

Caldwell BRIDGING COMMUNITY & COMMERCE PERSPECTIVE

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Edition 128 | JULY 2025



Mayor Wagoner with award winners Noelia Esquivel, Nick Mendez, and Amadeo Roldan

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CALDWELL'S TALENTED YOUNG
LADY BOXERS
PG. 10

Investing in the Future: Caldwell CFEO Opens Doors for Caldwell School District Students

by Erin Sullivan Smith and Toni Ferro



Principal and CFEO Board Member, Anita Wilson with award winners Noelia Esquivel and Maddie Stringer



Valeria Rodriguez, 2023 CFEO award winner and 2025 CSI Student Body President



Class of 1977 scholarship winner, Brianna Calderon-Gallegos, and fund reps Mark Summers and Kris Crookham



CFEO Co-Founder Bill Gigray and CFEO Co-Vice President Erin Sullivan-Smith thanking Kathy O'Bannon for her years of service to CFEO

At an awards banquet on April 30, the Caldwell Foundation for Educational Opportunity (CFEO) awarded \$86,500 in scholarships to graduating seniors in the Caldwell School District. The scholarship recipients, their families, fund representatives for the scholarships, community officials, local business members, and CHS alumni attended the celebration. The scholarships support students pursuing everything from technical certificates to four-year degrees.

Founded in 1992 by William F. Gigray III (Bill) and former Caldwell School District Superintendent Darrel Deide, CFEO was created with a dual purpose: to support the post-high-school educational dreams of students in the Caldwell School District and provide supplement-

tal money to academic programs that are not fully funded by the school district. "CFEO is a grassroots effort, built and cared for by people who treasure and value our youth in Caldwell," said Erin Sullivan Smith, one of the two Co-Vice Presidents for CFEO. "When you support CFEO, you're giving a student in your community a stepping stone to their potential and making an impact in their daily lives."

This year's banquet featured a speech by Valeria Rodriguez, a 2023 CHS graduate and CFEO award recipient. She grew up in Caldwell the 4th of 5 kids and was raised by her mother, who has only an 8th grade education, and her grandparents. At first college was not something she considered, but she knew she wanted more for her life and

so she got involved with TRIO Upward Bound her sophomore year.

Through TRIO and with the help of CFEO she was able to "step into opportunities I never thought were meant for someone like me". She was accepted to the National Hispanic Institute's Youth Legislative Session at Colorado State University and CFEO covered the full cost of the conference.

Her senior year, she received CFEO's Dorothy Kidd Scholarship, which "was a life-changing gift" and fully covered her first year of college. The scholarship made her dream of going to college possible, lifted a weight off of her family, and gave her the freedom to focus.

She recently graduated from the College of Southern Idaho with three associates degrees in

Political Science, Criminal Justice, and Liberal Arts. She was the Student Body President, sat on the Board of Trustees, and had monthly lunches with the College President to advocate for student voices. She sometimes looks around and wonders how she got here and remembers that it is because of CFEO supporters who believed in her. She will be transferring to a four-year college to continue working toward her goal of becoming a lawyer and will "carry TRIOs and CFEOs belief in me every step of the way."

She concluded her speech by thanking the members of the audience and congratulating this year's award winners, explaining that "Everything I've been able to do, every open door, every step forward, it all started right here at CHS."

After her speech, Bill Gigray thanked her and told the 2025 award winner, "I hope Valeria's success encourages you to believe in yourself, believe you came from a good place, you have a good education, and you can achieve your goals."

CFEO operates entirely on donations from individuals, families, and local businesses. Often, these funds are set up in memoriam to former Caldwell teachers and students. Annual fundraisers like the "Idaho Gives" campaign each May and the CFEO Annual Clay Shoot play a crucial role in sustaining its work and operation.

To see the full list of 2025 award winners visit CaldwellPerspective.com. To learn more about CFEO, visit www.CFEO.org or follow them on Facebook or Instagram.

D.L. Evans

BANK

D.L. Evans Bank has announced the winners of the 2025 D.L. Evans Bank Scholarship Program and the 2025 D.L. Evans Foundation Scholarship

D.L. Evans 2025 Scholarship Winners

Program. The D.L. Evans Bank Scholarship Program awards a total of \$32,000 to graduating high school seniors in our service areas each year. Sixteen \$2,000 scholarships have been awarded for the students to use at any accredited college, uni-

versity, or trade school located in the United States. D.L. Evans Bank believes in supporting our innovators, leaders, and dedicated workforces of tomorrow, recognizing that students working towards a goal need support.

Addiley Sherman of Caldwell, who will be attending College of Idaho and Isaias Vera also of Caldwell, who will be attending the University of Idaho received one of these scholarships! There were also many other recipients outside of our

community that were awarded these scholarships!

Congratulations to all of the D.L. Evans scholarship recipients! D.L. Evans wishes all of them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

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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	31		

Memorial Pool Hours: To find the most up-to-date Memorial Pool Hours, go to www.cityofcaldwell.org and then search for “Memorial Pool.” Hours and classes may change from week to week.

July 7

10:30-11 AM: Baby Storytime 1, Lapsit storytime with stories, songs, and activities for babies. Ages 0-2, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
11-11:30 AM: Baby Storytime 2, Lapsit storytime with stories, songs, and activities for babies. Ages 0-2, Library , 1010 Dearborn St.
6:30 PM: City Council Meeting, Join the City Council Meeting to discuss important community issues and city policies. City Hall Council Chambers, 205 S 6th Ave.

July 7

7:30 PM: Caldwell Centennial Band Concert, Memorial Park (619 Irving St, Caldwell). Fun music for all ages to enjoy! Bring your chairs and your friends! FREE!

July 8

10:30-11 AM: Spanish and English Storytime, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
4:30-5:30 PM: Lego Club, Calling all Lego enthusiasts aged 7-16! Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
1 PM: Traffic Commission Meeting, 621 Cleveland Blvd.
5-8 PM: Farm to Fork Market at Indian Creek Plaza, “Artisans, Music and Local Harvest” With over 30 vendors every week, stock up on local produce, relax and listen to live bands.

July 9

10 AM-12 PM: Tech Lab, Drop in to ask your technology questions and get one-on-one assistance from a staff member. Ages 18+, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
11 AM-12 PM: Summer Reading Special, All ages are welcome. Library, 1010 Dearborn St.

July 10

10:30-11 AM: Preschool Storytime, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
11:30 AM-12 PM: Music & Movement, Singing, dancing, and activities for ages 2-6, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
2-3 PM: Thursday Read Book Club, Join us for our monthly book club discussion! This month’s book is “The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo” by Taylor Jenkins Reid. Ages 18+, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
3-5 PM: Downtown Parking Advisory Commission Meeting, City Hall Council Chambers, 205 S 6th Ave.

July 10 Continued

4:30-6:30 PM: Farmway Afterschool Program, Activities include: Slip-n-slide and sprinklers Actividades incluyen: resbaladilla y aspersor. Farmway Village Community Room, 22730 Farmway Rd.
4:30-5:30 PM: Teen Thursday, Make Thursdays your favorite day of the week! Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
7-8 PM: Gardening, Learn how to garden like a pro with the Idaho Master Gardeners! All skill levels welcome. (Ages 18+), Library, 1010 Dearborn St.

July 11

10-11 AM: Tai Chi and Qigong, Community Room. Participate in mindful, holistic exercise for overall health and well-being. Ages 18+, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
10:30-11 AM: Plaza Storytime, Enjoy outdoor storytimes at Indian creek Plaza.
4:30-5:30 PM: Adult Lego Club, Unleash your imagination and build incredible creations with fellow LEGO enthusiasts at our program Adult LEGO Club! (Ages 16+), Library, 1010 Dearborn St.

