Dierkes Lake Park will be going up. The Twin Falls City Council approved the increase in cost from \$3 to \$5 with a 5 to 0 vote. Park maintenance and road repair highlight what the increase will pay for.

Officials in Ketchum are asking building owners to remove snow from roofs and overhanging icicles. The Mayor said it's a safety issue. The extra snow could cause flooding issues and the overhang could fall on an unsuspecting individual.

The House Education Committee killed a teacher pipeline bill sponsored by Superintendent of Public Instruction Sherri Ybarra, Monday morning. It would have created a grow-your-own program to encourage paraprofessionals or classified staff members to earn a teaching certificate.

Could a five story apartment complex overseeing the center of downtown Twin Falls be built in the near future? That's what a Ketchum-Based developer wants to construct. Each apartment would include 18-hundred square feet of living space, elevator and rooftop access, a deck and two parking spaces. Each apartment will cost \$650-thousand. In all the building will be \$6.5 million.

The Idaho Senate overwhelmingly approved the proposed 2020 budget for Medicaid expansion in a 31-3 vote on Monday. The measure now moves on to the House where the vote is expected to be much closer. The budget authorizes \$2.83 billion in total funding for the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare's Medicaid Division.

A 5-year old boy was flown to St. Alphonsus in Boise after a snowmobile crash Sunday afternoon. 35 year year old Jesus Gilberto Munoz Jimenez of Bellevue said he was riding a snowmobile with the boy when the child accidentally grabbed onto the throttle launching the snowmobile airborne from a snowbank. The crash happened along Croy Creek Road west of Hailey.

An ISP officer was injured late yesterday morning during a high speed chase that resulted in Interstate 15 being temporarily shut down near Inkom. Unconfirmed reports say the trooper suffered a broken hand. The suspect was arrested without incident.

Opponents of a bill that would make it far more difficult to get a voter initiative on the Idaho ballot packed a Statehouse auditorium Monday, but only a few got a chance to speak to a state Senate panel. The legislation would require those seeking ballot initiatives to get signatures from 10 percent of registered voters in 32 of Idaho's 35 legislative districts. The current rules require signatures from 6 percent of voters in 18 districts.

Today is Election Day with 9 Magic Valley school districts hoping patrons will approve millions of dollars in funding. Cassia County hopes to pass a \$56.7 million bond that would increase taxes \$144 for every \$100-thousand of taxable value. Minidoka county schools say they need \$21-million. Twin Falls is asking for a two year \$5-million dollar annual supplemental levy. Filer is asking for \$9.9 million, Murtaugh 2-million and Jerome is presenting a request for a two year \$800-thousand dollar annual levy. Gooding, Camas and Hansen all have 2 year levy requests. \$650-thousand for Gooding, 300-thousand in Camas and \$290-thousand in Hansen. Polls will be open from 8 am to 8 pm.

The truck that crashed on Friday evening that caused I-90 to close for several hours was carrying missiles. A semi-truck carrying 16 missiles weighing 2,000 pounds each crashed on I-90 near the Huetter rest area. The driver accidentally drove into the hazmat containment area of the port of entry instead of the interstate on ramp.

An Idaho man sentenced to probation in a traffic crash that killed a pedestrian has been arrested on a suspected probation violation. 43-year-old Adam Poulson of Eagle was arrested Friday. He's accused of attempting to tamper with an ankle bracket that monitors blood alcohol content.

Authorities say a Chubbuck man is facing up to 10 years in prison after they say they found a child in the man's home living in disturbing conditions. 46 year old Donald Maberry has been charged with felony injury to a child. Police say the home had no water, sewer services or electricity and some of the windows were broken making the temperature inside the same as outside.

What started out as a dollar a car could possibly rise to \$5 if the Twin Falls Parks and Recreation convince the city council to pass their request to raise the entrance fee to the Shoshone Falls Park at tonight's meeting. The Park sees over 100-thousand visitors and the parks department said there is some maintenance needs for the roads and parking lots.

Dairymen are seeing better numbers for milk production. Dairy cows are expected to produce one and a half percent more milk than they did in the year 2018. Rick Naerbout of the Idaho Dairymen's Association said it's good news that dairy farmers are expanding but that it also highlights the overproduction the industry is grappling with.

Idaho's individual income tax returns came in higher than expected in February, marking the first time that's happened since the start of the fiscal year. State tax officials have said that individual tax receipts will likely catch up with expectations, as April 15 nears and Idaho residents file tax returns along with checks for what they still owe.

Construction continues in Rupert's town square. Officials say the second and third stage will include the extension of all corners around the square. Sidewalks will also be widened. Phase three adds a clock in front of the Wilson Theater. Construction is expected to be completed by mid-June.

A Nampa man is behind bars after sparking a bomb scare in a Nampa Neighborhood. 22 year old Grant Charles Stevenson faces a felony charge of terrorism and misdemeanor second degree stalking. A terrorism conviction carries a possible life sentence.

The company that operates Family Dollar says they are closing 390 stores nationwide in order to better its financial position. The closings are expected to take place this year but there's no list of which stores will be affected. They also said they will remodel 200 stores. Dollar Tree operates 48 stores in Idaho.

Jerome and Twin Falls County commissioners are meeting to discuss the future of jail expansion to help accommodate the overcrowding in Twin Falls. There is some discussion about building new pods in Jerome to house more inmates. Twin Falls has an agreement with Jerome to rent 25 beds at \$59 dollars a day.

A bill that would require parents to "opt in" before their children can receive sex education in school has cleared the Idaho House on a party-line vote. The legislation would require parents to specifically opt-in before their children can attend sex education lessons at public schools. Now the schools give the education unless the parents opt out.

Idaho Secretary of State Lawrence Denney forgot to include money for the 2020 presidential primary in his budget, forcing legislative budget writers to scramble to find \$2 million when the error was noticed. Denney said it simply "slipped through the cracks."

A Meridian man who dialed 911 to report killing his wife is in custody after officers found a woman dead in the bathroom of his home. 42 year old Eric James Steiner is facing a first-degree murder charge. Officers responded to the home Tuesday after getting the call from Steiner. A 17-year-old girl and a 4-year-old boy were also inside the home when officers arrived.

A jury has reached a verdict in a civil case stemming from a 2014 crash involving a motorcycle rider and a Boise County sheriff's deputy. According to Idaho State Police, the crash happened when the deputy made a sudden U-turn to chase a speeder, causing the motorcycle rider driving behind the deputy to wreck. The jury trial found that both Deputy David Lee and the motorcycle's driver, Douglas Towell, were at fault for the crash. The jury said that each man is responsible for 50 percent of \$4.8 million in damages.

Idaho state police say a Hollister woman died after the car she was driving drifted over the center line and collided head on with another vehicle. The accident happened just after 5 pm yesterday along U.S. 30 near Buhl. 37 year old Robin Parry was westbound when she collided with 62 year old Dennis Norwood of Buhl. She died at the scene. 50 year old Derek Haas of Hagerman was a passenger in her vehicle. He and Norwood were taken by air ambulance to St. Alphonsus in Boise for treatment.

The state fire marshal has determined that careless use of smoking material caused the fire in Burley that destroyed a home early Monday. The fire also claimed the resident in the home. Children walking to school reported the fire. The victim was in his mid-70's.

The Idaho Legislature didn't advance a bill that would have placed more restrictions for child marriage in the state. Currently a teen under 16 can marry if both parents and a judge say it's ok. For those 16 and older, marriage is ok if the parents approve. The new proposal would have required anyone under 18 to have consent from parent and a judge.

There's a section of Idaho Highway 21 near Stanley that doesn't even look like a road right now. That's because the snow on top of it is 50 feet deep in some places. An avalanche about a quarter mile long has closed the road between mileposts 93 and 105.

The Idaho Supreme court has handed down a ruling that individuals have the right to sue if they think some implied but didn't outright say, something defamatory. A lawsuit brought by former teacher against, Boise TVs KTVB among others, after a report showed teachers who lost licenses in one state were often able to move to another state and be licensed there.

The Twin Falls School District is warning parents about a online challenge called Momo that encourages children to engage in dangerous behaviors. The district says it's believed to be a joke. Some videos associated with the challenge suggest children hurt themselves or others. It also suggests they turn on the stove without telling anyone.

School children walking to school in Burley yesterday were the first to report a house fire that claimed the life of the resident inside. The fire, at 1843 Miller Avenue had fully engulfed the house when crews arrived. The man was found dead in the home. Officials have not determined the man's identity.

The judge in the Patrick Frazee murder trial said yesterday the search warrants in the investigation will be made public. Frazee's fiancée Kelsey Berreth hasn't been seen since around thanksgiving and is believed to have been killed although no body has been found.

42 year old Shauna Kay Brumfield of Blackfoot is back in custody. She failed to return to the Bonneville County jail while on work release in November. She was arrested over the weekend for meth possession.

The Idaho Senate has killed the latest version of the "motorcycle profiling" bill by one vote, 17-18. While the bill would have forbidden law enforcement from profiling law-abiding motorcyclists, several senators said they opposed it for varying reasons, including the lack of any remedy in the bill for violations.

Idaho State Police may get the funding to purchase equipment that would allow investigators to distinguish hemp from marijuana after a high-profile case in the state grabbed headlines and prompted a federal lawsuit. The state legislature's Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee approved about \$240,000 for three testing devices.

Federal judge B. Lynn Winmill says Idaho prison officials cannot delay gender confirmation surgery for a transgender inmate while they appeal the court ruling requiring them to provide the surgery. He said that delaying Adree Edmo's surgery could cause her great harm. The ruling means the original deadline for providing the surgery June 13 remains in place.

The morgue in Idaho's biggest county is running out of space to hold bodies. The Ada County Coroner's office is at capacity with 15 to 18 bodies most days, some of them stored on cots and smaller folding tables until the remains are released to area funeral homes.

Legislation to designate a roadway that crosses southern Idaho as the Idaho Medal of Honor Highway is headed to the governor. The Senate on Monday voted 35-0 to send to Gov. Brad Little the legislation for U.S. Highway 20. The estimated cost to the state is expected to be less than \$30,000.

The Twin Falls city council will review a request at tonight's meeting to amend the election ordinance for a general obligation bond. Voters will soon decide on a 36-million dollar fire station improvement. Tonight's discussion will adjust the estimated annual cost on 100-thousand dollar taxable assessed value from \$71.17 to \$74.36.

Heyburn Resident Jakob Kade Pelton has been charged with 15 wildlife violations after authorities say he had an unlicensed taxidermy operation. The prosecutor will recommend supervised probation with a suspended three to five year prison sentence. He will also need to pay fish and game \$12-thousand 975 dollars and may lose his hunting and trapping license.

40-year old Jose Luis Gonzales of Twin Falls has been ordered to serve 10 years in federal prison for participating in a drug trafficking organization. An investigation found Gonzales was a member of a drug trafficking organization distributing Meth, heroin and fentanyl in Idaho.

Idaho Lieutenant Governor Janice McGeachin is facing calls for her to step down, after a photo was posted to her facebook account shows her standing in front of her Statehouse office door with two men. The men were wearing t-shirts reading Engel – possibly referring to Todd Engel who was sentenced to 14 years in prison for his role in the April 2014 Nevada standoff. The men were hand gesturing they may be part of the 3-percent movement. McGeachin is forming a heart with her hands.

Preston resident Marlin McQueen pleaded not guilty to a charge of First Degree Murder in connection to the January death of Willie Lovin Jr. If found guilty McQueen could be sentenced to life in prison. The state has 60-days to determine whether they will seek the death Penalty. Lovin died of stab wounds.

Legislation to allow Idaho theaters on the National Register of Historic Places to obtain licenses to sell beer and wine is going to the state Senate. There are currently only five theaters in the state that would be affected by the law, but about a dozen in all could eventually qualify.

Attorneys are expected to make their closing arguments next week in a lawsuit brought by a former doctoral student against Idaho State University. Jun Yu filed the federal lawsuit in September 2015 alleging the school discriminated against him, committed ethics violation and breached a contract when it refused to grant him a doctorate degree in clinical psychology.

Two former Idaho Department of Corrections officers were sentenced this week for their part in a drug trafficking operation inside prisons. 37-year-old Richard McCollough was sentenced to eight years and one month in prison, and 36-year-old Timothy Landon was sentenced to three years and five months.

