

Caldwell BRIDGING COMMUNITY & COMMERCE PERSPECTIVE

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Edition 140 | JULY 2026

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Carrie French and Gold Star Families Honored at CVMH

by Leora Summers and Toni Ferro



Carrie French's mother, Paula Hylinsky, Carrie's father, Rick French, Carrie's sister, Sarah Gillman, Nampa Elks members Maury Smith and Lucile Summerlin, Caldwell Elks and Veterans Council member John Muirhead

On June 5, the Caldwell Veterans Memorial Hall (CVMH), located at 1101 E Cleveland, had a dedication ceremony unveiling the "Remembering Fallen Heroes" statue, a beautiful memorial of Cpl. Carrie L. French, who was the first Idaho female soldier killed in Iraq. She is a hometown hero who made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom. The price of freedom is not free.

Attending the ceremony were Carrie's parents, her sister, other family members, friends, neighbors, fellow servicemen and women and veterans. The Caldwell Police Honor Platoon presented during the ceremony and speakers were there to honor her life and sacrifice.

Carrie was a 2004 graduate of Caldwell High School who enlisted in the Idaho National Guard at age 17, as a junior in high school,

to help pay for college. She served as an ammunition specialist.

Carrie died at age 19 in Kirkuk, Iraq on June 5, 2005 when a roadside explosive hit the truck she was in. After her death, she was promoted to corporal from specialist. She has been awarded numerous medals, the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

This is the third memorial honoring Cpl. Carrie French in the valley. The first memorial is located on the grounds of the National Guard Building on the corner of Kimball and Paynter in Caldwell. The second one is a beautiful statue of Carrie and her friend, Marisa McCarter sharing lunch together in Iraq, located in the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery in Boise.

The CVMH had a footing for a statue commemorating

fallen soldiers installed back in 2014 when the Carnegie Library building was purchased by the City and renovated as the CVMH.

Last March Terry Harrell and John Muirhead were discussing how the statue of Carrie French and Marisa McCarter that was originally planned to be located in the Idaho Veterans Garden in Caldwell was instead installed in Boise. During the conversation they decided to pursue honoring Carrie by commissioning a statue of her and placing it in front of the CVMH.

Muirhead explained that he and Harrell are no strangers to fundraising and are "just too stubborn" to give up on an idea once they get it in their heads.

They managed the project to renovate the CVMH, which required them to raise \$1.9 million.

To create and install the statue of Carrie cost a little over \$100,000, with about \$67,000 of that being for the statue itself.

The project was funded by a number of individuals and organizations who are recognized on the base of the statue. Donors include the Caldwell Veterans Council, the City of Caldwell, the Nampa, Caldwell, and State Elks organizations, and Boise Valley Monument.

The CVMH hosts other monuments including one honoring Gold Star Families. Gold Star families are families who have lost a loved one during their US military service.

Families with members in the service are Blue Star Families and are awarded blue star lapel pins. When a family member loses their life in the service, that pin is replaced by a gold star pin, signifying the ultimate sacrifice their family member has made for freedom. The



Close up of the Carrie French Statue. The face is based on her 2005 yearbook photo.

pin also honors their family's grief and what they have lost.

Stop by the Caldwell Veterans Memorial Hall to see these memorials honoring our service members and their families. And then go out to the Idaho Veterans Garden on Belmont Street. It is an amazing place where families and friends of fallen military service members gather to pay tribute to their loved ones.



Gold Star Family members with the monument for Gold Star Families at the Caldwell Veterans Memorial Hall

Dispose of Your Worn U.S. Flag with Dignity

by Leora Summers



Ceremonial Flag Burning of worn flags at Caldwell Veterans Memorial Hall photo by Mayor Eric Phillips

The Caldwell Veterans Memorial Hall recently had a flag burning ceremony, burning flags that were dropped off due to them being too worn to respectfully fly anymore.

Flag Day was June 14th and during the month of July, people raise their U.S. flags to celebrate the 4th of July. The month of July would be a good time to inspect your flag to see if it needs to be replaced. If you think your flag is looking shabby and needs to be retired, you can do so in a few dignified and respectful ways.

The easiest way to dispose of your flag in Caldwell, is to drop it off at the Caldwell Veterans Memorial Hall located at 1101 Cleveland Blvd.

in Caldwell. They receive these worn flags and save them up until they have their ceremonial burning. For details you can call them at 208-402-6590.

You can burn your flag respectfully at home, by folding it in the proper corner flag fold, then burning it in a hot fire, salute it respectfully, and then bury the ashes. If your flag is synthetic, drop it off at our Veterans Hall and do not burn it, as it can release toxic chemicals into the air. And lastly, you can bury your flag. Fold it in the corner traditional flag fold and then bury it in a cardboard or sealed box.

Let's keep our flags looking good and then fly them proudly!



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For updates and details, visit our Caldwell Community Calendar online at caldwellperspective.com/community-calendar
Pick up the Caldwell Parks & Rec Summer Activities booklet at the Library or Rec Office

Repeating Events MONDAYS Monday Fitness at the Plaza 9-10 am, 120 S Kimball, Free TUESDAYS Yoga on the Plaza 8-9 am, 120 S Kimball, Free FamilySearch Center: Free Family History Help 1-4 pm, 3015 S Kimball Local Author Signings at Shared Stories 5-7 pm, 106 S Kimball Farm to Fork Farmer's Market and Tuesdays on the Creek Concert Series 5-8 pm, 120 S Kimball (The Plaza), Free Community Dinner at Caldwell Church of Christ 6-7:30 pm, 4012 S 10th Senior Center Bingo 6-7:30 pm, 1009 Everett WEDNESDAYS Creekside Kids on the Plaza 5-8 pm, 120 S Kimball (The Plaza), Free FamilySearch Center: Free Family History Help 6-8pm, 3015 S Kimball THURSDAYS Coffee Klatch at the Caldwell Veterans' Memorial hall 8-11 am, 1101 Cleveland FamilySearch Center: Free Family History Help 1-4pm, 3015 S Kimball Celebrate Recovery 17703 Beet Rd, Deer Flat Free Methodist Church FRIDAYS Magic the Gathering Commander Casual at Rubaiyat 5-9 pm, 314 S 6th SATURDAYS Magic the Gathering Commander Casual at Rubaiyat 1-11 pm, 314 S 6th Caldwell Latino Night Market 7-11 pm, 120 N Kimball Individual Events TUESDAY 7/7 Toddler Introduction to the Skies at Whittenberger Planetarium 1-2 pm, 2112 Cleveland, Boone Hall, CofI, \$3 for kids 3-17, \$6 for 18+	WEDNESDAY 7/8 Weaver's Guild Study Group at Rubaiyat 11 am-2 pm, 314 S 6th Horror Book Club at Shared Stories 7-8 pm, 106 S Kimball Book: <i>Our Wives Under the Sea</i> by Julia Armfield THURSDAY 7/9 Romantasy Book Club at Shared Stories 7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball Book: <i>The Irresistible Urge to Fall for Your Enemy</i> by Brigitte Knightly Deep Dive into the Solar System at Whittenberger Planetarium 7-8 pm, 2112 Cleveland, Boone Hall, CofI, \$5 for kids 4-17, \$10 for 18+ Southwest Idaho Birders Association Club Meeting 7-8 pm, Deerflat NWR Visitor Center, 13751 Upper Embankment Road, Nampa, email SIBAINfo1@gmail.com for zoom option SATURDAY 7/11 Southwestern Idaho Birders Association Field Trip Triangle Restaurant, 8770 Hwy 52, Sweet, ID, SIBAFIELDtrip@gmail.com to register Opening Day and Mini Market at Lovely Hollow Farms 9 am-2 pm, 18252 Chicken Dinner Rd Summer Stargazing at Whittenberger Planetarium 10:30-11:30 am, 2112 Cleveland, Boone Hall, CofI, \$5 for kids 4-17, \$10 for 18+ Chicken Drop Bingo at Dunning Estates Western Winery 12:30-6 pm, 19937 Vino Ln Cookbook Book Club at Shared Stories 7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball Book: <i>Last Minute Brunch Party</i> SUNDAY 7/12 Morning Flower Picking at Lovely Hollow Farms 9 am-2 pm, 18252 Chicken Dinner Rd MONDAY 7/13 Fantasy Book Club at Shared Stories 7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball Book: <i>The Lies of Ajungo</i> by Moses Obe Utomi TUESDAY 7/14 Campfire Stargazing at Whittenberger Planetarium 4-5 pm, 2112 Cleveland, Boone Hall, CofI, \$4 for kids 4-17, \$8 for 18+	WEDNESDAY 7/15 Gardening Book Club at Shared Stories 6:30-9 pm, 106 S Kimball Book: <i>The Hidden Life of Trees</i> THURSDAY 7/16 Genealogy in the Digital Age Class 6:30-8 pm, 3015 S Kimball, Free (every third Thursday) Romance Book Club at Shared Stories 7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball, Book: <i>Sunburn</i> FRIDAY 7/17 Idaho Spice Company Cooking Demo at Shared Stories 6:30-7:30 pm, 106 S Kimball Mythology of the Stars at Whittenberger Planetarium 7-8 pm, 2112 Cleveland, Boone Hall, CofI, \$5 for kids 4-17, \$10 for 18+ SATURDAY 7/18 Rugged Idaho Expo 10 am-2 pm, 120 S Kimball (The Plaza) Christmas in July at Dunning Estates Winery noon-6 pm, 19937 Vino Ln Sippin' in the Sunset at Huston Vineyards 5:30-8:30 pm, 16473 Chicken Dinner Rd Lucky Tongue, live music at Parma Ridge Winery 6-9 pm, 24509 Rudd Rd, Parma, \$10 Cliff Miller Band at Ste. Chapelle Winery 4-9 pm, 19348 Lowell Rd SUNDAY 7/19 Make and Take Event at Rubaiyat 1-3 pm, 314 S 6th MONDAY 7/20 City Council Meeting 6:00-8:30 pm, 205 S 6th (Caldwell City Hall). <i>Livestream: youtube.com/@cityofcaldwell178/streams</i> Caldwell Centennial Band Free Concert in the Park 7:30-9 pm, 619 Irving (Caldwell Memorial Park), Free TUESDAY 7/21 Toddler Show: Starry Storytime at Whittenberger Planetarium 1-2 pm, 2112 Cleveland, Boone Hall, CofI, \$3 for kids 3-17, \$6 for 18+	THURSDAY 7/23 through SUNDAY 7/26 Canyon County Fair noon-11 pm, 110 County Fair Ave, Caldwell, \$6 for kids 6-12 and seniors, \$8 for 13+ FRIDAY 7/24 Winery After Hours at Ste. Chapelle Winery 6-9 pm, Will Burton, 19348 Lowell Rd, Free, reservations suggested Poetry Book Club at Shared Stories 7-8 pm, 106 S Kimball, Book: <i>Your Emergency Contact has Experienced an Emergency</i> by Chen Chen SATURDAY 7/25 Canyon County Fair Market Livestock Sale 8:30-10 am breakfast, 10 am livestock sale, 111 S 22nd To the Moon and Beyond: History of Space Flight at Whittenberger Planetarium 3-4 pm, 2112 Cleveland, Boone Hall, CofI, \$5 for kids 4-17, \$10 for 18+ Rochelle & the James Gang, live music at Parma Ridge Winery 6-9 pm, 24509 Rudd Rd, Parma, \$10 SUNDAY 7/26 Silent Book Club at Bond and Bevel 5-7 pm, 107 S 7th, Chit-chat followed by reading MONDAY 7/27 Sci-Fi Book Club at Shared Stories 7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball, Book: <i>The Left Hand of Darkness</i> by Ursula LeGuin TUESDAY 7/28 Mythology of the Stars at Whittenberger Planetarium 4-5 pm, 2112 Cleveland, Boone Hall, CofI, \$4 for kids 4-17, \$8 for 18+ Mystery Thriller Book Club at Shared Stories 7-9 pm, 106 S Kimball, Book: <i>Boring Asian Female</i> by Canwen Xu THURSDAY 7/30 Movie Night on the Plaza 11am-1 pm, 120 S Kimball, Movie: <i>Homeward Bound</i> FRIDAY 7/31 Explore the Solar System aka Deep Dive at Whittenberger Planetarium 7-8 pm, 2112 Cleveland, Boone Hall, CofI, \$5 for kids 4-17, \$10 for 18+	SATURDAY 8/1 Free Community Clothing Exchange 9 am-noon, 4509 S Montana, Free (no donations required) SUNDAY 8/2 Sunday Sips & Sounds at Ste. Chapelle Winery 1-4 pm, Timothy Swanson, 19348 Lowell Rd, Free, reservations suggested MONDAY 8/3 City Council Meeting 6:00-8:30 pm, 205 S 6th (Caldwell City Hall). <i>Livestream: youtube.com/@cityofcaldwell178/streams</i> Caldwell Centennial Band Free concert in the Park 7:30-9 pm, 619 Irving (Caldwell Memorial Park), Free THURSDAY 8/6 Super Soaker Showdown at the Plaza 11 am-1 pm, 120 S Kimball 6th Annual Caldwell Community Baby Shower 11 am-1 pm, and 5-8 pm 701 Main St (Caldwell Train Depot) FRIDAY 8/7 Basquin' in the Sunset at Huston Vineyards 6-9 pm, 16473 Chicken Dinner Rd Zootopia II at Brothers Park 8:45-10:45 pm, 4099 S Indiana, movie starts at dusk, Free SATURDAY 8/8 Saturday Spiritual Support Group with Leticia from Native Spirit Healing 6-7 pm, 211 Logan, Suite B1-1 August Edition of the Caldwell Perspective arrives. To see more details about the calendar items and to get updates, see the Caldwell Community Calendar on our website at caldwellperspective.com/community-calendar. caldwellperspective.com/community-calendar
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YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

