

Belly dump trucks unload gravel to elevate U.S. 20. (See overpass work pp. 4-5.)



# 6 BITS

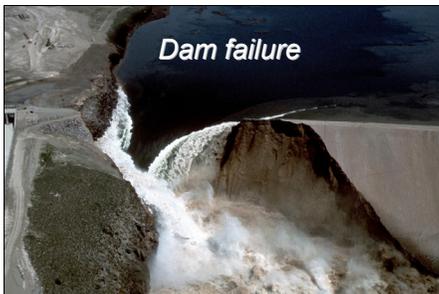
Thornton Interchange project June 1, 2016

NEWSLETTER FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF ITD DISTRICT 6 – JUNE 2016 (VOLUME 16, ISSUE 2)

## The dam broke!

Forty years ago this month the Teton Dam broke, flooding towns and farms in eastern Idaho. Eleven people and thousands of animals died, and property damage totaled more than \$500 million. The flood swept away everything in its path, including roads.

Below are pictures of the destruction, which occurred June 5, 1976. A new earthen dam on the Teton River north-east of Newdale began leaking and then gave way as it was filling and nearly full for the first time, releasing more than 250,000 acre feet of water. ■



Damage on U.S. 191 (now U.S. 20) in Rexburg, caused by flood water. ■



Photo courtesy of Lori Wiederrick

Camilo Serrano, Trent Maupin and Corey Finn excelled at the District 6 roдео in Idaho Falls June 9. Trent went on to again win the state roдео June 14 (see bottom).

## Maupin, Robinson duplicate win

Trent Maupin, Sugar City maintenance, won the District 6 Truck Rodeo in the Idaho Falls maintenance yard June 9, earning 1,953 points.

In second place was Camilo Serrano, Dubois maintenance, with 1,893 points, and placing third was Corey Finn, Rigby maintenance, with 1,882 points.

## New maintenance staff

Jeff Call is District 6's new maintenance coordinator. He replaces Randy Drake, who retired. Jeff previously was a transportation technician principal on Design-Construction Team A.



Jeff Call

New maintenance foremen are JR Grotjohn and Cody Schmidt, who will supervise Idaho Falls and Arco crews, respectively. JR, who replaces Don Gilstrap who retired, comes from District 2 in Lewiston, while Cody, who replaces retiree Dan Hawkins, comes from District 4 in Hailey. Both men are excited to join Maintenance Operations in District 6. ■



JR Grotjohn



Cody Schmidt

Taking fourth place was Stacey McCurdy, Arco, with 1,823 points. Trent, Camilo and Corey qualified to compete in the state roдео June 14 in Idaho Falls. McCurdy was named an alternate for the event.

Scott Robinson, Sugar City, won first place in the foreman category, with 1,835 points, while Jeff Call, Rigby, finished second, with 1,565 points.

Trent and Scott won the District 6 roдео in the Arco maintenance yard last year. Trent now has six district wins since joining ITD in 1999. ■

## Maupin repeats

Trent won the State Truck Rodeo for the second year in a row in Idaho Falls June 14, amassing 2,170 points.

Camilo came in second, earning 1,998 points. He and Trent will represent ITD at the national truck competition in Colorado this fall.

The performances of the duo, combined with the fine showings of Scott Robinson and Corey Finn, pushed District 6 to the top of the team list, with 7,590 points.

In third place at the state competition was Sarah Woolley of District 4. ■

# District 6 honors employees for years of service

New District 6 Engineer Jason Minzghor presented service awards to employees at the employee benefit luncheon April 27 at the Chuck-a-Rama café in Idaho Falls.

