



DOUG LINDLEY/IDAHO STATE JOURNAL

Steven DeGiulio checks the power service to a home he is inspecting.

# Keeping an eye out

Inspector enjoys making sure homes are safe

BY SEAN LINTON  
For the Journal

BLACKFOOT — Steven DeGiulio wakes up every day not knowing if he will be climbing on top of three-story houses, peering through air ducts or squeezing into tight basement crawl spaces.

As a home inspector, DeGiulio has seen tree branches growing into the roof of one house and rodents in crawl spaces in another. However, after almost four years of owning Advantage Home & Property Inspections, he says, "the most common faults in homes come from irregular workmanship."

Prior to becoming a home inspector, DeGiulio, who was raised in Blackfoot, worked for 20 years in construction.

**FACES OF IDAHO**

**STEVEN DEGIULIO**

- Occupation: Home Inspector
- Hometown: Blackfoot

DeGiulio, who studied at Utah's School of Building Inspectors and later gained his certificate with the National Association of Certified Home Inspectors, is constantly continuing his education through various conferences and seminars that he attends nationwide. He also takes online courses, which allow him to be as thorough and knowledgeable as he can.

"It is important that you find someone who has earned their certificate,

**MORE INFO**

More information on Advantage Home & Property Inspections can be found on their Web site, [www.idahohomeinspector.info](http://www.idahohomeinspector.info), or by calling (208) 200-0385.

not just paid for it," he says. "If I'm not working, I'm studying."

His company, located at 614 S. Broadway in Blackfoot, works with multiple clients, both buyers and sellers.

He suggests everyone purchasing property should get an inspection so they know what they are getting into, good or bad.

"I remember inspecting a house that was six years old and one that was brand new," he recalls. "There was more wrong with the new house than the old."

The points he raises in his inspections are not only problems that need fixing immediately, but also improvements that

home owners should plan for in the future.

The inspection, he says, does just that. It usually lasts between two to four hours and involves checking everything from the plumbing and electrical to the foundation and the attic. DeGiulio says that he starts from the outside and works his way in. He notices roof damage or peeling paint and then moves to the interior, where he inspects exposed wire and galvanized pipe.

When he is finished, his inspection summary can range from 18 to 25 pages, complete with a plethora of pictures from the home he surveys.

After almost four years in the field, DeGiulio has no intention of changing his profession.

"I enjoy seeing different areas, meeting different people and making sure people get into their homes safe and sound," he says. "An inspection is the single most important investment a home buyer can make."