

Caldwell BRIDGING COMMUNITY & COMMERCE PERSPECTIVE

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Edition 137 | APRIL 2026

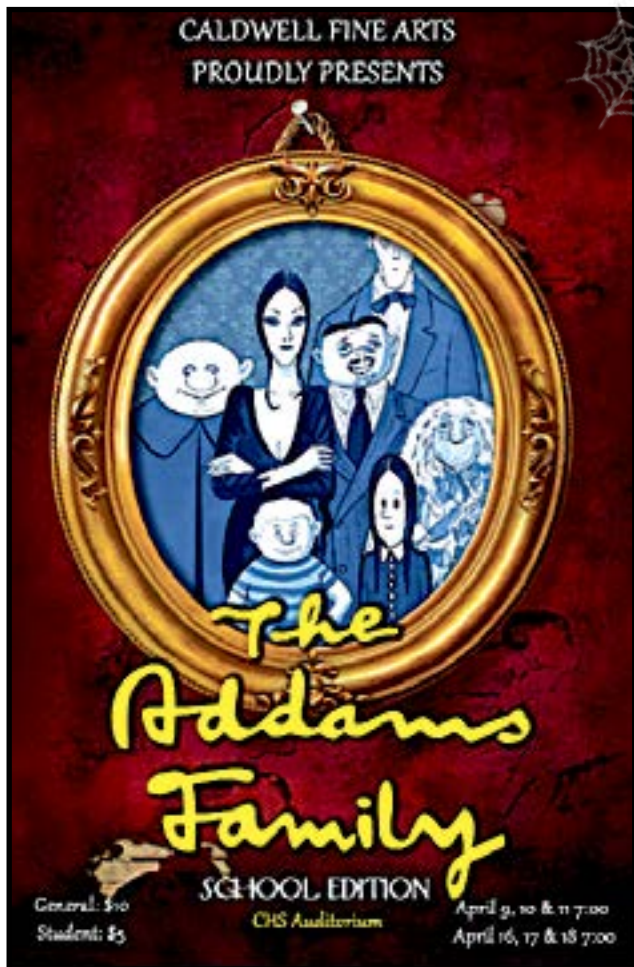
Community Calendar pgs 2-3

VOTER'S GUIDE pgs 7-10

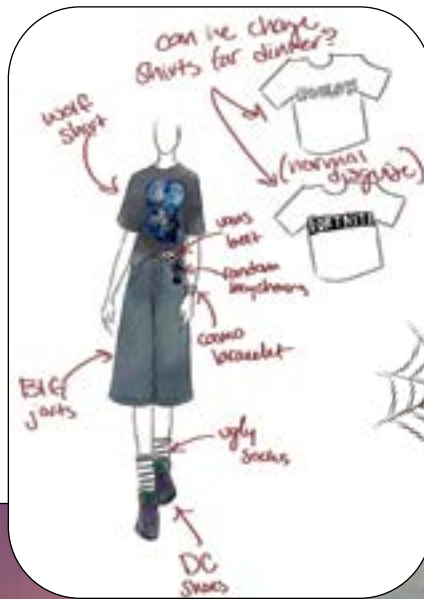
Ask RN Jenn p15

"They're creepy and they're kooky, mysterious and spooky..."

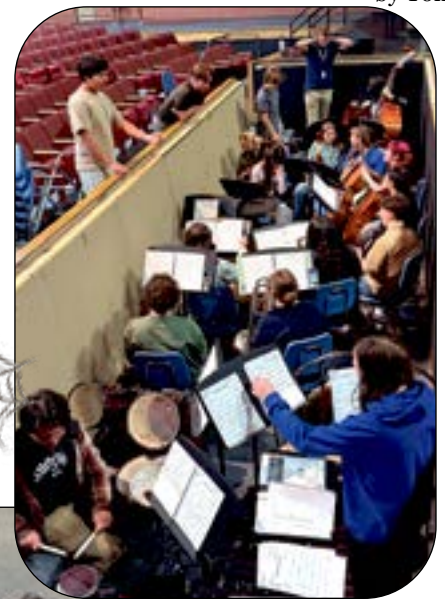
by Toni Ferro



Right: CHS Senior Rachel Noonan's costume design sketch for Pugsley Addams.



Below: CHS Sophomore Sophie Miller (center) as the lead "ancestor" onstage, offstage she manages the set construction.



Above: The orchestra rehearsing in the close quarters of the orchestra pit.



Left: CHS Sophomore Samantha Worthen painting part of the set. She plays Wednesday Addams in the production.

Caldwell High School's 2026 spring production is a musical version of the '60s TV show, "The Addams Family."

CHS has a long history of putting on crowd-pleasing musicals and this year looks like it will be no different.

English Teacher and Yearbook Advisor, Piper Gearheart, is at the helm of the production, supported by Theater and Speech and Debate teacher/coach, Lance Morris; Orchestra teacher,

Rebecca Chevarria; Choir teacher, Jackson Hart; and Band Director, Nathan Cockrum.

The production will show off the talents of dozens of CHS students. Ten students will be on stage as leads, 12 will be on stage as part of the "ancestor" ensemble, 20 will be in the band and orchestra, 6 will be stage hands, and 2 will be in the tech booth.

In addition to their work during the performances, students are responsible for

lighting and sound design, costume design and construction, prop design, and set design and construction.

Rehearsals have been four days a week for three hours a day since January (though not all rehearsals include every student) and Gearheart has been working on the production for about a year. For the final two weeks, rehearsals shifted to 6 hours a day as it was all hands on deck to get the sets and costumes completed and the

performances polished.

Gearheart explained that the community has played an important role in the production as well. Parents brought food to the last two weeks of rehearsals and donations from the community have made the production possible. Donations help cover the cost of the rights to the musical as well as costumes (mostly pieced together from thrift-store items), makeup kits, equipment, sets, paint, and more.

The teachers and students are hoping to see lots of members of the community in the audience for their six productions.

Shows are April 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, and 18 at 7pm at the CHS Auditorium (3401 S Indiana). Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for general admission. These shows are a great opportunity to support these hard-working students while also treating your family to a funny and fun musical comedy.

May 19th Pull-Out Voter's Guide Inside - Get the Info You Need



This year we will elect a Governor, a US Senator, a US Rep, three State Legislators, two County Commissioners and more. See the handy pull-out voter's guide inside (pages 7-10) for more information.

The May 19th election is a primary, so voters will vote on ballots that correspond to the political party they selected when they registered to vote.

Voters will vote for the candidate they prefer from within their party. The winners of the primary will

move on to the General Election in November when candidates from every party and independents will be on the ballot for everyone.

State Legislative District 11 (LD11) covers most of Caldwell. Candidates for LD11 State Senate and State Representative answered a four-part questionnaire about why they are running and the issues they are focused on addressing. Their responses are included in the voter's guide unedited.

Election day is May 19th and early voting runs week-

days from 8am-5pm April 27th to May 15th.

If you are not registered or have recently moved, you can register to vote online at the State's website - voteidaho.gov - or register in person when you go to vote. (Be sure to visit voteidaho.gov for information on the documents you'll need before you go.)

For more information about voting, visit the state's website at voteidaho.gov and the county elections office at elections.canyoncounty.id.gov.

APRIL 18

YMCATVIDAHO.ORG | Financial assistance is available.

HEALTHY KIDS DAY

Free To The Public!

the **Y**

NATIONAL SPONSORS

Caldwell COMMUNITY CALENDAR

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY



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

FRIDAYS
Magic the Gathering Commander Casual at Rubaiyat
 4/17 Prerelease Secrets of Strixhaven
 5-9 pm, 314 S 6th

SATURDAYS
Magic the Gathering Commander Casual at Rubaiyat
 4/18 Prerelease Secrets of Strixhaven
 6-11 pm, 314 S 6th

Individual Events
SATURDAY 4/4
Caldwell Easter Egg Scramble
 10am-noon, 619 Irving (Memorial Park)

Community Easter Egg Hunt at Calvary Chapel
 11 am-2 pm, 911 Everett

Gigi's In-Shop Easter Egg Hunt
 11 am-6 pm, 215 S 9th

Planetarium Show: Spring Stargazing
 1:30-2:30 pm, 2212 Cleveland, Boone Science Hall, Cofl

Linda Hamilton: Fourth Wife, Author Release + Q&A with Steph Nelson
 5-7 pm, 106 S. Kimball (Shared Stories)

SUNDAY 4/5
Easter Sunday
89th Annual Lizard Butte Easter Sunrise Service
 7:20-8 am, Lizard Butte, Hwy 55/Sunny Slope

Easter at Dunning Estates Western Winery
 noon-3 pm, 19937 Vino Ln

MONDAY 4/6
Caldwell City Council Meeting
 6:00-8:30 pm, 205 S 6th (Caldwell City Hall).
 Livestream: [youtube.com/@cityofcaldwell178/streams](https://www.youtube.com/@cityofcaldwell178/streams)

TUESDAY 4/7
City Rec Craft Minicamp, Ages 5-10
 5 pm, 504 Grant St. (Roberts Recreation Center) \$20, register at bit.ly/3PM06hh

WEDNESDAY 4/8
Weaver's Guild Study Group at Rubaiyat
 11 am-2 pm, 314 S 6th

THURSDAY 4/9
City Rec Teen Art Studio, Ages 11-17
 6 pm, 504 Grant (Roberts Recreation Center) \$30, register at bit.ly/3PM06hh

SW ID Birders Association Club Meeting
 7-9 pm, Deerflat NWR Visitor Center and Zoom

FRIDAY 4/10
Good Time Charlie at Cherry Hill Farms
 11 am-3 pm, 19125 Apricot Lane, Free Admission

THURSDAY 4/9 - SATURDAY 4/11
CHS Presents The Addams Family Musical
 7-9 pm, 3401 S Indiana (CHS Auditorium), \$10 General, \$5 Students

SATURDAY 4/11
SW ID Birders Association Field Trip
 7am-noon, Triangle Restaurant, 8770 Hwy 52, Sweet, ID, email: SIBAFieldTrip@gmail.com

Dunning Estates Western Winery Live Music +Food
 noon-3 pm, 19937 Vino Ln

Mike Johnston Band at Cherry Hill Farms
 12-2 pm, 19125 Apricot Ln

Cookbook Club and Potluck at Shared Stories
 7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball Book: *Pass the Plate*

SUNDAY 4/12
Sunday Sips & Sounds at Ste. Chapelle Winery
 1-4pm Nikki Barrett, 19348 Lowell Rd, Free admission, reservations suggested

MONDAY 4/13
Fantasy Book Club at Shared Stories
 7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball Book: *The Traitor Baru Cormorant*

TUESDAY 4/14
Becoming Idaho with Dr. F Ross Peterson
 7 pm, 1010 Dearborn (Caldwell Public Library)

WEDNESDAY 4/15
Board Game Day at Rubaiyat
 1 - 4 pm, 314 S 6th

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

Horror Book Club at Shared Stories
 7-8:30 pm, 106 S Kimball Book: *Wolfworm*

THURSDAY 4/16 - SATURDAY 4/18
CHS Presents The Addams Family Musical
 7-9 pm, 3401 S Indiana (CHS Auditorium), \$10 General, \$5 Students

FRIDAY 4/17
World Malbec Fest at Huston Vineyards
 6:30-9:30 pm, 16473 Chicken Dinner Rd Tickets at hustonvineyards.com

