

Caldwell Should Use Its Voice at Election Time

by Toni Ferro

Rank District

#26	29	26,456
#27	26	26,428
#28	12	25,941
#29	30	25,249
#30	13	25,087
#31	33	23,521
#32	25	22,173
#33	27	21,808
#34	34	Our rival, Madison County 21,003
#35	11	Caldwell 20,404

The bottom ten of Idaho's 35 legislative districts for number of registered voters as of September, 2026. Ouch. Data from the Secretary of State's Data & Dashboards.

Well, it's that time of year again. The time of year where I channel my inner motivational speaker and encourage everyone in Caldwell to vote. This year I have a new, two-part, Caldwell-specific argument for why we should vote, and I have a challenge for Caldwell.

The first part of my argument has to do with Caldwell's level of voter registration in comparison to the rest of the state.

First, some background. Every census (every 10 years), Idaho's 35 legislative districts get redrawn to make sure each district has roughly the same population. The target population for each district after the 2020 census was 52,546 people. Caldwell had a population of ~60,000 people, so we got our own legislative district (District 11) plus small parts of a few others (Districts 9, 10, and 12).

Ok, here is the surprising part.

In April of 2022 when the new districts were finalized, Caldwell's District 11 had the 2nd fewest registered voters of any district at only 20,337. The district with the most registered voters had 37,796, a whopping 86% more registered voters in a district with roughly the same population! The only district with fewer registered voters than us was District 34 (all of Madison County on the eastern part of the state).

And that's not all. Fast forward to now when Caldwell has grown faster than most of the rest of the state and our population is estimated at nearly 80,000 people.

Paradoxically, District 11 is now dead last of all 35 districts with 20,404 registered voters. Caldwell has 18,000 more people since the census, but District 11 has only 67

more registered voters! Granted, some of that 18,000-person growth has happened through annexations outside of the District 11 area of Caldwell, but not all of it. Meanwhile Madison County's population has increased by a comparably paltry 3000 people and their registrations went up 1160 people. Now they have passed us and they are second-to-last.

“The problem of low voter registration isn't just a general one that applies to the whole country, it is a problem that is at its worst, for our state, right here in Caldwell.”

The point is that the problem of low voter registration isn't just a general one that applies to the whole country, it is a problem that is at its worst for our state right here in Caldwell. That's just not who we are!

Part 2 of my reason we need to

Rank District

#26	13	75.7%
#27	12	75.6%
#28	17	75.3%
#29	04	75.1%
#30	16	75.0%
#31	33	74.3%
#32	29	73.7%
#33	25	73.5%
#34	11	72.5% Caldwell
#35	34	69.8% Our rival, Madison County

The bottom ten of Idaho's 35 legislative districts for percent of registered voters who turned out to vote in November, 2024. Ouch again. Data from the Secretary of State's Data & Dashboards.

vote has to do with the number of registered voters in Caldwell's District 11 that turn out to vote.

There is no nice way to say this. In the November 2024 election, Caldwell's District 11 was second to last in registered voters AND second to last in voter turnout. So, a relatively small portion of our already relatively few voters actually voted.

The voter turnout rate that year was good compared to other years (it was a presidential election year), the statewide voter turnout rate was 77.8% and District 11's was 72.5%. And where was the district with lower voter turnout than us in November 2024? You guessed it, District 34, Madison County.

To sum up, not only do we have relatively few people registered right here in our beautiful town of Caldwell, we turn out to vote at a relatively low rate. Caldwell citizens aren't participating at a time when Idaho is growing like crazy and we need everybody weighing in on how they would like to see Idaho,

Canyon County, and Caldwell move forward.

So here is my challenge to us.

Let's beat Madison County!

They now have 599 more registered voters than us, but we have a lot more population. We can do this!

“Caldwell citizens aren't participating at a time when Idaho is growing like crazy and we need everybody weighing in.”

If you know a citizen who isn't registered to vote, encourage them to register by going to idahovotes.gov or registering when they go to vote. Invite them to the polls with you to make the process more comfortable.

If they need more information about who and what will be on their ballot send them to our full voter's guide online (caldwellperspective.com/elections) or to Part 1 in our September edition and Part 2 in this edition (pages 8-9).

I'll let you know how we do against our rivals in Madison County this year. I'm hoping to be able to tell you that we pulled ourselves off the bottom in terms of registered voters and that we had a great voter turnout.

**Go team Caldwell!
Vote! Vote! Vote!**

Voting in Idaho

Everything you need to know about voting can be found at the Secretary of State's voter website.



voteidaho.gov

VOTE IDAHO

- Register to vote online
- Sign up to vote by mail (absentee)
- Find out your voter registration status
- Find out your congressional and legislative districts
- Find out where to early vote
- Find your election day polling place
- Review a sample ballot
- Find out what you need to take with you to register to vote
- See all dates and deadlines
- And more

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Submit calendar items to calendar@caldwellperspective.com
Events must take place in Caldwell, be open to the public, be non-partisan and cost \$25/person or less (with some exceptions for advertisers).

For updates and details, visit our Caldwell Community Calendar online at caldwellperspective.com/community-calendar

Repeating Events

TUESDAYS

FamilySearch Center: Free Family History Help
1-4 pm, 3015 S Kimball

Community Dinner at Caldwell Church of Christ
6-7:30 pm, 4012 S 10th

Senior Center Bingo
6-7:30 pm, 1009 Everett

WEDNESDAYS

FamilySearch Center: Free Family History Help
6-8pm, 3015 S Kimball

THURSDAYS

Coffee Klatch at the Caldwell Veterans' Memorial Hall
8-11 am, 1101 Cleveland

FamilySearch Center: Free Family History Help
1-4 pm, 3015 S Kimball

Celebrate Recovery
6 pm, 17703 Beet Rd, Deer Flat Free Methodist Church

FRIDAYS

Magic the Gathering Commander Casual at Rubaiyat
5-9 pm, 314 S 6th

SATURDAYS

Magic the Gathering Commander Casual at Rubaiyat
1-11 pm, 314 S 6th

THURSDAYS-SATURDAYS

Haunted Trails
From 10/15 through 11/1, 8-11 pm, 1923 N KCID Rd

MONDAYS-FRIDAYS

Early Voting for Nov 3 Election
From 10/19 through 10/30, 8 am-5 pm, Canyon County Elections, 5815 Graye Ln or Nampa City Hall, 411 3rd St S, Nampa

Individual Events

SATURDAY 10/3

Hay Day Harvest Festival
1-5 pm, the Plaza, 120 S Kimball

SUNDAY 10/4

Sunday Sips & Sounds at Ste Chapelle Winery
1-4 pm, 19348 Lowell Rd, music: Lindzey Autumn

MONDAY 10/5

City Council Meeting
6:00-8:30 pm, Caldwell City Hall, 205 S 6th, Livestream: youtube.com/cityofcaldwell178/streams

Canyon County Stars Square Dance Club
6-8 pm, Caldwell Senior Citizen Center, 1009 Everett, \$5

TUESDAY 10/6

Idaho State Liberty Bell At the Plaza
3-6 pm, 120 S Kimball

WEDNESDAY 10/7

Graphic Novel Book Club at Shared Stories
7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball

FRIDAY 10/9

Dogtoberfest at the Plaza
5-9 pm, 120 S Kimball

SATURDAY 10/10

SIBA Field Trip to Cascade Lake
7:30 am-3 pm, 459 Hwy 55, Horseshoe Bend, Register at SIBAFieldTrip@gmail.com

Lower Dam Trash Clean Up
9am-noon, 15013 Riverside Rd

Race for the Rest of Us Fundraiser for Metro Community Services
9:15-11 am, 2218 Griffith's Pkwy, \$25, Register at bit.ly/3TCoswi

Holiday Bazaar: Pleasant Ridge Grange
10 am-4 pm, 18514 Upper Pleasant Ridge Rd

Pumpkin Days & Marketplace
10 am-4 pm, Lovely Hollow Farm, 18252 Chicken Dinner Rd

Live Music at Dunning Estates
noon-6 pm, 19937 Vino Ln

Harvest Party at Huston Vineyards
noon-5 pm, 16473 Chicken Dinner Rd, \$25

Freedom Brewfest Cars and Music Show at the Plaza
1-6 pm, 120 S Kimball, In advance: \$35, day of: \$40

Saturday Spiritual Support Group
6-7 pm, 211 Logan St, B1-1

SUNDAY 10/11

Holiday Bazaar: Pleasant Ridge Grange
10 am-2 pm, 18514 Upper Pleasant Ridge Rd

MONDAY 10/12

Fantasy Book Club at Shared Stories
7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball

