



News Letter Journal

Weston County

November 21, 2013

Newcastle, Wyoming

Year 127 Week 47

Red Onion receives extension

By Todd Bennington of NLJ

At its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 12, the Upton Town Council voted to allow the Red Onion to remain six more months in the 725 Second Street building the museum shares with Upton's city hall, while

the Weston County Museum District continues its search for a new home for the Upton landmark. The town council had previously requested in an Oct. 10 letter that the museum vacate the premises within 30 days.

The exchange between council members and representatives of the

museum district regarding the issue initially proved to be an awkward one, however, as those associated with the museum were operating under the assumption an extension had already been granted, while council members professed to be unaware that any such agreement had been reached.

"The knowledge I had," district director Bobbie Jo Stith told the News Letter, "was that [museum district board member] Sam [Haptonstall] and [Upton Mayor] Don [Sharkey] had visited, and I was under the assumption ... that Don had gone to his fellow town council members and discussed

it. Sam had certainly come to our board and said, 'I think we're going to be okay for six months.'"

In fact, so confident were museum district personnel that a compromise had already been reached, that they

— See **Museum**, Page 8

Crash claims life

Accident rocks school and community

By Bob Bonnar of NLJ

A Sunday afternoon accident in central Weston County resulted in the death of one Newcastle High School student and serious injuries for another, and residents have again mobilized to offer support to the victim's families and one another in the wake of a tragedy that claimed the life of one of the community's youths.

According to a release issued by Wyoming Highway Patrol Sgt. Stephen Townsend, 15-year-old Wyatt Pillen died as a result of injuries sustained in a one-vehicle accident on Highway 450 late Sunday afternoon. His 16-year-old cousin, Vincent Oedekoven, remains hospitalized as a result of his own injuries.

The press release states that the vehicle being driven by Pillen was heading toward Newcastle at approximately 3:55 p.m. when he lost control for unknown reasons. Townsend wrote that Pillen over-corrected the vehicle's steering on two occasions before it went off the road and rolled one and half times.

"Neither Pillen nor Oedekoven were wearing their seat belt. During the rollover both occupants were totally ejected from the vehicle," the release states.

The accident occurred 14 miles west of Newcastle, and when emergency officials responded Pillen and Oedekoven were

— See **Accident**, Page 8

Auction kicks off holidays

By Denice Piscioti of NLJ

The holiday season begins in Newcastle with the tradition of the United Fund of Weston County's annual Pie Auction and Bake Sale. It will once again be held at the Weston County Senior Services Center Michael's Room on Monday Nov. 25.

"We ask people to bring in baked goods. They can designate an agency or it can go into the general fund to be distributed to everyone," explained Rogene Long, chairman of The United Fund of Weston County.

The money collected from the baked goods next week will benefit nine local agencies, Cub Scouts Pack 66, Girl Scouts, Ministerial Association, Weston County Humane Society, Weston County

— See **Auction**, Page 3

"... I have to help the Forest Service or whatever other neighbor to take care of theirs too. The pine beetles don't know to stop on a fence line or property line."

Winning the war

By Todd Bennington of NLJ

Assistant District Forester Jeremy Dedec of the Wyoming State Forestry Division isn't messing around when it comes to the Mountain Pine Beetle, and neither is the State of Wyoming. Last year 60,000 "bug trees" were cut in the northeast corner of the state. This year crews have already systematically walked 40,000 acres in search of infested trees, and aerial photography has been undertaken in search of hot spots. As of Oct. 6, 15,800 infested trees had been spotted across Crook and Weston counties — each of which is to be catalogued by being GPS'd twice — and many have already been felled. Still, Dedec insists his side is only winning the battle, not the war, against the beetle hordes, and the goal of 90,000 trees to be cut this year is not being met. That may not necessarily be cause for worry though, according to him.

"The bad news is we're having a hard time finding 90,000 trees. The good news is we're having a hard time finding 90,000 trees," Dedec explained paradoxically to the News Letter Journal.

"If we're not finding trees, it's working. The moisture might be helping. The combination thereof, it's knocking it

back. That's not to say we're done, because we have a tidal wave of bugs coming across from South Dakota." According to Dedec, this



Todd Bennington/NLJ

Assistant District Forester Jeremy Dedec shows the various types of beetles that live in the forests.

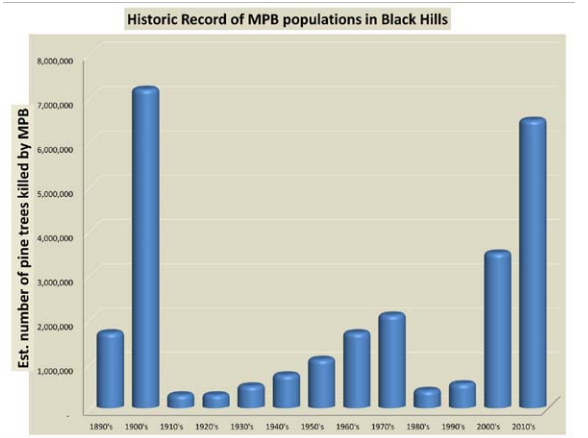


modest success in the ongoing effort to contain the tiny tree-killers, who have decimated forests throughout the Black Hills, has been due, not to the efforts of a single agency, but to a cooperative effort involving a number of entities at all levels of government. "That's something we're kind of proud of," he noted, "because we're working so well together."

Still, he emphasized that most of the money to fight the beetles comes courtesy of the state legislature. "We really like to stress that," Dedec explained. "This is local money ... There is a very small percentage of federal money involved here. This is our money. That's a point we try to make to these contractors and spotters ... That helps with the participation from the people who are actually on the ground."

"For our end we have a couple million dollars," he went on. "We have \$2 million that we've been working [with] from last year to this year. We'll use every bit of that ... Some of it carries over. We're not going to just blow it because the timeline is coming up by any means."

Still, Dedec readily admits that fighting the pine



beetle has been a learning process, and mistakes have been made, some of which have cost money. Case in point: the hiring of certain low-end contractors.

"Last year one of our growing pains was we would rely on the bid system to get the projects out, and it turns out that the low bid is not always the best bid. And we always knew that. But if you have somebody who's doing it for almost half, it sounds like a good thing at first. Then they turn around and don't finish the job, so you don't save any money. You end up with trees not cut and people not doing

— See **Beetles**, Page 10

Suspect arrested in domestic incident

By Todd Bennington of NLJ

City and county law enforcement personnel took part in the arrest of a male suspect in a domestic violence incident on Sunday, Nov. 10, outside the Family Dollar store in Newcastle. The assault is alleged to have occurred the day prior, but was not reported by the apparent female victim until Sunday morning.

Newcastle Police Chief Jim Owens told the News Letter that the suspect was known to local law enforcement and was thought by officers to pose a potential threat at the time the arrest was made.

"[Officer] actions, when they made the arrest in front of Family Dollar, were based totally on the information they had at that time, [which] was that the suspect they were looking for was emotionally distraught and had made threats of severe violence," Owens said. "You

act according to the information you have. The information they had was that this individual was emotionally distraught and potentially armed with a handgun."

Owens went on to explain that the safety of officers and the general public are the biggest priorities for law enforcement in such situations, and officers in this case acted accordingly.

"Number one, you've got to protect the public. Number two, you've got to approach [the suspect] in a manner that provides for the [utmost] safety for the officers involved," said Owens. "The intent is to put the suspect in a position or situation where he has no perceived option but to surrender without incident ... They approached him from four different angles at the same time, so they didn't give him an out. As a result an arrest was made without incident."

Asked if the suspect was in fact

"What you have to do is validate the source of the threat, and that's usually done by gathering as much information [as possible] about what was said or what was done. In a town this size it's easier because we know all the players."

— Jim Owens, Newcastle Police Chief

armed with a handgun, as police had anticipated, Owens answered, "He [was] not. But, again, that wasn't known until [the suspect] was out of [his] truck, and they had an opportunity to search the vehicle ... What it comes down to is, the officers [have

to make their decision] based on what information they have at the time. Information they find out later doesn't matter ... and the Supreme Court has [upheld] that."

Weston County Sheriff Bryan Colvard, whose deputies backed Newcastle police officers during Sunday's arrest, explained to the News Letter Journal some of the basic procedures utilized by law enforcement when dealing with those suspected of serious crimes.

"If the crime is a felony ... then we treat that [in a particular manner]," Colvard stated. "That's loud commands: 'get out of the vehicle,' 'hands up.' We usually have them back toward us, get down on their knees or lay down, and then we cuff them. Once everybody's secure that way, then we get into the discussion of what's going on and those kind of

— See **Arrest**, Page 12

WEATHER FORECAST	Thursday Snow Showers Hi 18, Lo 8	Friday Partly Cloudy Hi 30 Lo 12	Saturday Sunny Hi 32 Lo 21	Sunday Sunny Hi 45, Lo 25	Monday Mostly Sunny Hi 39, Lo 21	Tuesday Partly Cloudy Hi 40, Lo 24	Wednesday Sunny Hi 36 Lo 22	INSIDE: • A new face, Page 6 • ACT scores, Page 7 • Barritt, Page 8 • Banquet, Page 9



Opinion

News Letter Journal

Our View

What is really important

Modern society really does make it easy to forget what we should be celebrating the most during the holidays, and unfortunately it often seems that we're only reminded of the things that are truly important when a tragedy forces us to confront the possibility of losing that which we hold most dear.

The sorrow and loss being felt by one local family— and the community as a whole— in the wake of Sunday's accident provides a brutal contrast to the excitement and joy many of us were starting to feel in anticipation of Thanksgiving and Christmas, and all the fanfare associated with those holidays.