July 12

2-3 PM: Art Together: Family Saturday - fun for the whole family! This month’s art project: Color Your Fairytale, 1010 Dearborn St.
7-11 PM: Caldwell Latino Night Market, Join us for the Caldwell Latino Night Market—this summer’s and Caldwell’s inaugural weekly festival celebrating culture, diversity, and unity! Kimball Parking Lot, 120 N Kimball Ave

July 14

10:30-11 PM: Baby Storytime 1, Lapsit storytime with stories, songs, and activities for babies. Ages 0-2, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
11-11:30 AM: Baby Storytime 2, Lapsit storytime with stories, songs, and activities for babies. Ages 0-2, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
1-2:30 PM: Knitting & Crochet Social, Bring a project and make a friend at our monthly knitting & crochet meetup. All skill levels welcome. Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
4:30 PM: Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting, Caldwell Parks & Recreation Building, 710 Irving St.
6-7 PM: Summer Reading Evening Special, Enjoy fun and engaging activities during our Summer Reading Evening Special Program! All ages are welcome. Community Room, 1010 Dearborn St.

July 15

10:30-11 AM: Spanish and English Storytime, ages 2-6, but all are welcome. Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
5-8 PM: Farm to Fork Market at Indian Creek Plaza, “Artisans, Music and Local Harvest” With over 30 vendors every week, make your way downtown every Tuesday evening to stock up on local produce, relax and listen to live bands.
1-2 PM: Read to a Therapy Dog, Kids will improve their reading skills in a stress-free environment as they participate in a 15-minute one-on-one session with a furry canine pal. (ages 7-14). Library, 1010 Dearborn St.

July 16

11 AM-12 PM: Summer Reading Special, Enjoy fun and engaging activities each week during our Summer Reading Special Program! All ages are welcome. Library, 1010 Dearborn St.

July 17

10:30-11 AM: Preschool Storytime, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
11 AM-12 PM: CPL at the Senior Center, Drop by the Caldwell Senior Center and ask questions about library services. Caldwell Senior Center, 1009 Everett St.
11:30 AM-12 PM: Music & Movement, Singing, dancing, and activities for ages 2-6, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
4:30-5:30 PM: Teen Thursday, Make Thursdays your favorite day of the week! Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
5:30 PM: Business After Hours hosted by Caldwell Night Rodeo.
6:30-7:30 PM: Thursday Read Book Club, Join us for our monthly book club discussion! This month’s book is “The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo” by Taylor Jenkins Reid. Ages 18+, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.

July 18

10-11 AM: Tai Chi and Qigong, Community Room. Participate in mindful, holistic exercise for overall health and well-being. Ages 18+, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
10:30-11 AM: Plaza Storytime, Enjoy outdoor storytimes at Indian creek Plaza. New theme each week! Indian Creek Plaza.
8:30-10 PM: Sizzlin’ Summer Cinema - Memorial Park, Bring your blankets and chairs and join us on the grass at Memorial Park for movie nights this summer. All movies start at dusk.

July 19

10:30-11:30 AM: Stories & Crafts, Kids engage in fun learning activities designed to help them grow in kindergarten readiness. Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
7-11 PM: Caldwell Latino Night Market, Join us for the Caldwell Latino Night Market—this summer’s and Caldwell’s inaugural weekly festival celebrating culture, diversity, and unity! 120 N. Kimball Ave.

July 21

10:30-11 AM: Baby Storytime 1, Lapsit storytime with stories, songs, and activities for babies. Ages 0-2, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
11-11:30 AM: Baby Storytime 2, Lapsit storytime with stories, songs, and activities for babies. Ages 0-2, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
7:30 PM: Caldwell Centennial Band Concert, Memorial Park (619 Irving St, Caldwell). Fun music for all ages to enjoy! Bring your chairs and your friends! FREE!



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July 22

10:30-11 AM: Spanish and English Storytime, (ages 2-6), but all are welcome. Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
5-8 PM: Farm to Fork Market at Indian Creek Plaza, “Artisans, Music and Local Harvest” With over 30 vendors every week, make your way downtown every Tuesday evening to stock up on local produce, relax and listen to live bands.

July 23

11 AM-12 PM: Summer Reading Special, Attend Sockeye Storytime to receive a free same day ticket for the Sawtooth Sockeye’s Game! While supplies last. All ages are welcome. Library, 1010 Dearborn St.

July 24

10:30-11 AM: Preschool Storytime, Kids engage in fun learning activities designed to help them grow in kindergarten readiness. Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
11:30 AM-12 PM: Music & Movement: In Bed by 5 Formal, Singing, dancing, and activities for ages 2-6, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
4:30-5:30 PM: Teen Thursday, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.

July 25

10-11 AM: Tai Chi and Qigong, Community Room. Ages 18+, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
10:30-11 AM: Plaza Storytime, Enjoy outdoor storytimes at Indian creek Plaza. New theme each week!
3-4 PM: Ping Pong Club, Come join us for our monthly program: Ping Pong Club! Library, 1010 Dearborn St.

July 26

10:30-11 AM: Baby Storytime 1, Lapsit storytime with stories, songs, and activities for babies. Ages 0-2, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
11-11:30 AM: Baby Storytime 2, Lapsit storytime with stories, songs, and activities for babies. Ages 0-2, Library, 1010 Dearborn St,
1-2:30 PM: Knitting & Crochet Social, Bring a project and make a friend at our monthly knitting & crochet meetup. All skill levels welcome. Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
6-7 PM: Summer Reading Evening Special, All ages are welcome. Library, 1010 Dearborn St.

July 26

7-11 PM: Caldwell Latino Night Market, Join us for the Caldwell Latino Night Market—this summer’s and Caldwell’s inaugural weekly festival celebrating culture, diversity, and unity! Held every Saturday in downtown Caldwell at 120 N. Kimball Ave.

July 28

10:30-11 AM: Baby Storytime 1, Lapsit storytime with stories, songs, and activities for babies. Ages 0-2, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
11-11:30 AM: Baby Storytime 2, Lapsit storytime with stories, songs, and activities for babies. Ages 0-2, Caldwell Public Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
1-2:30 PM: Knitting & Crochet Social, Bring a project and make a friend at our monthly knitting & crochet meetup. All skill levels welcome. Library, 1010 Dearborn St.
6-7 PM: Summer Reading Evening Special, Indian Creek Plaza.

July 29

10:30-11 AM: Spanish and English Storytime with Mayor Wagoner, Library, 1010 Dearborn St.

July 30

11 AM-1 PM: Summer Reading Special- Block Party Bash, Enjoy fun and engaging activities each week during our! All ages are welcome. Library, 1010 Dearborn St.

July 31

10:30-11 AM: Preschool Storytime with Special Guest Chad Otis reading his newest book “Hazel is All That”, Indian Creek Plaza.,
4:30-5:30 PM: Teen Thursday, Make Thursdays your favorite day of the week! Join us for Teen Thursdays, where each week brings something new. Library, 1010 Dearborn St.

August 4

7:30 PM: Caldwell Centennial Band Concert, Memorial Park (619 Irving St, Caldwell). Fun music for all ages to enjoy! Bring your chairs and your friends! FREE!



