

# News Letter Journal

Weston County

June 29, 2017

Newcastle, Wyoming

Year 131 Week 26

## Hold On!



Whitney and Ed Beason and Collin Dudzinski assist a young adventurer to hone his rock climbing skills last week at the Weston County Library. This was part of the library's Build A Better World summer reading program for school age children. They meet each Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. at the library for stories, and various activities. See more summer fun photos on page 11. (Pamela Penfield/NLJ)

## Board not ready to arm school staff

Alexis Barker  
NLJ Reporter

forward on such a plan at this time.

Despite the recent passage of state legislation that could allow some school district employees to carry guns within school facilities, it is unlikely parents, students, and employees will see that sort of a change happening in Weston County School District #1 just yet. During the 2017 General Session of the 64th Wyoming Legislature, House Bill 194 was passed into law. It allows for the possession of firearms by school district employees on school property.

The bill establishes the school districts themselves as the rule-making authority, and also gives the final decision on whether or not to allow guns on school property to the governing body of each district.

On June 21, WCSD#1 Attorney Don Hansen presented a draft policy addressing guns on school property to the WCSD#1 Board of Trustees. He expressed a desire to gauge the interest of the board on the idea before spending time developing a policy that would govern guns on campus for the district, but the board didn't express any support with moving

"I am not ready to go there yet. I can't image what would come out of that, and it worries me just to think about all the liability of that. I am not comfortable with that yet," declared Trustee Tina Chick.

Other members of the board expressed support for her opinion, and Hansen explained that the district is not required to explore such a policy change at this time. He noted that he is not aware of any district within the state that has adopted a policy to date.

Superintendent Brad LaCroix shared that he is sitting on a state committee that is working on the topic, and indicated the belief that there are currently more questions than answers surrounding the issue. As such, he suggested that the board not be in a hurry to establish a policy yet.

According to LaCroix, questions that have been broached in the working group range from the actual purchasing of the guns, ammunition and training to the caliber of guns that would be allowed within the facilities. He

— See **Guns**, Page 3

## Road negotiation hits a snag

### City and landowner go back to the bargaining table

Alexis Barker  
NLJ Reporter

It appears the City of Newcastle may be nearing agreement with a local landowner that will allow continued access to the city's orange water tank and a trap shooting range just south of Newcastle, but passions continued to flare over the issue when the council was asked to consider a proposed solution at their meeting on June 19.

A recent land purchase near the water

tank raised concerns with local sportsmen after the acquisition of the land by Clay Anderson led to the discovery that there is no proper easement filed for the road that stretches through the property and provides access to both the city's orange water tank and a trap shooting range used by many residents.

For the past few months, the City of Newcastle has attempted to reach an agreement with Anderson that would allow access to continue, but it appeared little progress had been made until realtor Matthew Ramsey joined the discussion and brought a proposal before the city earlier this month.

Acting on Anderson's behalf, Ramsey appeared at the June 19 Newcastle City Council meeting at the invitation of City

Attorney Jim Peck to discuss a proposed subdivision of the Anderson property (which is outside of city limits). Ramsey was also on hand to present a proposed solution to the easement dilemma that had been approved and recommended to the council by the city's Planning and Zoning Board.

Ramsey explained to the council that he had been informed that he should go to the county first with the plat, or plans, for the proposed subdivision, but because the solution to the easement problem was related to the subdivision proposal, he felt it appropriate to bring the plan to the city first.

He told the council that Anderson would like the city to agree upon two stipulations

— See **Road**, Page 7

## Get Ready for the Fourth of July



### Recommended Safety Tips

- Obey all local laws regarding the use of fireworks.
- Know your fireworks; read the cautionary labels and performance descriptions before igniting.
- A responsible adult should supervise all firework activity. Never give fireworks to children.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Save it for after the show.
- Wear safety glasses when shooting fireworks.
- Light one firework at a time and quickly back away.
- Use fireworks outdoors in a clear area away from buildings and vehicles.
- Never relight a "dud" firework. Wait 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water.
- Always have a bucket of water and charged water hose nearby.
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket or shoot them into metal or class containers.
- Do not experiment with homemade fireworks.
- Dispose of spent fireworks by wetting them down and placing them in a metal trash can away from buildings or combustible materials until the next day.

(Source: The National Council on Fireworks Safety)

### Holiday fireworks display will take place this year

Bri Brasher for NLJ

When the stars align with funds, time and staff, the Newcastle Volunteer Fire Department enjoys lighting up the night sky with some extra celebratory sparkle, and the department is happy to announce that it will be shooting off fireworks at dusk on the 4th of July from the top of Water Tank Hill.

Community members should expect a show lasting anywhere from 20 – 45 minutes, with a grand finale. The department will send up a couple of salutes to check the darkness prior to the show. Flying Phoenix Interstate Display Fireworks, Inc. out of Riverton helps put on the production.

Fire Chief Austin Baker told the News Letter Journal that the department is grateful for the support the community provides, and it sees the fireworks show as a way to give back and express appreciation for the community's help throughout the year.

"Newcastle as a whole supports the fire department in a way that I can never fully express," said Baker, referencing the help the community provides with the Stamp Drive to build the department's training facility, meals and coffee when the firemen receive a taxing call, and willingness to assist in any way when emergency situations arise.

"If we get the donations, we are more than happy

— See **Fireworks**, Page 9



Barry Koch hasn't been in business here long, but he made an impression on the community when he removed an unsightly awning from a downtown business front with the help of his son Ryan earlier this month. (Alexis Barker/NLJ)

## Pigeons of Main Street Eradicated

Bri Brasher for NLJ

A Main Street business front recently received a facelift from new contractor, Barry Koch.

The building, nicknamed by locals as the "Pigeon Building," used to have a wood awning that housed many pigeons. A jack-of-all-trades, Koch worked to remove the façade from 116 Main Street in early June, cleaning up the mess the pigeons created in the past and eradicating any chance for future habitation.

— See **Awning**, Page 7

### WEATHER FORECAST

Thursday  
Partly Cloudy  
Hi 68, Lo 46



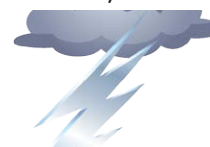
Friday  
Clear  
Hi 71, Lo 46



Saturday  
Clear  
Hi 78, Lo 55



Sunday  
Chance of Storms  
Hi 83, Lo 56



Monday  
Clear  
Hi 88, Lo 59



Tuesday  
Clear  
Hi 92, Lo 63

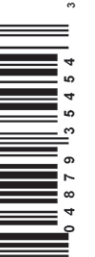


Wednesday  
Clear  
Hi 92, Lo 62



### INSIDE

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# Guns from page 1

also expressed concern that an armed employee may be put in a position of responding to an incident only to find their neighbor or child involved in some way when they get there.

"I am not sure we are ready for that," he said, indicating that he also believes that community members should have an opportunity to offer comment prior to any board action. "I think a lot of things have to go into this. I think before we do anything we need a community meeting to get some feedback. Are they really ready for this? I don't know how to answer that and I think we need community input."

LaCroix admitted that some staff members have expressed an interest in carrying a firearm at work, but said he is reluctant to allow it at this point.

"We have some staff that is adamant they would like to do that but I'm not sure if I'm ready for them to do that. I can't imagine that is why anyone gets into this profession," he reasoned.

LaCroix also suggested that other factors should be considered if the district does decide to allow staff members to be armed, and specifically mentioned response times for first responders, noting that

a Wyoming Highway Patrol officer lives directly across the street from the Newcastle High School.

While Hansen agreed that a need exists to allow staff members to be armed in school buildings, he did indicate that response times may not be as good for Newcastle Elementary School, which is located on the east end of the community.

"You have another school out there, and from my experience I have learned that the school out there (Newcastle Elementary School) might be more prone to acts of violence than these (NHS and NMS) due to the age of the children and parental conflict. It happens more out there than the other two schools combined in my experience. That is another aspect you have to look at later down the line," reasoned Hansen.

Chick said that prior to making any decisions, she would also like to see what research says about the topic in states that are already allowing guns within schools.

"I guess what I am wondering is, does it cut down on the number of incidents and does the outcome get better somehow? I worry not only

about our staff being put in that situation, but that then there are guns in our schools and there is access to them in different situations," revealed Chick. "At the very least, I would want to look at all of that information, I think."

LaCroix shared that research shows that the number of violent acts in school is on the rise, but said information is not yet available to indicate whether allowing guns in schools is an effective deterrent.

Chairman John Riesland suggested that if the need for armed protection does exist in Newcastle schools, it would be more appropriate to have law enforcement assigned to the schools than arm staff members.

"My opinion is, if we believe that guns should be in our school to protect our students, I believe we just need to hire an SRO (School Resource Officer)," he declared. "If we are to that point that we need armed people in our district, I'd rather we have an SRO," declared John Riesland before confirming that the board is not ready to adopt a policy that would allow staff members to carry firearms in school facilities.

### School Notes

Items of interest from the June 21 Weston County School District #1 Board of Trustees meeting.