Bountiful meals, elaborate decorations, boisterous displays and copious piles of expensive gifts suddenly seem less relevant to all of us when we are forced to come together as a community to support those among us who are afflicted with the greatest loss imaginable.

But the fact that this community does come together, without fail, to surround with love those who are suffering within our midst should give us hope in the knowledge that the people of Newcastle and Weston County will never lose sight of what is really valuable and those things for which we must always be grateful.

The significance of so many things — family and friends, the tranquil beauty of northeast Wyoming on a crisp winter morning, the roofs over our heads and the clothes on our back— can be forgotten at this time of year as we scramble frantically to put together the perfect holiday experience. We hope that the grief we are all feeling this week will help us focus instead this year on the appreciation we should have for the perfection that already exists in our lives.

The pain of our loss will fade in the days and weeks to come, and our thoughts will inevitably turn again to preparing fabulous meals, picking perfect trees and finding priceless gifts. That's human nature, and we're fortunate to have the ability to overcome sorrow and renew our pursuit of happiness after terrible things have occurred.

But as we gather with our loved ones in the weeks to come to embrace the joy of Thanksgiving and Christmas, let us remember also the kindness, generosity and overwhelming capacity for humanity that exists here, and add it to the list of things we are truly thankful for.

Need to talk to a public servant?

Newcastle City Council Contact numbers:

Mayor Greg James	746-3677
Iva Carter	746-4334
Todd Quigley	746-8973
Linda Hunt	629-1512
Roger Hespe	746-2800
Archie Callander	746-2450
City Hall	746-3535
www.newcastlewyoming.net	

Deadline for Letters is noon on Friday

Letters to the Editor

State should answer some questions about new building

Dear Editor,

Visitors and residents of Newcastle are about to be greeted by a new welfare office being built by the Department of Family Services, in the parking lot of Shopko at the intersection of Highways 85 and 16.

I would like to know what the approval process was for this project. Our local newspaper, the News Letter Journal, has not published any information about it.

Specifically, I would like to know how the construction bids were obtained and approved. Why didn't our local contractors get the opportunity to bid this project? What is the construction cost? Who authorized the purchase of the land? How much did the land cost?

—Victoria Heller

Life will still go on for UW faculty and students

Dear Editor,

Over the next few weeks, I suppose there will be a lot of crystal-ball gazing about UW President Sternberg's departure. I suppose many people will be wondering what his resignation means for the university and for the state.

I can't answer those questions, but I can say what his leaving means to me. It means I'll still get up in the morning, look forward to teaching writing classes full of great Wyoming and out-of-state students, and continue to promote the development of undergraduates into top-caliber thinkers, citizens, and workers for the 21st Century. It means I'll continue to look forward to working with truly outstanding colleagues, including other Wyoming high-school grads like myself, as well as outstanding professors from across the nation and the globe. It means I'll continue to participate in supportive programs that encourage students to find success in college and far beyond.

For parents and students who might now be questioning the quality or stability of undergraduate education at UW, I can say that the people who care most about undergraduate programs here in Laramie

have been steadfast through the recent turmoil. I love my hometown, I love my state, and I love my university. A change of administration does not change those facts.

—Rick Fisher
Academic Professional Lecturer
UW Dept. of English
NHS Class of 1996

Children's concert brought meaning to the word "Freedom"

Dear Editor,

Thank you Newcastle Middle School and High School music departments, teachers and our young generation.

I just want to say what a "special" Veteran's Day you all made this year. The bands and choirs were awesome. The ending made the tears appear in a lot of us.

May we all realize just what "Freedom" means and the cost we pay to keep it.

This was a concert I'll remember.
Thank you all.

—Donna Elliott

President Comma

Dear Editor,

President Barack the Bystander, won't be known as great like Alexander, especially after all the Obamacare drama. He said you could keep your insurance, period, but now that problems are myriad, he's changed that punctuation mark into a comma.

It's not really about your health, it's about spreading the wealth; that and expanding the government's control. But now the Dear Leader, blames the Teleprompter proof reader, and it's not his fault we don't appreciate his real goal.

Obama thought himself so clever, with his transformation endeavor, he figured he could pull off one of history's biggest baits and switches. And though a legend in his own mind, he's beginning to find, the thing's falling apart thanks to tons of glitches.

With three years to get it up and running, the number of problems is stunning, it's almost as if it was engineered to fail. Those whose old plans are

Non-profit watchdogs

The IRS is paying more attention to the financial transactions of nonprofits. It is important that those in positions of influence understand the implications of the regulations and realize how they personally can be financially affected, according to www.boardsource.org. Intermediate sanctions provide an incentive for insiders to play the role of watchdogs against private exploitation of an organization's assets.

History

BoardSource tells us that traditionally, the IRS had only one tool, revocation of tax exemption, to use against nonprofits that exploited their exempt status by engaging in "excess benefit transactions" in favor of someone in a position of influence within the organization. The organization had to pay the full price for an individual's wrongdoing.

In 1996, the Tax Payer Bill of Rights II (Section 4958 to the Code) established specific excise taxes that could be imposed on "disqualified persons" who received or approved of excessive compensation within their non-profit. The IRS has since fine-tuned these sanctions. The penalties seek to cover virtually all financial transactions that involve insiders, not only the most flagrant misconduct. The final IRS regulations were posted early in 2008.

Which organizations are affected?

501(c)(3) organizations, excluding private foundations, and 501(c)(4) welfare groups are covered. 501(c)(6) trade associations are not included.

Who is a disqualified person?

Anyone who has exerted substantial influence (not defined by the law) over the organization within the past five years is a disqualified person. Specifically the list may include: highest level managers, board members, founder(s), major donor(s), highest paid employees, family members of the above, and an entity where the listed persons own more than 35 percent of an interest according to BoardSource.

What is excessive benefit?

Excessive benefit is defined as anything that exceeds fair market value or reasonable compensation for services rendered. These requirements complement the "reasonableness" test which the IRS has yet to clarify.

Compensation

• For purposes of the IRS, reasonableness is based on total compensation — including health and welfare, retirement benefits, incentive plans and other

income — as compared to similar organizations. It is important to realize that all benefits and perks should be considered when the total amount of the compensation is calculated; what matters is their value, not their cost. Therefore, when the board sets executive compensation, it should document its rationale for the compensation including the sources it used to find comparative salary information.

• Ideally, an organization should rely on nationally recognized compensation and salary surveys for comparison. If these are not available, it should study similar organizations and their compensation for comparable positions. Historical precedence alone for a position is not a valid comparison.

• The IRS also looks at whether the chief executive's salary was decided by an independent, objective board of directors.

• When determining increases in pay, the board should ensure that pay increases are directly linked to the chief executive and organizational performance.

• If the IRS determines that compensation is excessive, the portion of a chief executive's compensation that is deemed unreasonable by the IRS will be subject to repayment and to excise taxes.

Buying, selling, or renting property

When dealing with property, comparable prices and fair market value provide the guidelines for financial decisions. The organization needs to show that it has examined like transactions of at least five similar organizations, and must document any deviations with explanations.

What are the possible sanctions?

If the IRS has determined that a disqualified person has engaged in an excessive benefit transaction, this person is obligated to pay a tax equal to 25 percent of the excess amount. In addition, he or she is required to return the excessive amount to the organization. A board member or manager who knowingly approved the transaction is fined 10 percent of the excess amount. If the penalty is not carried out within a specified time, a supplemental tax equal to 200 percent of the excess amount can be levied. These sanctions are severe enough so that ignorance or carelessness can be very costly. BoardSource says that any taxes imposed on the organization need to be disclosed on the Form 4720.



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Growing Wyo

Who



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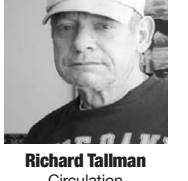
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What

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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Why

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

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—Fern Porter



Denice Piscioti/NLJ

Jennifer Wilson leads a group of students and adults Thursday in an activity aimed at understanding each other, during Challenge Day at Newcastle High School.

If you really knew me

If you really knew me you would know I enjoy helping other people, so when I was asked to participate in the Challenge Day program at Newcastle Middle School on Wednesday, Nov. 13, I was excited. Almost four years ago, when the program was held at the school, it was one of my first writing assignments for the News Letter Journal so I knew what to expect.

As I prepared my lunch for the day, the realization that I would benefit from the experience as much as the students brought a smile to my face. What I did not think about was how much I would see compassion in the adults who volunteered beside me, along with the realization they have similar feelings.

According to the website, challengeaday.org, the program's founders, Yvonne and Rich Dutra St. John, combined their experience with youth to co-found the program in 1987. I encourage individuals who want to learn more about the program to visit the site.

Information about the leaders who traveled from the home base in San Francisco, Calif., is also on the site. Chris Corby and Jennifer Wilson were the leaders who spent two days with students in Weston County School District #1, first with seventh and eighth grade NMS students on Wednesday, then the following day with less than 100 students from Newcastle High School.

During the course of those two days, the leaders and more than 50 adult facilitators comprised of teachers, parents, WCSD #1 board members and community volunteers guided students through their feelings to learn that everyone has experienced oppression at one time or another throughout their life.

I know that for me, before I participated in the Challenge Day program and decided I wanted to be a part of change, I often fell into the trap of judging people before I even knew them, based on what I saw on the outside. By the end of the Challenge Day activities, I realized there were other adults I admired and I need the lesson of believing in myself.

The program encompassed the entire school day with activities that helped the students slowly begin to feel safe, in the practice gymnasium at the school. They learned that expressing feelings helps release them, allowing a peace to take its place.

The activities began with everyone getting to know each other, being silly and relaxing. Participants are encouraged to greet, dance with and embrace those they are not acquainted with. What started out awkwardly turned into laughter and tight hugs by the end of the day.