Several roads were closed this week in Minidoka County due to flooding concerns. Crews with the Minidoka County Highway District have been placing signs and moving them around to areas that need it most.

Two Colorado residents were killed when a small plane flying in bad weather crashed in Eastern Nevada. The airplane was in route to Twin Falls when it crashed near the Utah line.

Idaho Gov. Brad Little has signed into law legislation to keep operating a state board that pays a federal agency to kill wolves that attack livestock and elk. Little signed the legislation to repeal a section of Idaho law that would have ended the five-year-run of the Idaho Wolf Depredation Control Board in the summer of 2020.

Legislation to clarify and broaden the definition of abuse involving child victims sustaining head injuries is heading to the House. The change removes the term "subdural hematoma" to determine abuse and replaces it with head and brain injuries.

Legislation intended to lower the risk of people being inadvertently jabbed with discarded used medical needles is heading to the House. The House Health and Welfare Committee voted to approve legislation allowing groups to start a syringe and needle exchange program in Idaho.

A Brigham Young University-Idaho student has been charged with rape and lewd conduct with a minor. 21 year-old Connor A. Hammond was charged with one felony count of rape, involving a victim 16 or 17 years of age, as well as four felony counts of lewd conduct with a minor under 16 years of age. Bond is set at \$200,000.

Jerome Sheriff Deputies say a man who ran from them and drove more than a hundred miles an hour was arrested late Monday night. The vehicle the man was in, flipped on it's top just north of the Perrine Bridge. The suspect was taken to Twin Falls county Jail on four outstanding warrants.

Draft legislation involving voter-approved Medicaid expansion in Idaho would require recipients to meet similar work or employment training as the state requires in its food stamp assistance program. Republican Rep. Bryan Zollinger said whether the legislation gets introduced depends on if a group of lawmakers meeting informally can reach an agreement involving Medicaid expansion.

Public health officials say there is a spike of Hepatitis A cases in the Boise region, with six cases reported among Ada and Elmore county residents since Jan. 1. Normally, the area sees just one or two cases a year. Hepatitis A can be prevented by a vaccine.

Democratic presidential candidate Julian Castro said Tuesday that he favors affordable health care for all, a fair tax system, raising the minimum wage and early education for children. He said Idaho voters approving Medicaid expansion last November with a 61 percent margin gave Democrats some hope.

A Senate committee has approved legislation to designate a roadway that crosses southern Idaho as the Idaho Medal of Honor Highway. Backers say Idaho's portion will be part of a larger plan to have the entire highway that begins in Newport, Oregon, and ends in Boston, Massachusetts, receive the designation.

Legislation to create a "pet-friendly" license plate with the money going to pay for spaying or neutering pets owned by low-income families is heading to the full Senate. The additional cost to the regular registration fee with the specialty plate will be \$35 for the initial purchase and \$25 for each annual registration. Of that, \$22 of the initial fee and \$12 of each renewal will go toward spaying and neutering pets.

Portions of State Highway 75 are closed because of avalanches and at least two homes have been damaged. At last check a section of road between Chocolate Gulch Road and State Highway 21 north of Ketchum was closed. The avalanche was reported about 11 pm Monday and sent snow, trees and debris through a home on Audubon Place. No one was injured. An Avalanche Warning is in effect for all zones in Blaine County and the danger is high at all elevations.

The Twin Falls City Council approved the charter for a new Diversity and Inclusion committee that will advise the Twin Falls City Manager and will help further the goals of the strategic plan. The plan is to improve access to local government for all residents.

Expect some construction at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls as the institution moves forward with two major projects. There will be a new Veterinary Technology building in the northeast corner near the expo center. The college will also begin remodeling the Taylor Building's Dining and Bookstore area.

Developers of Gem State Products say the plant on Washington Street South will create more than 100 jobs when it opens next year. The Twin Falls city council gave approval to rezone the property for heavy manufacturing. Milk processing should begin next summer officials predict.

Legislation allowing individuals age 21 and older who have obtained an Idaho enhanced permit to carry a concealed weapon into public schools without having to tell anyone will get a hearing. Lawmakers questioned whether the legislation would make schools safer considering that such a concealed weapons carrier could decline to tell a school principal about the weapon.

The Legislature's budget committee has approved a 1.7 percent increase to \$68 million for the agency responsible for safeguarding Idaho's environment. The House, Senate and Gov. Brad Little must still approve the budget.

Legislation to create a committee to monitor how federal laws and regulations impact Idaho's sovereignty is headed to the House. The committee will look at an array of federal issues and is scheduled to end its work in two years unless lawmakers opt to keep the committee going.

Just after 3 yesterday morning, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes Government building in Fort Hall was severely damaged by a roof collapse because of the snow. The structure is over 40-years old. No one was injured. 42 people worked in the facility.

Gas prices continue to fall in the gem state. Pump prices are about 10 cents cheaper than the national average. Since January 1, U.S. average fuel prices have increased by thirteen cents. Over the same period, Idaho's prices have dropped 28 cents. Gas prices in the Twin Falls area average \$2.25 a gallon.

A former Idaho corrections officer has been sentenced to up to three years in prison for his part in a major drug trafficking operation. 36-year-old Robert Wallin was sentenced to up to 37 months in prison. The former prison guard was working as a Correction officer when he and three others provided security for deliveries of drug loads and drug money and other related crimes.

Idaho's legislative budget-writing committee has voted unanimously to boost pay for court reporters after learning that the state is facing a serious shortage of people willing to do the job. On Monday, the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee approved a 10 percent increase in the state's budget for court reporters. That's a boost of more than \$340,000.

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation will contribute \$100,000 to University of Idaho's proposed Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment near Rupert. The project, known as CAFE, will conduct cutting-edge research on virtually every aspect of the agricultural industry.

Legislation requiring motorists to slow down and move over when approaching tow trucks and maintenance vehicles parked along roadways with lights flashing has passed the House. The bill also requires motorists to slow down and move over when approaching a parked passenger vehicle with emergency hazard lights activated.

Legislation to change how millions of dollars in sales tax revenue is distributed to cities and counties in Idaho has stalled in a House committee. The bill's sponsor asked the committee to hold onto the legislation rather than send it to the full House. Republican Rep. Jason Monks said the legislation intended to fix what he says are unfair distributions still needs some work.

Kevin Sterling Hanks of Twin Falls has been charged with unlawful hunting by the Idaho Fish and Game. The shooting was in the area around Brookfield court within the City limits officials say. Witnesses say a man walked between houses and fired a shotgun toward ducks on a pond.

35 year old Blaine Reed, an off-duty Idaho Falls Police officer was fatally shot late last week after he entered a Layton Utah home uninvited and confronted a man who he believed was dating his ex-girlfriend, authorities say. The homeowner called 911 after the shooting and is cooperating with investigators. It appears the homeowner was within his legal bounds for self-defense.

When it comes to resetting the clock twice a year, Idahoans will continue springing ahead and falling back. A proposal to exempt Idaho from daylight saving time failed 55-15 in the House.

Legislation intended to make more public who is donating to candidates and political causes in Idaho has been put on hold after a diverse array of nonprofit groups complained it would force them to reveal their donors. Right to Life of Idaho, the American Civil Liberties Union of Idaho and the Idaho Freedom Foundation were among those saying the legislation could cause donations to dry up if the proposed legislation became law.

Roughly seven weeks after leaving office, former Idaho Gov. Butch Otter has joined the board of a Canadian mining company that is expanding into Idaho. Otter will be on the board of directors for First Cobalt, a Toronto-based company with a cobalt project near Salmon called Iron Creek. The metal is a key component of lithium-ion batteries used in electric vehicles and electronic devices.

Two bounty hunters who held a person at gunpoint despite there being no outstanding warrant on the victim have been sentenced to one year of unsupervised probation and had to agree not to pursue bail bonding or bail recovery anymore. 26 year old Kevin Ratigan and 29 year old David Manery, 29 were charged after Caldwell police officers saw them in an unmarked, decommissioned police car pull over a vehicle near a gas station.

Two pieces of legislation to repeal a voter-approved law expanding Medicaid in Idaho have failed. The House Health and Welfare Committee voted 7-5 to return to the sponsors both efforts. The first was an outright repeal of the expansion and the second a plan to repeal the expansion in several years if expected savings didn't result. The state Supreme Court earlier this month ruled that the voter-approved initiative was legal following a challenge from a conservative group that argued it was unconstitutional.

Meanwhile, Idaho Gov. Brad Little says the Legislature must fund a voter-approved expansion of the state's Medicaid program before lawmakers adjourn for the year. Little made the remarks to the Idaho Press Club during the club's annual "Breakfast with the Governor" event.

Looking to buy a ski resort? The Soldier Mountain Ski area is back on the market. Diane and Matt McFerran purchased the resort in 2015 for \$600-thousand dollars. The asking price is \$800-thousand. The resort opened in 1947 and was once owned by actor Bruce Willis.

A federal judge has declined to order the release of more than 6,700 pounds plants that an Oregon company says is hemp but the Idaho State Police claims is marijuana. The plants and a semitrailer that contained them were seized last month near Boise and the driver was arrested on suspicion of felony drug trafficking. The company in Oregon said they intended to use the hemp to make about 1-point 3 million dollars in product and is legal under the new federal farm bill.

23-year-old Thomas Edward Negus of Pocatello was arrested this week for allegedly burglarizing a neighboring apartment and lighting a fire inside of it. He has been charged with felony counts of burglary and first-degree arson.

A bill is working its way through the house that would allow historic theaters the opportunity to sell alcohol. One owner in Gooding said it could bring in more revenue. There's about 13 theaters in the state that could benefit from the bill.

A Burley man was arrested yesterday in connection to the 1995 disappearance and death of 14 year old Regina Lee Krieger. The FBI and local authorities say 56 year old Gilberto Flores Rodriguez has been charged with 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder. Krieger's body went missing February 28, 1995. In April of that year her body washed onto the shore of the Snake River east of Rupert. She had been stabbed.

Following court testimony from a Hansen Nurse, grim details are emerging in a case where a Colorado mother was allegedly murdered by her fiancé. In the testimony Patrick Frazee is accused of beating Kelsey Berreth while the couple's 1 year old daughter was in another room. Frazee repeatedly asked Krystal Kenney to kill Kelsey testimony concluded. He allegedly beat her with a baseball bat and burned her body along with the bat. The body has not been found. Frazee has not entered a plea on any of the charges.

Buhl school board chairman Jim Barker has tendered his resignation after serving for 10 years. Barker said personal family obligations and a busy travel schedule have been interfering with his school board work.

A Twin Falls man is facing five felony charges for lewd conduct and sexual abuse of a minor under the age of 16. Randal Towell an investigator for the Twin Falls County Public Defender's Office is accused of touching and sexually abusing a 15-year-old girl. He has pleaded not guilty. A pre-trial is set for May 28th.

Six people are homeless after a fire ripped through their Jerome home yesterday morning. No one was injured in the fire. The call for help went out around 8:30 am. The home is located in the 200 block of Fifth Avenue East. Cause is still under investigation.

Authorities in Owyhee County say they are suspending the "missing person" search for a 32-year-old man who left his car to get help after getting stranded with a woman and their infant. Eric Rose and Francesca Watson were trying to go to Silver City with their 1-year-old last week, but they got stuck in deep snow. After about four or five days, Rose tried to walk out to get help, and he hasn't been seen since. Watson and the child were found safe in the vehicle.

Additional charges have been filed against the Colorado man charged with murder and solicitation to commit murder in the death of his missing fiancée. Patrick Frazee was in court yesterday to determine whether he will stand trial for the death of Kelsey Berreth's Death. The case relies on the cooperation of Krystal Jean Lee Kenney, a 32-year-old woman from Hansen who pleaded guilty this month to tampering with evidence in the case. Kenney said she moved "the victim's cellphone" around Thanksgiving. The body has not been located.

Having photo identification is something most take for granted. However, if you're an inmate just getting out of prison, acquiring a valid, up-to-date photo ID may not be so easy to get. That's why the Idaho State Department of Corrections, Department of Motor Vehicles and Idaho Transportation Department are teaming up to install photo ID machines in all of Idaho's prisons.

