



# IDAHO WEEKLY BRIEFING

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# In this issue



## Idaho Weekly Briefing

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Traffic around Idaho drew a lot of attention last week, especially after a massive accident on Interstate 84 in western Ada County. A number of people said the fatal accident resulted in considerable part from lane closures during road construction, which has resulted in a review of construction protocols.

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## Cover picture

**BENGAL ROAR** The fourth annual Bengal Roar is set for June 28 at Idaho State University. The event is designed to help students planning to attend classes in the fall to register for classes, meet with advisors and learn about campus resources that might otherwise be overlooked. This year, Idaho State University is giving more than \$14 million in Idaho Resident four-year recruitment, Step Ahead and Honors Scholarships to more than 2,500 new, incoming Idaho students who are admitted for fall 2018. Other scholarships are also available through the Bengal Online Scholarship System.  
*(photo/Idaho State University)*

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## Another fork in the road?

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The history is broadly familiar, but it bears repeating for consideration now. It's worth considering even in Idaho.

In 1994, Republican Pete Wilson was running for re-election as California governor in tough conditions: His approval rating was low, and he was running behind the challenging Democrat. During the campaign, he jumped onto a ballot initiative, Proposition 187, and greatly ramped up its visibility. At a time when illegal immigration was getting more attention in California, Prop 187 banned people in the country illegally from using public schools, non-emergency health care and various other services. The initiative gained steam and passed, and Wilson was re-elected (in a Republican wave year, it should be noted).

It was the very picture of a Pyrrhic victory. 187 was challenged in court and killed off legally and politically. But that was only the beginning. It enraged California's large and growing Latino population, and many other people besides. Republicans were linked to the measure, and starting in the late 90s they began losing elections by larger and larger margins. California's roster of elected officials, dominated by Republicans a generation and more ago, now is overwhelmingly Democratic, nearly as Democratic as Idaho is Republican, and the trigger of Prop 187 was the fork in that road turning California blue.

That came to mind last week as the nation watched the heart-rending scenes of family separation on the southern border, reversed in a very limited way, and after huge national pressure, by President Donald Trump. This too has a political dimension and has caught attention of Americans of all descriptions. But it could have a special impact, as happened a quarter-century ago, on the politics of the Latino vote.

Before Prop 187, the Latino vote in California tended to number below its available population, and it was not overwhelmingly dominated by either of the parties. That changed.

Might it change now in, say, Idaho?

The Latino vote in Idaho long has had a low profile: The vote is there, but the numbers have tended to be smaller than the eligible population would indicate, and there's not a lot of evidence that either political party has dominated it. There's also this: The most prominent Latinos to run for office in Idaho have been Republicans. The most recent and successful has been Raul Labrador, elected four times to the U.S. House; his ethnic background has been known and noted but hasn't become controversial, or an obstacle to winning office or a Republican party nomination. (He recently lost a primary contest for governor, of course, but none of the many analyses I've seen of that race have suggested his heritage as a reason for that.)

Still, the Idaho Latino vote in some ways resembles California's pre-1994. It's a smaller portion of the state's electorate. In a Pew Research Center study in 2014, the eligible Latino voting population was pegged at seven percent; in California it was 28 percent. Any impact of a large and well-organized Latino vote in Idaho necessarily would be much smaller than in the Golden State. Idaho ranks 16th among states for Latino vote eligibility (California is third).

That doesn't mean it couldn't be powerful. That voting population is concentrated enough in some places to swing legislative and other seats if well organized.

The Latino population is growing faster than Idaho overall, and an article in the Spokane Spokesman-Review two years ago pointed out, "10 Idaho school districts – and eight Idaho counties, including Boundary County – would have lost population from 2010 to 2014 if not for the growth in their Hispanic populations." The central Magic Valley is about one-third Latino, and Canyon Court about one-fourth.

Don't expect Idaho to do any time soon what California did after Prop 187. But don't be surprised if some smaller-scale changes aren't in the works nonetheless.

– *Randy Stapilus*

# In the news

*A review, in some cases with expansion and comment, of leading Idaho news stories – excluding national or feature articles, and local crime and accidents. Generally, these were featured last week on front pages of the state’s newspapers. But the list also includes some other articles of note, including from Idaho broadcasters.*

*Please note that some links lead to newspaper pay walls. They were live at the time of publication, but may be discontinued later.*

★ *Notes an article of special interest*

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## June 17

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- [Boise Pridefest event continues to grow](#) (*Idaho Statesman*, Boise) In earlier years, many participants were masked. Now the much larger numbers of participants are not.
- ★ [Idaho students are more armed in school](#) (*Post Register*, Idaho Falls) Nationwide, about 4% of students report carrying weapons to school; in Idaho, the comparable number is 10%.
- ★ [Few affordable sexual health services available in north central Idaho](#) (*Lewiston Tribune*) Article notes that, “the Public Health Idaho North Central District, with offices in Lewiston, Moscow, Orofino, Grangeville and Kamiah, discontinued all of its reproductive health options two years ago.” Not much as emerged since to replace them.
- [Prison inmates still being sent out of state](#) (*Idaho Press*, Nampa) State prison officials say their past efforts in out of state storage of Idaho prisoners has been too often bad (in one Louisiana instance, a riot ensued), but the space to keep them in state simply is unavailable.
- [Current management at Nampa’s civic center working out after a year](#) (*Idaho Press*, Nampa) Customers are coming back and public subsidies seem to be on the road to dropping. The place now is run by the Spectra Management firm.
- ★ [Differences between local elementary schools](#) (*Times News*, Twin Falls) Twin Falls has some older elementary schools and newer ones, and their quality isn’t always the same. The article notes that students in low-income households are more likely to attend the older schools.
- [Soda shops gaining in popularity around eastern Idaho](#) (*Times News*, Twin Falls) In heavily Mormon eastern Idaho, where both alcohol and coffee are not on the drinking list, a market develops for other beverage stops.

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## June 18

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- [Boise school bond projects getting underway](#) (*Idaho Statesman*, Boise) A year ago, voters in the Boise School District okayed a \$172 million bond to be used for various construction projects. The work it paid for is well underway, on five of the 22 district projects planned.
- [The sheriffs in Nez Perce and Asotin counties are planning boating law enforcement](#) (*Lewiston Tribune*) It's not a new thing, but the enforcement in what's called Operation Dry Water will be more intensive than usual.
- [Leadership changes at Palouse Land Trust](#) (*Daily News*, Moscow) Lovina Englund takes over managing and seeking to improve the Idler's Nature Preserve near Moscow.
- [Twin Falls council will consider budget options](#) (*Times News*, Twin Falls) The council will decide on its priorities as an initial part of the process.
- [An overview of xeriscaping in southern Idaho](#) (*Times News*, Twin Falls) The use of plants with lower water needs may be useful in a desert environment.

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## June 19

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- ★ [Might legislators cut back on prison sentencing to reduce prison caseload?](#) (*Idaho Statesman*, Boise) The once verboten idea has gained some traction in the Idaho legislature, and talks are ongoing.
- [New president at Brigham Young University-Idaho wants to retain students](#) (*Post Register*, Idaho Falls) The fast-growing Rexburg institution has a new president seeking not to make major changes but keep the students and continue progress.
- [Candidates for governor spent about \\$11 million in primary campaign](#) (*Lewiston Tribune*) The amount is far more than in past campaigns; the spending was overwhelmingly concentrated on the Republican side.
- [Procedure for river searches for drowning victims under question](#) (*Lewiston Tribune*) Not the execution but the protocols set up by north-central regional agencies are being called into question by a Boise man.
- [Moscow's Third Street work begins, partly reliant on state help](#) (*Daily News*, Moscow) The city council has moved to approve the work, but help from the Idaho Transportation Department will be critical.
- [Pullman transit buses may go completely electric](#) (*Daily News*, Moscow) It would involve replacing the whole fleet, maybe by 2020.
- ★ [Ada sheriff describes staff at jail as "overworked, understaffed and overstressed"](#) (*Idaho Press*, Nampa) Sheriff Stephen Bartlett is asking for 39 new employees, most of whom would go to work at the jail. The commissioners are considering it.

- [Nampa council holds off on water tank decision](#) (*Idaho Press*, Nampa) The city's big elevated water tank may be torn down, but a number of residents want to weigh in on that first.
- [Property valuations increasing quickly in Twin Falls](#) (*Times News*, Twin Falls) Background story on the process and on how property owners can undertake an appeal.
- [Twin Falls city manager proposes \\$68.2 million budget](#) (*Times News*, Twin Falls)

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## June 20

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- [Idaho senators added to Ted Cruz bill on immigration](#) (*Idaho Statesman*, Boise) It was aimed at stopping separation of parents from children in the case of immigration issues.
- ★ [National park plans for Craters of the Moon grind to a halt, again](#) (*Post Register*, Idaho Falls) Another recent effort was underway in the last couple of years to turn the Craters National Monument into the a national park. Now, the effort seems to be on hold, in part because of what one advocate described as “the political situation.”
- [Wheat Commission displays new forms of wheat in state](#) (*Lewiston Tribune*) The University of Idaho research center has developed 45 new strains of the major Idaho crop.
- [Crowd shows up to watch debate over Asotin County funds issues](#) (*Lewiston Tribune*) The county is experiencing a revenue shortfall, and residents appear to weigh in.
- [Officials say Idaho is getting well prepared for fire season](#) (*Daily News*, Moscow) Conditions are ripe for plenty of fires around the state, though they haven't much started yet.
- ★ [Biggest concerns for Boise-area residents include housing affordability and heavy traffic](#) (*Idaho Press*, Nampa) Both are under review by local officials, though answers haven't been easy to find.
- [Contract extended for College of Western Idaho president](#) (*Idaho Press*, Nampa) A new budget, of \$66 million, also was approved by the governing board of the regional college.
- [Blaine County sets new ordinance on cell phone use while driving](#) (*Times News*, Twin Falls) The county plans to set up its own ordinance against hand-held cell phone use while driving, similar to the rules in place in many states (but not in Idaho).
- [Twin Falls meets on recreation building proposal](#) (*Times News*, Twin Falls) City officials asked residents what they would like to see.