- Changes to the policies regarding fees associated with community use of district facilities, jury duty and court witness leave and salary schedules, as well as the extra duty pay schedule, were approved by the board.
- The board also approved the 2017-2018 extra duty list as presented that evening. WCS#1 Superintendent Brad LaCroix noted that the list was not complete, but that he would recommend the approval of the partial list.
- WCS#1 Attorney Don Hansen shared that in the fall he will begin going over the history of lawsuits that involved employee termination in the State of Wyoming with the board. He shared that there are quite a few— somewhere between 40 and 50— and that it is quite interesting to see how far the law has progressed over time. According to Hansen, WCS#1 has only been involved in one of these lawsuits.
- Newcastle High School Principal Tracy Ragland revealed that he has encountered a

dilemma regarding changes to community college requirements leading to a decrease in instructors qualified to teach dual enrollment classes. The issue arises from the requirement that college teachers teach those dual enrollment classes, and the lack of a requirement for background check on those teachers. He suggested that this is something that needs to be looked at further by the district, and suggested that there should be a policy requiring a background check for those individuals.

• Trustee Dana Mann-Tavegia expressed that the Cowbelles would be willing to help WCS#1 if they were interested in getting protein through local donation. Senate File 153 allows ranchers to donate meat to local schools with the purpose of not only saving the district money, but also increasing the use of local meat. It was determined that other school districts who have made the switch should be contacted to determine the best options.

# Letters from page 2

upgrades required to comply with city codes had been factored in, the final estimate hit \$756,000." That was for equipment, along with a foundation and construction of the building.

If there was already a foundation and building in existence, it would cut the cost down. Luckily for Newcastle, Wyoming there is already a bowling alley set up, so it would not cost as much. In the end, there is a lot of money to be put into this project and one would really have to commit to pay all the money for it, but finding a pre-built alley is an easy way to save a bit.

In a small community people are constantly trying to pay for everything at one time, but it is important to focus on one task at a time. Newcastle is extremely focused on a number of things that need to be paid for. The senior center's roof and the soccer fields are some expensive projects that the community is trying to pay for, but not all of these things can be paid for at one time. Picking one and paying for all of it before moving to the next project is a good way to focus on one task. The soccer fields do not need to be expanded, and Newcastle does not necessarily need to get a bowling alley. They just need to pick one project and fix it, then move to the next. But only pick one project! Communities need to decide what is best for them, and work towards that one goal.

Bowling is an extremely fun sport full of laughter and family, where everyone can be who they are and still have the time of their lives. Bowling could really bring a family together, just like a community. There is a lot of money required for this project, but by cutting back on unnecessary expenses and focusing on this one goal it can be achieved. Bowling could really help a community find something everyone likes to do, and if we just pick a single project this could be a possibility.

—Emily Rushton

## A skating rink can make Newcastle great again

Dear Editor,

Newcastle should have a skating rink because a skating rink would be a great way to bring friends and families together to have fun. At one time there was a place to skate here, and Newcastle has an aquatic center. Why can't it have a skating rink as well? A skating rink would bring opportunities for the school and the public, and provide economic growth in the community.

A skating rink would bring opportunities to the school and the athletic department. By constructing an indoor or an outdoor skating rink, it would allow the sports program to provide more extracurricular activities— such as hockey and skating lessons. A hockey team would benefit the sports department because having a hockey team allows more options for those looking to participate in different sports.

The article "On the Ice" In Scholastic Superscience states, "You need more than just talented players, you also need a perfect sheet of ice for the players and puck to glide across." Considering the amount of athletes in Newcastle High School, there is great potential for some very talented hockey players or skaters, and an ice rink would bring opportunities for students and the school.

A local skating rink would create a great winter activity, and the addition of a skating rink would make Newcastle a great attraction. According to the article, "The Common Passion," published in 1990, "The arena is what draws people to the town...The arena is a gathering place for the winter months."

Many people enjoy getting out and doing activities in the community, but that can be difficult in the winter months. A skating rink would make for fun and physical activities for the whole family and people of all ages to enjoy. A skating rink would draw people to the community, and would also allow for a great activity for the long, boring winter months.

A skating rink would create economic growth in the community because there would be people wanting to come from out-of-town to skate. Also, if a hockey team was available, teams from all over the region would be coming to this rink. The skating rink could be a big attraction for Newcastle, bringing people from out of town to local businesses as well. The article, "Sports Cluster to Drive Economic Growth" states, "We strongly believe that sports can promote economic development..." The rink would definitely support local businesses, such as retailers, restaurants, and hotels, and in conclusion, it would bring economic growth.

Ice skating is a fun and exciting activity that friends and families can enjoy. Newcastle has opportunities for other activities, why not a skating rink too?

—Hailey McGuire

(Ed. note: The preceding letters were written for an assignment in Debb Proctor's Freshman English class. Please send any responses to these letters to editor@newsfj.com)

## Celebrate our freedoms this holiday

Happy Independence Day!

Life surely can't get any better than flying the American flag from here in the Cowboy State. May we pause this Independence Day to thank those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the protection of "Old Glory." Let us not forget how lucky we are to live in the "Land of Opportunity." Happy Independence Day from the First State Bank team!

We will be closed July 4th in celebration of Independence Day



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The Newcastle City Landfill will be **closed** for all operations on **Saturday, July 15** to conduct maintenance and repair to the entrance cattle guard and gate. The Landfill will **re-open** for normal operations on **Monday, July 17**

**Sorry for any inconvenience -City of Newcastle**



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Please join us on Sunday, July 9th anytime between 2:00 and 4:00 PM at Newcastle Country Club to celebrate the life of Gene Egge



**Obituary**

**Robert Lewis Bruce**  
Dec. 18, 1948-June 24, 2017  
Robert (Bob) Lewis Bruce, of Upton, WY, passed away at the age of 68, on June 24, 2017, at the Vibra Hospital in Thornton, CO.

Robert was born December 18, 1948, in Broken Bow, NE, to Dosey and Lucille Bruce. Bob grew up and remained in the Sandhills/Black Hills area his whole life. He served his country two years in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War and 20 years in the Army National Guard, in Guernsey, WY. Bob worked 41 years for the Burlington (BNSF) Railroad before retiring.

Bob was a cowboy who loved his family and devoted much of his time running the 4H/High School Rodeo circuit with his gang of girls, Heather, Lu, and Tami, training and competing with the

horses. If you ever talked to Bob more than two minutes and said horse, you would know he loved his horses. Whether you wanted to hear the horses' pedigrees or not, you were informed of the full bloodline. He loved working the cows, riding horses and fixing fence, whether on his place, or friends and neighbors. As a grandfather, he delighted in Tonya and Erin's activities and accomplishments, and every chance he had he drove to Nebraska to watch.

Bob loved the Lord and was a member of the Light House Assembly of God Church in Upton for the past 15 years. He loved his church family, the adult Sunday school class, bible study and had a great compassion for the youth and the Royal Ranges.

Bob is survived by his three children; son, Brent Bruce of Kearney, NE; daughters, Heather (Stan) Daniels, of Dalton, NE, and Lucinda Bruce of Durango, CO; granddaughters, Tonya and Erin Daniels of Dalton, NE; mother, Lucille Bruce; and sister, Marie Wade of Seneca, NE; three brothers, Norman (Donna) Bruce of Robinson, IL, Ronald (Patty) Bruce of Upton, WY, and Eugene Bruce of Norfolk, NE; and many nephews, nieces, uncles, aunts, cousins, church family, and friends. He was preceded in death by both maternal and paternal grandparents; father, Joseph Dosey Bruce; and nephew, Norman D. Miles Bruce.

A memorial service will be held on July 1, 2017, at 11:00 a.m. at the Community Center, in Upton, WY. Arrangements are under the care of Fidler-Roberts & Isburg Funeral Chapel of Sundance.

Online condolences may be written at [www.fidler-isburgfuneralchapels.com](http://www.fidler-isburgfuneralchapels.com)

*In Loving Memory*



**Linda Marie Schneider**  
September 28, 1959 - April 23, 2017

Please join us for a celebration of life on Monday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Weston County Senior Center, Michaels Room

A short memorial service will be from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

*In Philadelphia, 13 rockets were fired on July 4th, 1777 to recognize the independence of the 13 colonies. This set the trend of fireworks display each year.*



*The News Letter Journal will be closed Tuesday, July 4th. We will go to press early so any submissions must be in by Friday, June 30 at close of business.*

**nlj** 14 W. Main St. • 746-2777 • newsli.com

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**Hospital Foundation planning a busy summer**

by Bri Brasher for the NLJ

The Weston County Health Services Foundation has a full schedule planned for the summer and fall months. Along with the comprehensive list of medical services provided at WCHS, the foundation is eager to engage with the people of Newcastle through other events and services in the community.

Denice Piscioti, Executive Assistant for Weston County Health Services, provided a preview of the foundation's plans for upcoming community events.

Piscioti told the News Letter Journal that the foundation is looking forward to their fourth annual summer community barbeque sponsored by WCHS. All members of the community are invited to attend the event that will take place on Saturday, July 8, at Dow Park from 4 to 7 p.m. In anticipation of around 500 people, organizers of the celebration have a full summer menu planned, featuring hot dogs and hamburgers along with chips, drinks, popsicles, cookies, and cotton candy.