The chairman of the Idaho Republican Party has resigned. The party released Jonathan Parker's resignation letter he sent on Monday. Jennifer Locke of Hayden will be acting chair until a replacement is elected this summer.

Legislation intended to increase testing of sexual assault and rape evidence kits and get DNA results into a national database has cleared the House. The proposed law would allow victims to halt prosecutions, but the evidence would still be tested and submitted to the national database for potential matches.

Twin Falls officials are again asking the council to weigh the costs and benefit of recycling. Processing costs have reached \$189 per ton. The current budget calls for the recycling to go into the landfill if the cost exceeds \$175 per ton.

A new trial has been scheduled for 28 year old Daniel Alldrin, a northern Idaho man charged with first-degree murder in the death of his 28-day-old daughter. A Nez Perce County jury was unable to reach a verdict following an eight-day trial in November. A previous trial was scheduled for May 2018 in Clearwater County, but it was called off after a jury could not be seated. Alldrin told authorities a speaker had fallen on the child.

Authorities say a 33 year old Burley woman was injured after she jumped from the driver's side of her pickup along the interstate near Jerome early yesterday. Maribel Villeda was eastbound. A semi-truck following the pickup swerved to avoid striking Villeda who was in the roadway. The truck struck Villeda's vehicle. The pickup came to rest in the lane of travel the semi stopped in the median. Villeda was taken to the hospital for treatment. The eastbound lanes were closed for about 4 hours.

Another store is leaving the Magic Valley Mall. Payless Shoe Source is closing all of its 21-hundred stores after filing for bankruptcy protection in 2017. 18-thousand people will be out of a job.

Police say they arrested a man after he forced entry into a woman's home and threatened her with a gun in Meridian Sunday afternoon. Investigators tracked the man to a desert area south of Kuna, leading to a nearly four-hour standoff. Jefferson Griffith was later arrested on suspicion of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Two people were killed following a head on collision on I-84 last night. Idaho State Police say 39 year old Jennifer Thompson of Hagerman was eastbound in the westbound lanes when she struck another vehicle driven by 21 year old Ryan Cordie of Minnesota. Thompson died at the scene. 21 year old Monica Buchite, a passenger in the Cordie vehicle also died at the scene. Cordie and his passenger 44 year old Karrie Cordie were transported to St. Alphonsus in Boise by Air ambulance. The accident happened just before 9 pm.

The Legislature's budget-setting committee has approved about a 6 percent increase to \$2.2 billion for public schools in grades kindergarten through 12th grade. Yesterday, The Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee voted unanimously for the budget for fiscal year 2020 that must next clear the House and Senate, and be approved by the governor.

Idaho officials have sent a Medicaid expansion plan to the federal government for approval. It could take several months before the state hears back from the federal agency. The state agency is also accepting public comments on the changes to Medicaid until March 22.

The Lincoln County Sheriff has been placed on administrative leave for thirty days. Sheriff Rene Rodriguez will receive his pay but Chief Deputy Steve Phillips is serving as the acting sheriff.

Authorities in Gooding say they called on assistance from the Twin Falls SWAT team last week to assist with what they are calling a domestic disturbance that ended up lasting nearly four hours. Police were called to the 600 block of Elm Circle in Gooding where a man barricaded himself in the residence and would not respond to commands from law enforcement. The suspect was taken for medical treatment and criminal charges are pending.

Meanwhile authorities are looking for an attempted armed robbery suspect that took place earlier Wednesday afternoon outside of Gooding Pharmacy. The pharmacy had closed for the day and employees were confronted outside. The suspect then ran from the scene. The person was tracked for several blocks. Police ask you call SIRCOMM if you can assist with that investigation.

With objections from several education groups the senate education committee OK'd a bill to give charter schools more latitude in hiring administrators. Under the bill, a charter administrator would have to hold a bachelor's degree, meet one of several work experience requirements and pass a criminal background check.

Lawmakers on a budget-setting committee have voted unanimously to approve money for a new veteran's home in northern Idaho. The Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee voted 20-0 last week to approve a \$78.5 million budget for the Idaho Division of Veterans Services that includes \$42 million for a veteran's home in Post Falls.

An Idaho woman has received a 16-year prison sentence for what one prosecutor calls the "worst abuse" she has seen in her 11 years on the job. Judge Christopher Nye handed Esperanza Espinoza, of Canyon County, the sentence with six years to be served before she is eligible for parole. He also issued a no-contact order for 16 years.

51 year old Sarah Kester who refused to report her husband's yearslong sexual abuse of young relatives and instead prayed for "the demon" to leave him was ordered Thursday to spend a year in a prison treatment program. If she fails to complete the program she could spend up to 10 years in prison.

A Burley man is facing child sex charges after authorities say he abused a 7 year old girl and a 10 year old boy. 37 year old Jose Luis Ochoa Jr. has been charged with felony counts of lewd conduct with a child and having sexual contact with a minor under the age of 16.

The synthetic skating rink in Downtown Twin Falls has been put into storage. The rink was purchased for about 30-thousand dollars and was set up in the downtown commons across from city hall. 680 people rented skates throughout since the end of November.

20 year old Kaden Black was sentenced this week to a suspended five to seven years in prison. The Burley man used the Alford plea. He was charged with stealing 15-thousand dollars' worth of toys from the Mini-Cassia Christmas Council. Some toys were found but many had been damaged.

A disease that afflicts elk and leaves their hooves broken and deformed has been found in Idaho for the first time. Idaho Fish and Game has confirmed a case of treponema associated hoof disease in an animal killed by a hunter near White Bird last year.

Legislation to keep operating an Idaho board that pays a federal agency to kill wolves that attack livestock and elk moved to the full House. The legislation has already passed the Senate. The board has in the past received \$400,000 annually from the state. Gov. Brad Little has asked the Legislature to approve \$200,000 in general fund tax dollars for the board in fiscal year 2020. Officials say they will need more than that to keep operating.

The state's public defense system still doesn't guarantee defendants the right to a fair trial and should be found unconstitutional according to the American Civil Liberties Union of Idaho. Attorney Liz Lockwood made the argument in 4th district court this week, asking the Judge to rule in favor of the class-action lawsuit that includes criminal defendants who can't afford their own attorneys across the state.

Legislation has been introduced to honor a conservationist who led efforts to prevent the extinction of Idaho's state raptor, the peregrine falcon. The House Ways and Means Committee on Thursday unanimously sent to the full House the resolution honoring Tom Cade, who died Feb. 6 at age 91.

The Twin Falls city council is agreeing with the cities Improvement reimbursement commission over the pressurized irrigation system. Jade Development opposed the decision to reimburse developer Gerald Martins 35-thousand dollars for the system installed in the Broadmoor subdivision. The attorney argued the development company paid premium for lots with the understanding Martins would pay for the improvements.

The price for seeing the Shoshone Falls and recreating at Dierkes Lake park could be going up. The Recreation commission wants the council to consider raising the fee to \$5 from the current \$3. A Season pass is \$25. If approved, visitors could also pay with a credit card.

The murder trial for a Mountain Home man charged in connection with the stabbing death of his landlady began this week. 41 year old Scott Riggs, has pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder in connection with the death of 71-year-old Paula Febrache.

Gov. Brad Little has signed into law legislation to end years of litigation and help finalize a settlement agreement involving water rights in southwestern Idaho. The next step in the process is for the Snake River Basin Adjudication Court to consider water rights to the refill.

Nearly 700 parents have signed a petition after Blaine County School District board members approved a three-year calendar in December, raising concerns among parents. Hailey resident Arielle Smith started an online petition on Change.Org, asking the district to revisit and open up a discussion on the school's calendar.

44-year-old Tony A. Herschler of Twin Falls was sentenced earlier this week for insurance fraud. An investigation revealed Herschler purchased a renter's insurance policy with Liberty Mutual on Oct. 1, 2016. Eight days later, he filed a claim with the company and stated his room at the Super 7 Motel in Twin Falls had been burglarized and \$33,360 in personal property was stolen. Liberty Mutual later discovered many of the video games reported stolen hadn't yet been released to the public.

A bill to reform Idaho's liquor license laws has stalled in the Senate. The state currently issues all liquor licenses based on the number of residents in a given area. But the demand for the licenses is creating a market where the licenses are bought and sold for hundreds of thousands of dollars. The proposal would end state-issued licenses and have cities or counties issue the licenses, if they choose.

Fishing for trout could make you money. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game has placed a bounty on rainbow trout in the South Fork of the Snake River in hopes of reducing the population of the invasive species. Prize money ranging from \$50 to \$1,000 is awarded to any angler who turns in a rainbow trout head containing a coded wire tag.

A measure with strong Republican support that could change the state's independent commission in charge of redrawing congressional and legislative maps to favor Republicans has stalled amid a protest by Democrats. The House on Tuesday sent back to the House State Affairs Committee the legislation that Democrats say is a rushed attempt at gerrymandering.

Idaho State Police troopers could start patrolling on motorcycles. The agencies requested budget seeks 10 motorcycle troopers, but Gov. Brad Little is recommending two in Pocatello, two in Coeur d'Alene and one office specialist at a cost of \$1 million for fiscal year 2020.

A Senate panel voted to hold a hearing on legislation to drop Medicaid expansion in Idaho if the federal government changes the percentage it pays for the program. The bill also authorizes an optional workforce training program. The Senate Health and Welfare Committee voted 5-4 to hold the hearing. The legislation would end Medicaid expansion if the federal funding ratio of 90 percent drops and the Idaho Legislature doesn't take action.

31-Year-old Jessica Jones with ties to Pocatello has won a Grammy Award for her role in an opera about the late founder, chairman and CEO of Apple Inc., Steve Jobs. Jones won the Grammy for Best Opera Recording. Her parents still live in Pocatello.

Tuesday 021219

A fire that roared through downtown Sandpoint has destroyed numerous businesses. The city of Sandpoint reports that the fire began at about 1 a.m. Monday along North First Avenue, the main street through downtown.

Medicaid expansion in Idaho will be tracked as a stand-alone item so that lawmakers can see how much it's costing and where the money is going. Medicaid Division Administrator Matt Wimmer also told lawmakers that there will be decreases in the cost of some other state programs. The federal government will pay 90-percent of the expansion.

An elementary school teacher in Pocatello has been placed on leave after allegedly using physical force against a student. The teacher is from Grace Elementary School. The sheriff's office is investigating.

19 year old Jayson Boreal, a Boise State University freshman guard has been arrested and charged with two misdemeanors after fighting with a bar employee who asked him to leave because he's underage. Boreal was in a 21-and-over bar, according to a Boise police arrest report.

Idaho State Police say a snowboarder who tried to jump a road outside a ski area boundary has died. 32-year-old Shea Hemlick was snowboarding outside the boundary of Bogus Basin Ski Resort Saturday when he attempted to jump over Bogus Basin Road. An SUV going north on the road hit Hemlick.

A head-on truck crash in Meridian killed four people and left another hospitalized with life-threatening injuries. The Ada County Sheriff's Office said it happened just after 7:30 p.m. Friday when a Ford F-250 collided with a Nissan Titan that was pulling a trailer.

The former Pocatello resident whose son spent two years in a Venezuela prison has died. A message posted on Laurie Holt's Facebook page stated that she has passed away. Laurie's son Josh Holt was held for two years in a Venezuela prison for allegedly trying to topple that country's government — allegations he's vehemently denied.

Krystal Jean Lee Kenney a 32 year old Hansen woman said Friday that she helped thwart an investigation into the disappearance of Kelsey Berreth of Colorado who authorities believe was killed by her Fiancé Patrick Frazee. Kenney pleaded guilty to tampering with evidence saying she moved Berreth's cellphone to impair the phone's availability in the investigation. The victim's body hasn't been found but evidence suggests she was killed at her home.

62 year old Katherine Blauer of Burley died in a two-car crash late last week. A 16 year old boy crossed over the center line near 515 east and Idaho Highway 81 striking Blauer head on. The teen was sent to the Portneuf Medical center by air ambulance.

Three Democrats on a House panel considering a change to the Idaho Constitution involving redistricting walked out in protest before the 10 Republicans voted unanimously to send the legislation to the full House. Democrats on the committee said the public hadn't been given adequate notice of the hearing and left the room before the vote. If the legislation passes, the plan would then go to the voters for approval.