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## June 21

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- ★ [Examining whether a massive I-84 accident resulted from lane closures](#) (*Idaho Statesman*, Boise) Before the massive fatality accident, there were warnings to state officials from drivers that lane closures were “an accident waiting to happen.”
- [Crapo campaign funds under critical review](#) (*Idaho Statesman*, Boise) Over 20 years, the campaign has paid the senator’s wife about \$200,000 for various services; disclosure questions also surfaced.
- [The debate over sage grouse and oil development goes on](#) (*Post Register*, Idaho Falls) While a new Trump Administration policy is underway, battles go on in courtrooms and elsewhere.
- [A dry and hot summer is anticipated in north-central Idaho](#) (*Lewiston Tribune*) The weather has been moderately rainy so far, but that is not likely to continue.
- [State considers changes to Moscow highway intersection](#) (*Daily News*, Moscow) A lot of traffic is piling up at the Highway 95 and Highway 8 intersection at Moscow, and changes are being considered.
- [Evidence mounts that Amazon may locate a distribution center at Nampa](#) (*Idaho Press*, Nampa) The company itself isn’t saying, but a firm that works with it is applying for a permit to build an 850,000-square-foot building in the area.
- [Construction issues were raised well in advance of the I-84 crash](#) (*Idaho Press*, Nampa) Concerns were raised long in advance of the crash.
- [Wildlife pressed by human visitors](#) (*Times News*, Twin Falls) State Fish & Game officials advise people to keep their distance to keep wildlife from being over-stressed.
- [Idaho students are more armed in school](#) (*Idaho State Journal*, Pocatello) Nationwide, about 4% of students report carrying weapons to school; in Idaho, the comparable number is 10%.

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## June 22

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- [Looking at Ada County’s most dangerous intersections](#) (*Idaho Statesman*, Boise) The west side of the county, especially around Eagle Road, dominate the hazard list.
- [Idaho interstate sales tax collection may be enhanced](#) (*Post Register*, Idaho Falls) U.S. Supreme Court ruling gives states greater latitude in collection of sales tax on interstate sales.
- [Board of Education approves University of Idaho tailgate parties](#) (*Lewiston Tribune*) Long sought okay is finally given by the regents. See also *Daily News*.



- ★ [No special session is expected for Idaho](#) (*Lewiston Tribune*) Talk of legislation related to water rights and storage in southwest Idaho won't result in the special session some advocates had called for.
- [Massive crash prompts review of construction procedures](#) (*Idaho Press, Nampa*) Road construction lane closures may be more hazardous than many had realized.
- [New big warehouse development set for Burley](#) (*Times News, Twin Falls*) A Dutch company will be building the big new operation.
- [Idaho State University offering reduced tuition to Native Americans](#) (*Idaho State Journal, Pocatello*) State Board of Education decision on the matter allows for the change.

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## June 23

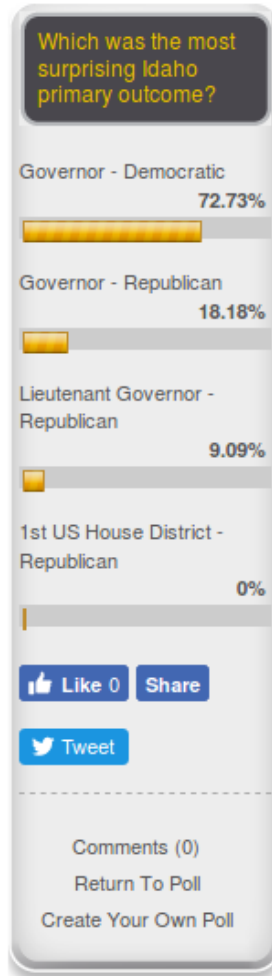
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- ★ [Developer Ahlquist leaves Gardner Company](#) (*Idaho Statesman, Boise*) Tommy Ahlquist, the Boise developer who recently ran for governor, has departed the Gardner Company, with which he's long been associated. He is starting a new venture with new partners, but said there was no falling out with Gardner.
- [Preliminary sketches emerging for new Boise library](#) (*Idaho Statesman, Boise*) River frontage and a theater would be components.
- [Health care and other initiatives near Washington ballot status](#) (*Lewiston Tribune*) The deadline is July 6; some are near the cutoff for signatures.
- [Progress seen on sea lion bill](#) (*Lewiston Tribune*) Senators Jim Risch and Maria Cantwell join on the measure aimed at fish protection.
- [Syringa mobile home park empties out](#) (*Daily News, Moscow*) The long-troubled mobile home park has now been depopulated, though some residents have some issues finding new places to live.
- [Three downtown Nampa businesses shut down in a week](#) (*Idaho Press, Nampa*) Heavy road work was said to be a primary reason for the closures.
- [Campaign finance deadline misses won't result in fines](#) (*Idaho Press, Nampa*) Two Republican nominees for statewide office were late in filing.
- [New Idaho laws will take effect July 1](#) (*Times News, Twin Falls*) As the effective date approaches, new laws on trespass and a range of other matters go into practice.

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## Poll

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This week's question:

**What percentage of the vote will the Medicaid initiative receive in November?**

Cast your vote at [www.ridenbaugh.com](http://www.ridenbaugh.com)

Have a question you'd like us to ask? [Tell us about it.](#)



## Lieutenant governor candidate speaks on immigration

**Cristina McNeil**, Democratic candidate for Idaho’s 1st congressional district, has made a statement on immigrant children being separated from their parents at the U.S. border.

McNeil, who immigrated from Mexico to the United States in 1995, said our immigration system is antiquated, complex and broken. She said the crisis of families being separated at the border is a direct result of the Trump administration’s zero-tolerance policy toward immigrants and is completely inhumane.

“Immigrant families are being separated and dehumanized at the border and we cannot simply stand by and watch it happen,” McNeil, a citizen of the United States and Mexico, said. “Children belong with their parents, not locked in cages like animals.”

McNeil supports the Keep Families Together Act, the only bill proposed that will put families first, protect asylum seekers and end the Trump administration’s zero-tolerance policy.

“Cruelty is not the solution, and neither is an executive order,” McNeil said. “Democrats and Republicans working across the to pass comprehensive and compassionate immigration reform is the only way we will see change.”

McNeil is a member of the Coalition for Immigrant Rights of Idaho and a national advocate. She grew up discussing important political issues with her family of 10 in Mexico City. She said the public is largely misinformed about immigration issues.

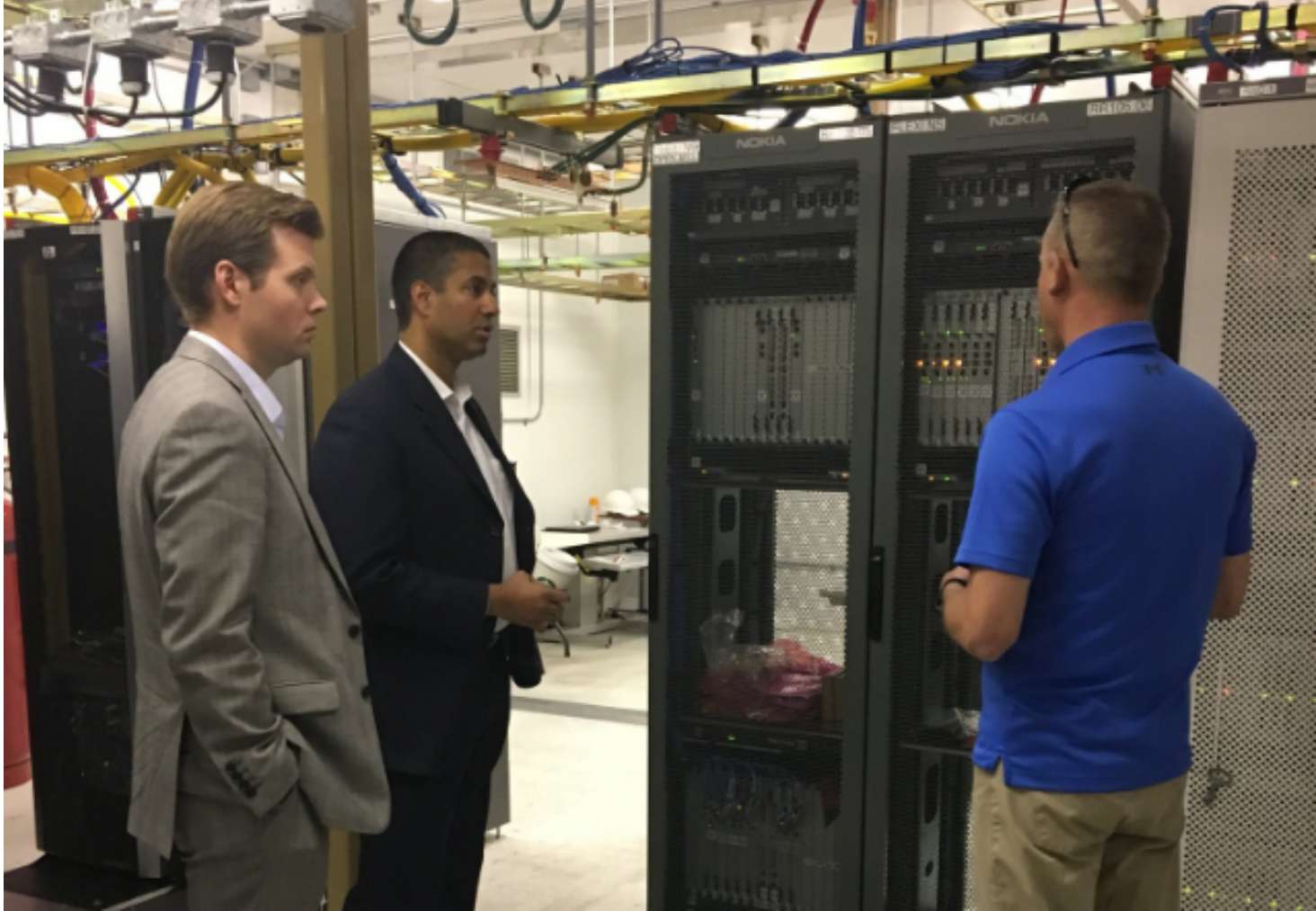
- [McNeil campaign](#)

## Top-ballot campaigns/2018

**Incumbents** in bold. Reports through April 25 unless otherwise noted.

- U.S. House 1** R **Russell Fulcher:** raised \$435,790; spent \$387,441; on hand \$82,030.
- D **Christina McNeil** has filed.
- R **Mike Simpson,:** raised \$689,069; spent \$639,512; \$202,694 on hand

<b>U.S. House 2</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>Aaron Swisher</b> , Boise: raised \$41,166; spent \$32,890;\$8,275 on hand.
	<b>R</b>	Incumbent C.L. “Butch” Otter not seeking re-election. Candidates: <b>Brad Little</b> , lieutenant governor.
<b>Governor</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>Paulette Jordan</b> has filed.
	<b>R</b>	former legislator <b>Janice McGeachin</b> , Idaho Falls
<b>Lt Governor</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>Kristin Collum</b> has filed.
	<b>R</b>	Incumbent <b>Sherri Ybarra</b> has filed.
<b>Supt of Public Instr</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>Cindy Wilson</b> has filed.