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Roger Brooks will make 2nd Round of City Design Recommendations

by Toni Ferro, Caldwell Perspective

On June 2nd the Caldwell City Council approved funds to have Roger Brooks’ Destination Development Association (DDA) create a plan called “Envision Central Caldwell 2050” for Caldwell’s central 900+ acres. Roger Brooks was originally hired about ten years ago to make development recommendations for Caldwell’s downtown and is credited with developing the idea for the highly successful Indian Creek Plaza. His original action plan centered on differentiating Caldwell from other cities in the west. He advised Caldwell to lean into its strengths such as local

agriculture, wineries, outdoor activities, and an amazing downtown. Brooks has worked with over 2000 cities to develop action plans over the course of decades. A key element of Brooks’ work is the exhaustive outreach process he uses to gather input and build the consensus needed to develop his recommendations. Bob Carpenter, a longtime local business owner who helped plan Brooks’ return to Caldwell, explains that “Brooks is a dynamo” who recently completed a couple of weeks of back-to-back meetings here in Caldwell. His trip consisted

of dozens of meetings including individual conversations with City Council members and an initial meeting with citizens who live just north of downtown Caldwell, an area that will be included in Brooks’ action plan this time around. Travis Palmer, the Executive Director of the Caldwell Chamber of Commerce, helped bring Brooks back to Caldwell and will coordinate Brooks’ work. He explains that now is a great time to have Brooks come back because many of the people involved in his initial work with Caldwell have retired or moved on and COVID changed a lot in

Caldwell. He says it’s “taken awhile to regroup and get back to what worked so well before.” Palmer wants to make sure people know that Brooks’ work isn’t “pro- or anti-growth, but instead is pro-Caldwell”. He says “the point of the effort is to preserve what is special and unique about Caldwell so as we evolve that doesn’t get lost.” He says Brooks’ work will ensure we “have a unified vision and plan to guide us as we make decisions about future growth.” We will keep you posted about opportunities for citizen input as Brooks’ work continues.



Roger Brooks listening to feedback from citizens who live just north of Caldwell’s downtown.

Caldwell Fire Department issues burn ban within city limits

by Char Jackson, Public Information Officer



In response to ongoing high temperatures, low humidity levels, and an increased risk of wildfires, the Caldwell Fire Department is issuing an immediate burn ban within city limits. This decision is being made in coordination with Canyon County Dispatch, the Caldwell Rural Fire District, and the City of Caldwell.

For open burning within rural areas, please check with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) at www.deq.idaho.gov. The Caldwell Rural Fire District urges rural residents to follow all safety protocols outlined by DEQ and the Caldwell Fire Department.

“The combination of dry

conditions and elevated temperatures has significantly heightened the threat of wildfires in our area,” said Alan Perry, Deputy Chief of Fire Prevention. “To protect our community, property, and natural resources, we are taking proactive steps to reduce that risk.”

A public notice was shared

on social media following a brush fire that occurred. Effective immediately, all open burning is prohibited until conditions improve. Residents are urged to stay informed through official city channels and report any unauthorized burning or suspicious activity by calling non-emergency dispatch at 208-454-7531.

Attention: Ustick Road Closure – What to Expect

by City of Caldwell



The City of Caldwell will close Ustick Road between I-84 and Cleveland Boulevard starting July 7. Work will begin

this week to prepare for construction. Crews will replace the bridge over Indian Creek and widen the road to match improvements made in 2023. The city will also replace and improve the railroad crossing near Crow Drive. Construction is expected to be complete by early 2026. Ustick Road is expected to reopen by fall 2025.

What to expect during construction:

- Work hours will be from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Work may occur on weekends.
- Ustick Road will be closed between I-84 and Cleveland Boulevard.
- Crow Drive will be closed.
- Motorists will be detoured.

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- ▶ Dr. Kimberly’s “Wanna Stop Peeing Your Pants?” at-home guide—yours to keep

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“I used to wake up three times a night to pee. Now I sleep through the night!”

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Veteran's Corner

Sponsored by the Caldwell Veterans Council

Caldwell Veterans Organizations Memorialize a Local Fallen Hero

Caldwell Veterans groups recently commissioned a project to dedicate a statue to honor the first female Army casualty of the Global War on Terrorism. To honor Corporal (CPL) Carrie L. French, the Carrie L. French, Chapter 1, Disabled American Veterans and the Loren M. Trotter American Legion Post #35 are committed to purchase and install a life size bronze likeness of CPL Carrie French in full battle dress standing in an upright posture. The statue will be placed at the Caldwell Veterans' Memorial Hall. The statue pedestal will bear a granite plaque with her name and credentials. Three sides of the statue pedestal are dedicated to the names of significant contributors to this project. The cost of procuring and installing the statue is estimated at \$100,000. In April, fundraising efforts raised the \$23,000 necessary to sign a contract with a statue company in Utah. The Caldwell Veterans Council is accepting donations at the Caldwell Veterans Memorial Hall at 1101 Cleveland Blvd. Caldwell, ID 83605, <https://www.cvmh-vets.org/>, (QR code) or PO Box 1535 Caldwell, ID 83606.

Carrie Lee French, soon after graduating from Caldwell High School in 2004, attended Army Basic Training and Ammunition Specialist training before being deployed to Forward Operating Base Warrior in Kirkuk, Iraq, where she celebrated her nineteenth birthday.

Carrie French, was the first US Army female casualty of the Global War on Terrorism. She was assigned to the 145th Support Battalion -116th Brigade Combat Team in Kirkuk and participated in a number of operations before succumbing to injuries resulting from an Improvised Explosive Device detonation impacting the vehicle in which she was a passenger. She was returning from a Combat Logistics Patrol at Forward Operating Base McHenry near Hawija, Iraq. She was awarded nine awards during her service to include a Bronze Star Medal and a Purple Heart. She was posthumously promoted to the rank of corporal. She died on June 5 and was buried at Canyon Hill Cemetery in Caldwell on June 15, 2005 only a year after graduating from Caldwell High School.

Carrie, born in Caldwell, Idaho on February 28, 1986, is survived by her father, Rick French, her mother Paula Hylinski and her sisters Sarah Gillman and Mikala French.

Contact Terry Harrell, Caldwell Veterans Council Chairman, at (208)402-6590 or caldwellveterans@gmail.com for additional information on this project.

The primary purpose of this corporation is to promote programs and activities that strengthen our community and thus contribute to the fostering of camaraderie, partnership of organizations prepared to provide a wide variety of programs and services to assist with education, employment and career development, counseling and health care issues, family programs, homelessness, addictions, abuse and humanitarian needs for a large group of people that are under served and limited at times because of handicaps, economic issues or ability to get through the often confusing complicated processes.





Caldwell City Library

Lacey Forst, the Caldwell Public Library Director, presented an annual report to City Council in a Workshop on June 16th. Her presentation outlined the Library's 2024 accomplishments.

In 2024 the library had 162,000 visits, 8549 reference transactions, and 172,000 items circulated. As well as 16,600 computer users and 42,900 wifi users.

And beyond that, the library made over 800 deliveries to people who are homebound, participated in 73 outreach activities attended by 2400 people, and held 266 youth programs attended by 5098 people. The 2024 summer reading program had 1738 sign ups and gave away 4225 books as prizes. And the library had 1213 attendees at their summer programs held during June and July.

This year the library has seen a big increase in bookings of their two conference rooms. From January to June 2025, the library has had 546 conference room bookings with over 12,000 attendees.

The library has also done work to expand their services. For example, they now offer a streaming service (hoopla), which allows library members to watch movies and TV shows with no wait times or holds. And they added a holds pickup locker at Luby Park, so library members can more conveniently pick up physical items they have checked out

Library Gives City Council Annual Update

by Toni Ferro, Caldwell Perspective

online. The locker is also a wi-fi hotspot.

Forst also presented the library's budget request for FY2026 to the Council at the May 29 budget workshop. The request is for \$2.143 million, up \$104,000 (5%) from FY2025. This amount only covers the increased costs associated with keeping staff and services the same and does not cover any of the Library's needs they see coming down the road.

For example, the library building was built in 1975 and opened in 1976, when Caldwell had a population of roughly 16,000 people. The building has been well maintained over the last 50 years, but Forst explained that the brick is broken in some places causing occasional flooding, the baseboard heat is out of date, the HVAC system is aging, and the library will need a new roof estimated at 500k in the next five years. And, of course, the existing building limits the services they can provide to our growing community now larger than 77,000 people.