Idaho's tax revenues continued to lag behind forecasts last month, coming in nearly 22 percent lower than expected. Tax officials say the discrepancy is likely because people aren't withholding enough from their paychecks after the state's tax law changed last year.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is looking into suspicious letters mailed to several of U.S. Sen. Jim Risch's offices in Idaho. The FBI, along with law enforcement partners, responded to suspicious letters sent to addresses in Boise, Twin Falls and Pocatello, last week. It doesn't appear there is no threat to the public safety.

With Valentine's Day Thursday officials are warning that scammers and con artists continue to swindle residents. The Better Business Bureau is warning people to watch out when dealing with online dating sites where the person convinces victims they need money.

The Blaine County Sheriff's Office says 26 year old Jacobo Ramirez-Aguilar of Buhl has been arrested on a warrant for felony child enticement via the internet. Officials say parents of a 14 year old girl discovered messages between him and their daughter that date to last December asking her to engage in sexual acts.

Rodger Powell of Sandy Utah will not be getting a new trial. A Cassia County Judge denied the motion. Powell was convicted of beating a 16 year old boy who was hunting 10 miles east of Malta in September of 2016.

Shopko at the Magic Valley Mall in Twin Falls is closing its doors. Last business day is set for May 12<sup>th</sup>. The company filed for bankruptcy earlier. Upwards to 250 stores could be shuttered around the country.

Hospital officials in Idaho are warning parents about unsafe, knock-off car seats. Officials at St. Luke's Children's Hospital recently found two counterfeits. The two were found in Nampa and Meridian.

The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation has made a budget request that includes a mammoth item. The agency yesterday told the Legislature's budget-setting Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee that it wants to build a visitor center at Thousand Springs State Park that could include a life-sized woolly mammoth. The agency is seeking approval to use \$825,000 for the center.

The nonpartisan state agency responsible for promoting accountability and confidence in state government is seeking a 4.2 percent increase in its budget to \$940,000. The request was made yesterday to the Legislature's budget-setting Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee.

Legislation to determine why so many Idaho women die while pregnant or due to complications from childbirth in Idaho will get a hearing. Idaho's maternal death rate is about 27 per 100,000 births, slightly higher than the national average.

Thursday 020719

The Camas County School District is cancelling classes for the rest of the week because of a severe flu outbreak. The Fairfield school has about 150 students.

Cassia County School District is hoping to see better immunization numbers. The nurse with the district said when she started this fall the numbers indicated less than 50-percent of the students were vaccinated. The district is encouraging parents to make sure their children are up to date.

Legislation to commend the Idaho Music Educators Association and recognize March each year as Music in Our Schools Month in Idaho is on its way to the full House. The House Education Committee unanimously approved the resolution and recommended it pass the House.

The Nez Perce Tribe has been awarded a \$100,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency for a water quality improvement project. The project will include the creation of new riparian habitat, imitation beaver dams and other work in the headwaters of the lower Lapwai Creek watershed.

The Idaho Supreme Court ruled Tuesday that a voter-approved initiative expanding Medicaid in Idaho is legal. A majority of the five-member panel rejected arguments by the Idaho Freedom Foundation that the measure was unconstitutional because it delegated authority to the federal government and the state Department of Health and Welfare.

One person has died following a two-vehicle crash on Yellowstone Highway in Idaho Falls. 45 year old Robert LaDeaux of Shelly collided with another car in a near head on collision just before noon Tuesday. LaDeaux crossed over the center line. He died at the scene of the crash.

The Twin Falls city council has given a unanimous yes to a request to allow for heavy manufacturing on some farmland on Washington Street South. Gem State Dairy Products LLC plans to build a food processing plant on the property. Details though have not been released.

The Idaho State Lottery paid out \$176 million in prize money and returned \$53.5 million to the state in fiscal year 2018. They are asking for a 6-million dollar budget saying that over the next decade, the state lottery will return more than \$500 million to the state.

Legislation to end years of litigation and help finalize an agreement involving water rights in heavily populated southwestern Idaho is headed to the governor's desk. The Senate voted 35-0 on Tuesday to send to Gov. Brad Little the bill that involves water rights in the Boise River system. The lawsuits involved canal companies, irrigation districts and the state of Idaho, and concerned the storage of water in three Boise River system reservoirs during flood control operations.

32 year old Krystal Jean Lee Kenney a Twin Falls Nurse will face one charge of tampering with physical evidence possibly a cell phone that was pinged in Gooding in connection to the disappearance of Colorado Mother Kelsey Berreth. Kenney is scheduled to appear in court Friday. The body of Berreth has not been located but her Fiancé 32 year old Patrick Frazee has been charged murder

The Idaho agency that sells whiskey, vodka and other distilled spirits wants to relocate or remodel nine of its liquor stores. The Legislature's budget-setting Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee has been told the agency needs more warehouse employees and pallet jacks because it's selling more liquor. The agency is seeking approval for a 6.8 percent increase in its budget to \$22.8 million for fiscal year 2020.

With the possibility of another government shutdown on February 15, tax experts suggest filing your returns no later than this week. With all the changes in 2018 because of the new tax laws, coupled with a second possible shutdown, experts say this might be the year to get a professional to help you file your taxes.

Big Sky Scientific has filed a lawsuit against the Idaho State Police, Ada County and an attorney after 67-hundred pounds of what the company said was Hemp but the Idaho state police claim was Marijuana was seized last week. The truck driver carrying the load was taken into custody according to the ISP.

Southern Idaho Regional Communications Center, is now receiving fast and accurate device location data for 9-1-1 calls from iPhones with a software upgrade. Officials say knowing the exact location is the first step for live saving emergency responders.

A woman in Mackay is doing fine after breaking up a fight between her dog and a mountain lion outside her home. At first she thought it was a fight between two dogs. But when she pulled the two apart she discovered it was a Juvenile male Mountain Lion weighing 35 pounds. Her husband shot the lion while she held on to it.

An Idaho board that pays a federal agency to kill wolves that attack livestock and elk is a step closer to becoming permanent following a Senate panel's split vote on Monday. The Senate Resources and Environment Committee voted to send legislation to the full Senate repealing a section of Idaho law that would end the five-year-run of the Idaho Wolf Depredation Control Board.

About 300 demonstrators gathered on the Statehouse steps encouraging Idaho lawmaker to approve paying for voter-approved Medicaid expansion without adding work or other requirements. The crowd shouted "Do your job". 61 percent of voters passed Medicaid expansion in November.

Legislation requiring daycare facilities and schools notify parents that they can opt out of immunizations for their children has been delayed due to concerns over how much the potential new law might cost. Lawmakers are asking for clarification. Idaho parents can opt out of immunizing their children under Idaho law.

A former worker at the Blaine County Detention Center has been arrested on four felony counts of sexual contact with a prison. 48 year old Jodi Petty, was arrested after it was discovered she had inappropriate relations with an inmate in December of 2018.

The woman who was shot by the Idaho State Police multiple times is planning to sue and to testify against them. 22 year old Shaylee Williamson of Pocatello was a passenger in a vehicle involved in a pursuit. She is currently incarcerated on a drug conviction for possessing heroin.

35 year old Marlin McQueen of Preston has been charged with First degree murder for his alleged role in the death of 31 year old Wilden Lovin Jr. Bond was set at a million dollars this week. Lovin was stabbed multiple times. His body was found Saturday.

The Idaho Supreme Court justices are hearing the arguments surrounding Proposition 2 that expands Medicaid coverage. Voters passed the expansion. The Idaho Freedom foundation claims it's unconstitutional. The Attorney Generals office said the case should be dismissed. Justices have appeared skeptical of arguments from both sides.

Idaho's health and welfare services for the Developmentally Disabled as asked lawmakers for enough money to replace a van that officials say smells of urine that can't be removed. The Governor has recommended slightly more funding but no money for a new van.

Legislation to end years of litigation involving water rights in heavily populated southwestern Idaho cleared another hurdle on Wednesday. Lawmakers on the Senate Resources and Environment Committee voted 9-0 to send the bill presented by House Speaker Scott Bedke, of Oakley, to the full Senate for a vote.

A division of a state agency responsible for protecting children from abusive situations, handling foster care and adoptions is seeking a 7 percent budget increase to \$82.3 million. Gov. Brad Little's recommended budget is about \$220,000 more than requested by the agency for fiscal year 2020.

The city of Twin Falls has decided to begin construction in April on the Canyon Springs Grade upgrade. Crews plan to install a mesh along the wall to catch falling rock. They also plan to smooth out the roadway. During construction, no one will be allowed to walk along the roadway.

Fire destroyed a Gooding home yesterday morning and a Gooding Firefighter was injured after a ceiling fell on him. The fire at 1832 Elmwood Road was reported just after 6 am. When crews arrived the residents were still inside sleeping and flames were through the roof. Fire firefighter was treated and released but will be out of work due to a back injury.

The Twin Falls planning and zoning commission voted 6 to 2 to not allow a four story planned development near the canyon rim. That decision will now be passed on to the city council for a final decision. The location is zoned commercial.

Four former correctional officers with the Idaho department of correction now await sentencing for their roles in planning to bring illegal drugs into a state prison. The officers were charged after an investigation was initiated by the FBI at IDOC's request to address concerns of corruption among correctional officers.

The crew that maintains the Idaho Statehouse has told the Joint Finance Appropriations Commission they will need to spend 2-point 3 million in 2020 for upkeep. The 200-thousand square foot building houses the Governor's office and is where the house and senate meet.

Lawmakers have introduced legislation that would allow a well driller who hits geothermal water to use that water for uses other than its heat value in some cases. The legislation would allow the director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources to allow an exemption in some instances.

A judge has ordered the Idaho Department of Corrections to release some of the information that was redacted from documents detailing the state's execution preparations and procedures including the name of one lethal injection drug provider. But department officials contend that releasing the information could make future lethal injection drug suppliers refuse to sell the chemicals to Idaho. IDOC attorneys also say releasing the names of execution team members and volunteers could put those people at risk.

The largest Marijuana bust in the history of the gem state occurred last Thursday. According to the Idaho State Police, troopers stopped a semi-truck between Boise and Mountain home. The driver's bill of lading said the truck was carrying 31 bags of hemp. Turns out it was over 67-hundred pounds of marijuana plants. The Portland Oregon Truck driver was arrested on felony trafficking.

In March, 8 southern Idaho school districts will ask voters to approve \$103 million dollars in Supplemental levy's and bonds. The money would help programs and expand building space in Filer, Cassia, Minidoka, Twin Falls, Jerome, Murtaugh, Hansen and Gooding districts.

There could be a new 3 digit number for help in Idaho. The Health and Welfare legislative committee wants to designate 611 as the Suicide Prevention and Health Crises hotline phone number. If the Idaho Legislature approves, the FCC will need to sign off on the proposal.

Idaho's snowpack is only 70 to 80-percent of normal range. Officials though say don't panic. Twin Falls Canal Company General Manager Brian Olmstead said to expect about an average water year.

Police in Twin Falls continue to investigate a shooting where a gun was fired into a home. The incident happened early Monday morning. One man has been charged with discharging a firearm into an occupied dwelling.

Idaho Lawmakers pushed legislation forward to keep operating a board that pays a federal agency to kill wolves that attack livestock and big game. The board has in the past received \$400,000 annually from the state. Fish and Game last year estimated Idaho had 90 packs.

Gas prices in Idaho has been falling, dropping 18 cents since January 1<sup>st</sup>. Today the U.S. average is \$2-26 a gallon. The Gem State average is 2-39 a gallon.

The missing man from Island Park has been found. Authorities say 44 year old Adam Jacobson apparently froze to death. His body was found around noon Saturday about a quarter mile from his home. He was reported missing on Friday.

A Mountain Home, Idaho, priest accused of raping an intoxicated man who was renting a room from him will not face a new trial for now, and the Diocese of Boise says he will not be given any new assignment. The Rev. Victor Franz Jagerstatter's trial in 2017 was declared a mistrial after the jury could not reach a unanimous decision.

Associate professor Denise Bennett, A University of Idaho professor has been placed on administrative leave after speaking out about the handling of University of Idaho grant funding. The tenured mass media professor has worked at the university since 2006. Bennett had hoped to use \$451 in unspent grant money for a documentary on LGBTQ people throughout the state of Idaho.