Federal Communications Commission Chair Ajit Pai (center) last week visited eastern Idaho – here, at the Idaho National Laboratory – in part of a national tour.  
*(photo/Federal Communications Commission)*

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## Senate approves nuclear fuel recycling pilot program

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**Idaho National Laboratory** nuclear research will benefit from a \$15 million pilot program secured by Senators **Mike Crapo** and **James Risch**, and Rhode Island Senator Sheldon Whitehouse to recycle spent naval fuel for use in advanced nuclear reactors.

The proposal by the senators was adopted today by the full Senate on a 87-9 vote. The Senate is currently debating the Fiscal Year 2019 Energy and Water Appropriations bill.

The demonstration project would blend high-enriched uranium (HEU) fuel to a level where it could be used in advanced nuclear reactors. Those cores require a fuel known as high-assay low enriched uranium (HALEU), enriched to less than 20 percent of fissile content. This content is needed to create the reaction that generates energy within the reactor. Reusing higher-enriched spent HEU naval fuel produces reusable HALEU.

The recycled fuel has the potential to reduce waste that would otherwise be disposed at taxpayers' expense or require long-term repository disposal. The U.S. Department of Energy estimates that spent fuel disposal costs could reach as high as \$100 billion. In addition to high storage and disposal costs, the United States currently lacks a supply of the HALEU fuel needed to power advanced nuclear reactors. This recycling program will supply fuel necessary for these reactors.

“This bipartisan collaboration will keep Idaho and the work being done at Idaho National Lab at the forefront of new innovation and use of nuclear energy. By reusing spent fuel to power advanced reactors, we can supply the inputs necessary for critical research initiatives, such as those at the INL, and provide a cost-saving and environmental service by reducing the amount of spent waste otherwise stored or cleaned up,” said Crapo. “There is strong bipartisan agreement in Congress that nuclear energy is underappreciated as a reliable, safe, clean and efficient part of our national energy portfolio. This provision will help expand and grow the use of nuclear nationwide.”

“As we look ahead, there is bipartisan agreement that the use of clean, nuclear power should be part of our “all-of-the-above” American energy strategy,” said Risch.

In addition to this pilot program funding, Crapo, Risch, and Whitehouse have partnered on other legislation that will benefit the cutting-edge research occurring at INL. In March, bipartisan legislation led by the senators cleared the Senate by voice vote. The measure, S. 97, known as the Nuclear Energy Innovation Capabilities Act, would create partnerships between private-sector innovators in nuclear energy with government researchers to create the next generation of clean, advanced nuclear power.

That measure directs the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to prioritize partnering with private innovators to test and demonstrate advanced reactor concepts. It authorizes the creation of a National Reactor Innovation Center that brings together the technical expertise of the national laboratories and DOE to enable the construction of experimental reactors. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) would partner with the DOE in this effort, which would enable the NRC to contribute its expertise on safety issues while also learning about the new technologies developed through the Center. This measure strengthens the abilities of national laboratories to partner with private industry to prove the principles behind their ideas.

Debate is expected to continue on the Energy and Water bill this week.

● [Senator Risch](#)



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## Mountain Home AFB opens commissary seven days

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Base residents may have seen a change at the commissary; the store is now open seven days a week as part of a trial run that will last through September.

The trial began April 30 and the idea is to see if the new hours bring an increase in sales. The more the store is used during this trial period, the more likely this new schedule will stay in effect.

If customers want this to continue, they should take advantage of the extended schedule. If not, there's a chance the commissary will go back to being open only six days a week.

According to their website, the Defense Commissary Agency, or "DeCA", operates a worldwide chain of commissaries providing groceries to military personnel, retirees and their families in a safe and secure shopping environment.

"The biggest driving factor was Col. Kunkel," said Jim Morris, Mountain Home AFB Commissary store director. "He contacted our headquarters, our director for DeCA, and they had some conversations."

So far numbers are looking positive, and a few patrons have commented that these hours are beneficial.

"Aside from the general convenience of it being open every day, it's nice to be able to come here on Monday for lunch as well," said Staff Sgt. Christopher Carlson, 366th Logistics Readiness Squadron air transportation craftsman. "Just more options in general."

With the store being open on Mondays, there are more options during lunch for base members. Additionally, Morris said the commissary schedule allows military retirees to take care of their grocery shopping when they commute to the base.

At the end of the day, the goal for the commissary is to better serve Airmen and their families.

- [Mountain Home Air Force Base](#)

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## Forest Service opens sage grouse comments

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The **Forest Service** published a Supplemental Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register this week to create a Draft Environmental Impact Statement, beginning a 30 day comment period.

The Forest Service is proposing to amend the Forest Service land management plans that were amended in 2015 regarding greater sage-grouse conservation in the states of Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Wyoming, and Utah. The NOI lists several categories of potential changes, but specific proposed adjustments to the text in the plans [can be found for each state](#).

The purpose of proposed changes are to improve the clarity, efficiency, and implementation of greater sage-grouse plans, including better alignment with Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and state plans, in order to benefit greater sage-grouse conservation on the landscape scale. The agency will use lessons learned from new science, scoping and implementing during the last three years to make revised plans more efficient. Proposed actions are intended to improve sage-grouse conservation and although some management areas, such as Sagebrush Focal Areas may change in name designation, limits to development and other protections will remain.

After reviewing comments to the June 20 NOI, the Forest Service plans to continue the planning process with multi-regional draft and final Environmental Impact Statements, and have plan amendments finalized in the spring of 2019.

- [U.S. Forest Service](#)

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## Risch, Cantwell propose fish predation bill

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Senators Jim Risch (R-ID) and Maria Cantwell (D-WA) introduced the Endangered Salmon and Fisheries Predation Prevention Act. The legislation would amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to give state and tribal managers more flexibility in addressing predatory sea lions in the Columbia River system that are threatening both ESA-listed salmon and steelhead.



“Salmon consumption at the Bonneville Dam is five times what it was five years ago, and threatened and endangered species of salmon are being damaged by sea lions in the Columbia River,” said Senator Risch.

“Pacific salmon are central to our culture, our livelihoods, and our economy in the Pacific Northwest,” Senator Cantwell said. “Taxpayers throughout Washington, Idaho, and Oregon have made significant investments in Pacific salmon restoration, and we must continue to support science-based management methods to ensure future generations have access to wild Pacific Northwest salmon. I want to thank my colleague Senator Risch for working with me on this bipartisan, science-based solution that will help protect salmon for future generations.”

There are ESA threatened and endangered salmon and steelhead being significantly harmed by the increasing sea lion population. This predation of ESA-listed fish is negating the large investments being spent on salmon recovery associated with habitat, harvest, and hatcheries.

If enacted, this bill would amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to provide for better management of these invasive, non-listed sea lions.

- [Senator Risch](#)

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## Simpson backs farm bill

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Representative **Mike Simpson** on June 21 supported H.R. 2, the Agriculture and Nutrition Act (the “Farm Bill”). The Farm Bill reauthorizes many important farm and nutrition programs for five years. H.R. 2 passed by a vote of 213-211.

“We need to show rural America we have their back, and the Farm Bill is the perfect vehicle to demonstrate our support,” said Simpson. “In Idaho, this bill will provide certainty for our ranchers and farmers and signature commodities like potatoes, dairy, grain, and sugar beets. I am pleased we moved one step closer today towards providing stability to our nation’s farmers.”

During the initial floor consideration of H.R. 2, Congressman Simpson fought for many important Idaho priorities such as the U.S. sugar program which operates at no cost to the taxpayer and is critical to Idaho sugar beet farmers. Other important programs include research for specialty crops such as potatoes, risk management tools for dairy and grain producers, and trade promotion programs for all agriculture.

The legislation will now await a formal conference to work out differences with the Senate legislation which is expected to be considered next week.

- [Representative Simpson](#)

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## Small business bill signed into law

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President Trump on June 21 signed into law a bipartisan, bicameral bill led by Senator **Jim Risch**, chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, House Small Business Committee Chairman Steve Chabot (R-OH), House Ranking Member Nydia Velázquez (D-NY) and U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH).

The bill, the Small Business 7(a) Lending Oversight Reform Act, will ensure appropriate oversight of Small Business Administration's flagship loan program and improve access to capital for small business owners.

Numerous small business advocacy groups, program participants, and entrepreneurs applauded the bill's passage and encouraged the President to sign it into law. This bill passed both the House and Senate Committees unanimously, and passed the House and Senate without objection.