HOW TO REACH US

By mail: P.O. Box 922
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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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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).

The Canyon County Fair



The 2025 Canyon County Fair

From Thursday, July 23, to Sunday, July 26, the Canyon County Fairgrounds will again be alive with exhibits, vendors, concerts, and carnival rides on the grounds along Blaine Street east of 22nd Avenue.

The exhibits by community members will include photographs, artwork, needle craft, flowers, fruits and vegetables, baking, canning and homemade spirits.

A variety of 4-H exhibits will also include livestock and a style revue. Sunday will feature a Latino Festival.

O'Connor Fieldhouse and The Center will be open from noon to 8 p.m. each day. Outside vendors and the carnival, from noon to 11 pm.

Learn more and buy tickets at canyoncountyfair.org.



EVENTS

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

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

Events in the Community Room unless noted

Programs are free and open to the public

Books for book clubs available at the desk

Ask about reading challenges

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

MONDAYS

Baby Story Time: July 13, 20, 27 and Aug 3 at 10 am, 10:45 am, 11:30 am | Ages 0-2

Youth Chess Club: Aug 3, 4-5 pm | Ages 8-17

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

Campfire StoryTime: July 20 and Aug 3 at 7 pm | All Ages, Creatures of the Deep and Stories (July 20), Crafts & Activities (Aug 3)

Teen Book Club: July 20, 5:30-6:30 pm | Ages 13-17, *Displacement* by Kiky Hughes

Summer Reading Evening Special: July 13 and 27, 6-7 pm | All Ages, Dino Yoga (July 13) and Water Bottle Rockets (July 27)

TUESDAYS

Spanish & English Storytime: July 14, 21, 28 and Aug 4 at 10:30 am | Ages 2-6

Mobile Health Clinic at the Library: Aug 4: Call 208-367-4483 for appointment.

Board Game Night: Aug 4, 6:30-8:30 pm | All ages

Lego Club: Aug 14, 4:30-5:30 pm | Ages 7-16, Ancient City

Paws to Read: July 21, 1-2 pm | Ages 7-14, Children's Area. Read to a dog.

Idaho Crop Spotlight: Apples, July 14, 12:30-2 pm | Ages 16+

WEDNESDAYS

Summer Reading Special: July 8, 15, 22, 29 and Aug 5 at 11 am | All Ages, Dino Stem Lab (July 8), Dino Slime Lab (July 15), Celebration Park presents Lifeways Lithic & Prehistoric Technologies (July 22), Ancient Art (July 29), (ask the library about Aug 5)

Tech Lab: July 8 10 am -Noon | Ages 18+

Caldwell Public Library at the Senior Center: July 15, 11 am | Senior Center, 1009 Everett

THURSDAYS

Stories & Stomp: July 9, 16, 23, 30 at 10:30 am | ages 2-6, (ask library about Aug 6)

Teen Thursday: July 9, 16, 23, 30 at 4:30 pm | Ages 13-17, Board Game Night (July 9), Clay Makerspace (July 16), Beaded Forever Plants (July 23), Prehistoric Cross-stitch (July 30), (ask library about Aug 7)

Thursday Book Club: July 9, 2 pm or July 16, 6:30 pm | Ages 18+, Idaho room, *Summer Sisters* by Judy Blume

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

FRIDAYS

Tai Chi & Qigong: July 10, 17, 24, 31 and Aug 7 at 10 am | Ages 18+

Children's Library Garden sponsored by D&B: July 10, 17, 24, 31 and Aug 7 at 10 am | Ages 5-12

Plaza Storytime: July 10, 17, 24, 31 at 10:30 am Ages 5-12, Indian Creek Plaza, Folktales (July 10), Minerals and Crystals (July 17), Museums (July 24), Time Capsules (July 31).

Adult Lego Club: July 24, 4:30 pm | Ages 16+

Library Outreach Book Club: July 10, 5 pm | Ages 18+, Luby Park, *The House in the Pines* by Ana Reyes (Snacks, Crafts, Prizes)

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

SATURDAYS

Art Together, July 11 and Aug 1, 2-3 pm | All ages, Through the Looking Glass Art (July 11), (ask library about Aug 1 topic)

Storytime around the World – Australia: July 18, 2-3 pm | All Ages

SUNDAYS
Library closed



Idaho Crop Spotlight for July: Apples

by Surine Greenway, UI Owyhee County Extension Office

Learn all about apples! Explore their history, seasonality, best varieties for our region, best time to plant, or how to access them to purchase locally. Participants will learn how to add flavor to dishes by preparing and preserving apples with samples provided.

FREE APPLES CLASS IN JULY

When: Tuesday, July 14th, 12:30-2 pm

Where: Caldwell Public Library (1010 Dearborn St, Caldwell)

Register at: bit.ly/orchard26

Caldwell Artisan Fair was a Success



June 13th was a beautiful day for this year's Caldwell Artisan Fair. During the event, Memorial Park was filled with tents that were filled with art. Local artists sold all sorts of creations including paintings, jewelry, spices, clothing, woodwork, metalwork, and more.

Caldwell Fine Arts had a crafts table for the kids and live music and food trucks made the event a great day for the whole family.

Great job Caldwell, we are already looking forward to next year's Artisan Fair.

CFEO's Annual Scholarship Banquet Awards 60 Scholarships

by Erin Sullivan Smith, Executive Director



The Caldwell Foundation for Educational Opportunity (CFEO) held its annual scholarship banquet on Friday, May 8, at Caldwell High School. The evening was filled with pride, gratitude, and hope for the future as students, families, donors, educators, and community members gathered to recognize the achievements of Caldwell's graduating seniors. In total, 60 scholarships worth approximately \$90,000 were awarded to students pursuing post-secondary education and career training opportunities.

