



The Interchange

June 2008

Board tours rest areas, fish farm

The ITD Board got a little something different with its annual tour to District 4 on May 21. Not only did the group have a day full of talk about rest areas, ports of entry and airport expansion, but also a look at the local fish industry in the Hagerman valley.

The talks in the morning started in an airplane hangar at the Jerome County Airport to hear a presentation on land-use planning for the airport, Jerome County and Jerome city. Next was the long-term plans of Cross Roads Point near the I-84/U.S. 93 Junction. While interested in the development, the board was not pleased with the request for planned

Tour, continued on pg. 2

Learning road safety

Road safety part of Minico Ag Expo

RUPERT — How do roads affect an industry like agriculture? A lot.

That was one reason the Idaho Transportation Department was invited to take part in the Minico High School Ag Expo for the second year. But for Rupert Maintenance workers, it was an opportunity to talk about road safety.

“I could be doing a lot of other things, but this is good. The kids enjoy it and they like to know what we do,” said Max Segovia, TT in Rupert, who told the kindergarten through third grade students about snow



Valerie Elquist tells Rupert area students a little about road signs during the Minico High School Ag Expo on May 8 at the Minidoka Fairgrounds.

plows.

“I love to come out and do this. The teachers and kids, they just love this,” added Valerie Elquist, who discussed construction zone

safety.

The Ag Expo, hosted by the Minico FFA and attended by students from throughout Minidoka

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D4 Relay team gathers \$3,849

FILER — The ITD District 4 Relay for Life team completed a successful year of fundraising with the conclusion of the Twin Falls Relay for Life on May 16-17 at Filer Elementary. Over-

all, the D4 group raised \$3,849.25 for cancer research.

Though less than the inaugural season in 2007, the group still made an impact in the overall goal

Relay, continued on pg. 4

Elementary bridge engineering

TWIN FALLS — All you get is 250 toothpicks and 1.25 ounces of Elmer's glue to construct a six-inch bridge. Do it right and it might hold 100 pounds.

The first goal, however, is hope that it will hold the three-pound bucket.

From the start, just holding the bucket drew a gasp from a handful of fourth grade students at Morningside Elementary in Twin Falls on May 28. Watching the first bridge hold 24 pounds drew a big cheer.

The class was graded on the construction and design of their bridge, but breaking them was just for fun. Hanging a bucket to be filled with sand one cup at a time tested the strength of the structures.

"The kids just love this," said teacher Carmela Rush.

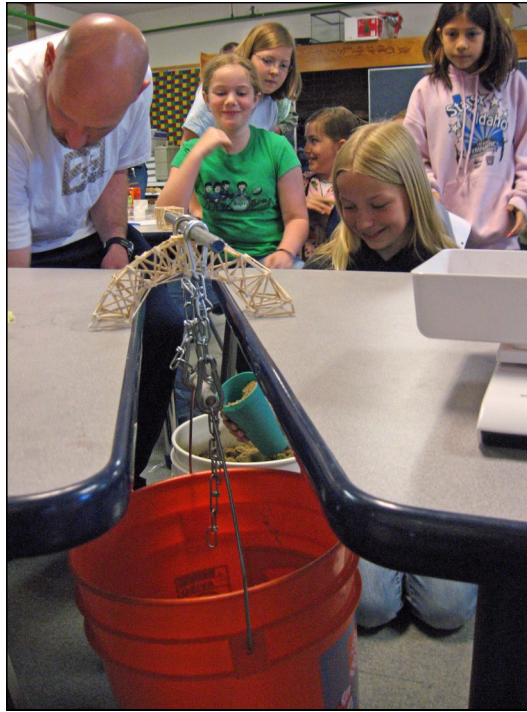
Recruited to help teach the kids about bridges and how to design them was Rush's father, ITD staff engineer Steve Tonks.

Tonks helped conduct the contest in two schools this spring — Hagerman Middle School and Morningside Elementary.

The contest had more than just fun for the students, it really did have a math lesson involved.

"Knowing how the geometry of a structure can help carry a larger load is a small lesson but means a lot for this age group," Tonks said.

Tonks, a former bridge designer for the Washington Department of Transportation,



Morgan, bottom right, was second place in her class at Morningside Elementary with an arch bridge that held 24 pounds. The first place bridge held 40 pounds.

used his knowledge to help design toothpick bridges for his children. One held over 100 pounds before it started cracking. Another nearly 70 pounds.

"After it cleared 100 pounds my son asked we saved the bridge," Tonks said.

Learn *(cont. from pg. 1)*

County, featured wagon rides, a host of farm animals, prizes for students and many educational booths.

"The main goal is to educate our younger kids about agriculture but it's so much more than that," Minico agriculture teacher Brandi Milliron said. "Transportation has a big part in agriculture. It's more than just cows and plows."