"I'm grateful to President Trump for signing this important legislation into law," said Chairman Risch. "Since the SBA's 7(a) loan program was enacted, millions of entrepreneurs have used this critical financial lifeline to start or expand their business - funds they wouldn't have otherwise had access to. Our job in Congress is to make sure these vital programs are being operated effectively and with appropriate oversight to ensure they will be available for future generations of entrepreneurs. The Small Business 7(a) Lending Oversight Reform Act is an example of hard work in a bipartisan and bicameral way to ensure these objectives are met. I'm proud of the work we've done on this bill and thank all of my colleagues involved for their efforts."

This bill was widely supported in the small business community, including by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Government Guaranteed Lenders (NAGGL), the Independent Community Bankers Association (ICBA), the American Bankers Association (ABA), the Consumer Bankers Association (CBA), the Credit Union National Association (CUNA), and the National Association of Federally-Insured Credit Unions (NAFCU).

- **Senator Risch**



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## Idaho WIC payments adjusted

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Idaho's Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children will implement new income guidelines effective July 1, that raise household income eligibility limits to help offset cost of living increases. This is an annual adjustment.

To be eligible for the WIC program, an individual must be a pregnant or breastfeeding woman, a woman who has recently been pregnant, or an infant or child younger than 5 years old. In addition, the individual must live in Idaho, have a need that can be helped by WIC foods and nutrition counseling, and have a low-to-moderate income.

To be eligible on the basis of income, an applicant's gross income (e.g., before taxes are withheld) must fall at or below 185 percent of the U.S. Poverty Income Guidelines. For example, under the new guidelines a family of three can earn up to \$38,443 annually; under the old guidelines a family of three could have earned up to \$37,777 annually.

WIC provides nutritious supplemental foods such as fresh fruits and vegetables, milk, eggs, cheese, cereal, juice, beans and peanut butter at no cost to qualified families. WIC services also include health screenings, nutrition counseling, breastfeeding information and support, help from registered dietitians, and referrals to other services.

The average Idahoan enrolled in WIC receives approximately \$48 of healthy foods per month. There are currently over 37,000 people per month receiving Idaho WIC assistance.

- [Department of Health & Welfare](#)

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## State Regulation

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Published rules appear in [the administrative bulletin](#). The next publication will be on July 4.



The design firms Safdie and Boise firm CSHQA were contracted by the city of Boise earlier this year to design a new main Boise city library building. Last week, some preliminary sketches (including this one) were released; more detailed sketches are expected to be released this week.

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## Boise city resolves against immigrant separations

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Boise Mayor **David H. Bieter** and members of the Boise City Council on June 19 called upon Idaho's congressional delegation to end the Trump administration policy separating immigrant children from their parents at the nation's southern border.

In resolution approved this evening and a letter to Idaho's U.S. Senators and Representatives, Boise's elected leaders stated: "This policy is, to put it bluntly, un-American... We are outraged. We cannot in good conscience remain silent in the face of the administration's repugnant policy and its sheer offensiveness to our community's moral and ethical standards, and those of our nation."

While acknowledging that it is unusual for municipal officials to weigh in on an issue with no direct impact to the governance of the City of Trees, Mayor Bieter and members of City Council note Boise’s status as a refugee resettlement community. Again, from the letter: “We recognize that Boise, and Idaho, and America are stronger thanks to the contributions of the many brilliant, industrious, and compassionate people from around the world who have found their way to our shores.”

The Boise leaders urged Congress to “use every means available to [them] – legislative, political, and persuasive – to end this intolerable practice now.”

According to the Department of Homeland Security, during the six-week period ending on May 31 some 2,000 children were separated from their parents or guardians at the U.S.-Mexico border. Mayor Bieter and members of Council join with members of both political parties, leaders of a wide range of religious faiths, as well as all five living First Ladies in condemning the policy of family separations.

● [Boise city](#)

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## Ada bans fireworks in unincorporated parts of county

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Fireworks are banned in unincorporated areas of Ada County.

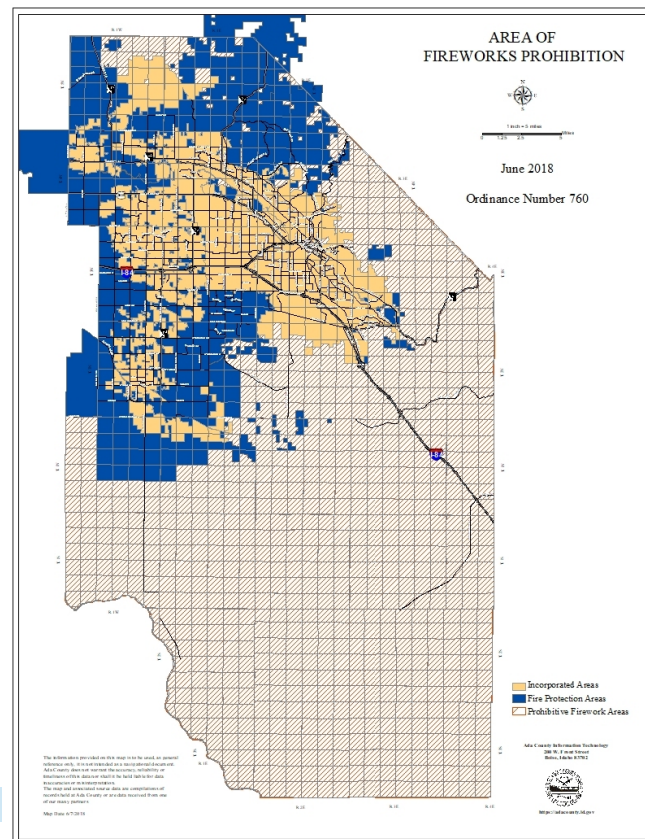
The Board of County Commissioners on June 19 signed a resolution banning fireworks in unincorporated areas which are both outside of city limits AND outside of a fire protection district. The ban remains in effect during the current fire season.

The hot summers in Ada County along with dry grasses and other vegetation create the perfect situation for one misdirected firework to spark a fire that could quickly get out of control.

“With our dry, hot summers we know a severe fire threat exists within Ada County,” said Commissioner and Chairman **Dave Case**. “We want to be as proactive as possible to hopefully avoid any devastation caused by fireworks.”

As outlined in Resolution No. 2328, it’s unlawful for any person to use fireworks in an area that constitutes a severe fire threat based on the vegetative conditions during the current fire season as determined by the county commission. Any person who violates this ordinance could be charged a misdemeanor.

● [Ada County](#)





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## Supreme Court decisions

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*Recent civil decisions of the Idaho Supreme Court.*

- [\*\*\*Sharon Kay Smith v. Vernon K. Smith\*\*\*](#) (June 12, Burdick) This consolidated appeal arises out of Ada County and involves the validity of two judgments and their subsequent renewals obtained by Sharon Smith, nka Sharon Bergmann (Sharon) against Vernon Kenneth Smith. The judgments have remained unsatisfied, and Sharon has been granted renewals of the judgments every five years as required by the applicable statute. In 2014, Sharon sought to collect on the judgments, and Vernon subsequently challenged the validity of the judgments and their renewals. The magistrate court determined the judgments were valid and any claims of improper renewal were barred by *res judicata*. Vernon appealed to the district court, which dismissed the appeal for lack of jurisdiction and *res judicata*. In November 2016, while Vernon's initial appeal was pending, a magistrate judge once again renewed one judgment for an additional five years. Vernon appealed this renewal, which the district court again dismissed citing *res judicata*. Vernon appealed the district court's decisions and this Court consolidated both appeals. For the reasons discussed below, we affirm.

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## Large cold storage warehouse planned for Burley

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Governor **C.L. “Butch” Otter** on June 21 said Netherlands-based NewCold is investing \$90 million to build a 140-foot-high, 25 million cubic feet sub-zero cold storage warehouse in Burley. This will be one of the largest frozen storage facilities of its kind in the United States.

The 180,000-square foot fully automated building will serve frozen food producers throughout the area. NewCold in Burley is slated to open in spring of 2019.

“Providing state-of-the-art, conveniently located cold storage is a critical part of keeping Idaho producers’ operating costs down and our value-added Idaho products competitive in the dynamic global market,” said Otter. “This huge new addition to our food distribution chain will help keep Idaho on the leading edge of innovation when it comes to farm-to-market efficiency and delivering high-quality, Idaho-grown foods to the world.”

From the moment pallets enter the building, conveyors and automated storage and robotic retrieval systems handle the pallets with minimal manual interference into and from a massive system of racks. Finally, the pallets are automatically transported to loading areas for shipment.

“This is an important day for the City of Burley as we welcome NewCold and serve as home to the nation’s largest European style frozen storage facility,” said **Doug Manning**, economic development director for the city of Burley. “As processors in our region continue to grow, this highly automated, energy efficient facility will support the frozen storage needs of current and future Idaho businesses for decades to come. I really think this is going to be a game changer not only for the City of Burley, but for the entire region.”

The facility will have a rail spur connected to Watco’s short line rail facility next door.

Watco’s “perishable express” transport option cuts days off normal delivery schedules an advantage to customers seeking improved storage and distribution of frozen products.

NewCold developed this style of storage automation in their European operations due to increased labor, land and energy costs and customer demand for faster and more efficient storage and shipping options.

This will be NewCold’s second U.S. facility. The first facility recently opened in Tacoma, Washington.

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## Revenues reported up at Micron Technology

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**Micron Technology** on June 20 announced results of operations for its third quarter of fiscal 2018, which ended May 31.

Among the results:

- Revenues of \$7.80 billion, up 40 percent compared with the same period last year
- GAAP net income of \$3.82 billion, or \$3.10 per diluted share
- Non-GAAP net income of \$3.90 billion, or \$3.15 per diluted share
- Operating cash flow of \$4.26 billion, compared with \$2.41 billion for the same period last year
- Ended the quarter with a net cash positive position



"Micron delivered record results in financial performance for the third fiscal quarter, supported by strong execution and ongoing secular demand trends," said Micron President and CEO **Sanjay Mehrotra**. "We strengthened our competitive position and grew our revenue across virtually all of our high-value product segments. We set new records for revenue in SSDs, Mobile Managed NAND and Automotive solutions along with Cloud/Enterprise and Graphics DRAM Memory. We see ongoing momentum and healthy industry fundamentals in the fourth quarter to close out an exceptionally strong fiscal 2018."

