



Dreamstime/TNS

Here are five destinations to consider to jump-start your family vacation plans.

In today's paper
SPORTS: After 21 years, Jon Nettleton is retiring as Mountain View's boys basketball coach. **1B**



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Idaho Statesman



COURTESY CITY OF BOISE

A rendering of The Sherwood, a supportive permanent housing development slated for Boise's Lusk District

2 Boise panels approve first phase of low-income housing

BY MARK DEE
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A Boise-backed plan to house some of the city's neediest residents has taken two leaps forward, clearing the way for a multi-million dollar apartment plan for families teetering on homelessness to pursue construction near Boise State University.

Boise's Planning and Zoning and Design Review commissions separately signed off on approvals for the first phase of The Sherwood, a city-driven initiative aimed at helping low-income residents with few other options in Idaho's capital.

The 48-unit first phase would offer not just homes but also rental assistance and support

services like health and child care for residents on the corner of Sherwood and Morrison streets in the Lusk District, between the Greenbelt and Anne Morrison Park. A second phase, which would add 42 more apartments to the block, has received Planning and Zoning approval but must still undergo design review, city spokesperson Maria Ortega told the Idaho Statesman in an email.

Once finalized, the 90-unit complex at 860 W. Sherwood Road would join Valor Pointe and the expanding New Path apartments in Boise's portfolio of permanent supportive housing for locals struggling with chronic homelessness.

Like those projects, The Sherwood will work Our Path

Home, a consortium of organizations combatting homelessness, identify and aid future residents. CATCH Idaho, a homelessness relief group, will provide "on-site, voluntary supportive services focused on housing stability, connection to community resources, and long-term self-sufficiency," Executive Director Stephanie Day said in a letter supporting the application.

"As a permanent supportive housing community, The Sherwood will not simply provide apartments — it will provide stability," Day said. "Families exiting homelessness often face barriers related to income instability, trauma, childcare, health, and employment. ... Our approach is rooted in evidence-based practices and strong

coordination with community partners, ensuring residents have the support necessary to remain successfully housed."

IN IDAHO, PARTNERSHIPS ARE KEY TO LOW-INCOME HOUSING

To build The Sherwood, Boise is partnering with the Northwest Real Estate Capitol Corp., a Boise nonprofit developer specializing in affordable housing, which will construct, manage and own the property. They're the same people who built Valor Point, which serves homeless veterans. The Sherwood will be Northwest's 42nd affordable project since 2015, according to Vice President of Development John Vance.

SEE HOUSING, 3A

Bill would restore children's access to suicide hotline

BY BECCA SAVRANSKY
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The Idaho Legislature passed a bill in 2024 that required parental consent for people under 18 to access medical care in most cases. But it had unintended consequences. The bill restricted the ability for kids to get help from the suicide hotline — a resource they'd long been told to rely on.

Two years later, lawmakers are trying to fix it.

Lawmakers this week advanced a bill that would make several changes to the parental rights law.

The bill would create a specific carve-out for the suicide hotline, allowing children to receive immediate crisis and suicide prevention services — without parental consent — if they call 988. The law also allows the hotline to offer a follow-up call with the child within 48 hours to reassess their safety, review a safety plan and encourage communication with their parents or guardians. Offering follow-up calls is considered best practice, Lee Flinn, the director of the Idaho Crisis & Suicide Hotline,

SEE BILL, 3A

State legislators seek stronger 'abortion trafficking' law

BY CAROLYN KOMATSOULIS
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Idaho lawmakers are trying to strengthen the state's "abortion trafficking" law after a legal challenge.

The law bans people from helping minors get an abortion in a state where it's legal without a parent's consent.

Gov. Brad Little signed the law in 2023, the first legislative session after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in a Mississippi case in June 2022 that essentially overturned Roe v. Wade abortion protections nationwide.

Idaho Attorney General Raúl Labrador wrote at the time that doctors could face prosecution if they referred patients out-of-state for abortions, prompting concerns. Labrador later backpedaled on what he wrote, according to previous Idaho Statesman reporting.

Under the law, violators could get between two to five years in prison. Opponents sued to block enforcement the same year the law was enacted, but the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals let most of it go into effect.

SEE LAW, 2A

Proposal would change investigations of state legislators

BY SARAH CUTLER
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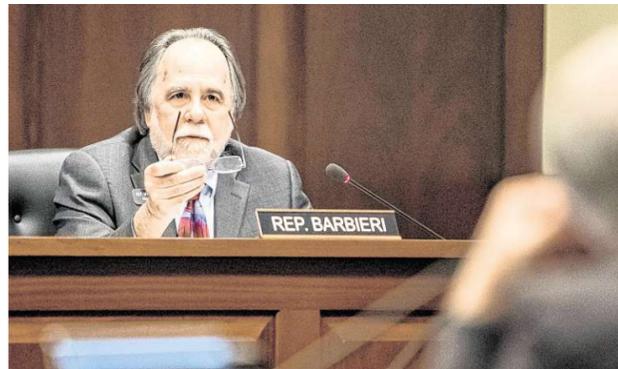
An Idaho lawmaker wants to revamp a state process for investigating legislators' possible ethics violations — with a proposal that would pull much of the process out of the public eye.

In his approximately 15 years on the House Ethics Committee, Rep. Vito Barbieri, R-Dalton Gardens, said he has seen lawmakers accused of violations forced to face the court

of public opinion before the severity of their offense is clear.

"Everything is so damaging to a reputation before you even have the facts," Barbieri told the Idaho Statesman. Under the current system, after the committee determines there is probably cause that a complaint against a lawmaker is true, the committee holds a public hearing with attorneys, experts and witnesses that the public can attend.

Those public trials, Barbieri said Thursday, are unnecessary: By that point, the committee



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Rep. Vito Barbieri, R-Coeur d'Alene, in 2021. On Thursday, he introduced a proposal to pull much of the Idaho House's ethics investigation process out of the public eye.

has already held its "private trial" to determine probable cause, and if the committee has decided the complaint is war-

ranted, it could go straight to the House floor.

SEE PROPOSAL, 2A



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