CFEO President William Gigray III welcomed attendees and spoke about the foundation's enduring mission to support Caldwell students through educational opportunities made possible by the generosity of local donors, families, businesses, and community members. He emphasized that every scholarship represents not only financial support, but also a community's belief in the potential of its young people. CFEO Vice President Josh Engler introduced this year's keynote speaker, Giselle Madrigal, a 2019 graduate of Caldwell High School and former CFEO scholarship recipient. During her senior year, Madrigal received both the Class of 1977 Scholarship and the Dorothy M. Kidd Scholarship. She went on to attend Boise State University, earning both a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work and a Master

of Social Work degree. Today, she serves as a Licensed Master Social Worker working as an independent contractor. Madrigal shared her personal educational journey at CHS and reflected on the meaningful role scholarships played in helping her achieve her goals. She encouraged students to embrace the opportunities before them, reminding them that their future success will be built upon the hard work, determination, and support they have received from their families and community. Scholarship presentations and commentary were provided by CFEO Board Member Marisela Pesina. The evening concluded with remarks from Erin Sullivan Smith, Executive Director of CFEO, who reflected on the rich heritage of the foundation and the importance of preserving the institutional knowledge

and traditions established by generations of Caldwell graduates, educators, administrators, community leaders, and local families. She reminded students that many of the scholarships awarded that evening were established through memorial gifts honoring former students, staff members, and community supporters whose legacies continue to make a lasting impact on future generations. Students were encouraged to view themselves as the next chapter in Caldwell's story; taking with them the values, experiences, and opportunities gained in Caldwell and at Caldwell High School while sharing the community's positive influence wherever life may lead them. They were also reminded that should they choose to return home after completing their educational pursuits, they would bring back valuable knowledge,

skills, and experiences that can strengthen the community that first invested in them. The celebration concluded with refreshments generously provided by Flying M Coffee and Jodi's Cupcakes, allowing recipients, families, donors, and community members an opportunity to connect, celebrate, and reflect on the promise represented by the Class of 2026. For more than three decades, CFEO has remained committed to expanding educational opportunities for Caldwell students. As another graduating class embarks on its next chapter, the foundation's continued investment serves as a powerful reminder that when a community believes in its young people, there is no limit to what they can achieve.

Caldwell's Huston Vineyards Wins Best in Show at Idaho Wine Competition



Huston Vineyards' 2023 Syrah, crafted by third-year winemaker Jacob Alger, was awarded Double Gold, Best Red Wine, and Best Wine in the Competition at the Idaho Wine Competition. Jacob, a second-generation winemaker, works alongside Josh Alger (his brother and farm manager) and Gregg and Mary Alger (his parents and owners of Huston Vineyards). Together, the Alger family continues to showcase the quality and potential of Idaho-grown wine grapes through intentional farming, hands-on winemaking, and a deep commitment to the Snake River Valley. "Idaho grows incredible Syrah thanks to our volcanic soils and ideal growing conditions," said Josh Alger,

"but great fruit is only half of the story. It's what happens in the winery; the attention to detail, the decisions and the craftsmanship that turns great grapes into award winning Syrah." This year's honor continues an impressive three-year streak for Huston Vineyards Syrah. In addition to the 2023 vintage, the 2022 and 2021 vintages also received Double Gold awards and Best Syrah in Idaho at previous Idaho Wine Competitions. This year, the 2023 Syrah also earned the Best of Show award as judged blind by a prestigious panel

of industry experts. Huston Vineyards also took home an impressive number of additional awards, including Double Gold and Best White Blend for the 2025 Huston White, Double Gold for the 2021 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, Double Gold for the 2024 Reserve Chardonnay, and Gold Medals for the 2022 Mourvèdre and 2025 Estate Grüner Veltliner. The awards continue a long tradition of agricultural excellence and world-class winemaking for the Alger family. Huston Vineyards previously won Best

in Show at the 2014 Idaho Wine Competition for its 2012 Malbec, was named Idaho Winery of the Year in 2023 by Great Northwest Wine, and the Alger family was honored as Canyon County Farm Family of the Year in 2018 by the Caldwell and Nampa Chamber of Commerce communities. All of the Award-Winning Wines are available for purchase at the Huston Vineyards Tasting Room located in Caldwell Idaho. The Tasting Room is open from 12-5 pm daily.

Dr. Melyssa McDaniel Ferro Inducted into the 2026 National Teachers Hall of Fame



Dr. Melyssa McDaniel Ferro at the National Teachers Hall of Fame induction ceremony

On June 20th, Caldwell teacher, Dr. Melyssa McDaniel Ferro, was inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame at Emporia State University, in Emporia, Kansas, along with five other inductees from other states. This induction honors teachers who have shown dedication and commitment to their students and who have also made a lasting impact to their classrooms and communities through their careers. The inductees were honored to celebrate their achievements and to show how grateful we all are for the difference they continue to make in the lives of others. Congratulations Melyssa! Caldwell School District and our community are so privileged to have you making such a difference in the lives of our students and our community. This is an honor well earned!

Come Try Our Award-Winning Wines

Sippin' in the Sunset
Fri. July 18 5:30-8:30 pm

tickets and information at
www.hustonvineyards.com

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The Sawtooth Sockeyes are Back!

by Ty Morris, Caldwell Perspective

The Sawtooth Sockeyes are back and bigger than ever for the 2026 season. For the first time, the Sockeyes will field a Blue and a Black team. The two teams share a stadium and a name, but have separate rosters, managers, and records. Based in Caldwell, these summer collegiate teams compete against other collegiate programs throughout the Pacific Northwest.

As of June 29th, the Sockeyes Blue team's W-L was 7-4 with 14 games left in their regular season and after their June 30th game, the Sockeyes Black team's W-L was 5-5 with 12 games left in their regular season.

The Sockeyes rosters include players from as close as Caldwell to as far away as Tokyo, Japan. A group of eight players was reunited as team-

mates for the Sockeyes Black team after spending this past college season together at Palomar College in San Diego, CA. Approximately 40% of the players depend on local sponsor families for housing during the summer season.

Caldwell native, Eric Kammerman, of the Sockeyes Blue team is the only player from Caldwell. He played catcher at Caldwell High School and has since played college baseball at the College of the Redwoods in Eureka, California.

After playing for the College of Idaho during the college season, Maddox Weight, Quinn Hood, and George Rodriguez chose to stay in Caldwell to play for the Sockeyes Black team. When asked about his favorite part of playing baseball in Caldwell,

Sockeyes outfielder and Boise native Maddox Weight said that he "likes the small-town vibe; it gives a chance to get to know everyone in a more tight-knit community."

The general manager of both teams is Andy Swenson. He has been coaching baseball since 1998 at the high school and college levels. He has also been an MLB associate scout for over 30 years.

You can find the Sockeyes at Wolfe Field in Caldwell most nights from the beginning of June to the end of July. The Sockeyes are supported nightly by a passionate home crowd. The Sockeyes also have in-game entertainment and activities for kids. Kids under twelve get in free for all home games.

Starting after the 4th of July, the Sockeyes will feature several 'theme

nights' including 'ladies' night' and 'first responders' night.'

The Sockeyes will be hosting a baseball youth camp on July 15 from 2-5 pm; this is for any youth ages 7-18 who wants to improve their baseball skills.

You can find more information about the Sockeyes schedules, camps, theme nights, and more on Facebook, Instagram, X, and YouTube all under the name Sawtooth Sockeyes. You can also find them online at sawtoothsockeyes.com.



Maddox Weight of the Sockeyes Black team waits on deck against Cascade Collegiate
Photo by: Avery Graham, @graphicsbygraham4 on Instagram

Two CHS Students honored by the Idaho Latino Scholarship Foundation

by Toni Ferro



ILSF Board member, Estrella Pedroza, with scholarship winners Ebony Gallegos (left) and Jacqueline Aguirre (right).

Two Caldwell High School (CHS) graduates were among thirteen recipients of scholarships from the Idaho Latino Scholarship Foundation (ILSF). The scholarships were awarded during a ceremony on June 26th at Northwest Nazarene University (NNU).

Ebony Gallegos, a 2023 CHS graduate who attends the University of Idaho and studies Criminology and International Studies was awarded the \$1500 Amano Scholarship.

Jacqueline Aguirre, a 2026 CHS graduate who will be attending NNU in the fall was awarded the \$1,000 Jose Enrique Olvera Memorial Scholarship, which was matched by NNU.

Aguirre is planning on studying Mechanical Engineering and has been awarded a host of other scholarships including 3 CFEO scholarships, a Caldwell Lions scholarship, a merit scholarship from NNU, and more. Her scholarships will entirely cover her first year of college and housing in the

dorms as well as her tuition for her remaining years.

Like many of the ILSF scholarship winners, Aguirre is the first person in her family to go to college and in her case, she is the first person in her family to graduate from high school.

Congratulations to Ebony and Jacqueline, Caldwell is rooting for you!

The ILSF was founded in 2008 to "ease the financial burden Idaho Latino students face when striving towards a higher education." The organization notes that "financial need is one of the main reasons why Latino youth choose not to pursue a higher education" and they aim to help students deal with this concern.

The ILSF is a volunteer organization funded by community members and corporate sponsors and together they "provide deserving students an opportunity to radically change their lives."

To learn more about the ILSF or to look into establishing an ILSF scholarship, go to: idaholsf.com.

CHS Students Help Create Idaho State Museum Exhibit



CHS students, Eliza Manning, Cesar Lozano, and Guadalupe Lozano working as interns at the Idaho State Museum.

Three Caldwell High School students (Eliza Manning, Cesar Lozano, and Guadalupe Lozano) spent this school year serving as GEM (Guide, Engage, Motivate) interns at the Idaho State Museum, gaining hands-on experience while helping create a museum exhibit about the history of silver mining in Idaho.

The students worked alongside museum staff to develop Idaho Silver

Linings, a poster exhibition exploring the history and impact of silver mining in Idaho. Their hard work culminated in a special exhibit showcased at the Idaho State Museum, highlighting both Idaho's rich history and the valuable contributions of these talented young scholars.

We are proud of our CHS students for representing Caldwell and making their mark on a statewide project!