SATURDAY 4/18
Caldwell Community Cleanup Day
 9 am-noon, 205 S 6th, text 208-614-8286 to register

Hello Dollie Show and Sale
 10 am-3 pm, 2915 S Montana, Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, \$3, 12 and u free

World Malbec Fest at Huston Vineyards
 noon-5 pm, 16473 Chicken Dinner Rd. Tickets at hustonvineyards.com

Spring Prayer Walk and Potluck
 3-6 pm, Starts and ends at 619 Irving (Memorial Park)

Taste of Caldwell Wine Festival
 5-8 pm, 120 S Kimball (The Plaza), free to attend

Literature, Libations, and Live Music at Shared Stories
 7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball

Planetarium Show: Star Stories in the Spring Sky
 7-8 pm, 2212 Cleveland, Boone Science Hall, College of Idaho, adults \$14, students \$7

MONDAY 4/20
Caldwell City Council Meeting
 6:00-8:30 pm, 205 S 6th (Caldwell City Hall).
 Livestream: [youtube.com/@cityofcaldwell178/streams](https://www.youtube.com/@cityofcaldwell178/streams)

Nonfiction Book Club at Shared Stories
 7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball, Book: *Jesus and John Wayne*

TUESDAY 4/21
2026 Henberg Environmental Lecture
 6-7 pm, 2112 Cleveland, Langroise Center, Cofl

TUESDAY 4/21 - THURSDAY 4/23
Annual Caldwell School District Art Show
 4-7 pm 3401 S Indiana (CHS Auditorium)

WEDNESDAY 4/22
Earth Day Service Day
 9 am-1 pm, Deer Flat NWR

WEDNESDAY 4/22 (continued)
Caldwell Health and Resource Fair
 9 am-2 pm, 2207 Blaine, (O'Connor Fieldhouse)

FRIDAY 4/24
Winery After Hours at Ste. Chapelle (RSVP)
 6-9 pm, 19348 Lowell Rd. \$25, RSVP: [exploretock.com/ste-chapelle-winery-caldwell](https://www.exploretock.com/ste-chapelle-winery-caldwell)

FRIDAY 4/24 - SUNDAY 4/26
Home & Lifestyle Expo
 12-6 pm (Friday), 10 am-5 pm (Saturday), 11am-4 pm (Sunday), 110 S Georgia (Canyon County Fair Bldg)

SATURDAY 4/25
Indie Bookstore Day at Shared Stories
 10 am-9 pm, 106 S Kimball

Heap Herders Spring Bling
 10 am-2 pm, 619 Irving (Memorial Park)

Idaho British Car Club Show
 12-6 pm 11901 River Rock Ln (Yarnageddon)

Beet City Bombers vs. Carson City Victory Rollers
 4:30-7 pm, 2207 Blaine (O'Connor Fieldhouse)

SUNDAY 4/26
Silent Book Club at Bond and Bevel
 5-7 pm, 107 S 7th, Chit-chat followed by reading

TUESDAY 4/28
Classics Book Club at Shared Stories
 10 am-noon, 106 S Kimball, Book: *The Picture of Dorian Grey*

SATURDAY 5/2
May Edition of the Caldwell Perspective arrives.

SUNDAY 5/3
Sunday Sips & Sounds at Ste. Chapelle Winery
 1-4 pm, Timothy Swanson, 19348 Lowell Rd, Free, reservations suggested

75th Anniversary Open House at the P.E.O. Chapter House
 2-5 pm, 114 East Logan

Rubaiyat Community Garden Fae Ball
 4-7 pm, 314 S 6th, buy tickets at the Rubaiyat

MONDAY 5/4
Caldwell Centennial Band May The 4th Be With You
 7:30 pm (doors at 7), 3401 S Indiana (CHS Auditorium), \$10

THURSDAY 4/16
City Rec Teen Art Studio, Age 11-17
 6 pm, 504 Grant (Roberts Recreation Center)
 continued from 4-9, register at bit.ly/3PM06hh

Caldwell Fine Arts presents musical Trio Bon Debarras
 7-8:30 pm, 2112 Cleveland, Jewett Auditorium, Cofl, for tickets: caldwellfinearts.org

Romance Book Club at Shared Stories
 7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball Book: *The Thorn Birds*

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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.

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We mail the Caldwell Perspective to over 12,000 homes and businesses each month by Every Door Direct Mail. If you are not on one of the 17 mail carrier routes the Perspective is delivered to, you can:

Pick up a hard copy of the paper at the Rubaiyat Bookstore (314 S 6th), Shared Stories Bookstore (106 S Kimball), or Stewart's Bar and Grill (2805 Blaine).

Subscribe (\$48 annually) by going to caldwellperspective.com/about and scrolling down a little or emailing Toni Ferro at advertising@caldwellperspective.com.

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).

CALDWELL PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

National Library Week is April 19-25
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

MONDAYS

Baby Story Time: Apr. 6, 13, 20, 27 at 10 am | Ages 0-1; 10:45 am | Ages 1-2; 11:30 am | Ages 0-2

Knitting & Crochet Social: Apr. 13, 1:30-3 pm | Ages 18+

Teen Book Club: Apr. 13, 5:30-6:30 pm | Ages 13-17 Read a coming of age book and discuss it with friends over snacks.

Youth Chess Club: Apr. 6, 4-5 pm | Ages 8-17

TUESDAYS

Spanish & English Storytime: Apr. 7, 14, 21, 28 at 10:30 am | Ages 2-6

Mobile Health Clinic at the Library: Apr. 7: Call 208-367-4483 for appointment.

Neurodivergent Caregivers Group: Apr. 7, 1-2pm | Ages 18+

Board Game Night: Apr. 7, 6:30-8:30 pm | All ages

Lego Club: Apr. 14, 4:30-5:30 pm | Ages 7-16 Build a flag.

Becoming Idaho with Dr. F. Ross Peterson, Apr 14, 7-8 pm, ages 18+

Paws to Read: Apr. 21, 5-6 pm | Ages 7-14 Read to a dog.

Basic Resume Building, Apr 21 | 7-8 pm, ages 18+

WEDNESDAYS

Music & Movement: Apr. 8, 15, 22, 29 at 10:30 am | Ages 2-6

Tech Lab: Apr. 8, 10 am -Noon | Ages 18+

Afterschool Fun: 3:30 pm | Ages 5-12. Apr. 8 Master Gardeners: How seeds turn into soil; Apr. 18 Wind chime workshop; Apr. 22 Caldwell Fine Arts: Let's play; Apr. 29 Flowers and bugs pop art.

Caldwell Public Library at the Senior Center: Apr. 18, 11 am | 1009 Everett

Mixed media art – pinecone painting: Apr. 29, 6:30-8 pm | Ages 18+

THURSDAYS

Preschool Storytime: Apr. 9, 16, 23, 30 at 10:30 am | Ages 3-5

THURSDAYS continued

Teen Thursday: 4:30 pm | Ages 13-17.

Idaho Room | Apr 9, Roll for sandwich; Apr 16, Button making; Apr 23, Outdoor game night; Apr 30, Cheese and cracker construction

Thurs. Read Book Club: Apr. 9, 2 pm or Apr. 16, 6:30 pm | Ages 18+ | Idaho room. Featured book – *Bluebird* by Sharon Cameron

Farmway Afterschool Program: Apr. 9, 4:30-6:30 pm | Community Room, 22730 Farmway Rd. | All Ages

Gardening: Square foot gardening: Apr. 9, 6:30-8:30 pm | Ages 18+

Bookworm Buddies for caregivers and their kids: Apr. 30, 1-2:30 pm. | All ages.

Children's Day celebration: Apr. 30, 6:30 pm. | All ages.

FRIDAYS

Tai Chi & Qigong: Apr. 10, 17, 24 May. 1, 10 am | Ages 18+

Adult Lego Club: Apr. 10, 4:30 pm | Ages 16+

Ping Pong Club: Apr. 24, 3-5 pm | All ages

Sensory Storytime: May 1, 10:45 am | Ages 2-6

SATURDAYS

Art Together: Family Saturday: Apr. 2, 2-3 pm | All Ages

Beginner Yoga Class: Apr. 11, 25 11 am-noon | Ages 18+

Storytime around the World – Canada: Apr. 18, 2-3 pm | All Ages

World Tai Chi & QiGong Day, Apr. 25 10 am | Ages 18+, Serenity Park, 11th & Dearborn

April 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	May 1	May 2

World Malbec Fest: A Two-Day Experience Designed for the Next Generation of Wine Lovers



Idaho Malbec is shaped by high-elevation, volcanic soils, and dramatic day-to-night temperature shifts. These ideal growing conditions have helped earn Huston Vineyards top honors, including Double Platinum, Double Gold, Best Red Wine in the Northwest, and Best Wine in Idaho across multiple vintages.



Guests will then enjoy a family-style feast of roasted meats, vegetables, and potatoes paired with curated wines from Huston Vineyards.

New this year, Huston Vineyards will offer a guided vertical tasting highlighting award-winning Malbec vintages from 2022 and 2023 alongside the newly released 2024.

Saturday will be a relaxed daytime festival of wine, nature, and discovery. Guests are welcomed with a glass of Malbec before heading into the vineyard for a guided hike led by vineyard manager Joshua Alger. This

behind-the-scenes look at Idaho's terroir—from soil to climate—offers a deeper understanding of what makes the region uniquely suited for Malbec.

For those eager to expand their wine knowledge, winemaker Jacob Alger will lead a comparative vertical tasting, exploring how multiple vintages evolve in flavor, structure, and style. The afternoon, will include live music and South American-inspired fare, with fresh empanadas and more available from A3 Catering.

Tickets are available at hustonvineyards.com.

Huston vineyards will host their annual World Malbec Fest on Friday, April 17th and Saturday, April 18th.

Celebrated globally on April 17, World Malbec Day spans countries including the USA, UK, Brazil, and Argentina—the varietal's recognized home.



journey with activities for all levels of wine-drinkers. Friday evening the weekend kicks off with a fire-roasted four-course Argentinian Dinner. The night begins with tapas and a live-fire cooking demonstration led by Chef Pedro Martinez of Idaho Provisions.

This year, their two-day World Malbec Fest brings participants on a festive

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Light the World Giving Machines Check Presentation Celebrates Idaho Generosity



On March 23rd, people gathered at the Idaho State Capitol and watched seven local charities and two international nonprofits be presented with significant checks from the Light the World Giving Machine campaign. These machines spent a week in Caldwell during the 2025 holiday season, where people donated directly to the nonprofit of their choice through these machines. In total, the Giving Machines, which moved throughout the holidays in Boise, Caldwell, and Meridian at The Village—raised \$1,038,851. The campaign was sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, with 100%

of donations going directly to participating charities.

Local Nonprofit Recipients Included:

\$137,115 to Boys & Girls Clubs of Ada County & Canyon County for Supporting local youth with after-school and summer programs focused on health, academics, and leadership.

\$79,100 to Camp Rainbow Gold – Providing connection, joy, and healing to Idaho children diagnosed with cancer and their families, while building a medical camp to serve nonprofits statewide.

\$109,190 to CATCH – Delivering housing-first solutions to help end homelessness in the Treasure Valley.

