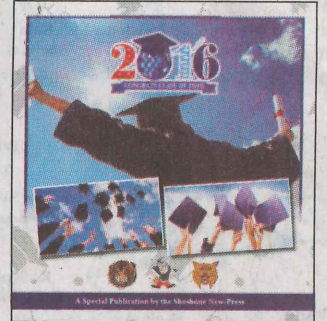


# SHOSHONE NEWS-PRESS

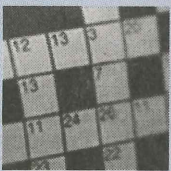


## INSIDE



Weather  
**A2**

Sports  
**B1**



Leisure  
**D3**

ON THE  
LIGHTER SIDE



### Have you herd?:

An animal rescue farm in Massachusetts says it's experiencing a goat overload — and it's not kidding.

The MSPCA-Nevins Farm in Methuen recently received nearly 50 goats and is asking people to step forward and give them new homes.

The goats are an assortment of alpine, pygmy and angora mixes. They were voluntarily turned over by an owner in Montague who couldn't handle the growing herd. Some are nursing kids and pregnant does.

Nevins Farm barn manager Gia Barss says people who want to adopt the goats should have experience raising them and be willing to adopt more than one because goats are highly social.

Most of the goats tested positive for a bacteria that causes intestinal upset and parasitic infections, but they're expected

## Remembering the giants, 20 years later

By JOSH MCDONALD  
Staff Reporter

It was 20 years ago today that the iconic Bunker Hill smokestacks were demolished in grand fashion in front of thousands of local citizens.

Now, two decades later they are a figment of memories of a bygone era for the people who lived in the Silver Valley during the Bunker Hill's glory years.

For those who may have not been in the area or even alive at that point, we are going to take a short trip through history.

For more than 100 years the Bunker Hill Mine was the crown jewel of the Silver Valley and had been one of the few mines to remain consistently profitable throughout its years in operation.

In the Winter of 1982 the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) had finally taken notice of the excessive amounts of dangerous health issues that had arisen from the millions of tons of mine tailings and constant toxic fumes from the stacks that had seeped into the soil and waters surrounding the mine and had contaminated them with dangerous levels of the heavy metals cadmium, zinc, and lead.

By the Fall of 1983 the Bunker Hill and it's surrounding areas were hit with the dreaded and still much maligned Superfund tag.

Mining operations throughout history have been one of the primary recipients of the label of a 'Superfund Site' but it was the long history of mining combined

with toxic Bunker Hill Smelting Plant that pushed the limits of the local resident's safety and forced the EPA's hand.

Bunker Hill Mine would shut down completely after its investors filed bankruptcy in 1991.

Despite the mine and its facilities being closed for five years prior to their demolition, the stacks had remained a welcome sight for people who regularly traveled through the area, especially the weary valley residents who saw the blinking red lights as a sign that they were almost home.

Former Shoshone County resident and Kellogg graduate Barb Lyle was one of the locals that found such joy in the sight of the stacks.

"When I was going to college in Spokane and I would come home on the weekends, the blinking lights would always let me know I was home," said Lyle.

A group of locals even tried to get the stacks on the historic registry, but were unsuccessful in their venture due to issues with being able to maintain to over 700 foot tall main stack and not having the funding to keep the large lights on top of the stacks powered for travelers and aircraft to see.

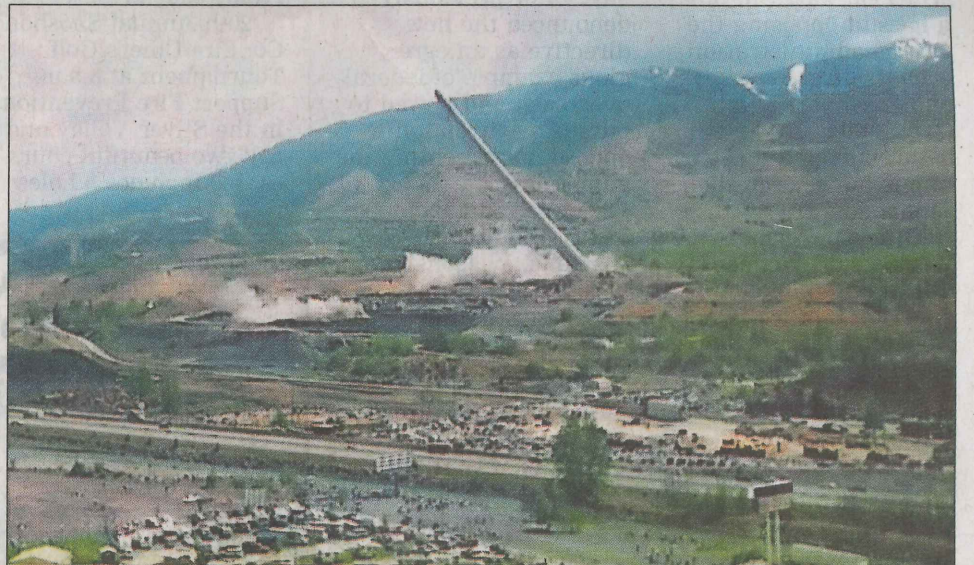
At that point the EPA had spent more than \$12 million in cleanup efforts including demolishing several structures that sat directly in the smelter's path of destruction, including the Silver King School up Government Gulch in Smelterville.