TUESDAY 10/13

Idaho Job Fair
10 am-2 pm, Nampa Civic Center, 311 3rd St S, Free

WEDNESDAY 10/14

Weaver's Guild Study Group at the Rubaiyat
11 am-2 pm, 314 S 6th

Horror Book Club at Shared Stories
7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball

THURSDAY 10/15

Board Game Night at White Dog
6-8 pm, 712 Arthur St Ste A

Genealogy in the Digital Age Class Series
6:30-8:30 pm, 3015 S Kimball

Romance Book Club at Shared Stories
7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball

FRIDAY 10/16

Reggaeton Fest: Mas Perrero Tour
9 pm-2 am, Colombia Event Center, 3801 S Lake Ave, Presale \$21, \$30, 21+ only

SATURDAY 10/17

Holiday Bazaar: Pleasant Ridge Grange
10 am-4 pm, 18514 Upper Pleasant Ridge Rd

Red Wine Release & Watch Party at Huston Vineyards
11 am-5 pm, 16473 Chicken Dinner Rd, \$15

Middle Grade Book Club at Shared Stories
noon-1 pm, 106 S Kimball

Fall Caldwell Prayer Walk
3-6 pm, Caldwell Memorial Park, 619 Irving

Sippin' in the Sunset at Huston Vineyards
5-8 pm, 16473 Chicken Dinner Rd, \$20, Music: Emily Tipton

Trunk or Treat with Track Shark Events at the Plaza
5-7 pm, 120 S Kimball

Halloween at the Symphony by the Music Association of Canyon County
7-8:30 pm, Jewett Auditorium, College of Idaho, 2112 Cleveland, \$5 students, \$10 general

Cookbook Book Club at Shared Stories
7-8 pm, 106 S Kimball

SUNDAY 10/18

Holiday Bazaar: Pleasant Ridge Grange
10 am-4 pm, 18514 Upper Pleasant Ridge Rd

Pumpkin Days & Marketplace
10 am-4 pm, Lovely Hollow Farm, 18252 Chicken Dinner Rd

Canyon County Crop Hunger Walk
2-5 pm, McCain Student Union Building, College of Idaho, 2112 Cleveland

MONDAY 10/19

City Council Meeting
6:00-8:30 pm, Caldwell City Hall, 205 S 6th, Livestream: youtube.com/cityofcaldwell178/streams

Canyon County Stars Square Dance Club
6-8 pm, Caldwell Senior Citizen Center, 1009 Everett, \$5

Nonfiction Book Club at Shared Stories
7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball

WEDNESDAY 10/21

Bilingual Historical Fiction Book Club at Shared Stories
7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball

FRIDAY 10/23

Trunk or Treat: Archers Auto Repair
4:30-7 pm, 5300 Cleveland

Winery After Hours at Ste Chapelle
6-9 pm, 19348 Lowell Rd, Free, music: Lindzey Autumn, reservations suggested: bit.ly/4fTzIve

Country Royalty: A Salute to Hank Williams & Patsy Cline
7-9 pm, Jewett Auditorium, College of Idaho, 2112 Cleveland, \$27-\$45

Poetry Book Club at Shared Stories
7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball

SATURDAY 10/24

Early Voting for Nov 3 Election
8 am-5 pm, Canyon County Elections, 5815 Graye Ln

Clucktoberfest Show & Market
7 am-4 pm, Canyon County Fair Bldg, 111 S 22nd

Holiday Bazaar: Pleasant Ridge Grange
10 am-4 pm, 18514 Upper Pleasant Ridge Rd

SUNDAY 10/25

Holiday Bazaar: Pleasant Ridge Grange
10 am-4 pm, 18514 Upper Pleasant Ridge Rd

Spooktacular Trail Challenge
10 am-4 pm, One Mane Ranch, 29710 Farmway

Wine Glass Charms at Fujishin Winery
noon-5 pm, 17543 Allendale Rd, Wilder, \$7 or 4 for \$20

Speak Kindness Cards at Rubaiyat
noon-3 pm, 314 S 6th

Silent Book Club: Potluck Edition at Shared Stories
5-7 pm, 106 S Kimball

MONDAY 10/26

Sci-Fi Book Club at Shared Stories
7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball

Midnight Release: Acotar 6 at Shared Stories
7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball, \$10

TUESDAY 10/27

Mystery/Thriller Book Club at Shared Stories
7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball

WEDNESDAY 10/28

Classics Book Club at Shared Stories
7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball

THURSDAY 10/29

Trick-or-Treat at the City
2:30-4:30 pm, Caldwell City Hall, 205 S 6th
(Calendar continues ---->)

Huston Vineyards
Sat. Oct 10th
10 am - 5 pm

- It's Messy
- It's Hands On
- Its Only Once A Year

hustonvineyards.com

Stomp

Pick

Tour

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YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

HOW TO REACH US

By mail: P.O. Box 922
Caldwell, Idaho 83606

By Phone: 208-484-8286

Online: www.caldwellperspective.com

SUBMISSIONS

Stories: We welcome story submissions. Your story should be about Caldwell, be ~650 words or less, and include a photo. Submit your story idea by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the next month's edition and submit the story itself by the 25th. (We reserve the right to not run stories that don't fit our mission.)

Email: Leora Summers, editor@caldwellperspective.com

If you have a story you would like us to cover, email Leora Summers, editor@caldwellperspective.com.

ADVERTISING

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If you are interested in advertising see our rate sheet on our website, caldwellperspective.com/advertising or email Toni Ferro, advertising@caldwellperspective.com.

LOCATIONS & SUBSCRIPTIONS

We mail the *Caldwell Perspective* to over 12,000 homes and businesses each month through the Post Office using Every Door Direct Mail.

If you are not in our distribution area, you can pick up a hard copy at any of the locations below or subscribe (\$48 annually) by going to caldwellperspective.com or emailing Toni Ferro at advertising@caldwellperspective.com.

Downtown and Surroundings

Chamber of Commerce - 702 Chicago
Java Station - 1016 E Chicago
Mr. V's - 407 N 10th
Rubaiyat bookstore - 314 S 6th
Shared Stories bookstore - 106 S Kimball
Veteran's Hall - 1101 Cleveland

20-26 (East side of Caldwell)

Covey Cafe - 5017 US-20/26
Les Schwab Tires - 803 Haystack Way
La Quinta - 901 Specht
Best Western- 908 Specht
Cattleman's Cafe - 1901 E Chicago
Commercial Tire - 320 N 21st

College/Fair Area and Surroundings

Bluebird Confections - 2016 Blaine
Boise Fry Company - 2110 Blaine
Caldwell Bowl - 2121 Blaine
Les Schwab - 315 S 22nd
Mancino's - 2412 Cleveland
McLeary's Pub - 2502 Cleveland
Ron's Natural Foods - 3110 Cleveland
Stewart's Bar and Grill - 2805 Blaine
Sunrise Cafe - 2601 Cleveland
The Sweet Spot Bakery - 2514 Cleveland

Other locations

Elks Lodge - 1015 N Kimball
Jack Henry - 2621 S 10th

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Submit calendar items to calendar@caldwellperspective.com.

Events must take place in Caldwell, be open to the public, be non-partisan, and cost \$25/person or less (with some exceptions for advertisers).

Community Calendar continued

FRIDAY 10/30

Halloween Candy & Wine Pairing at Fujishin Winery
noon-6 pm, 17543 Allendale Rd, Wilder (also 10/31)

Canyon County Sheriff's Office Trunk or Treat
2-4 pm, Justice Park, 1022 E Albany

SATURDAY 10/31

Holiday Bazaar: Pleasant Ridge Grange
10 am-2 pm, 18514 Upper Pleasant Ridge Rd

SATURDAY 10/31 (cont.)

Book and Candy Booth at Rubaiyat
noon-10 pm, 314 S 6th, show off your costume for a free book

Harvest Festival at Calvary Chapel
4-6 pm, 911 Everett

Scaryoke For All Ages at the Senior Center
5:30-9 pm, 1009 Everett, \$10 includes food

The November edition of the *Caldwell Perspective* arrives.

EVENTS

1010 Dearborn, Caldwell, ID 83605
208 454 3242
<https://www.caldwellpubliclibrary.org>

M-Th: 10 AM-9 PM
Fri: 10 AM-6 PM
Sat: 10 AM-5 PM
Sun: 2-5 PM

Events in the Community Room unless noted

Programs are free and open to the public

Books for book clubs available at the desk

Ask about reading challenges

Color Code: **Kid** **Teen** **Adult** All Ages

The library will be closed Monday, Oct. 12, for Staff Training.