The Council Members spoke very positively about the services the library provides for the community and talked about the possibilities for expanding or replacing the building in the near future. CM Allgood talked about the need to focus on planning for an expanded or replaced building now instead of putting it off, because these types of projects can take awhile.

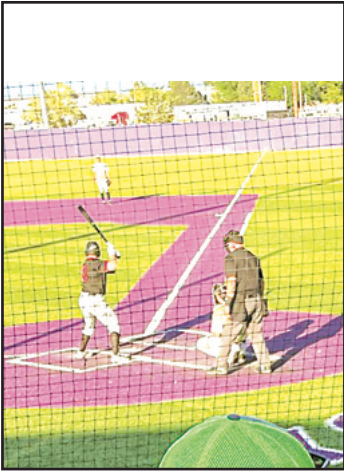
Forst told the council that the library will be kicking off a strategic planning cycle in the near future where they will be getting input from library members and community members about how the library should grow in the future and they will

include facility recommendations in their plan.

To watch Forst's presentation to the council go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cE0-D3v88Ws> minute: 34:30 and to learn more about the library go to caldwellpubliclibrary.org.

Sawtooth Sockeyes, Caldwell's Collegiate Baseball Team!

by Leora Summers, Caldwell Perspective



A Sawtooth Sockeye game at Wolfe Field

As of July 1st, Caldwell's Sawtooth Sockeyes had an overall record of 21-1, only losing to the Utah Yaks on June 18th. What a fun team to watch in our own back yard! If you are looking for a fun local event to attend, this may be the one for you!

To view the July schedule for times, places and teams to be played, go to: sawtoothsockeyes.com/2025-schedule-results/. There are many home games during the week at Wolfe Field (2420 Griffith's Pkwy, Caldwell).

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To make summer jobs more accessible and improve public safety, the City of Caldwell partnered with the Caldwell Lions Club who sponsored the cost of lifeguard certification (\$250.00) for ten

City of Caldwell partners with Caldwell Lions for Lifeguard Training

by Char Jackson, Public Information Officer

community members. The City had 62 people apply for the 10 spots. The lifeguard course was held June 18-22. Participating applicants were required to complete the course and make themselves available for summer employment through the city's Recreation Department.

"This is a win-win for our community," said Tiffany DeFrance, Director of Parks and Recreation. "We're giving young people the opportunity to earn a valuable certification and a job, while also ensuring our pool is properly staffed this summer." "When we saw the need for more certified lifeguards and

the financial hurdle it posed for some people, we knew we could help," said Jim Watkins, President of the Caldwell Lions Club. "Supporting youth employment and public safety is exactly the kind of community service we're proud to stand behind. Where there is a need, there is a Lion! Join us for a lunch meeting

sometime to learn more and get involved in our community. We meet every Wednesday at noon at the Golden Palace restaurant (703 Main St., Caldwell). All are welcome!"

Lions Seek Volunteers for CNR Booth

by Lynn Johnson

Every year the Caldwell Lions have a great summer ahead of them, with their booth at the Canyon County Fair and at the Caldwell Night Rodeo they will be a busy club. All proceeds go back to the community in scholarships and other community needs. If you would like to volunteer please let Lion Lynn know at lynn.johnson4@aol.com. It's a great time and a fun way to meet your local Lions!

YMCA Civic Engagement Scholarship Winners

by Toni Ferro



Caldwell High winners of the YMCA Civic Engagement Scholarship; Mariela Esquivel-Rodriguez, Annai Aguilera Gonzalez, Ixzetl Arizmendi (Elisa Puga, not pictured)

Though Caldwell High is smaller than many high schools in the Treasure Valley, it boasts four winners of the YMCA Civic Engagement Scholarship in the last six years: Ixzetl Arizmendi (2025), Annai Aguilera Gonzalez (2022), Elisa Puga (2021), and Mariela Esquivel-Rodriguez (2020).

The scholarship is awarded to high school seniors who have made significant contributions through community service, are interested in pursuing work that will strengthen our communities, and attend public or private schools in the Treasure Valley YMCA service area (Ada and Canyon Counties). I recently met with three of Caldwell's winners.

Ixzetl will be a freshman studying Political Economy at the College of Idaho this fall. She was born and raised here in Caldwell and her parents own a landscaping company. While in high school she was President of the National Honor Society and was very involved with Student Council. She was Chair of the Young Women and Leadership Conference, a student-run conference hosted by Boise State's Andrus Center for Public Policy. She spent a week in DC taking part in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI) and was an academic tutor for younger students at Heritage Community Charter School here in Caldwell.

Winning the YMCA Civic Engagement Scholarship has made a big difference for Ixzetl and her family and she says "it means a lot to know that someone believes in me."

In the future, she plans to go to law school and become an immigration lawyer. She currently has an internship at the Levesque Law firm in Meridian.

This fall Annai will be a senior at the University of Idaho double majoring in Political Science and International Studies. Annai was born in Nampa, and moved to Caldwell when she was in 2nd grade. Her parents have done agricultural work in fields and factories and worked in construction. While in high school, Student Council was a "big part of her life" and she was Student Body Co-President her senior year. She was part of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council and like Ixzetl was an organizer of the Young Women and Leadership Conference. Annai was a fellow with the global organization, Vital Voices, and through their mentorship started the Rising Voices Club, which documents the stories of first generation CHS students.

Since graduating from CHS, Annai attended a CHCI three-month summer program in Washington DC where she interned for US Representative Scott Peters, interned at PODER of Idaho in Nampa where she spent the summer registering young people to vote, and spent a semester abroad in Europe. She has been awarded additional scholarships, so with the YMCA and her continued success Annai will graduate from the U of I with her tuition fully covered. In the future, Annai plans to go to graduate school in Political Administration or Public Policy and eventually run for public office. She

says, "I am grateful that I can dream so high and know that I can achieve these dreams."

Mariela graduated from Northwest Nazarene University (NNU) with a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work. Mariela was born and raised in Caldwell to parents from Mexico. Her mom moved to Caldwell as a teenager and also graduated from CHS with honors. Her mom has worked in fast food for two decades and her father works in construction. Her parents always wanted her to study hard and do well so that she could have an easier life than they had.

In school Mariela always knew she would figure out how to go to college, "I didn't know how I was going to do it, but I was going to do it." Like Ixzetl and Annai, Mariela helped organize the Young Women and Leadership program. In addition, she was a junior coach with Girls on the Run for 3rd-5th grade girls at Washington Elementary where she inspired young girls and helped build their confidence. Winning the YMCA Civic Engagement Scholarship gave Mariela "that

first confidence boost.

Mariela works as a Migrant Graduation Specialist at Syringa Middle School in Caldwell where she helps students whose parents work in agriculture stay on track to graduate. She loves having an impact on kids' lives as she encourages them to get passionate and pursue something. Mariela is enjoying her job for now, though investigative journalism is her dream so she will be looking for opportunities down the road.

The YMCA Civic Engagement Scholarship was endowed by Dottie and Ed Stimpson. Dottie Stimpson dedicated her life to public service and positive change, spending years in DC in a variety of jobs including Deputy Director of the Public Affairs Department and Deputy Director of the Federal Affairs Department. She and Ed moved to Boise in 1990 where she started multiple organizations including the City Club of Boise, a nonpartisan organization for the discussion of public policy issues.

