

# News Letter Journal

Weston County

January 4, 2018

Newcastle, Wyoming

Year 132

Week 1

## PERSONS of the YEAR

“They go above and beyond, crawling under trailers and re-homing if owners pass away.”

— Paige Penfield

### Sweet Country Angels: Amanda Bench & Ginger Fields

By Bri Brasher  
NLJ Reporter

Sweet Country Angels — a self-funded program that rescues and re-homes local cats at risk of euthanasia — is run by creators Amanda Bench and Ginger Fields of Newcastle. Both Bench and Fields have been nominated on behalf of Sweet Country Angels as a 2017 joint Person of the Year. Bench and Fields have been working to save cats in the area for six years after Newcastle’s cat population skyrocketed. The pair have since rescued what they estimate is close to 800 or 900 cats, and spent at least \$15,000.

Animal lovers through and through, Bench and Fields simply cannot stand the idea of any cat starving or freezing in the elements. According to the Sweet Country Angels, “In our small town, there is no shelter or rescue for cats. The City traps cats, both strays and pets. If they are not claimed, they are euthanized. The Mayor gave us permission to rescue and re-home some of these

cats.” The organization works with the local “cat house,” and if cats are not claimed within five days, Bench and Fields are contacted to pick up the cat within the next 48-72 hours.

“I think they would be good candidates for Person of the Year because they started a cat rescue group on their own,” said Paige Penfield, a foster parent for recovering and homeless cats through Sweet Country Angels. “They’ve always been really trustworthy and helpful. They always show really high gratitude for any donation or foster parents.”

Funded out of their own pockets and a few greatly appreciated donations, Bench and Fields pay for gas, cages, litter boxes, food, and vet bills. Fields is a nurse that helps with the operation during her spare time, and Bench also owns and operates Sweet Country Suites and Sweet Country Spa, out of which she sells goodies to support Sweet Country Angels cause. The two are grateful for those at Salt Creek Veterinary Clinic for their help and discounts on necessary proce-



dures, and to Black Hills Bentonite for donating and delivering cat litter.

Once the cats are ready to be re-homed or able to stay with a foster family, Bench or Fields make arrangements to transport the cat to its new living arrangements anywhere in the surrounding area. They truly are a two-woman show, with great helpers in their corner. Though Sweet Country Angels is not a shelter, Bench and Fields have often taken in cats themselves if there is an overflow.

Diana Williams, friend to Bench and Fields and also business manager for all Sweet Country operations, visited with the News Letter Journal about the organization’s work. Williams emphasized that both women have amazing hearts for animals and their well-being, humorously adding that Bench even catches spiders and puts them outside rather than killing them.

“She just has a sensitivity for all of God’s creatures. Whether it’s a fly or a cat, a horse or a person,”

— See **Angels**, Page 8

### POY: Candidate Dr. Lanny Reimer: Here to stay

By Jenna Piper  
For NLJ

Dr. Lanny Reimer was just a high-schooler working at the local drug store in Newcastle. Who would have guessed then that Reimer, who describes himself as always being “science-minded,” would go on to medical school and come back to his hometown to help build a healthcare system that has successfully run for over 30 years?

While Reimer didn’t work in the pharmacy and the local drug store, he did get familiar with parts of the profession and went on to pharmacy school in Laramie, Wyoming. However, Reimer soon left pharmacy school



and switched to medicine.

“These days, they have a lot of clinical pharmacists who get to talk to patients more, and work in hospitals and help patients a lot more,” Reimer said. “That model was just starting, and that model was not available to me in Laramie. It just wasn’t

clear that it was even a possibility, so I wanted to be more involved in decision making.”

Reimer went on to study at the University of Colorado and completed his residency of three years in Sacramento, California with an emphasis in family practice. After his residency, Reimer moved back to Newcastle in 1979 and worked for the clinic for a couple years before starting his own practice in 1982.

“I wanted to do rural medicine because you can do more of a variety of things than you can if you stay in a big city as a family doctor,” Reimer said.

While Reimer had his own practice, a doctor in training from Colorado came

— See **Reimer**, Page 8

### POY: Candidate Mick Bohn: More than a voice

By Abby Gray  
For NLJ

When you don’t hear his voice booming over the radio giving a play-by-play for Dogie sports, or see him on the sideline of middle school basketball games, Mick Bohn finds a multitude of other ways to keep himself occupied. It is for that reason he has been nominated as a 2017 Person of the Year.

Mick has been in Newcastle for nearly 26 years, and he has kept himself busy caring for those within the community the entire time. Along with reporting sports and coaching whenever need be, Mick is a pastor at the Foursquare Church, he is part of the Ministerial Association,



— See **Bohn**, Page 6

## DEQ offers partnership to clean old landfill

By Alexis Barker  
NLJ Reporter

Newcastle’s landfill No. 1, located below the orange water tank South of town, has been identified by the state as one of the top 10 high-priority landfills in the state in need of remediation. No. 1 was the city’s original landfill before it eventually closed in the late 1980s.

According to both city engineer Mike Moore and Craig McOmie, program manager for the landfill cease and transfer and remediation program for the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, environmental issues at the landfill, including leaching, have been identified. A landfill’s proximity to houses and

domestic water wells, as well as other factors, are evaluated according to a point system used to rank the landfills.

McOmie attended the Dec. 18 City Council meeting to discuss options and plans to resolve the landfill’s environmental issues.

According to McOmie, the main issue with the landfill — water — was noticed when drilling was done at the site and water came back. “Based on the depth of the waste, we know there is water in the garbage,” McOmie said.

He noted that there are different options to fix the contamination issue, including a flexible membrane cap and a cutoff wall, adding that the wall was the best answer to the

“There is no stressful deadline for coming up with the money. That is why I’m here to work with you, to try and understand your financial situation. I am here to help you all the way through.”

— Craig McOmie  
Program Manager,  
Wyoming DEQ

problem. McOmie explained that the wall allows for the water runoff from the landfill to be collected and either treated at the source or through the sewer lagoons.

“What I talked to Mike (Moore) about was that there are some funds earmarked to refine the costs at the high-priority landfills. I thought Newcastle was a good fit for that,” McOmie said.

He explained that, under the program, the city would enter into a written agreement with the state before consultants begin to look at the nature and extent of the contamination, risks to the population and potential corrective measures, noting that the consultant will pick remedies that are most likely to fix the issues.

The program involves a 75-25 grant, with the city responsible for the one-fourth share of the cost, once the written agreement is entered into. For 10 years after the agreement is signed, McOmie said, the state will consider itself a partner to Newcastle and help with costs associated with the remediation efforts.

McOmie said that the state also has a pilot program that would allow for further investigation before the city enters into any agreement with the state.

“My preference is to do this work before entering into the agreement,” McOmie said.

The purpose of a pre-agreement

— See **Landfill**, Page 3

WEATHER  
FORECAST

Thursday  
Sunny  
Hi 37, Lo 20



Friday  
Mostly Sunny  
Hi 38, Lo 24



Saturday  
Partly Cloudy  
Hi 41, Lo 26



Sunday  
Partly Cloudy  
Hi 32, Lo 19



Monday  
Partly Cloudy  
Hi 30, Lo 16



Tuesday  
Mostly Sunny  
Hi 28, Lo 13



Wednesday  
Mostly Cloudy  
Hi 29, Lo 16



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Person of the Year!  
• More Candidate Profiles Inside



# Opinion

## News Letter Journal

### Our View

## Passionate people

On behalf of the community, we would like to say a hearty thank you to all of our Person of the Year nominees for their selfless service.

We would also like to thank those readers who have submitted nominations for our annual recognition over the years, and encourage you to keep those names coming.

Although our first issue of the year is set aside specifically to recognize those individuals who made significant contributions to our community, it is our hope that we will be able to feature at least one potential Person of the Year nominee in every edition of the News Letter Journal in 2018. We truly believe the strength of this community is found in the passionate people who identify problems—or opportunities—and put their energy and talent to work to produce a benefit for all of us, and stories about these individuals and their efforts inspire the rest of us to accomplish great things for our community as well.

So thank you again to all those individuals who agree to allow us to feature them in stories like this. Sharing your example is yet one more gift you provide to our hometown.

## We're all part of the game

A sporting event isn't complete unless there are fans in the stands, and it's a symbiotic relationship between everyone involved. Fans add to the energy that athletes feed off of, and the athletes give fans the excitement they need to cheer on their respective teams.

When a running back breaks from the defense and sprints toward the end zone, or when a guard makes the down court pass to his or her breaking teammate for the cherry picking layup, it makes the crowd go crazy.

Who doesn't love that?

The players hear the love which gives them a boost, the coaches feel the same and the fans get their love reciprocated.

Most of the time, when fans are involved in the game it is positive, however, sometimes what they say can be damaging.

I will be the first to admit that it took me a minute after I retired from coaching to stop letting everyone in the gym know how I felt about the happenings on the court. However, even when I was yelling at refs or cheering on great plays, I can say with confidence that I never made disparaging remarks about individual players.

I know that emotions run high during games, and that is certainly so when people have children playing. The thing that people need to keep in mind, though, is that every kid on the floor—or on the bench for that matter—is someone's child.

And what's more important is that they are all children. In high school sports, they are 14-18 year old children who are playing a game they love. They aren't collegiate, and they certainly aren't pros. They are kids who will make mistakes, and that's okay.

What's not okay is when people in the stands, who are often adults, speak badly about those kids on the court or the field.

The first thing we need to be

mindful of is that the kid we are disparaging may be the child, or the loved one, of the person sitting in front of us, behind us or beside us. We certainly don't want to hear bad things about the special player we are watching, so it seems reasonable that speaking negatively about another player won't be well received.

Secondly, those negative vibes spread far beyond those who are sitting close enough to hear the words.

I was discussing this with my children, who both played high school sports, and they very definitely stated that they can feel it on the court. My daughter explained it well when she said that when she made a mistake, she was fully aware that she had, and that she knew that there were people watching who were making judgements.

There isn't a player who enters a game who is thinking that they want to make mistakes. Every kid who plays wants nothing more than to execute perfectly and help their team win.

The reality is that these kids will make great plays and they will do spectacular things that will make the crowd go wild. However, they will also make mistakes and that's okay. There will be players on the field or the court that might not be flashy, but the role they play is vital to the success of others and the team as a whole.

And even the most talented players have off nights when they can't catch a pass or hit a shot.

Athletes beat themselves up on the regular for the mistakes they make, so the last thing they need is people sitting in the stands throwing more punches.

So let's remember as we cheer on our Dogies this season, that for every pass, shot and turnover, there's a child who is just playing a game that they love—and they need our support.

Cheer on all your Dogies, because no one succeeds without a team.



Sonja Karp  
Karpe Dogie

## A nice trip to Newcastle

During the past five years, we have made an effort to visit just about every city and town in Wyoming. We have given talks and been involved with other authors in book signings.

We have had wonderful times in Cheyenne, Laramie, Rawlins, Saratoga, Rock Springs, Jackson, Pinedale, Lusk, Wheatland, Douglas, Casper, Thermopolis, Buffalo, Sheridan, Worland, Gillette, Hulett, Sundance, Cody, Powell, Lander, Torrington and Riverton.

Towns on our to-do list include Afton, Evanston, Kemmerer, Dubois, Lovell, Greybull-Basin, Pine Bluffs, Green River, Mountain View-Fort Bridger-Lyman and others.

Lately, I had not been having very good luck with Wyoming roads, but back on Nov. 30, the roads were as dry as mid-summer all the way on our 300-mile, one-way journey to Newcastle.

We drove by Teapot Dome north of Casper and recalled how this massive oil field was the source of one of the biggest scandals in American political history. Author Laton McCartney of Dubois wrote an informative book about that scandal a few years ago. Ironically, the pending scandal called Uranium One is located about 30 minutes from that site, according to Tom Lubnau, Gillette.

The towns of Midwest, Edgerton and Wright are along a route that takes you from Interstate 25 over to Highway 59. The imposing Pumpkin Buttes loom to the north. The buttes is an area that I have always wanted to explore.

You head east from Wright and go through the massive Thunder Basin coalmine complex. If coal is dying, it does not look like it there.

Later, we met members of the Wright family, who have a big ranch in the area. The town was named for them.

We passed through the vast Thunder Basin National Grassland. One rancher told me three Triceratops fossilized skeletons have been found on their ranch. That particular critter is the official state dinosaur for Wyoming.

Newcastle knows how to celebrate Christmas. They staged a big downtown celebration on Dec. 1, which was topped off by the 15th annual Pinnacle Bank Festival of Trees. The senior center was jammed full with people of good cheer, raising money to charities.

Newcastle appears to me to be a successful mix of folks from all different kinds of employment persuasions. Some are coal miners who are bused daily to the Thunder Basin mine. I ran into former Landerite Paul Piana, who now works there. Paul is one of the state's premier mountain climbers. His wife Deb is mayor of

Newcastle.

There is a big oil refinery in the middle of the Weston County seat that is running at capacity. Coal trains pass through the town all day long.

The coolest building in the town (and one of the most unique in the state) is the county courthouse. You have to see it to believe it. It was recently refurbished. It, alone, is worth a trip to Newcastle.

Newcastle is nestled in the Wyoming Black Hills, and is just eight miles from South Dakota. Tourism appears to be a huge opportunity for growth.

