



Idaho State Judiciary E-News

As the Third Branch of Government, we provide access to justice through the timely, fair, and impartial resolution of cases.



Human Resources News



Last Week for Open Enrollment

This is the **last week** for open enrollment. If you want to make changes to your health insurance or enroll for the Flexible Spending Account (FSA), it **must be completed** by 12:00 midnight Mountain Time on **May 17, 2013**. If you need your IPOPS password reset, please email hr@idcourts.net and it will be reset for you.

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In Passing . . .

Patti Tobias' mother, Jean Burke (87), passed away this week. No services are planned, but notes of condolences may be sent to Patti and her family at 3881 S. Suntree Way, Boise, ID 83706.

John Meinenhofer Selected as Magistrate Judge

Third Judicial District Administrative District Judge Thomas J. Ryan announced today the selection of John Meinenhofer of Boise, Idaho as a Magistrate Judge for Adams County to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge James Peart. [Full press release](#)

New Judge Story: Hon. Scott Axline

From the moments of one's first contact with Judge Scott Axline it is apparent that he is candid, upfront and a straight shooter. And in a profession where your reputation is your life, such qualities serve you well. Along with a great sense of humor. [Full Story](#)

Governor Grants Clemency to Two Men

(BOISE) - Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter announced pardons for two men who served prison terms for drug trafficking, underwent substance abuse programming, paid restitution, successfully completed parole and now have good jobs, solid families and are contributing members of their communities. [Full press release](#) [Thornton pardon](#) [Hinckley Pardon](#)

Court Issues Request for Proposal (RFP) for New Case Management Solution

On May 6th, the Design and Implementation Team (a subcommittee of the Court Technology Committee) issued a request for proposal (RFP) for a comprehensive, fully integrated statewide court case management solution. The team is seeking proposals from qualified offerors for commercial off the shelf products to replace ISTARs and provide advanced functionality to include e-filing, a judge's interface (workbench), enhanced reporting, and much more. The RFP process will enable the team to fully evaluate all potential options available in the technology marketplace as the courts move forward with modernizing our case management application. Vendors are requested to provide responses by May 28th; the Design and Implementation Team will make a final recommendation to the CTC on July 11th. If you interested in learning more about the features and services requested, please visit the RFP web site at: <http://isc.idaho.gov/rfp>.

Links of Interest

- News Clippings: [05-10-13](#)
 Gavel to Gavel [this week](#)
 NCSC Federal Funding Report [05-03](#)

Summary of ISC|COA Published Opinions

[April 26–May 2, 2013](#)

Training & Education Corner

[Click here](#) for the Judicial Education website, including all upcoming & archived trainings for Judges, Clerks, and Court Reporters! [Click here](#) for Judicial Conferences or webinars.

HR Links of Interest

>> [HR Recruitment Report](#)
>> Health Matters: [Wellness News](#)
>> [Click here](#) for Employee Handbook, salary affidavits, or travel vouchers.

Court Committees agendas and minutes

Minutes

[April 18-19, 2013 Administrative Conference](#)

Judicial & Administrative Calendar

[Calendar](#) as of 04-26-13

NOTE: Due to security concerns, locations are not posted on the Website calendar.

Your Corner . . .

Note: "Your Corner" pages are intended as an [archive](#) of articles of interest to a particular group. Once a story has been included in the E-News, it will then be "parked" in a group's page, as appropriate.

[Judges](#) (last updated 03-09-12)

[Elected/Deputy Clerks](#) (last updated 09-07-12)

[Court Reporters](#) (last updated 11-09-12)



IT & ISTARs Support

To better support your technical issues, you can now send an email to helpdesk@idcourts.net. Or you may call (208)334-3868.

Archived E-News

[Click here . . .](#)

Bingham County Holds Sesquicentennial Open House

On March 14, 15, and 16, 2013, Bingham County sponsored an Open House at the Courthouse to commemorate "Idaho at 150," a territorial sesquicentennial celebration. Bingham County was established in 1885 during the territorial period.