MONDAYS

Baby Story Time: Oct 5, 19, and 26, 10 am, 10:45 am, and 11:30 am | Ages 0-2

Youth Chess Club: Oct 5, 4-5 pm | Ages 6-17

Knitting & Crochet Social: Oct 5, 19, and 26, 1:30-3 pm | Ages 18+

Teen Book Club: Oct 19, 5:30-6:30 pm | Ages 13-17, *Howl's Moving Castle* by Diana Wynne Jones

Little Page Turners Book Club: Oct 26, 6-7 pm | Ages 6-8

TUESDAYS

Spanish & English Storytime: Oct 6, 13, 20, and 27, 10:30 am | Ages 2-6

Powerful Tools for Caregivers: Oct 6, 13, 20, and 27, 12:30 pm | Ages 18+

Mobile Health Clinic at the Library: Oct 6: Call 208-367-4483 for appointment.

Board Game Night: Oct 6, 6:30-8:30 pm | All Ages

Lego Club: Haunted Houses, Oct 13, 4:30-5:30 pm | Ages 7-16

Paws to Read: Read to a dog, Oct 20, 5-6 pm | Ages 7-14, Children's Area.

WEDNESDAYS

Music and Movement: Oct 7, 14, 21 and 28, 10:30-11:30 am | Ages 2-6

Afterschool Fun: Oct 7, Spooky Slime Workshop; Oct 14, Plant Rubbing with Junior Master Gardeners; Oct 14, Glow in the Dark Halloween Creations; Oct 21, Pumpkin Decorating Contest; 3:30-4:30 pm | Ages 5-12

Pajama Storytime: Oct 7, 14, 21 and 28 | Ages 5-12

Tech Lab: Oct 14, 10 am-Noon | Ages 18+

Caldwell Public Library at the Senior Center: Oct 21, 11 am | Senior Center, 1009 Everett

THURSDAYS

Preschool Storytime with Mayor Eric Phillips: Oct 8, 10:30 am | Ages 3-5

Teen Thursday: Oct 8, Faux Taxidermy; Oct 15, Board Game Night; Oct 22, Special Effects Makeup; Oct 29, Pumpkin Decorating, 4:30-5:30 pm | Ages 13-17

Thursday Book Club: Sept 10, 2 pm or Sept 17, 6:30 pm | Ages 18+, Idaho room, *Legend of Sleepy Hollow* by Washington Irving

Farmway Afterschool Program: Oct 8, 4:30-6:30 pm | All Ages, Community Room, 22730 Farmway Rd

Bookworm Buddies for Parents and Caregivers: Oct 29, 1-2:30 pm or 7-8:30 pm | All Ages

FRIDAYS

Tai Chi & Qigong: Oct 9, 16, 23 and 30, 10 am | Ages 18+

Young Knitters Club: Oct 9, 16, 23 and 30, 4 pm | Ages 8-14, Idaho Room

Adult Lego Club: Oct 9, 4:30 pm | Ages 16+

Ghost Stories in the Graveyard: Oct 16, 7-9 pm | All ages, Canyon Hill Cemetery

Ping Pong Club: Oct 23, 3-5 pm | All ages

Yoga for Wellbeing: Oct 30, 1 pm | Ages 18+

SATURDAYS

Yoga Storytime: Oct 12, 11 am | Ages 5-12

Winnie the Pooh 100th Anniversary Special: Oct 10, 2-3 pm | All ages

Storytime around the World – India: Oct 17, 2-3 pm | All Ages

Costume Swap: Oct 24, 2-4 pm | All Ages

SUNDAYS

Open 2-5 pm

Indian Creek Festival Highlights

photos by Leora Summers



Counterclockwise from above:
Car Show Entrant!
Tug of War--Caldwell police won!
*Photo by CPD
CHS Marching Band
Once Upon a Time Machine Cardboard Kayak
Box Hollow, winner of the People's Choice!



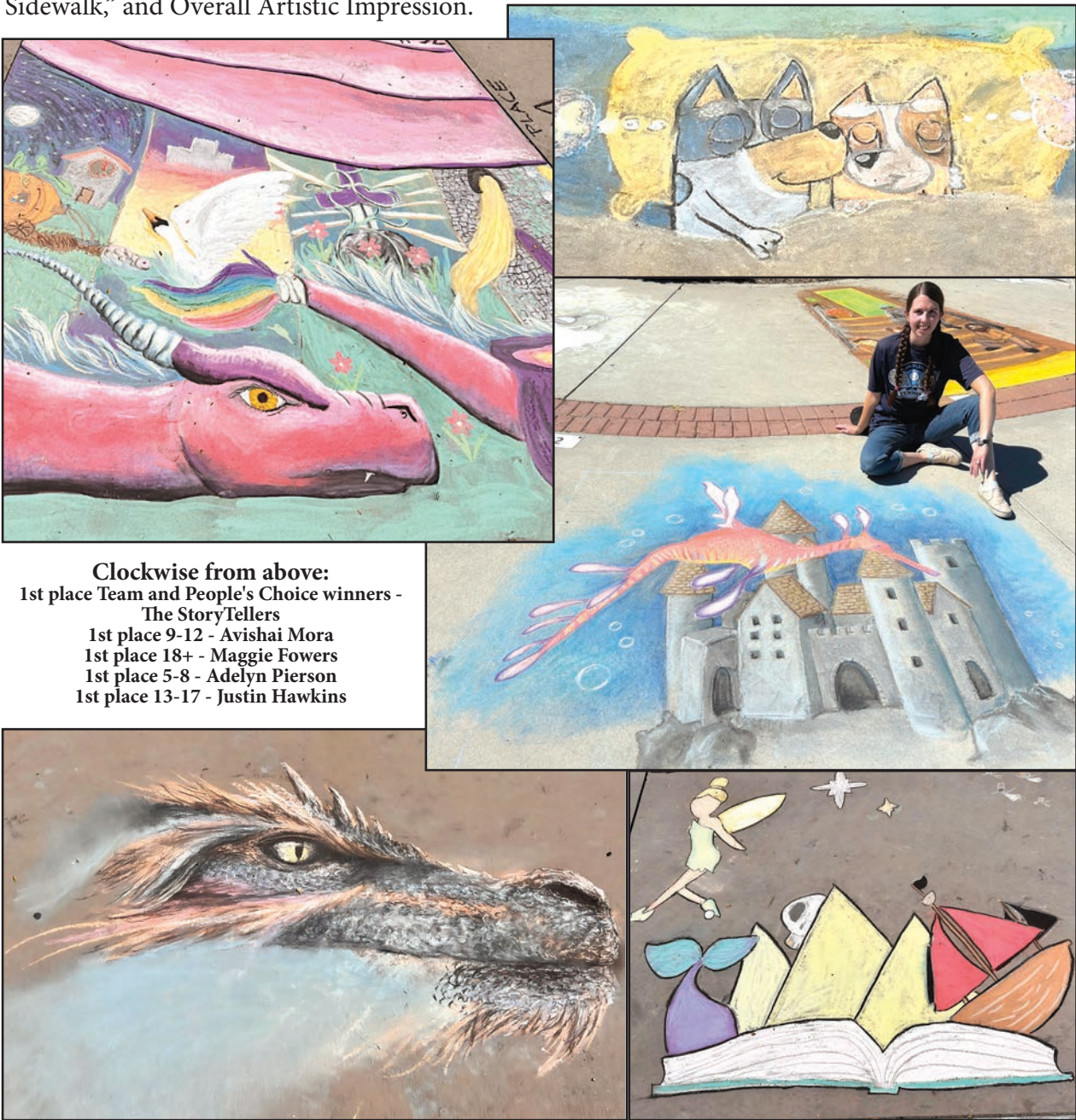
Indian Creek Festival's Chalk the Block Winners

In Chalk the Block's 8th year as part of the Indian Creek Festival, over 35 teams and individuals participated, a record for this event. There were 5 categories with money prizes of \$50 for first place and \$25 for second place and the People's Choice winner received \$100. Judges included Mayor Eric Phillips and judges from Rogue Credit Union and Caldwell Fine Arts. The criteria they judged on was: Creativity and Originality, Quality, Use of the theme "Once Upon a Sidewalk," and Overall Artistic Impression.

This year's 18+ winner was Maggie Fowers who took the theme of "Once upon a sidewalk" underwater where a seadragon lurked around a fairy tale castle. Maggie lives in Idaho Falls, but was in Boise visiting her parents and came to Caldwell to participate in Chalk the Block, because she missed the competition in Idaho Falls this year. Maggie is a graduate of BYU-Idaho in Art. Congratulations to Maggie and all of this year's Chalk the Block winners.