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II. Thou shalt not make unto thee and graven image

III. Thou shalt not take the Lord thy God in vain

IV. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy

V. Honor thy father and thy mother

VI. Thou shalt not kill

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery

VIII. Thou shalt not steal

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor

X. Thou shalt not covet

3500 Years Old & Still Right...

John 3:16 & 17

NEWS OF CALDWELL FIFTY YEARS AGO from Caldwell News Tribune Newspaper in Indian Creek Museum’s archives

July 17, 1975

EVERY DAY LOW LEVEL PRICES AT SAFEWAY: Cantaloupe 2 for 99 cents; Regular ground beef 79 cents a pound; Golden Bananas, 5 pounds for \$1.00; Head Lettuce, 3 for \$1.00; Grade AA eggs 57 cents a dozen; Russet Potatoes, 10 pounds for \$1.49.

July 23, 1975

CALDWELL COMPANY BOUGHT! Tedd Hoff Jr. President of Hoff companies Inc. announced the purchase of Harvey Hoff’s Better Living Center in Caldwell. Tedd said the purchase of the building materials center will be our first entry into Retailing merchandise.

July 26, 1975

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY GIVEN IDAHO’S PEOPLE! People who live in Idaho and 22 other states West of the Mississippi River are given a special opportunity to have their Social Security checks directly deposited in their checking or saving account. The direct deposit program is entirely voluntary.

Remember the Ropers? Caldwell Helens Unite!

by Toni Ferro, Caldwell Perspective

If you were on the plaza on June 5th you probably noticed a curious new fashion trend. Red curly wigs, brightly colored caftans, and chunky necklaces were everywhere as dozens of women (and men!) romped around as the sitcom character Mrs. Helen Roper from the hit 70s show, Three’s Company.

Helen Roper was a bold, flamboyant, loopy, funny, unconventional, strong, female character. Women and men around the US and Canada are celebrating Helen and her fashion by letting their hair

down, defying societal expectations, and embracing life’s quirkiness.

Caldwell has officially joined in on the Mrs. Roper party that was started years ago in New Orleans. And the fun just keeps growing. In the two weeks after Caldwell’s Roper Romp there were at least twenty-four more Romps in 16 states and 3 Canadian provinces(!).

Sad you missed the fun? Learn more at the Facebook groups Mrs. Roper Romp and Mrs. Roper Romp Caldwell Idaho.



Caldwell Helens, Stanleys and more, together on the Plaza!



Helens relax on the plaza while Three’s Company plays in the background.

Welcome to Severe Weather Season

by Timothy E. Lambert

Well, it is officially severe weather season. With all my heart I believe that severe weather makes life a little more fun. Caldwell hasn’t seen a severe storm in town since August 2023, but that was entertaining to watch.

A severe thunderstorm has winds that exceed 58 miles an hour, and has hail over an inch, which is the size of a quarter according to the reports that I’ve heard on my weather radio. Of course, some of these storms produce tornadoes, which are very rare. They are fun to watch at a safe distance, if you can find one.

Also, there are dust storms which I believe are more frightening, because they might cause motor vehicle accidents, since you cannot see very far in front of you. I’ve only been through one dust storm, and I cannot remember when that was.

Then there is torrential rain, which really scares my cat, Clem. When he hears the rain he runs to the nearest closet. Poor guy. He is used to light drizzles, but not deluges of rain. I appreciate the rain, because during the summer, we really need that. It gets hot and dusty here.

Oh, lest I forget, the lightning! That’s the most amazing part of these storms. There have been times there have been multiple thunderstorms in one geographic area, and that’s called a squall line. If those storms happen at night, I stay up and watch the light show. The distant light from



by Leora Summers

High winds on July 3rd blew this tree down on Meadow Ave. in Caldwell. Luckily no one was under it!

those flashes make for a beautiful sight. These storms are dangerous if they’re right over you, but if you are miles away, you’re fine to watch. What I’ve noticed is that the storms avoid the city of Caldwell. I’m over by Lake Lowell, so we have more of the thunderstorms, albeit maybe just thunder and some rain and wind. Anyway, if you see these storms, please stop and enjoy the moment. They are a beautiful part of nature, and you’ll be amazed. Thanks for stopping by! Tim.

Valley Regional Transit makes 2026 budget request to the City Council

by Toni Ferro, Caldwell Perspective

Valley Regional Transit (VRT) requested 357k from the City of Caldwell for 2026, an increase of 12k or 3.5%. Elaine Clegg, VRT CEO, reported to the Council on June 16th that Canyon County residents took 124,000 rides this year, up 13% from last year. She credits some of that increase with changes in the fixed routes, including changing route 42 (from the Happy Day Transit Center to the Boise Town Square Mall) to hourly service.

Clegg noted that VRT is currently working on a transit plan for the Boulevard. Service on

the Boulevard was the most requested expansion area in a survey of riders this year.

In addition, Clegg proposed that VRT and the City enter into a long-term contract that would outline how the City’s portion of the VRT budget changes over time making it easier for everyone to plan during the budgeting cycle.

Overall Clegg’s presentation drew a positive response from the Council. However, CM Williams noted that a 3.5% increase is sizable for this year when they aren’t even able to give their employees a 3% cost-of-living increase. He



liked the idea of entering into a long-term contract, but is not sure it will work, because it would decrease the City’s flexibility as they are setting the budget.

To see the presentation go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cE0-D3v88Ws> and to learn more about Valley Regional Transit go to valleyregionaltransit.org.

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IV. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy	IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor
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After a thorough nationwide search, the Caldwell Night Rodeo (CNR) is proud to announce Nicole Cassity as its next General Manager.

Cassity has been CNR's Director of Marketing & Sales for over seven years, supporting the rodeo's mission to be one

Caldwell Night Rodeo names New General Manager

of the top rodeos in the nation. Before CNR, Cassity was on the River Discovery Board of Directors and served with the Southern Idaho Casting for Recovery Retreats, which provide river adventures for women in all stages of breast cancer. Cassity herself is a 16-year breast cancer survivor.

Cassity, her husband, and their children raise Highlander cattle, ducks, and chickens.

"I have seen the immeasur-

able impacts the rodeo has had on our community," said Cassity. "As we head into our 101st year, I am looking forward to ushering our historic rodeo into its next century."

"We had many outstanding applicants who could have successfully filled this role. However, when it came to the final decision, Nicole's leadership and commitment to our Board of Directors, the rodeo, the athletes, and the fans

were unparalleled – and she is the best person to guide us into the future," said Edward Lodge, president of the CNR Board of Directors.

The Caldwell Night Rodeo draws thousands of competitors and fans from across the nation to experience the thrill of rodeo and celebrate Western culture. Known for its electrifying atmosphere and ranked among the top rodeos nationwide, CNR is dedicated to offering an unparalleled rodeo experience while fostering community engagement and economic growth in Idaho.

The Caldwell Night Rodeo and Caldwell Night Rodeo Foundation are currently updating the rodeo arena and grounds. Phase one, a state-of-the-art announcer stand,



Nicole Cassity,
Next General Manager at CNR

will be ready for rodeo time this summer. Rodeo tickets are for sale – and the most popular nights are close to selling out. For more information on tickets and a schedule of events, go to: caldwellnightrodeo.com.

JustServe July and August Events

by Kelli G. Jenkins, JustServe Caldwell



Community Baby Shower
SCAN HERE

SHOWER THE LITTLEST ONES WITH THE LOVE!

July is the time to plan! Plan now to join the City of Caldwell and JustServe for the "6th Annual Caldwell Community Baby Shower" on August 7th to shower the smallest community members with needed baby essentials. Gather family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, businesses, church congregations, and civic/service organizations and begin collecting baby supplies. Then visit the baby shower at the Caldwell Train Depot from 11 am - 1 pm or 5 pm - 8 pm, enjoy some refreshments, and drop off baby items for new moms and their babies to feel the love of community.