The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare is requesting a 5.5 percent increase in its budget, while Idaho Gov. Brad Little is recommending a larger increase of 11.2 percent due mainly to Medicaid expansion. The federal government would cover 90 percent of the estimated \$400 million cost of Medicaid expansion.

Authorities in Franklin County are investigating a murder. Officials confirmed a man was murdered near Preston. No arrests have been made.

Multiple friends of Tommy Hawkins say the Idaho State University graduate died in an avalanche on an East Idaho mountain early Friday evening. Family members say Tommy was snowmobiling with more than a dozen friends and family members including two brothers on Friday.

An attorney for a University of Idaho professor seeking access to public records on drugs used during the state's most recent executions says the Department of Correction acted in bad faith and frivolously denied her client access to the documents. An ACLU-Idaho attorney made the arguments in Court yesterday morning. Officials with the state say they have already given all the records that could be legally released under department rules.

A Jerome man who is the former husband of a Pocatello teacher accused of raping a first-grade boy, is facing up to life in prison after he was charged with multiple sex crimes. 50 year old David James McGarry is facing one count of lewd conduct against a child and one count of rape of a child under the age of 16. It's alleged that 46 year old Tiffany Petersen and McGarry sexually abused a first-grade boy in Pocatello where Petersen was a teacher.

Despite drops in prices, cash receipts for Idaho farmers stayed about the same in 2018 due to increases in production. Cash receipts in 2018 were \$7.18 billion compared to \$7.2 billion in 2017. Net farm income dropped from \$1.23 billion in 2017 to \$900 million. Dairy and beef cattle represent the biggest chunk of Idaho's agricultural economy.

There is a huge chance that Jason Miller's days of playing Football for ISU is over. Miller was allegedly mistreated by two of his coaches. He filed a formal complaint alleging physical assault, inappropriate text messages and insufficient communication regarding playing time and eligibility, was recently denied a medical hardship that would have granted him an extra year of eligibility by the Big Sky Conference.

Plans are on track for the Idaho Center for Agriculture, food and the environments' facilities in Rupert, Jerome and Twin Falls. College of Agriculture Dean Michael Parrella told the House and Senate Agriculture Committees the University of Idaho the center will focus on research, outreach and education that will advance food processing in Idaho.

A Hotel management company is hoping to change the zoning of a lot along the Snake River canyon rim in order to build a 60 foot four story building. The new building will be right behind the Twin Falls Visitors center. Officials with Southern Idaho Tourism hope a new hotel in that location would bring more visitors to the area.

Pocatello police have arrested an alleged intruder after a resident held him at gunpoint until they arrived. Police say 30 year old Scotty John Anderson was intoxicated and holding a 3-foot stick. The resident yelled to his family to call police. Anderson acknowledged he is mentally ill and was under the influence of alcohol and meth.

The ban on handheld cellphone use while driving in Blaine County has been challenged in the State Legislature. Legislation introduced this week would prevent cities from enacting their own rules. Meanwhile Hailey has stopped issuing citations until further notice.

The Twin Falls Christian Academy say the school will remain closed until Monday due to the large number of Students and Employees who are sick. According to a Facebook post, games are still scheduled.

Mark Hubbs of Shoshone cashed in his million dollar lottery ticket. He purchased the winning ticket at the Maverik Convenience Store on Blue Lakes in Twin Falls Christmas Eve. The store picked up a bonus of \$20,000 for selling the winning ticket.

Idaho officials will meet next week to consider paying the 260-thousand dollar attorney bill after losing a lawsuit over an unconstitutional law that banned video recording at agricultural operations. The ag gag law passed in 2012 but later was overturned.

46 year old Tiffany Marie Petersen of Pocatello, a teacher from Pocatello, said she isn't guilty of abusing a first grade boy ten years ago. A Grand Jury indicted her. Parents of the child filed a lawsuit naming her and the district as defendants.

A deep well used to monitor radioactive and other contamination in a giant Idaho aquifer is back in service after a three-year absence. Fluor Idaho said scientists determined contamination discovered in the 1,110-foot well was caused by an industrial solvent in the well's tubing fluid and was not in the ground water.

The state's superintendent of Public instruction said she needs an 8-percent budget increase to about 2-billion dollars to educate the more than 300-thousand students for fiscal year 2020. Sherri Ybarra asked the joint-finance appropriations committee for 2 percent more than what the Governor recommended.

School officials in Twin Falls say a Sawtooth Elementary School fifth grader brought prescription medication from home and offered pills to classmates. Security became aware of the situation and intervened. The student will face consequences officials say.

The Cassia School District is hoping voters will pass a 56-point 7 million dollar bond March 12<sup>th</sup>. The district said continued growth, deferred maintenance and unfinished projects are some of the top reasons the money is needed. In 2015 voters approved a 36-point 95 million dollar bond. Then the district discovered they were short 15-million because of cost estimates. Voters said no to another bond of 14-point 9 million.

A Texas man charged with numerous counts of grand theft and burglary pleaded guilty to two of the counts in a plea deal with the Cassia County Prosecutor's Office. 19 year old Daydreyn J. Pelton was charged with five counts of grand theft and two counts of burglary in August after Cassia County Sheriff's deputies found him with stolen guns and other items at a Burley residence.

South Central Public Health says the flu bug is widespread throughout not only the local area but the United States. The health district is suggesting you get a Vaccination, wash your hands often, avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth, cover your coughs and sneezes and stay home when you are sick.

Two people have been arrested following a Police pursuit Monday that ended in a standoff near the Jerome/ Lincoln county line. 39 year old Justin Watkins and 38 year old Patrice Simon both from Washington State were arrested and face multiple charges.

The biggest threat to the nation's primary lab for nuclear research near Idaho Falls is a prohibition from bringing in small quantities of spent nuclear fuel for research. Mark Peters told members of the House Environment, Energy and Technology Committee that the situation could cause some to question the Idaho National Laboratory's status as the nation's lead nuclear energy laboratory.

While dual credit courses are a hit for many high school students, it's costing the state's colleges and universities. Locally, CSI gave close to 23-thousand hours in 2016-17 with a revenue loss of more than \$300-thousand dollars.

A 51 year old Shelley Man was killed following a head on crash with a cattle truck near Carey yesterday morning. Idaho State Police say James Brannen died at the scene. Highway 26 was closed for several hours while crews recovered the cattle truck.

Fire damaged a Buhl home Monday night. Authorities say two men and a woman were in the home at 4749 River Road when the fire broke out. It's thought the fire started in the attic.

A Pocatello School District teacher faces up to life in prison after being charged with multiple sex crimes against a first-grade boy. 46 year old Tiffany Petersen has been charged with one count of lewd conduct against a child and one count of rape of a child under the age of 16. The incident allegedly occurred in 2008.

No charges will be filed against a Bannock County Sheriff's deputy who shot at a 16 year old boy in Chubbuck in November of 2018. Officials have ruled the use of force was justifiable. The boy was not injured in the shooting.

Legislation to end years of litigation and finalize an agreement involving water rights in Idaho cleared the House on Tuesday. House members voted 67-0 to send to the Senate the bill that involves rights to water that refills three reservoirs in the Boise River system following releases to control flooding.

Legislation has been introduced to change the timing of when farmers pay crop burning fees to the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. It requires farmers to pay for the number of acres burned with an annual invoice rather than paying beforehand on an estimated number of acres. The fee of \$2 per acre remains unchanged.

Legislation to increase penalties for a person who attacks an Idaho Parks and Recreation employee authorized to enforce state laws has been introduced. The change would make the punishment for assaulting an Idaho parks compliance enforcement officer the same as assaulting police officers, public defenders, correctional officers, firefighter and others.

No school for Twin Falls Christian Academy today. Officials yesterday said they were closing the school due to the number of sick students and teachers.

A police chase that involved several agencies ended in the desert near Shoshone yesterday around noon. ISP began the chase of the U-HAUL cargo van on South Lincoln in Jerome and continued on along highway 93 near the Jerome/Lincoln County line. The passenger in the vehicle was a female that had been reported missing. Police were able to arrest the driver after the van became stuck in the mud.

A child restrained in a child seat died early yesterday. ISP say a car with the child pulled into the path of another vehicle three miles east of Ponderay and was struck on the side. The child died at the scene.

The Idaho office that provides support staff to the State Board of Education in overseeing the state's \$2.3 billion education system from kindergarten through the doctoral level is requesting lawmakers approve a budget of about \$16.5 million. State Board of Education Executive Director Matt Freeman made the request yesterday to the Legislature's budget-setting Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee.

Idaho's House has approved a bill intended to promote government transparency by exempting public records requests from a sales tax on top of copying and other fees. The House passed the bill with a 67-0 vote yesterday.

A skier and snowboarder were caught in an avalanche, but managed to escape. The Sawtooth Avalanche Center said the incident happened Sunday. The pair was carried 100-150 yards in the Warm Springs Creek drainage near Sun Valley.

The blue turf that brought fame to Boise State University's athletic stadium will be refreshed this year. Boise State has received permission from Idaho's Permanent Building Fund Advisory Council to spend up to \$600,000 to replace the iconic blue turf at Albertsons Stadium.

Federal workers charged with protecting airline passengers as they fly out of Boise say the partial government shutdown is creating anxiety. Uncertainty is causing TSA officers frustration and stress. About 800,000 have been idled by the partial government shutdown.

Officials are investigating the death of an inmate in custody of the Mini-Cassia Criminal Justice Center. 38 year old Thomas Rettew of Rupert died at the Cassia Regional Medical Center Thursday night.

There may be some rule changes for health care and skilled trade workers if Legislation introduced is passed. The State's Board of Medicine hopes to reduce barriers. Lawmakers are also looking at making it easier to obtain a license for a particular field.

The Idaho Department of Lands says the state has purchased roughly 50 square miles of timberland in northern Idaho. The state paid more than \$42 million for the land, using endowment money. Logging is the biggest source of revenue from state endowment lands.

Avalanche forecasters are among those required to report for work with no guarantee of pay during a partial government shutdown. They are required to work because their work is considered lifesaving. Officials say forecasters are glad to be working despite the uncertainty.

Legislation has been introduced to protect lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people from employment and housing discrimination in Idaho. The legislation would add the words "gender identity" and "sexual orientation" to the Idaho Human Rights Act.

The Idaho Department of Education says the state's high school graduation rate has reached an all-time high of just over 80 percent. Superintendent of Public Education Sherri Ybarra says the state's graduation rate has been steadily improving and the pace of that improvement is accelerating.

A \$200,000 budget request by Gov. Brad Little for an Idaho board that manages money to pay a federal and state agency to kill wolves that attack livestock and big game is sufficient for fiscal year 2020. That's the word from an official with the Wolf Depredation control board adding that it's probably not going to be enough beyond that time frame.

Idaho's top environmental official says his agency needs money for continued cleanup efforts of toxic discharge from the abandoned silver and lead mine near Sun Valley. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Director is requesting \$1.5 million for work at the Triumph Mine near the Bald Mountain ski area.

Legislation that addresses human trafficking will receive hearings in the Senate Judiciary and Rules Committee. Two pieces of legislation aimed at better understanding and curbing human trafficking and protecting its victims will be discussed.

Despite the federal government shutdown the Department of Health and Welfare will be issuing next month's food stamp benefits on Sunday. Officials say those eligible for SNAP benefits will get those but households that receive benefits for February on Sunday will not receive additional assistance next month.

The lack of funding for the state of Idaho's recovery centers in the governors recommended budget for 2020 has some worried. But for Twin Falls, whatever the decision is, shouldn't affect the local facility. The center receives its assistance through BPA health rather than the Millennium fund which could fund the Medicaid expansion. There are nine centers statewide.

Law enforcement in Idaho could have a system that would find suspects who pose a danger to officers. It's called Blue Alert and it will have a hearing in the Senate Judiciary and Rules Committee. The system would be similar to an Amber alert and send out information for the public to help locate suspects.

A Rupert woman is a hundred thousand dollars richer after winning the Whole Shebang from the Idaho Lottery. Jennifer Rodriguez said she purchased a single 10-dollar scratch off ticket for the game.