## 5 Years

- Clayton Beard, Driggs
- Joe Merritt, Salmon
- Vint Wykle, Ashton
- Tracy Brewer, Ashton
- Shannon Esser, Arco
- Lucas Richins, Driggs
- Lori Wiederrick, Gibbonsville

## 10 Years

- Robert Holbert, Idaho Falls

## 15 Years

- Korby Hansen, Materials

## 20 Years

- Mitch Walters, Rigby

## 25 Years

- Troy Monk, Residency A

## 30 Years

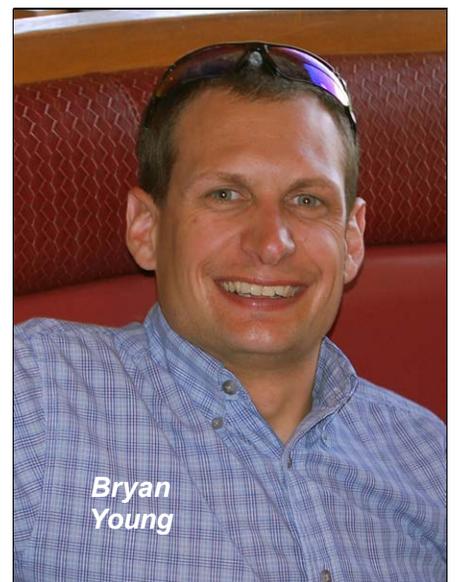
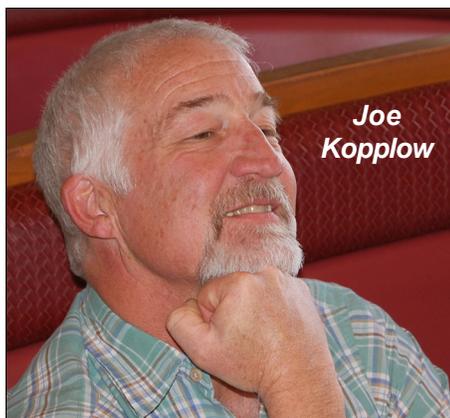
- Craig Stewart, Arco
- Cleston Mason, Sign Crew
- Eric Verner, Project/Program Lead

## 35 Years

- Lyle Holden, Dubois. ■



Jason Minzghor (right) congratulates Craig Stewart for 30 years of service to District 6.





Brad Richards

23rd annual ITD Truck Rodeo in Idaho Falls



I.F. maintenance yard



St. Anthony Work Camp inmate

Ron Butler

Inmate

**State and local roadeos in D-6**

*Thanks to all who participated June 9 & 14.*



Paul Bennett

# Thornton

Day 58

6/1/16

*Troy Monk (center) and Joe Kopplow (right) discuss project with contractor (left) after installation of over-pass pile casings in May.*