Canyon County

Market Livestock Sale



Support the Future of Agriculture

Saturday, July 25

8:30 - 10:00 a.m. Market Livestock Sale Breakfast - O'Connor Field House
10:00 a.m. Market Livestock Sale - Fair Building
111 S. 22nd Avenue, Caldwell, ID 83605
Buyers should enter the Fair through Gate 1 (red ticket booth) on S 22nd Avenue
2026 Sale Order: Sheep Beef Goat Swine Poultry

The Market Livestock Sale Program was created to allow 4-H and FFA members an opportunity to bring their market projects to the Canyon County Fair for judging and sale. Youth who participate in market livestock projects learn valuable skills. What they experience in the program adds to their lifetime of knowledge and leadership, which makes our community stronger. **There are many ways you can help - even if you are not interested in obtaining an animal for meat.**

Five Ways to Support

Method 1: Purchase an animal and take possession for consumption.
Method 2: Purchase an animal but do not take possession (donation only).
Method 3: Add-on cash contribution per head for a specific animal.
Method 4: Add-on cash contribution per head with no specific animal designated.
Method 5: Purchase an animal and take possession for personal use (designated eligible animals only; buyer picks up the live animal at the designated time).

More information: www.canyoncountyfair.org/livestock/

Caldwell High School Recieves Jostens Renaissance Gold School of Distinction

CHS has been selected as a Jostens Renaissance Gold School of Distinction. Schools that achieve the Gold tier have completed graduation initiatives, shared ideas, recognized students, staff and faculty, and improved their school look to contribute to a positive school culture and climate. Only three other Idaho schools were recognized as Jostens schools of distinction.

Congratulations CHS!

Sparklight Donates to West Valley Humane Society



Ben Burchill (Sparklight), Rebekah Johnson (West Valley Humane Society), Katie Flores (Sparklight), Emily Gamble (West Valley Humane Society) and Brett Schwarz (Sparklight)

During the month of April, Sparklight pledged that they would donate \$10 for every Sparklight Mobile line activated in Caldwell, Nampa, Middleton, Marsing, Homedale, Wilder and Notus to the West Valley Humane Society (WVHS) animal shelter.

On June 10th, Sparklight donated \$2,300 to WVHS, located at 5801 Graye Ln in Caldwell, following the success of its “Connect for a Cause” campaign. The funds raised through the campaign will help provide food, medical care, and safe shelter for pets awaiting adoption.

“Organizations like the West Valley Humane Society play such an important role in caring for animals and supporting families across the Treasure Valley,” said Katie Flores, Sparklight Regional Marketing Director, Northwest. “We’re proud to support their invaluable work through our Connect for a Cause campaign and to offer residents

a simple way to make an impact while also providing an affordable mobile solution they can rely on.”

WVHS shared its appreciation for the partnership. “We’re incredibly grateful for Sparklight’s support at a time when costs for housing animals continue to rise,” said Emily Gamble, West Valley Humane Society Director. “Every action, whether it’s adopting, donating or participating in this campaign, helps us care for pets and find them loving homes. This partnership raised critical funding for animals in our care and helped shine a positive spotlight on pet adoption and animal welfare across our community.”

For more information about WVHS, visit: westvalleyhumanesociety.org.

For more information about Sparklight visit: sparklight.com.

Thank you Sparklight for your support of our West Valley Humane Society!

July is the Month to Plan, Collect, and Serve!

by Kelli G. Jenkins

bit.ly/442vOeg.

Another wonderful opportunity to serve is the Annual Community Free Clothing Exchange, helping hundreds of local families prepare for the new school year.

Clean, stain-free clothing (infant through adult) may be donated at the LDS Church building, 4509 S Montana, Caldwell, on Wednesdays, July 15, 22, and 29 from 7–8 pm, Thursday, July 30 from 12–6 pm, and Friday, July 31 from 12–2 pm. Donations are appreciated pre-sorted by gender and size when possible.

The Clothing Exchange will be open to everyone on Saturday, August 1, from 9 am–12 noon, and all clothing is provided free of charge.

As our nation celebrates America 250, there has never been a better time to strengthen our communities through service. Every act of kindness—large or small—helps build a stronger, more caring Caldwell.

To learn more, donate online, or discover additional volunteer opportunities that match your interests, visit JustServe.org or the Caldwell Community Baby Shower Facebook page. Together, we can make a lasting difference—one act of service at a time.



Amy Stahl of Canyon County Branch of Assistance League of Boise, which is one of the recipient organizations of the Community Baby Shower.

Summer is the perfect time to make a difference. As you enjoy July with family and friends, consider joining your neighbors in two meaningful community service projects that will bless local families.

First, mark your calendar for the 6th Annual Caldwell Community Baby Shower on Thursday, August 6. Hosted by the City of Caldwell and JustServe, this annual event helps provide essential baby items for new mothers and their little ones.

Now is the time to begin collecting donations with your family, neighborhood, workplace, church congregation, civic club, or business. Then stop by the Caldwell Train Depot on August 6 between 11 am–1 pm or 5–8 pm to enjoy refreshments and drop off your gifts.

Donations benefit local organizations serving vulnerable mothers and babies, including the Canyon County Branch of Assistance League of Boise, Southwest District Health’s Nurse-Family Partnership, The Salvation Army’s Baby Haven, Advocates Against Family Violence, and others.

Most-needed items include unisex newborn clothing (0–3 months), sleepers, diapers (all sizes), unscented baby wipes, baby wash, lotion, diaper rash ointment, digital thermometers, towels, washcloths, flannel blankets, burp cloths, beanie caps, and new or gently used children’s books. Handmade blankets, burp cloths, and caps are also welcome.

You can buy items through Amazon that will be donated on the day at

PEACEFULNESS



Today I will see others with my own eyes and not through the eyes of others. I will use peaceful language and find peaceful solutions to any problem that arises. I will find my inner peace and let it carry me gently through the day.

from "Virtues: The Gifts Within"
Taken from the "Virtues Project" by
Linda and Dan Popov



**Caldwell Post 35
Regular Meetings**
3rd Tuesday each month
6pm
Caldwell Veterans' Memorial Hall
1101 Cleveland Blvd

Loren M Trotter American Legion Post 35
idahocamericanlegionpost35@gmail.com
(208) 402-6590, CVMH Front Office
1101 Cleveland Blvd, Caldwell ID 83605

10
Commandments
3500 Years Old
& Still Right...
John 3:16 & 17



VETERAN'S CORNER
Sponsored by the Caldwell Veterans Council

Additional events and information can be found online at www.cvmh-vets.org.
Donations are needed, and always appreciated, to help with our outreach programs through the year.

SPORTING CLAY SHOOT

The Ninth Annual Sporting Clay Shoot, put on by the Caldwell Veterans Council, is set to take place again this year! All proceeds will benefit the Caldwell Veterans Memorial Hall.

Date & Time: September 12, 2026 at 9am
Location: Idaho Sporting Clays (5040 Sage Rd. Homedale, ID 83628
Tickets: Sign up and pay at cvmh-vets.org

2026 COFFEE KLATCH

Join us every Thursday morning from 8 am to 11 am for our weekly Coffee Klatch get together!

Organized by the DAV and held at the Caldwell Veterans Memorial Hall.
1101 Cleveland Blvd. Caldwell, ID 83605



Caldwell Soroptimist Club Celebrates 80th Anniversary



Caldwell Soroptimist 80th Anniversary Committee L to R: Laura Burri, Susie Davis, Laurie Ferraro, Donna Rookstool, Kelli Romine, Marlene Page

On May 14, Soroptimist International of Caldwell, Idaho held an 80th Anniversary gathering. Caldwell Soroptimist was chartered by the Boise Soroptimist club in April 1946. Many prominent local women joined this new service club. Gracie Pfost was the first club president. Ms. Pfost went on to become the first woman from Idaho to be elected to the US Congress, serving 5 terms in the House. The Caldwell club continues to thrive today.

Soroptimist International

of the Americas is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment. Each year the Caldwell club gives Live Your Dream Awards to women who are going to school to help educate and empower them to complete their dreams. The club also participates in the Dream It Be It Program to mentor young teen girls to help them find their dreams and focus on their goals. The

by Lauri Burri and Marlene Page Club also donates funds to many local charitable organizations.

At the 80th anniversary gathering, members from the Boise Soroptimist Club, the Treasure Valley Soroptimist Club, and past and present members joined in celebrating the milestone. A social hour, dinner and cake were enjoyed by all. The history of the club was discussed together with recognition of two well-known deceased members, Ruth Rhodes and Mary (MC) Niland. A trivia game and a memory board were part of the evening activities.

If you are interested in joining an active women's charitable group in the Caldwell area, please email you inquiry to sicaldwell@soroptimist.net.

The Caldwell Soroptimists meet on the second Thursday of each month at noon for its business meeting and the third Thursday of the month at noon for its program meeting. Both meetings are held at the Dakan Packham Community Center, 504 Kimball, Caldwell.

Have some extra time? Volunteer!



JustServe has information on 40 or so volunteer activities in Caldwell this month.

There are a few of those one-time activities with four or less hours that some volunteers prefer. The Salvation Army is looking for people to help get school supplies for kids needing them this fall. On July 30 and 31 volunteers will hand out flyers asking for items as people enter Caldwell's Wal-Mart on Cleveland and collect contributions from people leaving.

If you've got spare time and a desire to help, find out more about this and other opportunities by going to JustServe.org, entering a zip-code and clicking search. For a more refined search enter the name of the organization as the keyword, select "within 5 miles," and enter your zipcode again and click search.

Many groups are seeking donated items. The Idaho Youth Ranch would like magazines suitable for teens. Trivium Life Services is

looking for donated clothing, shoes and household items. And the Canyon County Assistance League, Advocates against Family Violence, and Community Baby Shower are each requesting new or lightly used items for infants.

There are many volunteer opportunities for those looking to become part of a team and donate several hours each week or each month.

Genesis Community Health is seeking professionals to volunteer medical services. They are also looking for Spanish interpreters and administrative aids.

Southwest District Health is looking to train an active, welcoming person to teach Fit and Fall Proof classes for the elderly.

The Caldwell Veterans Memorial Hall and the Red Cross blood drives are both looking for people to greet and assist visitors.

And the Salvation Army, Caldwell WICAP, and the Traveling Table Food Pantry are all looking for volunteers to help pack and distribute boxes of food.