The Idaho transportation department say there is a half a million dollars in a fund that is designed to help pay for curb cuts to help those with disabilities. The program can allocate up to 60-thousand dollars in funding to construct new or improve existing curb ramps.

4th District Judge Nancy Baskin says Timmy Kinner Jr., the suspect in a mass stabbing attack that injured 12 and killed a 3-year-old girl is unfit to stand trial. Kinner's trial has been tentatively scheduled for early next year and prosecutors say they will seek the death penalty if Kinner is convicted.

The man accused of stabbing nine people in Boise last June and killing a 3 year old girl has said he wants to change his name to Eternal Love. 31 year old Timmy Earl Kinner Junior told the judge that the change is his God Given right and is the title he wants to be remembered by.

Public defenders across Idaho could soon find themselves working fewer hours if guidelines adopted by the Legislature this week are implemented. Several southern Idaho public defender offices could be affected by the changes. A study that found Idaho public defenders spends an average of four hours on each felony case a far cry from the 38 hours they reported needing.

An official with the Idaho courts system says the state is facing a shortage of court reporters and needs \$340,500 to boost salaries for its 45 court reporter positions. Officials say not having an official court record that court reporters supply could lead to convictions being overturned.

Lawmakers have advanced a proposed rule giving a sharper focus on who can take photos and record moving images in Idaho state parks without a permit. It says photographers or businesses recording images to make money from their work will need a permit, while casual photographers, those gathering news and non-profit groups will be exempt.

Two employees who falsified records and failed to check on a resident who died at a Nampa health care facility were not fired, a complaint survey says. The employees at the Southwest Idaho Treatment Center instead received more training officials say. The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare concluded the employees on staff did not violate federal regulations.

Nevada rancher Cliven Bundy's bodyguard in confrontations with U.S land management agents became the last of 19 defendants from 11 states to be sentenced on Tuesday in an armed standoff nearly five years ago. 47 year old Brian Cavalier of Mesa, Arizona, was told he won't serve any more time than the 20 months he spent in federal custody between his arrest in early 2016 and his guilty plea in October 2017 to two charges of conspiracy to impede and injure a federal officer.

An early morning fire yesterday ripped through two garage structures and destroyed four vehicles. The Twin Falls fire department responded to the scene with three engines in the 100 block of Soup Avenue West just after midnight. The cause is still under investigation.

The first of two public listening sessions whether the city of Twin Falls should ban smoking in all businesses and public places is set for tonight. It will start at 4 pm at the Twin Falls City Hall, 203 Main Avenue East. The second will be Thursday February 7<sup>th</sup> at the Twin Falls Public library.

Today road engineers will present their findings to the state transportation department whether 129-thousand pound trucks should be allowed to travel on public roadways. Four roads, including Pole Line Road in Twin Falls is on the list of highways that are being considered.

The director of Idaho's Division of Veterans Services says beds for veterans are going empty despite waiting lists because the agency can't hire enough medical staffers. The division is requesting about \$900,000 in additional funding next year to address the wage issues at veterans homes.

Idaho lawmakers have advanced legislation Gov. Brad Little's administration says will help prevent abuse or neglect of vulnerable adults by providing protective services. The commission's goal is to help older adults and people with disabilities avoid institutionalization and remain in their homes.

A northern Idaho man convicted of killing his girlfriend's 7-month-old daughter has been sentenced to five to 10 years in prison. 24-year-old Cody Hull will have to serve at least five years before he can be eligible for parole on the voluntary manslaughter conviction. Prosecutors said the brain hemorrhage injury was indicative of severe child abuse.

Lawmakers have advanced legislation to help state officials cap what are thought to be hundreds of artesian wells across southern Idaho in a plan that could help irrigators and a federally protected snail. The Senate Resources and Environment Committee unanimously approved moving ahead with legislation that will alter a 1987 law with an expired cost-sharing provision.

The top official of a state program to boost student participation in science and technology learning to keep Idaho competitive in those fields says there are thousands of openings for jobs requiring those skills. The agency is seeking about \$6.7 million. The Governor is recommending 4-point 7 million.

Government shutdown or not, the IRS say they will start accepting tax returns on Monday January 28<sup>th</sup>. A local accountant said there are quite a few changes to filing taxes this year. Changed 1040 forms, the child tax credit and additional tax forms have been added.

The North Canyon Medical Center in Gooding has announced they plan to open a primary care and orthopedics clinic in northeast Twin Falls this spring. Plans call for the move into an existing building on Eastland Drive.

The Twin Falls planning and Zoning Commission has given the green light to a food processing plant. The facility would be built near Washington Street near Glanbia Nutritionals. Some residents feel they don't know what they will process.

Idaho Governor Brad Little says the hard working taxpayers of Idaho should not be forced to pay for a prisoner's gender reassignment surgery when an insurance policy wouldn't cover it. U.S. district judge B. Lynn Winmill gave IDOC six months to provide Adree Edmo a 31 year old inmate who is a male the surgery to become a female.

Brandi Christensen of Pocatello, the motorist who allegedly struck and killed Justin Kynaston has said she will plead guilty to felony vehicular manslaughter. The deal calls for recommending she be sentenced to a rehabilitation program. She was charged with aggravated driving under the influence and illegal possession of a painkiller.

41 year old Cory James Hix of Idaho Falls was sentenced to prison this week. He killed his brother by hitting him with a pool cue. The judge sentenced Hix to two to 13 years in prison.

The city of Twin Falls will host two public listening and input sessions on a proposal by Smoke Free Idaho to require all businesses and public places within city limits to be smoke-free. The first session will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesday at City Hall. A second public input session will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Feb. 7 at the Twin Falls Public Library.

Bill number 1 introduced into the 2019 legislative session addresses a water battle that has been in discussion for many a year in southern Idaho. Republican house speaker Scott Bedke of Oakley introduced the legislation. At issue is how much water users should get during snow heavy years when water must be released for flood control.

Idaho officials have launched an Idaho Specific W-4 form that will help taxpayers calculate how much state income tax should be withheld from paychecks. Some 70-thousand employers with payroll withholding accounts will receive the form in the mail.

With the federal shutdown slipping into week three agencies in southern Idaho will continue to be impacted. At the airport, the shutdowns as affected security at the airport but workers continue to show up for work. At the craters of the moon park, no one is answering the phone and the park is closed. The state is temporarily funding the city of the rocks reserve in Cassia County. In southern Idaho there are 920 civilian or non-military government jobs across 73 locations. The average wage, including benefits, is \$82,646.

Chobani is breaking into plant based yogurt alternatives. The products will be both drinkable and spoonable using coconut puree. The yogurt is clearly labeled non dairy.

Idaho Gov. Brad Little is suggesting a 3 percent merit-based pay increase for state employees. In 2018, state workers' compensation was 10.7 percent below other public-sector jobs and 12.4 percent below private-sector jobs.

U.S. Sen. Jim Risch of Idaho has been elected chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. The committee has jurisdiction over legislation concerning the conduct of U.S. Foreign policy, including treaties and declarations of war.

Information is power, and Idaho lawmakers could have more of it this year with a new emphasis on sending non-partisan budget experts to House and Senate committees to explain the numbers in the financial requests of the state agencies they oversee. Members were encouraged to tap the Legislative Services Office's Budget and Policy Analysis Division to explain the often complex budget process.

The city of Pocatello is racking up 3-thousand dollars a day in interest payments after the Idaho Supreme Court said the way they charged for garbage service was wrong. Now the city owes more than \$20-million dollars in damages and interest at a rate of 12-percent. The city implemented fees in 2005 seeking to address a revenue shortfall because of the high percentage of tax exempt entities.

Idaho Gov. Brad Little said his top priority for the state budget is education, and he plans to create a new cabinet of educators and parents to advise him. In his first State of State address, Little also reminded lawmakers that 60 percent of voters approved Medicaid expansion. He plans to address Idaho's overcrowded prisons by expanding a work camp in St. Anthony and opening a community re-entry center in northern Idaho.

The Twin Falls City Council continues to discuss the fate of a grant program that has awarded about 1-point 5 million to non-profits over 15 years. The grants were designed to allow the city to support groups that provide services the city could or should otherwise be providing. This week the council voted 5 to 2 to continue the program for another year.

Authorities say a Boise man who shot and killed his ex-wife and her husband and then held two children hostage and later shooting himself was expected in court later this month for a child custody issue. The shooter identified as Edward Lynn Epps Jr. of Boise. Police say he shot Heidi De Leon and her husband Jose De Leon after forcing his way into the De Leons' home on Sunday afternoon.

An initial probing of Idaho Gov. Brad Little's budget by lawmakers found that adding a work or training requirement for Medicaid expansion could add administrative costs the state would have to cover. The federal government would cover 90 percent of the cost of Medicaid expansion to cover some 60,000 low-income adults across the state at an estimated cost of \$400 million.

Two Cassia County School District employees were named the top counselor and vice principal by state professional organizations. Burley High School Vice Principal Andrew Wray was named the 2019 Assistant Principal of the Year award by the Idaho Association of School Administrators. Rachel Jensen, counselor at Raft River Elementary School, was named 2019 Idaho School Counselor of the Year by the Idaho School Counselor Association.

Authorities in Blaine County say a Hailey man was taken to the hospital for medical treatment after the vehicle he was driving collided head on with an ITD snowplow on Highway 75 north of East Fork Road. The accident happened just after midnight yesterday. 25 year old Corban James Napualani McBride is facing possible criminal charges pending lab results. It's believed Alcohol is a factor.

Three adults are dead and three children are safe after a standoff at a home in Meridian on Sunday afternoon. Police say the suspect went to the home and shot and killed a 47-year-old man and a 40-year-old woman after a fight started. A 13-year-old girl was able to escape the home and ran to a neighbor's house and called for help. Police say two other children - an 11-year-old and a 10-year-old - were held hostage but were eventually released after police negotiations. After the children were released, the suspect killed himself.

A fire scorched through some recreational vehicles and a camp trailer Sunday afternoon along Harrison Street in Twin Falls just after 1 pm. The fire started on a side-by-side power sport vehicle and then spread to the trailer, causing damage to some snowmobiles as well.

Idaho farm income fell for a second straight year in 2018 largely due to overproduction by dairy farmers, according to a recent economic report. The U of I report shows total net farm income declined 27 percent to \$902 million.

An Aberdeen man has pleaded guilty to killing his wife. Sixty-three-year-old Eugene Ralph Ruff pleaded guilty to second-degree murder in 6th District Court in the shooting death of 62-year-old Bettilee Paulie Ruff. Authorities say that the couple had been drinking and got into an argument. He faces at least 10 years in prison before he's eligible for parole.

Gas Prices tumbled both nationwide and Idaho in 2018 according to triple A. The trend of seasonal savings continued into January thanks to the abundance of global crude oil and the lowest fuel demand in nearly two years.

A Juvenile pedestrian was injured when they attempted to cross Main street in Wendell was struck by a semi-truck pulling triple trailers yesterday afternoon. Idaho state police say the victim was transported by air ambulance to St. Alphonsus in Boise. The intersection was blocked for about two hours.

Monday 010719

The legislature's Joint Economic Outlook and Revenue Assessment received a mixed bag of news last week just days ahead of the opening session. The Good: Unemployment rates are low, wages are up, the population continues to increase tax for sales and property is up. The bad, personal income tax is down and some experts say look for an economic slowdown.

Governor-elect Brad Little said he is committed to boosting Teacher Salaries. Today, the state of the state address will outline the year's agenda for the legislative session.

In March, the Cassia county school district will seek a 56-point 7 million dollar bond issue. It will be the district's third bond issue since 2015. If approved 14 classrooms will be added to the High school and six to the Junior high. In Addition, a new classroom wing added to Declo Elementary and four classrooms for Oakley High. The Technical center will also be upgraded.

Late last week, Gov. Butch" Otter named the Twin Falls County chief civil deputy prosecutor to succeed a retiring 5th District Judge. Rosemary Emory will succeed Twin Falls-based 5th District Judge John K. Butler.

Authorities are investigating a 32 year old nurse who is employed at St. Luke's in Twin Falls for possibly disposing of a cell phone in the case of a missing Colorado Mom. Police have not found the body of Kelsey Berreth but her fiancé 32 year old Patrick Frazee has been charged with her apparent death.