THE WINNERS

- Ages 5-8:** 1st-Adelyn Pierson, 2nd-Daphne Henman
Ages 9-12: 1st-Avishai Mora, 2nd-Nash Stowe
Ages 13-17: 1st-Justin Hawkins, 2nd-Hannah Eggert
Adult 18+: 1st-Maggie Fowers, 2nd- Keri Knight
Team (Captain must be 18+): 1st-StoryTellers, 2nd-The Voyagers
People's Choice: The StoryTellers



Clockwise from above:
1st place Team and People's Choice winners - The StoryTellers
1st place 9-12 - Avishai Mora
1st place 18+ - Maggie Fowers
1st place 5-8 - Adelyn Pierson
1st place 13-17 - Justin Hawkins

Jason Petty and Carolyn Martin Bring the Music of Hank Williams and Patsy Cline to Caldwell



Friday, October 23 at 7 pm at the College of Idaho's Jewett Auditorium, Caldwell Fine Arts will present "Country Royalty", a musical salute to Hank Williams and Patsy Cline. The show will feature musicians Jason Petty and Carolyn Martin.

Petty made a striking impression on New York's Theatre District starring in "Hank Williams: Lost Highway," which played to sold-out audiences. Audiences and critics alike praised his portrayal of Hank Williams, with rave reviews from major publications and an Obie Award for "Outstanding Actor."

Joining Petty is Carolyn Martin, whose love of Patsy Cline's music and style has made her a sought-after performer of Cline's iconic songs. Martin is a member of the Texas Western Swing Hall of Fame and has received the Academy of Western Artists' Will Rogers Award for Western Swing Female Vocalist of the Year multiple times. She is also recognized for her interpretations of pop and jazz standards from the 1930s and '40s.

Backed by a live band, the two performers bring the music and spirit of Williams and Cline to the stage, including classics such as Hank Williams' "Your Cheatin' Heart" and "Hey, Good Lookin'," along with Patsy Cline's "Crazy" and "Walkin' After Midnight."

Get more information at caldwellfinearts.org.



A heartfelt musical salute to
HANK WILLIAMS & PATSY CLINE
STARRING
JASON PETTY & CAROLYN MARTIN



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 7PM

CALDWELL FINE ARTS
208-717-5368
CALDWELLFINEARTS.ORG





SCARYOKE
KARAOKE COSTUME PARTY

OCTOBER 31-DOORS OPEN 5:30 P.M.
CALDWELL SENIOR CENTER, 1009 EVERETT ST, CALDWELL
ENTRANCE FEE: \$10 ALL AGES WELCOME
(TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR OR CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE FRONT DESK PRIOR)



A Family Tradition: The Story of Ted and Ron's Health Foods

by Dana Vance



Left: Ronnie Vance, original owner with husband Ted
Right: Ron's through the years. On Arthur, on Kimball with longtime employees Jesse and Roxie in front, and Edmark Plaza, the current location.



In 1968, Ted and Ronnie Vance opened what would become a longtime local business, Ted and Ron's Health Foods. Looking for a new business opportunity, they began hearing about health food stores opening across the country. Curious about this growing industry, they took a road trip throughout the Northwest, visiting health food stores and learning more about the business. That trip became the beginning of Ted and Ron's Health Foods.

The original store opened on Albany Street, where Ted and Ronnie painted the building in patriotic red, white and blue. From the beginning, the store was built around providing customers with healthy products and personal service.

As the business grew, so did its locations and offerings. The family eventually branched out and opened a sandwich shop on Kimball, with the health food store moving next door to 106 S Kimball. Ronnie continued to run the store until her passing in 1994. When we took over the business that year, we changed the name to Ron's Natural Foods.

Later, Ron's Natural Foods became part of Advance Enterprises, along with our sign company, Superior Signs. Superior Signs is celebrating its 40th anniversary on October 1 of this year and is currently managed by our son, Aaron, and his partner, Lance Wilson.

The family tradition for Ron's Natural Foods continued with Ronnie's son, Gary, and his wife, Dana. Over the years, Dana and their two daughters, Jennifer and

Carmen, also worked in the store, helping carry the business forward and keeping it a true family operation.

In 1996, we purchased the Summers Stationary Warehouse on Arthur Street. We loved being downtown and felt it was a wonderful location for the store. Eventually, we sold the property to one of the developers involved with the beginning of Indian Creek Plaza, which eventually led us to our current location at Edmark Plaza.

Growing With Our Customers

When Ted and Ron's first opened, the inventory included grains, flours, teas, vitamins, minerals and healthy oils. Within the first year, the store began carrying some of the name-brand health products entering the market, many of which became longtime favorites.

As the health and nutrition industry changed, so did the store. In 1996, we expanded our inventory to include bodybuilding products, weight-loss products, protein bars, cleansing products and energy products.

We always listened to our customers. When they asked for new or different products, we made every effort to find them and add them to our shelves. That connection helped shape the store throughout the years.

Time for a New Chapter

After more than five decades in business, Gary and I have made the difficult decision to retire. Online shopping has changed the way people purchase health and nutrition products, creating challenges for small local businesses. Our lease is also ending, and renew-

ing it would mean taking on a more expensive lease.

Sales have diminished this year, and during the past three months, access to our store in Edmark Plaza has been limited because of new construction. We are uncertain whether the location will continue to work for us. After all these years, we simply feel that it is time.

Thank You to Our Customers and Staff

I truly want to thank our loyal customers for supporting Ron's Natural Foods throughout the years. They are what made the store special. Our customers were not simply people who walked through the door—they became friends, and they treated our staff as friends as well.

A special thank-you also goes to our longtime employees, Roxie and Jesse. Their dedication, hard work and friendship have meant so much to our family and to the store over the years. We are incredibly grateful for all they have contributed.

About 20 years ago, we created a loyalty program that gave customers a discount on their next order after completing a punch card. It became quite popular and was another way for us to thank the people who supported our family business.

For more than 50 years, our family has been fortunate to be part of this community. We are grateful for every customer, every friendship and every memory made along the way.

Thank you for allowing us to serve you and for making Ron's Natural Foods a part of your lives!



Interwest Supply

- Pivots
- K-Line
- Wheeline & More!



Connor Demond (208) 899-6216
Chris Hoagland (208) 880-4535
Garth Frederick (208) 899-0197

20488 Pinto Lane Caldwell, ID
(208) 453-9155

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HOURS:

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208-459-0816

307 S. Kimball, Caldwell

NATURAL FOODS
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GO YOTES! College of Idaho Football Ranked #1 in NAIA!

by Leora Summers



The crowd in the stands and super fans Leora and Sheila!

WOWZER! As of the game against Montana Tech September 26, the College of Idaho was ranked #1 in the nation in the NAIA! Go Yotes!

Yote Football really start-

ed off with a bang this year and as of September 26, they have an overall win/loss of 4-0, beating Eastern Oregon/37-7, Rocky Mountain College/63-13, Montana State University-



Yotes on the field

Northern/59-14, and Montana Tech/35-19.

I attended the September 26 game and what a game it was! The band played and there were cheerleaders, pom-pom girls and dancers, but most of all, there were 4,194 attendees! The maximum the stadium holds is 4,826.

If you want to watch some great football, come see your local college team play! They are so much fun to watch!

OCT-NOV 7 Game Schedule

10/03: 12pm vs Simpson University (CA)
*wear purple & white
Homecoming at Simplot Stadium

10/17: 1pm vs Montana Western at Dillon, MT
10/24: 7pm vs Eastern Oregon University
*wear pink and black at Simplot Stadium
10/31: 7pm vs Arizona Christian University at Glendale, AZ
11/07: 12pm vs Carroll College (MT) at Simplot Stadium

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Go Cougars! Caldwell High School Soccer

by Leora Summers

Soccer is alive and well for Caldwell High School Boys' and Girls' Teams.

Varsity Boys as of September 30

Overall: 12-1-2
Conference: 10-0-2 (1st)
Idaho 5A Ranking: 4th

Last year the boys soccer team won the state championship and this year they are defending their title. The boys have been hot all season after losing only once to Bishop Kelly in their first matchup. Since then they beat Nampa, tied Vallivue

and went on an 11-game winning streak that ended when they tied Columbia, 1-1 on September 29. Their record ranks them first in the 5A Southern Idaho Conference.

In addition, coaches Rhys Yeakley and Tony Villegas were honored on September 24 for winning their 200th game with the Caldwell Cougars (including 4 state championships).

Big thanks to Coaches Yeakley and Villegas for their dedication to

Caldwell's kids.

Varsity Girls as of September 30

Overall: 9-3-1
Conference: 7-3-1 (2nd)
Idaho 5A Ranking: 6th

The ladies have only lost three times, twice to Vallivue and once to Ridgevue. The have won nine games and tied once ranking them 2nd to Vallivue in the 5A Southern Idaho Conference. Keep up the good work ladies! There are more games to go! Go Cougars!

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Olivia Whitsel is Caldwell School District's 2025-2026 Teacher of the Year



Congratulations to Olivia Whitsel, Caldwell School District's 2025-2026 Teacher of the Year! Olivia is an outstanding American Government teacher at Caldwell High School and goes above and beyond every day for her students, colleagues, and community. She creates authentic civic learning experiences to support nearly every milestone of the senior year and her impact reaches far beyond her classroom.