"The barbeque has been a great success and a great time," Piscioti shared. As president of the Employees Matter Committee in charge of organizing the event, Piscioti sees the barbeque as a chance to say thank you to the community.

The barbeque will feature six bouncy houses for kids and a live DJ for entertainment. There will be several prizes, the biggest of which is a Green Mountain Grill purchased from Decker's. Also to be given away are a Coleman Extreme Cooler, a fire pit and four WCHS lawn chairs. There will be giveaways for teens and adults as well, with water guns and temporary tattoos for children.

"We enjoy getting a chance to sit and talk with community members. The event has grown every year, and we hope it will continue to grow," said Piscioti.

Organizers of the event realize that the barbeque lands during a busy time of the year following the 4th of July holiday, and as such the foundation hopes to plan the event over the fourth weekend of July next year.

Along with the annual barbeque, Weston County Health Services Foundation is holding a raffle to raise money towards the WCHS Scholarship Fund. According to Piscioti, raffle tickets are \$10 each or three for \$20. First prize is a 50" Westinghouse TV LED 1080p Smart-HDTV in black. The second prize is an Acer 16 GB Android Tablet, and the third prize is a LED Projector. The drawing will be held on Friday, August 4th at the WCHS Foundation Annual Pancake Breakfast at the Weston County

Fairgrounds.

WCHS is also looking forward to two big events in September and October. The foundation works with the Alzheimer's Association to put on "The Walk to End Alzheimer's," which will take place on Saturday, September 23 at the Weston County Senior Citizens Center. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. with a ceremony at 9:45 a.m. and the walk beginning at 10. The route covers 2.17 miles. For more information and registration, visit [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org).

For local Alzheimer's support, contact K.C. Bergstrom at WCHS.

Plans for October include the Wyoming Health Fairs Blood Draw on the 13 and 14 at Weston County Senior Services. Individuals can get their blood drawn for a health screening from 6:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. More information on the Alzheimers walk and blood draw will be provided as the events approach.



Hospital officials expect 500 people to attend the popular carnival which attracted scores of children last year.

**Faith & Values**

- **ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH:** Rev. Norm Brotzman, 216 S. Seneca, 746-2249. Call to Worship 9:30 am; Children's Church during Call to Worship; Faith Rally Sunday 6 pm.
- **BAHA'I FAITH:** Firesides (Open to All) 1st & 3rd Fridays 7:30 pm at 15 Skyview Dr; 746-3626.
- **CAMBRIA COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH:** Pastor Todd Olson, 19 Stampede St. 746-2321. Sunday School 9:15 am; Worship 10:30 am; Youth (6-12 grades) and Adult Bible Study Sunday Evening 6-7 pm; Wednesday Night Youth and Adult Bible Study 6 pm; Life Recovery Bible Study Sunday Night 7 pm.
- **CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL:** Fr. Tom Campbell, S. Summit & Winthrop Streets. 746-9684. haydishall@hotmail.com. Service times: Holy Eucharist 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays 10:00 a.m.; Morning prayer 2nd & 4th Sundays 10:00 a.m.
- **CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH:** Pastor Tsena Dinsza, 224 West Road, West of Dow Park, 746-2415. Sunday Worship 9 am.
- **CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS:** Bishop Greg James, 120 Ash, 746-4131. Sunday Sacrament Mtg 9 am; Sunday School 10:20 am; Relief Society & Priesthood Mtg 11:15 am.
- **CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Father Tim Martinson, 19 W. Winthrop, 746-4219. Saturday Mass 5 pm; Sunday Mass 5 pm; Weekday Mass 8 am.
- **COUNTRY CHURCH:** Four Corners, Pastor Bill Haley, 746-9712, Worship 10 am.
- **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH:** Pastor Gary Anderson, 903 S. Summit, 746-2188. Sunday School 9:15 am; Worship Service 10:30 am; Evening Service 6 pm; AWANA Clubs 6:30 pm.
- **CHURCH ON THE HILL:** Wayne Wilson, 301 Delaware, 746-5542. Sunday School 9:30 am; Prayer Service 10:15 am; Worship 10:45 am; Youth Group Wednesday 6:30 pm; Christian Academy pre-school & K-12 746-9663.

- **OUR SAVIOR CHURCH:** Pastors Doug and Frezil Westerlund, Weston County Fairgrounds, Service Sundays 9:30 am. 307-941-2524
- **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Pastor Michael Jarrell, 23 N. Seneca, 746-4119. Adult Bible Study 8:45 am; Traditional Church Services 10 am; 10:15 am Children's Church; 11:30 a.m. Casual Worship Service, Youth Group Sunday evenings 5:30-7:00 p.m.
- **GATEWAY FELLOWSHIP:** Pastor Jon Andersen, Evangelical Free Church meets at the Weston County Senior Services; Sunday School 9:30 am; Worship 11 am. Call 746-8091.
- **KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES:** 5018 US Hwy 16, 746-2319 or 746-4517. Tuesday 7 p.m. Congregation Bible Study, Theocratic Ministry School and Service Meeting. Sunday Public Talk 10 am; Watchtower 11 am.
- **NEWCASTLE FOURSQUARE CHURCH:** Pastor Mick Bohn, 1525 S. Summit, 746-3618. Sun. Worship 10 am; Wed. Night Prayer.
- **OSAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH:** 348 Sheridan St. in Osage, 465-2341. Sunday School 10 am; Worship 11 am and 6 pm.
- **SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST:** Pastor Chuck Gadway 303-229-3103, 78 Old Hwy 85 and Pastoral Assistant Matt Dooley 949-0831. Saturday Sabbath School 9:30 am; Worship 11:00 am.
- **ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Father Killian Muli, Upton. Sunday Mass 11:30 am.
- **VICTORY NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH:** Rev. Theodore L. Halls, 414 Pine, 746-4366.
- **UPTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Rev. Sharee Johnson, 834 Pine, Upton, 468-9302. Worship 9 am; Fellowship 10 am; Adult Study 10:30 am; 1st & 3rd Wed Evenings Prayer and Praise Service 7 pm. August 7, 14, and 21 church is at 9am. August 28--no church in Upton, worship is at 11am at Rev Johnson's home in Custer. September 4th and all sundays following, 9am Sunday School, 10am Worship, 11am Fellowship, and 11:30 Bible Study.

*Faith is not believing that God can, it is knowing that He will.*

**Daily Devotional Reading**

Jun 29 Galatians 5:1-26	Jun 30 Galatians 6:1-18	Jul 1 Matthew 18:15-35	Jul 2 2 Corin. 2:5-17	Jul 3 2 Corin. 5:11-21	Jul 4 2 Corin. 6:1-13	Jul 5 Exodus 1:1-22
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*Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society*

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# New lawyer introduces himself to Newcastle



Above: Barb and Carey Voss visit with Matt Ramsey at an open house hosted by Sandven on Friday. The new attorney, pictured at left, treated attendees to an entire roast pig that had been prepared by Isabella's. (Bob Bonnar/NLJ)



**Alexis Barker**  
NLJ Reporter

Newcastle's newest lawyer, Steven Sandven, comes to the area with 20 years of experience, having practiced law in a variety of areas, and he is particularly interested in representing members of the ag community after moving into the office that has long been operated by local attorney Pat Crow.

Sandven lives in Hill City, and had a desire to expand his business across the Wyoming border. He told the News Letter Journal that the short commute from his home helped spark his interest in Newcastle and the surrounding area, as did his own work experience, which includes a considerable amount of work he has done with ranchers and farmers. Although he is still waiting to receive his Wyoming license, Sandven is already licensed in

South Dakota, Minnesota, Washington D.C. and approximately twenty tribal courts, as well as both the Eighth and Ninth Circuit Courts of Appeals.

Sandven offers experience to his clients in everything from sales and use tax law to environmental law, although a majority of his work experience to this point has been directly related to serving Native Americans. Despite his passion for representing tribes, Sandven looks forward to working in the rural environment offered in Wyoming, and to traveling around the area to meet with his clients.

Sandven said his commitment to serving Indian Country is based on his search for his biological parents. That search ended at the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate's government building in northeastern South Dakota.

"I was born unattended outside of Aberdeen, South Dakota in 1965, and initiated a search for my biological background after enlisting in the U.S. Navy in 1983," recalled Sandven. One year later Sandven met his father, who was an enrolled member of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate, and he said the desire to represent Indian tribes greatly influenced his education.

After being honorably discharged from the Navy in 1989, he attended Grossmont College in El Cajon, California. He worked his way through college as a full-time union representative for the

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, and also represented the Machinist Union and the San Diego Medics Association in arbitration and collective bargaining while attending the Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego.

"After graduating from law school in 1997, I moved to Pine Ridge, South Dakota after being appointed by the Oglala Sioux Tribe to serve as their first Attorney General. I was cross-designated as a Special Assistant to the U.S. Attorney for prosecuting non-Indians committing offenses against Indians in Indian country," Sandven shared.

After developing the Oglala Sioux Tribe prosecutor's office, he returned home to serve as the first General Counsel for the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate in 1999.