35 year old Justin Bowman of Twin Falls has been charged with trying to strangle his girlfriend after police got a tip that he had threatened a shooting at her workplace. He was arrested last week in the parking lot of C-3.

25 year old Mykal M. Torrez of Burley has been charged with grand theft, burglary and criminal conspiracy. He is an employee of a local auto dealership who authorities say he borrowed a pickup from but failed to return it.

Former Idaho Governor Phil Bat has been awarded the state's top honor, the 2019 Idaho Medal of Achievement. The 91-year old championed human rights legislation and protection for farm workers and a minimum wage law.

Governor Elect Brad Little said he is committed to implementing the voter approved expansion of Medicaid coverage. We're on schedule, Little said.

The first 2019 baby born in the Magic Valley has arrived. Just after 4 pm on January 1<sup>st</sup>, Amyiah Cortez was born at the Cassia Regional Hospital. In Twin Falls at St. Luke's, the first baby arrived Wednesday morning at 6:41 a.m.

What police officers are calling a gang related drive by shooting has injured a 14 year old Caldwell resident. The child, authorities say suffered serious injuries. The incident reported at 3:40 am Wednesday has the FBI offering a reward of up to 5-thousand dollars for information leading to the arrests and convictions of those involved. The home was struck multiple times.

An anonymous landowner donated a quarter mile of mule deer winter range in Pocatello to a local land trust. The donation to the Sage Brush Steppe Land Trust ended previous plans of converting the property into a subdivision.

No injuries were reported after a pickup truck struck a house Wednesday afternoon near Grandview Drive South in Twin Falls. The accident on Highway 74 happened with the driver of the truck apparently failed to slow down for the car in front of him, swerved left and hit the home.

Tax season is going to be here before you know it and with that comes a warning from the Idaho State Tax Commission to review your W-4 forms so you're not paying more taxes next year. The change from the way your paycheck is calculated comes from the recent federal tax reform and some changes in Idaho at the state level.

Today at noon Governor Elect Brad Little and all the state constitutional officers will be sworn in. The ceremony will take place on the south steps of the state Capitol building in Boise.

A Caldwell man has been accused of trying to burn his girlfriend's trailer down early New Year's Day. 34 year old T.J. Grove is charged with felony first degree arson and misdemeanor malicious injury to property. The victim's daughter had called 911 to report the suspect had punched holes in the walls and was setting fires around the trailer. Police obtained a voicemail to the victim allegedly from Grove to say "her house was on fire." Crews quickly doused the flames and Grove was located in a nearby field where he was arrested.

Authorities in the area report a quiet new year's eve when it comes to DUI's on the road. Twin Falls County added an extra patrol car but no arrests and in Jerome there were two extra deputies added to those on duty. Idaho State Police had six troopers on patrol throughout southern Idaho. Only one booking was reported there. Jerome County had one arrest.

Idaho State Police are asking for the public's help identifying two witnesses to a fatal crash near Riggins in April. 17-year-old Kaitlyn Thayer died on April 21, 2018, after a one-car rollover crash that went into the Salmon River. Thayer's body was recovered with the help of an unidentified bystander described as a man in his early 20s with dark brown hair.. There was also a woman with him. Police feel these two people may have information that would greatly assist in the investigation.

This weekend it's cabin fever days in Twin Falls. It kicks off Saturday at eight different locations around the city. The event draws upwards to 3-thousand people. A map is posted on the Twin Falls Parks and Recreation department website.

An Ada County Sheriff's deputy was placed on administrative leave after being arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence. 44-year-old Jason Jones was pulled over by a Boise Police officer. After failing one sobriety test, the sheriff's office says Jones refused to take any others.

Wildlife officials near Pocatello used a tranquilizer dart to capture a cow moose near interstate 86 but were unable to capture its calf Monday. Officers will continue looking for the calf to dart it and reunite it with its mother.

Advocates from Legalize Idaho and Idaho Moms for Marijuana gathered at the State Capitol to call for the legalization of marijuana. Every New Year's Day, cannabis advocacy groups Legalize Idaho and Idaho Moms for Marijuana kick off the year with a protest focused on legalizing marijuana. Protesters also officially announced that they will be seeking a new marijuana legalization ballot initiative aimed for 2020.

Idaho State Police report two people died in separate accidents over the weekend. On Saturday, a car traveling south on Northside Boulevard in Nampa struck and killed 39 year old Jessica Justice of Nampa while she was attempting to cross the road. Later that day another person was killed in a rest area a mile east of the Idaho Oregon border along I-84. A car drove through the median and into the rest area colliding with two parked trailers. The driver died at the scene.

The Twin Falls Police department is continuing their investigation after a County Detention Staff Deputy was injured when his gun was accidentally discharged. The incident over the past weekend happened in the Auto Sally where prisoners are transferred from vehicles to the jail. The deputy was sent to the hospital. No one else was injured in the shooting.

It's well known that the housing market in Idaho is booming especially in Lava Hot Springs area where houses are being purchased before they're even listed and sometimes for well-above asking price. Real Estate agents say most are looking for a second home.

Boise police have arrested a man, charging him with taking another man's wallet from an X-ray bin while going through the security screening line at the Boise airport. 27 year old Yousef Jamal Ramadan after watching him on security footage take the wallet and enter a restroom where it was found. The money had been removed. He has been charged with felony grand theft.

While Century Link hasn't said much about the nationwide outage of their internet and some of their phone system, U.S. officials are saying it was completely unacceptable. FCC officials with the homeland security bureau are investigating the cause and effect of the outage. Century Link officials say the outage was not related to hacking but have declined further comment.

One of the new laws in effect for Idaho is that ignition interlocks be installed for first time offenders who have been found guilty of Driving while Under the Influence. The car will not start without the driver doing the test. Offenders will be required to pay for the device to be installed on their vehicle.

Twin Falls county deputy prosecutor Michelle Agee has resigned her position following a DUI Arrest. She was arrested on March 22 by Twin Falls Police on suspicion of misdemeanor driving under the influence. Agee had worked in the Prosecutors office since 2017.

50 year old Michelle Lynn DeLuna of Rupert has been charged with Felony Grand theft. She has been accused of stealing more than 16-thousand dollars over two years from Stokes Market. She worked as a bookkeeper for the store. The store owner told investigators that the company also suspects that DeLuna stole another \$26,000 in missing cash deposits.

The cost of gas in Idaho might be going up soon. Of late motorists have been paying less for fuel than drivers in other states. Tripple-A predicts that this spring the U.S. Average price will top out near 2-seventy five dollars a gallon. Idahoans could be paying close to \$3 according to Tripple - A.

Legislation requiring some Medicaid expansion recipients in Idaho to work failed in a Senate committee, upending the bill crafted to make it through both the House and Senate and get Gov. Brad Little's signature. The Senate Health and Welfare Committee voted 7-2 to hold the bill in committee, killing it. A different Medicaid expansion bill with voluntary work requirements is still alive.

Taxpayer dollars could be used to help renovate the Idaho State Capitol building. The House voted 60 to 9 to move forward legislation, known as House Bill 289 would allow \$10.6 million to be used for remodeling the Statehouse.

A lawsuit against a man accused of fatally stabbing a 3-year-old girl — and injuring eight others — during the child's birthday party at a Boise apartment complex is being put on hold due to concerns about the defendant's mental health. Fourth District Court Judge Samuel Hoagland said 31-year-old Timmy Kinner Jr.'s commitment to the prison medical ward would pose a major barrier to the case

Legislation intended to protect authors, journalists and speakers in Idaho from defamation judgments originating in courts in other countries are heading to the governor. The legislation would protect Americans from judgments in foreign countries that don't allow the same freedom of speech rights recognized in the United States.

Legislation lowering from 21 to 18 the age limit for carrying concealed handguns within city limits in Idaho without a permit or training is heading to the governor. Backers say the change will protect law-abiding citizens from accidentally breaking the law when they travel across a county and enter city limits.

Legislation creating an Idaho Council on Federal Lands appears to be dead while another amended bill creating a Committee on Federalism remains viable. The amendment removed the committee's ability to hire attorneys. However, the committee could still hire attorneys if it received approval from Republican House Speaker Scott Bedke and Republican Senate President Pro Tem Brent Hill.

Legislation to create an interim committee comprised of lawmakers from the House and Senate to study Medicaid expansion and potential savings or costs to counties is heading to the full Senate. The proposed committee will look into the possibility of eliminating several programs used to pay medical bills for indigent county residents that could be covered if state lawmakers fund the voter-approved Medicaid expansion.

Legislation to ban exploding targets on state lands in Idaho during wildfire season has failed in the House. Backers also say the law was needed to prevent wildfires on state lands. The state manages about 2.4 million acres that produce money mainly through logging and mostly for public schools.

Boise Police seized a handgun yesterday morning after officials say a woman tried to bring it through security and onto her flight at the Boise Airport. A TSA officer spotted the 9 mm Smith and Wesson pistol in the woman's carry-on as the luggage was being screened through an X-ray scanner. The gun was loaded. Boise Police, responded to the security checkpoint, confiscated the gun and interviewed the woman.

## **PSA LIST – CURRENT 02/27/19**

### **FEB 27<sup>TH</sup> – MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup> – PARENTING WITH LOVE AND LOGIC WITH MINIDOKA CO. SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Minidoka School District will offer two more sessions of "Parenting with Love & Logic". The next session will be held at Feb 27-March 14 at Mt. Harrison High School on Wed & Thursdays. Cost is \$15 pp or \$20 a couple. Sign up now for this informative and powerful tool for positive parenting using the love & logic way. Call Sylvia Lujan at 208.436.4728 ext 1152 to register.

### **FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup> – FREE COMMUNITY DIABETES EDUCATION CLASS IN GLENN'S FERRY**

Join North Canyon Medical Center diabetes education staff at a one day course on self-cares for diabetes. The class is for people with type 2 diabetes who would like to learn more about living well. Class topics include: What is diabetes, eating well, keeping active, sick and stress related to diabetes and reducing the long term affects of diabetes. They will be offering free home blood sugar meters. Reserve your seat by calling 208-934-9886. Lunch will be served to participants. Participants are welcome to bring a guest

### **FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup> – MANNY SCOTTY, FREEDOM WRITER, TO SPEAK AT JEROME HIGH SCHOOL**

An original Freedom Writer whose story is told in part in the 2007 hit movie, Freedom Writers, Manny Scott will speak at the Jerome High School Auditorium from 6p to 7pm on Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. The Jerome School District invites you to come and hear Mr. Scott's message of hope and learn how we can work together to support the youth of our community. For more information contact Janet Avery at the Jerome County School District at 208-324-2392

### **MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup> – TWIN FALLS OPTIMIST CLUB – LOST WAGES CASINO NIGHT FUNDRAISER AT CANYON CREST**

Mark your calendar to have a fun Friday Night, March 1<sup>st</sup> from 7p to 10p with the Twin Falls Optimist Club as they host a Lost Wages Casino Night Fundraiser at Canyon Crest Dining and Events Center! Its an evening of fun, casino style games, raffles, silent auctions, food, beverages and fantastic prizes! Tickets are \$25 each for \$40 for two, purchase your tickets on line at [www.twinfallsoptimistclub.com](http://www.twinfallsoptimistclub.com) or at the door!

### **MARCH 2ND - DR. SUESS DAY AT THE DEMARY MEMORIAL LIBRARY IN RUPERT**

Join the DeMary Memorial Library in Rupert on Saturday March 2nd from 11am to 1pm as they celebrate Dr. Seuss's Birthday! They will have games, treats, and every child will go home with a free book! Events will take place both at the library and at the Civic Center.

### **MARCH 2ND - A STARRY NIGHT GALA AT THE HISTORIC WILSON THEATRE**

The Historic Wilson Theatre is hosting "A Starry Night Gala" on Saturday March 2nd at the Wilson Theatre on the Square in Rupert. This event is their major fundraiser of the year and one that you won't want to miss! This party is for everyone! Food provided by the Drift Inn and E Street Deli, open bar and great entertainment! Live Auction, Silent Auction and Raffle! Help keep the good times rolling at the Theatre! For more information contact Kris Faux at the Wilson Theatre at 436-2787

## **MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup> – 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL EMPTY BOWLS EVENT TO BENEFIT SOUTH CENTRAL COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP**

The 10th annual Empty Bowls Fundraiser will be held at Canyon Crest Dining and Event Center on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 from 6pm to 10pm. Empty Bowls is an international project to fight hunger. The basic idea is simple, participants paint ceramic bowls which are then donated to the event, where a simple meal of soup and bread, donated by local restaurants and bakery is served. Guests choose a bowl to keep as a reminder that there are always empty bowls in the world. All money raised at the Empty Bowls Event stays right here in the Magic Valley.