See STACKS, A3

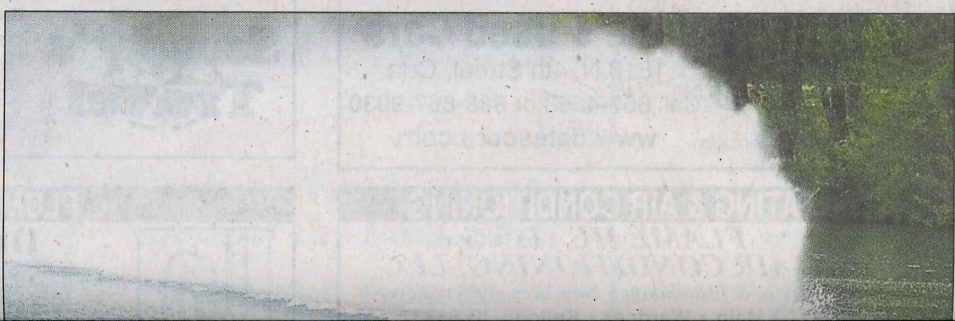


Above: This photo of two of the four Bunker Hill Smelting Plant Stacks was taken the morning of their demise.

Below: Large crowds gathered all over the I-90 corridor to watch as the stacks fell. This photo was taken from above the rock quarry in Smelterville behind the old truck stop and drive-in theater.



## Jet Boats on the Coeur d'Alene!



## Silver Express Bus Service saved!

By CHANSE WATSON  
Managing Editor

The Silver Express Bus service has met its financial goal through

bus service operational in the future.

Now that the service has been saved, county commissioners and Silver Express manage-



# STACKS

from A1

The event was to be treated as a festival/holiday for the residents of Shoshone County and was planned for Memorial Day weekend so that the event afford people the ability to travel home if they were coming from a distance.

A carnival was planned and set up in the Silver Mountain parking lot, shirts, and other memorabilia were sold with the phrase 'Blowing Our Stacks' emblazoned across the front.

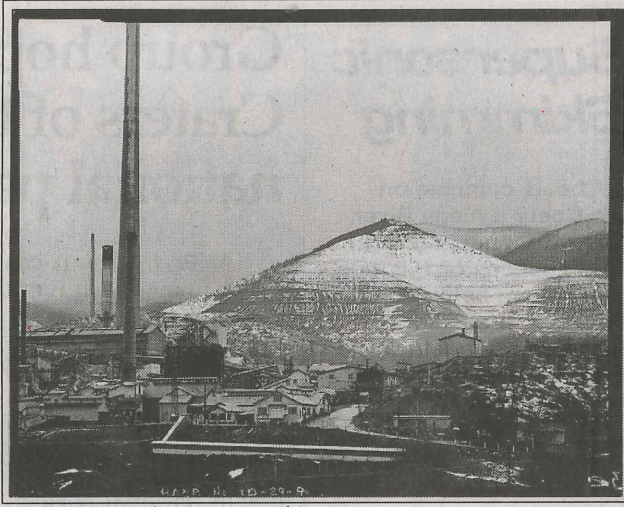
A raffle was even held with the winner be granted the privilege of pushing down the ceremonial plunger to begin the explosion.

Citizens took to the any open area, outdoor sports venue, parking lot, and even climbed the mountain sides to ensure that they had a good view of the destruction.

I myself can remember sitting in a small camp of lawn chairs on the rocky lot between McDonald's and the Gondolier gas station that day to watch the event with my family.

At 1 p.m. speakers at various viewing sites began to deliver small orations on the history of the mine, the stacks, and what to expect as we as a community moved into the future.

The blast was to begin at 2 p.m. and the masses would be informed by sirens that sounded at



Courtesy photo

All four stacks as they stood in the winter of 1980.

various intervals leading up to the ignition.

Crews from a Minnesota blasting firm spent several days preparing for the blast and used almost 500 pounds of explosives that were packed to bases of the stacks.

Specialty cuts were made in the stack structures so that the crews could have some control where the massive cement chimney's would fall during the event.

When the final siren sounded and all eyes were directed toward Smeltonville, the ceremonial 'plunger' was pushed and the blast was both felt and heard by all.

What still stands out about that moment is that despite the large amount of explosives that were used, the stacks seemed defiant as they slowly toppled, almost as if they themselves did not want to go

down.

The eerie, haunting feeling of remorse was felt by most of the crowd too as members of the generations from the previous decades were actually brought to tears by the sight of their makeshift welcome banner toppling to the ground.