"I served as the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate's in-house general counsel until I opened my law office in 2001 to serve tribes throughout the United States," commented Sandven. Through his work, Sandven has not only negotiated government-to-government agreements and Class III gaming compacts, but he has also promoted the establishment of early voting locations in Indian country.

Sandven said he looks forward to working with the people in rural Wyoming, and he can be reached at his office at 746-2771. He can also be contacted on his cell at 605-941-1498.

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# WHAT'S UP

## June 2017

### Weston County Meetings & Events Calendar

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
<b>Thurs 29</b> 7:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	AA Meeting Gymkhana	WC Senior Center, Family Room WC Fairgrounds
<b>Fri 30</b> 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Cinnamon Roll Friday Jane Rhoades Retirement Dance - Music by Western Ramblers Bingo	WC Senior Center Newcastle Country Club WC Senior Center VFW Hall
<h2>July 2017</h2>		
<b>Sat 01</b> 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.	American Legion Bike Rodeo Mini Sprint Races Bingo NA Meeting	WC Fairgrounds WC Fairgrounds VFW Hall Cambria Church Basement
<b>Sun 02</b> 7:15 p.m.	Women Only Life Recovery Meeting	Cambria Church Basement
<b>Mon 03</b> 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	WC Friends of Fair Meeting City Council Meeting AA Meeting	WC Event Center Council Chambers WC Senior Center, Family Room
<b>Tues 04</b> Dusk	Fireworks	Newcastle Water Tank Hill
<b>Wed 05</b> 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	WC Commissioners Meeting Newcastle Lions Club Creative Handicrafts	Courthouse Annex WC Senior Center WC Senior Center
<b>Thurs 06</b> 1:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	VFW Auxiliary Meeting Salt Creek Water District WC Museum District Meeting AA Meeting Masons #13 Meeting	VFW District Office Red Onion Museum WC Senior Center, Family Room Mosinic Lodge
<b>Fri 07</b> 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Cinnamon Roll Friday Bingo	WC Senior Center VFW Hall
<b>Sat 08</b> 4:00 p.m.	WCHS Community BBQ	Dow Park

*Calendar Sponsored by Newcastle Area Chamber of Commerce*

For a complete listing of events, for more information on these events, or to list your own event, visit the Chamber website at [newcastlewyo.com](http://newcastlewyo.com)

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

**June 29**  
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Harder 🎂  
Zach Orsborn  
Josie Smith

**June 30**  
Mr. & Mrs. Hayden Huber 🎂  
Tony & Kara Lenardson 🎂

**July 1**  
Jerry Koester  
Nolan Behnke  
Eugene Stanton 🎂  
Reece Proctor  
Jeff Virchow  
Kirra Bonnema  
Leslie L Butts  
Elvin & Candi Stanton 🎂

**July 2**  
John & Jan Ellis 🎂  
Jason & Carmen Simon 🎂

**July 3**  
Jason Allard  
Brooke Francis  
Robyn Stanton

**July 4**  
Alyssa Sallee  
Mesa Callaway  
Chrissa Luckow

**July 5**  
Lynn & Peggy Moller 🎂

**July 6**  
Sarah DeMerritt  
Ava Stanton

**July 7**  
John S Ellis  
Peyton Crinklaw



## Weston County Health Services Foundation Raffle



**1st Prize: 50" Westinghouse TV LED 1080p Smart-HDTV**

**2nd Prize: Acer 16 GB Android Tablet**

**3rd Prize: LED Projector**

Drawing will take place on August 4, 2017 at the WCHS Foundation Pancake Breakfast. You do not need to be present to win. Raffle tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20 and can be purchased from Norma Shelton or at WCHS from Maureen Cadwell or Denice Piscioti. Proceeds benefit the WCHS Scholarship Fund.

This ad paid for by WCHS Foundation

## Above and Beyond



**Billy Quick gets his feet off the ground to help on the senior center roof's construction project last week. The amount of time being taken to perform the overhaul of the aging facility's roof has caused some concern among users of the Weston County Senior Services Center, and Jim Whetsell addressed a number of people gathered to eat lunch at the Weston County Senior Center earlier this month to "clear the air" about the roof project and the time required to complete the job appropriately. He revealed to those assembled that the project has to be completed in three different phases because of the complexity of the requirements, and indicated that the actual roof portion was nearing completion, and had been signed off on by the fire marshal. One of the two phases remaining includes intricate work over the kitchen that is necessary to meet all of the requirements associated with large kitchens on such a building. The other consists of creating adequate enough drainage to move moisture away from the building. "We have to hire an engineer to design and build the kitchen and the roof system, as well as the drainage to drain all the water away. The reason I didn't tie the last two sections together is due to the potential for overloading the piping, causing flooding," reported Whetsell, who told those assembled for the presentation that he is working diligently to complete the task. "I have not dropped the ball on this project," he assured the group. (Alexis Barker/NLJ)**



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### Weston County Health Services Specialty Clinics July 2017 Schedule

For these services please use the **new front entrance**

<b>Orthopedics:</b> Dr. Eckrich.....	July 6, 28
To schedule appointments call 800-446-9556	
<b>Echo:</b> .....	July 5, 19
Patient's Personal Physician must schedule Usually 1st & 3rd Wednesday of month	
<b>Heart Doctors:</b> Dr. D'Urso.....	None
Dr. Alex Schabauer.....	None
To schedule appointments call 800-432-7822	
<b>VA Clinic:</b> .....	July 12, 26
Usually 1st Monday of month (Except Holidays)	
<b>VA Mental Health:</b> (2nd Friday of Month).....	None
<b>MRI:</b> (Every Tuesday, except holidays).....	July 11, 18, 25
Patient's Provider must schedule with WCHS Radiology Department	
<b>Speech Therapy:</b> (Every Monday & Thursday, except holidays).....	4-6 pm
<b>Upton Lab Draws:</b> (1st Wednesday, except holidays).....	July 5
<b>Wellness Wednesday:</b> .....	July 12, 26
2nd & 4th Wed., ER/OP Entrance, No appointment necessary 6:30-8:30am	

Home Health/Lifeline: 746-3553  
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## No Appointment Needed!

### Clinic walk-ins welcome

Bri Brasher for NLJ

Starting July 3, the Newcastle Regional Medical Clinic is excited to provide walk-in care for the people of Newcastle. While the clinic has always taken call-ins, patients can now just walk in for care without a scheduled appointment.

Lynnea Prell, Supervisor of Clinic Office Operations, told the News Letter Journal that the clinic and its providers are ready and eager to provide a wider scope of service to patients. She recognized the strain illness can induce, especially with children.

"If kids wake up sick, come right on in," encouraged Prell. "There's no need to wait for an appointment, go to the ER, or travel out of town."

The clinic is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the week, and the doors stay open even

longer— until 7 p.m.— on Mondays. The hospital pharmacy has also adjusted its Monday hours to match the clinic in an effort to accommodate patient's needs.

The clinic operates with a rotation of primarily physician's assistants and nurse practitioners, and Prell said providers will be available to take patients at any time during their hours of operation, whether they are walk-ins or call-ins.

"We have somebody here that whole time, even if they just want to walk in during their lunch hour," she offered.

The clinic hopes and anticipates that people will take advantage of the new service, and that it will encourage them to maintain their healthcare needs locally. Prell emphasized that the clinic will never deny services to any walk-in unless there is extreme trauma or chest pain requiring emergency intervention, and she said the clinic is eager to continue its care of the community with this new and convenient schedule.

## Second phase of hospital construction going well

Bri Brasher for NLJ

Years of collaboration, patience, and hard work is paying off for Weston County Health Services and the contractors working on the Weston County Hospital District's building project. Scull Construction and many sub-contractors are making headway on the project as it nears the end of Phase B. CEO Maureen Cadwell sees the light at the end of the tunnel, and she is excited to share the improvements with the community because she sees the project as a true community effort.

"When we started the project in 2013, we got input from the community on design and what they felt we needed, and we talked to staff and physicians to gather as much information as we could," Cadwell explained. "This is the community's project—the community's facility. We've taken suggestions and put them into play with the project."

Cadwell provided an example of the hospital working to meet the community's needs with the remodel and expansion of therapy services in the west corner of the building, noting that many community members specifically requested some separate and more private areas for

therapy treatments. Those have been carefully incorporated into the plan, and WCHS is hoping to be done with the therapy services wing in July.

Phase B also includes the remodeling of the northwest corner of the hospital where new walls are up and painted, and new flooring is expected soon. The south part of the building is in much the same state, with flooring and building systems next on the agenda. Completion of the south side is planned for the last part of July to early August, which will include new radiology and trauma rooms as well as updated space for staff.

Cadwell is pleased with work on the Manor, another area of the facility undergoing a facelift. Work continues on the north rooms, though remodeling of the south rooms is completed and the rooms occupied.

Doctors and community members that have visited the facility have expressed very positive reactions and are pleased with the results, according to Cadwell, who said specialty physicians are especially excited for the completion of the next phase in construction. Visiting specialists will have a new space to hold their specialty clinics right off the front entrance.