There are big ranches in the area and an abundance of oil and gas wells. Folks appear to be doing well, although some business people complained the economy has tightened up in recent years. The town has a new motel under construction.

My host was local publisher Bob Bonnar of the News Letter Journal. He is very energetic about promoting the town.

Bob is a former president of the Wyoming Press Association, and he has worked hard for years pushing newspaper interests across the state. Not sure he has received the credit he is due for his hard work.

Bob had also lined me up to talk about Wyoming history with 49 fourth graders on Nov. 1, which was so much fun. Our future is in good hands if all young people are as energetic and anxious to learn as that bunch.

Newcastle is one of Wyoming's oldest towns. It originally was a coal-mining hub, hence the name Newcastle, which is the name of one of Great Britain's greatest coal mining regions.

Their Wyoming coal was in an area called Cambria, which was mined back in 1889, before Wyoming became a state.

One of the early train masters for the CB&Q railroad at Cambria was a chap by the name of Carl Kugland; he worked there from 1895-1903, and later became a Weston County commissioner, mayor of Newcastle, and owned an insurance agency there.

He has two granddaughters who live in Wyoming, Jean Denham, Cheyenne and Kate Brown, Wheatland.

*Bill Sniffin is a retired newspaper publisher who has penned a number of books about Wyoming. He appeared for author's receptions at both the Weston County Library and News Letter Journal on December 1. Check out additional columns written by Bill at www.billsniffin.com. and find volumes from his coffee table book series, which have sold over 30,000 copies, for sale at the News Letter Journal.*



Bill Sniffin  
My Wyoming

## Deadline for Letters is noon on Friday

## Letters to the Editor

### Time to quit whining about Trump's win

Dear Editor,  
Why can't the anti-Trumpers grow-up and accept reality?

Trump is president and will be for several more years. The rest of us felt the same way all the time Obama was president, but we went on with our lives and did not waste time. We did not demonstrate and cry about it for a year. We accepted and moved on, knowing that it too would pass.

Trump may not have been our favorite, but he certainly is better than Hillary would have been.

What has Trump done that is so bad? The stock market is up a third. Nancy Pelosi's net worth increased from \$175 million to probably over \$200 million, but is she thankful? GDP growth is up, unemployment is down, the military funding is increasing, ISIS is diminished, regulations have been diminished, the mandated tax on ACA is gone, corporate and personal taxes are down, conservative judges are appointed, the

Israeli embassy is going to be where Congress said it should be twenty years ago.

There must be something else to complain about. He has accomplished things none of the other candidates would even try.

There has been a common complaint about the politicians in Washington and the way they do things, and that the government should be run more like a business. Now we have a non-politician businessman in the office, and the public complains more than ever. Is there an answer to those who have a problem with our government?

How many people are aware that Obama has formed a committee "Organizing for Action" for the express purpose of getting rid of Trump? Tom Steyer has put up \$20 million for the same purpose. Such action by a former president is without precedent.

Obama was totally unqualified to be president, and may go down as the worst. Even Bill Clinton accepted George Bush, and they became friends.

—Don Thorson

### Free Christmas dinner is a great tradition

Dear Editor,

A note of public appreciation is in order to Pastor John Anderson, the Gateway Fellowship Church, and all those who helped to put on the free dinner and program on Christmas Day at the Senior Citizens Center.

And the generosity of those who provided the many gifts and food boxes that were given away was certainly admirable as well.

The turnout was the best I've ever seen, and it was a great time to get together with many friends and acquaintances from the Weston County community. It's become a wonderful Newcastle Christmas tradition.

I think I can speak for everyone and say that a most enjoyable time was had by all.

—Leonard Lang

### Tax bill just piles more on average folk

Dear Editor,

One of the things that should be of

public concern is that the radical right, in serving their own desires, will overstep the bounds tolerated by the underclass.

That has happened many times in history and never ends well for either group. The French Revolution is my favorite reference. Trump seems to be headed (no pun intended) down that path currently.

If we had a Congress that was less avaricious they might rein him in. But no, our Congress, consisting of millionaires and 'wanna-bes' join in and pass this abomination called "The Tax Bill."

Trump and his family members will benefit greatly as will most of the members of Congress. The rest of us suckers not only get no benefit from Trump's tax bill, but will be responsible for paying down the increased national debt it causes.

It does make me wonder, how much does he need to steal from us and otherwise mismanage the affairs of our country before righteous outrage sets in?

We the people have been seriously remiss in our duties as citizens. Could it be that democracy does not work for forever?

Who cares as long as we have the NFL and a cold brewski?

—Jerry Baird

## Who



Rob Hicks  
Owner



Bob Bonnar  
Publisher and Editor



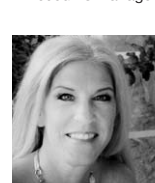
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## What

We strive to cover all the news and entertainment important to the people of Weston County, Wyoming. Our entire staff takes part in the decision-making process of what appears in these pages and all content is locally generated. If you have a story idea please contact any of the people you see here. NLJ editorials appear in the upper left hand corner of this page and are written from the position of the newspaper, usually with the influence of several people, and in the hope that they will carry the weight of our 100-plus years of leadership. The personal columns and letters appearing elsewhere on this page, and others, represent the opinions of single individuals and do not necessarily reflect the position of the newspaper. The NLJ welcomes and encourages your Letter to the Editor. We will print all signed, original letters of local interest. Please provide a phone number for verification. We will not publish letters that are libelous or scurrilous in nature. Letters of thanks are offered at a reduced price in our classified section.

## Where

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Student, In State ..... \$27  
Student, Out of State ..... \$33

## When

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## Why

To provide news and entertainment for, and to serve the best interests of, the people of Weston County.

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# Snow days, cold days

The final days of 2017 brought with them a late snowfall — just in time for Christmas — and blasts of extremely low temperatures, in some areas of Weston County a reported -20 degrees. The weather didn't slow many folks down, though, as business carried on as usual. At right, Bobbie Jo Tysdal walks her grandson, Levi, to school. Below, a hearty soul clears snow from downtown Newcastle sidewalks. Although it won't be quite as cold in the coming week the snow isn't going anywhere, as temperatures are only expected to rise above freezing on Saturday.



(Photos by Andy McKay)



## Landfill

from Page 1.....

investigation is to better pinpoint exact costs and help the city better understand its responsibilities.

According to McOmie, the landfill work will cost about \$1.6 million, making the city's share \$400,000. He noted that the numbers are not firm and are based on the best available information at this time.

"We are working through some things. This is a year process, and we are a couple years out from starting the program. I wanted to meet with you as soon as possible to get it on your radar, to let you know that this is happening," McOmie said.

He said that the state is looking at hiring a statewide consultant to begin looking at the landfills on the remediation list to help determine the best way to correct the problems and to provide more accurate cost estimates.

"Newcastle is a really good candidate for this. We don't have to study the heck out of it to understand that there is water in the waste. We don't need to do a two-year study to figure that out," McOmie said. "We need to first address the

issue we know we have instead of studying the heck out of it."

McOmie confirmed that the pilot program will cost the city nothing and that the state Department of Environmental Quality will fund it with money from the Legislature. The DEQ's hopes are to have a consultant ready to begin work in the spring, with the program projected to take a year. Data would be available to the state by fall 2019.

Mayor Deb Piana asked what kind of deadline the city would have to correct the issues after the pilot program is complete.

"There isn't a time where you must comply. It is a partnership, and I want to stress that. None of us thought we would have this issue. That is why the state created a program to pay 75 percent of the costs. Solid waste practices have changed dramatically over the years, and there are a number of landfills that followed their permits and did everything right," McOmie said. "There is no stressful deadline for coming up with the money. That is why I'm here to work with you, to try

and understand your financial situation. I am here to help you all the way through."

He noted that the timing of the remediation program will synchronize with the closure of landfill No. 2 and has the potential to create financial hardships, adding that he hopes to help the city perhaps stagger the work and the costs.

According to McOmie, No. 2's permit is good through 2021 or 2022, with a closure permit needed by 2020, but the exact closure date is based on available space.

"The state is not interested in filling up an already dug pit with dirt. They would rather fill it with waste while creating revenue," McOmie said.

He explained that Newcastle will also be eligible for grant funds to help with the closure, with the amount of help received based on a sliding scale and the town's ability to pay. McOmie added that there are also zero-interest loans available to aid with closure costs. "This is all hitting you at once. I am trying to get out in front of this at least a couple years in advance," McOmie said.

# Your financial fitness matters

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Date: Wed/Thurs Jan. 10-25

Time: 5:30-6:45PM

Cost: \$70 + \$40 (Cost for metal & cleaning plus primer & basic paint)

Registration Deadline: Jan. 5

#### ◆ Living a Financially Secure Life

Date: Tuesday, Jan. 16

Time: 5:30-7PM

Cost: No Fee

Registration Deadline: Jan. 9

#### ◆ A New Year-A New You

Date: 12-Week Challenge,

Jan. 4-March 28

Cost: \$100 per team

Registration Deadline: Jan. 3

#### ◆ Driver's Education

Date: Jan. 16-March 22

Time: 6-9PM

Cost: \$50

Registration Deadline: Jan. 11

#### ◆ Men's League Basketball

Date: Sun/Wed, Jan. 7-Feb. 21

Time: 7-9PM

Cost: \$10 per person

Registration Deadline: Jan. 7 @ 6:30PM

#### ◆ Cricut Basics

Date: Saturday, Feb. 3

Time: 2-4PM

Cost: \$30

Registration Deadline: Jan. 26

#### ◆ Yoga

Date: Mondays, Jan. 8-May 21

Time: 6-7PM

Cost: \$5 per session or \$18 per month

Registration Deadline: Ongoing

#### ◆ Savvy Slow Cooking

Date: Monday, Feb. 12

Time: 6-8:30PM

Cost: \$20

Registration Deadline: Feb. 7

#### ◆ Indoor Walking

Date: Mon-Fri, Jan. 8-May 25

Time: 5:30-7AM/4-6PM

Cost: No Fee

Contact EWC Outreach office to register & sign a waiver

#### ◆ Mind, Belly, Soul

Date: Jan. 9-May 22

Time: 5:15-6:15PM

Cost: \$40 per month OR \$13 drop-in

Registration Deadline: Ongoing

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**Eastern Wyoming College**  
Newcastle Outreach • Kim Conzelman, Director  
[kim.conzelman@ewc.wy.edu](mailto:kim.conzelman@ewc.wy.edu)  
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The News Letter Journal is offering a 3-column-by-5-inch ad for only \$50 to businesses and organizations that place an ad order between noon and 5 p.m. on Wednesday. Must include all text, images and any other ad materials.

Simply stop in at 14 W. Main Street, call or email your order to Pam Penfield (307-746-2777 or [sales@newslj.com](mailto:sales@newslj.com)) between noon and 5 p.m. on Wednesday!





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For more information please call the Visitation and Advocacy Center for the Sixth Judicial District  
**(307) 687-9440**

# POY: Candidate

## Justin Mills: Cream of the crop

By Abby Gray  
For NLJ



What comes to mind when you think of a rancher who officiates some high school basketball on the side? Probably not your run-of-the-mill, person of the year nominee.

However, it is those rare and overlooked qualities — along with being incredibly humble about what he does — that makes this candidate even more special than before. Justin Mills has all the makings of a person of the year, but he sure keeps quiet about it, making him perhaps an even more qualified candidate.

“Really, there are probably people around the area much more deserving than I,” Mills said of his nomination.

Though he tries not to pat himself on the back, he does keep himself quite involved within the community, and around his own home. It really is quite the accomplishment, even though many people may overlook it.

Justin moved from Billings to Upton in 2013, where he is now taking over the lease at his wife’s parents’ ranch. Not only is he running a ranch, but he also officiates basketball in Weston and Crook counties, is part of the Weston County fair board and is on the Upton Economic Development Board.

Considering Mills is part of many different associations, and has to spread himself pretty thin, it would be easy to think he might not put all of his effort and care into each endeavor in which he takes part. However, former fellow Weston County fair board member, Craig Deveraux, sees something differently from Mills.

“He’s really articulate, and he’s really open-minded, as well. He has a knack for just looking at everything from all sides before just making a decision. I think that’s partly because he has quite a bit of experience from here and Billings, but also just because he’s a really smart guy,” Deveraux nodded.

Mills noted he doesn’t really think too much of his involvement. He says it’s just something he feels can and should be done, but what he is able to accomplish on all of his boards is nothing to scoff at. Even those who have not known him for too incredibly long can attest to that.

“You know, I’ve only known him for a couple of years, but I know he is one really involved guy, and in that involvement he’s very community-minded. He puts a lot of emphasis on community involvement and entertainment. I know especially on the fair board he did. He has the capacity to enhance the events, the entertainment, the fairgrounds themselves

“  
He puts a lot of emphasis on community involvement and entertainment. I know especially on the fair board he did. He has the capacity to enhance the events, the entertainment, the fairgrounds themselves and the civic part of that, and he just does a really good job.”

— Craig Deveraux

and the civic part of that, and he just does a really good job,” Deveraux continued.

Even with praise coming from people with whom he comes into contact, Mills remains humble, and keeps a good head on his shoulders. He doesn’t think juggling all that he does is impressive, but acknowledges it may be more than the average citizen tries to maintain. However, he credits those around him for all that he is able to accomplish.