In small "family" groups of five or six people, participants — both the students and adults — took turns telling speaking about themselves for two minutes, beginning with the statement, "if you really knew me." Feelings could be freely expressed because Chris and Jennifer firmly stated, "what is said in the

room, stays in the room."

It was not the time to fix problems, but to listen, they stressed. That was hard to do when you hate to see someone else hurting. But sometimes the best thing to do is to let all your bottled up feelings out, letting them go. I learned that listening can be all that is needed.

The most powerful activity was called "Cross the Line." It begins with everyone standing on one side of a line. Jennifer would call out life events — such as, has someone ever judged you for your skin color or have you ever been put down by someone in this room — and each person who had experienced one of them would move forward. If that had happened to you, you crossed the line, walking a few feet to another line and turned around to face those that did not cross. Although there were more than a hundred people

participating in the activity, individuals were aware of who crossed the line because they wanted to comfort them, not judge them.

After participating in the activity for two days in a row, the first day with my step-son Kolby and the second day with my son Justin, I realized each person is affected by different things, even if they are in the same family. Justin and I crossed or didn't cross for reasons unique to us personally.

It was interesting to see, and sad for me at the same time. My mother has a mental illness but has disowned me for all of my adult life due to her religious beliefs.

I crossed the line when asked if someone in the family had a mental illness and Justin did not, even though I crossed for his grandmother. But he did not know that about her because she has not let him know her.

Through the exercise you could tell people began to look at each other differently than they had before — with compassion instead of judgment.

The last time I had the opportunity to participate in the Challenge Day program at NMS in 2010, Justin was in eighth grade and participated. He told me it was a lot different for him as a high school student than it had been when he was younger. He asked me if I thought the experience was different between the two schools since I had the chance to attend both days. After thinking about it for a while, I could not see a lot of differences, which surprised him.

As I sat in my small family groups each day, every student expressed gratitude for the Challenge Day experience coming to the school district. I was thankful for the anti-bullying grant that made it possible for so many people to experience it in Newcastle.

What I appreciate most is the extra joy I feel after shedding much needed tears after expressing bottled up feelings. Nearly a week later I have found myself happier, reacting better and seeing the good in people after going through not one, but two Challenge Days.



Denice Piscioti
Miss Magnum

Auction

from page 1

Children's Center, Weston County Sheriff's Search and Rescue, Weston County Health Services/In Home Services, Weston County Peace Officer's Association/Operation Santa and RENEW.

Donations will be accepted beginning at 7 a.m., with bids to be taken immediately following Tradio on AM 1240, KASL, which begins at 9:06 a.m.

Long said the phone numbers to call bids in on will be announced on the radio Monday morning. Delivery on winning auction items will be available in the city limits. If the buyer of the baked goods wishes to have their purchases delivered, Long stated, they just need to mention it when their information is being taken off the air.

For individuals who want to purchase items but do not want to wait to bid on them, the option is available for them to go to the senior center and get

the baked goods at 'buy it now' prices, explained Pam Penfield, KASL office/sales manager.

Buying the baked goods in person is a good idea, suggested Penfield, since the station will not be able to stay on the air until all the baked goods are gone this year.

"Around 4 p.m. we will be airing the Wyoming Cowboys basketball game. We encourage people to come down to the senior center and take advantage of the 'buy it now' prices," she said.

There will be guest auctioneers live on the air throughout the day, Penfield noted. All of the radio station's staff that can be spared helps with the annual auction.

"Come on down on the 25th and see all of us from the radio station," encouraged Penfield.

She offered that some people buy the desserts and freeze them to enjoy during their

Thanksgiving dinner. Toward the end of the auction, business owners often come and buy a whole table, she admitted.

The community event is one many look forward to, but in the end it is the recipients of the citizen's generosity that benefit the most.

"We appreciate everyone who buys or brings in baked items," smiled Long.

CORRECTION

There was an error in the story "Veteran recalls days with elite fighting unit," on Page 6 of the Nov. 14 edition. It should have read that Lt. Col. John Gaston had been a gandy dancer on the railroad. Also, Gaston left the Air Force in 1965.

Count Your Many Blessings



President George Washington proclaimed the very first national day of Thanksgiving to be Thursday, November 26, 1789. It was to be a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to especially give thanks for the opportunity to form a new nation and the establishment of a new constitution.

To celebrate Thanksgiving, First State Bank of Newcastle will be closed on Thursday, November 28, 2013.



First State Bank
OF NEWCASTLE



www.fsbnewcastle.com • 307-746-4411



GET MORE FROM YOUR DAY
WITH THE NEWSPAPER

• 47 percent of people in Weston County use the News Letter Journal as their primary source of information.

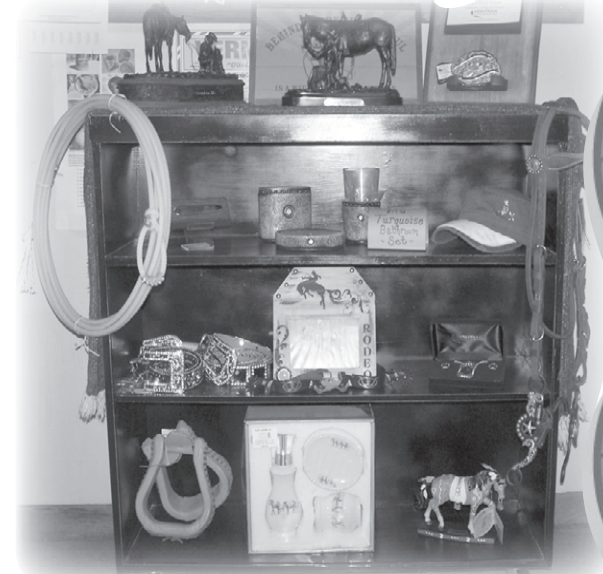
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Rare Element Resources

Bear Lodge Project



64 157.3

Gd

GADOLINIUM

ELEMENT OF THE MONTH

Gadolinium (gad-uh-LIN-ee-um)



Why is it important that Gadolinium stops neutrons better than any other element? That characteristic makes Gadolinium essential for control rods in nuclear power plants and in shutdown mechanisms for nuclear reactors. One of the rare earth elements found at the Bear Lodge Project, it was named for Finnish Chemist Johan Gadolin and is also used in x-ray and MRI scanning systems and TV and computer screens.

Gadolinium alloy is a key component in new magnetic refrigeration systems, an innovation that has the potential to cut electrical cooling costs dramatically. Gadolinium yttrium garnets are used in various electronic components for communications and radar, and to produce the microwaves in microwave ovens. One specialized medical application of Gadolinium is to locate tumors in the inner ear.

If you have any questions about rare earths or our Bear Lodge Project, don't hesitate to call Linda Tokarczyk at 307-283-3500 or Mike Finn at 307-281-0517. And always feel free to stop by our offices at: 2209 E. Cleveland Ave. in Sundance • 504 Pine St., #7, in Upton

Project updates and current information also available at www.bearlodgeproject.com

Let us take care of your
Thanksgiving Dinner
 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Turkey, Ham, Dressing,
 Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Corn, Green Beans,
 Cranberry Sauce, Dinner Rolls and Pie
**Serving regular breakfast 6 - 11 a.m.*
HI-16 RESTAURANT
 Open 6am-10pm 7 Days a Week • Closing at 4 p.m. Thanksgiving Day

Donations made for meals will be split between the Pillen and Carr/Oedekoven families

Your Holiday Shopping begins at the
Christmas in Wyoming Bazaar
Saturday, Nov. 23
9am-1:30pm
First United Methodist Church
Find unique gifts for all on your list!

There has been a benefit account set up at First State Bank of Newcastle by the Newcastle Fire Department and Explorer Post 66 to help support the families of Vincent Oedekoven and Wyatt Pillen, to pay for incurred medical expenses due to a vehicle accident last Sunday afternoon. Thank you for supporting these families in their time of need.



Ladies night

Katherine Townsend, above, visits with Bev Tolman of Spoonful of Heaven, who was one of many home-based business people who participated in Frontier Home, Ranch and Hardware's Ladies Night Out event earlier this month. Frontier invited operators of home-based businesses to display their wares and offer demonstrations, and each of them also provided an item for the door prize drawings held throughout the evening. Ladies Night Out was a tremendous success, and Frontier's owners, Randy and Sandy Dirkes, said they plan to make it an annual event. At left, Bev Tolman shows her wares to some of the ladies who attended. Below, Sandi Shook checks out hats made by Michell Hieb. (Photo by Denice Piscioti/NLJ)



LET US REPLENISH THE SEED OF FAITH THROUGH...

