

Fish
passage
restored
in Big
Creek /
C1



Night Sky
Events
for
January /
C1



Post
Falls tops
Coeur
d'Alene
in 6A IEL
opener /
B1



COEUR d'ALENE PRESS

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Wednesday
January 7, 2026

37°
31°

UV 0 AQI 20
Low Good

Chance of Snow 50%

Snowfall 1.0"-3.0"

Seasonal snow 9.8"

Wind speed
SW 10-35 mph

BRIEFLY

Specialist Travis
Bucher will be promoted
to detective and
presented with a Life
Saving Award by the
Idaho State Police on
Thursday.

According to a
Monday
press
release,
Bucher
will be
recognized
for his
"decisive
actions
during a
medical emergency" in
May in Bonner County.
Bucher



After overhearing a report of a CPR in progress in the Sagle area, Bucher arrived at the scene within two minutes and found an unresponsive adult male without a pulse. Bucher deployed his issued Automated External Defibrillator, administered shocks and performed CPR until other emergency personnel arrived, a press release said.

Medical personnel on scene later credited Bucher's "quick response and lifesaving measures" with the man's survival.

"His calm demeanor, professionalism and adherence to training exemplified the highest standards of public service and emergency response," ISP said.

The promotional ceremony is set for 3 p.m. at the ISP District 1 Training Room, 615 W. Wilbur Ave.

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Demonstrators remember Jan. 6

By HAILEY HILL
Staff Writer

COEUR d'ALENE

— As snow and rain began to fall Tuesday, about a dozen people stood in solidarity along Government Way holding signs. The words "Signs of Fascism" accompanied varying slogans.

The inclement weather didn't matter to organizer Julie Celeberti.

"It's Jan. 6," Celeberti said. "That's why we're here."

The day marked five years since the breach of the U.S. Capitol building during Congress's certification of the 2020 presidential election results.

"It's a day we never want to see happen again," said Hayden Lake resident Karen Sines.

Sines argues that there are parallels

between the events of Jan. 6 and instances of violence within the last century.

Her sign, which received honks from passersby, read "Our grandparents fought fascism; will you?"

"I just think of the things our grandparents must have sacrificed in the name of democracy," she said. "Being out here is the least we can do."



HAILEY HILL/Press
Hayden Lake resident Karen Sines holds a sign along Government Way in Coeur d'Alene on Tuesday.



Incoming Mayor Dan Gookin alongside his wife, Brie, takes the Oath of Office given by Municipal Services Director/City Clerk Renata McLeod.

Gavel passes to Gookin

New Cd'A mayor
outlines priorities

By BOB KIRKPATRICK
Staff Writer

Dan Gookin was sworn in as Coeur d'Alene's new mayor at Tuesday's City Council meeting.

"This is great — good city stuff as opposed to some of the stuff we have to deal with that's not so pleasant," Gookin said. "This was pleasant."

The mayor outlined his priorities.

"I'm going to build bridges between us and the other organizations around NIC — the county — and the school district," Gookin said. "I'd like to see us complete some projects that we've kind of left on the shelf gathering dust — tackle the budget issue — and make sure council is more actively involved with the process."

See GOKIN, A8

Westlund looks to 'set the standard'

Attorney Jack Mosby joins Post Falls City Council

By CAROLYN BOSTICK
Staff Writer

Mayor Randy Westlund's first act after being sworn into office Tuesday was to address concerns about transparency on his choice of selecting a council candidate for Seat No. 5.

"For the first time ever, we are recording and livestreaming this during the regular meeting so that everyone can see the process unfold," Westlund said. "This is maximum transparency and it's exactly the process that Trump used with his nominees that needed Senate confirmations."

He said professionalism and competency were his priorities in a candidate when

he nominated attorney Jack Mosby for his newly open seat.

"Post Falls is going to be an exciting and forward-looking city. We will reward innovative thinking, find new ways of doing things and set the standard for what it means to be a conservative city in Idaho," Westlund said.

The majority of the council members voted for Mosby, with one vote no from Nathan Ziegler.

Prior to the meeting, City Councilor Samantha Steigleider noted that past appointments for Seat No. 2 and Seat No. 6 and said the council interview process "had drawbacks."

See WESTLUND, A8

History finds life in Cd'A

Museum of
North Idaho closing
in on anniversary
in new home

By BILL BULEY
Staff Writer

As executive director of the Museum of North Idaho, Britt Thurman puts in a lot of hours — more than she expected when she started five years ago.

Even when she's home on a day off, she finds herself doing research.

And she's fine with that.

"It's almost like a hobby and work at the same time," she said. "It kind of consumes my life, hopefully in a healthy way."

Thurman and her team are closing in on a year in the museum's new home at McEuen Park at the base of Tubbs Hill, and to say they love it might be an understatement.

Each day she arrives at the J.C. White House, more than 120 years old, Thurman is thankful and looking forward to what discoveries await, and also the warmth inside.

"We're here, we have heat, so we can be open year-round," she said. "There's an excitement with the possibilities."

The historic J.C. White House was moved from Eighth Street and Sherman Avenue in 2019. The renovation to house the museum cost about \$3 million, including site work, framing, electric, HVAC, insulation, windows and doors.

See HOME, A8

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