“You just kind of, you just do it, you know? I try to kind of limit myself to where I’m only involved in three boards at a time, just so I don’t get too overwhelmed. But along with that, I have a really great wife and just a really great family to help me get everything done,” Mills said.

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Thanks to all those who provided auction items and those who bid on them! These funds allow us to continue helping Weston County residents with serious medical conditions to travel out of the county for medical treatment.

Helping Hands Foundation of Weston County wants to wish everyone a very happy and healthy 2018! Thank you for your support in 2017!



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**Daily Devotional Reading**

January 4 Ephesians 4:1-16	January 8 Ephesians 6:10-24
January 5 Ephesians 4:17-32	January 9 Mark 1:21-45
January 6 Psalms 72	January 10 Ephesians 2:1-17
January 7 Ephesians 5:1-20	Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

- **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. haydis-hall@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 Dinssa, 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 and Micah Popma, 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. 605-515-3058.
- **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 SQUARE 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 Tim Martinson, 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 10 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.

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**Obituaries**

**JEANETTE ILEENE KLINE BERDAHL**  
Dec. 26, 1929—Dec. 21, 2017



**Jeanette Berdahl**

Jeanette Ileene Kline Berdahl, 87, of Newcastle, died Thursday, Dec. 21, 2017, in Cape Girardeau, Mo.

She was born to Orval and Myrtle (Pinkerton) Kline on Dec. 26, 1929, in Wauneta, Neb. When she was 2 years old, the family moved to a homestead southwest of Newcastle.

She graduated from Newcastle High School in 1948. She was introduced to her future husband, "Stewart" John S. Berdahl, through her older sister's boyfriend, (and future husband) Homer Berdahl, an indication the Kline/Berdahl chemistry must have been good.

The union produced four children and lasted until Stew passed away in 1995.

Jeanette worked as a secretary for several oil well service firms, including Lane Wells, Dresser Atlas, Schlaikjer Drilling, and Wyoming Oil and Gas, all the while staying active in her children's lives and encouraging their academic endeavors.

Jeanette was active in the local community, including the Lutheran Church, the Odds & Ends bridge club, VFW Auxiliary, Meals on Wheels, PEO, and the bell choir. In recent years, Jeanette remained especially active with the Newcastle High School All School Reunions, and was on the board of directors for both Weston County Senior

Services center and the Weston County Historical Association.

Jeanette was also an accomplished artist, having mastered a number of art forms from quilting to porcelain doll-making, to beading and painting. She was always involved with some craft project with one or more of her gang. Most of all, she excelled at sewing, creating everything from custom Barbie clothes to the award-winning, elaborate baptismal gowns for her grandchildren.

She and Stew and friends built a cabin north of Four Corners and spent countless happy hours each summer with an ever growing number of grandchildren, exploring the "shady eighty" and the Black Hills with them.

Jeanette is survived by her brother, Jr. Kline, and her sisters, Peggy, Joyce, and Shirley Ann. She leaves her four children, Bonnie (Paul) Kipper of Cape Girardeau, Mo., Don (Louise) Berdahl of Lawton, Mich., Ron Berdahl, Yukon Territory, and Barry (Angie) Berdahl of Forrest Grove, Ore; as well as 13 grandchildren (Kari, Rory, Cassie, John, Siri, Jens, Chelsea, Charlie, Andrew, Scott, Luke, Seth, and Hannah) and seven and 9/10 great-grandchildren (Fletcher, Taavi, Torin, Sven, Tove, Sava, Finn, and baby girl Berdahl).

Jeanette was preceded in death by her parents, Orval Kline Jr. and Myrtle Shank; her husband, Stew; and her brother, Jack.

Burial will take place at the Black Hills National Cemetery in Sturgis, S.D., this summer.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Weston County Senior Services center.



**JAMES 'J.C.' MANGUS**  
Dec. 1, 1959—Dec. 29, 2017



**James Mangus**

James "J.C." Mangus, age 58, passed away at his home in Casper, Wyo., on Friday, Dec. 29, 2017. He was born Dec. 1, 1959, in Lusk, Wyo.

J.C. grew up in Newcastle and graduated from Newcastle High School in 1978. He immediately went to work for Updike Brothers and remained with Key Energy until he retired due to illness. J.C. never met a stranger and was immediately liked by everyone he met. His quick wit made him a joy to be around. His Wyoming roots ran deep. He loved spending time driving the back roads, exploring and enjoying nature. He was an avid gun collector and woodworker, and spent numerous hours enjoying his hobbies.

J.C. is survived by his mother, Karen Bruce and spouse Max of Gillette, Wyo.; sister, Sandi Chitwood and spouse Bob of Spring, Texas; sister, Kim Toliver and spouse Mike, of Rapid City, S.D.; uncle, Rex Groves and spouse Sandy of Lance Creek Wyo.; nephew, T.J. Ayres and spouse Crystal of Newcastle; niece, Ashley Diaz and spouse Jason of Newcastle; niece, Kelsi Gonzalez of Denver, Colo.; one great-niece and several great-nephews; as well as all of his friends.

No funeral services will be held. A memorial service will be held at a later date. J.C. had a great love of animals, and donations can be made in his name to The Casper Humane Society.

Arrangements were made by Newcomer of Casper.

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**Recapture A PIECE OF HISTORY**

January 3, 1918

As a result of a head on collision between two freight trains that took place Sunday morning at 1:40, at Croton, just across the line in Campbell County, two men are dead, another slightly injured & railroad property to the value of \$10,000.00 was destroyed.

Dr. Fred Horton, of this city, who has been appointed by President Wilson as a member of the District Medical Advisory Board, was called to Sheridan last week to attend a meeting of the board.

Charles W. Shank, the Cheyenne River stockman, is in town today on business.

Mr. & Mrs. I. N. Smith & Mrs. Elgin Smith, of Beaver Creek spent New Year's in town.

Mrs. F.W. Hilton and little Billy returned home to Sundance Tuesday forenoon, after a pleasant two weeks visit at Sunny Slope.

During the shower Tuesday night, a bright rainbow appeared in the North and extended high into heavens. On New Year Day the phenomena appeared at noon in the same direction as brilliant and beautiful as a midsummer rainbow after an evening shower.

Fred & Willie Schmidt came in from their ranches on Lodgepole last Friday to be assisted in the answers to be filled out in the questionnaires'. They returned home Saturday with Hampshire Sage.

January 7, 1943

Last rites were held here Sunday morning in the Methodist Church at 8 o'clock a.m. for Mrs. Anna L. Roadifer, 73, who passed away December 31, 1942 at the McClosky General Hospital in

Temple, Texas. Rev. W.L. Wade officiated. Burial was made in the Greenwood Cemetery.

At a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners held Tuesday, the News Letter Journal was named official newspaper of Weston County.

Weston County's war bond quota for January is \$30,000, it was announced Friday by A.E. Wilde, state administrator of war savings. Quota for the state is \$1,700,000.00.

In preparing for protection in blackouts in the near future the city council has appointed ten deputy police with mayor A.J.H. Dixon in charge.

Members of the D.A.R. will hold their regular meeting at the home of Mrs. W.J. Graham Monday, January 11, at 2:00 o'clock.

Mrs. Roy Johnson returned home New Year's Day from Des Moines, Iowa, where she had been visiting her parents & other relatives.

Glen Barr left Wednesday for Alliance to visit his mother, who is in the hospital. He then went on to Fort Benning, GA., where he is stationed in the Army.

Selective service headquarters announced Sunday that "vigorous action" against draft delinquents would be started by the justice department February 1st.

The University of Wyoming is offering six-month technical training course for women and girls which began Monday, to aid in providing workers for government agencies and private industry.

*Should have seen it in color*



Main Street Christmas Scene (looking East on Main). December 1966 (Photo Courtesy of Anna Miller Museum)

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**WHAT'S UP**  
*January 2018*  
**Weston County Meetings & Events Calendar**

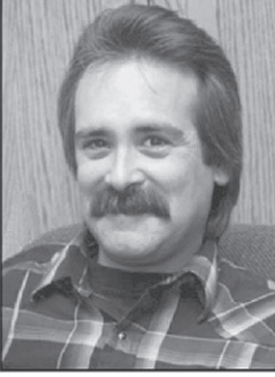
	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
<b>Thurs 04</b>	7:00 p.m.	AA Meeting	WC Senior Center, Family Room
	1:30 p.m.	VFW Auxiliary	WC Senior Center
	7:00	Salt Creek Water District Meeting	District Office
	7:00 p.m.	WC Museum District Meeting	Anna Miller Museum
<b>Fri 05</b>	9:00 a.m.	Cinnamon Rolls	WC Senior Center
	7:00 p.m.	Bingo	VFW Hall
<b>Mon 08</b>	1:00 p.m.	AARP Meeting	WC Senior Center
	6:30 p.m.	WC Fair Board Meeting	WC Fairgrounds
	7:00 p.m.	AA Meeting	WC Senior Center, Family Room
	7:00 p.m.	WC Sportsmans	Shooting Range
<b>Tues 09</b>	11:00 a.m.	Story Time	WC Library
	12:00 p.m.	Alzheimers/Dementia Sup. Group	WC Senior Center
	12:00 p.m.	Artful Gals	Senior Housing
	3:00 p.m.	WC Natrual Resource District Mtg.	USDA Building
	6:00 p.m.	American Legion	Armory
	6:00 p.m.	WC Humane Society Meeting	Shelter
	6:30 p.m.	WC Search & Rescue	Fire Hall
<b>Wed 10</b>	1:00 p.m.	Creative Handicraft Group	WC Senior Center
	4:00 p.m.	Understanding Islam by Pastor Jerrol	Weston County Library
	7:00 p.m.	Mallo Camp Board Meeting	WC Public Health
	7:00 p.m.	WC School Distct Board Meeting	Administration Building
<b>Thurs 11</b>	5:30 p.m.	City Planning Commision Meeting	City Council Chambers
	7:00 p.m.	AA Meeting	WC Senior Center, Family Room

*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 [newcastlewy.com](http://newcastlewy.com)


**Birthdays & Anniversaries**  
**Jan 04**  
Allie May Lunstra  
Keith VanBuren  
Kenzie Pehringer  
Macy Steber  
**Jan 05**  
Alonzo Sandoval  
Moneen Rasmussen  
Peggy Hartley  
Sara Sweet  
**Jan 06**  
Kenzee Allard  
**Jan 07**  
Mike Smith  
**Jan 08**  
Zade Orsborn  
**Jan 10**  
Herb French

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# POY: Candidate

## Leonard Cash: He's a community treasure

By Bri Brasher  
NLJ Reporter

Fueled by a never-ending curiosity and sense of pure wonderment about times past, Newcastle native Leonard Cash continues to pursue any and all things historical, particularly in regards to the city of Newcastle and its people. Cash's work with the News Letter Journal to recount and explain the history of Newcastle, block by block and lot by lot, coupled with his work in the community over his near 80 years in the area, makes him a fitting candidate for the 2017 Person of the Year.

Deemed the "town historian" by many, the "library man" by some, and "Papa" by one, Cash has quite the reputation as the go-to guy for all things historical. Cash's eager willingness to share with anyone interested makes his knowledge all the more priceless to those both near and far. With inquirers as far as Ireland and as close as his granddaughter, Cash is sure to make time for any and all things historical.

"I know he has served on various community boards in the past for community service. He also has lived in the area his entire life, but his knowledge of our history and his willingness to share it is just amazing. I do not believe there is anyone with more knowledge of our local history than Leonard. I would like to see him honored," wrote Joanna Akers of First State Insurance in a nomination letter.

Cash served on Newcastle's museum board for 39 years, headed the local historical board as president for three terms in the 1990s, and was one of the first members of the local genealogy society. He was awarded the prestigious L.C. Bishop award — not once but twice — by the Wyoming State Historical Society for his work recording the history of the Black and Yellow Trail. Cash worked to research, organize, and mark the Texas Trail through Weston County. He put up 116 historical signs marking the trail. He also researched and worked to put up the Salt Creek sign by the Flying V. For his work on the Texas Trail, Cash won his second L. C. Bishop award along with Cumulative Contribution Award from both the Wyoming State Historical Society and the Weston County Historical Society.



(Photo by Bri Basher/NLJ)

Additionally, Cash has been labelled "the best historian in these parts" for his appearances at speaking engagements in the area. He is still engaged with his work to this day, and he even has plans to speak in the spring at an event in Buffalo, Wyo., commemorating the Black and Yellow Trail. With his vast collection of research, knowledge, and work on historical projects, one would assume that such a successful and notable historian would have a background in the discipline, yet Cash has built his extensive library on his own through years of pure perseverance and interest.

While Cash has always been taken by history and genealogy, his father was the one that really sparked his interest. His father gave him a big box of obituaries filled with the flowery language of past times and the stories of the people that shaped who we are and where we live today. Cash wanted to know the history of his own family, and his interests spiraled from there. He wrote down family names and then traveled around finding contacts to connect the dots of his family and later many others. Since then, Cash has been infatuated with the facts of long ago. Cash's wife, Linda, has gradually come to love history after her many travels researching with Leonard. They frequent antique shops, scour eBay for photos and tidbits, and scan phonebooks for possible connections.