Regular Church Attendance



- **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 CHURCH:** Pastor Chris Walton, 19 Stampede St. 746-2321. Sunday School 9:15 am; Worship 10:30 am; Wednesday Bible Study 6 pm
- **CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL:** Rev. Sally Boyd, S. Summit & Winthrop Streets, 746-9684. 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday, Morning Prayer 10 a.m.; 2nd & 4th Saturday 4 p.m., Holy Eucharist. haydishall@hotmail.com
- **CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH:** Pastor John Hopper, 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 Meeting 9 am; Sunday School 8:45 am; Church Services 8 & 10 am; Nursery care available.
- **GATEWAY FELLOWSHIP:** Pastor Jon Andersen, Evangelical Free Church meets at the Weston County Senior Services; Sunday School 9:30 am; Worship 11 am. Call 746-8091.
- **KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES:** 5018 US Hwy 16, 746-2319 or 746-4517. Tuesday 7 p.m. Congregation Bible Study, Theocratic Ministry School and Service Meeting. Sunday Public Talk 10 am; Watchtower 11 am.
- **NEWCASTLE FOURSQUARE CHURCH:** Pastor Mick Bohn, 1525 S. Summit, 746-3618. Sunday Worship 10 am; Wednesday Night Prayer.
- **NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP:** Pastor Wayne Wilson, meets at Black Gold Realty Building, 1517 W. Main, 746-5542. Sunday Worship 10 am.
- **OSAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH:** 348 Sheridan St. Osage, 465-2341. Sunday School 10 am; Worship 11 am and 6 pm.
- **SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST:** Pastor Gary Force, 78 Old Hwy 85, 746-3504 or 278-0254, Pastoral Assistant Jason Logan 746-2974. Saturday Sabbath School 9:30 am; Worship 11:20 am.
- **ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Father Killian Muli, Upton. Sunday Mass 11:30 a.m.
- **VICTORY NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH:** Rev. Theodore L. Halls, 414 Pine, 746-4366.
- **UPTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Rev. Sharee Johnson, 834 Pine, Upton, 468-9302. Sunday School 9:30 am; Worship 10:30 am; Children's Church & Nursery are available; 1st & 3rd Wed Evenings Prayer and Praise Service 7 pm.

Like a Windy Day

Gray and white clouds sail across a pale blue sky on a windy winter day. What will the weather bring? One minute it looks like a storm...the next minute streaks of golden sunlight appear and so does the promise of a sunny day. Who knows what to expect? Life is like an unsettled day; things can look bright one minute, uncertain the next. We know that disappointments will come. A relationship with our Creator can prepare us for the uncertainties...He is in control of all things. In His House, you will meet those who have learned to survive life's storms by sharing their faith in His wisdom and love. Go to your house of worship this week and prepare for the storms of life.

Weekly Scripture Reading

Revelation 19:1-21	Revelation 20:1-15	Revelation 21:1-27	Revelation 22:1-21	Ezra 7:1-28	Nehemiah 8:1-18	Nehemiah 12:24-47
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Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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WHAT'S UP		Meetings & Events Calendar	
DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Nov. 21	12:30 p.m.	Good Citizen Awards	NES
	6 p.m.	W.C. Health Services Meeting	W.C.H.S. Board Room
Nov. 22	7:30 p.m.	Mason's Meeting	Masonic Lodge
	10 a.m.	Holiday Open House	Treasured Florals & Gifts
Nov. 23	11:30 a.m.	W.C. Library Board Meeting	Newcastle Library
	7 p.m.	AA Meeting	Corpus Christi Church
Nov. 24	7:30 p.m.	Square Dancing	Newcastle Elementary
	7:30 p.m.	Bingo	VFW Hall
Nov. 25	9 a.m.	Holiday Bazaar	First United Methodist
	10 a.m.	Holiday Open House	Treasured Florals & Gifts
Nov. 26	2 p.m.	Turkey Bingo	Corpus Christi Church
	7 p.m.	AA Meeting	Corpus Christi Church
Nov. 27	6:30 a.m.	United Fund Pie Auction	W.C. Senior Center
	1 p.m.	Low Vision Support Group	W.C. Senior Center
Nov. 28	7:30 p.m.	Eastern Star Meeting	Masonic Lodge
	7 p.m.	Square Dance Lessons	Newcastle Elementary
Nov. 29	6:30 p.m.	Gettinger Benefit	W.C. Senior Center
	6:45 p.m.	ALANON (746-9791)	Mondell Heights
Nov. 30	7 p.m.	Ladies Firearms Safety & Self Defense	Indoor Range
	7 p.m.	AA Meeting	Corpus Christi Church
Nov. 1	3 p.m.	Hot Chocolate & Cider	Frontier Home & Ranch
	5 p.m.	Holiday Open House	Chick Financial
Nov. 2	5 p.m.	Chili Feed	W.C. Senior Center
	7 p.m.	Parade of Lights	Main Street
Nov. 3	7:30 p.m.	Life Prints	W.C. Senior Center
	7 p.m.	AA Meeting	Corpus Christi Church
Nov. 4	7:30 p.m.	Square Dancing	Newcastle Elementary
	7:30 p.m.	Bingo	VFW Hall

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Nov. 21:** Jacob Blakesley
Nov. 22: Jamini Patel
Nov. 23: Doug Holwell, Tamera Allen
Nov. 24: Reg Rumbolz, Paul & Deb Piana, Suzette Miller
Nov. 25: Vincent Stanton
Nov. 26: Mike Ronning, Greg Stanton, Jerry & Maxine Groner, Bill Fassbender

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100 YEARS AGO - NOV. 20, 1913
 On Thanksgiving Day a lot of people will sigh and say: "Why should I give thanks? I am no better off than I was a year ago." Then they will begin a dissertation on the growing cost of living, on the failure of the crops, on the rich man who preys upon the poor, on the politician who steals the people's money, and finally, on the lack of opportunity.

Mr. LeRoy Feagins and Miss Mary Vanarnam were united in marriage at the home of the bride's parents on the Cheyenne River.

Mr. George Scarlett died Sunday while en route from Newcastle to his ranch. He, a prospective buyer, and Mrs. Scarlett were being taken to the country in an auto by Mr. L.C. Thoeming. Mr. Scarlett was born in Dudley, England, in 1836 and was past 77 years of age.

George P. Schneider and son have moved down near Clay Spur where they have a big contract hauling in logs on the "Mondell" timber tract. He will run three teams and has a job that will no doubt last all winter.

The Foltz brothers will start their saw mill at the Fogelberg ranch Monday and finish sawing about 12,000 feet and then move the outfit to the Alverson ranch where they have a big job to complete.

The dance at Mahnke's near Clifton Saturday night was a very enjoyable affair. Argentine, the Cheyenne River, Newcastle and Elk Mountain were well represented at the dance.

The farmers are bringing a lot of oats to Cambria this week, loading it in cars to ship. One car is going to Ardmore.

Mrs. Louis Thoeming and Mrs. Walter Schoonmaker visited the Cambria school last Thursday. They were there in the interest of the Orphans' Home at Wheatland.

Friday will be "Tag Day" at the Cambria school. Each pupil will be asked to bring a dime for the orphans and take home a tag.

75 YEARS AGO - NOV. 17, 1938
 Newcastle's first annual Community Thanksgiving Service, an observance expected to attract one of the largest gatherings ever assembled in the city for a service of this kind, will be held Thursday morning. With only a few cities in the Rocky Mountain region having inaugurated this kind of service, Newcastle will be one of the first cities to have a community Thanksgiving festival.

The volunteer fire department was called out about eight o'clock Monday night to extinguish a blaze at the Newcastle Laundry, which, for a time, appeared would be completely razed before the flames were brought under control.

Captain T.C. Howell of the Machine Gun Troop announced this week that the troop has just received 14 new horses from the remount station at Fort Robinson, Neb., bringing the total number of mounts up to 33.

Death came to one of the county's oldest citizens this week, Mrs. Kate Olney, who passed away in Newcastle on Sunday evening at the age of 90 years.

The Morrissy Busy Bee Club met at the home of Mrs. Jay Moyer on Thursday. Seven members and two guests were present.

Jackie Wrede had the misfortune to fracture his left arm while playing football last Wednesday.

Harney Peak, highest mountain east of the Rockies, has grown 35 feet during the past year. That's the height of the new stone fire lookout built atop the mountain by CCC enrollees under the direction of the Harney national forest.

Art News by Mary E. Wrede: An exhibition of water colors by Lloyd Moylan opened this week at the federal art gallery. The display has been sent out from the exhibition section in Washington, D.C.

Nov. 19, 1889, 49 years ago this Saturday, the first passenger train ran into Newcastle — not the Newcastle of the present day by



any means, but one recognized as exemplifying the "wild and woolly" West, with not 1/15th its present population, and with only a few shacks scattered around.

Mr. and Mrs. John Knipp, Chas. Lassen and Mr. and Mrs. J.E. Long were Newcastle callers from Fairview Saturday.

John Pridgeon recently completed drilling a well for Andrew Haley at Fairview. Red Owl Ad: Two quarts fresh cranberries for 33 cents; apples are six pounds for 25 cents.

Floyd Bergstrom and Eben Spencer, of the Clareton area, were at Scottsbluff on business Saturday. Mr. Spencer visited at the Boulden ranch during their absence.

Mrs. Charlie Martens, Mrs. Earl Johnson and Mrs. Oliver Bock of Osage autoed to Hot Springs Wednesday to visit Bobbie Martens and Mrs. Lloyd Waggoner, who are patients at the Sister's Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bradley and W.J. Bradley arrived Monday evening from Cheyenne. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bradley will live at the Bradley & Mannewall lease and will be the superintendent.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross Allen and Mrs. John Cool of the Prairie were dinner guests Wednesday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W.W. Allen in Newcastle.

50 YEARS AGO - NOV. 21, 1963
 Twelve firms are paying 40 per cent of the 1963 tax bill, according to figures released this week by the Weston County treasurer. True Oil Company paid the most with CB&Q coming in second.

Miss Rhonda Sedgwick is competing this week with some 30 girls for the title of Miss Rodeo America at Las Vegas, Nev.

The Sunshine Club met Nov. 13 at the home of Mrs. Iris Zofer with 11 members and three visitors present.

The Plant and Pray Garden Club of Osage decided that the club should have at least one work day each month at the park during the growing season, when as many club members possible should be together to do whatever needed to be done there.

Red Owl Ad: Turkeys for 29 cents a pound and cranberry sauce at 19 cents for 15-ounce can.

Montgomery Ward Ad: Broadloom carpet and padding completely installed for \$5.94 a square yard.

Inyan Kara Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution met at the home of Mrs. W.A. Mikesell Monday afternoon with seven members present.