Display stations highlighting the County's historical records lined the hallways of the courthouse. Each station featured an employee or volunteer who gave a short presentation. Fourth grade students from local elementary schools were issued a special invitation and those attending were treated to several interactive learning activities to supplement their study of Idaho history.

Volunteers dressed as early historical Bingham County residents were in the halls. Each had a question mark pinned to their clothes signifying they would love to talk to visitors and introduce themselves and tell about their lives. Commissioner Mark Bair portrayed Bingham County's first Commission Chairman, Henry O. Harkness.



It is estimated that approximately 1,000 students and residents toured the courthouse during the 3-day event.

A big drawing card was the re-enactment of an 1887 murder trial held in Blackfoot, Territory of Idaho v. Alexander Woods. Mr. Woods was accused of murdering his wife, Sarah Woods, in Pocatello, which at the time was located in Bingham County.

Deputy Court Clerks Pam Eckhardt and Kristie Bell were excited when they found the old file while completing a scanning project. In addition to documents relating to the case, some of the evidence was also found within the file jacket. This evidence consisted of a .41 caliber bullet, a portion of the victim's skull, and a telegram.

When the file was brought to the attention of County Clerk Sara Staub, she felt that a re-enactment of the trial would be a great addition to the sesquicentennial event. She condensed the transcript of the 3-day trial into a one-hour screenplay and recruited briefing attorney Lauren Murdoch to direct the play.



continued ...

Problem-Solving Court Graduations & News

Kootenai County DUI
May 14 @ 6:00 p.m.
Kootenai County Courthouse, Rm. 8
Coeur d'Alene

Ada County Felony I and II
May 14 @ 6:00 p.m.
Ada County Courthouse
First Floor, Commissioners' Hearing Room
Boise

Kootenai County Felony
May 20 @ 3:00 p.m.
Kootenai County, Rm. 12
Coeur d'Alene

Canyon County Misd/DUI
May 20 @ 5:00 p.m.
Canyon County Courthouse
Public Meeting Room
Caldwell

Clearwater County Felony
May 21 @ 3:00 p.m.
Clearwater County Courthouse, Rm. 1
Orofino

Minidoka/Cassia Juvenile
May 21 @ 3:30 p.m.
Judge Bellwood Bldg.
Rupert

Joan Wood Pilot Project
May 28 @ 4:00 p.m.
Centennial Courtroom
Bonneville County Courthouse
Idaho Falls

Caribou County Misdemeanor/DUI
May 29 @ 5:30 p.m.
Caribou County Courthouse, Rm. 301
Soda Springs

To have graduations included in the Court
E-News, email the information to
knelson@idcourts.net

Bingham County Holds Sesquicentennial Open House . . .

Feeling that the only thing missing from the play was some music, Lauren's husband, Dr. Matt Murdoch, composed and performed an original ballad, the "Ballad of Sarah Woods." The chorus to the song summed up the motivation behind the crime, "Must have been a mighty rage, that left her lifeless in the sage," as the defendant admitted to a reporter, "that he was so wild with rage that he knew not what he was doing."

Jurors were selected from the audience at each performance and, although males and females filled the jury box, each was given a mustache to wear to illustrate that in 1887 only males were allowed to serve as jurors.



Mr. Woods was hung at the courthouse on August 17, 1888, after two daring escapes and a one-month stay of execution issued by the governor. The presiding judge in the case was Judge Case Broderick, who, coincidentally, heard the case on appeal confirming the district court verdict.

The re-enactment was held in the County's large courtroom with five performances scheduled. Actors in the play included Magistrate Scott Hansen, attorneys Randy Smith, Mark Cornelison, Jim Archibald, Trevor Castleton, and Manuel Murdoch. Other actors included two former County Commissioners, Wayne Brower and Donavan Harrington, court reporter

Dan Williams, two employees from Indigent Services, Sharon Sturm and Susan Denny, the President of the Bingham County Historical Society, Marty Ellis, and five volunteer citizens, Larry Christian, Dan Neff, Jim Wilcox, Gary Eckhardt, and Matt Murdoch.