"We were the first pickers.

We were pickers before being labelled "the best historian in these parts" for his appearances at speaking engagements in the area. He is still engaged with his work to this day, and he even has plans to speak in the spring at an event in Buffalo, Wyo., commemorating the Black and Yellow Trail. With his vast collection of research, knowledge, and work on historical projects, one would assume that such a successful and notable historian would have a background in the discipline, yet Cash has built his extensive library on his own through years of pure perseverance and interest.

"We'd be visiting somewhere, and he'd just pick up the phonebook and find a name that sounded familiar. He'd call the name to ask about relations, and the ones that agreed to talk to him had better be prepared to talk!" Linda exclaimed with a shake of her head and a quick laugh.

Cash and his girls — including Linda and their two daughters, Susie Wagner and Annette Koester — often took family trips so he could research. Annette, who now shares her father's fascination for history, said she vividly recalls their frequent outings. She remembers saying things like, "Do we have to stop at a courthouse or a cemetery? Because if we do, we're not going!" Now, however, their entire family enjoys the hobby, and Annette often finds herself stopping at such places on her own travels. The family interest has even been passed down to Annette and her husband Larry's fifteen-year-old daughter, Lacie. She and her Papa have been a pair since the Koesters adopted her as a baby.

"She (Lacie) loves her papa something fierce, and he loves her," Annette smiled. "They get into lots of trouble together, but you never know which one of them instigates it."

Lacie and Cash have a connection through their historical studies, a hobby that helps them

cope with each of their physical challenges. Lacie is deaf, and unknown to most, Cash has a rare infection under his brain for which there is currently no treatment. While both are doing well, they find refuge in their research, engrossed in the past and in sharing time together. The two often barricade themselves in Cash's library, absorbing any information they can find.

"I'm just learning about the town of Newcastle, everything I can, good and bad. I often think about going back on a time machine to really see how things were. Not just hear or read about it, but to see it — to fly over the top of it," Cash said with a sense of wonderment.

Cash's thoughts and stories surely fascinate and intrigue his granddaughter as much as they do the town of Newcastle and its residents. Joanna Akers recalls asking Cash questions about First State Bank's history, and Cash surpassed all of her expectations by showing up at the bank with loads of books and pictures to explain the whole story.

"Leonard is just so willing to share. He will just do so much for anybody that asks," Akers recognized. "He's a wealth of knowledge, which I think is really cool for a town this size."

In thinking of Cash, Akers also remembered what she calls "one of those things you just never forget." Linda and Leonard were one of the first people she and her family met when they moved to Newcastle. The Cash's showed up with cold lemonade when the Akers family was moving in the middle of summer, openly welcoming them to Newcastle. Akers said Cash is always humble about himself, yet boastful about the town he loves and knows, inside and out.

Even with newbie Newcastle reporters like me tasked to document Cash's knowledge, he is ever patient and always prepared, often prefacing difficult timelines with, "Now, I'm gonna confuse you right here..." Each week, he shows up at the library with his hands crossed in his lap, folders spread out in front of him, and a smile on his face ready to share. And if anyone else ever needs him, he is at the library from 9-11 each morning — still gathering information, still picking, and still learning.

I'd say it is about time Cash made history himself.

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## Bohn from Page 1

he helps put on a youth group at the middle school during late-start Wednesdays, he goes to the Honor Camp every other Sunday to preach to the inmates, he goes on mission trips, and much, much more.

"I see his heart in wanting to give to the community. We've lived here for, what, 25 or 26 years? And being able to give to this community has been his heart for all of those 26 years. He's just a really good guy," his wife, Linda Bohn, smiled.

Mick doesn't do anything in life for himself. Rather, he does it to help others, and to glorify God. He noted he generally drives more than 5,000 miles each year traveling for sports to announce games to be broadcast on the radio, but he knows there are a lot of people who can't make it to the game, and whom really appreciate getting to "see" the game through the radio thanks to Mick. So he doesn't mind the distance.

"He's always cared a lot about the kids. In the six years I've known him, he's just always been one to really care about these kids here. That's why he's willing to do sports any time we need him, and that's why he'll coach any time they need a coach. He just really loves kids, and he's always willing to go the extra mile for people. He never hesitates to help," KASL Radio General Manager Kevin Senger nodded.

"You know, God says, 'let your light shine before men,' so I'm always thinking about how I can let my light shine, and how I can help make this community a better place," Mick noted.

He does just that by starting with the younger generations. Each Wednesday, the middle school students get a late-start at school, and Mick uses that time to hold a youth group session with any students who wish to attend. This year, there are

**"We've lived here for, what, 25 or 26 years? And being able to give to this community has been his heart for all of those 26 years. He's just a really good guy."**

— Linda Bohn,  
Wife of Mick Bohn, POY  
Candidate

upwards of 20 students who come each week, and the majority are eighth grade students who have been coming for the past three years. Needless to say, Mick and the two other pastors who help him out have left major positive impacts on these kids' lives.

"He's a pretty cool guy, very well-rounded. I only actually went because he was my basketball coach and he liked me, so he told me I should go. But it was actually really fun and I liked it. He's a very understanding guy, I really like him," Kayne Henshaw, a former member of the youth group, declared.

On his mission trips, and even just in activities throughout Newcastle, Mick looks to help not only children in the community but also elderly folks. He has helped paint houses, put on roofs for those who cannot do it themselves, build a ministry center in Costa Rica, sided garages, built a deck for an elderly woman who needed assistance and countless other

selfless deeds in hopes to simply make a difference in the community.

What makes all of this even more impressive is that he was struck by lightning before moving to Newcastle, which led to his memory and his movement taking a hit.

"He has to stay really organized, and a lot of times he has to put things right into his phone otherwise he might forget about what he has to do because getting struck by lightning kind of messed with his memory, but he always gets his stuff done," Linda nodded.

He manages to stay so on top of his agenda. In fact, he was able to knock an item off his bucket list a few months ago. It was a goal of his to get to all 50 states, and last summer he had a conference in Washington, D.C. So, considering he was only missing South Carolina and North Carolina, the Bohns flew into South Carolina. They got a rental car, and drove through North Carolina to get to the nation's capital, marking a pretty cool feat.

Mick does not do any of this in hopes that he will be rewarded. In fact, he credits the community a lot for being so supportive and being so giving, to not only him and his organizations — such as the food pantry he helps run at his church — but to anyone in any time of need. He is always trying to do what is best for the community, and simply hopes that his efforts will improve things for people here. He looks for no recognition in the process.

"You know, there are probably a lot of people who deserve this recognition a lot more than I do. I'm just trying to do my part to help. It's nothing to be patted on the back for, you just go do your work," he told the News Letter Journal.

# POY: Candidate

## Lacey Sloan: An instant native

By Jenna Piper  
For NLJ

When sitting down with the district manager of the Weston County Natural Resource District and witnessing her commitment to her job and the area, one would think Lacey Sloan has lived and dug thick roots into the soil of Weston County her whole life, but in reality she has lived in this community for only three years.

It was 3 o'clock on Jan. 1, 2015, when Sloan said she left her home in Arkansas and embarked on a long and cold adventure to the Cowboy State, where both her future husband, Jonathan Sloan, and a position as district manager were awaiting her permanent arrival.

"I specifically remember that because my grandmother was actually the one that drove me up here," Sloan said. "She used to be a truck driver, and so after we got all my stuff loaded up and all the critters in the car I looked at the clock and I was like 'Goodbye Arkansas.'"

Sloan was raised in Mountain Home, Ark., and said that her love for critters and the outdoors began when she was young. To this day, Sloan admitted her grandparents and parents will tell weird and random stories of Sloan carrying around grubs in her pockets.

After graduating high school and getting a beagle named 'Nanner,' Sloan attended Arkansas Tech University, where she earned her bachelor's degree in fisheries and wildlife science. Sloan met her husband Jonathan at college, and after graduating she was hired as an aquarist at Lake Dardanelle State Park in Arkansas.

At the state park, Sloan handled and cared for nearly 10,000 gallons of native fish, gave boat tours, and helped run bass tournaments such as the Bassmasters Elite. In one year, Sloan said she would handle 20,000 pounds of fish, and it was "crazy." After her husband finished his master's in Mississippi, he moved to Newcastle to work for the Wyoming State Forestry Division, and it would be two years before the position as district manager became available to Sloan.

Having moved from Arkansas to Wyoming in the beginning of January, Sloan said that she was nervous not only because she was leaving her home state, but also because it was the coldest she has ever been in her life.

"I'll just play on the funny southern joke of, 'We don't drive in the snow,'" Sloan said. "We have snow days when snowflakes start falling from the sky, and then I realized you guys are pretty much badass up here and you don't. You just plow through it."

Besides the snow, Sloan ran into some bumps in the road when it came to her job as district manager, as she realized that she was going to have to take on the responsibilities of many.

"Going from dealing with nothing but fish, pH and nitrates, and dealing with bass fishermen that was one thing," Sloan said. "But then going and dealing with finances and forestry, I had no idea."

Sloan said that one of her life philosophies is to never stop asking "why" or "what," and said that it helped her get through her first year at WCNRD. She reads much information and asked as many questions as possible to learn her duties as district manager.

"I had to learn QuickBooks," Sloan said. "I wasn't an accountant, but I am now."

This go-getter attitude can be seen through the numerous projects Sloan helps carry out. Last year Sloan applied for a grant that gave the WCNRD \$152,000 to deal with the bark/pine beetles in the forests. This year the district received a \$170,000 grant for active forest management, which Sloan said allows for people to ask for money in order to thin out forest so it is not so dense in areas.

"Lacey is a go-getter," said Emily Hartinger, who resides on the WCNRD Board of Supervisors. "She always has fresh ideas that she brings up and wants to try, and she's never afraid to try new things. That's why she's been so successful in her position, in my opinion, because she's just not scared of anything."

One of the WCNRD's goals is to provide education to the public, and it is Sloan's favorite part of the job. Back in Arkansas, Sloan taught interactive educational programs and covered a variety of subjects such as beavers, watershed and water quality.



Lacey Sloan and her husband Jonathan are new to Weston County, but, along with their two dogs, three cats, eight guineas, three ducks, and 14 chickens, have made themselves at home. (Submitted photo)

“Lacey is a go-getter. She always has fresh ideas that she brings up and wants to try, and she's never afraid to try new things.”

— Emily Hartinger,  
Member WCNRD Board  
of Supervisors

This year, the WCNRD offered nine workshops that included: trapping, pesticide applicator training, gardening and beef herd management. Sloan said she brought a four-wheeler to the 2017 Weston County Fair and demonstrated how weed seeds and plant parts can hide on such a machine. She placed flower and leaf stickers on the four-wheeler to show the importance of washing off the machine before taking it home.

Sloan has also been teaming up with Jessica Bettorf, Community Recreation Director, to host a National Trails Day at Serenity Trail for the past couple years.

"Lacey is detail-oriented, she's very fun to be around. She has a good attitude about everything, very positive and motivating," Bettorf said.

Sloan is on the boards of the Newcastle Tree Board, the Newcastle Area Chamber of Commerce, and Black Hills Invasive Plant Partnership, which is a group formed by both Wyoming and South Dakota residents who come together and talk about invasive plants or the pine beetle situation and how the trees were being taken care of during that time. The Weston County Cow Belles also welcomed Sloan in their group, where Sloan said they meet once a month for lunch to discuss ways to promote beef and agriculture in the community.

"If you have ideas and you would like to see them done, nobody else is going to do them for you," Sloan said when explaining the various organizations she has dedicated her time to.

Sloan was recommended and accepted into the Wyoming L.E.A.D. Class 15 this year, whose goal is to build agricultural leaders who will stand up and advocate for agriculture in Wyoming communities. Part of the program allows Sloan and the 13 other members to travel across the state of Wyoming and tour various "hidden nuggets," as Sloan explained. The group recently visited the GF Harvest in Powell, where they toured the factory that makes gluten free oat products.

"She always brings a smile and she's always bubbly and happy, and has made friends very easily," Hartinger said. "I kind of forget that I'm her supervisor because we're more like friends."

It seems as though this native from Arkansas has found her place in the frigid northeast corner of Wyoming, and embedded her own roots into this community.

"The reason I feel I was put on this earth is to take care of animals and people because critters are my love," Sloan said. "I enjoy caring for things. I enjoy helping, even when sometimes if you help so much you feel like your drowning and sinking your own ship."

## County pop tops take a road trip

By Nick Runyan  
For NLJ

When Arizona's Nanci Johnson set out to collect "a ton of tabs" to raise money for the Ronald McDonald House charity, she feared it might take a lifetime to reach her goal.

But early last month, Johnson was able to donate nearly three million flip tops from aluminum cans, which resulted in approximately \$1,100 being raised through a recycling program that is operated at a number of Ronald McDonald House locations and generates thousands of dollars each year.

Johnson was able to make the donation in about half the

amount of time she originally thought her quest would take, and credits help she received from friends who became part of her cause. Newcastle's Ken Conklin was one of those friends, and he involved a number of area businesses in helping him make a contribution to Johnson's collection—which helped her deliver her sizable gift in time for the holidays!