Phase C will also address the west side of the emergency room, with a new emergency room entrance, two new exam rooms, and room for physicians to consult with families. A decontamination room will be added as well as two more patient rooms on the hospital side.

There have also been some unexpected updates included in the building project that Cadwell said the staff at WCHS is extremely excited to debut. The facility received a grant from the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust for a new high tech CT scan that will provide better quality and options for additional testing.

Cadwell and her team continue to successfully juggle all aspects of the facility in the midst of such a large construction project, especially with the added challenge of maintaining the hospital's normal day-to-day operations, but even with so many projects underway and the inconveniences associated with working in the midst of a construction zone, Cadwell is optimistic.

"It's coming together well," she assured. "Without a doubt it's been well worth it. We are meeting community needs, and ultimately that is what we wanted to happen."

### Correction

On the "Retirements and dedications" photo page on page 6 in the June 22, 2017 edition of the News Letter Journal, we incorrectly identified Tom Peterson as Mike Carpenter. The News Letter Journal deeply regrets the error.

# Embroidery Business Changes Hands

Bri Brasher for NLJ

Earl and Demah Belden are the new owners of Fossil Creek Designs by Aced Embroidery as of June 1. The Beldens have been members of the Newcastle community for 16 years, and they are looking forward to a new business venture that will allow them to further network in and around Weston County.

"Small towns are the backbone of America. We're blessed to be here and to have the opportunity," Demah whole-heartedly shared. "We have traveled all continental 48 states, and this safe and friendly community is where we need to be."

Both Earl and Demah have 12 years of embroidery experience after working in the industry part-time, and when the business came up for sale, they jumped at the chance to settle into the business full-time. With the help of previous owner Kara Lenardson, the couple hopes to carry on "Fossil Creek Designs" because people in Newcastle know and recognize the name, though they will eventually transition to simply "Aced Embroidery."

"Kara has built up a good business here over the last five years," Earl emphasized, indicating the couple hopes to carry on the reputation of the



**Although they are new owners of Fossil Creek Designs, Earl and Demah Belden have been in the stitching business for a number of years, and they are excited to offer the expertise they've developed in the time they've run Aced Embroidery to the community.** (Submitted Photo)

business maintained by Kara after she purchased Fossil Creek Designs from a couple that retired and moved to Rapid City a half decade ago.

"We hope to show people that our experience will carry on the excellent work of the business," said Earl.

The Beldens are working within the community to maintain previous business connections, while also looking to foster new relationships in neighboring areas and school districts. The couple hopes to produce materials quickly once

they get their eight machines up and running, and their goal is to keep embroidery work convenient and local.

Earl and Demah love working within small communities, and they truly enjoy working with one another. The Beldens make great partners because Earl enjoys the public relations aspect of business while Demah does most of the embroidery work. Demah shared that sewing has always been a part of her life, as her mom started teaching her the skill as a very young child. At

age eight, she began working to practice and perfect her sewing through the 4-H program.

The Beldens are excited to put their hobby to work in an area close to most of their family. Earl and Demah have seven children and 22 grandchildren, so when not working at their new shop, they are busy with life as "professional grandparents." The Beldens are looking forward to serving the community, and they are excited to get to know organizations and people in a new capacity.

## Awning from page 1.....



**The appearance of both the business front and the sidewalk was improved substantially when the old wooden awning was taken down.** (Submitted Photos)

## Road from page 1.....

regarding the property, and in return he would grant public access through the land to the shooting range and water tank.

"First, he is asking that the city not apply zoning regulations to the property, and allow the county to be the governing entity," revealed Ramsey, referencing a law that allows municipalities to impose zoning restrictions within a certain range of city limits.

City officials expressed no concern over that request, but the second stipulation that the city supply four to six inches of gravel to top the road through the 66-foot right away immediately raised the ire of City Engineer Mike Moore, who claimed the request for gravel was not included in the proposal the Planning Board had signed off on.

"That is not what you said at the planning meeting," Moore fumed. "You changed your tune from the planning meeting. You didn't ask for anything."

Ramsey maintained that it had been previously presented that Anderson wanted the city to have "a foot in the game," and noted that money had been offered for the right-of-way in previous failed negotiations. As such, Anderson and Ramsey believed that the city would be willing to supply gravel instead.

Moore insisted that he had not heard mention of a desire to have city participation on constructing the road, and expressed misgivings over reaching a solution, noting that the change made to the proposal in the weeks since the Planning Board meeting

made him concerned that the landowner could insist on additional concessions at some point in the future and there is no saying what could be requested by the duo.

Both Peck and Mayor Deb Piana said that Moore's obvious frustration was not helping the situation, and immediately turned the discussion back to the search for a solution. Piana suggested that the council should simply focus on the proposal that had been put before them and not get stuck on anything that had been presented previously, and the group concurred.

"I say the full proposal needs to go to the Planning and Zoning. I feel it should go through the chain of command that are set," professed Councilwoman Kara Sweet. The rest of the council

supported that suggestion, and it was determined that the proposal Ramsey presented last week would go back to the Planning Board, so that group can make a recommendation that reflected all of the provisions presented to the council last Monday night.

Ramsey agreed, and said he would return to the Planning Board to discuss Anderson's requests regarding the road, and continue to act on the assumption that the city had no issue with the county being the governing entity over zoning regulations. Members of the council agreed, and also requested that cost comparisons be provided for Anderson's request for gravel, as well as the potential cost of building a new road if a settlement isn't reached on the existing road.

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## Through the lens



The Photographer's Gallery Showcase at the fairgrounds event center on Saturday featured the work of 8 local photographers. Guests were treated to snacks and drinks all day and could flip through portfolio books to admire the talent of Newcastle's own shutterbugs. Brenda Busskohl's table boasted a number of prints as well as a photo book and slideshow. Busskohl visited with guests and discussed her process from start to finish, explaining many of her photo editing techniques. (Alexis Barker/NLJ)

# County looks for money to replace bridges

Alexis Barker  
NLJ Reporter

The condition of a number of county roads has reached a state that is sparking some concern for the safety for travelers, and Weston County Road and Bridge Supervisor Rick Williams has discussed those concerns with the Weston County Commissioners on a number of different occasions. According to Williams, some roads have experienced flooding during heavy rains and in one instance a bypass had to be created.

On June 20, Williams presented three different roads to the commissioners that he believes need attention quickly. The Lynch Road, Upton-Fairview Road and Bruce Road have all become safety concerns in Williams' eyes, and he hopes to move

forward to gather bids to fix the roads by installing either bridges or culverts in problem areas.

Citing his own concerns over the costs associated with such projects, and which funding streams the commissioners will be allowed to utilize, Chairman Bill Lambert directed Williams to return at later date with plans for each of the roads to help the commission make a decision moving forward. He asked Williams to prioritize the projects with the thought that the most important project could be broken down and completed if money is not available to do all of them immediately.

Williams stressed that the work he believes is required on the roads is something that should be done sooner rather than later due to his concerns for the safety of travelers. He

explained that bridges have become weak over the years, and he feels they present a dangerous situation that should prompt the county to complete the projects soon.

"I have no issues with the culverts or the bridges or anything. What I have an issue with is the money," asserted Commissioner Marty Ertman, who raised a number of questions including whether or not the county is legally allowed to use county road funds to pay for engineering work that will have to be performed on the jobs. Lambert agreed that some of the county's funds are restricted, which means that it will be important to determine which can be accessed for the projects Williams requested.

"There are questions over engineering that may not be funded through that (county road funds). It is going to

make a difference for me on which road we go for. We have to use that fund. If we can't, it's really going to put a crunch on our budget," asserted Lambert.

Engineers from HDR Engineering agreed with Williams' belief that engineering costs could be covered out of that fund, but could not provide proof to that assertion, and with no concrete answers to the funding questions being provided, Lambert suggested that Williams return with plans for each of the roads—specifically noting whether he believed bridges or culverts would prove adequate to solve each of the problems.

Lambert maintained that if Williams assessment is accurate, something will have to be done to address the safety issues, even if it has to be tackled one project at a time.

### Commission Clips

Notes from the June 20 Weston County Commissioner's meeting.

- Commissioners appointed Clara Varner to the Historic Preservation Board.
- County Administrator Dan Blakeman shared that he had recently hired an administrative assistant, and introduced Brooklyn Weigel to the board.
- The juvenile detention contract between Weston County and Natrona County was approved by the commission. Sheriff Bryan Colvard explained that this contract is only used in instances that Campbell County is too full, and has only been used once in the last five years. The contract is effective for two years.
- District Court Clerk Gidget Macke reported that they had recently had a passport check completed by the Passport Compliance Agency. She revealed that one thing she will have to change is the location of passport paperwork, which is required to be in a locked case inside of a locked vault. Weston County processes approximately 100 passports a year, and the county receives \$25 in payment for each one.
- County Treasurer Susie Overman disclosed that, as of June 20, 464 people have yet to pay their taxes. The amount outstanding on those taxes is \$114,646.29.