\$146,420 to Faces of Hope – Offering immediate, wrap-around services for victims of violence, abuse, and trafficking.

\$98,010 to Foster + Heart – Providing stability and care for children awaiting foster placement, with a focus on keeping siblings together.

by Lonni Leavitt-Barker
\$98,010 to Hope House – Creating a safe, supportive home and educational environment for children facing significant life challenges.

\$87,650 to Idaho Diaper Bank – Supplying essential diapers to families in need across Idaho.

International Nonprofit Recipients Included:

\$209,200 to Lifting Hands International (with 1,140 live goats being purchased and donated)!

\$74,156 to American Red Cross

During the 2024 holiday season, more than \$1 million was raised in the inaugural year of the Light the World Giving Machines campaign, demonstrating the powerful impact of collective giving.

Applications for charities to be considered for the 2026 Light the World Giving Machine Initiative can apply at givingmachinesidaho@gmail.com from March 20 through April 15.

Soroptimist Awards Dinner

by Marlene Page, Co-president SI Caldwell



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

On Feb. 19th at West Valley Hospital Kaley Center, Soroptimist International of Caldwell, Idaho held their annual awards dinner.

The mission of Soroptimist International is to help women and girls with education and mentoring to help them improve their lives.

The awards dinner is held each year to award the local Live Your Dream winners and to donate to community organizations. Live Your Dream is a Soroptimist program that helps women head of household who are going to school. Four women were recipients of the Live Your Dream awards for 2026 totaling \$11,000.

In addition, Soroptimist International of Caldwell, Idaho gave out over \$8,000 in monetary donations to numer-

ous organizations in the area that help women and girls. Four Women's shelters around Nampa, Caldwell and Weiser / Payette area received donations along with the Caldwell Salvation Army, Caldwell Library, YMCA, Meals on Wheels, Caldwell and Nampa Boys and Girls Club, Love, Inc., Western Idaho Community Crisis Center, Canyon County Anti-trafficking, and Mission Unmentionables. These organizations are helping women in our community with their various services.

Soroptimist International of Caldwell, Idaho hosts an annual fall fundraising dinner in October of each year, where the club raises funds for the Live Your Dream awards and for local organizations. This year the fall dinner will be on October, 23, 2026 at the Caldwell Elks.

Soroptimists are women at their Best, working to help other women be their Best. We help by investing in the lives of women. We can be reached at: sicaldwell@soroptimist.net.

Celebrate Global Youth Service Month—Make Your Impact!



Did you know that Global Youth Service Day/Month (GYSD) is the longest-running annual youth participation event in the world? This incredible movement encourages young people to serve in ways that align with their passions and interests. Whether it's cleaning up a park, volunteering at a food bank, or writing cards for seniors, every act of service makes a difference!

Join millions of youth across the globe in celebrating Global Youth Service Month (April 10–May 10) and Global Youth Service Day (April 24–26). Together, we can spread kindness, lift communities, and make a lasting impact.

by Kelli Jenkins, JustServe

One exciting way to get started is Caldwell's City Clean-Up Day on Saturday, April 11, from 9 a.m. to noon. Volunteers will meet at Caldwell City Hall (205 S 6th Ave) to check in before being assigned to a project area. This hands-on community effort will improve neighborhoods across Caldwell through trash pickup, debris removal, and general cleanup—helping make our city shine!

Don't forget to share your service experience on Idaho-Kindness.com as part of the America250 in Idaho Ambassador's Service Challenge. Your contributions help showcase the power of community action and support Idaho's goal of 250,000 acts of kindness by July 4th.

Looking for more ways to serve? Find your next project on the JustServe app or at JustServe.org. No matter the size of the effort, your service matters—let's work together to make our world a better place.

CPD Donates to Ride for Joy



Chief Ingram, Lt. Crupper, and Ride for Joy members

On March 3, Chief Ingram and Lt. Crupper presented a check to Ride for Joy Therapeutic Riding Program on behalf of the Caldwell Police Department (CPD).

The money was raised during the CPD Fall Awareness Campaigns in two ways.

Officers purchased pink Caldwell Police patches in support of breast cancer awareness. And our bearded crew members contributed \$50 buy-ins to support men's health and prostate cancer awareness. Congrats to Sergeant Craig Gregory for Best

Beard!

Together, the campaigns raised \$2,000, which was donated to Ride for Joy in honor of Drago, Chief Ingram's mounted patrol horse, who recently passed.

Ride for Joy is a local nonprofit providing therapeutic horseback riding experiences for children and adults with physical, cognitive, and emotional challenges. They promote healing, build confidence, and create meaningful connections.

Spring Prayer Walk



The Spring Prayer Walk will start April 18th at 3pm at Caldwell Memorial Park. We will walk to locations downtown including the police station, the fire station, city hall, and the plaza. We will pray for our police, fire, city council and the mayor, paramedics, businesses, all peoples and all schools.

Everyone is welcome. After the walk we will return to the park for a potluck dinner, bring a dish to share.

To learn more call Arlene Robinett at 208-391-8516.

The P.E.O. Chapter House is Turning 75

by Jennifer Kerr, Manager

In 1951, the P.E.O. Chapter House opened its doors, beginning 75 years as a place of gracious retirement living, friendship, and sisterhood. Envisioned and brought to life by dedicated P.E.O. women, it remains a welcoming home rooted in care, connection, and community. This project of the Idaho State Chapter has endured because of the generosity of P.E.O.s, residents and their families, and the support of sisters and chapters from across Idaho. As we celebrate 75 years, we invite you to be part of its future—your support ensures that this cherished home will

continue to serve generations of women to come.

Originally built in 1910 as the Dorman family home, the building later became the Caldwell Sanitarium, where many local families welcomed new life. The vision for a P.E.O. home began in 1936 with a \$100 gift from Love Miller Smith and Chapter F, and by 1950, that dream became reality when P.E.O. sisters raised \$21,000 in just 60 days to transform the property. The Chapter House was dedicated in 1951 before more than 500 people.

We'll celebrate this historic milestone with a 75th An-

niversary Open House at the Chapter House on Sunday, May 3, from 2–5 p.m., followed by our Idaho Gives campaign May 4–7, 2026. Our goal is to raise \$75,000 to sustain the Chapter House for the future. Thanks to generous early supporters, more than \$30,000 in matching funds is already in place. Mark your calendar, join the celebration, and be part of this meaningful occasion!

75th Anniversary Open House at the P.E.O. Chapter House
114 East Logan Street
Sunday, May 3, 2–5 p.m.
All are Welcome!

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Caldwell Centennial Band! Bon Débarras Brings Music, Dance, and Story-telling to the Stage May the 4th (Force) be with You!

by Kim Hasenoehrl



Caldwell Centennial Band practicing up for our upcoming concert on May 4th, 7:30 p.m. at the Caldwell High School Auditorium. As a special feature we will be playing a couple numbers from the Star Wars movie. A great variety of other music will be performed for all to enjoy.



Caldwell Fine Arts presents the acclaimed Montreal trio Bon Débarras in Caldwell on Thursday, April 16, at 7:00 pm at Jewett Auditorium, College of Idaho.

Bon Débarras combines lively folk music, step-dancing, and storytelling in a show for audiences of all ages. Tickets range from \$20-\$35 for adults and \$11-\$18 for children (all fees included) and are available at caldwellfinearts.org or by calling 208-717-5368.

The trio blends Québécois folk traditions with global rhythms, poetry, and high-energy step-dancing. Featuring guitar, banjo, fiddle, and harmonica, the trio creates a dynamic sound rooted in tradition and infused with a contemporary spirit.

Dominic Desrochers is a multi-instrumentalist and percussive dancer whose work includes collaborations with Cirque du Soleil and La Bottine Souriante. Jean-François Dumas is a seasoned multi-instrumentalist who brings a global perspective shaped by travels across the United States, Latin America, and Europe. Véronique Plasse, a violinist,

singer, and trained actress, has spent over two decades performing and preserving Quebec's traditional music on stages around the world.

The band was recently selected to represent Québec at the Showcase Scotland Expo and Celtic Connections festival, one of the United Kingdom's most im-

portant folk music events. The trio has also earned critical acclaim including a recent Opus Award for their youth performance J'm'en viens chez vous! and nominations at both the GAMIQ Awards and the Canadian Folk Music Awards.

For more information, visit caldwellfinearts.org.

They're Back! The Trailing of the Sheep

by Debi Jensen & Leora Summers



Above - Best excuse for being late to school!
Below - Angie Soulen bringing up the rear!



Debi and Terry Jensen always have the best seats in the house, up on top of Homedale Road, for the trailing of the sheep.

Every year, owner of the herd, Harry Soulen and his wife, Angie, along with a friend, their Peruvian shepherd and herding dogs, take the sheep to Letha to be sheared. The sheep will then lamb in the spring pasture in the Crane Creek area. When the lambs are old enough, in about June, they will continue their journey being lead back to the back side of Brundage Mountain. Then in the fall, they will continue on to their winter pasture, near Melba. It is about a 550 mile round trip.

Harry walks up ahead of the herd the entire way, ringing a bell and they all follow. There are also about 5 or 6 sheep with bells on in the herd so the others farther back can hear and know to follow. Their herding dogs, Border Collies and Great Pyrenees, help keep them all in line. It takes quite a team to complete this journey.

Harry's grandfather, Harry Soulen Sr (now deceased), had been raising sheep in Southwest Idaho since 1926. It was passed on to his son Phil Soulen (passed away in 2019), and then on to his

son, Harry Soulen Jr.

Debi said, "We love this tradition in our valley! We have lived at this location for 26 years and every spring and every fall we get to enjoy a little piece of their journey, right in front of our home."




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"A Spring Fling Concert!"
 ...under Conductor Bob Armstrong
 Caldwell High School Auditorium
 3501 Indiana Ave, Caldwell
 Monday, May 4, 2026
 7:30 p.m.
 \$10.00 at the door
 (doors open at 7 p.m.)
SPECIAL FEATURE
 May the 4th (FORCE) be with You!
 STAR WARS-THE MARCHES




APR 16 7PM

Bon Débarras

A joyful fusion of Québécois folk music, global rhythms, and high-energy step-dancing!

Tickets: \$11-\$35 (includes all fees)
 Jewett Auditorium, College of Idaho



Truman Walker

Experience the brilliance of this award-winning pianist as he brings Beethoven, Schumann, and Rachmaninoff to life on stage!

Tickets: \$9-\$28 (includes all fees)
 Jewett Auditorium, College of Idaho

MAY 7 7PM

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Caldwell High School junior Bristol Runnels was named the Idaho High School Association Athlete of the Week from March 8th to March 14th for her outstanding pitching in a non-conference game against the 6A Kuna Kave-men. She struck out 19 batters and allowed only 4 hits, 1 earned run, and 0 walks, leading the team to a 2-1 victory. Congratulations Bristol and all the Cougars.

CHS Student Receives Academic Recognition



Caldwell High School Senior, Isaac Archuleta

Caldwell High School Senior, Isaac Archuleta was recently named an Idaho US Presidential Scholar Candidate.

Candidates are selected by the Idaho Superintendent of Public Instruction based on their academic, arts, or career technical education achievement.

Isaac was selected based on academics, which re-

quires high performance on either the SAT or the ACT college-readiness exams.

Isaac is the first CHS student to receive this honor since Fiona Anderson in 2015.