Two Families Recieve Interest-Free Home Loans from First Story



Two Caldwell families receiving the keys to their new homes. L to R: Chris Danley, Chair of the Boise Planning and Zoning Commission, Family 1: Anabella, Victoria Tommey, and Kaden, Family 2: Aidan Law holding Haven and Rachel Law, Craig Smith, COO of Hayden Homes

On June 10th, two Caldwell families were presented keys in a Home Dedication and Key Ceremony made through First Story's pathway to affordable homeownership. The event took place in the Hayden Homes Shadow Glen Community in Caldwell.

First Story offers families an opportunity to own homes by giving them zero-down, zero-interest, 30-year mortgages.

The two Caldwell homes sold by First Story this year are "Fresh Start" homes. Fresh Start homes are originally built new by Hayden Homes and provided to one or more previous First Story families. As those families move on, the homes are sold back to First Story to be fully refurbished and provided to a new family. This special program ensures this housing opportunity stays in the community for years to come.

One of two Caldwell families receiving a home this year, consists of Rachel Taylor and her partner Aidan

Law of Caldwell, and their daughter Haven. They said they were still in shock that they were becoming homeowners.

They met in high school and dreamed of raising their daughter in Caldwell, where their families live. But rent kept rising, and they knew they wouldn't be able to afford it much longer—despite Rachel and Aidan both working, and Aidan studying to become a nurse.

"They kept raising our rent," said Rachel. "We want to have another child, and have been worried that not only could we not afford a bigger apartment to have a second child, we might not be able to afford renting at all."

The same was true for Victoria Toomey, a single mother and the other family receiving a First Story home, who said: "Just yesterday, there was a notice put on my door that they're going to do a walk-through with someone who wants to purchase [my apartment building]."

Along with her two chil-

dren, Victoria looks forward to finding sanctuary in their very own First Story home. After enduring cancer, homelessness, and divorce, she will finally be able to provide a safe community for her kids to ride their bikes and grow up knowing they'll always be able to come home.

First Story's homes are

built the same as every other Hayden Home. Homes are sold with all appliances, a washer and dryer and finished landscaping.

First Story partners with its founder, Hayden Homes and receives in-kind donations of labor and building materials and the financial support of a robust network of donors that make it possible to provide loans for community members who would otherwise be unable to afford homeownership.

This year's dual Home Dedication and Key Ceremony was made extra special by a service project benefiting a local nonprofit, Advocates Against Family Violence (AAFV). Hayden Homes, Simplicity by Hayden Homes, and supporters who value affordable homeownership opportunities spent the morning as-

sembling "Totes of Hope" care packages. The kits went beyond the bare necessities to include a handmade blanket and provide families a "fresh start" as they exit the AAFV emergency shelter.

To date, First Story has helped 130 families become homeowners. Of those families:

- 100% earn less than 80% of area median income
- 100% are first-time homebuyers
- 80% are the first in their families ever to own a home
- 23% identify as minority households
- 25% are families with members with disabilities

To learn more, visit firststory.org.

Follow the journey of new homeowners on First Story's Instagram and Facebook pages.

Free Community Clothing Exchange

Saturday Aug 1, 2026 / 9 AM - Noon
4509 S. Montana Ave. Caldwell, Idaho

Donations are welcome, but not required to receive free clothing

Donation drop-off locations and times:

July 1st to 28th Donation Boxes at Montana, Farmway, Everett, Kimball and Linden Buildings

Wed. July 15, 22 & 29 (7PM to 8PM) 4509 S Montana
Thurs. July 30th / 12-6 pm 4509 S. Montana
Friday July 31st / 12-2 pm 4509 S. Montana

Volunteers needed Thurs. Fri & Sat (30th to 1st) to sort and organize clothing

Donated clothing should be CLEAN, stain free and PRE-SORTED by Gender and Size (Infant thru Adult)

What do you look forward to most about summer in Caldwell?



German Gomez and son
I look forward to spending time with my kids going to the pool and the park.



Kim Hasenhoerl with Raina Baker (VW Beetle friends)
Kim: I like going camping, but Caldwell has so many fun events to offer all through the summer that it's hard to find a good time to leave town!



Karson Bates and Shiloh Morton (juniors at Ridgevue)
Karson: I look forward to backpacking trips with my dad in the Sawtooths.
Shiloh: I look forward to the good weather and hanging out with friends.



Brenda Padilla
I look forward to getting to spend time outside with my four kids, the three older ones really like to play soccer with my husband at Griffiths Park.



Tiana Moore
I look forward to watching my son play baseball and hanging out at Star ponds.

Tuesday Nights on the Plaza! Farmers Market, Music and More!

article and photos by Leora Summers



Farm to Fork Market Sign



On June 23rd Summer Dean provided the music of the evening.

Events for all to enjoy coinciding with the Market are music of all genres, games and the splash pad for kids. The music begins at 6pm and lasts until

This past June 23rd, produce began to show up at our Caldwell Farm to Fork Market. David Goff and Jacob Armstrong of Boise Valley Farms brought a great variety of amazing produce. Among their produce was purple top and golden turnips, zucchini, kohlrabi, cilantro, sweet peas, radishes, summer onions, kale, potatoes and more. Wonderful good looking healthy fresh produce! More varieties will show up as the summer progresses. David told me that most of their produce first goes into food banks and churches in the area before going on to be sold at area Farmers Markets. I like that!

Also as I strolled down through the Market, I found things like lemonade, honey, ceviche, country caramels, tamales, garlic, cherries and peaches, fungi, a few plants, coffees, pet food, teas, sourdough items, bacon, crafts, and much more! There was even a booth that sold all kinds of slime if you can imagine that! You could also purchase some delicious foods from a variety of the food vendors.

The Farm to Fork Market at Indian Creek Plaza is every Tuesday night from 5-8 pm from May 19th through September 29th.

9pm. There is something for everyone. So if you are looking for something to do on a Tuesday evening, I encourage you to check this out.



David Goff and Jacob Armstrong of Boise Valley Farms



Lots of fun on the summer splash pad!

For more information regarding the schedule of musical events on the Plaza, go to: indiancreekplaza.com.

TUESDAY THRU THURSDAY
Open Game Room
11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

FRIDAY NIGHT
Magic the Gathering and D&D
3 p.m. – 9 p.m.

SATURDAY NIGHT
Magic the Gathering & D&D
3 p.m. – 10 p.m.

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FREE Concerts in Memorial Park!

by Leora Summers



Featuring our trombones on August 3rd!



Awesome tuba section!

Come join us for some fun FREE summer concerts in Memorial Park! There is lots of shade to sit under to enjoy the music of the evening. There is always something for everyone to enjoy from show tunes, marches, music for the kids, standards and more.

On Monday, July 6th, there will be a little Disney, some Queen and Abba, Standards, "Yackety Sax" and more. Something for everyone!

On July 20th, there will be something special for the kids to enjoy with "The Little Mermaid"

and "How to Train your Dragon" and something for our more mature Beachboy fans. There will also be some show tunes as in "West Side Story" and much more.

Our August 3rd concert will start off with an amazing Star Trek feature that takes you through its years. This concert will also feature our trombone section with "Trombone Rag." There will be more show tunes and standards with our esteemed singer Jeannie Marie.

Come hear us play for you! We hope to see you there!

All Concerts Begin at 7:30 pm at Caldwell Memorial Park, 619 Irving Street (across from Fairview Golf Course).

- July 6 and 20
- August 3 and 17

Bring your friends and your chairs!



There is no better place to be in summer than Caldwell. The long days leave lots of time for enjoying our beautiful town with family and friends.

Above: Caldwell Memorial Park
Top Right: Pleasant moments by Indian Creek downtown
Above Right: The Caldwell Memorial Pool
Below Right: City League Youth Baseball at Memorial Park
Below Middle: The Caldwell Night Market



Caldwell NIGHT MARKET

NEW LOCATION!
COURTHOUSE PARKING LOT
1116 E ALBANY ST

JUNE 27TH - SEPT 26TH
7PM TO 11PM

Family Summer Jam!

THERE WILL BE
WATERMELON EATING CONTEST,
BOBBING FOR APPLES,
MUSIC, DANCING,
AMAZING FOOD & SHOPPING
KIDS ZONE
and way much more!

WATERMELON EATING CONTEST

BOBBING FOR APPLES

AMAZING FOOD

SHOPPING

KIDS ZONE

MUSIC

DANCING

AMAZING TACOS

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Hours

OPEN SWIM
Mon-Fri: 1-4 p.m. & 7-9 p.m.
Sat-Sun: 1-6 p.m.

ADULT LAP SWIM
Mon-Fri: 12-1 p.m.

WATER AEROBICS
Mon/Wed/Fri: 5:45-6:45 p.m.
Tue/Thu: 12:15-12:50 p.m.

Purchase swim lessons, water aerobics, & season passes at cityofcaldwell.org/recreation

City of Caldwell Updates



City of Caldwell Hiring!

Looking for a rewarding career with great benefits? The City of Caldwell is hiring for a variety of positions in public works, parks, utilities, administration, public safety, and more. Join our team and help serve the Caldwell community while enjoying competitive pay, excellent benefits, and opportunities to grow. Learn more at cityofcaldwell.org/jobs.

Water Season Outlook and Conservation Guidance

Due to record dry winter conditions and below-normal snowpack, the Caldwell Municipal Irrigation District (CMID) is preparing for a challenging irrigation season. Residents may experience lower water pressure, reduced flows, and a possible early end to the season. Please note: fixed seasonal irrigation rates apply regardless of water avail-

ability or season length. To help prevent pump overloads, CMID recommends an odd/even watering schedule: Odd-numbered addresses: water on odd days Even-numbered addresses: water on even days For best results during drought conditions, water 15 minutes per zone, 2-3 times per week using the cycle-and-soak method to reduce runoff and encourage deeper roots. Pump restart reminders: Main line repairs and leaks take priority during business hours. Overnight pump restarts will be handled the following morning for crew safety. Updates will be posted throughout the season at cityofcaldwell.org/Departments/Irrigation. Thank you for helping conserve water and support reliable irrigation service this season.