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# Far flung fishermen



A few boats trolled the western shore of the LAK Reservoir during an annual Fishing Derby sponsored by the Weston County Peace Officer's Association on June 17. Organizers say that participation in the event was down significantly this year, and according to McKaylia Stevenson, who was working the registration table at the derby, only 21 people signed up to compete against other local anglers. Participants were still treated to donated door prizes and given the opportunity to win a prize for their age group, however, and due to the decrease in the number of fishermen, individuals were broken down into only two groups—a 12 and under group and an adult group consisting of those 13 and older. A 15 1/4 inch, one-half pound trout took the prize for the 12 and under group, while the winning fish in the adult group was a smallmouth bass measuring 15 inches and weighing 1 1/4 pounds. (Alexis Barker/NLJ)



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# Emergency officials stressing fireworks safety

Alexis Barker  
NLJ Reporter

With the 4th of July approaching quickly, it is important to remember to enjoy the holiday safely to prevent injuries and fires, and that is even more true this year since there are no county implemented open burn restrictions in place for people within Weston County. That means residents will have the opportunity to celebrate the holiday in the traditional way, but officials are urging people to do so responsibly.

Weston County Fire Warden Daniel Tysdal encourages people to enjoy the holiday but remember to do so within the law, and to do so as safely as possible. He said that laws governing the use of fireworks vary depending on where you are within the county, and it is an individual's responsibility to make sure they are obeying those regulations.

"Fireworks are allowed at any time on private land outside of the city limits of Upton and Newcastle," reported Tysdal, who warned, however, that fireworks are prohibited on federal and state lands, as well as within the Town of Upton. People within the city limits of Newcastle will be allowed to light fireworks, but only from noon until midnight on July 4.

Tysdal stated that "location is key," not only in a legal aspect but also in prevention of fires caused by smoldering embers or stray sparks. As

Fireworks by the Numbers

- 18,500 fires per year
- 1,300 of those structure fires
- 300 vehicles fires
- 16,900 outside and other fires causing an average of 3 deaths
- 40 civilian injuries
- \$43 million in direct property damage
- In 2015 11,900 people treated for firework related injury
- 51% of those were to extremities
- 41% were to the head
- Children under 15 accounted for 26% of the injuries

(Source: NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION)

such, he said people should make sure to light off their fireworks in a clear area away from buildings, vehicles, trees and dry grass. Large areas of concrete, gravel or bare ground are the preferred locations.

He said that responsible use also requires that individuals stick around for a little while after the fun is done.

"After shooting fireworks, the public should be sure to pick up their trash and remain in the area for at least 30 minutes to ensure there are no smoldering embers that may cause a fire," maintained Tysdal.

In case a fire is ignited,

individuals should be sure to have some means to suppress a blaze, preferably a connected water hose. Tysdal suggested that the bare minimum for fire suppression that should be on site is a suitable fire extinguisher and shovel.

"If a fire starts that cannot be readily suppressed, be sure to call 911 right away so firefighters and equipment can be dispatched to the scene," asserted Tysdal, who also stressed the need to give detailed directions to the location of the fire so firefighters can arrive as quickly as possible.

## Fireworks

from page 1.....

to shoot off some fireworks and sit up on the hill together to put on a show," Baker shared, providing a true sense of camaraderie between the fireman and a feeling of appreciation for the community they serve. The department hopes to continue the holiday celebration for years to come, as long as risks are low and funds are available.

Baker explained that the go ahead for the fireworks show all comes down to the dryness of the grass, trees, and timbers. The production moved from the fairgrounds due to new tanks installed at the refinery a few years ago, but the department and city work to prep the launch area by doing some mowing and contingency line construction to help mitigate any fires that might occur. Units

will also be ready to help catch any stray sparks. The fire department is thankful for the city's help in raising money, sharing staff, and lending equipment for the preparation and production process.

The Chamber of Commerce worked to aggregate \$7,000 worth of fireworks this year, which is about \$1,000 more than previous years, and Wyoming Refining Company generously supplements any leftover funds needed for the show. The department hopes to cover the cost of inflation while shooting for a better bang for their buck with the upcoming display.

Baker hopes that the fireworks show adds an extra benefit to the community's holiday celebration, and that people will continue to donate to the cause.

## Weston County Bookmobile

June 15-August 5 Scheduled Stops:

**Tuesday**  
10a.m. - Centennial Park (Summer Express)  
11a.m. - Skate Park Area

**Thursday**  
10a.m. - Roby Park (Summer Express)  
11a.m. - Dow Park

**WATCH FOR IT OTHER TIMES!**  
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# Dino dig hits milestone

Southwestern Adventist University's annual dig for dinosaur bones in northeastern Wyoming commenced on June 1 and will run through the month. According to a press release from the university during this, the 21st dig season, a new milestone was achieved.

"The 20,000th officially documented bone of the Dinosaur Research Project was found and uncovered!" the release announced.

The university reported that the discoverer was Drake Smith, an 11-year-old boy from Burleson, Texas, who was on the dig with his family. Smith's father, Dr. Jared Wood, is a herpetologist and professor at Southwestern Adventist University.

"The bone he found was a chevron (tail bone), likely from an Edmontosaurus. The moment illustrates the significance of this particular dig and the wishes of the property owners of the ranch where the bones are located. While other property owners have chosen to sell the bones found on their property, members of the Hanson family instead chose to establish the Hanson Research Station to protect the bones on their property to preserve their use for science and education," the release stated.

"I was just so excited to find a bone that was a cool find, and it was the first one I dug up myself," Smith remarked. "Then I heard it was the 20,000th bone, and I was super excited. I was really glad my dad was there and I got to help him with the dinosaurs."

Dr. Art Chadwick, Southwestern research professor, with the support of other professors from Southwestern, Loma Linda University, and Southern Adventist University, has led the project since he started it in 1996.

"This young man found and uncovered the bone all by himself. It's a wonderful thing to see the next generation enthusi-

astic about preserving this part of Earth's history," Chadwick said. "In all the years I've been out here, I still get a thrill from these discoveries."

All ages and levels of interest and skill are welcome at the dig. During the annual month long dig season, participants in the dig range from scientists to high school and college students taking the dinosaur class for credit to families and church groups. Participants come from all over the world too.

"This year alone sees visitors from many different states such as New York, Texas, Washington State, Ohio, Maryland, Missouri, Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Tennessee, Georgia, Oregon, North Carolina, Montana, Massachusetts, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The countries represented include Hungary, Japan, China, Canada, Indonesia, Japan, Thailand, and Argentina," the release explained.

According to the university, this season also holds special significance as Southwestern Adventist University is partnering with the Hope Channel, a Christian television network, to film a television series.

"A film crew from the Hope Channel is on site at the dig for the month of June. More information on the release of the series will be shared soon," the release proclaimed.

The chevron bone discovered by Smith will have its own place of honor at Southwestern Adventist University's Dinosaur Science Museum in Keene, Texas. The Museum is free and open to the public. For more information or to schedule a group tour, visit [swau.edu/dinomuseum](http://swau.edu/dinomuseum) or like the Museum on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/dinosaursciencemuseum](http://www.facebook.com/dinosaursciencemuseum).

The video of the discovery of the 20,000th bone can be viewed on the Facebook page or on YouTube by searching "20,000 Bone Milestone."

## Future Archaeologists



Clockwise from top: Jayde Harrington constructs a model of a dinosaur during Summer Rec's 3-D Roaring Dinosaurs session last Friday morning; Levi Barbour digs into his work during Double Aces' Destination Dinosaurs workshop on Friday afternoon; Daxton Phillips can't wait to find out what makes his dinosaur ROAR at the morning session. The two activities were designed to expose students to the dinosaurs that roamed Weston County millions of years ago. (Pam Penfield/NLJ)

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# Generations

News Letter Journal



NLJ Photos by Alexis Barker

Clockwise from top: Students roll out the mats and get limbered up for gymnastics class in the High School Commons on Monday; Hadley Olsen teaches her younger sister how to “Walk Like An Egyptian”; Double Aces Director Tammara Allen shows Alyssa Leahy and others how to properly stretch during gymnastics warm-ups; Tealah Stevenson works on her agility during the Double Aces gymnastics program; Ridge Boylan and Hanna Alexander do their own stretches to get ready for gymnastics. The dance and gymnastics sessions are among many being offered to area youth through the summer recreation program. The activities are held under the auspices of the Double Aces After School Program, with contributions from the City of Newcastle’s Recreation Board.

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<b>Newcastle Little League</b>		
June 19	WRC — 19	Upton — 9
June 20	WRC — 9	Moorcroft — 9
June 21	Leighton Const — 7	Sturgis #5 — 6
June 22	Farnsworth — 3	Upton — 9
<b>Sturgis Majors Wood Bat Tournament</b>		
June 23	Black/Orange — 6	Sturgis — 8
June 24	Black/Orange — 8	Belle #3 — 0
	Black/Orange — 5	Spearfish — 18
June 25	Black/Orange — 14	Lead — 5
Black/Orange took 7th overall		
<b>Spearfish Minors Tournament</b>		
June 23	Leighton — 15	Sturgis — 0
June 24	Leighton — 10	Sturgis — 12
	Leighton — 11	Belle #2 — 5
Leighton took 5th overall		

Ryan Oliver helps Sawyer Roberson warm up his arm prior to the start of a Babe Ruth game held at the Newcastle Baseball Fields last Wednesday. (Bob Bonnar/NLJ)

# Babe Ruth wins Chadron Tourney

The Newcastle Longhorns Babe Ruth team rattled off three straight wins last weekend to claim the championship at the Chadron Tournament, according to a report from long-time Chadron State College Sports Information Director Con Marshall.