Those benefiting from your generosity are babies supported through organizations like, Canyon County Branch of Assistance League of Boise, Southwest District Health Nurse-Family Partnership, The Salvation Army's Baby Haven, Advocates Against Family Violence, and others. Look for more details, including online donations through Amazon by visiting JustServe.org and/or caldwell-communitybabyshower.blogspot.com

Baby Shower Wish List: Unisex colors and patterns preferred

Package of 3-6 long or short-sleeved newborn onesies (0-3 months); Package



Community Baby Shower

of 2 sleepers (0-3 months); Unscented Disposable diapers (all sizes); Unscented Baby Wipes; Package of 4 flannel blankets (these can also be hand-made, two-sided flannel blankets); Quilts and other blankets (can be handmade); Unscented baby wash/shampoo (about 15 fl. oz.); Unscented baby lotion (about 13.5 fl. oz.); Unscented Diaper Rash Ointment (Desitin); Digital Thermometer; Towel and washcloth; Burp Cloths (can be handmade); Small beanie caps (can be crocheted/handmade); NEW baby clothing (0-24 months); GENTLY-USED, washed baby clothes (0-24 months); Board books; Rattles and toddler toys; Wooden puzzles; and, NEW or gently-used children's books

Captain Amy Lewis, shared, "The Caldwell Community Baby Shower means the world to the Salvation Army of Caldwell's Baby Haven program. It is a confirmation of community support for the work that we do here and it shows the families that we serve that their community cares for them."

July is also the time to serve! Serve now by finding community service opportunities that speak to your heart by visiting JustServe.org. Following is a sampling of some priority needs in our community:

• Salvation Army: Stuff the Bus - Back-to-School Sup-



Traveling Table Food Pantry

plies Collection. Collection Volunteers are needed, July 25th and July 26th (2 hour shifts); Backpack Stuffing volunteers are needed, July 28th & 29th (2 hour shifts); and, Distribution of Backpacks volunteers needed on July 30th.

• Traveling Table Food Pantry Needs Help this Summer on July 9th and August 13 from 4:30 - 6:30 pm at Wilson Elementary School.

• The Mentoring Network Needs Mentors for both Caldwell and Vallivue school districts. Contact Donna at 208-880-1690.

• Idaho Corrections Blessing Box Needs Non-perishable Foods and Hygiene Items including back-packs. Drop off items at: 3110 Cleveland Blvd.

• Advocates Against Family Violence Youth Program Needs Individually Wrapped Candy and Snacks. Drop off at 1508 Hope Lane, Suite 102, Mon-Thursday, 8 am - 4 pm.

JustServe gives faith, nonprofit, community, and government organizations a place to share community needs to connect with giving hearts. JustServe makes it easy and quick to find volunteer opportunities that suit your interests, abilities, and time. Help strengthen our community by joining the JustServe movement today! Visit JustServe.org and get started!

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Caldwell Police Department New Hires and Promotions

by Toni Ferro, Caldwell Perspective



New Hire, Officer Wachholder



New Hire, Officer Sczudlo



New Hire, Officer Albers



New Hire, Officer Regalado



New Hire, Officer Janes



Promotion, Police Chief Ingram and Corporal Filice



Promotion, Police Chief Ingram and Corporal Amarant

Idaho Power Safety Reminder

by Char Jackson, City Public Information Officer

Safety Reminder: Always treat downed power lines as if they are live. Do not approach, touch, or attempt to move them. Call 911 or your local utility provider to report any downed lines. On June 18th at 10:12 a.m., the Caldwell Fire Department (CFD) was dispatched to a residence where a large tree branch had fallen onto the home. Upon arrival, within just two minutes, crews found that the branch had also brought down a power line, impacting both the house and a vehicle parked in the front yard. The residents were home at the time of the incident. One individual was transported by Canyon County Paramedics to the hospital for evaluation. Idaho Power responded promptly and worked



with crews to safely secure the downed line. The scene was stabilized and fully secured within an hour of the initial dispatch.

Memorial Park Playground Update and Pool Information!

by Leora Summers, Caldwell Perspective



photos by Tom Snow

I love Memorial Park! It is wonderful to see this new updated playground in one of our city's oldest parks. The shade in this park makes it my favorite. The newly renovated play-

ground is now open for all to enjoy as of July 4th. There is still one piece of playground equipment to be installed, but all the rest will be available to play on throughout that process. Thank you City of Caldwell and Caldwell Parks and Recreation staff for all your hard work to make this wonderful new playground available for all to enjoy.

Memorial Park Pool Schedule Information! Pool hours may change from week to week, depending on classes and other situations, so to find the most up-to-date Memorial Pool Hours, go to www.cityofcaldwell.org and then search for "Memorial Pool." Or you can call them directly at (208) 454-4369 to find out!





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Back Entrance to the Caldwell Art Collective

Art Collective Opens in Caldwell

by Toni Ferro, Caldwell Perspective

On June 5th, the Caldwell Art Collective hosted a soft opening at their location on Blaine Street in downtown Caldwell. The mission of The Collective includes “equipping artists with the tools to sustain a successful career while fostering a dynamic arts community within Caldwell,

the Western Treasure Valley, and beyond.” The Collective gives artists opportunities such as exhibitions, forums, drawing sessions, and networking events and provides workspace for three artists in residence. Their first artist, Gay Vogel, is a Boise artist who

has an eclectic portfolio that includes a variety of themes in water color, acrylic, and mixed media. The Collective is the brainchild of local businesswoman and patron of the arts, Sandy Battles. Battles explains that

though she is the founder of the organization, the artists and young people who work with her are the true driving force behind The Collective. To learn more and get involved visit caldwellartcollective.art.

Caldwell Centennial Band: July through August by Leora Summers, Caldwell Perspective



Oh my goodness! What a great crowd we had during our June “Celebrating America” concert! It was an amazing night with great music and a great audience. There was a lot of toe tapping going on in both the band and the audience. July will bring you two great concerts. And two concerts in August! There is always a great variety of music for all to enjoy.

July 7th will bring you some great standards, “Fiddler on the Roof,” a little Carpenters music, “Oliver,” some Mancini, some marches and others.

July 21st will bring more great standards like “The Shadow of your Smile,” and “As Time Goes By.” There will also be more movie soundtracks, a little Duke Ellington, more marches and a great number by our tuba section in “Tuba Tiger Rag.”

On August 4th a little bit of Mary Poppins will



be in order along with some great other movie soundtracks and again some great classic Glenn Miller and some wonderful marches and great pieces that celebrate America.

Our final concert of the season will be on August 18th and will be highlighted in the August Caldwell Perspective.

So mark your calendars! All concerts are played in Memorial Park in Caldwell and begin promptly at 7:30pm. The wonderful thing about Memorial Park is that there is a lot of great shade! Bring your

Cheryl Huizinga: Birding in India

by Cheryl Huizinga



Pat Weber and Cheryl Huizinga, birding buddies



Red-headed Bullfinch



Streaked Spiderhunter



Blyth's Tragopan



Indian Roller

In March of 2025 I got to go on an awesome birding adventure to India. I'm an avid birder and love to travel, and I've had the opportunity to go to several countries on birding adventures but never to an Asian country. A chance meeting with Steve Dougill who leads briding trips to far-flung places changed that. He told me about a up-coming month-long trip to NE India he was leading in March with 2 openings. After checking with my adventure birding buddy Pat Weber from Twin Falls area, we signed up! Steve likes to lead “balls-to-the-wall” trips which are exactly what Pat and I like too - no frills, shopping or touristy places - just birding from dawn to dusk!

After long flights from various places in the USA, seven of us met in Delhi for a flight to the state of Sikkim. Like the USA, India has many states and we were going to bird in several of them in NE India starting with Sikkim with the awesome looks at the Himalayan Mountains and bordered by Bhutan, Tibet and Nepal. Steve and the local guides had worked very hard with much paperwork to get our group to be the FIRST foreign westerners allowed to venture into the Thangu Valley, passing through the Tibetan Plateau and visit Gurudongmar Lake, one of the highest lakes in the world at 18,000 ft. where several of us experienced mild high-altitude sickness.