Mr. and Mrs. Clay George of the Lone Tree area were in Newcastle Wednesday on business. They also visited at the Kurt Miller home.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gaskill helped work sheep at Orin Carr's Wednesday.

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LeShae Bruce at the **Yellow Daisy Salon** in Upton is now accepting new clients.

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To donate auction items call Jon Anderson at (307) 949-0869

Donations can also be made at First State Bank of Newcastle to the "Dan Gettinger Benefit"

From the Vault of the Anna Miller Museum:
 The C.A. Ward Lumber Company, circa 1930s-40s. In later years, the Thorson's offices and Doug Holwell's Saddlery occupied this building.



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Generations

News Letter Journal

Stuzman fills assistant principal position

By Denice Piscioti of NLJ

After being in the same school district for two dozen years in Idaho, first as a teacher then as an administrator, Heidi Stuzman now can be found as the new assistant principal at Newcastle Elementary School. Parents and students began seeing the new face at the school last month.

"This seems like a really good school district, there are a lot of really good things going. I like the plan that they have and it is really easy to follow. I also like the fact that it is a professional learning community, where everybody is focused on that and learning how to be that," recognized Stuzman.

Changing districts has been a learning experience for the new AP because although education is similar everywhere, there are different programs, and Wyoming is further ahead on the concept of common core standards, she indicated.

"From what I see here at the elementary school, they use their interventions very well. And they look at the data and use that data to drive the interventions they are using. They are incorporating technology brain-based learning — which is great for kids!" she declared.

Another aspect of NES she appreciates is the parental support she has seen at the school. She was amazed by the attendance at the Halloween parade and enjoys greeting the parents in the morning as they bring students to school.

"I am so glad that she is here! She has done a great job fitting in with the staff and students, allowing me to focus on the stuff I need to," NES Principal Brandy Holmes told the News Letter Journal.



Liam Gorman talks with the new assistant principal, Heidi Stuzman, at Newcastle Elementary School.

Stuzman noted the biggest change between states is how the school districts are funded and the number of students in the classrooms.

"When I first came and Brandy took me around to the classrooms, I was wondering where all the kids were — not to mention the classrooms are bigger. That is really nice to see,"

she said.

Stuzman grew up in Boise, Idaho, where she attended high school, went to the College of Southern Idaho where she obtained an associate's degree before continuing her education at Boise State University. She received a bachelor's degree and a master's at Idaho State University.

"I was 24 years teaching in the Jerome school district in Idaho. I spent five years in the district as assistant principal, grades four, five and six," she acknowledged.

Her husband, Byron, took a job as the superintendent for Crook County School District #1, bringing them to

Wyoming from Buhl, Idaho, where he previously held the position of superintendent.

"That was hard to leave, but this has worked out just wonderfully! This seems like a really great school! It seems similar — same kind of people where everybody seems happy," Stuzman proclaimed.

While in Buhl she was in a different district than her husband, and it's the same for the couple today, only in a different state. They currently live in Sundance while she commutes to Newcastle for work.

"I don't mind the commute at all, I actually enjoy it. It gives me time to get ready for my day without bothering anyone else, and it gives me time to put it on the back burner at the end of the day. I don't mind the commute at all, the travel is not bad," she reported.

Riding motorcycles, running and outdoor activities are recreational pastimes she looks forward to enjoying in Wyoming.

Before joining the education field, the Stuzmans earned their living in agriculture. Growing a variety of crops on their farm is something that is familiar to her, she says, giving her a unique perspective on the ranching community.

"We started looking at doing something else. We have never looked back," she said.

Before moving to Wyoming in June she had only visited the state one time several years ago with her husband while traveling by motorcycle.

"We actually came to Sturgis 11 years ago, not knowing what we were getting into. We loved the area. I can remember him saying, 'I would love to live around here.' So be careful what you wish for," she smiled.

Plans for elementary school addition nearing completion

By Denice Piscioti of NLJ

Since August the Newcastle Elementary School addition project has been in the works, reaching the 65 percent level in October, according to Greg Gregory, Weston County School District #1's maintenance director.

Two proposed options for the addition were discussed at the Oct. 30 meeting of the WCSD #1 Board of Trustees, with consensus toward the second option for the expansion, in which the mechanical room will be located above the restrooms positioned in classrooms. The other option was to have the location of the mechanical room across from the nurse's office instead of using it as a Title I classroom.

"We would lose the Title I room if we put it on the ground. Not only are we over full with having our third-graders out in the modulars, but also right now we have two specialists sharing one classroom. So we really do need that room to be able to split them up to provide better services for kiddos, because ultimately we end up with more than should be in there for interventions," explained NES principal Brandy Holmes.

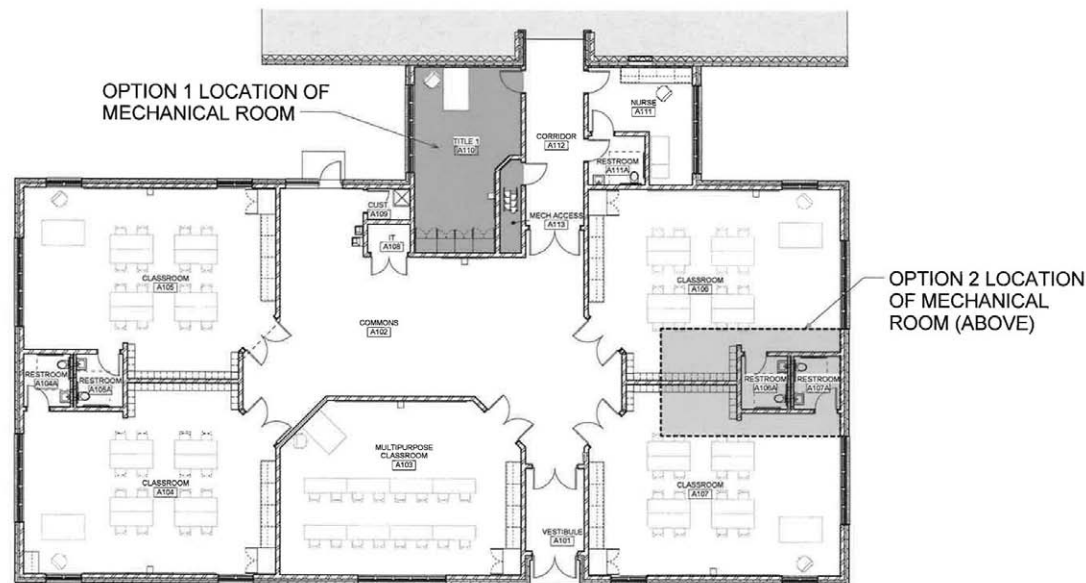
She continued to explain that instructors have been making good use of the space available to them, such as the hallway and the lunchroom, but giving them their own separate room will allow them to do even more.

A previous schematic, published in the Sept. 19 edition

of NLJ, has also been altered, which changes the location of the Title I classroom and expands the commons area, as well as adding a restroom adjacent to the nurse's office.

The principal said she is looking forward to having the commons as a designated area to allow for one-on-one instruction outside of the classroom, making it more efficient. The plan also calls for it to be a teachable area, where the administrators hope they can include a smart board.

During each phase of the project a proposal has been sent out with time allotted for comments before final decisions are made. Gregory serves as the WCSD #1 liaison between the district and the Schools Facility Department, he acknowledged.



Holmes interjected she is grateful he handles the details, but is also appreciative of the updates from the Dale Buckingham Architect firm.

This month begins the 65 percent review for the new addition, which means the plans will go into a little more mechanical detail, explained Gregory. In January, the team plans to meet

the 100 percent review.

"From then on, I will meet with them for change orders. Feb. 4 the construction prints should be out and ready. The time table shows we should be going out in late February or early March," reported Gregory.

He added that with bids going out in early spring it should put the ground-breaking some time

in late spring. At this stage, it is hard to predict exactly when the project will be completed, however. At present, the projection is for the Fall of 2014, allowing the instructors to move into the new space during the Christmas break.

"They are moving fairly quickly on it, which is exciting!" Holmes declared.

Honor choir will perform

On Friday and Saturday, Nov. 22 and 23, the top high school musicians from the northeast district of Wyoming will gather at Campbell County's North Campus to rehearse together in an honor choir and band.

The honor choir will be under the direction of Marcia Patton from Casper. Patton began her career in Newcastle, but most recently is the current director of the Casper Children's Choir and retired director of Kelly Walsh High School choirs.

"She will work her magic with the singers who have been practicing at their home schools for the last month," said Newcastle High School Music Director Janelle Ellis.

Newcastle High School choir participants include Emma Anderson, Daniel Caress, Layne Crisman, Carissa Deming, Ashlyn Dollison, Casey Hall, Lynnell Hanson, Colin Heaton, Rachel Henkle, Abigail Hutchinson, Cooper

Karp, Dawson Norton and Tracey Whetsell.

Leading the band for two days of inspiring music-making will be Aric Hageman, who is currently the director of the Riverton High School bands and the Wyoming band vice-president in charge of the all-state band selection. Excited to participate in the district honor band from Newcastle are Catherine Halliday, Kinlee Whitney and Kelsey Wood. They have also been working hard on their instrumental pieces for the last month, according to Ellis.

The honor band and choir will be presenting a culminating concert Saturday afternoon at 3 p.m. in the Campbell County High School Gym I at Gillette's North Campus. This concert is free and open to the public. Other schools participating in this event include Arvada/Clearmont, Big Horn, Buffalo, Gillette, Hulett, Kaycee, Moorcroft, Sheridan, Sundance, Tongue River, Upton and Wright.