Revenues for the third quarter of 2018 were 6 percent higher compared to the second quarter of 2018, reflecting increased demand broadly across our products and end markets. Our overall consolidated gross margin of 60.6 percent for the third quarter of 2018 was higher compared to 58.1 percent for the second quarter of 2018 primarily due to execution across our product portfolio.

A statement from the corporation said:

"Investments in capital expenditures, net of amounts funded by partners, were \$2.10 billion, which resulted in adjusted free cash flows(3) of \$2.16 billion for the third quarter of 2018. During the quarter, we repurchased or converted \$2.31 billion principal amount of our debt, lowering our total carrying value of debt to \$7.34 billion exiting the quarter. We ended the third quarter in a net cash positive position with cash, marketable investments, and restricted cash of \$7.68 billion."

A conference call for shareholders to discuss the quarterly report also was scheduled to be held on June 20.

- [Micron Technology](#)



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## Stocks

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From late in the week, as reported through Google. Prices on stocks were mixed the end of last week. (Google finance) **Up ▲ Down ▼**

		Last week		Week before	One year ago
<b>Micron Technology</b>	MU	57.10	▼	58.86	31.73
<b>Hewlett Packard</b>	HPQ	23.80	▲	23.62	17.80
<b>Idaho Power</b>	IDA	91.26	▲	88.21	87.59
<b>Clearwater Paper</b>	CLW	23.60	▼	23.65	43.90
<b>CenturyLink Inc.</b>	CTL	18.62	▲	18.08	24.41
<b>Boise Cascade Corp.</b>	BCC	44.00	▼	45.75	29.75

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## Gas prices

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Price of gasoline in Idaho dropped slightly from the week before. Source: [idahogasprices.com](http://idahogasprices.com).

Gas	Last week	Natl/St Avg	Week before
<b>low</b>	2.95 Shelley (Phillips 66)	2.91/3/18	2.99 Boise (Costco) 2.99 Coeur d'Alene (Costco, A&D) 2.99 Twin Falls (Costco)
<b>high</b>	3.79 Malta (Sublett Fuel Stop)		3.79 Malta (Sublett Fuel Stop)



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## Salt River sub-basin plan out for comment

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The **Department of Environmental Quality** is seeking public comment on a revision to sediment wasteload allocations in its plan to address elevated sediment and E. coli bacteria in the Salt River Subbasin in southeastern Idaho and western Wyoming.

Wasteload allocations specify how much pollutant each permitted facility may release to a water body. The proposed revision updates sediment wasteload allocations for water bodies influenced by the Smoky Canyon Mine.

The Salt River Subbasin Assessment and Total Maximum Daily Loads proposes to establish total maximum daily loads to control sediment and reduce E. coli bacteria in the water bodies.

The recommended actions seek to bring the water bodies into compliance with state water quality standards and restore them to conditions supporting their beneficial uses, which include cold water aquatic life, secondary contact recreation, and salmonid spawning.

The document is available for review at DEQ's Pocatello Regional Office and on DEQ's website.

- [Department of Environmental Quality](#)

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## Boise River flows decreasing

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The **Bureau of Reclamation** and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will decrease flows from Lucky Peak Dam by 300 cubic feet per second (cfs) on Thursday, June 21, 2018, at 8 am. Flows through the city of Boise, as measured at the Glenwood Bridge gauge, will decrease to approximately 900 cfs by Thursday afternoon. Flows through town for the remainder of the season will be operated to meet irrigation demands.

Ada County Parks & Waterways will release information on when the Boise River float season begins.

The Boise River reservoirs provided a full allocation for water supply this year and are currently at 93 percent of capacity.

- [Bureau of Reclamation](#)

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## Cove campground upgrades potable water

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The **Bureau of Land Management** announced June 20 that water system improvements to the Cove Recreation Site campground are expected to begin July 9. The campground, located on the south shore of C.J. Strike Reservoir and southeast of Grand View, Idaho, will be upgraded with new freshwater supply lines throughout the recreation site.

The construction work is expected to continue past Labor Day weekend.

During construction, BLM campground managers will make every effort to keep campsites accessible to visitors and minimize construction impacts wherever they can.

“We anticipate that most of the Cove’s campsites will be available this season. But we recommend that visitors contact the BLM office at (208) 384-3300 for updated information,” said **Amanda Hoffman**, Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area manager.

The Cove Recreation Site campground has 38 campsites.

- [Bureau of Land Management](#)

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## Wildfires

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Wildfires have been spreading around the western United States in recent weeks, but Idaho has escaped much of the heaviest activity – so far. In early June a number of wildfires hit around southern Idaho, but were squelched relatively quickly. Last week, however, one wildfire did last into the weekend.

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## ■ Snowpack

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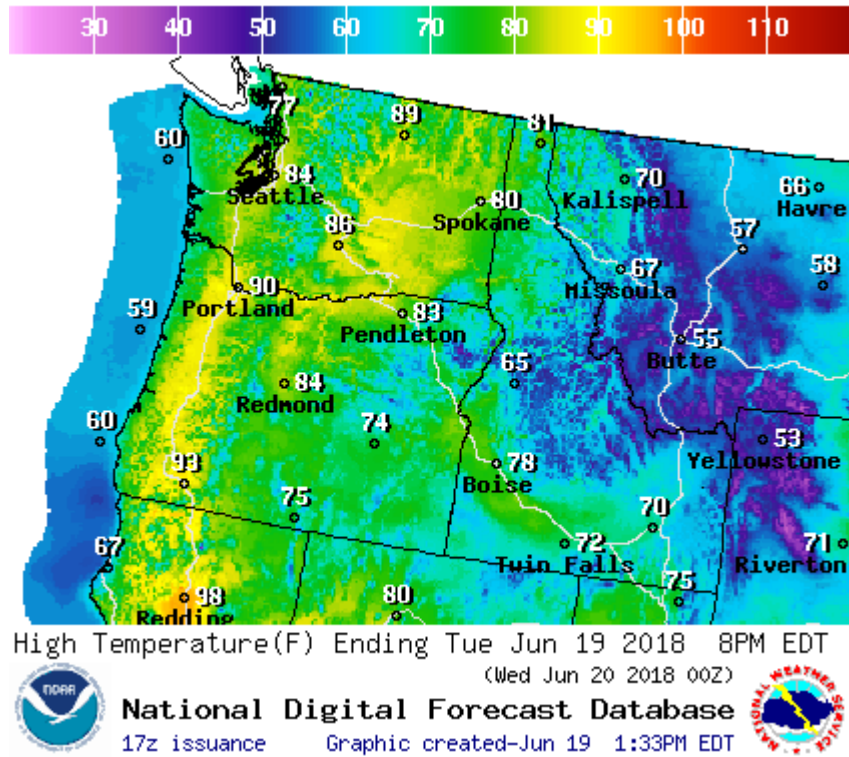
The numbers are percentages.

From the Natural Resources Conservation Service: “The Accumulated Precipitation Percent of Average represents the total precipitation (beginning October 1) found at selected SNOTEL sites in or near the basin compared to the average value for those sites on this day.”

**Note:** The new water year began on October 1. Normal would be 100. Much higher can mean flooding; much lower, drought. [From the Natural Resources Conservation Service](#). The percentage represents total precipitation (beginning October 1) at selected SNOTEL sites near the basin compared to average value for those sites.

basin	Last week	Week before	1 year ago
<b>Northern Panhandle</b>	111	112	132
<b>Spokane</b>	109	109	125
<b>Clearwater</b>	120	120	118
<b>Salmon</b>	107	100	134
<b>Weiser</b>	105	89	131
<b>Payette</b>	92	91	141
<b>Boise</b>	95	92	152
<b>Big Wood</b>	98	91	160
<b>Little Wood</b>	101	98	161
<b>Big Lost</b>	108	104	160
<b>Little Lost, Birch</b>	112	103	134
<b>Medicine Lodge, Beaver, Camas</b>	108	99	125
<b>Henry’s Fork, Teton</b>	109	105	138
<b>Snake above Palisades</b>	111	106	147
<b>Willow, Blackfoot, Portneuf</b>	93	91	142
<b>Snake above American Falls</b>	107	103	143
<b>Raft</b>	86	86	145
<b>Goose Creek</b>	81	78	129
<b>Salmon Falls</b>	88	85	127
<b>Bruneau</b>	93	91	130
<b>Owyhee</b>	88	85	131
<b>Bear River</b>	83	81	141

## Weather



From the [National Weather Service](http://www.nws.gov).

	Last week	Week before	One year ago
<b>Boise</b>	77/52 s	90/51 s	93/67 s
<b>Idaho Falls</b>	66/48 r	85/54 s	85/56 s
<b>Pocatello</b>	71/53 c	88/59 s	87/61 s
<b>Coeur d'Alene</b>	78/57 c	71/46 c	84/61 s
<b>Lewiston</b>	82/59 c	80/51 s	94/66 s
<b>Twin Falls</b>	72/51 s	90/56 s	90/63 s
<b>Sun Valley/Ketchum</b>	66/43 r	81/47 s	82/53 s

s- sunny; c - cloudy; r - rainy; p-snow



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## Board okays American Indian tuition reduction

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The **State Board of Education** approved a pilot program at its meeting on June 21, reducing tuition fees for American Indian tribal members from Idaho's five federally recognized tribes to attend Idaho State University.

The program was proposed by the board's Indian Education Committee and will discount fees for American Indian students to \$60 per credit hour beginning this fall at Idaho's public four-year institutions. The board chose to pilot the fee during the first year at Idaho State University.

The board also deeded 57 acres of land and buildings, to the College of Eastern Idaho Board of Trustees, essentially turning over the keys to the campus, which housed Eastern Idaho Technical College for nearly 50 years. Last year, the citizens of Bonneville County voted overwhelming to approve a local taxing district to support CEI, which is Idaho's fourth community college.