# District 6 hosts appreciation brunch at Clark Hill



**Matt Davison**

**Brad Richards**



*Left: Wade Schroeder and Ron Miller. Above: Melissa Moyer.*



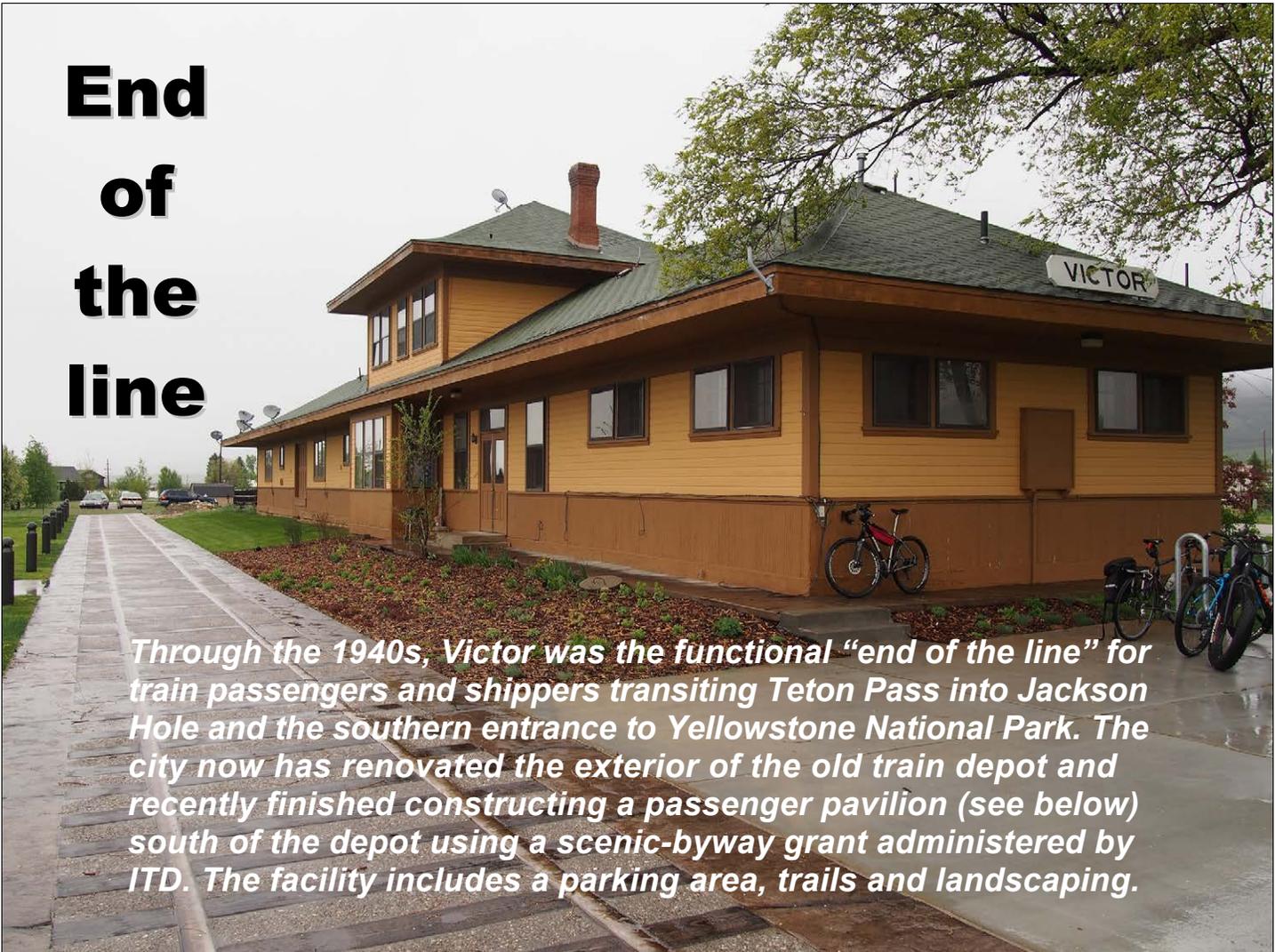
**Bill Shaw**

**Karen Hiatt**

**Jeremie Pettingill**

*Employees enjoy breakfast at the Clark Hill rest area on U.S. 26. Approximately 110 people attended the appreciation event June 1.*

# End of the line



*Through the 1940s, Victor was the functional “end of the line” for train passengers and shippers transiting Teton Pass into Jackson Hole and the southern entrance to Yellowstone National Park. The city now has renovated the exterior of the old train depot and recently finished constructing a passenger pavilion (see below) south of the depot using a scenic-byway grant administered by ITD. The facility includes a parking area, trails and landscaping.*



*The ribbon-cutting for the new pavilion was May 21. The building has restrooms and picnic tables for use by residents and motorists traveling Idaho 31 and 33.*



New hires Kelly Staples, Derek Noyes, JR Grotjohn, Cody Schmidt and Davon Findley.

## Comings and Goings at District 6

New employees are Kelly Staples, Port of Entry inspector trainee; Derek Noyes, associate engineer, Residency B; JR Grotjohn, transportation technician principal (TTP), Idaho Falls maintenance (see **New...**, page 1); Cody Schmidt, TTP, Arco maintenance (see **New...**, page 1); and Davon Findley, transportation technician apprentice, Leadore maintenance.

**Promotions:** Jeff Call to transportation staff engineer assistant (TSEA) in Maintenance Operations (see **New...**, page 1).

