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IDAHO'S MOVE TO SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING

Jerome's voters will have their chance to get in on the movement in November

By Ben Botkin
Times-News writer

JEROME — In the early days of recycling, adherents faced the task of separating cardboard, plastic and aluminum into different bins.

That era's drawing to a close. Single-stream recycling, a time-saving method that lets residents put all their recyclable materials in one bin, is growing in popularity among Idaho cities. It started in Twin Falls this year. Kimberly's City Council

talked about a single-stream pilot project last month. Boise began single-stream recycling the summer of 2009.

The next prospect could be Jerome, a city that has decided to let voters cast ballots in November on whether they want each household to pay an extra \$3.50 a month for recycling, with the option to pay \$1 extra and receive coupon discounts to area businesses.

In cities where single-stream recycling has taken root, the transition takes months of planning, and officials say it's crucial for the public to know what's expected by the time the recycling bins arrive.

From there, though, it catches on quickly. "If you judge it on the tonnage that we are no longer taking to the landfill, it's been good because our tonnage has been down,"

See **RECYCLING**, Main 2

RECYCLING IN IDAHO AND BEYOND

Twin Falls: In March, the average household put 26.5 pounds of recyclables into bins. That's up from an average of 4.8 pounds per household in March 2010, before the city's single-stream program started.

Boise: In Boise, households recycled an average of almost 20 pounds each month in 2008 before single-stream recycling began. Since the program started, the average has grown to about 30 pounds per household.

National: Between 1980 and 2009, the U.S. rate of recycling has grown from less than 10 percent of municipal solid waste to nearly 34 percent, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Sixty-one million tons of materials were recycled in 2009.

Redistricting journey begins: Twin Falls County districts in play

By Ben Botkin
Times-News writer

The journey from Twin Falls County into Owyhee County isn't known for its heavy highway traffic.

Obscure county roads connect the two counties, marking a path through a long rural swath of Idaho.

The lack of state or interstate highways connecting the two counties will come into play for the Magic Valley as the Redistricting Commission starts redrawing boundaries of Idaho's 35 legislative districts.

The roads are important, since District 23, which includes western Twin Falls County and Owyhee County, doesn't meet the rules passed by the Legislature in 2009 requiring counties in one district to be connected by a prominent highway system.

It's one more hurdle that the Magic Valley will face in trying to maintain its political clout during redistricting.

Ultimately, however, drawing new lines will reflect

See **REDISTRICTING**, Main 2

FOOD AND A FINE CAUSE



DREW NASH/Times-News

Twin Falls Police Officer Jennifer Westendorf takes out food to customers for tips to benefit the Special Olympics Thursday afternoon at Perkins Restaurant and Bakery in Twin Falls.

ALSO MAKING NEWS

Preschool benefits last into adulthood, study says

CHICAGO (AP) — Preschool has surprisingly enduring benefits lasting well into adulthood, according to one of the biggest, longest follow-up studies of its kind.

Better jobs, less drug abuse and fewer arrests are among advantages found in the study that tracked more than 1,000 low-income,

mostly black Chicago kids for up to 25 years.

Michael Washington was one of them. Now a 31-year-old heating and air conditioning contractor, Washington attended a year of preschool at Chicago's intensive Child-Parent Center Education Program when he was 4. **Story on Business 3.**

Body found after blaze burns down mobile home

By Bradley Guire
Times-News writer

A body was found in a trailer that burned to the ground in Monday's early morning hours, according to the Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office.

Officials have yet to make a positive identification of the body or provide details as to gender or age.

A press released described the trailer as "fully engulfed" when emergency responders arrived at 2194 E. 3100 N., which is approximately six miles west of Joslin Field, Magic Valley Regional Airport. Deputies and the Salmon Tract Fire Department arrived shortly before 7 a.m.

Details on how the fire started and whether the person died as a result of the fire or died before the fire are still under investigation, according to sheriff's office spokeswoman Lori Stewart.

The sheriff's office and fire marshal are investigating the blaze.



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