Accomplishments

Ayres takes fifth place
Hastings College junior Jess Ayres of Newcastle placed fifth in Extemporaneous Speaking at the 2013 Broncolope Swing, a forensics tournament hosted by Hastings College and the University of Nebraska-Kearney, on Nov. 16-17.

Break, the Bronco Forensics team will complete its fall semester schedule by competing at Outer Limits Swing held in Kearney, Neb., on Dec. 6-7.



The Hastings College Bronco Forensics team has continued a long-running tradition of national competitive success, placing

in the top 20 at the American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament (AFA-NIET) for most of the past 10 years, including 16th at AFA 2012 in San Marcos, Texas, and 18th at AFA 2011 in Kearney.

Founded in 1882, Hastings College is a private, four-year liberal arts institution located in Hastings, Neb., that focuses on student academic and extracurricular achievement.

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Taking suggestions

Calbi Ausmann works the phones for the News Letter Journal and Newcastle High School FBLA last week. Members of the organization are conducting a phone survey to determine what Weston County residents like most and least about the newspaper, and offering subscriptions at a reduced price to people who participate in the survey. (Photo by Bob Bonnar/NLJ)

ACT determines NHS standing

By Denice Piscioti of NLJ

Newcastle High School juniors, like all high school juniors across the state of Wyoming, take the ACT college readiness exam as part of Wyoming's program to evaluate schools. High schools previously took two tests every year as a part of the program, ACT as well as the 11th grade Proficiency Assessment for Wyoming Students.

Three years ago legislators determined that the PAWS test was not meaningful enough to the students taking it, because they would rather put their effort into the ACT exam which they have to take to get into college. It was decided the ACT test would become the assessment that determines whether high schools make their Adequate Yearly Progress measurement, in addition to determining if they are college ready.

"We made AYP, we consistently have," stated NHS Principal Tracy Ragland.

In 2013, for the first year, the ACT scores were used to decide the State of Wyoming proficiency levels. Cut scores were determined for each category: Reading, 12 points is basic, 16 is proficient and 25 advanced; Math is 14 basic, 17 proficient and 25 is advanced; and for Science, 14 is basic, 20 proficient and 25 advanced.

In the spring of the 2012-2013 school year, NHS juniors took the ACT test with 36.54 percent of the students passing in Math in the basic and below category, and

63.46 percent in the proficient and advanced area. In Reading, 26.92 percent received basic and below, with 73.08 percent proficient and advanced.

Ragland told the News Letter Journal that evaluating Science is new, so the numbers could possibly vary for a few years. He continued to state that the testing is not inquiry based with Science projects — although Wyoming is more of an inquiry based state — which does not reflect in the scores, which explains why the Science scores were low: 46.15 percent were in the basic and below category, with 53.85 percent in the proficient and advanced areas.

"With Science we just look at it and do the best we can. We find holes, then we make those corrections. Hopefully those scores will lead us to better corrections in the future," the principal acknowledged.

The same data is used to determine a student's college readiness but with a different scale. The state's scale has changed, but Ragland uses the same one he has for the past five years, he stated. Each student's ACT and GPA are measured with the Hathaway benchmark to find out their eligibility.

The Hathaway Scholarship was designed to provide an incentive for students to prepare for and pursue college education in Wyoming. It consists of four separate merit scholarships, each having specific eligibility requirements and a need-based scholarship for eligible students that supplements the

merit awards, according to the Wyoming Department of Education website.

"We have 31 of our 51 kids that are Hathaway eligible. We have a higher percentage of Hathaway eligibility than we have ever had before," reported Ragland. "With more and more kids becoming eligible, it makes me think more and more of them are giving it a thought."

That number could be even higher due to the number of students who did not take the ACT last year. Also, the students who have already taken the ACT have the opportunity to retake the test three times during the school year, giving them a chance to raise their scores. Consequently more students will become eligible for the Hathaway Scholarship.

"We should approach 70 percent of our class being scholarship eligible with the graduating class of '14. That is what I see right now based on everything I've got," Ragland added.

Ragland also stated that at NHS they are seeing a trend of students who want to continue their education after high school by attending college. He attributes that desire to the concurrent credit available.

"Kids want to do well on the ACT if they want to go into college. They want to get the money that is available in Hathaway, that is available to help them out. So those are two great carrots out there for them. For the kids that want to go to college, this is a very high incentive for them," the principal acknowledged.

Donations, help wanted for shopping day

By Denice Piscioti of NLJ

To instill in children the gift of giving is just as much a part of Christmas as getting gifts. Several years ago several community churches began holding an annual shopping event for children to allow them to get presents for parents and grandparents at no cost to them. This year the Kids Christmas Shopping Day will be held at First United Methodist Church on Dec. 7 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for elementary school children and younger.

The community church event is sponsored primarily by First United Methodist Church, Christ the King Lutheran Church, Corpus Christi Catholic Church and Gateway Fellowship. Donations are appreciated, explained Jill Sellers, Kids Christmas Shopping Day committee member.

"The church youth groups are very involved, as the middle- and high-schoolers help the younger children to 'shop' for their family and gift-wrap their choices. This is a heartfelt and exciting outreach program that really touches children and families in our community. It shows the power of love and



NLJ File Photo

giving that is the true spirit of the Christmas season," acknowledged Sellers.

Previously there was more than one opportunity for children to shop for gifts for their loved ones, but this year it has been changed to longer hours on just one day. The Shopping Day is being held in conjunction with a free movie — sponsored by Newcastle Area Chamber of Commerce, Weston County Title, Wyoming Refining and First State Bank — offered at the Dogie Theatre, which airs at

10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Donations of gifts between \$5 and \$20 are most appropriate. Popular items are gloves, hand lotion, manicure kits, picture frames, bath and body kits, coffee/hot chocolate with mug, dish towels and candy for women.

Men's gifts are especially needed for the kids to choose from. Suggestions include either work or winter gloves, flashlights, measuring tape, socks, screwdriver sets, socket sets, travel mugs/thermos and candy.

After picking out each gift the children enjoy gift-wrapping the items. Organizers have discovered that the children would rather take the time to wrap them instead of putting them in a gift bag. Donations for this purpose are also needed.

"We also would appreciate donations of wrapping paper and tape, especially the pop-up tape refills, as they are easier for small hands to manage," added Sellers.

The annual event would not be possible without the generosity of the community. Volunteers are also needed to help during the Shopping Day. Sellers told the News Letter Journal they try to work with the children one on one to pick out the gifts for their parents and grandparents.

To volunteer, donate items or for more information, contact Jill Sellers at 629-0945.

"Please let us know if you would like to help out for an hour or more on Shopping Day," she said. "It's fun to see what kind of gifts they will choose for their parents and grandparents. [You] can't predict what they will think will be the greatest treasure for somebody else."

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Liz Barritt has been hired as the new assistant director for the Red Onion museum in Upton. The Weston County Museum District is still looking to fill a part-time position to support Barritt.

Barritt joins Red Onion staff

By Todd Bennington of NLJ

Amid the current uncertainty surrounding the future location of the Red Onion, the Weston County Museum District has forged ahead to find a new staff member to oversee the museum, selecting Upton resident Liz Barritt to replace recently retired Jeanette Ray in the position of assistant director.

Barritt, a graduate of Upton High School and great-grandchild of local homesteaders, is a longtime member of the Weston County Historical Society. She told the News Letter she has always been

“passionate” about history. “I am looking forward to sharing and preserving the many treasures and rich cultural heritage of our community,” she wrote in a prepared statement, adding that she wants the community to feel welcome at the museum and hopes to see more people utilize its reference and research room.

For her part, district director Bobbie Jo Stith, fairly gushed over her new hire.

“[Barritt] has always been very involved with Weston County and particularly the Upton area,” Stith enthused. “She has been the chamber president [in Upton] and

has been involved with the schools. [She] is pretty knowledgeable about local history, county wide, not just the Upton area. She and I have worked on historical projects together in the past ... She was on the committee that got the [Weston County] Courthouse on the national register, and she did a lot of work for us on that. She's written historical papers that have been published ... She's just an accomplished person.”

“I think [Barritt] is being received very well,” Stith added. “Not only in Upton, but the entire county is very pleased with Liz's hiring ... I've just had such positive feedback.”

Barritt assured the News Letter Journal that all museum items are secure and being properly cared for as the Red Onion gears up to move, and she said she hopes to have volunteers from the community step forward to render assistance when the time comes.

The Weston County Museum District plans to fill two additional vacancies in the coming months. Wendy Robinson, presently of Cripple Creek, Colo., is slated to join Stith in a full-time position at the Anna Miller Museum in early December, while plans also exist to hire a part-time position in support of Barritt at the Red Onion.

Museum

had begun to act on the agreement they believed was in effect.

“The agreement, [as I understood it], was that we clean out ... the first two rooms just inside the museum, [so that the town] could start working with them. And we did. We rented a storage unit and put that stuff in a storage unit. We thought we were living up to our end of the bargain,” Stith explained.

But neither Haptonstall nor Sharkey were present at last Tuesday's meeting, and members of the council — apparently unaware of the deal — were caught entirely off guard, leading to a moment of embarrassment and confusion for all involved.

“That's where we were all left a little bit with our jaws dropped,” Stith stated, “because I'm thanking them for this six-month extension, being very sincere in my thank you, and they're looking at me like ‘say what.’”

Stith continued, “Mr. [Dustin] Upton, who was conducting the meeting said, ‘I certainly didn't [hear of any such agreement]. Did anybody else?’ [The council members] were all shaking their heads ‘no.’ We all sat there and just looked at each other for a few seconds ... There was a discussion back and forth of what do we do now, and of course that day, [Nov. 12], was our deadline to be out.”

Fortunately for the museum district, though, the council members were not averse to granting the extension.