Other action items included approving:

- the College of Southern Idaho to offer a Bachelor of Applied Sciences degree in Advanced Food Technology in order to better meet workforce demands of the Magic Valley’s food manufacturing industry. This will be the first four-year degree offered by an Idaho community college.
- expanding the state board’s Apply Idaho college application portal to add Northwest Nazarene University and the College of Idaho to the list along with Idaho’s eight public colleges and universities where high school students can submit college applications free of charge.
- Idaho State University to begin the construction phase of a new \$4.1 million anatomy and physiology lab at the Meridian Health Science Center.
- the University of Idaho to begin planning and design of a new seed potato \$5.5 million seed potato facility to support research at University’s College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.
- planning and design of a baseball field at Boise State University.
- Idaho State University to raise funds to replace seating at Holt Arena.
- the University of Idaho to purchase a 48 acre property near Sandpoint to establish a research and extension center.
- the University of Idaho request for an alcohol permit for tailgating at home football games. Similar requests from BSU and ISU will be considered at the board’s August meeting.

● [Board of Education](#)

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## Idaho State health education reorganizes

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A reorganization of the **Kasiska Division of Health Sciences** has added three new colleges at **Idaho State University**.

**Rex Force**, vice president for health sciences at ISU, said the reorganization of the division will help improve communication and organizational efficiencies within the KDHS, and across the University.

“We wanted to pursue this reorganization because we’re interested in having the right kind of representation for our growing programs,” Force said, “For example, we have the most comprehensive training for nursing in the state, so becoming a college is a benefit to them.”

The current School of Nursing will now be called the College of Nursing. Anita Smith will replace Interim Dean **Nancy Renn** as the new dean for the College of Nursing, and will start in August 2018. Smith is currently with the Bureau of Navy Medicine at the Defense Health Headquarters in Falls Church, Virginia, serving with the rank of captain. She has previously held academic appointments at the University of South Alabama and Point Loma Nazarene University.

The current School of Health Professions and Office of Medical and Oral Health will merge, and will now be called the College of Health Professions. **Laura**

**McKnight**, has been appointed as dean for this college. McKnight is currently the program director and clinical associate professor for dietetics at ISU, and has been working for ISU for over 20 years.

“I am very honored to take on this new role at ISU,” McKnight said. “I have been a faculty member in the dietetic programs at ISU for over 24 years, serving as program director for the past 10. Though it is difficult to leave something you have done for a long time, I'm looking forward to the opportunity to work with colleagues in the many health professions in the College of Health Professions and foster an environment of interprofessional collaboration.”

The existing School of Rehabilitation and Communication Sciences will now be called the College of Rehabilitation and Communication Sciences. **Kathleen Kangas** has been appointed as dean of this college. Kangas is currently the chair and a professor in the School of Rehabilitation and Communication Sciences, Speech Pathology and Audiology. She has been working for ISU for 28 years.

The fourth college in the KDHS, the College of Pharmacy, will continue to operate under the direction of Dean Paul Cady and will celebrate its 100th year with a centennial celebration in 2020.

ISU's Executive Vice President and Provost **Laura Woodworth-Ney** said of the plans to reorganize the KDHS, "This new structure will enhance ISU's role as a leader in the health sciences, and will facilitate the expansion of health science programs to meet state and industry demand."

Students in the health professions programs at ISU make up one-third of the student body, and many of the health sciences education programs continually grow their applicant and enrollment numbers each year. As Idaho's only state-mandated university for health professions education, KDHS administrators say they are committed to their mission of providing leadership in the delivery of rural health care by educating caring and competent professionals across all dimensions of health.

● [Idaho State University](#)

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## ISU, Eastern Idaho college sign articulation agreement

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Students seeking a business degree will now be able to start at the College of Eastern Idaho and complete an Associate of Arts in General Studies and then easily continue to **Idaho State University** to complete a Bachelors of Business Administration degree.

The partnership provides students specific advisement and an opportunity to complete an associate's degree and a bachelor's degree in a total of four years (2+2). The agreement states that students matriculating this coming fall semester to CEI would have “catalog rights.”

This means that students who maintain continuous enrollment would lock in the catalog requirements at ISU established the specific year that they enrolled at CEI.



“This is historic. This is the first 2+2 agreement for CEI,” said Lori Barber, dean of general education at CEI. “As a community college we’re going to see where the community leads us and what our students want as we add more 2+2 programs. ISU is here in Idaho Falls to partner with us to build more pathways for students.”

A typical 2+2 program is one that begins at a community college with a two-year associate degree. Coursework taken at the community college then transfers to a four-year program, allowing students to complete a bachelor’s degree in the same time it would have taken if they had initially gone to a four-year institution. Students enter community college with a four-year degree in mind and with advisement, select courses at the first institution that align with their ultimate goals.

**Michelle Munoz**, transfer coordinator for ISU said, “Students will see themselves as university students from day one. If a student wants to do business, here’s your pathway to a four-year degree at ISU. They begin to think of themselves right away as university business students.”

- [Idaho State University](#)

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## BSU to try monthly subscription-based degrees

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**Boise State University** and inaugural partner CapEd Credit Union are rolling out a unique program that will enable more than 75,000 Idaho-based credit union members to pay a monthly subscription rate for online college courses, allowing them to earn a college degree or certificate at a significant cost savings over traditional tuition.

The new program, known as Boise State Passport to Education, will provide students individualized academic advising and student success coaching in a high-quality, affordable online degree program. Students pursuing their bachelor’s degree can concentrate coursework in a variety of academic areas that match their career and life goals.

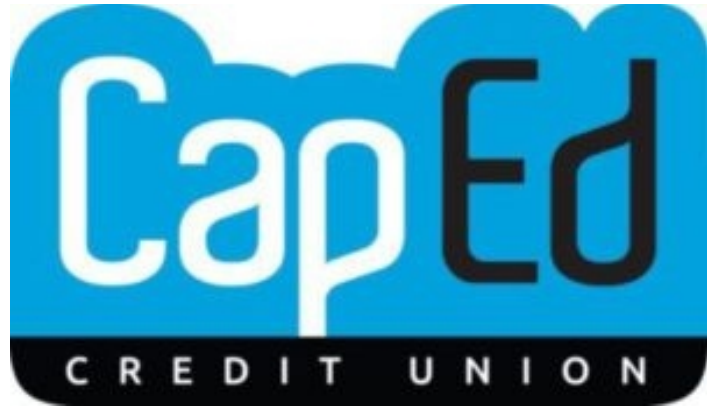
“We are moving college tuition in the right direction and opening doors for anyone to earn their degree. We’re taking tuition from the level of a house payment down to the level of a monthly car payment, for many people, and with online technology, we’re removing barriers to a degree regardless of a student’s life stage or location,” said **Gordon Jones**, dean of Boise State’s College of Innovation and Design. “By collaborating with corporate and community partners, as a public university we are finding innovative ways to increase access and affordability to earning a college degree for students statewide and beyond.”

By delivering a college degree that is affordable, targeted to individual career needs and accessible across the state, the program addresses several of the most pressing challenges facing Idaho higher education today — combatting cost and student debt, delivering skills and competencies employers are demanding, and boosting Boise State’s efforts as a leader in moving Idaho toward its goal of

ensuring that 60 percent of adults between 25 and 35 have a college degree or certificate.

Through the public-private partnership with CapEd, credit union members and employees can customize the amount of time and money they spend on their education with two subscription tiers — they may take up to six credits per term for \$425 per month, or up to nine credits per term for \$550 per month.

“We are honored and excited to be the inaugural private partner with Boise State University to provide higher education, to our members and employees, that is affordable and available regardless of their location or personal circumstances,” said **Todd Erickson**, CEO of CapEd Credit Union. “Our collaboration with Boise State University will benefit our members and community as individuals are able complete degrees and certifications with an affordable, monthly subscription.”



Passport to Education will allow students to complete their degree at a pace that fits their lives, giving them the flexibility to balance their educational goals with employment and family considerations.

Students may be eligible for credit for prior learning and experience, which may shorten the time required to earn a degree. Students also will be able to maximize transfer credits they previously earned at other institutions.

- [Boise State University](#)

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## Results in from SAT and ISAT scoring

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Preliminary statewide results from assessments taken by Idaho students this spring show encouraging increases in students’ proficiency in English and math through the ISAT and a puzzling dip in 11th graders’ performance on the SAT college entrance exam.

The Idaho Standards Achievement Test is administered to all public school students in grades 3-8 and 10, gauging their proficiency in English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics. In math, the percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced increased in six of the seven grades compared to a year ago, with grade-level gains ranging from 1% to 4%. In fifth grade, the percentage remained the same as last year’s. The overall proficiency for the state was 43.3%, up from 41.9% last year. In ELA, the percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced increased in five of the seven grades compared to a year ago, with gains of 1% to 3%. In seventh and 10th grades, the percentage remained the same as last year’s. Idaho’s overall proficiency was 53.7%, up from 52% in 2017.

“Idaho educators are working hard to align instruction to rigorous standards and equip students to meet the expectations of the new assessments, and that effort takes time to calibrate. So in this fourth year it is good news to see improvements in student performance across the board,” Superintendent of Public Instruction **Sherri Ybarra** said. “Some districts are seeing really significant increases.”

Increased percentages of proficient students are being seen in many districts, small and large, in all parts of the state, according to a State Department of Education sampling of ISAT results across Idaho. Examples include:

- Marsing School District saw a 13% increase in 10th graders’ math proficiency (83 percent of students proficient) and 6% in ELA (91 percent of students proficient).
- Nez Perce School District students increased math proficiency by 13.5%, showing an average proficiency across all grades of 69%.
- McCall-Donnelly School District 10th graders increased ELA proficiency by 8% (95 percent of students proficient) and math proficiency by 9.5% (69 percent of students proficient)

In some Idaho classrooms, every student scored proficient or advanced. Students in a Lava Elementary School teacher’s classroom in the Marsh Valley Joint School District registered 100 % proficient in math, the third consecutive year that teacher’s class hit that mark. And in the West Ada School District, math students in all of one Heritage Middle School teacher’s classes came in 100% proficient this year.