Isaac is planning to study nursing at Gonzaga University in Spokane, WA in the Fall.

Congratulations to Isaac and his family!

CHS Winter Sports Wrap-Up

by Tyler Morris, Caldwell Perspective



son will depend on younger players stepping into larger roles.

The Caldwell High School girls basketball season finished the 2025-26 with a 3-16 overall record, while going 0-12 in conference play. The Cougars were led by junior guard Yesenia Montanez, who averaged a team-leading 8.7 points, 0.5 assists, and an impressive 4.9 steals per game. Senior

center Emily Freeman anchored the paint, leading the team with 6.7 rebounds and 1.9 blocks per game.

The Caldwell High School cheer team capped a historic season with a second-place finish at the JAMZ National Cheer & Dance Championship in Las Vegas. It was the first time the Cougars had qualified for nationals in the school's history. Congrats!



CHS Cheerleaders after winning 2nd place at the JAMZ National Cheer & Dance Championship in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The Caldwell High School boys basketball team finished the 2025-26 season with a 9-14 overall record. Competing in a tough division that included state champion Bishop Kelly, the Cougars were tested night in and night out during conference play. Caldwell finished 3-11 in conference, placing sixth in the 5A Southern Idaho division. With six of nine varsity players set to graduate, the Cougars' success next sea-

YOTES BASKETBALL! The Season Comes to an End

by Leora Summers



Congratulations to both the Yotes men and women's basketball teams. Both teams ended their seasons with their heads held high.

YOTES WOMEN (22-9 W/L Season)

The Yotes women's basketball team (7th seed) played in the NAIA women's basketball championship with an at-large bid. They defeated Briar Cliff University (Iowa) on March 13th in Fort Wayne, Ind. 71-63, go-

ing on to play the University of Saint Francis on March 14th when they lost, 60-54. They had a great season and we look forward to seeing them again next year.

YOTES MEN (21-11 W/L Season)

The Yotes men's basketball team (12th seed) played William Penn (Oskaloosa, Iowa) on Friday, March 13th at Northwestern College (Orange City, Iowa). At the half, they showed a 41-29 score, but after starting back up after the half, they lost ground and with about 2 minutes left to play the score was 71-66 and they were continuing to lose ground. With 48 seconds left the score was tied! OUCH! And then at 42 seconds left, they were down 71-72.

Peoples had two foul shots

and brought it back up to 73-72 with 16 seconds to go. After a time-out, C of I got a jump ball. Sheets was fouled at 7.9 seconds and made his two shots bringing it up to 75-72. The Yotes rebounded at the other end of the court and David Kludt was awarded 2 free throws, making one, bringing the final score to 76-72. The Yotes then moved on to play Northwestern, the #5 seed the next night.

Sadly their journey ended when they lost to Northwestern 62-80. For such a young team without any seniors left on the team from the previous season, they did extremely well and we are proud of them. We look forward to seeing them grow next year.

Great job to all!

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Please join me in sending Representatives Kent Marmon and Lucas Cayler to the Legislature for a second term on May 19th!

Eric Phillips
Caldwell Mayor Eric Phillips

Kent MARMON
Republican for House District 11A

LUCAS CAYLER
FOR IDAHO STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Paid for by Marmon for Idaho • Kent Marmon, Treasurer and Cayler for Idaho • Lucas Cayler, Treasurer

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NOTICE

April 25th Canyon County residents can take up to one ton of waste items to the Pickle Butte landfill for free.

Learn more:

bit.ly/4v74Z17



Camille Blaylock
Republican
CamilleforIdaho.com
Facebook: Camille for Idaho

Why are you running for State Senate?

I'm running for re-election to the State Senate because I care deeply about our community and the future we're building here. This is where my family lives, where my kids go to school, and where I want to see opportunity continue to grow.

Over the past term, I've worked to support responsible budgeting, protect taxpayers, and keep government focused on the basics. I've also spent a lot of time listening - to families, small business owners, and community leaders - to better understand what's working and what's not and how I can support where Caldwell is headed.

I'm running again to keep that work going, stay accessible to the people I represent, and make thoughtful, common-sense decisions that help our community thrive.

What qualifies you to be a State Senator?

I don't believe you have to be a career politician to serve well in the State Senate.

I've spent my life working for myself and in the private sector, where results matter and decisions have real consequences. That, combined with being a mom to two school-age kids, has shaped how I serve - principled, practical, and focused on what actually works for families.

I try to bring a thoughtful, common-sense approach to each issue. I care deeply about this community, but I'm also results-driven and willing to ask hard questions and challenge the status quo. I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve and take that responsibility seriously.

What is the biggest issue Idaho is facing today and what solution would you support?

Growth is one of the biggest issues facing Idaho right now. While it brings opportunity, it also drives up the cost of living, increases property taxes, and puts pressure on our roads, services, and water. Growth should pay for growth, and we need to ensure government stays in its proper role - focused on essential priorities like public schools, infrastructure, and community safety.

I believe in being intentional about how we grow by supporting smart development, resisting reckless expansion, and protecting key resources like farmland. We should also continue pursuing meaningful property tax relief and work toward full grocery tax repeal. With the right approach, we can protect affordability while planning responsibly for the future.

What are two other issues that are important to you?

Two other issues that are important to me are government spending and transparency.

First, I believe we need a more disciplined approach to spending - understanding where every dollar is going and whether it's actually achieving its intended goal. Just like in a household or business, it's about prioritizing, being efficient, and using existing funds well. It's hard to make the case for additional investments when confidence in current spending is low.

Second is transparency. Public trust in government is gone - radical transparency and swift accountability is the only way we rebuild it. People deserve to know how decisions are made and how their money is spent. Sunlight is a powerful tool for restoring confidence in our institutions.



Chris Trakel
Republican
ChrisTrakelForIdaho.com
Facebook: Chris Trakel for Idaho

Why are you running for State Senate?

Idaho is a great state, but unfortunately our government hasn't lived up to that standard. We went from a \$52.5 million surplus in 2024 to a \$40.3 million deficit in 2026. The state legislature continues to make decisions that benefit large corporations, the construction industry, and costly government programs. Meanwhile, lobbyists influence lawmakers every day, pushing legislation that serves special interest groups.

Throughout my years serving as a Precinct Committeeman, County Republican Chairman, and State Senator, I have consistently stood for putting people ahead of lobbyists. I have worked to return power directly to the people and ensure their voices are the strongest in the Capitol.

What qualifies you to be a State Senator?

I have a proven record of leadership and results. As a retired U.S. Marine with combat deployments, I bring discipline, accountability, and a deep commitment to public service. I fought for property tax relief, defended our children's innocence and security, worked to stop China from buying Idaho land, expanded gun rights, and stood against fentanyl. I created District 11 town halls to keep an open dialogue with constituents and ensure their voices are heard. As County Republican Chairman, I have worked to return power to the people. I will keep fighting government overspending and the grip of special interests.

What is the biggest issue Idaho is facing today and what solution would you support?

Idahoans have made it clear, housing affordability and rising living costs are serious concerns. As home prices climb, property taxes continue to burden current homeowners, leaving many worried they may be forced to move or lose the homes they worked hard to own. At the same time, aspiring homeowners face a market priced far beyond reach, while rising home values also drive up rents. Young Idahoans trying to start their lives are being hit with financial pressures previous generations did not face. It is time to rein in the rapid growth that is the cause of this issue.

What are two other issues that are important to you?

We are failing our children. Nearly half are below proficiency in English Language Arts, and even more are falling behind in math and science. That is unacceptable. It is an injustice to our kids and a threat to our future, because a strong republic depends on an educated citizenry. At the same time, reckless government spending has turned surpluses into deficits. I fought to return excess funds to Idahoans and reduce taxes, but lawmakers chose bigger government, higher spending, and raises for themselves. Now Idaho families will pay the price through higher taxes and fees.



Susan Council
Democrat
SusanCouncilforIdaho.com

Why are you running for State Senate?

The statehouse badly needs balance. Over the last two decades, we have witnessed the injection of more and more ideology and religion into the legislative process to the detriment of good governance. I am running as a Democrat to help correct this trend.

What qualifies you to be a State Senator?

I am a 35 year resident of Idaho, the most recent 27 years here in Caldwell and I have learned a lot through observation. I grew up in a career military family and living in multiple states and countries widened my perspective and taught me tolerance from a young age.

I recently retired from a 40 year career as a health care provider where my registered nurse function required digging into root causes of complex medical and social problems and then working collaboratively toward solutions for affected individuals. I believe that this is a transferrable skill set.

What is the biggest issue Idaho is facing today and what solution would you support?

Budget cuts are currently being forced to accommodate last year's excessive tax cuts that were actually the culmination of 5 straight years of tax cutting. In an economy that is not in a recession, we are seeing the havoc caused by not allowing for enough revenue for the state government to fund core public services like our public schools, public safety, transportation and infrastructure.

The tax cuts last year that created the current budget trouble exceeded \$400 million and, at a minimum, should be scaled back. It's astounding to read that this state has foregone \$4 billion in tax revenue over the last 5 tax-cutting years, and yet cannot seem to find a way a way out of this fiscal problem without hobbling essential services.

What are two other issues that are important to you?

Post secondary education and Medicaid Expansion need to be properly funded and protected. We do not live in an agrarian homesteader society and young people need to be prepared for the world that they live in. Cutting higher education budgets and taking funds out of LAUNCH and Opportunity Scholarships is short sighted.

The people of Idaho made Medicaid Expansion possible after waiting for years for the legislature to act. This program is for folks who are not covered by employer insurance, who earn too much to qualify for original Medicaid and yet too little to benefit by Affordable Care Act programs. Yes, the Medicaid budget is large, but that is in line with an economy where the health industry is also growing.



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Kent Marmon
Republican
MarmonForIdaho.com
Facebook: Marmon for Idaho

Why are you running for State Representative?

My motivation to run for State Representative in 2024 was to reduce state spending that had grown over 60% over five years (much faster than inflation and population growth combined) and rein in an out-of-control state government that has swayed so far from its proper role. I have kept all the promises made to my friends and neighbors over the past two years, and would like to continue with the work for them. We've made great progress and have been able to enact some great conservative legislation for District 11 families. There's still a lot to do -- repeal of sales tax on groceries and property taxes (which can be accomplished without raising other taxes), leaving more money in the pockets of Idaho families.

What qualifies you to be a State Representative?

I have served as your State Representative for two years as a member of the Education, Business, and Local Government Committees. I'm a native of Caldwell and have been extremely active in volunteer service to my community over the years. I've served on both the Caldwell City Council and District 132 School Board. I'm dedicated, hard-working (I spend about 18 hours a day working for you during session), am transparent and communicate openly, and I keep my word and my promises.

What is the biggest issue Idaho is facing today and what solution would you support?

Affordability. Taxes are too high which take a huge amount of what you work so hard to earn for your family. Property taxes are preventing people from owning a home, and forcing many out of the homes they have worked so hard for all their lives. By reducing the scope of government, we can reduce spending and leave more money where it belongs -- with you and your family.

What are two other issues that are important to you?

1. We must continue to work to work to control illegal immigration and the resulting cost to society.

2. Every parent wants the very best educational opportunities for their children -- and a thorough education is promised in our state Constitution. We need to work to support and improve our public education system while continuing to support the rights of parents to seek out the best educational opportunities for their children.