Twenty years later, the sting of the slowly deteriorating mining industry is still being felt, as is the EPA's continued efforts to cleanup the damage that was created during the century of 'good times' that preceded the destruction, but people still talk about the stacks.

From titans of industry that signified the vast wealth of the county to the blinking lights that welcome people home, the stacks will forever be immortalized as the protective giants of the Silver Valley.

# Records

## Tuesday, May 24

- Paul Bernhardt, 37, of Wallace, Idaho was arrested for driving under the influence. Bail status is unknown.
- Ricky Swick, 36, of Kellogg, Idaho was arrested for failing to appear for

the original charges of driving without privileges/ reckless driving and petit theft. Total cash bail is set at \$6,000.

- Joel Serrell, 23, of Cataldo, Idaho turned himself in for failing to appear for the original charge of domestic violence. Cash bail is set at \$10,000.

# WEEDS

from A1

responsibility to control noxious weeds on their property by Idaho Code Title 22, Chapter 24, 22-2407 and the county has a legal obligation to enforce the code. Several cities have adopted weed and blight ordinances in addition to state laws that encourage landowners to control the ongoing problem of noxious weeds. In addition to choking out grass in lawns, noxious weeds are also harmful to domestic animals and wildlife as well as infecting their habitat. Several noxious weeds cause skin and eye irritation to humans and when ingested, can cause life threatening liver damage to animals.

The spray days will be a win-win as participants will learn about noxious weeds and

have their spray tanks filled at no charge. Landowners are encouraged to bring their own sprayers or may borrow backpack sprayers from the county. Law dictates that we can only fill actual herbicide spray containers. All borrowed spray equipment must be returned by 7:30 pm. Participants will receive a brief training on methods of application, equipment calibration and safety. Spray tanks will then be filled with appropriate herbicide designated for turf (lawn). The herbicide was donated by the Inland Empire Cooperative Weed Management Area. A maximum of three (3) gallons per person will be given allowing for up to one (1) acre of coverage. Brochures with additional information on Basic Weed Management, Weed Identification and

Sprayer Calibration will be available.

Providing free herbicide, training and weed identification information has proven very beneficial to landowners where this program has been implemented.

The first spray day will be June 2nd, across from the former Pinehurst RV on Division Street in Pinehurst, 4 - 7 pm. The second spray day will be June 14th, 4 - 7 pm, at the Osburn County Shop, 58834 Silver Valley Road located between Osburn and Silvertown. If it is raining, we will not have the spray day.

All Shoshone County residents are welcome to participate in the free spray days. Please contact Carol Young with any questions or to volunteer a couple of hours during the event. 753-5475 or 659-7075 or cyoung@co.shoshone.id.us.

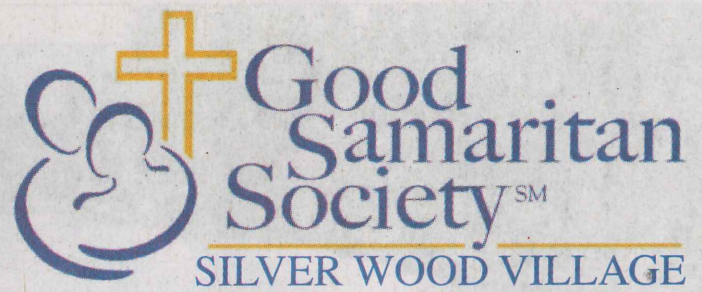


## The Best Weekends are Spent at the Snake Pit!

### Friday Night Prime Rib

Prime Rib 4:00-8:00 pm

10 oz. cut for \$19.99



# Job Openings:

## Senior Living-Universal Worker

To work in our Assisted Living/Apartment unit Wednesdays and Thursdays evening shifts and Fridays and Saturdays night shifts. Position requires an Assistance with Medications certificate. We will provide training for the class if applicant meets other requirements.

### Afternoon C.N.A.'s

Sign on Bonus  
2:00pm-10:00pm

### Resident Assistant's

Provides one on one assistance, assist with passing snacks, pouring beverages, and other needs. The opportunity to become certified as a C.N.A. will be provided by Silver Wood.

### Recreation Assistant

Mon. thru Fri., 1:00pm-8:00pm

A career at Silver Wood Village is about the privilege of playing a profound role in so many people's lives, and feeling as blessed by their presence as they by yours. If you want to make a profound difference in people's lives call 208-556-1147 for more information or apply online at [www.good-sam.com](http://www.good-sam.com).

### Benefits Package includes:

- Medical, Dental and vision Insurance
- Life and AD&D Insurance
- Employee Assisted Program
- Retirement Plan
- Paid Time Off
- Paid Holidays

All qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or protected veteran status.

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WE WILL BE OPEN MEMORIAL WEEKEND & DAY!



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ADD SOME COLOR TO YOUR WALLS!