Ybarra noted that more schools and districts are using tools provided by the State Department of Education, such as interim assessments to help inform their instruction as students prepare for the spring test.

Students finished testing in late May, and individual score reports are available through school districts.

Local educators will be able to review school-level data and ensure it is accurate before results are finalized. The SDE will use those results, along with other indicators, to identify schools for recognition and support under Idaho’s new accountability system in August.

A new interactive K-12 School Report Card will be unveiled in December.

Nearly 20,000 Idaho 11th graders took the SAT college entrance exam in April. Idaho requires all students to take a college entrance exam to graduate from high school, and most juniors take the SAT because a state contract provides the test at no cost to the student, and results can be forwarded to four colleges for free. SAT results also provide school districts a tool for monitoring annual progress toward college and career readiness in local Continuous Improvement Plans.

Districts and schools received reports this month, and students could access their individual reports last month.

● [Department of Education](#)

# Cult/Com/Trans



The Idaho Museum of Natural History on the Idaho State University Pocatello campus recently received a new shark fossil from Monsanto. A spiral of fossil shark teeth, *Helicoprion*, was exposed during mining operations at the Monsanto mine in Soda Springs. Measuring over 8 inches in diameter, the fossil adds a new story to museum's growing collection. (photo/Idaho State University)

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## New Sandpoint rail bridge gets state approval

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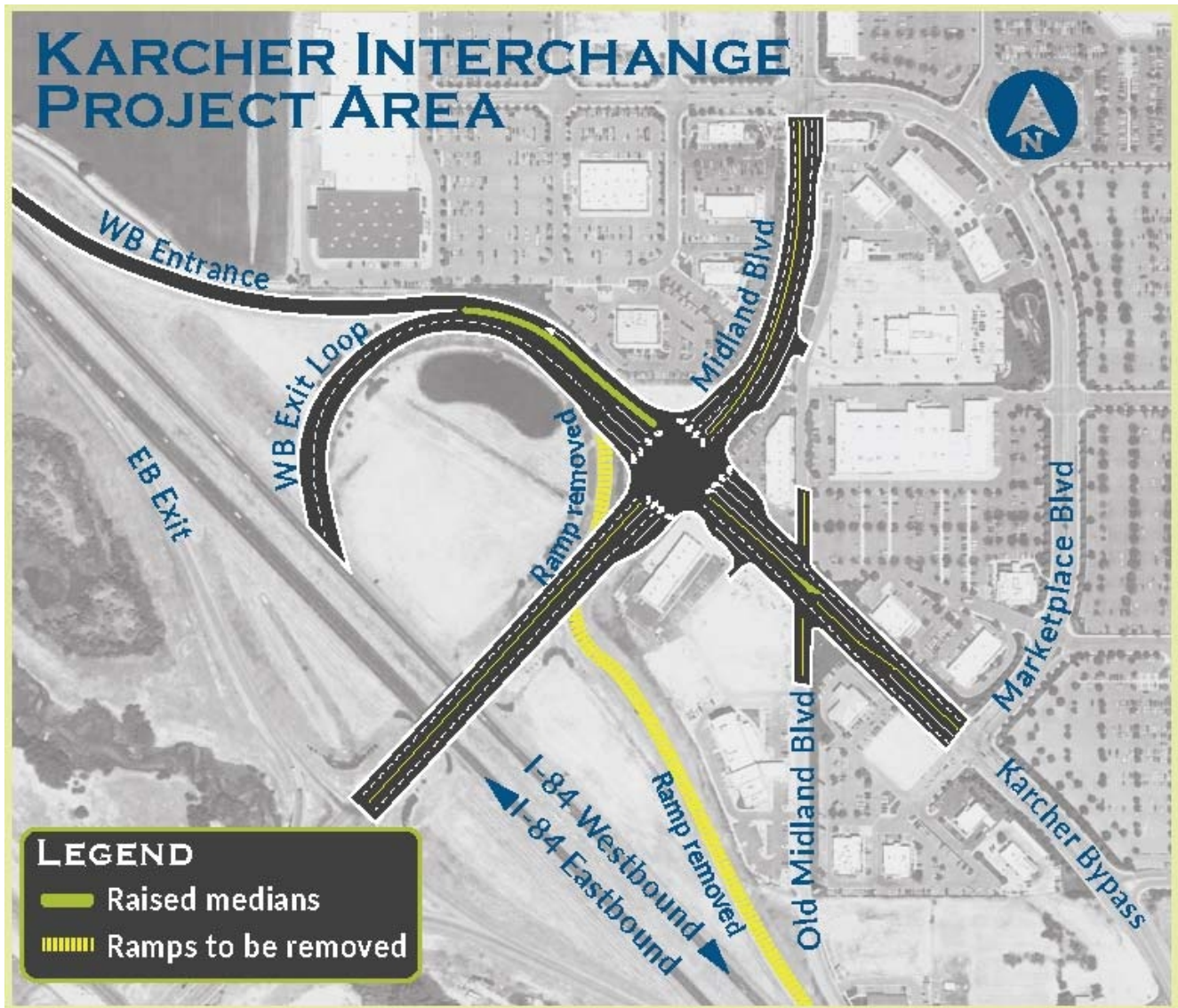
**Idaho Department of Lands** Acting Director **David Groeschl** issued a final order Thursday approving BNSF Railway Company's application for a permit required to construct a second rail bridge adjacent to and west of the existing rail bridge across Lake Pend Oreille and Sand Creek in Sandpoint.

The hearing officer appointed by IDL to conduct a public hearing on the application issued his preliminary order earlier this week, recommending approval of the permit application. A public hearing was held in Sandpoint on May 23, 2018.

The IDL administers the Idaho Lake Protection Act and regulates encroachments and activities on, in or above the navigable lakes in Idaho, including Lake Pend Oreille. BNSF Railway must obtain a permit from IDL under the Idaho Lake Protection Act and corresponding administrative rules before project construction.

The company still must obtain approval and permits from other government agencies for the project.

- [Department of Lands](#)



Construction work will be underway through July at the Karcher interchange on I-84 at Nampa. The Idaho Transportation Department is overseeing the project.

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## Ski areas

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Information available on the [SkiTiger.com](http://SkiTiger.com) Northwest ski site. Details return in the fall.

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## Bestselling books

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Top selling paperback non-fiction, from the [Pacific Northwest Independent Bestseller List](#), by IndieBound and the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association, based on reports from regional independent booksellers.

\*Regional bestseller not on national IndieBound list.

1. Killers of the Flower Moon - David Grann, Vintage, \$16.95, 9780307742483
2. On Tyranny - Timothy Snyder, Tim Duggan Books, \$7.99, 9780804190114
3. Sapiens - Yuval Noah Harari, Harper Perennial, \$22.99, 9780062316110
4. Hillbilly Elegy - J.D. Vance, Harper, \$16.99, 9780062300553
- \*5. The Soul of an Octopus - Sy Montgomery, Atria, \$16, 9781451697728
- \*6. How to Fight - Thich Nhat Hanh, Jason DeAntonis (Illus.), Parallax Press, \$9.95, 9781941529867
- \*7. The Boys in the Boat - Daniel James Brown, Penguin, \$17, 9780143125471
8. Shoe Dog - Phil Knight, Scribner, \$20, 9781501135927
9. You Are a Badass - Jen Sincero, Running Press, \$16, 9780762447695
- \*10. How to Love - Thich Nhat Hanh, Parallax Press, \$9.95, 9781937006884
- \*11. Astoria - Peter Stark, Ecco, \$15.99, 9780062218308
- \*12. Lab Girl - Hope Jahren, Vintage, \$16, 9781101873724
- \*13. Evicted - Matthew Desmond, Broadway, \$17, 9780553447453
- \*14. Daring Greatly - Brene Brown, Avery, \$17, 9781592408412
- \*15. On Trails - Robert Moor, S&S, \$16, 9781476739236

# Calendar

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## June

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- 1 Last day for county write-in candidates to pay filing fee for placement on the General Election.
  - State Board of Education meeting. Boise.
  - Last regular day of public school (many districts).
- 4 Last day for a candidate of a state or legislative office which appeared on the primary election to contest the nomination of any candidate for the same office by filing in the proper court.
- 5 Deadline to apply for state permits for controlled big game hunts.
  - Secondary summer school begins (many districts).
- 6 State administrative rules bulletin publishes.
  - Upper Snake River Advisory Committee meeting. Boise, Idaho Falls.
- 7 Public School Funding Formula Committee meeting. Boise.
- 11 Last day for a county or political subdivision candidate or a supporter or opponent of a county or political subdivision ballot measure which appeared on the May 15 election to request a recount
  - Board of Correction meeting. Boise.
- 12 Campaign Finance Reform Interim Committee (legislative). Boise.
  - Idaho Anti-Trafficking Coalition meeting, sex trafficking in Idaho. Boise.
  - Public School Funding Formula Committee meeting. Idaho Falls.
- 15 Legislative Council meeting. Boise.
  - State unemployment rate data released.
  - State Land Board meeting. Boise.
  - Board of Examiners meeting. Boise.
  - Possible Snake River Basin Adjudication information meeting, status conference.
- 18 Criminal Justice Reinvestment Oversight Committee meeting. Boise.
- 19 Idaho Transportation Board meeting. Shoshone.
  - Public School Funding Formula Committee meeting. Coeur d'Alene.
- 20 State Board of Education meeting. Twin Falls (College of Southern Idaho).
  - Public School Funding Formula Committee meeting. Lewiston.
- 22 State Board of Education meeting. Idaho Falls.
- 25 Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee meeting. Three days. Pocatello.
- 26 Water Supply Bank meeting. Boise.
- 29 Capital for a Day event. Dayton.
- 30 End of state fiscal year.