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Don't Miss Out!

Caldwell Executive Airport Celebrates 50 Years

by Toni Ferro



Debbie (Dishman) Davis standing with newspaper clippings from the opening of the Caldwell Airport in 1976.

The original Caldwell Airport was established in 1928 west of Caldwell Memorial Park. In 1969 an airport needs assessment showed there was no room for the airport to expand and flight patterns went directly over Caldwell Memorial Airport. As a result of the report the State Aeronautics Board and the FAA indicated they

would no longer provide funds for the Caldwell Airport. Nampa jumped on this opportunity and started to purchase additional land and easements to ensure they would be able to expand their airport. It looked as though the Nampa airport would become the only Canyon County airport.

Dean Dishman, the Caldwell Aiport Commissioner at the time refused to let Caldwell lose its airport. He worked tirelessly over the next seven years to get a new site approved and the new Caldwell Airport built at its current location, 4814 Linden.

Dean's daughter, Debbie (Dishman) Davis is keeping the history of the Caldwell Airport alive. She has dozens of newspaper clippings, and artifacts that tell the story of the development of Caldwell's airport. They were all on display at a 50-year celebration she organized at the airport on September 5.

If you missed it, don't worry, Debbie is working to create a permanant historical display at the airport for future generations.

Temporary Restrictions on Pedestrian Bridges Near Plaza



Pedestrian Bridge during Indian Creek Festival
*photo by Leora Summers

The City of Caldwell has implemented temporary restrictions on the Pedestrian bridges near Indian Creek Plaza as a precautionary safety measure following recent bridge inspections and a structural stress analysis.

Pedestrian access on the two bridges has been modified so the center of the bridges is restricted, and pedestrian traffic is directed to designated lanes along the sides. Barriers and signs have been placed to clearly direct pedestrians. For ev-

eryone's safety, the City asks pedestrians not to congregate on the bridges and to continue moving through the designated pedestrian lanes.

"Safety is our top priority, and we are committed to taking the necessary steps to protect everyone who uses these bridges," Mayor Eric Phillips said.

The City appreciates the community's cooperation as this evaluation process continues.

Idaho State Liberty Bell To Stop in Downtown Caldwell

As part of America's 250-year celebration, the Idaho State Liberty Bell will make a stop in downtown Caldwell on Tuesday, October 6, from 3-6pm. The bell will be displayed on the north end of Indian Creek Plaza along Arthur Street.

The Caldwell stop is part of the Idaho State Historical Society's Liberty Bell Tour, giving community members an opportunity to see this historic artifact up close and learn more about its history.

The City of Caldwell is excited to welcome the Liberty Bell Replica to the community and encourages



residents, families, students, and history enthusiasts to take advantage of this opportunity to see the historic artifact in person.

The Idaho State Historical Society preserves and shares artifacts, places, and stories that help tell Idaho's history

and connect Idahoans with the broader history of our state and nation.

Residents are encouraged to join us in Caldwell to see the Idaho Liberty Bell Replica and experience this unique piece of Idaho history.

Road Closures

I-84 started again on Tuesday, Sept. 29, and may extend to Oct. 9 as sidewalks are installed.

The 10th Avenue Westbound freeway onramp on Illinois is closed until May 27, 2027. Construction of sound barriers west of 10th Avenue is causing some streets to be blocked or open only one way.

Weitz Road is closed from Ustick Road to Lonkey Lane until Nov. 13.

The intersection of N 41st Ave, and Everett St is closed until Oct 25.

The intersection of State

Highway 55 (Karcher) and Indiana will be closed through Monday, Oct 5. Indiana Street will remain closed for a way on the Caldwell side until 5 pm Saturday, Oct 10.

Press releases indicate sites where laying asphalt may close roads, but give no dates. Sites are Roosevelt from Indiana to Midway; Riverside from Orchard to Hwy 55, Farmway from Orchard to Hwy 55, Marsing Road from Riverside to Hwy 55, and El Paso Road from Purple Sage to Gallo-way.



The bridge over the Interstate at the Notus exit is closed in both directions. Design work on a new bridge is still underway. A stoplight helps westbound (WB) traffic getting off at the Middleton exit.

Daytime closures of 10th Avenue as it passes under

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What's in the Voter's Guide

This month we include the Legislative District 11 races, two House Joint Resolutions, a Proposition, an Advisory Question, a Canyon County Fee, and two School District levies (Caldwell and Vallivue). Last month's edition of the *Perspective* included Part 1 of our Voter's Guide, which held information about the County, Federal, and State races on our ballots this year.

The information in both parts of the Voter's Guide is available on our website (with hyperlinks!) at caldwellperspective.com/elections.

Legislative District 11 Races

This page covers the contested Legislative District 11 races (uncontested races are not included). Not everyone in Caldwell is in District 11, to find your Legislative District go to bit.ly/4yuBF9q.

In our April edition we included a questionnaire from the District 11 candidates. Those answers are available at caldwellperspective.com/elections. Here we include their photo, name, party, website, and facebook page where available.

Quick Definitions of Statewide Items We Vote On

House or Senate Joint Resolution: A change to the State Constitution is required to be initiated in the State Legislature, approved by both the State House and Senate with two-thirds votes, and approved by the people of Idaho with a majority vote (the Governor's signature is not required). A change to the Constitution appears on our ballots as a House or Senate Joint Resolution depending on which body first voted on the resolution.

Proposition (Initiative or Referendum): The State Constitution gives citizens the right to propose laws (initiative) or reject laws the State Legislature has approved and the Governor has signed (referendum). To get either an initiative or a referendum on the ballot requires the signatures of 6% of the state's registered voters as of the previous election (for the 2026 ballot that was 70,725 signatures). In addition, there is a distribution requirement for the signatures: 6% of voters in at least 18 of our 35 legislative districts need to have signed. Initiatives and referenda show up on our ballot as propositions.

Advisory Question: The State Legislature can get public opinion on an issue by putting it on the ballot as an Advisory Question. Advisory Questions need to be approved by the State House and Senate with majority votes and signed by the Governor. Advisory Questions do not have any impact on the law and do not require the Legislature to abide by the results.

Legislative District 11 Candidates for November 3, 2026

State Senate

Esther Ma,
Constitution Party



Camille Blaylock,
Republican Party
camilleforidaho.com,
fb: Camille for Idaho



Susan Council,
Democratic Party
SusanCouncilforIdaho.com

State House of Representatives Seat B



Debbie Geyer, Republican Party
geyerforidaho.com, fb: Geyer for Idaho



Joshua Preminger, Democratic Party



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Additional events and information can be found online at www.cvmh-vets.org.

Donations are needed, and always appreciated, to help with our outreach programs through the year.

FLAG POLE PROJECT

The Caldwell Veterans Memorial Hall is proud to support our Veteran community through our Flagpole Program. We want to help you proudly display the Stars and Stripes at home.

We provide this service at no cost to disabled Veterans and Widows and Widowers of Veterans.

We provide a flagpole, a U.S. flag, and a solar light.

More Information: (208) 513-0001

HALL RENTAL

Did you know that you can rent out the Caldwell Veterans Memorial Hall for your special events?

We offer an assortment of areas ready for any event. We have a full-service kitchen, as well as a patio, event hall, and other rooms available.

More Information: (208) 402-6590



MEDICARE PLANS are changing IN 2027!

Get the Facts.
Ask the Questions.
Be Prepared!

There are a lot of changes with Medicare Advantage plans this year, including:

- ✓ Premiums and copays may increase
- ✓ Medications may not be covered the same
- ✓ Doctor or hospital networks may change
- ✓ Benefits may be reduced or plans discontinued

Let me help you understand your options so you can make the best decision for your health and budget!

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Sample Ballots Are Available

To see exactly what will be on your ballot when you go to the polls, visit the Secretary of State's election page (voteidaho.gov/idaho-general-election) and click the "Preview Your Sample Ballot" button on the right side. Enter your address and you'll see your ballot for the November 3, 2026 election.



Sample ballot look up page.
bit.ly/4dDl7nq

Statewide Items on our Ballot for November 3, 2026

This year we have four statewide items on our ballot: Two proposed Constitutional changes (House Joint Resolutions 4 and 6), a citizen initiative (Proposition 1), and an Advisory Question.

Voter Pamphlet

The Secretary of State's Office is required to send every household in the state a Voter Pamphlet for statewide election items (not for candidates or anything at the county, city, or district level). This year's Voter Pamphlet is in honor of America 250 and is possibly the nicest in the State's history. It has some short history items, trivia questions, a spot for your "I Voted" sticker, and detailed information about the four statewide items on our ballots.



voteidaho.gov/
idaho-general-election

You can also find all of the information that is in the Voter Pamphlet on the Secretary of State's website at voteidaho.gov/idaho-general-election.