100 Deadliest Days

Right now, we are in the 100 Deadliest Days, which is the time between Memorial Day and Labor Day, when we see the highest number of traffic fatalities. Working together with each of you, we hope to help prevent traffic deaths on our roads.

- Stay safe Caldwell!
- Don't speed
 - Don't tailgate
 - Don't ignore traffic signals
 - Don't weave in and out of traffic
 - Don't forget to use your signal
 - Don't drive distracted
 - Don't drive impaired

Boating and Water Safety

As summer begins, the Caldwell Fire Department encourages everyone to stay safe around water. Drowning can happen quickly and often occurs when children are left unattended, swimmers overestimate their abilities, or life jackets are not worn. Idaho's rivers, canals, and waterways can have strong currents and cold water temperatures, creating dangerous conditions even on hot days. This summer:

- Keep children within arm's reach near water.
- Designate an active water watcher.
- Wear a properly fitted life jacket.
- Never swim alone.
- Avoid swimming in canals.

Water emergencies happen fast but are often preventable. Stay alert, wear a life jacket, and make smart choices around water.

Construction Updates and Road Closings



Contractor LaRiviere installed a turbidity curtain along Indian Creek to keep Kimball Bridge construction activities from disturbing the creek. Newly arrived equipment will place large rocks in the creek.



I-84 Centennial Way Eastbound On-Ramp Closure Detour Information

Kimball Bridge
Reconstruction of the Kimball bridge over Indian Creek expands into lanes of Blaine Street this week.

Construction is expected to last until mid-September. You can avoid the area by using 5th, 9th, and Arthur.

Dorman

Installation of a water line will close Dorman from W. Linden to Quail Meadow Loop for the rest of July.

I-84 eastbound on-ramp at Centennial Way

Now that the 10th Avenue I-84 on-ramp to Boise is open, construction will start on the Centennial Way on-ramp. Removing old pavement, installing utilities, and laying new pavement is expected to keep the on-ramp closed for two months.

Middleton Road

Middleton Road remains closed for the construction of roundabouts at Skyway and Linden. Work on both is expected to wrap up soon.

Railroad Quiet Zone

Construction for the Railroad Quiet Zone project is underway and may be done by August. During this month concrete medians will be installed at the centerlines of all seven roads crossing the railroad tracks between 5th Avenue and Ustick Road. As part of the project, parking lot driveways closest to the tracks at 5th, Kimball, and 9th avenues will be permanently closed to meet railroad safety standards. (Note: Train engineers will still sound the horn if they see a potential safety risk on or near the tracks.)

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100 DEADLIEST DAYS OF SUMMER

Memorial Day - Labor Day

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CFD Gives Youth Hero Award to Silas Dulebohn



From Left to Right: Captain Kyle MacIntosh, Firefighter Jacob Payne, Engineer Theo Rich, Captain Matthew Potter, Engineer Ryan Spillers, Battalion Chief Eric Nye, Fire Chief Bryan Daniels, Captain Dan Garcia, Silas Dulebohn, Lauren Flores, Ramiro Flores, Mayor Eric Phillips

On June 8th at Caldwell Fire Station 2, the Caldwell Fire Department recognized Silas Dulebohn, 14, with the Youth Hero Award for his quick thinking and bravery during a recent emergency involving his mother.

When his mother was in distress in the water, Silas remained calm and immediately called 911. His actions helped ensure emergency responders were dispatched quickly. Caldwell Fire Department crews responded

and were able to rescue his mother from drowning. Silas demonstrated remarkable courage, maturity, and presence of mind during a frightening situation. His actions serve as an example of how preparedness and quick decision-making can make a life-saving difference.

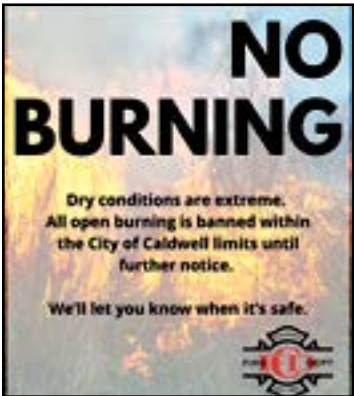
Water Safety Practices Save Lives

Drowning is the leading cause of accidental death for children. As summer activi-

ties increase, to reduce risk of injury or drowning for all, follow these basic guidelines:

1. Actively be aware of your swimmers without distractions.
2. Never swim alone.
3. If you are a weak or non-swimmer, wear a U.S. coast Guard-approved life jacket.
4. Always enter the water feet-first.
5. Learn basic skills: learn how to float, tread water and how to exit the water safely.
6. Learn CPR.

Caldwell Fire Department Burn Ban Explained



So far in 2026, the Caldwell Fire Department (CFD) and its regional partners have responded to more than 40 fire-related incidents, highlighting the increasing demand on emergency resources and the elevated fire risk already being experienced across the region.

As a result, the CFD has enacted a burn ban within city limits. Caldwell Fire Chief Bryan Daniels said the decision to enact a burn ban is based on current fire activity and the department's responsibility to reduce preventable risk wherever possible.

"We understand the agricultural community has long relied on controlled burning as a tool to manage fields, clear debris, and support farming operations. We recognize the importance of those practices and the challenges that restrictions may create. However, based on the number of fire incidents we have already experienced this year and the current fuel and weather conditions, we are simply

not in a position to support debris burning or agricultural field clearing at this time. Our priority must be protecting lives, property, and critical community resources by mitigating unnecessary fire risk wherever possible."

At this time, the burn ban announced by the CFD applies only within the incorporated City of Caldwell. Areas outside city limits fall under the authority of their respective fire departments, fire districts, and governing boards, which retain independent authority to establish burn restrictions within their jurisdictions based on local conditions and risk assessments.

Fire Chiefs from throughout Canyon County formally requested that the Canyon County Board of Commissioners consider implementing a countywide burn ban for unincorporated areas of Canyon County. That process remains under review and discussion at the county level.

Fire Marshal and Deputy Chief of Fire Prevention Alan Perry emphasized the seriousness of current conditions:

"Conditions are extremely dry right now. Even a small spark can result in a fast moving wildfire. We are asking every resident within city limits to take this burn ban seriously and help us prevent what is largely preventable fire activity."

80,000 Per Day!

by Deborah Kraft – Canyon County Anti-Trafficking Task Force



The Oxford dictionary defines a world war as one, "... involving many large nations in all different parts of the world." World Wars I & II are the prime examples. The enemies were clearly identified and the conflicts had well-defined geographical locations.

Today's battle with on-line child sexual predators would align with Oxford's definition of a world war. Indeed, youth on the internet are being targeted in all countries and predators exist everywhere from halfway around the world to those in our own backyards. Governments in various nations are addressing this crime both individually as well as collaboratively with other nations primarily through Law Enforcement (LE) operations.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) is the receiving center for all U.S. reported incidences involving suspected online child sexual exploitation and abuse.

Once a report is received by NCMEC it is assigned to LE in the state(s) where a particular crime is occurring. That includes the state in which the minor victim and the predator are located and where the nexus of this syndicated criminal network is operating.

Each report received by NCMEC is labeled a cybertip. Last year's cybertip count was staggering, averaging 80,000 per day, one per second! Idaho's total count for 2025 was 6,125 or approximately 17 per day. Undeniably, we are in another world war but one of a very different kind. It straddles both the virtual as well as the physical world where the enemy can easily hide behind the screen and

pose as someone very different than who they really are. Thankfully, there is already a game plan in action for fighting this battle; the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's youth internet safety campaign called Know2Protect. The Know2Protect headquarters is the war room, the Campaign is the battle cry and the wealth of educational material on its website for all types of audiences will equip its citizens to build those shields of protection around our youth and turn these numbers around. Only with communities pulling together can we win this war. Take action today by visiting the website at: know2protect.gov.

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Dave's Big Backyard

by Dave McCormick



Wow! Our country's 250th birthday, July 4th! What a milestone! I love this country that has lasted 250 years. And 250 years ago, much like for the American Indian, for the early Colonists hunting and fishing was more for sustenance than for sport. However a well-placed shot or arrow, I'm sure, induced a sense of pride in the individual behind the weapon. Today hunting and fishing

are sports. In fact as of April 2026, thanks to Twin Falls 9-year-old Betty Grandy, hunting became the official sport of Idaho.

When I was younger, hunting was as much a part of my outdoor activity as fishing. Fishing, maybe in the late 1980s, became a passion for me. Fly fishing in the mid-1970s was the real deal. Bass fishing became the next big thrill, followed by trying to hook every species of game fish that swims. This is kind of like a birder that endeavors to lay his or her eyes on as many different kinds of birds as possible. My quest will never be completed. Travel is one obstacle as is my age.

Grayling was one fish that took me to Northwest Montana to a small lake north of Kalispell that yielded some really nice Grayling and Cutthroats, caught on

nymphs fished with fly rods and a medium sink line. That same area is where I caught my first Mackinaw or lake trout. These Char love cold deep lakes and trolling with down riggers is one way to catch them. This was a tough nut to crack.

The 27th of this month, along with my daughter and son-in-law, I'm leaving for Belize City. Upon arrival, we take a 90-minute boat ride to Turneffe Atoll. This is a saltwater fly-fishing paradise. We are fishing there for three days, hoping to catch Bonefish, Permit and Tarpon. This trip has been on my bucket list since I visited Belize nearly 40 years ago. I have caught Tarp on spinning gear in Florida. Catching one on a fly rod would be a dream come true. I hope next month I will be writing about realizing that dream. Wish me luck!

Southwest Idaho Birders' Association

by JC Clancy

If you live in a neighborhood old enough to have some big trees, you may be seeing a lot of bird activity. Instead of seeing 2 house finches land nearby, you may see 6, with some of them looking just a little different because they're fledglings, not quite fully formed.

You'll hear differences too. Even if you usually recognize some bird calls, you may wonder about some strange ones. That may be the baby birds, just learning to talk. They can't get simple sounds, much less complex songs quite right. But keep your eyes and ears open. That bright spot of yellow might be an American Goldfinch or a Lesser Goldfinch. That rapid song, almost like a robin, might be a Black-headed Grosbeak.