Carlos Hernandez
Republican
CarlosForCaldwell.com
Facebook: Carlos for Caldwell & Idaho

Why are you running for State Representative?

Caldwell is one of Idaho's fastest-growing cities, and our community deserves a representative who understands both its challenges and its potential. I'm running because I believe in fully funding the foundation of public education, ensuring local governments can keep pace with growth, and making Idaho's agricultural workforce system work better for our farmers. I believe the solutions we need are in front of us, and they just require action.

What qualifies you to be a State Representative?

I bring a background in finance, non-profit management, and public administration, along with graduate training in both public policy and business. I currently serve as a project controller and chief of staff, managing budgets and leading community engagement efforts. I previously ran for Caldwell City Council, so I understand local government from the inside. I am a Canyon County resident who knows this district, its people, and the practical challenges they face every day.

What is the biggest issue Idaho is facing today and what solution would you support?

Idaho parents deserve real choices, and that starts with strong neighborhood schools. Public schools serve 94 percent of Idaho's children, and they deserve a solid foundation before we expand new programs. I support a thriving educational ecosystem where every option succeeds, but that requires investing in the base first. Strong public schools make every choice in the system better. I will fight to ensure Canyon County families have access to excellent schools, whether they choose public, charter, or private education.

What are two other issues that are important to you?

First, HB 389's budget growth cap is hurting fast-growing communities like Caldwell by preventing local governments from keeping up with infrastructure and service demands. I support reforming it to reflect actual population growth. Second, Idaho's H-2A agricultural workforce program needs to be streamlined. Our farmers depend on reliable labor, and excessive bureaucracy slows that process. I will work to reduce barriers and make the program more responsive to the needs of Idaho's agricultural economy.



Canyon County Seeks Poll Workers

Canyon County Elections is currently recruiting poll workers to assist with upcoming elections. Poll workers play a critical role in ensuring elections are conducted efficiently, securely, and in accordance with state law. This opportunity allows community members to serve their county while earning compensation.

Canyon County is seeking reliable, detail-oriented, and tech-savvy individuals who value the integrity of the election process and enjoy working with the public.

To qualify, applicants must be U.S. citizens and at least 16 years of age. Polling locations are open from 8 am to 8 pm on Election Day. Poll workers are required to attend a mandatory training session in advance of each election to learn procedures and operation of voting equipment.

On Election Day, workers

assist with setting up polling locations, checking in voters, and providing instructions on how to cast ballots. Workers must arrive by 7 am and remain until the polling location is closed and secured.

"Poll workers are essential to maintaining fair, transparent, and accessible elections in Canyon County," said the Canyon County Elections Office. "We encourage residents to get involved and be part of this important civic process."

Individuals interested in serving as a poll worker can apply online or contact the Canyon County Elections Office for more information.

Application: votertools.voteidaho.gov/TED/ElectionForcePortal/JobApplication.aspx

Elections Website: elections.canyoncounty.id.gov

Call: (208) 454-7562

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Debbie Geyer
Republican
GeyerforIdaho.com
Facebook: Geyer for Idaho



Lucas Cayler
Republican
CaylerforIdaho.com
Facebook: Representative Lucas Cayler



Joshua Preminger
Democrat

Why are you running for State Representative?

I'm a proud Idaho native, raised in Caldwell. My husband, a retired Army Chaplain, gave us the chance to live and serve alongside other military families in different cities and even overseas. In 2001, we came back to Idaho, driven by fond childhood memories of this beautiful, politically conservative state. We wanted our son to grow up with the same upbringing and strong family values we cherish. I love Idaho and Caldwell and want to help ensure those values carry on for future generations.

What qualifies you to be a State Representative?

Over my 24 years of public service with the City of Caldwell, recently retired as City Clerk, I managed city records and budgets, facilitated public meetings, and worked with city staff and community members on special projects like restoring the historic Caldwell Train Depot. I also led the effort to place a veteran's memorial monument at Canyon Hill Cemetery. In my City Council appointed position, I strived to promote transparency and fostered an open-door policy to help citizens address their concerns. As a conservative Republican, I will approach decisions with genuine care for the people of District 11. I feel that I can bring decades of hands-on experience to the Statehouse.

What is the biggest issue Idaho is facing today and what solution would you support?

With Idaho's continued growth, ensuring the availability of infrastructure, particularly for managing water resources, has become a real challenge. This is particularly true with the state's reliance on agriculture and its strong ties to the state's economy. We must continue to look for ways to upgrade and improve efficiency thereby reducing waste. This can be done by strengthening collaboration efforts with local government and stakeholders. We must continue with searching for effective procedures for establishing new or revised water management strategies.

What are two other issues that are important to you?

Public safety should always be a priority, along with honoring our veterans and military families. I back the blue by supporting our police, firefighters, and EMS. As a military spouse, I'm committed to standing by and supporting our veterans and their families, ensuring their voices are heard and their needs are addressed. I believe in a transparent and accountable government that practices fiscal discipline when allocating public funds while staying attentive to the voices of constituents. Using a local, common-sense approach grounded in thorough research, review, and discussion is key to making smart decisions that serve the best interests of Idaho taxpayers.

Why are you running for State Representative?

- Protect and uphold Constitutionally-guaranteed rights
- Fight for lower taxes (property, grocery, income)
- Reduce state budget and reign in out-of-control spending
- Pass immigration reform legislation
- Expand school choice and improve public education academic success
- Uphold and protect parental rights
- Continue to fight for medical freedom

What qualifies you to be a State Representative?

I have a heart for being a public servant, and after having spent 10 years in the US Navy, I believe that Caldwell deserves a representative that will be accountable to and fight for the people with integrity and not be sold out to special interest groups, mega corporations or lobbyists. My sunshine campaign reports consistently show I am supported by private citizens and small business.

As the current legislator for District 11, I have a proven constitutional conservative record on multiple scorecards (Institute for Legislative Analysis, Idaho Freedom Foundation, ID GOP Scorecard) with 90%+ score rating.

I have signed the Integrity in Affiliation Pledge with the Idaho Republican Party and remain in good standing with the GOP platform.

What is the biggest issue Idaho is facing today and what solution would you support?

Biggest issue: out-of-control spending at the state level. With an \$88 million revenue shortfall in 2025, and a possible revenue shortfall in 2026, Idaho legislators need to reign in the excessive spending, and keep the budget growth consistent with population growth and inflation. As a fiscal conservative, I have stood strong to vote down bloated budget bills that grow government and take federal dollars, which needlessly adds to the \$39 trillion in national debt.

What are two other issues that are important to you?

Issue: Upholding Parental Rights. I stand firm in my fight to uphold and affirm the rights of parents to choose the healthcare and education that suits their children best.

Issue: State Sovereignty - I believe in the right of the State of Idaho to remain free from the intrusion of the federal government, whether through regulations, education and healthcare mandates or land management and control. Idaho is rich in minerals and natural resources which should be mined and utilized to the benefit of Idahoans, not foreign or federal interests. Idaho should reclaim the 66% of its land that is controlled and poorly managed by the federal government, and the state legislature should form a comprehensive management plan for that land reclamation.

Why are you running for State Representative?

The people of my community deserve more than one option when it comes time to vote for who will represent them and fight for their interests.

What qualifies you to be a State Representative?

I was born and raised in Idaho and purchased my first home, started a family, and a small business right here in beautiful Caldwell. I know what challenges face the average member of our community. I received a BA in Philosophy and English Literature, with honors, from BSU proving I have cut my teeth as a critical thinker. My immediate family is composed of teachers and nurses, two pillars of our community that are increasingly being undercut by the policies of the current administrations. I know the issues that affect the life support systems for our community.

What is the biggest issue Idaho is facing today and what solution would you support?

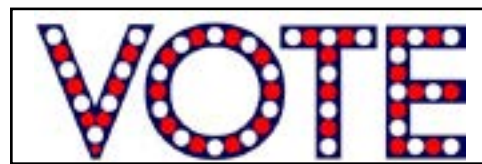
We're doing the same thing and expecting different results. Idaho has changed dramatically in recent years and its traditionally conservative governance no longer provides the services that demonstrate that the public interest is paramount. The social safety net that once existed to support the under-privileged is being systemically dismantled. Nationally and within our community, public health has been spiraling downward, the middle class is disappearing and an elite class is increasingly responsible for legislation that makes the rich richer, the poor poorer, and widens the gap between the two.

We need responsible governance that holds the public good in top priority.

What are two other issues that are important to you?

We are the last in education nationwide. Our public schools are being strategically defunded through the charter school tax credit at the expense of the working people in this state. This credit benefits people who can already afford to send their children to private school while defunding the public school system that educates the vast majority of Idaho's children.

Medicare and medicaid are essential for the health of our community and need to receive appropriate funding. The state budget needs to account for them instead of creating loopholes for wealthy people to avoid paying the taxes that support them. These programs exist for the public good.



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www.boisevalleymonument.com

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II. Thou shalt not make unto thee and graven image	VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery
III. Thou shalt not take the Lord thy God in vain	VIII. Thou shalt not steal
IV. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy	IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor
V. Honor thy father and thy mother	X. Thou shalt not covet

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County Candidates

County Commissioner Seat 1 *Contested Republican primary*



Jeffrey A Skinner
Independent
Skinner4Idaho.com
Facebook: Jeff Skinner for Canyon County Commissioner, District 1



Scott Brock
Republican
scottforcommish.com



Stewart Hyndman
Republican
Facebook: Stewart Hyndman for Canyon County Commissioner



Travis Palmer
Republican
palmerforcanyon.com
Facebook: Travis Palmer for Canyon County Commissioner District 1

County Commissioner Seat 2 *No contested primaries*

Brian Stroops
Democrat



Brad Holton
Republican
bradholtionccc.com

County Clerk *Uncontested race*



Jess Urresti
Republican

County Treasurer *Uncontested race*



Jennifer Watters
Republican

County Assessor *Uncontested race*



Brian R Stender
Republican

County Coroner *Contested Republican primary*



Jennifer Crawford
Republican
crawford4coroner.com
Facebook: Crawford for Canyon County Coroner



Sydney Walker
Republican
Facebook: Walker for Canyon County Coroner

County, State, and Congressional Candidates

The colored boxes indicate contested primaries on the Republican, Democrat, and Libertarian primary ballots. The winners of these primaries will go on to the general election in November.