“They did agree that we had moved out of the two rooms,” said Stith. “They were very understanding of the fact that you just don't move a museum overnight and probably not even in 30 days. I don't know why ultimately we were given the 30 days, but that council the other night totally agreed that a six-month extension was not unreasonable ... The contract said that anytime, [with] 30 days written notice, the arrangement could be ceased, so I guess they were going on that.”

In the final analysis Stith cited a lack

“... the other night after I talked to them face to face. I knew exactly what they want, and they knew exactly what we thought was going on. I think, because of that, we've got a good arrangement now.”

—Bobbie Jo Stith, District Museum Director

of communication for the mix-up, a state of affairs she felt had been ongoing for some time and in which she herself was not blameless.

“I know over the last couple of years there's been [discussion that] we might need to get out of there, because [city hall] might be expanding or remodeling, but we never had anything that we felt was really concrete ... and that's where that lack of communication [comes in]. The town council, and my board, and certainly me, the district director, were not directly communicating. It was going through other staff members and individuals rather than board-to-board. I think a lot got lost in the translation. I think they felt they were [being] more specific than we felt they were.”

“But the other night after I talked to them face to face,” Stith went on, “I knew exactly what they want, and they knew exactly what we thought was going on. I think, because of that, we've got a good arrangement now.”

Ultimately, Stith said she feels the move will turn out to be a positive one for all involved, enabling the museum's future growth while allowing the town more available space.

“We really had a good deal with the Town of Upton as far as rent and utilities,”

Accident

both transported via ground ambulance to Weston County Health Services. Oedekoven was then transferred to Scottsbluff Regional West Medical in Scottsbluff, Neb., and Pillen was taken to Denver Children's Hospital in Denver, Colo.

a small memorial had been established at Minuteman Lube Center and the Dairy Barn, the business owned by Pillen's parents, Rick and Susie, and residents were encouraged to add to the display.

The Newcastle High School Student Council arranged a

candlelight vigil for the victims of the accident and their families that was scheduled for 7 p.m. at the Weston County Fairgrounds, where Pillen competed in rodeo.

A benefit account has been set up at First State Bank of Newcastle by the Newcastle Fire Department and Explorer Post

66, to which both Pillen and Oedekoven belong, to support the families of the victims and help pay for medical expenses. Additionally, all of the proceeds raised from a Thanksgiving Dinner held annually at the Hi-16 restaurant in Newcastle will be donated to the families.



Clockwise from top: Girl Scout Claire Beaström holds the Flag of the United States while Linda and Paul Holland salute; speaker James Runyan of Wyoming Refining Company explains the refinery's plans for the future; Becky Vodopich is surprised by being given the Director's Award by NACOC Director Susan Love, as outgoing president David Chick looks on; Jack Hanson wins the 50/50 Raffle; Newcastle Mayor Greg James and Kim Conzelman, incoming Chamber president; Lilliana Kerns enjoys the performance of the Bluesage and Lace Band; Cathy Dunford listens to the presentation.

Banquet time

The annual Newcastle Area Chamber of Commerce banquet was held at the Weston County Senior Services Center on Friday, with 225 people in attendance. The meal was served by Newcastle High School Future Business Leaders of America and Family Career Community Leaders of America members. The Business of the Year award was given to Pinnacle Bank, Friend of the Chamber was Wyoming Refining Company, Becky Vodopich received the Director's Award and the Elmo award was given to Norma Shelton. Newcastle Girl Scouts performed the Flag Ceremony with Catherine Halliday singing the National Anthem. 2013 NACOC officers President David Chick, Vice President Michael David and Treasurer Becky Vodopich welcomed incoming officers Kim Conzelman, president, Julie Whetsell, vice president, and the treasurer remained the same. Kim Rhoades and Norma Shelton continued as board members welcoming Clay Andersen, Chrissie Prell and Jess Graham as new members.

Photos by Amy Menerey and Denice Piscioti/NLJ



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Forest task force created

By Todd Bennington of NLJ

The office of Governor Matt Mead recently announced the creation of the Wyoming Governor's Task Force on Forest Health, the intended purpose of which is to make recommendations on how the health of Wyoming's forests can best be improved, according to a press release.

The newly minted task force, which will consist of "representatives of federal, state and local government, industry, conservation groups, and forest users," the press release further stated, is scheduled to have its initial meeting toward the end of December. Mead has asked that the body present its findings by the fall of next year.

State Senator Ogden Driskill, who has been named by the governor's office as among the task force's "key leaders," told the News Letter Journal he is as of yet unsure of the exact role he will play, but mentioned that Wyoming forests currently face a number of issues, not least of which is the devastation wrought by the Mountain Pine Beetle. He emphasized that forest health is a comprehensive issue affecting both state and private lands.

"Most people, when they hear 'forest,' they only think of federal government," Driskill said. "Really, for it to be functional, we're talking about big chunks of state land and big chunks of

private land and how those interactions happen to benefit the people of the state [to the greatest degree] they possibly can."

Asked if he thinks the new forum is at risk of degenerating into bickering given the presence of so-called stakeholders as divergent as conservationists and representatives of the timber industry, Driskill was hopeful that will not prove to be the case.

"When things get polarized and emotions get into it, strange things can happen," he said, "but if it's truly approached from a forest health standpoint ... Most people, I think, can find some common ground and agree on how to make things better."

From Driskill's perspective, one of the keys to regaining the health of Wyoming's forests is to ensure the vibrancy of the timber industry as both a means of forest management and source of revenue.

"Without some commercial function," he explained, "it is basically too expensive to manage the forest."

"If you live in the state of Wyoming you are probably affected to some degree by forest health whether you realize it or not," he went on to emphasize.

Driskill said he is keen to get ideas and input from the public on all facets of forest health. He can be reached by email at Ogden.Driskill@wyoleg.gov.

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Beetles

from page 1

a quality job because they're trying to cut every corner to make ends meet before they default."

The vetting process for contractors has, however, improved this year, he said.

"We don't test [the contractors] necessarily, but we look for experience. It's not the first time they're picking up a saw. They either have a business or they've done it [before]... This year there is more of a set rate across the board. If you don't like the rate, we'll call the next guy ... We're really lucky in that we have plenty of contractors willing to cut trees."

Another crucial aspect Dedic admits the Forestry Division has not previously excelled at is in making the public fully aware of the issue and the efforts being undertaken to address it. Some training — which the Forestry Division is enthusiastic about providing — is beneficial, necessary even, to properly identify and deal with the Mountain Pine Beetle. It is easily confused with other so-called bark beetle species, in particular, the Ips and Turpentine beetles, which, while damaging, do not rise to the epidemic level that the Mountain Pine Beetle does. Among the signs that a tree has been infested by the Mountain Pine Beetle are the following:

- The presence of a formation of wood dust, called frass, though it may blow away or become obscured due to time and weather. Different beetle species produce distinctive frass.
- The gradual drying out and greying of wood, which is evident upon making a shallow cut into the trunk using a hatchet
- The presence of distinctive 'J'-shape galleries (tunnels) when wood is exposed.
- The presence of Blue Stain Fungus, with which the beetle has a symbiotic relationship, though this will appear alongside other beetle species as well.
- The fading of the tree's needles beginning in June and carrying on through August. Fading before the end of May indicates something other than the pine beetle is the cause. Infested trees have green needles at this time.
- The presence of "pitch

tubes." This does not indicate a tree has been infested by beetles, only that it has been attacked. The decision to cut a tree shouldn't be based solely on the presence of pitch tubes.

As Dedic explained further, the current, wide-scale pine beetle population surge is unlike anything seen in the last hundred years or so, and owes, he said, to forests that are simply overcrowded.

"Every 10 to 15 years you can have a flux of [pine beetle infestation] that's more localized, a region of the Black Hills as opposed to the whole Black Hills," he explained. "With the changing conditions of our forests, we have more trees now than ever. Even with an active timber program there have been gaps where harvesting has either slowed down or focused more on private land for various reasons, and the forest, overall, has become overstocked. Combine that with areas of limited management, and the population grows."

Asked if logging has historically been the primary means of keeping the pine beetle in check, Dedic answered, "Logging is a very big, viable part of it. Our mills were at capacity before the federal shutdown, buying up as much wood as they could. The government shutdown really slowed them on federal ground. [Additionally], there was a gap in the 1990s of logging on federal grounds that allowed [federal land] to get heavily stocked. It kind of got them out of their rotation, so they missed about 10 years of timber harvesting ..."

The end result, according to Dedic, are forests that are primed for fires that are both more difficult to fight due to the threat of falling snags and potentially more destructive.

"The [fire] situation is worse when [beetle-killed] trees [start to] fall down. You have that heavy fuel on the ground. You have a tangled mess of all the trees tipping over ... The fire intensities will be hotter, because you have those heavy fuels that are dead. The logs are now dead instead of [being] live green wood, and they'll burn for a longer period of time. They'll scorch your soil and do more damage to your soil ... A normal forest fire affects the top layer of the

dirt, but it doesn't necessarily sterilize it. It's not necessarily a bad thing to have a nice, light fire go through, but if you have a sustained fire that builds up heat ... it's hard to get anything to [grow] back."

But the heightened threat from fire, according to Dedic, is not the only issue at play, as there are myriad economic and, in turn, social ramifications of the large-scale destruction of forests by the pine beetle, which is wholly indiscriminate in whose trees it attacks.

"From our end ... we're trying to maintain our forest as a vital part of our community and economy," Dedic explained of the Forestry Division's mandate. "The Black Hills is one of the biggest producers, and the national forest here sells the most timber out of any national forest ... That's a good thing. If those mills close up, than private landowners and, from my aspect, the state can't sell our timber. My job is, first, to manage state lands as an investment, so I need to have a market I can sell those products to. My second primary objective is to assist private landowners. So to help protect our state ground, and your neighbors and my neighbors, I have to help the Forest Service or whatever other neighbor to take care of their too. The pine beetles don't know to stop on a fence line or property line."