**Departing employees:** Donovan Shipton, transportation technician, Mud Lake (Dubois maintenance).

**Retirees:** Helen Brown, storekeeper, 19 years; Dan Hawkins, Arco maintenance foreman, 38 years; Craig Stewart, Arco maintenance, 30 years; Joe Martinez, Idaho Falls maintenance, 41 years; Paul Walker, Supply Operations supervisor, 30 years; Mike Poole, Residency B, 28 years; Lyle Holden, Dubois maintenance foreman, 36 years.

### In Memoriam

**Owen Terrel "Terry" Larson**, 76, died March 24, 2016. He is the father of Eric Larson, source manager on the Planning and Resources Team.

**Leda Mae Wood Madsen**, 87, died April 6, 2016. She is the mother-in-law of District 6 Records Inspector Myron Williams.

**Wayne Raymond Barrow**, 88, died May 20, 2016. He was a former 36-year employee in the District 6 office, where he worked as a laboratory technician and records inspector. He retired in the early 1990s.

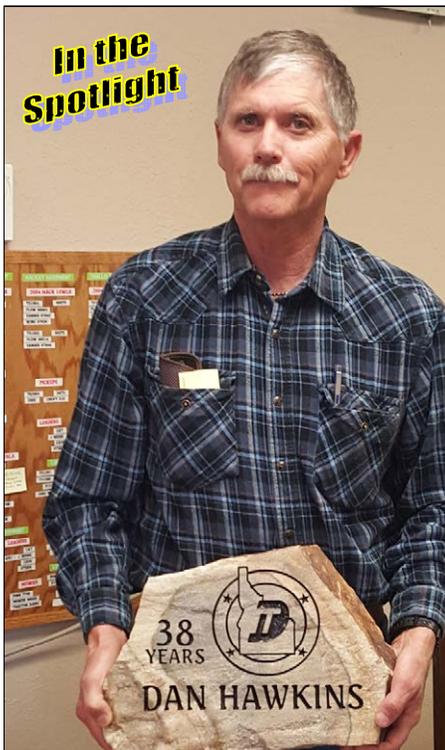
District 6 expresses condolences to family and friends of the bereaved.

### New Arrivals:

Kallan Levoy Bailey, son of Jeanne (and Jerred) Bailey, staff engineer, Residency B. The infant came June 7, measuring 8 pounds, 7 ounces, and 21 inches. ■



Kallan Levoy Bailey



Dan Hawkins

Above is Dan Hawkins with a rock that ITD presented him upon his retirement as Arco foreman. He and Kimbol Allen found the flat stone in Dan's area, and Ken Hahn had it engraved to reflect Dan's rock-solid performance over 38 years at District 6. He was like a rock. ■

## Opinion

### Old Friends

Technical Records Specialist Eileen Grende called April 5 saying someone was in the front office to see me.



**Bruce King**  
Public  
Information  
Specialist

It was a man I didn't know who was looking for an old friend by my name.

"I saw you on TV and thought you might be him," Dennis Porter said. He and his old friend Bruce King spent their boyhood together in Poplar, Montana.

I was sorry I wasn't his friend. "I know of other Bruce Kings," I said, "but I haven't met them. One was governor of New Mexico."

Dennis apologized for interrupting my day. We exchanged pleasantries, and I promised to notify him if I happened onto his Bruce King.

I returned to my desk thinking of old friends. Life has a way of separating us, but the friendship lasts.

Famed medieval Catholic theologian Thomas Aquinas observed, "There is nothing on this earth more to be prized than true friendship."

Expressing similar sentiment, American puppeteer Jim Henson said, "There's not a word yet, for old friends who've just met."

"We'll be friend[s] 'til we're old and senile..." —*Anonymous*

It's not too much to say that "...the most valuable antiques are dear old friends." —*H. Jackson Brown, Jr.* ■

*"There is nothing on this earth more to be prized than true friendship."*

—Thomas Aquinas