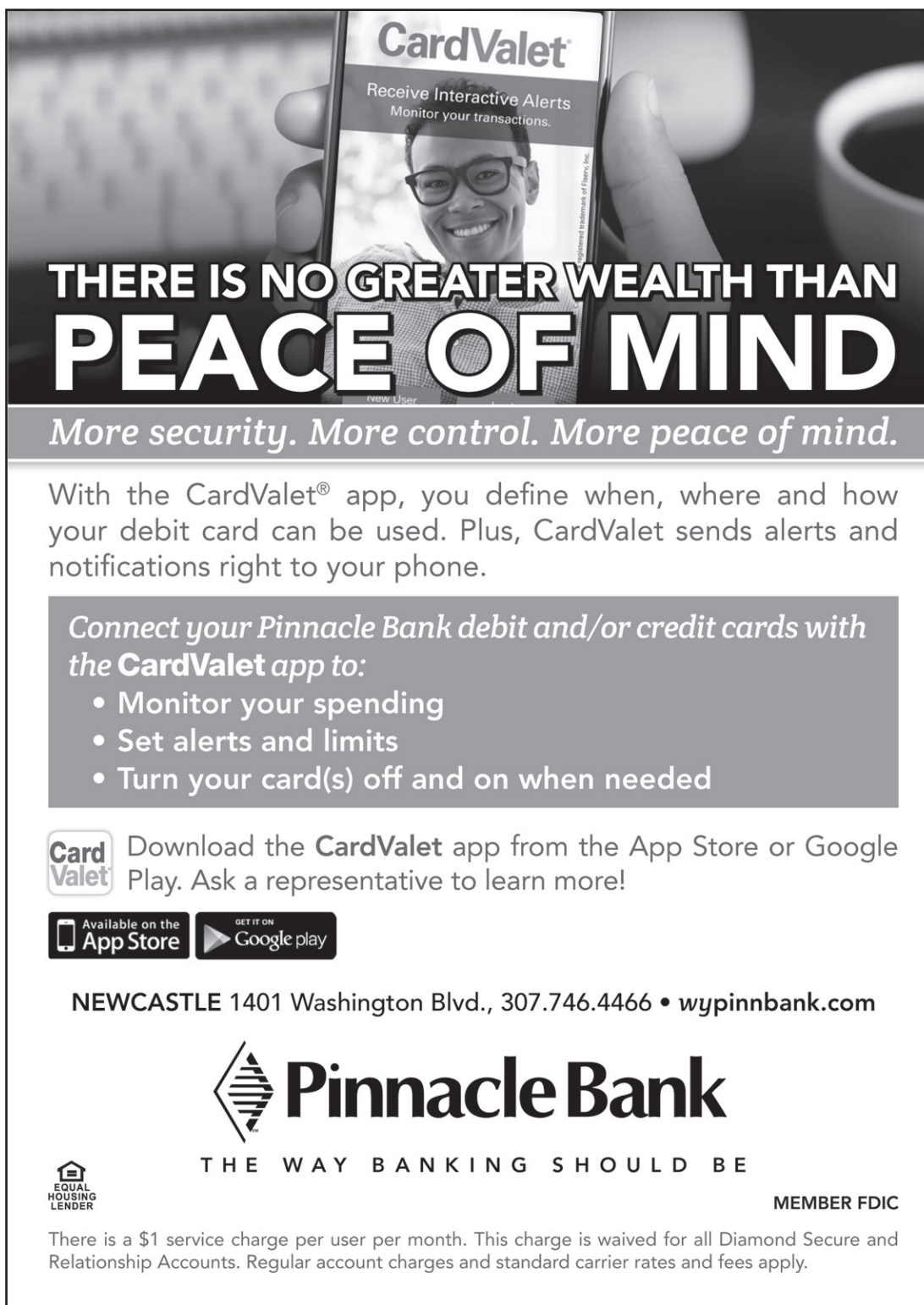
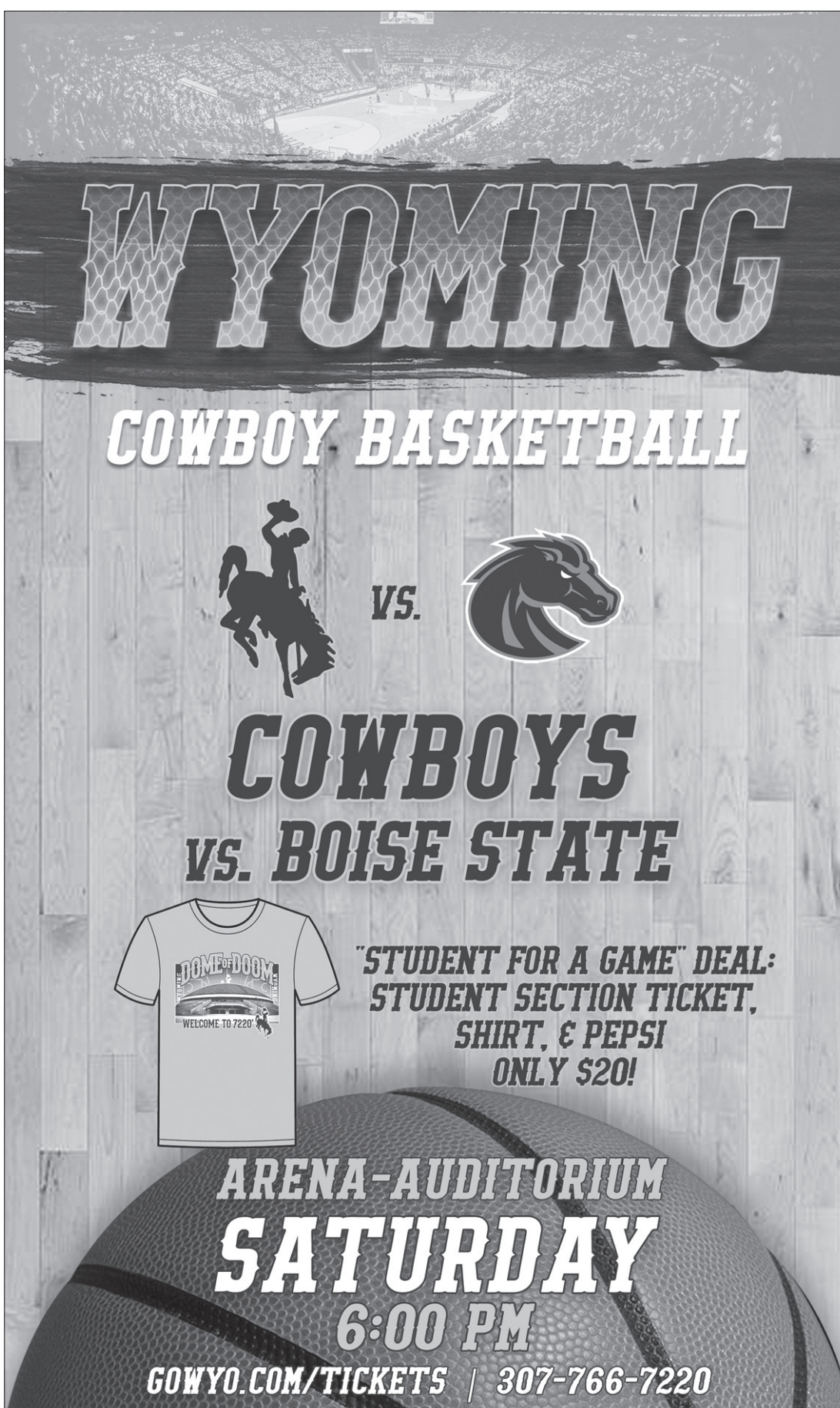
The Arizona woman started her quest to literally collect a "ton of tabs" a little over eight years ago, and had filled one 55-gallon barrel with tabs at the end of her first year.

According to Conklin, Johnson had already determined that it would take 2,900,000 tabs to make up

a ton, and they would fill 15 barrels. As her collection grew, however, so did interest in her cause and soon others were helping her gather tabs.

Weston County's contribution amounted to over 87,000 tabs, according to Conklin, who delivered about 60 pounds to Johnson this fall. He said The Buckhorn, VFW Post #2516, Perkins Tavern, the Smoke Shop, the Beer Hut, Country Corner and even Glencoe Campground all chipped in to help round up tabs, and expressed gratitude to the countless individuals that donated to help the cause.

The Ronald McDonald House is an organization that provides greater access to healthcare for children.

Yeah, we make a newspaper. But we do other stuff, too.

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**POY:** Candidate**Bill Lambert: An all-around good guy**

Alexis Barker  
NLJ Reporter

"I think he is one of those guys the world should have a few more of," Weston County School District No. 1 Superintendent Brad LaCroix said of 2017 Person of the Year nominee Bill Lambert.

Lambert and LaCroix had worked together for several years while Lambert served on the WCSO#1 board of trustees, although they did not agree all of the time. In addition to serving on the school board for 16 years, Lambert has also been part of the Wyoming Livestock Board, the public land council, and is currently serving as the Chairman of the Weston County Commissioners.

According to those who have known Lambert the longest, including wife Marcia, he has always loved to be involved and likes to help people in several ways.

"He thinks it is his duty to serve the public. He is a truly unique individual. You don't get many of those people that really want to serve the public and enjoy it," Marcia said.

Longtime family friend Mike Morrison echoed the thoughts of Marcia when he said that he sees one of Lambert's core values as giving back to the community he lives in.

"That is why he served on the school board for so long, and that is why he is a county commissioner.

He has also served on the junior livestock committee. He believes in giving back," Morrison said.

Joining the school board in 1998, after being defeated in the elections twice prior to winning a seat, Lambert was instrumental in several major decisions and movements in the school district.

According to LaCroix, Lambert served on the board and was part of making the difficult decision to shut down the school in Osage. He was also instrumental in making sure the remodel project at Newcastle Middle School continued.

"In my opinion he is one of the people, if he was not in the room that day the project would have been moved down the list. He worked very hard at those type of things," LaCroix said.

He noted that Lambert is also passionate about keeping as many programs for the youth as possible while chairman, that he was never afraid to ask the tough questions and that he was always consistent on how things should work and how he prioritized things in the school district.

"He always felt if it was important enough to be fixed, we should fix it ourselves. We have known each other for a long time. I am not saying we always agree but I always knew where he stood on any subject," LaCroix said.

Lambert shared that it was his

“  
He believes in giving back, he is very fair and he believes in right and wrong. He is a man with a handshake and an honest word.”

— Mike Morrison

passion for education that drove him to run for the school board and continue to do so after losing the election twice.

"It feels good to serve. I try to serve and make things better, if not keep them the same," Lambert said.

He noted that his decision to leave the school board and his passion for education was a tough one, but that he worried that after serving for so long he was not asking the right questions.

"I think I became too close. I was not using the same eye that I began with. I had become accustomed and was worried I was not asking the right questions. I was not the same person, and that is when I decided to go to the county commissioners," Lambert said.

After his election to the Weston County Commissioner's just over



three years ago, Lambert was nominated as chairman and has served in that position since.

Lambert's desire to help others extends far past his public service on boards and into his personal life. Neighbor Joyce Jonasson shared that he is an extremely good neighbor.

"He really does a lot for me. He is always there. He helps watch the house, especially like now when I'm gone in Arizona. He is just always there to take care of things and make sure things are in order," Jonasson said.

Morrison reported that Lambert, who he has known since the early 1980s, has always been there to help him in times of need as well. He shared that Lambert and he met when he was a freshman or sophomore in high school, and Lambert was a newlywed struggling to keep his

yearlings in.

"I came back to the bank 15 years ago, and we became reacquainted. He is a super good friend. He is one of those guys that, no matter how busy he is, if there is an emergency he will drop everything and come to the rescue," Morrison said.

He recalled that on two different occasions he was out of town when wildfires broke loose, and Lambert came to the rescue to gather his cows and help get them to safety.

"He believes in giving back, he is very fair and he believes in right and wrong. He is a man with a handshake and an honest word," Morrison said.

Lambert stressed that he truly has a passion to serve the public and be involved, and that he in no way does so for the recognition or praise that sometimes comes from serving in such a public capacity.

**Angels** from Page 1

said Williams. "There have been days at the spa where Amanda is literally in tears because she feels bad that she's in a warm place while there are cats outside freezing," Williams compassionately shared. She then spoke about Bench and Fields rescue operations.

"I worked at the vet clinic and I wouldn't do half the stuff they do. Those two are willing to do whatever it takes," Williams said of Bench and Fields.

"They go above and beyond, crawling under trailers and re-homing if owners pass away," Penfield similarly shared.

In fact, Bench said that she cancelled her New Year's holiday plans to stay home and trap struggling cats in Osage because she knows they are not doing well and need help. When asked why they continue to work so hard for their cause, year in and year out, Bench replied immediately.

"Because we just can't turn our backs on them. Because they're starving. They're hungry, sick, they have respiratory infections. They're just dying a slow death if nobody helps them," she said with a sense of urgency. "We've been frustrated before thinking we can't just keep doing this, but we also can't turn our backs on them."

Despite frustrations, the efforts of Sweet Country Angels are paying off, both for the cats rescued and the people of Newcastle. Community Service Office Janace Whitcher, says the local cat problem



Ginger Fields

has diminished since Bench and Fields started their work.

"There are a lot less cats than there used to be for sure," Whitcher emphasized. "A lot of people didn't want the cats to be euthanized. So people get ahold of Ginger and Amanda and try and get them to take the cats."