Because the Voter Pamphlet has official information about the statewide items on the ballot, we only include the short versions of the titles that appear on the ballot here.

House Joint Resolution 4

This proposed constitutional amendment would give the Legislature exclusive authority to legalize marijuana, narcotics, or other psychoactive substances in the State of Idaho.

House Joint Resolution 6

This proposed constitutional amendment would designate English as the official state language.

Proposition 1

Measure creating right to abortion before fetus viability, and post-viability to protect health; right to privacy; healthcare provider liability protections.

Idaho Advisory Question

Which of the following guns should be designated as the state gun of Idaho?

NOTE: There is a list of guns on the ballot, and the Voter Pamphlet (sent to every Idaho home and linked above) shows pictures and gives descriptions of each gun.

Local Items on our Ballot for November 3, 2026

This year we have two local items on our ballot: One County-proposed fee and one School District-proposed levy (either Caldwell or Vallivue depending on where you live).

Here we include a summary of the question being posed to the voters as well as an explanation for why the County and the School Districts have had these items placed on the ballot.

Canyon County Vehicle Registration Fee

The Board of Canyon County Commissioners is asking to create a new fee for vehicle registrations: \$20 for cars and \$19 for motorcycles each year.

The Commission voted to put the fee on the ballot after a majority of cities and highway districts in the County requested it, because of an "estimated \$49 million collective annual transportation funding shortfall."

The fee would raise \$4.4 million each year and Caldwell would get about \$600,000 of that. The money would be "exclusively for capital projects, construction, financing, repair, and maintenance, of local highways, roads, and bridges (including traffic congestion relief, safety improvements, and safe routes to schools)."

The specific projects Caldwell would use the money for are improvements at Linden&Indiana, Blaine&27th, and Fire Station #2&Ustick as well as a number of pavement overlay projects.

Caldwell School District Supplemental Levy

The Caldwell School District is asking voters to approve a property tax levy of \$5.8 million per year for two years. This amount would be reduced by the \$4.76 million per year received from the State's Facilities Fund. The remaining \$1.04 million per year would be paid for through property taxes.

The School District voted to put the levy on the ballot, because their General Fund budget is nearly \$46 million annually, however, they get only \$40 million annually from the State for their operations.

The School District estimates that for the average home value in the district (\$376,154), this levy will cost \$45.11 per year or \$3.76 per month.

OR

Vallivue School District Plant Facilities Reserve Fund Levy

The Vallivue School District is asking voters to approve a property tax levy of \$3 million per year for ten years. This levy would be used for the full range of facilities projects that Vallivue will need over the next ten years.

The School District voted to put the levy on the ballot due to their increasing facilities needs caused by the housing growth in their district boundaries.

The School District projects that the property taxes people are required to pay to support the schools will continue to decrease, as they have since 2022, due to the State Facilities Fund offsetting some of their costs and other factors.

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Caldwell Rotary Club Supports Kids and More!

by Shellye Wilson



United for Good! How Caldwell Students Turned Remembrance into Action

by Leslie Babbel & Brenda Fly



Vision Charter School Students at Caldwell Veterans Memorial Hall

On the 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance, the Caldwell Veterans Memorial Hall hosted its first-ever Open House to honor local firefighters and police officers. Organized by Hall Chairman Randy Jensen, DAV Commander Joe Moore, and DAV Senior Vice Commander Jess Hannah, the event fulfilled the vision of former DAV Commander Bob Ashbrook, who passed away days prior, with coordination support from his wife, Elma.

Thirteen National Honor Society students from Vision Charter School volunteered at the

Hall from 9am to 1pm, serving refreshments, welcoming guests, and ensuring local first responders felt genuine appreciation. During a quiet period in the morning, local veteran Gene Clements led the students on a tour highlighting Caldwell's military heroes.

When Travis Palmer, Chairman of the Caldwell Chamber of Commerce, mentioned that the Chamber needed help moving, the students eagerly stepped up. Going beyond their initial commitment, they spent their remaining time packing, cleaning, vacuuming, and removing window art to assist community staff. NHS President Aubrie shared that learning how local organizations collaborate to support one another made the experience deeply rewarding.

Held on a day dedicated to national reflection, the inaugural Open House provided a meaningful reminder that honoring those who have sacrificed inspires ongoing dedication. Through their energy and willingness to help, these young volunteers demonstrated how service continues to strengthen, unify, and uplift the Caldwell community.

Coming in November: Community Food Drive

November is a time to help neighbors in need. Across Idaho, 1 in 7 people experience food in-

security, including 18% of children. In honor of America's 250th anniversary, the Treasure Valley aims to collect 250,000 pounds of non-perishable food. All donations collected in Caldwell stay in Caldwell supporting our local pantries.

How to Help (Saturday, Nov. 14)

- **Porch Pickup:** Leave items on your doorstep if your neighborhood receives a doorhanger.
- **City Hall Drop-Off:** Bring donations to the City Hall parking lot from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.
- **Direct Pantry Donations:** Drop off non-perishable items and hygiene products at local food pantries for the whole month.
- **High-Need Items:** Canned goods, cereal, peanut butter, beans, rice, and hygiene products.

Find Other Ways To Serve on JustServe.org

- **Canyon Springs High School** needs deodorant - all schools need hygiene items
- **Traveling Table Pantry** - volunteer 2nd Wednesday of each month at Wilson Elementary 4-6pm
- **Pick apples at the Caldwell Orchards** - anytime from sun-up to sun-down, more info on [JustServe.org](#)
- **Donate Halloween costumes and candy** for the families under the care of Advocates Against Family Violence; 1508 Hope Ln
- **Lower Dam Trash Clean Up** - 15013 Riverside Rd Oct 10 9am to 12pm

Come Join A Fall Caldwell Prayer Walk

by Arlene Robinett



Last Year's Prayer Walk Group

The prayer walk group will meet at 3pm at Caldwell Memorial Park, 619 Irving on October 17. Anyone can join the walk.

From the park the walk first goes to the Caldwell Police Department to pray over their employees, then on to the Nancolas Center where our City Hall and Treasure Valley Community College is located, to pray over our Mayor, City Council members, other leaders and to pray over the students and teachers who go to Treasure Valley Community College and to pray over all the students and teachers in Caldwell and the Caldwell Schools.

The walkers will then move on to the Plaza and then to the Fire Station nearby to pray for all Caldwell businesses to do well and to pray for our firefighters, paramedic and healthcare workers before walking back to Memorial Park where they will pray for all our city's people to have a good life.

A potluck dinner follows the walk. Chicken and water will be furnished. Everyone is invited to come pray over our wonderful city and to join the potluck afterwards.

For more information you may call or text Arlene Robinett at 208-391-8516.

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Caldwell American Legion Presents Police and Fire Awards

by Jeanie Meholchick



Caption J. D. Hendrick of the Caldwell Fire Department and Commander Tom Marmon of the Loren M. Trotter American Legion Post 35

At their monthly meeting on September 15, Commander, Tom Marmon, of the Loren M. Trotter American Legion Post 35 proudly presented the Firefighter of the Year and Law Enforcement Officer of the Year awards.

The recipients are:

Firefighter of the Year: Captain J.D. Hendrick, Caldwell Fire Department

Law Enforcement of the Year: Interim Captain Damon Rice, Caldwell Police Department

Congratulations to these award winners and thanks for all you do for Caldwell.



Interim Captain Damon Rice of the Caldwell Police Department and Commander Tom Marmon of the Loren M. Trotter American Legion Post 35

The First Church in Caldwell Celebrates 150 Years!

by Aidan Lorenz



The First Baptist Church of Caldwell, 1884

Caldwell's first church congregation was established in 1876, a few miles west of present city limits by Idaho pioneer Rev. Benjamin Franklin Morrow, who



Today's First Baptist Church of Caldwell

arrived in Idaho by wagon train in 1864.

In 1884, the congregation built the first church building in Caldwell on the corner of 11th Ave. and Chica-

go St. and called themselves the First Baptist Church of Caldwell, a name the church still holds today.

In 1911, the church outgrew that facility and built

a lovely new church on the corner of 10th and Blaine, where members continued to worship until 1970. They moved once again, when the current church building at 221 E Linden was completed.

Over the decades, many faithful pastors have preached the Word of God in this church and numerous missionaries have been sent out and supported as they proclaimed the saving gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ throughout the world.

The current senior pastor,

Brett Siegalkoff, has been faithfully serving at First Baptist Church since he was called to the church in 2017, following the retirement of one of the longest-tenured pastors, Richard Shaw, in 2016.

A number of celebrations are planned throughout the month of October to commemorate the Lord's faithfulness to and through this local church over the last 150 years. "May the Lord be gracious to this church and to Caldwell for the next 150 years!"