To view this information online (with hyperlinks) go to: caldwellperspective.com/may-19-election.



caldwellperspective.com/may-19-election

State Candidates

Governor
Contested Democrat, Republican, and Libertarian primaries

Pro-Life
Constitution
prolife-idaho.com

Chanelle Torrez
Democrat

Jill C Kirkham
Democrat
jillforidaho.com

Maxine Durand
Democrat
durandforidaho.com
Facebook: Durand for Idaho

Terri Pickens
Democrat
terriforidaho.com
Facebook: Terri Pickens for Idaho

Jacob Burnett (Write-In)
Independent

John R. Stegner
Independent
stegnerforidaho.com
Facebook: Stegner for Idaho

Brad Little
Republican
bradlittleforidaho.com
Facebook: Brad Little for Governor

Daniel C Fowler
Republican
dancf.info

Ethan Giles
Republican

Justin R Plante
Republican
idahoansfirst.com
Facebook: Justin Plante for Governor

Lisa Marie
Republican

Mark Fitzpatrick
Republican
markfitzidaho.com
Facebook: Fitzpatrick For Idaho

Ron James
Republican

Sean Calvert Crystal
Republican
Facebook: Sean Calvert Crystal

Melissa-Sue Robinson
Libertarian

Paul Sand
Libertarian
paulsand.org
facebook.com/Paul4Idaho

Lt. Governor
No contested primaries

Eric Myricks
Democrat
ericforidaho.com
Facebook: Eric Myricks for Idaho

Scott Bedke
Republican
bedkeforidaho.com
Facebook: Scott Bedke for Idaho

State Controller
No contested primaries

Rakesh Mohan
Democrat

Brandon D Woolf
Republican
Facebook: Brandon Woolf

State Treasurer
No contested primaries

Kevin A Jones
Democrat
jones4idahotreasurer.com
Facebook: Jones for Idaho Treasurer

Julie A Ellsworth
Republican
ellsworthfortreasurer.com
Facebook: Ellsworth for Treasurer

Attorney General
No contested primaries

Lori Hickman
Democrat

Raul R Labrador
Republican
raullabrador.com
Facebook: Raul Labrador

Superintendent of Public Instruction
No contested primaries

Teresa Roundy
Constitution Party
Facebook: Teresa Roundy for Idaho

Becky Sundin Mitchell
Democratic Party
Facebook: Becky for Idaho

Debbie Critchfield
Republican
debbie4idaho.com
Facebook: Debbie Critchfield for Idaho



Congressional Candidates

US Senate
Contested Democrat and Republican primaries

Brad Moore
Democrat

David Roth
Democrat
rothforidaho.org
Facebook: David Roth for Idaho

Nickolas 007 Bonds
Democrat
007bonds.vote
Facebook: 007 Bonds for US Senate

Natalie M Fleming
Independent
nataliefleming.info
Facebook: Natalie Fleming for US Senate

Todd Achilles
Independent
achillesforidaho.com
Facebook: Todd Achilles for Idaho

Denny LaVe
Republican

Jim Risch
Republican
senatorrisch.com

Joe Evans
Republican
joeevansforidaho.com
Facebook: Joseph Evans

Josh Roy
Republican
joshroyforidaho.com
Facebook: Josh Roy for US Senate

Matt Loesby
Libertarian
loesby.us
Facebook: Matt Loesby for Idaho

US Representative District 1

Contested Democrat and Republican primaries

Brendan J Gomez
Constitution

Kaylee Peterson
Democrat
kayleeforcongress.com
Facebook: Kaylee for Congress

Kenneth Brungardt
Democrat
kenbrungardt.com
Facebook: Ken Brungardt - Democrat for US Congress

Sarah Zabel
Independent
zabelforcongress.com

Andy Briner
Republican
brinerforcongress.com
Facebook: Andy Briner for Congress

Joseph P Morrison
Republican
morrison4id.com

Russ Fulcher
Republican
russfulcher.com
Facebook: Russ Fulcher for Congress

When do you plant your garden, and do you have any gardening tips for our readers?

Jennifer Tipton



Anthony Kennedy

"We start around March to April. I got my wife the raised beds, and we planted strawberries a couple of years ago that never took; then last year they were everywhere! We grow Romas, and I love butternut squash. For gardening tips, I just found out that coffee grounds work well, and Starbucks gives out a free bag if you ask for it."



Becky Hubler

"I start after the last freeze is forecast. I also watch when the birds start to show up, which tells me we're getting there. The Red-winged Blackbirds have shown up in droves in the last few weeks, and I've seen more American Goldfinches this year than ever before. I'm hit and miss, but I can grow weeds like nobody's business! I'm still experimenting, but soil conditioner is my new thing."



Marcie Taylor

"I start my garden whenever I can get to it. I like to garden because it makes me feel more connected to my great-grandmother, who was my best friend and loved gardening. I like growing medicinal plants, as well as berries, roses, and sunflowers, but my Bernese Mountain Dog, Randi, likes to eat a lot of them - she mowed the tops off my radishes! I don't really have any tips, I go as natural as I can."



Mike Ross

My wife, Kari, starts seedlings in the house right about now, but we normally don't put our plants in the ground until the snow is off the mountain, the butte in Emmett. We grow a lot of vegetables, but my favorites are tomatoes and lettuce. I'd suggest you test your soil! Buy a soil-testing kit to make sure your soil has the proper pH, so you know how to supplement it.



Trina Kennedy

"Everybody tells me May, but I'm not waiting! I've got my garlic in, the potatoes go in tomorrow, and the green onions have been in all year. My favorite thing to grow is corn. I've had no luck starting seeds inside, so I put them right in the ground. I've learned that either hay or straw on top of everything helps to protect it if it does freeze."

Spring Has Sprung! Gardening in Caldwell

by Jennifer Tipton

Gardening in Caldwell is not for the faint of heart (or the perfectly manicured). Our beloved hometown, nestled in the fertile Treasure Valley, offers gardeners a unique blend of opportunity and challenges. With its rich agricultural heritage, long sunny days, and distinct four-season climate, gardening here can be incredibly rewarding - if you understand the local conditions. Typically classified as USDA Zones 7a-7b, some gardeners treat Caldwell as Zone 6b due to our occasional colder winter temperatures.

We're considered the high desert, but living here means you get a little bit of everything. Summers are hot enough to fry an egg on the sidewalk (not recommended), while winters remind you that yes, you do own a snow shovel (not last winter). And Spring? Spring is a trickster. You'll get a few warm days that tempt you to plant early, followed by a surprise frost or freeze. There are protection strategies such as covering plants with blankets, burlap, or buckets. Watering plants before frost or a freeze occurs will help, as will stringing lights over the plants to provide mild heat. But that sure sounds like a lot of extra work to me! It's probably better to know when the time is right to plant.

I've heard two opinions on this, both from experienced gardeners native to our area. One told me that the rule was to wait until the snow was off the mountain. He added that the mountain he was referring to was not Bogus. He said, "You know, that other mountain." For those of you



who don't know, that "other mountain" is Squaw Butte, a prominent 5,896-foot peak towering over Emmett and visible from North Caldwell. For all of you history fans, the name Squaw Butte was changed to Sehewoki'l Newenee'an Katete in 2022 (say that three times fast). This roughly translates to "People of the Willows Standing in a Row Butte."

The other rule of (green) thumb was given to me by another avid gardener whom I greatly admire for her gardening skills. She said, "I never plant until after Mother's Day, that way you're always safe." By the way, Mother's Day is May 10th this year.

Along with getting the timing right, gardeners in Caldwell face other challenges. Challenges such as

most precipitation falling outside the growing season make irrigation essential for a successful garden. The best practices for watering include watering early in the morning to reduce evaporation, using a drip irrigation system for efficiency, and watering deeply but less frequently to encourage strong root systems.

Another important thing to know about gardening here is that the soil tends to be alkaline (high pH) and is often sandy or low in organic matter. If you've ever tried to dig into Caldwell soil, you may have wondered if you accidentally hit a buried driveway (I can personally attest to this). Between the clay, sand, and occasional mystery rock, it's less "garden bed" and more "archaeological dig."

To improve soil health, add compost or aged manure regularly, and use mulch to retain moisture. Healthy soil is the key to growing everything from vegetables to flowers in this region, and mulch is our MVP.

Thanks to warm summers and a decent growing season, Caldwell garden-

ers can grow a wide variety of plants. Tomatoes, peppers, and squash thrive in the summer heat, while lettuce, spinach, and radishes do well in cooler spring and fall temperatures. Native and drought-tolerant plants such as yarrow, blanket flower, and gardenias are especially successful because they adapt to our local conditions and require less maintenance.

Spring has sprung, and now is the time to prepare the soil, add compost, start cool-season crops, and watch for late frosts.

Welcome to gardening in Caldwell, where the sun is plentiful, the soil has opinions, and the weeds have a personal vendetta ... happy gardening!

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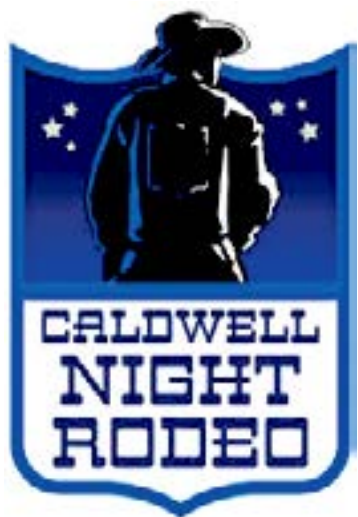
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Caldwell Night Rodeo Announces Changes Ahead of 2026 Season



The grandstands may be quiet, but right now, the Caldwell Night Rodeo (CNR) is already gearing up to kick up some dust this summer for the historic rodeo's 102nd year. CNR is proud to be a national top-20 professional rodeo and top-five outdoor rodeo, and a longtime Idaho tradition. Straight off a record-breaking season, complete with major upgrades and improvements to the arena grounds and multiple sold-out nights, CNR is set to build on its legacy and make 2026 the best one yet.

"Our rodeo is rooted in tradition, and now that we're in our second century here in Caldwell, we're excited to ride into the future," said Nicole Cassity, CNR General Manager. "Our arena has evolved, but our spirit will never change. We can't wait to welcome back old friends, meet new fans, and cheer on the best cowboys and cowgirls this August."

What's ahead for 2026

Watch CNR live

This year, you can catch every second of the 2026 CNR finals on The Cowboy Channel, which will be live from the CNR arena, bringing you meet and greets with rodeo stars, giveaways, and expert interviews and analysis on all the heart-pounding action. See it all Saturday, August 22, on The Cowboy Channel.

Ongoing arena improvements through the capital campaign

Phase two of CNR's \$7.5 million capital campaign, led by its sister non-profit organization, the CNR Foundation, is well underway, building on phase one, which introduced a state-of-the-art announcer stand and premium skyboxes. Phase two includes adding our new Rowdie Roost viewing deck and three private premium suites. Anticipated completion of phase two is July 2026, just in time for rodeo week.

New clear bag only policy

Tradition runs deep in Caldwell, and that includes safety. To keep our cowboys and our fans safe, CNR is implementing a clear-bag policy for 2026. No backpacks, hard-side cases, or non-clear

bags will be allowed inside the arena grounds. Exceptions include medical or diaper bags, or clutches smaller than 4" x 6" x 2".

Don't have a clear bag? Show off your best western style with a CNR clear tote or clear purse – available on CNR's website.

New requirements for stadium seating items

To keep the grandstands safe and accessible for every fan, foldable stadium seats with backs or arms will no longer be permitted. Seat cushions without backs and blankets are permitted, but they cannot be left unattended.

Tickets on sale NOW

Tickets for August 18-22 are on sale now – get them before they're gone. Last year, Friday and Saturday night's shows sold out well before rodeo week. To purchase general admission tickets, skybox tickets, group seating, multi-night packages, or a pre-rodeo VIP dinner experience and check out the full event schedule and parking information, visit caldwellnightrodeo.com.

"This rodeo was built by generations who believed in preserving our Western heritage while strengthening our community. Today, we are working hard to carry that legacy forward," said Angelique Rood, President of the CNR Board of Directors. "These improvements will only make this unique experience better for fans and competitors, because there is truly nothing else like a hot summer night at the CNR. We hope you come out this August and experience the thrills with us, where the cowboys and cowgirls are the stars."