Bench and Fields plan to continue working to save local cats from being euthanized while also trying to mitigate the town's now lessening cat problem. They encourage people to spay and neuter their animals to help the problem. While the two hope to one day be fully funded, their

sights remain set on helping as many cats as possible despite the financial burden. Sweet Country Angels is also looking for foster families and loving homes for kitties, adult house cats, and barn cats.

Sweet Country Angels has positively affected many in the community. Bench and Fields are humbly excited to have been nominated for Person of the Year.

"It's just wonderful. You know it's so nice because you just don't think people realize how much time we spend doing it. I'm a little more fortunate with Ginger as far as time. She works all the time and will still always stop to help a cat. It means a lot because there is so much time and money involved," explained Bench.

"It feels really good, and it is so nice to hear something positive and that it is appreciated. It's a lot of work and money, so it is really nice to hear that. And we want to say thank you!" Fields appreciatively added.

**Reimer** from Page 1

to Newcastle to meet with him for an interview. When Reimer met this doctor, it would be the beginning of the next three decades for Weston County's current healthcare team.

That doctor was Chuck Franklin, who explained that he had his last two years of medical school paid for by the government, and in return Franklin had to work in a shortage area. Newcastle was a shortage area, so Franklin came down to talk to the local doctor.

"I came here to meet him because he was the local doctor, just to talk to him, and he goes, 'Oh quick, come help me,'" Franklin said. "He was delivering a premature baby that was, if I remember right, three months early. So I came and helped him, and that's how we met."

Reimer said that he and Franklin got together with Dr. Michael Jording, and all of them worked together up until five years ago.

"For all of those years, before five years ago, our group covered the emergency room and the clinic and the one in Upton," Reimer said, noting that the needs of the community were met with the help of physician assistants and other medical staff employed here.

"I've enjoyed working with Lanny Reimer, MD, in the clinic for 37 years," Lynnea Prell, Regional Medical Clinic's operations supervisor, said. "Dr. Reimer is and always has been invested in the medical aspect of this community. His dedication and compassion to is patients is unmeasurable."

Jording and Reimer quit working at the ER and sold their practices to Regional Health. They now work for the

“  
I think he's very intelligent and very devoted to his patients. He'll do whatever it takes to get them the help they need.”

— Dr. Chuck Franklin

Regional Health at the clinic, while Franklin currently works solely at the hospital's ER.

"I would say he is one of the best doctors I have ever known," Franklin said after working with Reimer. "I think he's very intelligent and very devoted to his patients. He'll do whatever it takes to get them the help they need. He's just been a good partner to me through the years."

Before the doctors sold their practice, Reimer said the system was more traditional country medicine, but with the emergency room carved out with its own employed providers, the system is less so.

Aside from that change, Reimer says the way he treats patients has always stayed the same other than the fact Weston County Health Services no longer practices obstetrics and has utilized developing technology.

"A lot of people don't get to go to the doctor and make eye contact," Reimer said, gesturing towards the computer which he

admitted he has to use to review information because it is all typed. Reimer said that he tries to still interact with patients and minimize the amount time spent with technology.

Reimer has also tracked the changes in rural medicine by being involved with the local hospital as a board member.

"He was very knowledgeable in all of healthcare and certainly added that to that board the couple of years that he sat on it," said Norma Shelton, who sat with Reimer on the Weston County Health Services Board of Directors. "He cares about this community and Weston County and the health care for our residents."

"If you've lived in Newcastle any length of time and needed medical attention, you have likely encountered Dr. Lanny Reimer, who has devoted his medical career to caring for the people of our community for the past 38 years," News Letter Journal's Kim Dean said. "Early in his career, he built a clinic here which is still in use today. There's a pretty good chance he has treated most members of this community at one time or another and even delivered a good share of the residents here, back when the clinic and hospital offered obstetric services. I know I've heard many stories about how he helped save many people's lives. I feel that our community has been blessed to have a medical provider solely hang his shingle out here for nearly four decades. For Dr. Reimer's passion and dedication to caring for our community's residents, I feel he is most deserving of being the NLJ's Person of the Year."

Join us for our next meeting  
**Tuesday, January 9 at 6:30 p.m.**  
Pinnacle Bank meeting room



Call one of these Booster Club Board Members to join today!

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# News

## News Letter Journal

# Sweet resigns from city council

Alexis Barker  
NLJ Reporter

Kara Sweet, who has recently made several life changes, including switching careers, has resigned from her two-year term on the Newcastle City Council. Her resignation is effective Jan. 1.

The council will begin advertising for the open position after Sweet's resignation becomes official. The person appointed to fill the vacancy will serve until the next general election, which will be in 2018.

"I resigned because now that I am working full time, it's hard to get to the meetings on time, and even more difficult to make it to any of the committee meetings," Sweet said.

She noted that she is now working a 9 to 5 job, Monday through Friday, in Rapid City, South Dakota.



**Kara Sweet is taking on a new profession to pursue her passion for writing and fine wine.**

greatly enjoyed serving the people of Newcastle on the council, and she looks forward to the next person that wants to see Newcastle progress into the future.

According to City Clerk/Treasurer Greg James, the person selected to fill Sweet's seat on the council must live within the city limits and be a registered voter. He noted that the position is non-partisan.

Once the resignation is effective and the seat is officially vacant, the city will advertise the open seat to solicit letters of interest from individuals hoping to fill the position.

Those who have submitted letters of interest are typically invited to a "committee of the whole" meeting or a regular council meeting, depending on the preference of the mayor and council and the number of individuals interested, James said.

**City Beats**  
*Notes from the Dec. 18 Newcastle City Council Meeting*

- The council approved several plumbing licenses for calendar year 2018.
- The council approved the request of Bruce Perkins, of Perkins' Tavern, a city liquor license holder for extended hours on New Year's Eve. City Attorney Jim Peck noted that there is no longer a limit on the number of extended-hour permits the city can issue in a calendar year.
- City Clerk/Treasurer Greg James proposed that the council approve two changes to the city's capital asset policy.
  - The council approved raising the dollar limit on the items from \$1,000 to \$5,000, and also approved adding that the expected use of any such item needs to be five years or longer.
- The council approved a software agreement with Crook and Weston counties for geographic information system software. Joining the agreement, and having access to the GIS software, will cost the city \$1,500 a year. According to City Engineer Mike Moore, this amount is significantly less than the cost to purchase the software.
  - One of Newcastle Police Department's newest officers, Paul Keller Jr., was sworn in.
  - The council approved an ordinance increasing water rates by 5 percent, on third reading. Councilman Steve Ladwig voted against the motion. Also approved on third reading was an ordinance increasing sewer rates by 10 percent. Ladwig also voted against this motion.

# No decision yet on salvage bill

Alexis Barker  
NLJ Reporter

A bill with Black Hills Auto Salvage for a vehicle held as evidence in a fatal accident is still unpaid as Weston County works with the Wyoming Highway Patrol to decide who will cover the bill.

On Dec. 5, Weston County Sheriff Bryan Colvard and Weston County Attorney William Curley informed the Weston County Commissioners that the county is likely responsible for paying the \$9,543 bill, originally \$19,086 before Black Hills Auto Salvage owner Kelly Stith cut the bill in half. The bill was accrued over a period of 511 days while Stith held a vehicle involved in a fatal accident inside one of the bays of his garage.

According to Sergeant Kyle McKay with the Wyoming Highway Patrol, the vehicle was involved in a crash in the Weston County area and was kept due to its evidentiary value. He noted that vehicles are required to be held if they are to be used in a trial.

At this time, the commission

**Commission Clips**  
*Notes from the Dec. 19 Weston County Commissioners Meeting*

- The commissioners discussed bids for the work on the second floor of the Weston County Courthouse. The commissioner's noted the need for more information before making a decision.
- A videoconference was held with Circuit Court Judge Matt Castano and Chief Justice Jim Burke of the Wyoming Supreme Court to discuss the retirement of Magistrate Stan Sheehan and the future of the position. Both Castano and Commissioner Tracy Hunt stressed the need to have a full-time magistrate in Newcastle to provide a judicial presence. No decision was made.
  - The commissioners approved project eligibility forms for the Lynch Road/Little Thunder Creek project and the Upton Fairview/Soda Creek Crossing project.
  - John Marshall, with the Upton Economic Development Board, reported that the Railcar business had received the full support of the Wyoming Business Council moving into the State Land and Investment board meetings for final approval of the grant. Marshall noted that the Upton Economic Development Board meets with the SLIB board on Jan. 18. He asked that Sens. Ogden Driskill and Curt Meier and Reps. Hans Hunt and Tyler Lindholm do whatever they can to support the project before that time.

voted to table the bill until the Dec. 19 meeting after Colvard was scheduled to meet with representatives from the highway patrol. During the time between the Dec. 5 and Dec. 19 meetings, Curley also had a meeting with the highway patrol and McKay confirmed that the highway patrol had been in contact with the Weston County Sheriff, prosecuting attorney and the towing company in hopes of getting the bill rectified.

Curley reported to the commissioners that the result of the

meeting was the impression that the highway patrol would help with the bill associated with the first four days of holding because they were done with the vehicle at that time. He noted that the defense had filed a motion to hold it, and that he believes no one gave any thought to it.

"It is in the works, a plan to reduce the cost so it is not all on the county," McKay told the News Letter Journal.

He noted that this is absolutely a huge cost to the county and the highway patrol plans to

work on a procedure to build a partnership so this situation does not happen again. When asked about why the Weston County evidence storage facility was not used, he answered "that is the question," and indicated that the vehicle should have been transferred there.

The commissioners came to the consensus that the bill would be addressed once again at the Jan. 2 meeting after they had the opportunity to talk to Colvard and see where things were going with the highway patrol.

# Back to business



**After a hiatus for the holidays, the Dogie athletes are back to doing what they do best this week. Catch all the action at one of the events listed below! (Photo by Sonja Karp/NLJ)**

Sports Schedule			
<b>High School Boys Basketball</b>	1/5	Torrington Trailblazers H	4/5/30/7
	1/6	Gering High School A	
		9th@MS - 3:30PM	
		JV@MS - 2PM	
		V@HS - 3:30PM	
<b>High School Girls Basketball</b>	1/5	Torrington Trailblazers H	4/5/30/7
	1/6	Gering High School A	
		9th@MS - 3:30PM	
		JV@MS - 2PM	
		V@HS - 5PM	
	1/6	Shane Shatto Invite @ Douglas	
	1/6	Shane Shatto Invite @ Douglas	
	1/9	Glenrock Herders H	5PM
<b>High School Boys Swimming</b>	1/5	World Warriors A	4PM

# School district recognized for training commitment

By Jenna Piper  
For NLJ

Representatives of Weston County School District #1 did the school district proud last November at the annual Wyoming School Boards Associations Conference, and brought home awards that reflected their passion for education.

Newcastle High School Principal Tracy Ragland was recognized by the group as Wyoming Principal of the Year, and the WCSD #1 Board of Trustees accepted the Standard of Excellence Award and Certification Recognition.

Newly elected Board Chair Tina Chick accepted the Standard of Excellence Award on behalf of the board in light of her recently taking the position as chairman. The Standard of Excellence Award means that all board members are working their way through board certifications, and receiving Certification Recognition shows that board members have 25 or more board certification points.

"I think the thing that it shows is their commitment to getting better, and of course making things better for children—and then making things better for those that teach children," Brad LaCroix, WSCD #1 Superintendent, said.

Amongst these awards, board members move from levels of excellence depending on the number of hours of board training each member has obtained. Board member Ron Mills was recognized for moving from Level 1 to Level 2 in the WSBA's top



**All nine members of Newcastle's school board attended the Wyoming School Board Association's annual convention in November, and were recognized for their consistent commitment to attend such events and take advantage of training and networking opportunities made available by the association. Pictured alongside Newcastle High School Principal Tracy Ragland, who was also recognized as Wyoming's Principal of the Year at the event, are Dean Johnson, Marcia Lambert, John Riesland, Dana Gordon, Tom Wright, Ron Mills, Joe Corley, Tina Chick and Dana Mann-Tavegia. (Submitted photo)**

Leadership recognition.

"It's not that it's a high paying job by any means, but it is one of those calls of duty that you would want good people to step forward. I think it is, when you see boards receive the amount of recognition that these board members over the last 14 years that I've been with them," LaCroix said.

Chick has been on the board for the last six years, and said she feels lucky

to have worked with this particular board. She acknowledges the effort they put into being the best board they can be.

"We really feel strongly that we want to gain as much knowledge as we can to be the best that we can be at it," Chick said. "We try not to surprise each other in terms of what we bring. We like to let each other know what's going on, and so I think everybody is

really good at communicating with each other about those things."

Chick admitted that stepping up as chairman has put a lot more responsibility on her plate in terms of leadership, such as time spent before board meetings helping LaCroix set up the meeting's agenda. However, Chick said that she will try her best after only having been chairman for one board meeting.

## School Shorts

*Notes from the Dec. 13 Weston County School District No. 1 Meeting*

- Trustees elected the following officers: Tina Chick, chairman; Joe Corley, vice chairman; Ron Mills, clerk; and Tom Wright, treasurer.

- The board approved the financial audit report for last fiscal year 2017.