“Newcastle was impressive during its 13-2 verdict over the Chadron Nationals Saturday night. The Wyoming team collected 15 hits,” Marshall reported, indicating that after the contest, Newcastle coach John Lacey called the majority of the hits “seeing-eye singles.”

“They were sharply hit balls that found gaps through the Chadron infield,” Marshall told the News Letter Journal, stating all nine of Newcastle’s starters had at least one hit in the contest. According to Marshall, the number nine hitter, Lyle Whitney, led the way with three hits,

and the Longhorns’ bats were more than enough to back up a two-hitter thrown by Newcastle pitcher Josh Stevens.

Marshall reported that Newcastle made its way to the championship with a win over “western Nebraska powerhouse” Scottsbluff by a score of 13-1, and also knocked off Gering in a 17-11 contest.

“It appears to me that this is an outstanding team with numerous promising athletes,” Marshall wrote in an email to the NLJ in which he indicated that Coach Lacey estimated the squad’s current season record to be approximately 25-5. The News Letter Journal has made attempts to obtain additional scores, information and updates from Newcastle Babe Ruth officials over the course of the season, but multiple messages requesting interviews have not been returned.

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Black Hills Energy employees present a \$20,000 check to the Weston County Fire Protection Department in Newcastle, Wyoming. The check is from the Black Hills Corp. Foundation and Black Hills Energy. Funds will be used to support in the purchase of a new one-ton fire truck. Pictured are (Left to right): Tom Berry, James Curren, John Orban, Jamie Hill, Mark Christiansen, Rick Wehri, Daniel Tysdal, Hale Redding, Ronnie Hein and Brad Krush.

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# Stingrays host summer meet

**Bob Bonnar**  
NLJ Publisher

The local swim club has been putting the Kozisek Aquatic Center to good use throughout the summer, but they used the facility to welcome about five dozen other swimmers to the community earlier this month and organizers of the event feel that it was a benefit to the program and community alike.

"It was a small and quick swim meet, but beneficial for a small kick in our summer program," Newcastle Stingray's Assistant Coach Teresa Gross reported.

The Stingrays summer program is historically much smaller than the one they organize for the busy winter swim season, and as such the meet held recently only covered one day, June 10, instead of the two days for winter meets like the Cupid Classic that is hosted here in February.

With only 70 swimmers competing— as opposed to 150 or more— and less events, the summer meet required much less effort for Newcastle Stingray Swim Team officials.

"It was over by 11 a.m., and we were done cleaning up in less than two hours," Gross told the News Letter Journal.

The entry fees that were received from other communities who brought swimmers also provided a nice financial lift for the summer program, which tends to lose money because of lower participation. At the same time, Gross said the number of swimmers in the pool is up from a year ago.

"The season is going well. We now have 15 kids committed for summer, and last summer we only had eight," Gross reported, indicating that more than a dozen swimmers are making it to the pool practice at least three times a week.

She believes that as many as 10-12 of them will be competing at the Summer State Meet next month, in either the A or B division. At this point, five swimmers— Hannah, Ramsey and Harrison Gross, Hailey Beastron and Gabe Hoover— have already qualified for the A Division. The State Meet will be held in Gillette July 21-23, and the squad's final tune-up will be at the outdoor pool in Buffalo on July 8-9.

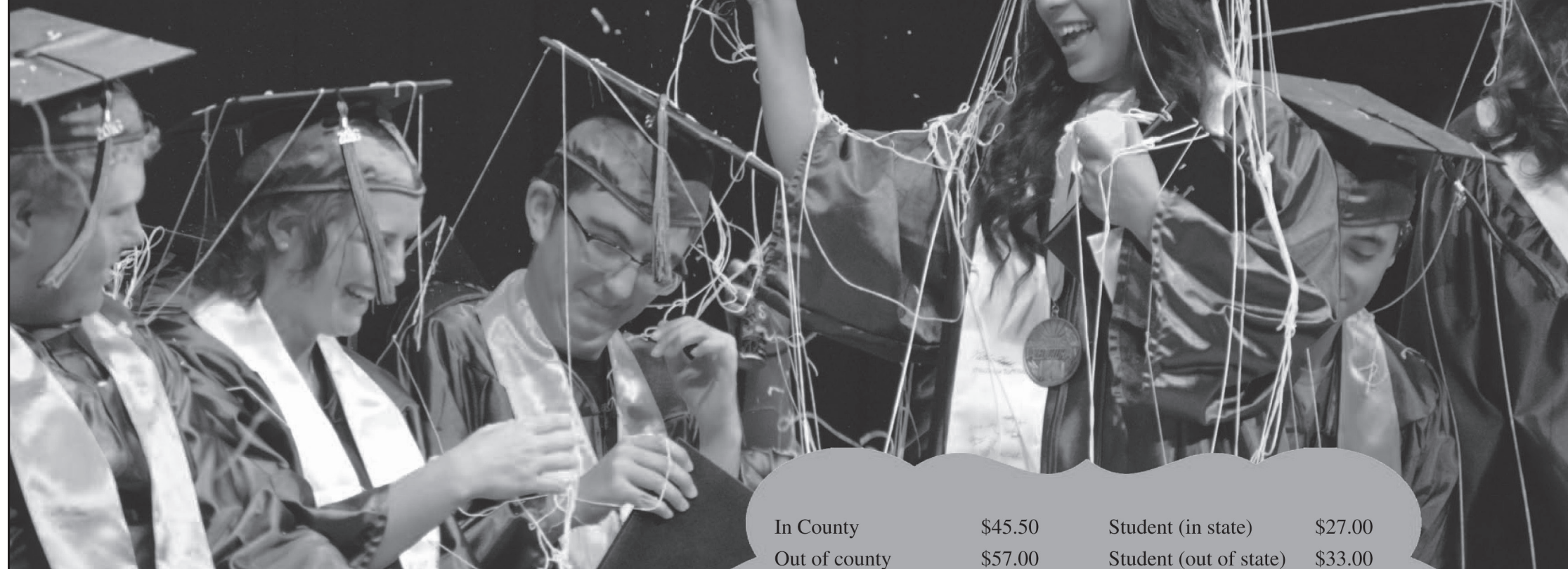


Above: Assistant Coach Teresa Gross prepares Max Makousky for his next swim. At right: Twelve-year-old Lydia Anderson just began swimming with the Stingrays in the fall, and has advanced from participating in only the 25 Meter Freestyle to competing in several different events this summer, including the 100 Meter Free and Backstroke, as well as the 50 Meter Free, Backstroke, Breaststroke and Butterfly. She has even raced in the 100 Meter Individual Medley. (Bob Bonnar/NLJ)

### Stingray Swimming

<b>Girls 12&amp;U 50 Yard Free</b>			
7 Autumn Mills	34.01		
10 Lydia Anderson	38.02		
13 Myndy Heringer	40.18		
14 Raeligh Shipp	41.52		
16 Hailey Beastron	42.50		
20 Noelani Cole	49.14		
<b>Women 13&amp;O 50 Yard Free</b>			
1 Hannah Gross	27.04		
<b>Boys 12&amp;U 50 Yard Free</b>			
1 Ramsey Gross	31.26		
5 William Beastron	33.56		
7 Wyatt Cole	36.01		
16 Harrison Gross	42.07		
19 Logan Olson	43.14		
<b>Men 13&amp;O 50 Yard Free</b>			
5 Max Makousky	30.84		
<b>Mixed 12&amp;U 50 Yard Back</b>			
4 Autumn Mills	38.85		
10 William Beastron	45.84		
12 Harrison Gross	46.97		
14 Raeligh Shipp	48.34		
18 Myndy Heringer	49.55		
25 Hailey Beastron	52.20		
29 Logan Olson	54.35		
33 Noelani Cole	59.52		
<b>Girls 12&amp;U 100 Yard Back</b>			
23 Raeligh Shipp	1:42.70		
<b>Women 13&amp;O 100 Yard Back</b>			
2 Hannah Gross	1:07.31		
<b>Mixed 12&amp;U 50 Yard Breast</b>			
2 Ramsey Gross	44.12		
8 Autumn Mills	49.72		
11 Wyatt Cole	50.03		
12 William Beastron	50.26		
14 Hailey Beastron	52.88		
15 Raeligh Shipp	54.41		
19 Myndy Heringer	58.04		
22 Noelani Cole	1:03.81		
23 Harrison Gross	1:04.31		
<b>Girls 12&amp;U 100 Yard Breast</b>			
6 Raeligh Shipp	2:02.94		
7 Lydia Anderson	2:06.75		
<b>Boys 12&amp;U 100 Yard Breast</b>			
2 Wyatt Cole	1:51.75		
<b>Women 13&amp;O 100 Yard Free</b>			
1 Hannah Gross	1:00.20		
<b>Boys 12&amp;U 100 Yard Free</b>			
3 Ramsey Gross	1:15.92		
5 Wyatt Cole	1:30.91		
10 Logan Olson	1:41.30		
<b>Mixed 12&amp;U 50 Yard Fly</b>			
5 Ramsey Gross	39.65		
8 Autumn Mills	41.82		
18 Lydia Anderson	1:01.11		
19 Harrison Gross	1:03.44		
20 Myndy Heringer	1:04.29		
<b>Men 13&amp;U 100 Yard Fly</b>			
1 Max Makousky	1:29.35		
<b>Girls 12&amp;U 200 Yard Free</b>			
6 Autumn Mills	3:02.49		
11 Myndy Heringer	3:45.85		
<b>Women 13&amp;O 200 Yard Free</b>			
1 Hannah Gross	2:16.30		

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2008 Pontiac Grand Prix GXP, black exterior and interior, 5.3 V-8, fully loaded, new tires, new brake rotors and pads. Runs great, \$7,000, OBO. Call (307) 941-2611. 24-3tp

**For Sale**  
Slide-in pickup camper, fully self contained, \$3,500, see at 1st Ave. Space 8. Call (307) 629-0941. 21-6tp

18 Speed Huffly full size boys bike, with saddle bags and tools, \$30 obo. Contact Bill Walker 217 3rd ave. or call (307) 2551.