Stay up to date with all things CNR by following along on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok.

Gigi's Corner Voted One of the BEST in the 2025 Boise Favorites Contest



Gigi's Corner Shop owner, Virginia Vaughn

Gigi's Corner Shop, located at 215 S 9th Ave, was the 2025 Silver Winner for Best Place to Buy a Gift from *Boise Favorites* magazine (boisefavorites.com).

Gigi's is a one-of-a-kind shop filled with a wonderful variety of homemade, new, handmade, and vintage treasures. From unique gifts to charming décor, there's

something special waiting for everyone who walks through the door.

But Gigi's is more than just a shop — it's the heart of the community. Gigi proudly supports local efforts such as the Caldwell Sack Lunch Program, the Caldwell Community Thanksgiving Table, food drives, and many other community service initiatives.

If you've ever visited Gigi's, you may have experienced the kindness, fun atmosphere, and great prices that keep customers coming back. The community also enjoys the numerous in-shop events and special classes that bring people together in creative and meaningful ways.

Gigi's is truly a special place — not just a local shop, but a welcoming space that reflects the spirit

of Caldwell.

Testimonial from Tracy C.

"Gigi's is a truly amazing shop. I was getting married and was on the hunt for a chandelier. I found the perfect one at Gigi's, but it was outside my budget. The owner asked if I needed it for my wedding or for my home. I told her I wanted it for my ceremony to hang in the gazebo. She kindly told me to take it and simply bring it back after the wedding. All I gave her was my phone number." Who does that? We returned the chandelier a month later."

To finish in the top three is a huge accomplishment with over 130,000 votes coming in from people in the community wanting their favorite business to be recognized. Congratulations to Gigi's Corner Shop!

Fred Meyer Donates to Salvation Army as Part of Groundbreaking Ceremony



Ground-breaking ceremony including Fred Meyer President Todd Kammerer (left of man with sunglasses) flanked by Mayor Eric Phillips, ESI Construction Management, Corey Barton from Corey Barton Homes, and Kroger Real Estate and Kroger Construction.

As part of their groundbreaking ceremony, Fred Meyer donated \$5000 to the Caldwell Salvation Army.

Fred Meyer, a division of Kroger, broke ground on a 155,000-square-foot store in Caldwell on March 12 at Middleton Rd and Highway 20/26. The store is expected to create 250 jobs and open

in early 2027.

The store will sell fresh food, groceries, electronics, jewelry, home goods, apparel, and more. In addition,



Tiffany Sanders (Fred Meyer Public Affairs), on the right, presents a \$5,000 check to Captain Amy Lewis (middle) of The Caldwell Salvation Army for their Food Bank with Justin Morris (Fred Meyer District Manager) on Captain Amy's left.

the store will include a fuel center, drive-up pharmacy, Starbucks, Fred Meyer Jewelers, and Murray's Cheese.

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Road to the City Budget

2027 Road to the Budget

FEB - MAR 2026

- Departments prepare budgets for submission to Finance (includes new position requests, capital projects, and operations & maintenance)

APR - MAY 2026

- Department meetings with Mayor to finalize budgets
- Departments prepare fee adjustments

JUNE 2026

- Budget Workshop #1 (June 4)
- Budget Workshop #2 (June 11)
- Budget Workshop #3 (June 18)
- Budget Workshop #4 (June 25)
- *Community attendance encouraged at all workshops!

JULY 2026

- Budget Book available online for public comments (July 6)
- *Submit comments to comments.cityofcaldwell.org
- Fee Workshop (July 9)
- Budget Book published (July 24)

AUGUST 2026

- Budget and Fee presentation at hearing (Aug 11) *Community attendance encouraged at hearing!
- FY27 budget finalization
- *Budget and Fee Workshops will be held at Caldwell City Hall

The City of Caldwell is beginning 2027 budget discussions. Departments are sharing information about current operations, future needs, staffing, and long-term planning.

These conversations help City leadership understand the services residents use every day and the behind-the-scenes systems that keep the city running including utilities, stormwater systems, roads, and technology.

Key priorities include staffing Fire Station 4 to support fast emergency response times and continuing road maintenance to keep streets safe and reli-

able. These investments help maintain the level of service our community expects and prepare for future growth.

The community is invited to attend upcoming budget workshops and share your feedback.

Budget workshops will be held at Caldwell City Hall June 4, 11, 17, and 23. A fee workshop will be held July 9. The Budget Book will be available online for public comments on July 6 and published on July 24.

August 11th will be the Budget Hearing at City Council.

Submit comments/concerns to comments@cityofcaldwell.org.

City Council Considers Ordinance to Prevent Further Overcrowding in Vallivue Schools

by Toni Ferro

On March 25 City Council held a Special Workshop to discuss a "School Capacity Development Ordinance" that would delay new residential construction if the project would bring the public schools in the area to over 110% of their capacity. Such developments would be delayed by three years or until the school capacity problem is resolved, whichever is soonest.

The ordinance would not affect already approved projects or applications that were filed prior to the passage of the ordinance. And the ordinance would not affect commercial or industrial applications.

Vallivue School District (VSD) has been grappling with overcrowding for many years, because much of the land in Caldwell and Nampa that is available for residential growth falls there. In addition, State Law does not allow school districts to collect impact fees on new developments, so as new subdivisions are developed the affected school districts do not receive funding to help with the costs of increasing their capacity. To build new schools, school districts have to rely on bonds that must be passed by a two-thirds supermajority of voters.

And currently, City Council does not include overloaded infrastructure as part of their decision-making process when approving residential projects. Landowners are allowed to build residences as long as their plans comply with the zoning in the Comprehensive Plan and comply with current City ordinances (that don't explicitly address in-

frastructure capacity).

Two years ago Middleton passed a similar school capacity ordinance after five consecutive bonds failed in the Middleton School District.

At the time, *Idaho Ed News* reported about the Middleton ordinance saying, "The unprecedented new law challenging residential development that harms education could ripple across the state, providing a lifeline for districts unable to pass a bond." In addition, they reported that "the Kuna School District appears ready to ask its city council to take up a similar law."

The Caldwell proposal, so far, has met with quite a bit of pushback.

The VSD school board sent a letter to the Caldwell City Council explaining that they were not asking for this type of ordinance and instead they "will defer to the expertise of the City of Caldwell leaders regarding" the proposed ordinance. They also explained that even if the ordinance passes, the thousands of new residences approved by Nampa and Caldwell in the past five years that haven't yet been built will still go forward and so they are expecting to have to ask voters to support a bond for new schools in the future in any case.

Middleton Mayor, Tom O'Meara, attended the Council's May 16 meeting where he said he would not recommend adoption of a school capacity ordinance. He explained that slowing the growth stopped the revenues that were coming in to help with infrastructure upgrades.

However, he also said that

creative solutions have gotten school capacities low enough that the Middleton City Council is no longer delaying new residential construction.

Other arguments against the ordinance included that because other cities and the County feed into the Vallivue School District, even if Caldwell slowed residential growth with three-year delays, Vallivue school capacity would be likely to continue rising due to residential approvals in other municipalities.

The ordinance next heads to Planning and Zoning on April 8th where they will make a recommendation regarding approval to the City Council, and then to the City Council for approval consideration on May 4th.

Regardless of whether or not Council approves this ordinance, it is a positive development that they are exploring ways to factor infrastructure capacity into their decision making when it comes to residential growth.

We will keep you posted.

Railroad Quiet Zone Passes in 5-1 Council Vote

Though Mayor Phillips has been openly opposed to a railroad quiet zone in Caldwell, on May 16 the Council voted to add agenda items related to the quiet zone to a future agenda.

At the Special Workshop on May 25, the Council voted to approve the bid for the safety features needed for the quiet zone and then voted to establish the quiet zone. The votes were 5-1 with Councillor Register the lone vote against.

The quiet zone does not require trains to sound their horns across seven intersections in Caldwell (though they can still sound their horns if they need to).

The votes resolve a controversial issue in the community that had hundreds of citizens on both sides of the issue weighing in. You can watch the Special Workshop meeting here: youtube.com/watch?v=DDtYAJE1acQ.

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MEMORIAL DAY FLAG SETUP

The Caldwell Veterans Council is looking for volunteers to help with the Memorial Day flag setup on May 23, 2026 at Canyon Hill Cemetery.
Volunteers must arrive by 9 am sharp.
To sign up, please call (208) 402-6590 or email caldwellveterans@gmail.com

2026 COFFEE KLATCH

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Southwest Idaho Birders' Association



Yellow-Billed Cuckoo
*photo credit: USFWS

Signs of Spring – daffodils, butterflies, maybe even lizards and snakes coming out of hibernation. Birders have their favorites and recently that has included six members of the swallow family that are summer residents in this area.

Probably best known are barn swallows with their blue backs and buffy breasts, long split tails, and penchant for sitting on fences at eye level. They're easy to see and identify and it helps that they're the biggest swallow.

Violet-green swallow sounds very colorful and they also sport a lot of white on their face and breast, as do the Tree Swallows with electric blue to black backs. Cliff Swallows, Bank Swallows and Northern Rough-Winged round out the group.

When you see the por-

traits in a bird guide, it seems not too hard a task to see and identify them. Truth is, what you'll most often see is a tiny dark spot against the sky or a blur swooping low across the lake or river, catching insects on the fly. Some of the best places to see them are around culverts over the irrigation ditches as they start to flow or lined up on utility wires, sometimes hundreds together during migration.

Another sign of spring for SIBA is the first in-person meeting, at the Deer Flat NWR visitor center at 7 p.m. on April 9th. Attendees will hear about being Cuckoo for Cottonwoods: Life History, Threats, and Status of the Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo in Idaho.

The speaker will be U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist Sarah Dzielski, who calls this bird "Idaho's riparian forest gem." Yellow-billed Cuckoos are secretive, medium-sized birds that are rare in the western United States.

The distinct western population segment was listed as Threatened under the Endangered Species Act in 2014. Sarah will walk through species identification, the fascinating life history and reproductive strategies of the species and talk about threats to the Yellow-billed Cuckoo and its habitat within Idaho.

by JC Clancy
Sarah works with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Ecological Services Program. She is based out of Boise, and works mostly with species protected under the Endangered Species Act. In her free time, Sarah enjoys bird watching and creating wildlife art.

The meeting will also be available by Zoom. For the link, email: sibainfo1@gmail.com.

The next field trip will head for High Valley on Saturday, April 11, meeting at 7:00 a.m. at the Triangle Restaurant, 8770 Highway 52, Sweet, ID. Registration is required by email to trip leader James Jarrett at SIBAFieldTrip@gmail.com.

Trekkers will carpool through the valley and up through grassland and sagebrush habitat into the ponderosa forest where woodpeckers may be heard and seen. Brewers and Vesper sparrows are often seen in this area. Traveling higher we'll enter the forest habitat and may encounter both Black-capped and Mountain chickadees along with House and Cassin's finches. High Valley has meadow and wetland areas with a chance to see Sandhill Cranes. This will be an all-day trip so bring water, snacks, and lunch. Dress warmly and be prepared for winter and spring weather.

Dave's Big Backyard



by Dave McCormick

bard and Carlson's bid of \$232,000 was considered too high. Like the lower dam, the upper dam had houses for workers, a 120 person mess hall, and a blacksmith shop.