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## July

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- 1 Effective date for many state laws passed in 2018 legislature.
  - Beginning of new state fiscal year (FY19).
- 4 Independence Day. State and federal holiday.
  - State administrative rules bulletin publishes.
- 12 Idaho-China trade office manager visit to Idaho begins (eight days).
- 14 Last day for the County Clerk to examine election register and note challenges from the Primary Election.
- 17 State Land Board meeting. Boise.
  - Board of Examiners meeting. Boise.
  - Possible Snake River Basin Adjudication information meeting, status conference.
  - State Parole Commission meeting. Boise.
- 18 Idaho Transportation Board meeting. Boise.
  - Public School Funding Formula Committee meeting. Boise.
- 19 Last day for the Secretary of State to approve requested modification of election procedures for the August 28 election.
- 20 Release of June's 2018 labor force and nonfarm payroll data for Idaho.
- 25 Fish & Game Commission quarterly meeting. Idaho Falls.
- 26 Idaho Water Resource Board meeting. Moscow.



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## Kevin Satterlee

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Crossing through the Swanson Arch Monday, as freshmen do on their first day on campus, Kevin Satterlee began his work as Idaho State University's 13th president.

In a letter to faculty and staff Monday, Satterlee said he was ready to work with faculty, staff, students, community members and business leaders to build a bright future for Idaho State.

"Together, we can topple our biggest challenges and take on our most ambitious dreams. Together, we can grow our academic profile, enhance the student experience, bolster research, and so much more," he wrote. "Together, we can build the future of Idaho State."

Satterlee was named the University's new president by the Idaho State Board of Education on April 5.

State Board of Education Member Richard Westerberg said the board was looking forward to working with Satterlee to bring Idaho State University to the next level. He described Satterlee as a man who was born, raised and educated in Idaho, and a man with great vision.

Satterlee served as Chief Operating Officer at Boise State University since 2015, and a vice president since 2010. He has served in a variety of positions at Boise State since 2001. Prior to that, Satterlee was a deputy attorney general in the Idaho Attorney General's Office for six years. While there, he was lead counsel to the State Board of Education, State Board of Pharmacy, State Board of Nursing, and the State Liquor Dispensary. Because of his unique relationships and historical knowledge, Satterlee also served as special counsel to the president at Boise State on issues related to the State Board of Education, legislative and policy issues, athletic department issues, and institutional compliance.



He received his bachelor's degree in political science from Boise State University (magna cum laude) and was named a Top Ten Scholar of the University. He received his law degree from the University of Idaho (magna cum laude).

In his first 90 days, Satterlee plans to visit with faculty, staff, students and community members to learn more about the strengths, needs and goals of the University.

- [Idaho State University](#)

Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter on June 20 announced the reappointment of **Debbie Critchfield** of Oakley to a five-year term on the State Board of Education. The former Cassia County School Board member was appointed to the eight-member state board in July 2014 to fill the unexpired term of Ken Edmunds of Twin Falls. Critchfield is now the board's vice president.

Critchfield, public information officer for the Burley-based Cassia School District, also is active in local Republican politics and has a bachelor's degree in political science from Brigham Young University. Her new term on the State Board of Education runs until July 1, 2023.

- [Governor Otter](#)

The Idaho State University Institute of Rural Health in the Kasiska Division of Health Sciences has hired **Diana Campanella Schow** to head an area health education center or AHEC, created to improve access to primary care in southeast Idaho's underserved and rural communities.

Schow took the helm this spring as center director of the Southeast Idaho Area Health Education Center on the ISU campus. The center, one of three in the state, will serve 24 counties in the region and promote interdisciplinary training for ISU health professions students and continuing education resources for working health practitioners. Its AHEC Scholars Program will provide health professions students with specific opportunities to focus on rural and underserved communities.

Affiliated with ISU since 2002, Schow has served as coordinator of the Hispanic Health Projects, a grants specialist, and an adjunct lecturer in the Department of Anthropology and ISU Honors Program.

- [Idaho State University](#)

# A year ago



**2017:** The state of Idaho on June 23 at Kamiah auctioned another U.S. Forest Service timber sale as part of a state-federal partnership to increase management activities on federal lands in Idaho. (*photo/Idaho Department of Lands*)

In the *Idaho Weekly Briefing*:

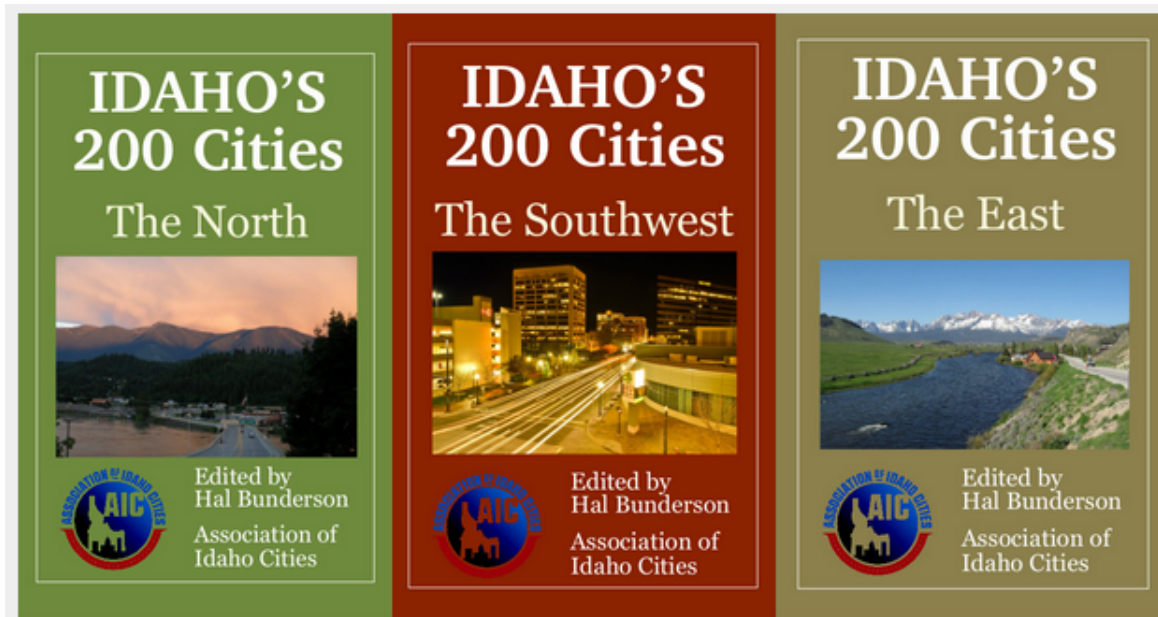
- Micron Technology, Inc., on June 22 announced that the company has appointed Sumit Sadana as executive vice president and chief business officer. His addition to the executive team will accelerate the company's ability to execute on its strategic goals.

- Growing up on a farm in Fremont County, Idaho, Dr. J. Richard Hess never thought he was preparing himself for a career in advanced manufacturing. Today, after 20 years as a key player in Idaho National Laboratory's biomass program, he sees innovative possibilities for all the materials he was surrounded by as a youth.
- The Idaho Department of Lands auctioned 14 Payette Lake lots for deeded ownership at a public auction in Boise on June 23. The land sales generated \$7,895,500 for the endowment funds that support State Hospital South and teacher education programs at Idaho State University and Lewis-Clark State College.
- Senator Jim Risch and U.S. Representative Steve Chabot (R-OH), chairmen of the Senate and House Small Business Committees, introduced bipartisan, bicameral legislation to improve cybersecurity resources for small businesses.
- The William M. and Karin A. Eames Advanced Technical Education and Innovations Complex is the new name for an Idaho State University campus facility formerly known as RISE, the Research and Innovation in Science and Engineering Complex. The newly named facility will serve as a state-of-the-art technology and research complex, focused on expanding College of Technology programs and providing space for related research.
- The University of Idaho got a boost from the U.S. Forest Service as part of a national movement to expand use of wood products in construction. A highly competitive Wood Innovation Grant will help kick into high gear the construction of the Idaho Arena, a 4,700-seat sports and activity center on the Moscow campus.
- Boise State University's fall 2017 classes will begin at 1 p.m. Monday, Aug. 21, so students and faculty can enjoy a rare opportunity: To see a near-complete solar eclipse from the heart of campus.
- The Idaho Transportation Board on June 23 unanimously approved a resolution Thursday that allows the Idaho Transportation Department to move forward with an agreement to develop a public private partnership to build the Northgate Interchange (Siphon Road) in Bannock County.
- Starting June 19, a portion of Indian Creek Pathway in Nampa will be renovated and under construction. Work is scheduled to take place throughout the summer with an estimated completion date of September 16. While the pathway is under construction it will be closed for public use. It is important pedestrians stay off the pathway during the construction period because it will not be safe for recreational use.
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation increased flows from Lucky Peak Dam by an additional 500 cubic feet per second on June 23, at 8 am. The Boise River reservoir system continues to be in active flood control operations in this unusually high water year.

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## Idaho's 200 Cities – North, Southwest and East

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Three new books arriving this week: The series of Idaho's 200 Cities, with one title each focused on the norther, southwestern and eastern parts of the state.

And more than that too: There are also three books of Idaho trivia, a challenge for anyone who thinks they know the state.

The books are the culmination of a decade of work by the Association of Idaho Cities, spearheaded by former legislator Hal Bunderson. The books were written in part by Bunderson and in part by people all over Idaho, in cities from Moyie Springs to St. Charles.

The detail is startling, and the insights often surprising - there's a lot more to these communities than almost anyone but locals know (and not all of them). One of the most useful parts of the books is the section on turning points, describing the developments and events that caused the city to grow and change, for better or worse, the way it has. A of lessons can be found there.

If Idaho is of interest - and if you live there it ought to be - then these books belong on your bookshelf. They're available now, and in both paperback and full color hardbound flavors.

[You can find out more about them, and order them, here.](#) (They're also available [at Amazon.com](#)).