We were celebrities here with soldiers at the last checkpoint wanting to have selfies with us. It's hard to describe this once-in-a-lifetime experience but it was truly thrilling seeing the snow-covered Himalayans, ancient yak rock corrals still being used, and the bird species like snowfinches that can survive this harsh habitat.

Traveling though Sikkim gave us many opportunities for stops to see wonderful bird species, eating at rustic roadside places and scary roads which were narrow and steep! Thank goodness for our expert drivers! Seeing thousands of prayer flags flying everywhere was special! I had to bring some home with me and have them flying in my yard.

From Sikkim we traveled further east flying/driving to the

NE states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland with Dombe as our guide. He was incredible and got us on so many different birds! We mostly stayed at HomeStays which were local places run by local people – wonderful food, people and accommodations and of course fantastic birding!

Steve had promised many species of birds and experiences and delivered with 142 eBird checklists, 540 species of birds seen with 488 of those as Life Birds for me, and so many wonderful places seen and people met. I experienced drenching rain, bone-chilling cold, suffered from heat and humidity, got leeches, watched a Bengal tiger, Asian elephants, and white rhinos in Kaziranga NP, had a hospital visit for a sinus infection (took only 20 minutes!), took a side trip to Taj Mahal and loved every minute of the trip! Next trip with Steve is to West Africa in January!

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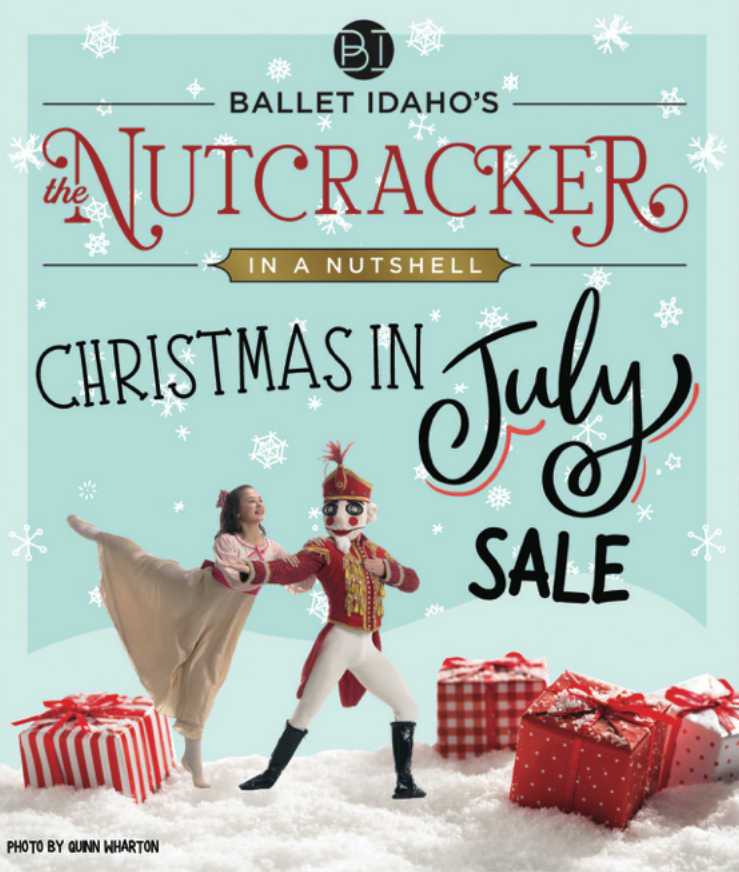


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Caldwell Boxer Alyssa Mendoza wins Gold!

by Leora Summers, Caldwell Perspective



Alyssa during a past “Welcome Home” parade in Caldwell.

We have been following Alyssa for a couple years on her boxing journey. She competed with USA Boxing’s Elite High Performance Team during the World Boxing Championships 2025 in Usti Nad Labem, Czech Republic in June. Alyssa in her respective weight class (women’s 57 kg) and Yoseline Perez in her respective weight class (women’s 54 kg) lead the way for the USA with gold medals, marking the first international gold medals of 2025. Mendoza secured her first

medal of the calendar year while in Usti Nad Labem, and she did so in a dominant fashion. She earned two unanimous decisions and one 4-1 split decision victory in her three bouts on the week. One of her unanimous decisions came in Saturday’s championship bout over Mongolia’s Michidmaa Erdenedalai, a Paris 2024 Olympian. Mendoza and Perez along with seven others on the team earned medals, making a total of nine medals for the USA

team during that World Boxing Championship 2025. The Stars and Stripes’ nine medals conclude the 2025 World Boxing Challenge Grand Prix Usti Nad Labem, and the team will now travel to Astana, Kazakhstan, for the second World Boxing Cup of 2025. Team USA will be represented by 12 boxers, six male and six female, at the World Boxing Cup: Astana 2025. The event will take place from June 30 to July 7. USA Boxing is led by head

coach Billy Walsh (Colorado Springs, Colo.) and assisted by National Resident Coach Timothy Nolan (Rochester, N.Y.), Nicole Burleson (Bethany, Okla.), and Eric Zimmerman (Alexandria, Va.). Team USA was represented by 12 boxers at the World Boxing Challenge Grand Prix Usti Nad Labem 2025. Follow USA Boxing on all social media platforms for an inside look at Team USA.

Talented Young Local Fighter, lysha Aguillon

Iysha Aguillon, fifteen years old and born and raised in Caldwell, currently trains at Time and Distance Muay Thai, located on the Idaho National Guard base in Caldwell. She has been dedicated to her training and continues to represent our community with heart and strength. She recently competed in a fight on Saturday, June 7, 2025, in Fort Hall, Idaho, that showcased not only her skill but also her determination and sportsmanship. We’re so proud of the work she’s putting in and the example she’s setting for other young athletes in our area. A big shout-out as well to her Muay Thai coach, Isaac Tijerina, for his guidance, mentorship and commitment to helping these athletes grow both in and out of the ring.



Iysha Aguillon gets her hand raised in victory following her Muay Thai match. She trains out of Time and Distance Muay Thai in Caldwell.

Fred Meyer Store Coming to Caldwell

Fred Meyer has announced plans to open a new 155,000-square-foot store in Caldwell at the corner of Highway 20-26 and Middleton Road in late 2026 or early 2027. In addition to selections of groceries, electronics, home goods, and apparel, the store

will include a fuel center, drive-up-pharmacy and Starbucks. Details about the ground breaking, opening date and hiring events will be announced in the coming months. Caldwell Mayor Jarom Wagoner has said, “The opening of Fred Meyer marks an exciting

new chapter for Caldwell. This store isn’t just about groceries, it’s about jobs, convenience, and growth.” Estimates are that the new store will create about 250 jobs for area residents.

Scenes from Caldwell’s July 4th Celebration!
Photos by Mandie & Tom Snow



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Dave's Big Back Yard

I always liked to fish even as a small child. In the seventies I took up fly fishing, started tying my own flies and became quite passionate about the sport. In the late seventies-early eighties, bass fishing was gaining popularity in the northwest and like fly fishing, bass fishing consumed me, so much so, I began entering fishing tournaments in the 1980s and 1990s.

In the late eighties I decided it was time to catch a steelhead. After spending a couple of nasty November days on the Salmon River, I caught a steelhead,

meaning one. That was all that was necessary to become an avid fan of the hard fishing sea-run rainbows.