Settling in for a long hot summer, SIBA will be looking toward some Southern birds at its July 9th meeting at the Deer Flat NWR Visi-

tor Center, as Louisa Evers presents, "Birds of South Florida and the Keys." Her recent trip started and ended in Ft. Myers and covers part of Miami and Dade County and various keys down to Key West. Louisa moved to Idaho in 2019 after retiring and dove headfirst into regional birding. She is the program coordinator for SIBA and vice president of Golden Eagle Audubon Society.

The meeting at 7 p.m. offers members a chance to get together and share snacks and door prizes. It's also available by Zoom. For the link, go to SIBAINfo1@gmail.com.

The next field trip will be to Second Fork Squaw Creek and Sage Hen Reservoir on Saturday, July 11th, meeting at 7:00 a.m. at Triangle Café, in Sweet, Idaho. Registration is required by email to trip leader James Jarrett at SIBAFIELDtrip@gmail.com.



Florida Scrub-Jay
photo by Louisa Evers, 2026

Birding will begin during the drive through Sweet and Ola. Elevation will rise and bird species will change during stops at several locations in the forest before reaching Sage Hen Reservoir and birding around the lake. At these locations, birders may see several species of warblers, thrushes, and woodpeckers. This is an all-day trip so bring water, lunch, and binoculars.

Local Dirt

by Pat King



ty shows life and optimism and is good for the soul. I've always been one who loves to wander in botanical gardens and notice the attempts to improve visuals. Beautifying one's space, not only improves your space, but positively affects many many other spaces.

Now to throw my friend Kerry under the bus (but this applies to many). Kerry often asks me questions about lawn and weed concerns and even threatens to have me over for dinner (hint hint). But he did admit to using more chemical than necessary, according to the label on the chemical. The formulation of chemistry is provided for the best results and the safety of its users. Deviating from the ratios listed is wasting money and could cause chemical damage to surrounding plants or animals. In my opinion sticking with right ratios of the particular chemical is the only way to apply for the best results. Do you hear that Kerry? But that doesn't mean that I don't have some tricks up my sleeve that aid the effectiveness of your applications of those chemicals.

Here are some quick tips:

- Add spreader sticker (It's a tacky liquid) to the mix (not Dawn soap).
- Apply in late afternoon, because all day sun can breakdown the chemical up to 50% or more because the sun is a great sanitizer.
- I also like to add a little bit of water soluble or liquid fertilizer to the tank as an incentive to the plant to enjoy its last meal.
- Turn off water for at least 24 hours or more to prevent wash off.
- Plan to apply again in 7 to 10 days after initial application.
- Don't spray on windy days to prevent drift and keep the pressure up in the tank, the finer the mist the better the surface coverage of chemicals to each weed you are trying to eliminate.
- Also use fresh chemicals, the older they are, the less effective they are.

I hope that helps, Kerry. Where's my dinner?
Until next time, Pat.

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Things to Consider to be Ready for Camping!

by Leora Summers



With summer already happening, many folks are heading out to go camping. Camping with family and friends is fun, but you need to be prepared! There are some things that are extremely important, so make yourself a checklist. Be sure to include bug spray, sunscreen, a first aid kit, and some TP. It is miser-

able to have mosquito bites, cuts, to be sunburned and to discover there is no TP when you need it. Bring a hat and sunglasses too. If you are going to have a campfire, be sure to bring a lighter or matches, wood if you want, a bucket for water, and a shovel to help put out your fire. Bring camp chairs so you can sit around the fire.

Bring layers for your clothing so you can shed as the day gets warmer, and add as the day gets cooler. Long-sleeved shirts and long pants help keep the mosquitoes off you. Also citronella candles or the like help too. If you are sleeping in a tent, a rain fly would be a good idea for those sometime unexpected storms. Also, a pad to go under those sleeping bags so the ground doesn't feel so hard is a good idea. Easy foods to cook are things like hot dogs, hamburgers and the like and bring some easy sandwich fixings. And don't forget to bring water! I always pack way too much food and could live for at least three weeks off the food I bring for one week. For easy clean-up, paper plates are great and after use, they help start your campfire! Hot dog sticks are fun to have to cook over the camp-

fire. A small BBQ is nice to have too. Some parks want you to have bear-proof coolers if you plan to leave them outside. If you bring your dogs, remember to bring their leashes, as some campgrounds require them, and don't forget their food. Check them over for ticks if they run around in the forest. A tick collar would be a good idea too. Of course, everyone likes to make s'mores. Bring marshmallow sticks or find some in the forest to cook those s'mores! I have a great "cheater" recipe. I buy Stripe cookies instead of graham crackers and Hershey bars, because they have one side that is completely coated with chocolate and you don't have a bunch of grahams left over. You just toast your marshmallow and put it between two Stripe cookies and you have a very easy s'more! Then you have great cook-

ies left over if you don't use them all! Bring your phone and/or a camera to help you record the good times you had with friends and family. Don't forget your phone charger. You can charge it in your car if you have an adapter. Walkie Talkies are good to help keep in communication with family where there is no cell phone coverage. I wished I had brought mine this past camping trip. A whistle would be good too, so you can "call" everyone with a blow or two to let them know that dinner is ready. Binoculars are great to have too! And it doesn't hurt to have some wet wipes to help you clean yourself up when there aren't showers. Your friends will thank you! These are just a few of the things you should consider.

Have fun and be safe!

HOT! HOT! HOT! Heat Related Illnesses! Take Care!

by Sam Summers MD



I would like to relate a personal story about me and heat related illness. Years ago, a week before the chukar season opened, I took my German Shorthair, Coco, for a walk up in the hills. It was hot, about 90 degrees. We walked in the hills for about an hour. I gave her over a quart of water, but she was running out of gas. I carried her for about a mile, but recognized that I was not sweating and felt I might be getting into trouble. I put her in the shade and I made it to the truck, rehydrated and went back up for her, but it was too late. As summer progresses and the temperatures rise, we are all exposed to the possibility of heat related illnesses. This is generally categorized into 3 entities, heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke. The differences between these can be subtle and they often blend into one another. "Heat Cramps" Heat cramps generally

comes from exercising or having prolonged exposure to heat, causing excessive sweating resulting in low blood volume and low sodium from excessive salt loss and replacement with only water. The individual develops cramps in the arms, calves, and abdomen. Typically, the person has excessive sweating, but their temperature is normal to slightly elevated and their blood pressure is normal. Rehydrate with salt-containing fluids like sports drinks! Years ago, my daughter's soccer team drank pickle juice when they cramped up. It got rid of their leg cramps fairly fast through salt replacement. "Heat Exhaustion" Heat exhaustion is a series of symptoms from prolonged exposure to elevated temperatures outside of our body's comfort zone. This usually occurs during exertion, but it can occur due to prolonged exposure to heat. Our response to increased heat is to seek cooler areas and our body responds with increased sweating, but if that doesn't work, we get a dehydration form of excessive sweating with lower blood pressure, lower sodium in the blood and increased heart rate and cardiac output. The blood

pressure is generally normal to slightly low. However the body's temperature is normal to slightly elevated. Because of the dehydration we feel fatigued, have a rapid heart rate, maybe some nausea, dizziness and overwhelming fatigue. Get to a cooler place! Drink sports drinks! Rest! "Heat Stroke" Heat Stroke is the final scenario of these illnesses. It is potentially life threatening when our body overheats, usually after prolonged exposure to heat or exercising in the heat. This affects people of any age but, generally affects the young athletes who train out in the heat and those over 50 with certain medications. When our body responds to lower our temperature, we seek shade and our excessive sweating fails to lower our body's temperature, our temperature then starts to rise, commonly to over 104 degrees, which is getting to be at a dangerous level. At this point in time, seeking medical attention is appropriate. With the dehydration from sweating, we get lightheaded, dizzy, blurred vision, loss of consciousness, increased heart rate, shortness of breath, confusion, disorientation, slurred speech, behavior changes and extreme

fatigue. There may be nausea and vomiting and a throbbing headache. Typically this is when there is a lack of sweating and the person will have hot dry skin. With progression of symptoms there may be a loss of consciousness and even seizures which can lead to death. Seek medical attention immediately! The key to all of this is recognition. Get out of the heat, hydrate with water and even better, sports drinks. So how do you know when you are dehydrated? It is actually easy. Monitor your urine output. If you are not having to urinate every couple of hours, you are not drinking enough. Sports drinks are great, but generally have too

much salt. That's why they taste so good. Dilute 1 part sports drink with 2 parts water. If you are sweating with no symptoms, great. But if no sweat with the afore mentioned symptoms, watch out and get evaluated. Every year we hear about a young child or a pet left in a car that dies of heat stroke. This is something that could easily have been prevented. Never leave your child or pet in a car even for just a few minutes even at 70 degrees outside. The heat in a car rises so rapidly, you cannot believe it. The point is illness prevention and early recognition of symptoms. Stay safe, stay cool and stay hydrated!

Tick Season and Tick Bite Prevention Tactics

Southwest District Health

This spring, our staff collected 239 ticks during surveillance drags across Canyon, Payette, Gem, and Washington Counties. By dragging cloth tarps through vegetation, we pick up ticks that are actively seeking a host. These tick drags help us identify which species are active locally and whether they carry pathogens that could affect public health. Early results show the same West-

ern American Dog Ticks we found last year, which all tested negative for harmful diseases this time around. But as summer weather leads people and pets to become more active outdoors, it's a good time to for a refresher on tick bite prevention tactics: • Use insect repellent • Wear light colored clothing, long pants, sleeves, socks, and close-toed shoes

- Check yourself and your pets after being outdoors
- After washing, dry your clothing on high heat for at least 10 minutes
- If you are bitten by a tick, remove it immediately to reduce the risk of infection. Use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the head and mouthparts against the skin
- Seek medical attention right away if you develop a rash or flu-like symptoms

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The Legacy of George Randall and George's Jyp Joint

by Leora Summers



George's Jyp Joint

Who remembers George Randall? If you've lived in Caldwell for a long time, you probably do. The community of Caldwell helped him start his business, George's Jyp Joint! In his business, he sold novelty items, candy, newspapers, magazines and other unique things for 47 years. I once went in there to look for dashboard hula girls for a party I was having and I found some!