The main canal, now the New York Canal, opened February 22nd, 1909 and Deer Flat Reservoir began to fill. The engineers knew there would be seepage and evaporation. Deer Flat fell short of expectations.

It wasn't until Arrowrock Reservoir was completed in 1915 that Lake Lowell truly reached its full potential. Anderson Ranch followed in 1950. Lucky Peak was completed in 1955 and the Boise project became what it is today, providing water to 165,000 acres of farmland in the lower Treasure Valley.

In 1935, the Civil Conservation Corps, better known as the Triple C, made many improvements to the Deer Flat wildlife area, refacing the top of both upper and lower dams and adding riprap to dam faces to control erosion. They also widened the tops of both dams.

It was against reclamation policy to name projects after living individuals. James H. Lowell was president of the Idaho Water Users. He was instrumental in lobbying Congress for construction of the Lake, though the reservoir did not officially bear his name until 1948.

Approximately 50 years after Lake Lowell filled, my Granddad Sandy and I were sitting on the upper embankment catching perch. It was cold. There was a skim of ice near the shoreline. Our sinkers were heavy enough to drop through the ice. The small perch we caught came up through the hole. I guess you could say, this was my first attempt at ice fishing.

Lake Lowell and the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge have provided countless hours of enjoyment. What a gem we have so close to home.

Watering in the spring is weather-based to determine frequency, but the first couple waterings should be a good drenching to help wake things up. More on watering times and frequencies next month.

Until next time, Pat

Local Dirt

by Pat King



presently happening.

You need water from a hose or sprinkler system now to water your evergreen plants, especially pines of all kinds. These dry conditions are stressing your pines and if you have not been watering them throughout winter, then they need a good drenching now. Throwing out some fertilizer for evergreen and/or fertilizer spikes would also be a good thing to do.

For you who have city water systems or have your own wells, you need to turn them on ASAP because the ground is really dry and everything is thirsty. Give everything a good drenching now and just keep an eye out on the weather.

For you who are waiting for the canals to fill, you have two to three weeks yet, so please hand water your big trees first, then water everything else. Fertilizers, pre-emergence even insecticides would be good to

apply prior to watering, because your plants are also very hungry.

Sprinkler start-ups are easy to do as long as you are prepared for what may come up. So plan on shutting it back down quickly in case there's a flood somewhere. Check to make sure you're shutting off your drain valve first, then turn on your main water supply. If you have a filter or a back flow device, there are usually ball valves on them. Have them in the off position so you can control the process of putting water in the system. Your filter should be cleaned and your back flow devices' test ports should all be closed.

Slowly open your shutoff valve to let water gradually fill the mainline leading to the valves. Once the mainline has been filled and no leaks are detected, move on to turning on individual zones. I prefer to manually open each valve so that as it

fills, I can see leaks and shut it off more quickly before it gets too muddy to work on. If no leaks, I proceed with checking and adjusting the sprinklers. I always carry sprinkler flags to mark any area that needs to be addressed. Also, if I'm planning to power rake or aerate the lawn, it's a good idea to flag every head so you don't hit them.

In 1902, Theodore Roosevelt enacted the reclamation act, a law that provided funds to irrigate arid and semi-arid lands in the west. With a more stable funding source, the main canal project began without further ado, 41 miles west. In September of 1906, construction began on the upper embankment.

The upper dam was built by the reclamation service. Private bids including Hub-

fills, I can see leaks and shut it off more quickly before it gets too muddy to work on. If no leaks, I proceed with checking and adjusting the sprinklers. I always carry sprinkler flags to mark any area that needs to be addressed. Also, if I'm planning to power rake or aerate the lawn, it's a good idea to flag every head so you don't hit them.

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Introducing Ask RN Jenn



by Jennifer Tipton, Retired RN
veggies (broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower), garlic and onions, dairy (especially if he's lactose intolerant), and sugary high-carb foods that tend to ferment in the gut, are high in sulfur or hard to digest, which can cause burping.

Supplements such as Omega-3 (fish oil) are famous for causing "fishy burps"; however, a "burpless" Omega-3 is available. It might help to cut back on sulfur-heavy foods, eat smaller meals, and eat slowly. Also, be sure he drinks plenty of water and consider a probiotic (if he doesn't already take one).

Other possible causes may include digestive issues such as acid reflux, Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS), gastroparesis (food sitting in the stomach too long), or lactose intolerance. Certain gastrointestinal infections can also cause unpleasant burps. These situations can be very serious and require a visit to your physician. If symptoms persist, please see your doctor.

Wish you well! RN Jenn

Do you have a general health question for RN Jenn? If so, Ask RN Jenn!

Each month we will pick one question for her to answer.

Email your question to: editor@caldwellperspective.com. Title your e-mail "To RN Jenn!" Here is her first question and first answer.

Question: My husband has recently started burping a lot (the burps are small but gross). What is going on?

Answer: First, consider any recent changes to his diet. Certain foods, such as eggs, red meat, cruciferous

The Trick's on Me!

by Leora Summers



On all my school papers since kindergarten, I wrote Leora SUSAN Zanks! I wanted Susan to be my middle name. I do have a sister who is named Susan, but she was named Susan Marie Zanks and then I had one more younger sister and she didn't have the Ellen middle name either, but since I was the first, it had to be Ellen! I went all the way through about the 6th grade as Leora Susan Zanks. But then that dreaded day finally came when I had to "fess" up and put my real name down in black and white.

These days, when children are born, parents typically apply for a child's SSN while filling out their birth certificate information in the hospital, allowing the SSA to assign the number shortly after birth. Back in my day, you generally applied for it when you were going to begin working. So I applied for my social security number when I was about 13 years old and in the 7th grade.

When my social security card came in the mail, I showed it to my mother and

she beamed! Then she said, "Isn't that nice? I see you chose 'Ellen' for your middle name! We left it blank so you could choose one you liked!"

How could this be that I did this to myself? She never told me about this! Was I supposed to be a mind reader?

So I begrudgingly remained Leora Ellen Zanks until I got married. Then I simply changed my name to Leora Zanks Summers on my marriage certificate, bumping out the Ellen, and honoring my family surname.

At the same time this created a little continuity for my teaching certificates which were originally awarded as Leora Ellen Zanks. Problem solved!

So I guess the moral of the story is that people are not mind-readers. You need to tell them what they need to know. Whoever would have thought such a thing could take place? Obviously, not me!

Don't get me wrong. I have friends named Ellen and I love them and I like their names. I just didn't want Ellen for my middle name when I was a kid. I wanted mine to be "Susan." But I thought my middle name was Ellen, because my mother gave three of my younger siblings variations of her maiden name. My brother was Harry Allen Zanks, then a sister, Aimee Ellen Zanks and another sister was named Mary Ellen Zanks, so I was doomed to be Leora Ellen Zanks. What would you think if you were me?

I went to school rebelling!

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Ronee Blakley, From Caldwell High to the Silver Screen

by Toni Ferro

Perhaps you watched the Oscars last month and thought to yourself, "I wonder if anyone from my beautiful little hometown of Caldwell has ever been nominated for an Oscar?"

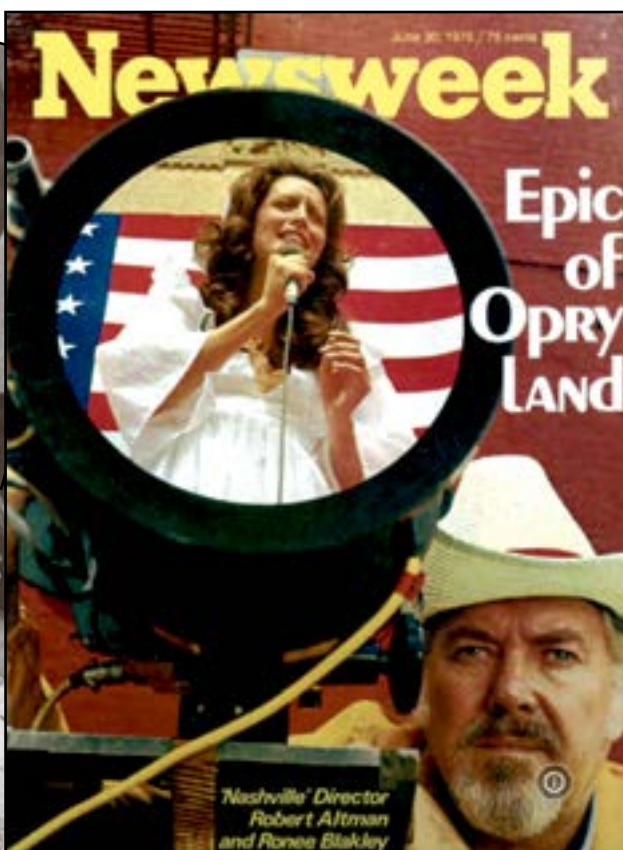
Well, I'm here to tell you that the answer is a resounding, "Yes, Ronee Sue Blakley!" (And indeed Caldwell High School is the only high school in the state to have graduated a future Oscar nominee.)

Ronee Sue Blakley grew up here in Caldwell and graduated from Caldwell High in 1963. The yearbook said she was involved in Pep Club, Y-Teens, Drill Team, Choir, Opera, Spanish Club, Girls' State, Girls' Nation, Thespians, and much more. In 1963 she won the Miss Caldwell competition and went on to compete for Miss Idaho.

She graduated from Stanford with honors in 1967 and went on to pursue a career in film and music.

In 1975, after writing songs and touring the country singing in clubs for about six years, she landed the role of Barbara Jean in Robert Altman's movie "Nashville." The film is a collage of characters, but if anyone is the core of the film, it's Barbara Jean, a talented music star being crushed by the weight of her fame.

Blakley wrote her own songs for the film (including one called "My Idaho Home") as well as some of the songs sung by other actors. And she wrote at least one of her own speeches for



Upper Left: Ronee Blakley's CHS Senior Yearbook photo, 1963
Bottom Left: Ronee Blakley being crowned Miss Caldwell, 1963
Center: Ronee Blakley on the cover of the June 30, 1976 issue of Newsweek
Upper Right: Ronee Blakley in a still from the movie Nashville
Bottom Right: Ronee Blakley at the 1976 Academy Awards

the film.

Her performance in the film was exceptional. A *New York Times* reviewer said she was "the brightest of the 24 'Nashville' stars" and a *New Yorker* reviewer said "she achieves her effects so simply I wasn't surprised when someone near me started to cry during one of her songs."

For her performance she was nominated for a Best Supporting Actress Oscar along with Brenda Vaccaro,

Lily Tomlin, Sylvia Miles, and winner Lee Grant. She was also nominated for a Golden Globe, 2 BAFTA awards, and a National Board of Review award (which she won). In addition, she shared a Grammy nomination for 'Album of Best Original Score Written for a Motion Picture or a Television Special.'

She later had a role in the 1984 horror film "Nightmare on Elm Street" as well

as a number of other smaller films and TV shows.

She put out 12 albums, the most recent one in 2020, 'Atom Bomb Baby.'

You can learn a lot more about Ronee Sue Blakley by reading her many inter-

views available at your fingertips with a quick Google Search.

And if you know someone in Caldwell with big dreams, let them know that our little town is a great place to start their journey.

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