As the years went by, what used to be “deer and elk camp,” became “steelhead camp.” After the steelhead, I kind of became species oriented. My first attempt at walleye found me below McNary Dam on the Columbia River. Late afternoon, the wind began to pick up and I fired up my 15-foot bass boat and headed back towards the launch. The wind became strong. Soon I was auguring

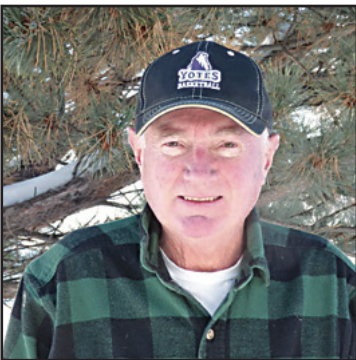
along in 4-5 foot swells. I told my wife to put on a life jacket as I was putting one on myself. We were less than a mile from the launch, but it was grueling. There was a collective sigh of relief when my boat slipped inside the jetty. That life harrowing ordeal ended in no walleyes.

Salmon Falls reservoir south of Twin Falls was my second attempt at walleyes. Though there was a pretty good thunder storm, it was more friendly than the Columbia river and the fishing was much better. Karen and I caught lots if walleye. Most

by Dave McCormick

were small, but with that little square colored in, we were off on another adventure. Mackinaw or lake trout had for many years been on my list of “must catch.” I dabbled in it at Payette Lake with trolling weights and leaded line with no success.

With good intel gleaned from papers and magazines, I headed for Flat Head Lake in western Montana. At this time, I had a pair of manual cannon downriggers. Proper equipment made this trip quite memorable. We caught a good number of Macks with one right at 34



inches. In addition to cracking the lake trout nut, Rogers Lake, west of Kalispell, gave up some nice grayling to our fly rods, another first! Not sure what's next on the list, but if I catch it, I'll let you know. Happy Fourth!

Local Dirt Perspective

Up until a few minutes ago, I had no idea what to write about and I am cutting it to the wire and hoping I make it in time. I've been extremely busy as of late. Between my job my second job (I do concert security), my farm and my church activities, my plate is quite full as of late. Bring on winter please!

My farm has been relegated to somewhere between wildly green and abandoned. This spring was really no help at all because it was a very nice spring with moderate rainfall and perfect warming conditions with no late frost, which tends to nip back some fruit. But no, it had to be ideal, and crop loads are very high during a time I have hardly any time to

do proper fruit thinning or grape cluster reductions. Between the wind and the rains, weeds got out of hand, thus the look of an abandoned property.

My peaches are full and already breaking branches and my grape clusters are many and healthy. That's all well and good, but this spring has also given us a bumper crop of aphids. For a more detailed explanation, look them up online. Aphids aren't really noticeable unless you know what to look for. Good signs of an infestation are the following: leaves dying and dropping for no apparent reason; a sticky shinny substance on the sidewalk, car or on plants below; leaves curling and/or green little critters on the

underside of the leaf or leaves can also be brown.

Aphids are very destructive but generally don't kill the tree, but can really set a small one back. The aphids are basically vampires. They suck the vital fluids and nutrients out of the leaves causing them to die. They are usually prevalent during springtime and then the heat is too much and they become another critter.

Healthy trees can and usually recover by mid-summer. There are treatments that are both organic and chemistry methods. The organic methods are best on fruit trees but there are safe methods for edible crops. Organic methods are things like; lady bugs and lots of them. You

by Pat King

can buy lady bugs and some local stores sell them in the hundreds. Insecticidal soaps and a sprayer can be used to reach above the tops of the trees. You really have to make sure you thoroughly get underneath the leaves, as that's where the aphids like to live.

For very effective and safe methods for fruit harvesting trees, consult your trusted local garden center. There are sprays for foliar applications as well as systemic treatments. Systemic treatments are either granular or liquid and are either injected directly into the tree or around the entire root system or even poured on the ground around the tree. Or they can be granular where you spread them



around the tree's root system to be taken up over time. This might be the easiest method, because you can apply it early in the season and get long lasting protection and you probably wouldn't even see and aphid. Early prevention saves a lot of costs later.

Until next time, Pat.


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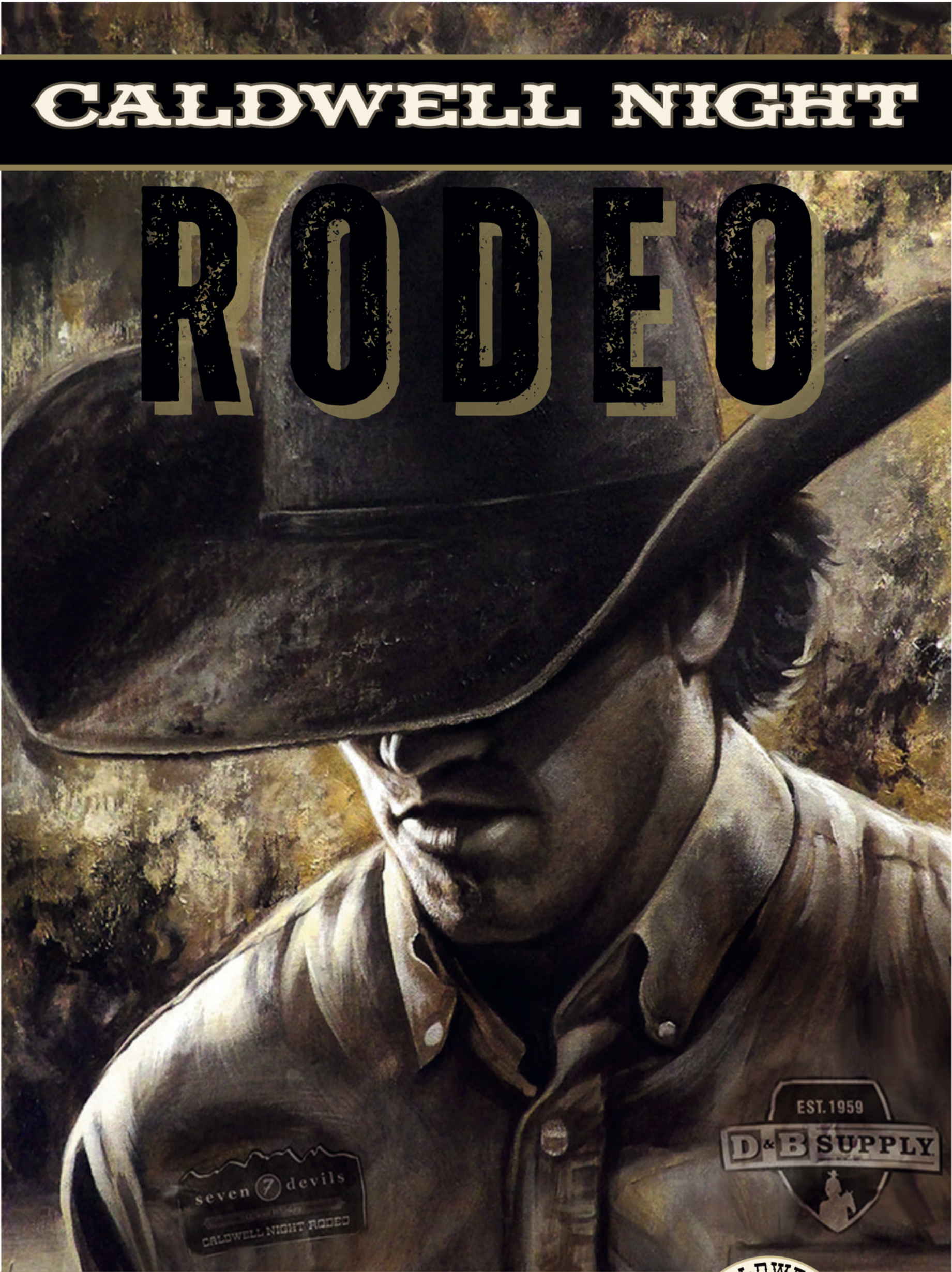
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