George closed his business in 2006 and in 2013, George passed away. The business was located at 222 S. Kimball, which was right next

to the Idaho Youth Ranch (which was formerly the Idaho Department Store). Today, where George's Jyp Joint and the Idaho Youth Ranch used to be, grapes are growing in a cute little vineyard, next to Grit (which used to be Summers Office Supply) by Indian Creek.

You may remember seeing George roll across Kimball in his electric wheelchair between his business and the Coffee Cup restaurant across the street, where other community members saw and visited with him during their coffee breaks and lunches.



George Randall

He communicated via a language board attached to his wheelchair and sometimes you just couldn't believe the things he communicated to you when you talked to him!

George began his life's journey in Weiser, where he was born in 1922. He was born with a very debilitating cerebral palsy condition. His family took care of him up until the age of five, and prior to that, they sought help looking for answers on how best to care for him. Ultimately, not aware of his superior intellectual abilities, they placed him at Nampa

State School (which became the Idaho State School and Hospital) for persons with diminished mental capacities, where he remained for many years. During his time there, it was discovered that he was extremely intelligent, teaching himself to spell, read and communicate.

With the help of people who knew him, he was released from the institution and came to live in a nursing home in Caldwell. At age 26, while in the nursing home, he published his first book, "My Life in an Institution." He also acquired an

electric wheelchair, gaining him independence and freedom to go where he wanted to go without having to depend on anyone but himself. George wrote his second book at age 32, "Caster Oil and Laughter." At the time of his passing, he was working on a third book.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO FIND THE PUBLISHER OF GEORGE'S BOOKS!

- Shared Stories bookstore would like to have George Randall's two books, "My Life in an Institution" and "Caster Oil and Laughter" republished so they can be reprinted.
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- If it has that, Please CONTACT George Decker at: georgedecker@sharedstories.com.

These books are too important for our community to just let them fade away!

George was a community icon who many remember and loved.

The Road Trip

by Stan Soran



A Honda 90 similar to the one we rode.

On a weekend in October of 1969 at our mine on Soldier Creek, my sister and her boyfriend had punched a hole in the front axle cover of Uncle Bill's 4x4 GMC while off-roading up past the cabin. My pal Dave tried welding it with the behemoth arc welder used to repair heavy mining equipment, but all our efforts only succeeded in taking it beyond "easily fixable." The only option was taking it to Jordan Valley to have it welded up. Dad wired the cover and a flash-

light to our trusty steed, which was a Honda 90 with a "trail sprocket" with a top speed of something less than 20 miles an hour.

The cabin was about 24 miles south east of Jordan Valley, so doing a little math, you can figure we were in for a long evening. Our cold weather gear consisted of light coats and one pair of jersey gloves, but we were 16 and quite bulletproof, so this was just another chance to have a great adventure.

Dave and I got underway in the early evening and what seemed like a light breeze on the winding road out, turned into a nasty headwind once we got out onto Pleasant Valley Road. The cold was so intense that we had to change drivers and the gloves every couple of miles, while the passenger tried to hang on with his knees and his hands in his pockets. Eventually the cold got to us and we tried tipping the bike over to dump some gas onto the road to start a fire, a pretty desperate measure. Without any light, we couldn't tell if any fuel came out and the wind was blowing too hard to get a match to light anyway. Having failed miserably, we headed down the road again with still cold hands and ears, until we could see the lights of Jordan Valley up ahead.

We dropped the cover off at the repair shop next to the gas station which was fortunately open late. Jordan Valley, on this Saturday night, was a fairly busy

place and two teenage long distance bikers didn't attract any undue attention from the natives when we walked over to the Wagon Wheel to warm up with some coffee. The waitress even tried to act interested when we told the tale of our harrowing travels. Once we had stoked up on hot coffee, we picked up the cover, filled the scooter with gas, and headed toward the cabin hoping that the wind would be at our back so we didn't have to freeze both ways.

We ran the bike wide open which didn't make for more speed, just more noise, but we only had to change drivers a couple times. Once you turn off the main road toward the cabin, there are a couple gates to open and we had just gotten to the second one when the throttle cable broke on the Honda. The battery on the bike was dead, so it only had a headlight when it was running. Whoever coined the phrase, "darker than the inside of a cow," must have spent a night in the Owyhees, as we could

not see our hand in front of our faces. We pushed the bike the rest of the way to the old Corta ranch, where I tried to unwire the flashlight from the bike. Without any light to see, I twisted, fumbled and turned it until it broke loose. 'Broke' being the keyword as now the flashlight was in a few pieces and didn't work. We twisted the cover loose and started the walk to the cabin about 3 miles away.

It was a pretty slow hike, like walking in the mine tunnel and the only way to tell if we'd lost the road, was that we'd run into a juniper or a sagebrush. When we finally dragged into the cabin a little after midnight, Dad was waiting up for us. We had traveled about 48 miles, with the last three being a walk in the dark on a mountain road. Between us, we didn't have enough energy left to blow out a candle and what we had was used up shuffling the few steps to the bunkhouse where a sound sleep came on instantly.

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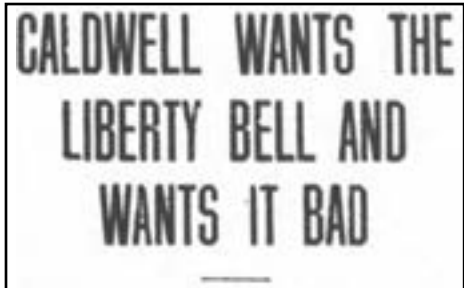
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Caldwell's Part in The Liberty Bell's Historic 1915 Cross-Country Tour

by Toni Ferro

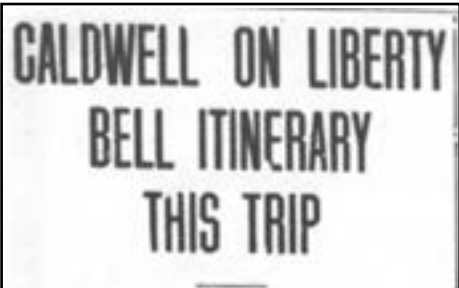


The Liberty Bell's visit to Caldwell on July 12th, 1915, looking west down Kimball. From the Idaho State Historical Society collection and viewable at Caldwell's DL Evans Bank.



Caldwell Tribune headline from May 7, 1915

In 1915, as America seemed on the brink of entering the Great War that was consuming Europe (what we now call World War I), many Americans were treated to a visit by one of the nation's symbols of freedom: the Liberty Bell (then already over 160 years old). San Francisco was to host the first World's Fair held on America's west coast and San Francisco's mayor wanted the Liberty Bell there. He argued that having the Bell in San Francisco would make the west feel like they were truly a part of America. The idea was getting a little traction, but no firm plans were made until 128 Americans were killed when German submarines sank the passenger liner, the Lusitania, on May 7, 1915. Then, the need for national unity became an urgent priority and the trip was on. Two months later on July 5, the Liberty Bell started its cross-country journey from Philadelphia to San Francisco. Here in Caldwell, the city's business leaders were some of the earliest to request that the Liberty Bell make a stop here. Even prior to the sinking of the Lusitania our city leaders sent letters to Philadelphia making the case that Caldwell was an important place for the Bell to stop. Their work paid off when in June 1915, the *Caldwell Tribune* reported that Caldwell was one of only 50 cities on the Bell's itinerary and one of only two in Idaho (the other was Boise). It was good that Caldwell was on the itinerary early, because as word of the



Caldwell Tribune headline from June 4, 1915

tour spread, more and more people wanted to see the Liberty Bell as it made its way across the country and more and more cities wanted on the itinerary. When all was said and done, the Liberty Bell made 275 stops and slowed down through other areas where lots of people had gathered. The Liberty Bell had struck a chord with our nation that needed a patriotic symbol just at that moment. Stephen Fried, in a 2017 article for the *Smithsonian*, reported that as the Bell made its way across the country children were lifted onto its wide brim, many people cried when they saw it, and when possible, people would kiss the Bell. Fried wrote that "nearly a quarter of the nation's population turned out to see it" and "many more Americans gathered along the train tracks to see it pass by." He explained that "at night a unique generator kept a light on it, so it glowed as it traversed the countryside, a beacon across the land." In Caldwell, July 12th was called Liberty Bell Day and a full day of festivities was planned. The first item on the agenda was to have all of the school children assemble on Kimball as



Caldwell Tribune headline from July 16, 1915

they were going to get to view the Bell first. Children were also each given a flag and a souvenir picture of the Bell that included a short history. There were movies, bands, patriotic addresses, singers, a baseball game, and finally a "Grand Ball at Lake Lowell". At the time, Caldwell had a population of less than 5,000 people and the *Tribune* "conservatively estimated" 10,000 people were there to see the Liberty Bell, which spent 30 minutes in Caldwell. (The *Statesman*, however, "conservatively estimated" that 8,000 people had turned out to see the Bell in Caldwell.) The *Statesman* also reported that 15,000 had turned out in Boise (a city

of less than 20,000) and 15,000 had turned out in Weiser (a city of roughly 3000), which had been added to the itinerary. (Pocatello was also on the itinerary.) The *Statesman* reported that people in Nampa had been told the Bell would stop in a town if enough people were gathered, however the Bell did not stop for the 2000 people that assembled there. However, the *Payette Enterprise* reported that Payette was added to the itinerary with only three days notice and 3000 people gathered to see the Liberty Bell when it stopped there for about 20 minutes. The magic of the Liberty Bell didn't end after its historic journey was over. The Liberty Bell was sounded during four war bond drives during 1917 and 1918 to encourage Americans to support the war effort. The four drives raised more than \$17 billion for the war effort. To learn more about the Liberty Bell's 1915 journey and its contribution to the war effort, read Stephen Fried's 2017 *Smithsonian* article, "How the Liberty Bell Won the Great War," which can be found here: bit.ly/4v9KzH5.

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