- Dinner tickets are available at Hands On or at SCCAP or the night at of the event at the door for \$20. Tables can also be purchased for a group of 8 for \$250. Your ticket will get you into the event, entered into a drawing for a door prize and dinner with your choice of bowl to keep that was painted by the community.
- Doors open at 6:00pm. Dinner will be served from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Entertainment will be provided by Eric May. There will be raffle items, a silent auction, and dancing.

## **MARCH 5TH - GRAND OPENING OF MAGIC VALLEY HUMANITARIAN CENTER IN RUPERT**

The Magic Valley Humanitarian Center in Rupert will be hosting their Grand Opening in Rupert at 723 F Street from 10am to 3pm. They are a completely volunteer staffed, community based, non-profit organization serving those in need and helping reduce suffering by offering a variety of goods to those in need. Volunteers come together and give of their time, talents, and resources to care for those in need, wherever they may be.

## **MARCH 7TH - 9TH - FIDDLER ON THE ROOF AT MINICO HIGH SCHOOL**

The Minico High School Theater Department is presenting Fiddler on the Roof in the Minico HS Auditorium March 7th through the 9th at 7pm, with a Saturday Matinee at 1pm. Support the Minico Theater Department by attending this fun musical with the entire family! Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students and are available from cast members or at the door! See you there!

## **MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup> – CASSIA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT JOB FAIR**

The Cassia County School District will be hosting a Job Fair coming up on March 8<sup>th</sup> from 5p to 7:30pm at the Burley High School. If you would like to work for the school district, you should mark this on your calendar to attend! They are hiring in multiple different departments from Bus Drivers to Administrators and More! For more information, or to apply, click on the link.

<http://www.generalasp.com/sd151/onlineapp/jobpostings/view.asp>

## **MARCH 9<sup>TH</sup> – END IT NOW SEMINAR**

A FREE 2-hour Educational Seminar called “End It Now” will be presented in Twin Falls, on Saturday, March 9 for people who are interested in becoming better informed on Domestic Violence and Abuse. Participants will learn what abuse is and what it is NOT; the warning signs of potential abuse before it happens; and what to do to help keep themselves or someone they know safe. It is open to men, women and teens (ages 12-17) who are accompanied by an adult. TO REGISTER, or for more information

phone 208 734-6288 any day between 9 am and 9 pm. *The time and place of the seminar will be released to registrants only.*

### **MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup> – LEGENDS OF THE NIGHT SKY: ORION AT THE FAULKNER PLANETARIUM**

"Legends of the Night Sky: Orion" at the Faulkner Planetarium An imaginative look at the stories and legends about Orion, the great hunter of the winter sky. A tour of the current night sky will follow the movie . Watch the trailer: <https://youtu.be/RqXOJsNBtcl>

- Adults (ages 18-59): \$6, Seniors (ages 60+): \$5, Children (ages 2-17) & CSI students (w/ activity card): \$4, Children under age 2: FREE

### **MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup> – CASSIA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES BOND ELECTION**

March 12<sup>th</sup> the Cassia County School District will be conducting their Facilities Bond Election for the citizens of Cassia County for the amount of \$56.7 Million for the term of 20 years. The bond election is for the purpose of financing the costs of renovations and improvements to existing schools and school facilities including (i) constructing and installing additional classrooms at Burley High School, Burley Junior High School, Dworshak Elementary School and Oakley High School, and completing the addition at Declo Elementary School, all to address growth and overcrowding; (ii) installing or upgrading HVAC facilities throughout the District. For more information please visit the school district website at [www.cassiaschools.org](http://www.cassiaschools.org)

### **MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup> – MINIDOKA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES BOND ELECTION**

March 12<sup>th</sup> the Minidoka County School District will be conducting their Facilities Bond Election for the citizens of Minidoka County for the amount of \$21 Million for the term of 20 years. The bond election is for the purpose of financing the cost of renovations and improvements to existing schools and school facilities that include front entrance security at the elementary schools, classroom expansions at East and West Minico, Paul Elementary, Heyburn Elementary and Mt. Harrison High school. Upgrading HVAC's at district schools, new Ag Facility to the east of Minico High School and upgrades to the current Ag Facility and other district project. For more information please visit the school district website at [www.minidokaschools.org](http://www.minidokaschools.org)

### **MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup> – 16<sup>TH</sup> – BURLEY HIGH SCHOOL THEATER DEPT PRODUCTION "SOMEONE HAD TO GIVE"**

March 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> – the Burley High School Theater Department presents the production of "Someone Had to Give" written by BHS Drama Director Lance Jones! The drama is based on actual events surrounding the last months of Marilyn Monroe's relationship with Fox Studios. All performances will be held at The Little Theater at Burley High School, with the show starting at 7pm. Tickets will be available at the door!

### **MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup> – ST NICHOLAS ANNUAL BASQUE DINNER AT THE RUPERT ELKS**

The Annual St Nicholas Basque Dinner and Auction will be hosted at the Rupert Elks on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>; a delicious traditional Basque lamb dinner will be served from 6:30p to 8p with the auction beginning at 8:30p as well as raffle prizes to win. Live music will be provided by Triple Shot! Tickets are available for purchase from St. Nicholas Catholic School, or at the door and are \$25 each, or just for the dance is \$5. For more information contact St. Nicholas Catholic School at 208-436-6320

### **MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup>- 17<sup>TH</sup> – CENTRAL IDAHO DISTRICT 4-H AMBASSADOR RETREAT IN ALBION**

Central Idaho District 4-H Ambassador Retreat will be held in Albion March 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>; the retreats are geared for younger teens (seventh grade or older). Workshops focus on life skills with a yearly theme (Head, Heart, Hands or Health). The cost is \$60 and includes lodging, meals and workshop fees. For more information and to purchase tickets

<https://www.uidaho.edu/extension/4h/events/ambassador-retreats?fbclid=IwAR0aZ9vD-MCXZAr6h9xMU3970bqRDTFz2PFutundrqXSXBT9O80awJSDXno>

### **MARCH 23RD - MINIDOKA COUNTY 4H BINGO FUNDRAISER**

The Minidoka County 4-H Teen Association is having a BINGO fundraiser on Saturday, March 23 inside the McGregor Center at the Minidoka County Fairgrounds beginning at 1:00 p.m. All ages are welcome. There will be 10 games played. The cost for the 3 game card is \$10.00 and the 6 game card is \$20.00. Many area businesses have donated items or gift cards as prizes. There will be a potato bar, raffle, lots of grab bags, and plenty of refreshments. For more information, contact Jeni Bywater at 436-7184 or [jbywater@uidaho.edu](mailto:jbywater@uidaho.edu).

### **MARCH 23RD - MINIDOKA CO. HISTORICAL SOCIETY ELECTION DAY AND POTLUCK**

The Minidoka County Historical Society will be holding their election day on March 23rd at the Minidoka County Museum beginning at 3pm. Three director positions will be open, to be considered as a candidate and to vote please make sure that you pay your dues; if you would like to become a member stop on by the museum and ask for more information!

### **APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup> – 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL DESSERT FOR DOGS TO BENEFIT MINIDOKA JOINT POWERS ANIMAL CONTROL SHELTER**

The 3rd Annual Dessert for Dogs event will offer the community a unique evening of sampling deliciously made desserts from our area's top chefs and those with a flair for making sweet treats! Dessert for Dogs will be held at the Morey's Steakhouse and Event Center on April 11th from 6:30p - 8:30p.

- There will be delicious treats to sample, door prizes, raffle prizes, a silent auction and a no-host bar. Tickets will be \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door!
- For more information, call the Minidoka Joint Powers Animal Control Shelter at 208-438-2200
- All proceeds to benefit the Minidoka Joint Powers Animal Control Shelter.

### **ON GOING EVENTS**

### **WINGS FOR HERO'S IDAHO – CONTINUAL FUNDING**

The goal at Wings For Hero's of Idaho is to help generate revenue to allow vets of all types of services, and first responders out hunting and fishing. The therapeutic relief that is provided by being outdoors is

unrivaled by modern medicine. Their goal is to help even if its only one person to find relief from the struggles of an injury visible or not, by taking them out to have fun in the wilderness . Not all contributions need be monetary they are looking for land owners that will allow access to hunting lands and clothing for cold weather such as coats, waders, gloves, head wear, blinds, decoys, etc., and volunteers that can help raise funds and organize events . If you think you may be able to help it's easy just contact Kenneth Sartin at 2082932907, email at [sartinkennth@gmail.com](mailto:sartinkennth@gmail.com), or Facebook Wings for Hero's of Idaho

### **ADULTING 101 – EVERY THURSDAY AT THE DEMARY MEMORIAL LIBRARY IN RUPERT**

The Rupert DeMary Memorial Library is offering a free series of workshops to people age 15 to 90 to learn life skills. Adulting 101 will be held each week at 4 p.m. on Thursdays at the library, 417 7th St. The library is working with banks, businesses and other resources to provide the information during the classes.

### **HUNGRY HEROES BREAKFAST – EVERY TUESDAY MORNING IN TWIN FALLS**

Every Tuesday from 7:30 to 9:00 in the morning, Bridgeview Estates in Twin Falls is offering a free breakfast for all vets! For more information, contact Bridgeview Estates, located 1828 Bridgeview Blvd in Twin Falls!

### **MINIDOKA CO. SENIOR CENTER MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAM**

The Minidoka Co. Senior Center delivers Meals on Wheels to the home-bound every day of the week (Monday-Friday). For more information on how you can help, or to enroll, please call the senior center at 208-436-9107

### **PAUL AMERICAN LEGION POST 77**

Paul American Legion Post 77 meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7pm and the Legion Hall located on West Wayne Street in Paul. The post is also looking for Riders, Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion members. If you would like to be a member and help the veterans in our area, please contact Wyatt Saunders at [f.wyattsanders@yahoo.com](mailto:f.wyattsanders@yahoo.com), or call 208-679-1215 for more information.

### **FIT AND FALL PROOF CLASSES SPONSORED BY THE SOUTH CENTRAL PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT**

The South Central Public Health District is pleased to announce that their Fit and Fall Proof Classes have resumed at Pomerelle Place Senior Living, located at 1301 Bennett in Burley. The classes are free to attend and will be held every Thursday and Saturday from 10am to 11am. Wear comfortable clothing and appropriate footwear and bring a water bottle.

### **VICTIM'S SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN IN BURLEY**

Every Monday evening there is a free victim's support group meeting held in Burley at 1321 Oakley Ave, Suite 22. The cost is free to attend. For more information, please contact Melinda Barbosa at 208-650-5913, or email [mbarboza@akeytochange.com](mailto:mbarboza@akeytochange.com)

### **ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH IN BURLEY FREE COMMUNITY DINNER**

The Zion Lutheran Church in Burley is hosting community dinners on the first Tuesday of each month. Everyone is invited to enjoy a delicious meal and fellowship with your neighbors in Burley. There is no charge for the dinner, and no sermon will be given during this time. Please come and join us and share our meal.

### **SENIOR JUNCTION CENTER MONTHLY BREAKFAST TO BENEFIT THE MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAM**

Senior Junction Senior Center in Burley invites you to come enjoy breakfast every third Saturday of the month. Breakfast consists of biscuits and gravy, pancakes, eggs, sausage, bacon, hash browns, coffee, milk and juice. The cost is only \$7 per person and all proceeds to benefit the Meals in Wheels program. For more information please contact Catherine at 208-878-8646

### **MT VIEW CHURCH PANTRY IN BURLEY**

The Mt. View Pantry in Burley will be open on Wednesdays from 5p to 7p beginning March 7th. The pantry will continue to be open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9am to 11:30am. They are located at 317 W. 27th Street in Burley right behind Mt. View School. For more information call 678-5460