1993 Sandpiper 5th Wheel 28', needs water heater, everything else works, \$2,000 OBO. Call (307) 941-2611. 24-3tp

Fiberglass pickup topper, 6'6" x 72-1/2, \$250 RBW mdlr 1,000 5th wheel dvr, 15,000 with rails \$75. Louver tailgate 62", \$50 came of 2001 Chevy shortbox. Call (307) 746-2632.

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**Printer Ink**  
We have printer ink for all your printing needs. HP, Cannon, Brother, Epson. Stop in at the News Letter Journal, 14 West Main, Newcastle today and check it out or you can call (307) 746-2777.

**Self-Help**  
HELPING HANDS FOUNDATION OF WESTON COUNTY. Applications are now available for help. Please contact Glenna at (307) 468-2316 or Carol at (307) 746-2298.

NA OPEN DISCUSSION MEETINGS Wednesday & Saturday 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. Sunday Women only Life Recovery 7:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. Cambria Baptist Church basement.

VETERANS OUT-REACH & Advocacy Program (Wyo.Dept. of Health/BHD). OEF/OIF veterans eligibility, (307) 630-3230.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Meeting every Thursday morning at the Weston County Senior Center. Contact Ellen Butts, 746-4251. Meeting on Tuesday at 4 p.m. at First United Methodist Church upstairs. Contact Joyce Brown 746-3696.

**Services Offered**  
Public Fax, Copier and Notary Services at the News Letter Journal, 14 West Main, (307) 746-2777.

**CUSTODIAL POSITION**  
Weston County School District # 1 is accepting applications for an evening custodian. Applications are available at the administration office at 116 Casper Avenue, or on the school website at www.wcsd1.org. This position will be open until filled. WCSD # 1 is an E.O.E.

**Front Desk /Assistant**  
Now accepting resumes for a full time front desk/ assistant position in Newcastle at 17 S. Seneca Ave. Please submit resumes to 17 S. Seneca Ave. Newcastle, WY 82701 or email newcastle@blackhillsdental.net For more information please call (307) 746-4772 or (307) 756-9301

**CHURCH SECRETARY**  
Christ the King Lutheran Church is seeking a part time secretary. 15-20 hours a week and payment would be negotiable. Responsibilities include answering the phone, checking voice mail and email, create weekly bulletin and monthly newsletter, pay bills, process payroll, attend weekly staff meeting, prepare & attend monthly council meetings, and other office duties. Applications are available at the church office, 224 West Rd. Call with questions (307) 746-2415.

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**BUILDING INSPECTOR**  
The City of Newcastle is seeking a Building Inspector. Under the direction of the City Engineer the position reviews residential and commercial building plans, checks compliance with zoning ordinances, prepares building, plumbing, HVAC permits, and inspects and enforces adopted building codes during construction. Minimum qualifications are a high school diploma, valid driver's license, good computer skills and good communication skills. The ideal candidate will possess certification as a building inspector from the ICC, and have experience as a building inspector or supervising building construction. Candidates without current ICC building inspector certification will be required to obtain such certification within 12 months from hire date as a condition of employment. Pay DOE with excellent benefits. Applications can be obtained from the City of Newcastle, 10 West Warwick, Newcastle, Wyoming 82701 or at http://www.newcastlewyoing.org/. The City of Newcastle is an equal opportunity employer.

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**Birth**  
Max August Swenson  
Max August Swenson, celebrated the arrival of his first grandchild, Lily Amalia Hughes, born August 26, 2016, at the Lutheran Medical Center, Wheatridge Colorado, weighing 7 lbs. 4 oz. Drs. Kyle and Heidi Hughes, Arvada, Colorado are the proud parents. Maternal Grandparents are Mike and Andrea Peterson of Gardnerville, Nevada. Paternal grandparents include Will, "Big" Hughes and Kay & Mary Lou Peterson of Moorcroft, Wyoming. Maternal great-grandmother is Edith Rieder of Las Vegas, Nevada.

**Lily Amalia Hughes**  
Doug and Lee Hughes are excited to announce the arrival of their first grandchild, Lily Amalia Hughes, born August 26, 2016, at the Lutheran Medical Center, Wheatridge Colorado, weighing 7 lbs. 4 oz. Drs. Kyle and Heidi Hughes, Arvada, Colorado are the proud parents. Maternal Grandparents are Mike and Andrea Peterson of Gardnerville, Nevada. Paternal grandparents include Will, "Big" Hughes and Kay & Mary Lou Peterson of Moorcroft, Wyoming. Maternal great-grandmother is Edith Rieder of Las Vegas, Nevada.

**Whitney Taylor & Bucky Rawhouser**  
Kiah Wintester and Mason Rawhouser are pleased to announce the marriage of their parents, Whitney Taylor and Bucky Rawhouser. The couple was joined by their children when they were married at Sports Authority Field in Denver, Colorado on September 18, 2016. The bride is the daughter of Wayne and The groom is the son of Don and Judy Rawhouser, and the brother of Lisa Foster, Paula Kline, Karen Rawhouser and Tim Rawhouser. Bucky and Whitney are both graduates of Newcastle High School, and still reside in Newcastle.

**Sarah Mitchell**  
Sarah Mitchell was married on August 14, 2016, at the Newcastle Country Club with officiator Tom C. Johnson and Best Man, Michael C. Johnson. The bride is the daughter of Kelly and Lonnie Smith and the groom is the son of Kelly and Lonnie Smith.

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High school seniors who smoke marijuana are 65% more likely to get into a car crash than those who don't smoke.




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(Little)

# One with Nature

*Program will help youth discover riches around them*

Abby Gray  
for NLJ

Cutting cords and breaking free from addicting technology is all Community Recreation Director Jessica Bettorf has in mind, and as part of her effort she is initiating a wildlife program, Wildlife Explorers, for residents starting on July 24.

Bettorf is putting the nature extravaganza together for the community's youth, and she told the News Letter Journal that the program she is using was established by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). Wildlife Explorers is geared toward 5 to 10-year olds, but older and younger children, along with parents, are encouraged to get involved.

Every Monday, beginning on July 24, children will be spending an hour, from 9-10 a.m., in Dow Park getting in touch with nature. The program will run for four weeks, and each week will consist of a different activity. Whether it be listening to the peaceful sounds of nature, simply admiring all the park has to offer or learning about the importance of the outdoors, those in attendance will never find themselves bored.

"NRPA provides workbooks for all the kids, so it is just a fun little activity book that we're



A pair of antelope fawns frolic in a field near the Weston County Fairgrounds last week. Community Recreation Director Jessica Bettorf hopes to help children appreciate the abundance of wildlife in the community. (Bob Bonnar/NLJ)

going to work through. We'll color and draw in it and just have some fun," Bettorf smiled.

NRPA established the entire program, and no experience is necessary to put it together, so Bettorf pounced at the opportunity to help children get in touch with the beautiful area Newcastle is home to.

"I was just on the website and came across this, and it looked like something really fun to try," she nodded.

Although Bettorf noted summer is a busy time for many individuals, she hopes to get a decent turnout in order to help children become more involved

and active in the parks again.

"I think technology and electronics take up a huge portion of children's time anymore, so I want to encourage children to actually be outside and active and in nature— without technology," Bettorf declared.

Registration forms were sent home with elementary school students at the end of the school year, but they are also available from Bettorf. They can be picked up at her office at the Kozisek Aquatic Center, and she said registration forms should be turned in no less than a week before the exploration begins.

# TAX PLANNING FOR FOREST LANDOWNERS



**July 17, 2017  
1PM to 3PM**



**Wyoming State Forestry Division Building  
431 Delaware Ave., Newcastle, WY**

**PRESENTER:**

**ROGER McEOWEN, J.D., KANSAS FARM BUREAU PROFESSOR OF AGRICULTURAL LAW AND TAXATION AT WASHBURN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, TOPEKA, KANSAS**

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