Feed the 2C Idaho: A Volunteer Community Food Effort!



Feed the 2C volunteers who made the lunches one day.

Feed the 2C Idaho is a volunteer-run community food effort helping students, families, seniors, shelters, and local pantries across Canyon County access ready-to-eat meals, snacks, and donated food.

Founded in 2022, Feed the 2C Idaho began by providing sack lunches for the community fridge at Flying M Coffeehouse in Caldwell and has grown into a volunteer-powered network serving schools, shelters, senior housing, public pantries, and community organizations throughout Caldwell and Nampa.

Each week, the group prepares more than 140 sack lunches, including 40 weekly lunches for Canyon Springs High School students, and provides approximately 500 snacks and drinks each month to the Gateways Program in Nampa for special needs students who may need food or drink during the school day. Feed the 2C Idaho also

rescues food from two Starbucks locations three times a week and redistributes it to trusted community partners, including Caldwell Veterans Hall, Caldwell Senior Center, Hope's Door Shelter, Valley Women and Children's Shelter, Nampa Salvation Army Family Shelter, Golden Glow Towers Senior Apartments, and the Nampa Family Justice Center.

The effort is completely

community-run and community-funded, supported by local donors, an Amazon wish list, volunteers, and ongoing food donations from St. Luke's Nampa.

This holiday season, Feed the 2C Idaho is seeking non-perishable food, frozen turkeys or hams, and Thanksgiving and Christmas meal items to help local families in need.

For donations, school referrals, or community partnership opportunities, contact:

Feed the 2C Idaho

Tami Blayne
Email: feedthe2c@outlook.com
Instagram and Facebook: [Feedthe2CIdaho](#)

"For when you saw me hungry, you fed me. When you found me thirsty, you gave me a drink. When I had no place to stay, you invited me in." Matthew 25:35

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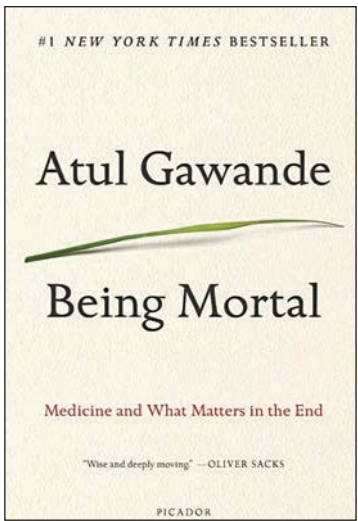
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"Being Mortal" by Atul Gawande

Book Review by Leora Summers



If we are lucky enough, we will all get the chance to become older, and with that comes challenges. This book by Atul Gawande, a surgeon who turned physician/author, navigates the issues of

aging, medicine and what really matters in the end. After marrying, Atul became aware of some of the issues affecting the care of the elderly after observing the aging of his mother-in-law and her increasing needs. Through this relationship, he found the power of purpose. He observed and enhanced the lives of those in nursing care facilities. It was amazing to see how he did that. He made changes in the old style of nursing home care of controlling everything in the lives of patients, to the new idea of having patients (residents) have more control and purpose in their lives, which created more positive outcomes and levels of happiness.

Simple changes, like having pets and animals and plants and gardens to be responsible and care for, gave purpose to residents, and the happiness of residents improved and so did their outcomes and the quality of their lives. He had to face dealing with the healthcare of the elderly even more when his father's health put him in this position. Prior to this, he had learned many things about the improvements in medical care, which had both positive and negative effects in the treatment of the terminally ill which may have prolonged their suffering, which may have ultimately taken away the quality of life left for them. In the past, doctors learned

all about the pathology of disease and treatments, but somehow failed to learn to listen to their patients' real needs and to listen and care about their concerns. Doctors failed to offer comfort and failed to talk honestly about procedures and possible consequences and dangers of treatments. The question then became, did the patient want to increase their time here on earth having expensive and long drawn out treatments that may only add a few more months to their mortal life with miserable side effects, or to not agree to those treatments and try to enjoy the time they have left, but with a better quality of life? The basic responsibilities of

the modern doctor is to provide honesty and kindness and to listen to their patients needs after they have been made aware of their options. The modern doctor needs to recognize that it is then up to their patient to decide what is best for them after they have been made aware of the pros and cons of those options. In the end, the patient needs to be able to make the decision best for them, which may not necessarily be what the medical model proposes. This was a worthwhile read. Many things were discussed and it was good to see the changes in care in some care facilities. This gives you some things to look for in the care of your elderly that have not been available before.

Like Riding a Bicycle

by Stan Soran



I hadn't given a bicycle much thought, but my sister had one that she never rode. It had sat around long enough that the tubes had gone bad and the paint had faded, so Dad had done a restoration on it in hopes that she'd use it to get around on. Still it sat unused out by the garage, so I decided to give it a try one afternoon. Being a girl's bike made it a little easier to get on, but first, I got it out in the street, arranged the pedals like I'd seen the other neighborhood kids do, got it rolling, foot on one pedal, push off, step through and started wobbling down the street. I was doing it! Riding a bicycle first time out down Hire Street! This is pretty cool! I gained a little speed past the sheep pasture, McClure's and Mr. Bandy's, but then I realized I didn't know how to stop or turn. I quickly formulated a plan that would have instant, if not good results. I ran the bike into the back of Bob Tyson's car. The noise brought

them out of the house and after making sure that I and the car were ok, set me back on the bike, and headed me back the other direction. The return trip was much smoother and I rode to a slow rolling crash in the front yard. Then almost immediately, Sis holler's, "Hey that's my bike!" So that was a couple wins for the day. I figured out how to ride a bicycle, sort of, and Danise rediscovered hers. That set the wheels (pun intended) in motion for a birthday present, and that November, I got a red and white JC Higgins 26" bicycle. Though I was thrilled, there was no way it could be adjusted so that I could reach the pedals to ride it. So we loaded it into the back of the 1949 Mercury and headed to Sears to exchange it for a smaller model. This one was too big for the trunk and also too long to be able to close both back doors, so my brother held the bike while I held onto the door. Sounds safe enough right? The folks

at Sears exchanged the bike for the next smaller size which also fit inside the car with both doors closed. Getting used to the boy-style bike took some practice. At first I had to take off from a step or a block, which meant I had to plan everything in a round trip. I figured out how to turn and brake without the use of a parked car and how to dismount without crashing. The next priority was to take it to the "tar pits," which was a stretch of soft wavy pavement on Marble Front Road down by the "two trees." In those days, everything was located by simply named landmarks. The idea was to get up to top speed and just at the front of the pits slam on the brakes to see how long a patch of rubber you could lay down. You got extra points for getting the tire to squeal while sliding sideways. We raced downhill, made trails in the hillsides, built ramps to jump over and rode for miles in any direction. I could take myself to baseball practice and occasionally ride to school. Riding across town to a friend's house was now possible. I think the longest trip I took was with my pal Bart on his tandem Schwinn when we rode over to Boise for an afternoon of riding the elevator at the Bank of Idaho until they kicked us out of the building. We didn't make it all the way

home though, as Bart forgot to fill his Mom in on the details of our trip and we were intercepted outside of Star. I discovered this machine could also be a source of revenue! My friends had paper routes and occasionally needed substitutes when weather was crappy, on holidays or when fee collection was needed. Unpleasant for sure but a source for my own money! One of the first changes I made, was adding a few play-

ing cards and a couple of clothes pins that when properly clipped, made a satisfying motor sound. Never one to leave something alone, I swapped parts out, added parts on, repainted and customized my bikes. The principle was the same for bicycles, cars and government programs. Just because something is working doesn't mean it couldn't be made better by messing with it.

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Dave's Big Backyard

by Dave McCormick



Neil J. Macleod

On September 16th, I lost a dear friend and a fishing buddy. Neil Macleod and I had become friends in high school. We had chemistry under the tutelage of Mr. Gruver. Ted Gruver had a rather dry sense of humor. He called me "McDave" and Neil, "McNeil." We both liked him.

After graduation, Neil and my friendship continued. Neil went to the U of I and I enrolled in TVCC. Neil later married and started a family. I was working and going to Boise State College. It was during this time that we both became passionate about fly fishing.

We began tying our own flies. We were not the first to use float tubes or belly boats as some called them, but we were close behind some of those pioneers, such as Don Stockdale, Darryl Grimm and Ed Torrey. I remember fishing Clark Canyon Reservoir in Montana. After landing a pair of 4-pound brown trout, Darryl Grimm paddled over and asked to see my fly. Darryl Grimm asking me for advice was a huge deal. We would also run into this trio at Henry's Lake.

Marv Taylor was an outdoor writer for the Statesman. On a weekend at Henry's, Marv was there. A Marabou damselfly nymph Neil had tied was working particularly well. Marv mentioned that fly and the creator in his weekly column. We were not yet fly-fishing rock stars, but we were working on it.