- Maintenance Director Greg Gregory reported that the district has received approval from the state to do a study on the fire alarm system and fire protection systems in the schools. The study is supposed to determine what needs to be done to make sure the systems work properly and to prepare a bid to get the work done.

- Superintendent Brad LaCroix reported that the district received full accreditation from the Wyoming Department of Education.

- The Recreation Board elected the following officers: Dean Johnson, chairman; Dana Gordon, vice chairman; Dana Mann-Tavegia, clerk; and Marcia Lambert, treasurer.

"I feel like I've leaned on them to help mentor me, and bring me along as a board member," Chick said. "I think as a board we work well together because we can disagree, but we don't take it personally. We don't always agree, and that's ok because then we can still work together on the next issue."

**Blotter**

**December 24, 2017**  
Arrest Warrant issued. Motorist assist. Medical assist. Domestic problem reported.

**December 25**  
911 hang up. Assist with traffic control. Medical assist. Civil standby requested.

**December 26**  
Assist other agency. Fire alarm reported. Assist other agency. VIN inspection requested. Medical assist. Assist other agency. VIN inspection requested. Traffic hazard reported. Civil standby requested. Commercial fire alarm reported.

**December 27**  
Welfare check requested. Assist other agency. VIN inspection requested. Assist other agency. Theft reported. Protection Order issued. Assist other agency. Harassment reported. Missing dog reported. Assist other agency

**December 28**  
Two VIN inspections requested. Motorist assist. Arrest Warrant issued. Medical assist. Missing property reported. Arrest Warrant issued. Assist other agency. Suspicious activity reported. Traffic stop. Written Warning issued. Report of a dog at large. Open door discovered.

**December 29**  
Dog bite reported. Report of a dog at large.

Suspicious activity reported. Medical assist. Five VIN inspections requested. Medical assist. Arrest Warrant issued. Abandoned vehicle reported. Open door discovered. Assist other agency. 911 hang up. Report of a dog at large. Impounded. Animal abuse reported. Injured deer reported. Traffic stop. Traffic stop. Written Warning issued.

**December 30**  
Suspicious activity reported. Theft reported. Motorist assist. Minor accident reported. Suspicious activity reported. Extra patrol requested. Suspicious activity reported. Traffic complaint.



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**Foreclosure Notice**

**FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE**

WHEREAS, default in the payment of principal and interest has occurred under the terms of a promissory note (the "Note") dated 08/18/2015 executed and delivered by Mary M. Wood to Premier Home Mortgage, Inc., a Corporation and a real estate mortgage (the "Mortgage") of the same date securing the Note, which Mortgage was executed and delivered by Mary M. Wood, A Married Woman (the "Mortgagors"), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Premier Home Mortgage, Inc., a Corporation, and which Mortgage was recorded on 08/25/2015, as Reception No. 759889, Book 361, Page 416 in the records of the office of the County Clerk and ex-officio Register of Deeds in and for Weston County, State of Wyoming; and

WHEREAS, the mortgage was assigned for value as follows:

Assignee: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.  
Assignment dated: 07/24/2017  
Assignment recorded: 07/27/2017  
Assignment recording information: Reception No. 763455, Book 373, Page 1023  
763455 Book 373 of Photos, Page 1023  
All in the records of the County clerk and ex-officio Register of Deeds in and for Weston County, Wyoming.

WHEREAS, the Mortgage contains a power of sale which by reason of said default, the Mortgagee declares to have become operative, and no suit or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage, or any part thereof, nor has any such suit or proceeding been instituted and the same discontinued; and

WHEREAS, written notice of intent to foreclose the Mortgage by advertisement and sale has been served upon the record owner and the party in possession of the mortgaged premises at least ten (10) days prior to the commencement of this publication, and the amount due upon the Mortgage on the date of first publication of this notice of sale being the total sum of \$ 171,798.08 which sum consists of the unpaid principal balance of \$166,221.93 plus Interest accrued to the date of the first publication of this notice in the amount of \$3,355.73 plus attorneys' fees, costs expended, and accruing interest and late charges after the date of first publication of this notice of sale;

WHEREAS, the property being foreclosed upon may be subject to other liens and encumbrances that will not be extinguished at the sale. Any prospective purchaser should research the status of title before submitting a bid;

NOW, THEREFORE Wells Fargo Bank, NA, as the Mortgagee, will have the Mortgage foreclosed as by law provided by causing the mortgaged property to be sold at public venue by the Sheriff or Deputy Sheriff in and for Weston County, Wyoming to the highest bidder for cash at 10:00 AM o'clock in the forenoon on 01/16/2018 at the Weston County Courthouse located at 1 West Main, Newcastle, Wyoming, Weston County for application on the above-described amounts secured by the Mortgage, said mortgaged property being described as follows, to-wit:

Lots 12 and 13 of Block 1 in Getchell Addition to the Town of Newcastle, Weston County, Wyoming.

With an address of : 616 Pine Street New Castle, WY 82701.

Together with all improvements thereon situate and all fixtures and appurtenances thereto. Date: December 1, 2017

Brian G. Sayer  
The Sayer Law Group, P.C.  
925 E. 4th St.  
Waterloo, Iowa 50703  
319-234-2530  
319-232-6341

(Publish December 14, 21 and 28, 2017 and January 4, 2018)

**Legal Notice**

**NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE AND FINAL SETTLEMENT FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE KITCHEN COOLERS/FREEZER AT THE WYOMING HONOR CONSERVATION CAMP AT NEWCASTLE, WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING**

Notice is hereby given that the State of Wyoming, Department of Corrections, has accepted as complete, according to plans, specifications, and rules governing the same, the work performed under that certain Service Contract 05SC0067048, between the State of Wyoming, Department of Corrections and Advanced Comfort Solutions, Inc., whose address is 3941 West 5th Street, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82007 for the work performed, materials, equipment, or tools furnished or used and services rendered for the substantial completion of the Replacement of the Kitchen Coolers/Freezer at the Wyoming Honor Conservation Camp, Newcastle, Weston County, Wyoming. The contractor is entitled to final settlement therefore; that the Department of Administration and Information will cause said Contractor to be paid the full amount due him under said contract on February 7, 2018. The date of the first publication is December 28, 2017.

(Publish December 28, 2017 and January 4 and 11, 2018)

**Meeting Notice**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Weston County School District #1 Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 9, at 7:00 pm, instead of on Wednesday, January 10, due to conflicting schedules.

(Publish January 4, 2018)

**Deadline for Legals is noon on Friday**

**Meeting Notice**

**NEWCASTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY ANNUAL MEETING**

On Monday, January 8, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. the annual meeting of the Newcastle Housing Authority will be held at the Community Building located at 336 Roundup, Newcastle, Wyoming.

(Publish December 28, 2017 and January 4, 2018)

Gwamma @ by JaNel M. Farnsworth



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**HIGHLIGHT REEL SPORTS**

**VITAL STATS**

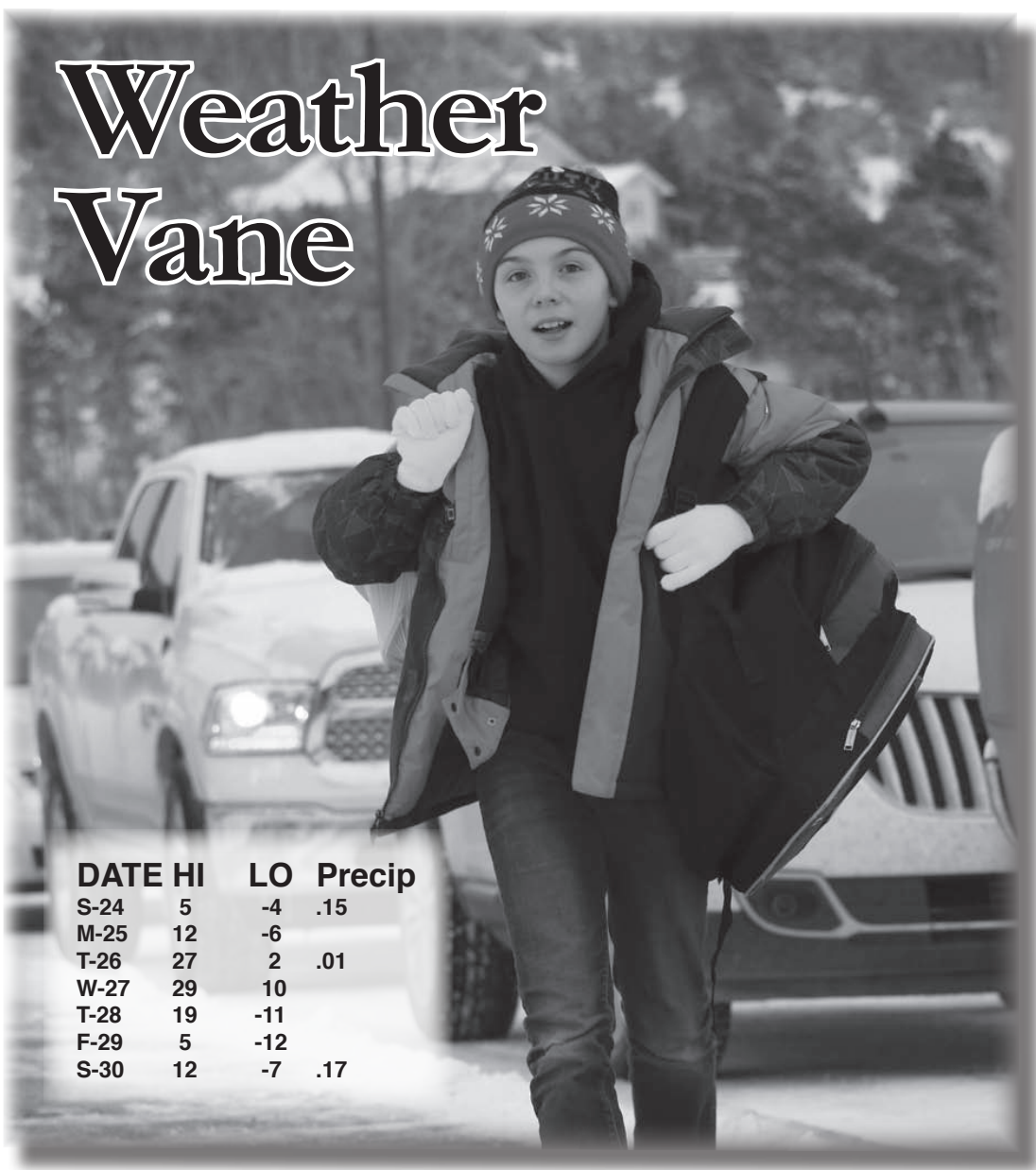
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# Weather Vane

DATE	HI	LO	Precip
S-24	5	-4	.15
M-25	12	-6	
T-26	27	2	.01
W-27	29	10	
T-28	19	-11	
F-29	5	-12	
S-30	12	-7	.17

## WCSD #1 Warrants

Vendor/Payee	Amount
<b>WESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1 GENERAL FUND WARRANTS OVER \$500 DECEMBER 2017</b>	
CITY OF NEWCASTLE	\$2,474.73
DALE'S TIRE AND RETREADING, INC	\$677.32
DRIVE TRAIN INDUSTRIES	\$914.07
DANA GORDON	\$705.60
HAUFF MID-AMERICA SPORTS	\$3,472.74
HILLYARD, INC.	\$842.56
MARCIA LAMBERT	\$529.20
NEWSLETTER JOURNAL	\$1,051.00
NEWSLETTER JOURNAL	\$3,786.94
NORCO LLC	\$1,206.80
NORTHEAST WYOMING	\$16,988.76
PITNEY BOWES GLOBAL	\$1,015.50
POWDER RIVER ENERGY CORP	\$5,974.95
JOHN RIESLAND	\$554.40
RT COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$717.58
MICHAEL SEARS	\$727.60
SYSCO MONTANA INC	\$840.60
TIRE-RAMA	\$3,157.10
WYOMING REFINING COMPANY	\$14,912.31
WESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DIST -	\$988,561.36
AT&T MOBILITY	\$575.81
MELINDA AUCH	\$572.45
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	\$15,482.83
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	\$22,806.88
COMFORT INN WORLAND	\$1,760.00
CUMMINS ROCKY MOUNTAIN LLC	\$2,275.81
DECKER'S MARKET	\$943.44
EASTERN WYOMING EQUIPMENT COMPANY	\$652.48
GOLDEN WEST TECHNOLOGIES &	\$3,167.00
LINCOLN ELECTRIC COMPANY	\$516.00
MARCO	\$7,700.35
MARCO TECHNOLOGIES LLC	\$3,513.00
NORCO LLC	\$678.50
NORTHERN WYOMING MENTAL HEALTH	\$3,328.00
PLOTTER SUPPLIES, INC PSI-DIGITAL	\$1,140.58
SCENARIO LEARNING	\$1,854.00
RHONDA STIRLING	\$577.80
MATTHEW STROH	\$636.65
VISA	\$1,261.98
VISA	\$1,432.42
VISA	\$1,903.76
VISA	\$3,190.01
VISA	\$1,239.29
VISA	\$1,380.00
VISA	\$531.74
WORLAND HIGH SCHOOL	\$518.00
Checking Account Total:	\$1,128,749.90
ADRENALINE FUNDRAISING	\$5,983.94
LISA BAKER	\$2,448.00
CLOSE UP FOUNDATION	\$2,802.14
UNIVERSAL ATHLETIC	\$740.00
GILLETTE STEEL CENTER	\$635.30
RIVER STAR FARMS	\$6,613.50
SHOPKO STORES OPERATING CO., LLC	\$897.23
VISA	\$1,775.59
VISA	\$931.68
VISA	\$1,256.55
VISA	\$1,811.19
WESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DIST -	\$3,038.23
WOODY'S	\$3,087.13
Checking Account Total:	\$32,020.48
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	\$1,340.18
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	\$1,743.79
WESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DIST -	\$9,911.99
Checking Account Total:	\$12,995.96
DEAN FOODS NC	\$1,303.39
SYSCO MONTANA INC	\$10,795.40
DEAN FOODS NC	\$1,526.13
SYSCO MONTANA INC	\$2,361.48
WESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DIST -	\$20,106.22
WYOMING FOOD BANK OF THE ROCKIES	\$650.00
Checking Account Total:	\$36,742.62
LONG BUILDING TECHNOLOGIES, INC	\$51,956.00
Checking Account Total:	\$51,956.00
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	\$772.74
Checking Account Total:	\$772.74
Grand Total:	\$1,263,237.70