Lessons in how to safely travel behind plows, how big and heavy the trucks are, why workers were orange were only some of the questions. In addition to giving a short lesson about snow plows and orange signs, each teacher received a packet of ITD materials that included an activity book, state maps, pens, and other items that may help give in-class lessons on safe bicycle riding and ideas for parents.

"This is awesome for kids to see and learn some of this stuff, and teachers really love it," Milliron said. "We appreciate the booth and the kids love it."

Tour *(continued from page 1)*

road expansion and construction to be funded immediately by the state rather than the developers driving the growth.

Avoiding a ferocious wind all day, the tour turned indoors to Hagerman City Hall for a presentation on reconstruction plans of the Hagerman Rest Area. This was followed by a tour of the Hagerman Fish Culture Experiment Station, a research lab at the Hagerman Na-

tional Fish Hatchery and run by the University of Idaho. There, the board got an opportunity to learn about the fish industry in the Hagerman Valley, food and product research at the lab and see several varieties of local fish, including the Snake River sturgeon.

The board retired to the wind-free confines of the Shoshone EOC for a day full of meetings on May 22.



Board members Gary Blick and Monte McClure listening to U of I researcher Mike Caston in the Fish Culture Experiment lab.

Life and Times in District 4



Top adult Scouting honor given to Devin Rigby

For the past quarter century, District 4 Engineer Devin Rigby has devoted much of his life to helping Idaho's youth learn leadership skills through Scouts. For his time, he was honored this spring by the Snake River Council of the Boy Scouts of America with the Silver Beaver award – the highest council-level award

given to adult volunteers as a means of recognizing distinguished service to youth on the local level.

Rigby was one of eight Scouting volunteers to receive the award by the Snake River Council this year.

“All of it's been fun, it's been good,” Rigby said, “and it doesn't end here. That's the exciting part of it.”

Summer Recipe

By Darrell McFarland

Garlic-Butter Parmesan Corn

Ingredients:

- 8 medium ears sweet corn in husks
- 1/3 cup butter, cubed
- 1/2 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese



Directions:

Soak corn in cold water for 20 minutes. Meanwhile, in a small saucepan, combine the butter, garlic and salt. Cook and stir over medium heat until butter is melted; set aside 2 tablespoons.

Carefully peel back corn husks to within 1 in. of bottoms; remove silk. Brush with remaining butter mixture. Rewrap corn in husks and secure with kitchen string.

Grill corn, covered, over medium heat for 25-30 minutes or until tender, turning occasionally. Cut string and peel back husks. Drizzle corn with reserved butter mixture; sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. **Yield:** 8 servings.



Joyce Shaw tries her hand at driving truck in the ITD simulator last month. She had too much fun ramming other vehicles — it was a lot easier in automatic transmission setting.

Wanted to Buy A 10- to 14-foot flat-bed trailer. Contact Kathy Williams—886-7815

Fill This Space

Let us all know about your personal accomplishments, **BIG** family trips, or some of the fun stuff your doing this summer

Send to Nathan Jerke for the next newsletter at 886-7809 or nathan.jerke@itd.idaho.gov

THE NEXT DEADLINE IS JUNE 28

New and Improved in D-4

New to the District

- **Mike Wolf**, TTA, Twin Falls Maintenance

Job Changes

- **Brad Lynch**, TT, Lateral to Hailey Maintenance

Caption this



It sure looks like Skip Cristobal is tossing fresh asphalt at Dave Steen, but it's hard to tell. If you can figure it out and write an appropriate caption to go along with it, you might get a slap on the back from Skip.

Submit your entry for the June caption writing contest to nathan.jerke@itd.idaho.gov.

The winner will be announced in the July issue of The Interchange.



District 4 Board member Gary Blick presents the 2007 Adopt-a-Highway Outstanding Group of the Year Award to the Employees of Idaho Power during the May 23 ITD Board meeting.

Did You Know ...

It was 1948 when the words "World Famous Potatoes" first showed up on the Idaho automobile license plate .

Relay (continued from page 1)

to raise \$200,000 for the local charity. Once all funds are turned in, the Magic Valley Relay for Life is expected to reach that lofty goal, said ITD team captain Bob Johnson.

The ITD team made a good showing in other events, with Walter Burnside winning the "Look good-Feel good" Wacky Fashion Show — showing off cleavage, his pink teddy and balloon dress under a "Sears-sucker" suit — and a second place showing in the Road to Recovery Race.

"The relay itself was lots of fun with a large turnout," Johnson said. "The District 4 team would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who donated money, assisted in cooking, and ate our Wednesday lunches. Our rifle raffle and bake sale were also very successful."



Above: Connie Jones, Mike Scott and his grandson, Nathan Jerke and James Bennett pull a disappointing second in the road race.

Right: Walter Burnside was a sight to see in the Wacky Fashion Show. Good enough for first place.



Join the Mini-Cassia Relay For Life
 June 6-7 on the Rupert Square, begins at 5 p.m.