In the late 1970s, bass fishing was gaining in popularity, so Neil and I thought we would give it a try. We signed up for a tournament that was to take place on Owyhee Reservoir. That first tournament established one thing, we may have been pretty good fly casters. We sure were no bass fishermen. I loved the sport.

In 1981, I bought a brand-new Monarch bass boat. It was small, but I caught a lot of fish from that little skiff. Neil wasn't as enthusiastic about bass fishing as I was, and though I kept fishing tournaments with some degree of success, the first tournament was Neil's last.

In 1989, I decided steelhead fishing was something worth pursuing. It was the first of November, cold and rainy, but I caught a steelhead, casting from the shore. Next weekend, Neil and I went up with our 14-foot aluminum boat. I caught a couple of fish, but Neil was unsuccessful. Though failing to land a fish, he was hooked.

In 1999, Neil bought a twenty-foot jet boat. Now we had a real steelhead fishing machine. Some of my best memories are fishing with Neil and his wife Linda, staying at the Riggins Motel and playing three-handed pinocle after dinner at the Summer-ville Café.

Other years, we stayed in our RVs at Island Bar. This way we could launch our boats once, leave them in the river overnight, and be ready to go in the morning. There was always a party at Island Bar.

Fish and Game are predicting a record low run in both the Clearwater and Salmon Rivers. Without my long-time friend, not sure I will pursue the ocean run chromers.

Whether I'm there or not, the Salmon River Canyon will forever echo with the infectious laughter of Neil J. Macleod.

Local Dirt, Oktoberfest 2026

by Pat King



Yes, I wrote Oktoberfest in the heading, as being part German. I recently found out about a long separated wing of my family, who are in Texas, and are the founders of the German festival in their community. My parish hosts an Oktoberfest every October to support local charities during winter time.

I love the Fall season. It was always the big indicator of significant changes in everyone's life. Sensible people wear more clothes. I usually put on pants after the first time my knee sticks to the ground because it's too cold on the ground. Activities start to head indoors and RV's are put in storage all over the valley. Leaves start to fall. Petunias hang onto the last rays of sunshine before giving up the ghost. One thing that doesn't seemed to go dormant for the winter is the road construction.

There are things to pay attention to as these changes take place. Water gets shutoff for most who are on pressurized irrigation systems. The canals get shut down and drained. Only the big pumping stations DO NOT BLOW OUT their systems. They just open up ends of lines and let them drain. It is on you to make sure that your system is shutoff from the main system, so that someone blowing out theirs downstream doesn't refill yours with other's water. This also prevents big leaks or flooding in the

spring when you've isolated yourself from the main system. Caution; YOU DO NOT NEED EVERY DROP OF WATER REMOVED FROM YOUR SYSTEM. So don't over-blow out your sprinklers. High air pressure and volume can damage valves and sprinklers.

Pruning; well I can give you general pruning suggestions, but every specific plant has more specific pruning needs to be considered. Trees, shrubbery and perennials all need to be pruned, but location and type determines how they get pruned. I'll give a couple situations. Roses; you may have them in a very sunny location during the summer but as winter sun moves lower into the southern horizon, your rose bush could live in almost total shade during winter. You do not want to do a heavy fall pruning but a shaping or cleanup pruning, leaving as much foliage on to protect from the winter harshness. If the ground freezes during the winter, it would be prudent to place pine shavings around the roots to protect them from the deeper freeze. Save the deep pruning for mid-April when the fear of damaging frost is over.

Perennials; depending on type, can handle some heavy pruning, but you don't want to lose sight of what was there, so you don't accidentally pull it or spray it thinking it's a weed. Put a marker flag in the area identifying the plant name and location. But you're probably not like me, who every spring, I have to recall everything there, after my fall blowout of my fall cleanup. For the life of me, I have to open my book to remember the plant names every spring. So mark, tag or take a picture of your perennials before you say, I thought I planted something there.

Until next time, Pat

Southwest Idaho Birders Association

by JC Clancy



Evening Grosbeak

Fall of 2026 is shaping up as a season to remember for Canyon County birders. Sightings of uncommon or rare species, including Cassin's Finches, Evening Grosbeaks and Lewis's Wood-

peckers have become – well, common. They've been seen and/or heard in several spots from Fort Boise WMA to Canyon Hill Cemetery to Deer Flat NWR as well as in backyards. The list goes on:

Fox Sparrows, at least one Eastern Blue Jay, Clark's Nutcrackers. It's a feast for a bird-er's eye when birds as colorful as the grosbeaks show up, not just one at a time, but in flocks of five to a dozen and start feeding on seeds in some of the most colorful fall trees.

Many local birders report their findings on eBird, the popular worldwide forum for data on bird sightings. The highest number of species reported by an individual in Canyon County last year was 202, by SIBA president Cheryl Huizinga. Her highest ever annual count was 212 in 2015, and she doesn't recall why it was especially high. By the end of September this year, 5 birders had reported 200 or more birds, with SIBA field

trip leader James Jarrett in the lead. It's likely those high numbers will have risen quite a bit between this writing and the time it goes into print. It may be a record-breaking species count this year!

What's causing it? It's migration season of course, when many flocks of birds are moving through. There have been extra high temperatures both winter and summer during the past year. Some changes in range have been forced by large burned areas. All these factors affect the food supply, and for migrating birds, food supply is survival.

Of course it's not just Canyon County. SIBA will be hoping for still more unusual birds on their next field trip

to Cascade Lake on Sat., Oct. 10. Trekkers will gather at the Chevron gas station in Horseshoe Bend at 7:30 a.m. and form carpools to drive to Cascade Lake looking for migrating waterfowl, gulls, terns, and loons. This will be an all-day trip so bring water, lunch, binoculars, and layers for fall weather.

Registration is required by email to trip leader James Jarrett at SIBAFieldTrip@gmail.com.

SIBA has canceled the planned Oct. 8 meeting but will meet on Nov. 12 at 7 p.m. at the Deer Flat NWR Visitor Center with Zoom option. The focus will be election of 2027 board and showing of members' photos. For more information, see the October SIBA newsletter online.

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Leora and Cintia

Twenty years ago, I met a young girl from Brazil. I was her Rotary Youth Exchange Counselor when she came to Caldwell to attend Caldwell High School. She was excited to be here and it was the first time Caldwell Rotary Club hosted a student when I was in Rotary. She was outgoing and stayed

in two different homes during her stay. She graduated from Caldwell High School with her senior class that year. While she was here, I even had her help at the Caldwell Farmers Market when it was near the Keystone Pizza downtown. I had the pleasure of reconnecting with her this past

month when she came up from Brazil to attend the wedding of one of her host mother's daughters. Twenty years! WOW!

About 10 years later after Cintia, my husband and I became "host parents." I didn't really want to because my daughters had already graduated from high school, but we did it anyway through Rotary. I was in charge of our exchange program and we placed our students with 3 different families during their year-long stay to give them three different experiences so they would know that not every family in the USA was the same.

First, We had girl from Germany, Annika, and the next year we had a boy from Chile, Byron. During my "son's" stay my "daughter" came back for a couple week visit and that was really fun seeing them together. Annika would test Byron to the limit, but they both enjoyed their experience together.

For not really wanting to do this in the first place, we were so lucky to have had that experience. It truly broadened our world. We now have ties to Brazil, Chile and Germany. Cintia is a lawyer in Chile and newly engaged to be married. Byron is an airplane

by Leora Summers
pilot in Chile with hopes of going international and has a wife and two little ones. Annika is married and is an elementary teacher in Germany. All three wanted to be immersed in English for various reasons and their exchanges gave them that opportunity.

We keep up with them and we were so lucky to have had them in our lives. And now I would not have traded any of it. Sometimes the things we didn't think we wanted, made us grow in ways we never would have imagined. Be brave, try something new and you may even broaden your world!

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"Leslie's doing a good job. I like the way that the county is being run." "I'm not running to change course."

LESLIE'S EIGHT-YEAR RECORD AS COMMISSIONER



Asked to resign by eight elected Canyon County officials, but refused to step down (2022).



\$10,497,666 spent on POD 6 jail trailers; county forced to pull out of bad contract, left with no tangible asset (2024). Valuable time and money lost to inflation.



Campaigned against securing funding for public safety; kicked the issue down the road, ensuring it did not endanger her reelection — she left the public at risk.



Mishandled the West Valley Humane Society contract, damaging a vital community partnership (2026).



Canyon County received a non-renewal notice on its insurance policy with ICRMP (2022).



Salary & benefits cost to taxpayers during Leslie Van Beek's tenure: \$1,058,000.



Commissioner Van Beek's parting gift? Trying to pick her own replacement for you.

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