(Publish January 4, 2018)

For Wyoming and Black Hills News Like News Letter Journal on Facebook

## Fun and Games

### FAMOUS AMERICANS

#### ACROSS

- Echo sounder
- Sheepish cry
- Speed obstacle
- Seven day mourning period
- 100%
- More painful
- It's often wreaked
- Cardinal 3
- Figure with vertex and rays
- \*Pop icon-painting pop icon
- \*Jackie O's first husband
- "You betcha!"
- Off-color
- Like TV's Randall/Klugman couple
- Genealogy "plant"
- No, it doesn't crawl in one's ear
- \*World-famous yellow cartoon boy
- Kuwaiti, e.g.
- Tarzan's swing
- Indian nursemaid
- Gardener's pipe, pl.
- Overeat
- Last European colony in China
- Surfer's stop
- Bone-dry
- Choose by divine intervention
- Police informer
- Hi-\_\_\_\_\_
- Chihuahua-Pug hybrid
- By means of
- \*Norma Jean's pseudonym
- \*His Airness
- Naked protozoa
- Not an amateur
- Type of wave
- Surrendered land
- What iodine and quinine have in common
- Like unbagged tea
- \*Kentucky's Fort \_\_\_\_\_, named for first US Secretary of War
- Aye's opposite
- English homework?

#### DOWN

- Wildfire remains
- \*Famous American clarinetist, Artie \_\_\_\_\_
- Cher or Mariah Carey, e.g.?
- Poacher's ware
- Prestige
- Get-out-of-jail money
- \*Cassius Clay
- Like Mary-Kate and Ashley
- Capital of West Germany, 1949-1989
- Push for something
- Mix together
- Mouse to a snake
- Footwear to match toga
- \*Queen of All Media
- Bo Peep follower
- Renting
- \*2009 Nobel Prize for Peace recipient
- Israeli statesman Moshe
- Famous Slytherin member
- Aphrodite's son
- Semis
- Australian horse
- Accustom
- \*Man behind Windows
- Bangkok inhabitant
- Between Phi and Kappa
- Aussie gas station
- Without clothes
- Olden day "your"
- Middle Ages garment
- Remove from Google Maps

- \*Actor Bishop or punk rocker Ramone
- Fusses
- \*Neil Armstrong's employer
- Ribonucleic acid
- Grazing land

**CROSSWORD**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13						14			15		
16						17			18		
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64					65	66			67		68
69					70				71		
72					73				74		

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

### Last week's answers

H	A	D	S	T	T	E	A	S	E	T	A	
O	N	I	C	E	A	W	L	S	C	I	O	N
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4	5	9	8	1	7	6	3	2
7	6	1	2	3	9	4	5	8
6	1	4	9	7	3	2	8	5
2	3	7	5	8	4	9	1	6
5	9	8	1	6	2	7	4	3



## Not just for bird cages!

After you've read all there is to know about Weston County, you can use your News Letter Journal for any one of these great ideas:

- Fire starter
- Make a paper hat
- Paper boat for a child
- Clean windows
- Paper airplane
- Make a piñata
- Weave a basket
- Make jewelry
- Line shelves/drawers
- Absorb moisture in boots
- Insulate drafty windows
- Use as a child's placemat
- Use for scavenger hunt/word search
- Play basketball w/trash can
- Garden mulch
- Odor remover (containers/boxes)
- Packaging material



What can YOU do to reduce?



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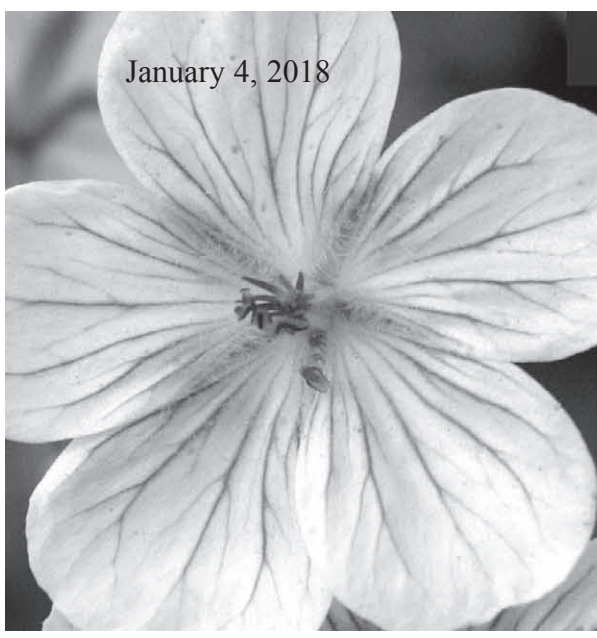
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**Card of Thanks**

Dear friends and family, I pray you had a Merry Christmas and wish for you a good New Year in 2018. Thank you for all your phone calls and beautiful Christmas cards. I did not send any this year.

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth Cummings

**For Sale by Owner**

2 plus bdrm, 1 bath, \$49,000, contract for deed option available. Call (307) 746-2273. 50-tfn

**For Rent**

2 & 3 bdrm houses available now. Call (307) 746-8574 or (307) 746-5711. 01-tfn

**For Rent**

Furnished studio apartment, utilities and Wifi included. Month to month tenancy. \$600/mo. no pets, please call (307) 267-2524. 49-4tp

2 bdrm apartment, 108 S. Seneca. Water, sewer & garbage paid. Off street parking, clean. \$475 deposit, \$475/mo. No pets. Call (307) 629-0441 or (605) 673-4741.

3 bdrm, 2 bath, 14 x 70 mobile home. Looking for clean responsible renter(s) no pets, no smoking. \$650/mo \$600 deposit plus electric and propane. Call (307) 746-5918.

**For Rent**

3 bdrm, 2 ba house, with 40' x 50' shop. \$1,250 - \$1,500 per month. Located in Saddle Sub Division, call (307) 746-5337. ifn

Nice 14x70, 3 bdrm, mobile home, water and sewer included. \$475/mo. Call (605) 673-1600 or (605) 673-3048. tfn

4 bdrm, 1.5 bath, house. Call (307) 746-5589 for more information. 01-3tp

2 bdrm house on edge of town in the trees. Natural gas & pellet stove for heat. Privacy & wildlife. No pets. \$600/mo. call (307) 746-2386. 01-2tp

**For Rent**

3 bdrm, 1 bath on private lot, pet friendly. Call (307) 746-8226. tfn

Nice cozy 2 bdrm house. Call (307) 746-4958. 01-3tp

**RV & Storage Space For Rent**

Reasonable Rates, call (307) 746-4141. 50-4tc

**Business Space For Rent**

Business space for rent, 300 sq. ft. with Main Street display window. Located at Something Healthy, 119 W. Main, (307) 746-9170.

classifieds@newslj.com

**For Sale**

Cozy floor furnace, natural gas can be converted to LP. 24x38 new in box 60,000 BTU. \$2,199.00 call (307) 746-4502.

**Self Help**

If you need a tow call (307) 941-0193.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Meetings: Tuesday at 4 p.m. at First United Methodist Church upstairs, contact Joyce Brown, 307-746-3696. Thursday at 8:15 a.m. at the Weston County Senior Services, contact Grace Davis, 307-746-4531. Thursday at 9:00 a.m. at First Baptist Church, contact Ellen Butts, 307-746-4251. Everyone welcome!

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.

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

**Laminating**

Did you know that the News Letter does laminating of papers. 14 West Main, 746-2777, Monday-Friday, 8:30-5:00 p.m.

**Wy-Cans (The Wyoming Press does not endorse and has not verified the legitimacy of these advertisers)**

**Notice**  
IS YOUR NEIGHBOR'S PROPERTY ZONED FOR A PIG FARM? Find out for yourself! Review this and all kinds of important information in public notices printed in all of Wyoming's newspapers! Government meetings, spending, bids. Visit www.wyopublicnotices.com or www.publicnoticeads.com/wy.

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**2018**

We are happy to order what ever you need to get organized. Desk Calendars, Daily, Weekly and Monthly Planners, several sizes to choose from. **2018 Wyoming Picture Calendars are here too!** 14 West Main, News Letter Journal, 746-2777, Monday-Friday, 8:30-5 p.m.

**FREE HEARING TESTS IN NEWCASTLE**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 12 WESTON COUNTY SENIOR CENTER 627 PINE STREET**

From 9 - 11 a.m. by Kay L. Miller, Board Certified in Hearing Instrument Sciences. Anyone who has trouble hearing is welcome to come in for a hearing test using modern electronic equipment to find out if a tiny modern hearing aid may help. Diagrams showing how the ear works and some of the causes of hearing loss will be available.

Everyone should have a hearing test at least once a year if they have any trouble at all hearing clearly. Even people now wearing a hearing aid or those who have been told an aid won't help should have a hearing test and find out about the current hearing aids.

To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-742-2192. Also evening appointments are available for those who work. **In home appointments too!**

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**NEWCASTLE APARTMENTS**

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**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Intermittent, part-time interviewer positions available with the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (a Fair Opportunity Employer) to work in Crook, Campbell, and Weston counties. Applicants must have a valid driver's license and access to a vehicle. Agriculture and computer background is helpful. People skills and attention to detail are a must. Starting wage is \$11.22/hour including training time, plus 54.5¢/mile for travel. If interested, please contact Betty at bettyahansen@gmail.com or 307-746-5467.

**Electrical Superintendent**

The City of Powell, WY is seeking an Electrical Superintendent management position. Requires a combination of education, training and experience equivalent to a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering, 8 years related experience and/or training, administration and supervisory experience, ability to work with the public and ability to develop and administer budgets and capital improvements. *The City of Powell is an EOE and drug free agency.*

For online application and job description: [www.cityofpowell.com](http://www.cityofpowell.com)



Send application to: City of Powell, c/o City Administrator, 270 North Clark, Powell, WY 82435 Ph: 307-754-5106.

Filing deadline is 5 p.m., Friday, January 26th, 2018

**Water/Wastewater Superintendent**

The City of Powell is seeking a Water/Wastewater Superintendent management position. Requires a combination of education, training and experience equivalent to an Associate's Degree or technical school, 4 years related experience and/or training, certificates in water and wastewater treatment, good communication skills and the ability to work with the public. Must have the ability to develop and administer budgets and capital programs. *The City of Powell is an EOE and drug free agency.*

For online application and job description: [www.cityofpowell.com](http://www.cityofpowell.com)



Send application to: City of Powell, c/o City Administrator, 270 North Clark, Powell, WY 82435 Ph: 307-754-5106.

Filing deadline is 5 p.m., Friday, January 26th, 2018

# Notebooks

Composition, Letter, Legal, Reporter

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14 W. Main St. Newcastle  
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# A look back at the Holidays



Oh, the holidays! As we put the 2017 holiday season behind us, the News Letter Journal would like to share one last look at the festivities. At left, Serenity Kline tries to use her tongue to help her win it in a minute during her first grade class Christmas Party at Newcastle Elementary School. The children were tasked with getting a cookie from their forehead to their mouth without using their hands in less than a minute. At right, you can see how much Emeree Tavegie adores Santa during her short talk with him on Dec. 20. Students had the chance to tell Santa just what they wanted to find under their tree when he visited NES. Below right, Brayden Derifield analyzes outfits before picking out the perfect one for his Operation Santa child he was shopping for. Fourth grade students at NES raise funds through multiple ways to help purchase clothing for children in need in the community. The students then take the money they have earned and shop for the roughly 80 children signed up for the program. Below, Garrison Halverson, Drew Conzelman and Kim Conzelman prepare to check out during the Operation Santa event. Below left, Emily Armstrong gathers up her goodies as she makes her way down the Cookie Day line Wednesday at NES.



Photos by Alexis Barker/NLJ



# THEY'RE HERE!

## 2018 LIONS CLUB CALENDARS ARE IN!

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 Decker's Market • 4 Way Gas 'n Go  
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## 2018 Weston County Calendar



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\*Calendar costs help benefit Newcastle Lions Club • Those who have pre-purchased may pick them up at NLJ