So the containment of the beetle remains a herculean task, one that Dedic feels will require more active public involvement.

"We really would like landowners to take an interest in their ground," he said. "If they see something they would like us to look at, give us a call ... Come to one of our trainings. Find out what to look for. We're more than happy to teach people how to find pine beetle trees. If you have questions call our office or stop in. One of us can get you pointed in the right direction."

In regard to the progress being made in the 'beetle battle,' Dedic says efforts are paying off.

"We want the public to know. This is their ground, and it's their money, so we want them to know that something is working, and it is working," he concluded.



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Kickin' up their heels

A spry group of senior citizens take to the floor at the Weston County Senior Services center during a dance held Nov. 8, with music provided by the Western Ramblers. (Photo by Amy Menerey/NLJ)

Agriculture news ...

Wyoming counties eligible for emergency loans due to storms

Major Disaster Declaration has made Wyoming counties eligible for disaster assistance. Farmers and ranchers may qualify for emergency loans based on losses caused by severe winter storm, snowstorm and flooding that occurred Oct. 3 through the 16, 2013.

Crook, Niobrara and Weston counties in Wyoming are considered contiguous to the primary designated South Dakota counties and are therefore also eligible for assistance.

To qualify for production loss loans, applicants must have suffered at least a 30-percent loss of their normal production per acre or normal per animal production. Production losses are calculated from an average of the three years immediately preceding the disaster year and may be made for an amount up to 100 percent of the total actual calculated production loss.

Under the FSA Emergency Loan program, the amount available to qualified producers cannot exceed the

sum of the physical loss or \$500,000, whichever is less.

FSA Emergency Loans are available only to operators of not larger than family size farms and operators unable to obtain credit elsewhere.

The deadline for applying for FSA loans under this Disaster Designation is July 8, 2014. For further information, farmers and ranchers located in the designated counties are encouraged to contact their local FSA County Office. In Weston County, call (307) 746-2701.

FFA chapter raises funds

The Newcastle Saddle & Sirloin FFA Chapter has been raising money for the Atlas Blizzard Relief Fund. Money raised through their efforts will be going to farmers and ranchers that had lost livestock in that blizzard that affected southwestern South Dakota and northeastern Wyoming.

"There was many people that lost a lot of cattle and we are doing our part to help them

out," reported Josie Podio.

"We raised about \$750 for this relief fund [so far]. Some of the money was from the cans that we had set out in the community for donations and some of it came from our chapter members."

Podio reports the group will continue seeking donations for the Relief fund, and any help is appreciated.

FSA deadlines extended

The Weston County Farm Service Agency indicated this week that 2014 crop reports for all perennial crops and fall seeded crops (i.e. rangeland, existing hay land and winter wheat) were due Nov. 15, however due to the furlough, FSA will be waiving all late filed crop report fees through Dec. 31 for those producers who have not been able to complete their report(s). Crop reports are mandatory for all producers participating in one or more of the following programs:

- CRP Conservation Reserve Program
- NAP Non-Insurable Crop Disaster Assistance Program
- MAL Marketing Assistance Loan
- LDP Loan Deficiency Program
- SURE Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program
- LFP Livestock Forage Program
- ELAP Emergency Livestock Assistance Program

"For those producers who purchased NAP coverage for hay in 2013 and have not provided the county office with production from the crops covered by NAP, this is a reminder to bring your production in as soon as possible, but no later than

July 15, 2014," said agent Peggy Livingston. "This is a critical part of maintaining 'normal' yields for your NAP crops in the event that a disaster occurs."

This who have made a change in operation from last year, i.e. went from an individual to an entity, leased additional land, purchased additional land, sold land or leased out land, need to notify the county office of these changes no later than June 1, 2014.

For more information, Livingston can be reached at 746-2701, or peggy.livingston@wy.usda.gov.

Livingston elected to ninth term

Perry Livingston, of Sundance, was elected to his ninth term as president of the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation at the organization's 94th annual meeting in Laramie. Livingston and his family run a cow/calf operation in Crook and Weston counties.

"Agriculture continues to be one of the economic forces that drives the private industry in the state of Wyoming," Livingston

said. "It is a real privilege to be associated with the members of the Farm Bureau organization."

The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation is the state's largest general agriculture organization. The purpose of the Nov. 14-16, 2013 WyFB annual meeting was to develop policy to guide the organization in the coming year. Visit www.wyfb.org for more information.

\$50,000 REWARD

For information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the person/s involved in the death of Katherine Grace Coffee.

On the morning of June 3, 2011, the body of Katherine Grace Coffee, also known as Katy Coffee, age 35, was discovered in her home in Newcastle, the victim of an apparent homicide. Her death is being investigated by the Newcastle Police Department and the Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation.

Anyone with information about the crime or knowledge of Coffee's whereabouts on the evening and night-time hours of Thursday, June 2, 2011, are asked to please call the Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation at (307) 682-1796, or the Newcastle Police Department at (307) 746-4486.

Coffee's family has offered a \$50,000 reward to anyone that can provide information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person/s involved in this crime.



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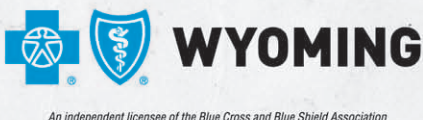
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New officers join force

By **Todd Bennington of NLJ**

Two new additions to the Newcastle Police Department were sworn in on Nov. 4 before the Newcastle City Council.

Jeremy Herberg is originally from Newcastle and is relocating back to the area, while Quinton Levi Tacy is a former employee of the Wyoming Honor Conservation Camp and has lived locally for several years, according to Newcastle Police Chief Jim Owens.

"They're both familiar with our area," Owens told the News Letter. "They're familiar with people in town and know people in town,

so they're not new to the area."

Owens, who said the police department is now fully manned, further explained, "It will probably be March before we're actually using them on their own on our schedule as police officers. They'll be in the field training program, and then they have to go to the academy."

"They'll be in the field training program until the first part of January, and if we can get them a slot in the academy in January, then they'll leave and go to the academy, which is 13 weeks. If we can't get them a slot ... the next academy class will be April."

Arrest

from page 1

things. That's number one."

"Number two," Colvard continued, "if the individual is known to us to carry firearms or that individual has made the threat of using firearms — it doesn't have to be a firearm necessarily — therein lies by itself a public safety and an officer safety issue ... In this particular instance, we know [the suspect owns] deadly weapons, and we know the individual has threatened to use those weapons. He's in a vehicle. The officers at that point have to make a decision. Do you let him get in the vehicle and drive off and start a pursuit? What are the ramifications of that? Depending on where it's at, that may be the best option ... In this case they decided [he could be arrested safely in front of the store]. They basically did a felony stop. He's in a vehicle. [The officers] ordered him out [and] cuffed him. Then after everybody's secure, [officers] discussed with him what's going on ... You can't just walk up to the door of the car like you would on a traffic stop."

"Our job is to take [a given suspect] without incident," Colvard said, further elaborating on his answer. "We don't want [a situation where a suspect is] barricaded in a vehicle shooting at us or others. We don't want him running down the highway at 200 miles an hour in a high-speed pursuit ... So when you do these felony stops, it's very fast and it's very loud. You [attempt to] change the mind-set of the individual, and hopefully he forgets about [his other objectives]. You have to [be] quick. The element of surprise works [to our advantage in having an arrest] go down without incident."

Asked how law enforcement personnel go about distinguishing between what is and is not a credible threat of violence, Owens and Colvard both agreed that this can sometimes be problematic.

"We get a lot of complaints about someone threatening to do something," Owens said. "What you have to do is validate the source of the threat, and that's usually done by gathering as much information [as possible] about what was said or what was done. In a town this size it's easier

“It does get a little exciting for witnesses ... Part of the use of force review [undertaken by the sheriff's office], is that one of the sergeants goes into the store to talk to witnesses [about what they saw].”

— **Bryan Colvard, Weston County Sheriff**

because we know all the players. We know what history we have with the players."

"If you look at our state law," Owens continued, "unless [a person] actually has the means to follow through with that threat and does some kind of action that indicates he has the intention of following through with that threat, then they really haven't committed a crime."

Colvard added, "[An arrest] does not happen based on someone saying, 'hey, that guy pointed a gun at me.' You've got to give me a little more than that. In [Sunday's] case we have a victim in a hospital, beat up. The officers have photographs of the house where it happened, [which is in an extreme state of disorder as though a struggle occurred]. He's [in possession] of a gun ... and [we have reason to believe] he threatened to use it on her."

"It does get a little exciting for witnesses," Colvard admitted of arrests like that which took place Sunday. "Part of the use of force review [undertaken by the sheriff's office], is that one of the sergeants goes into the store to talk to witnesses [about what they saw]."

Colvard went on to say that it's never the intention of law enforcement to frighten the public, and he sympathizes with their concerns owing to an experience he once had himself as a teenager in Denver, where he was mistaken for a bank robbery suspect and ordered out of his truck at gunpoint by police.

"It's scary and I wouldn't want that to happen [to

anyone]. If at all possible, we want to make sure the guy driving that [vehicle] is the guy we're looking for. If at all possible, we need to ID the individual [as well as] the vehicle. Sometimes that's not possible."

Perhaps not surprisingly, considering their ubiquitous presence in today's world, both Owens and Colvard identified social media and modern electronics, such as cell phones, as a new headache for law enforcement in terms of the threats and harassment that can take place between users and the rumors about police actions that can rapidly spread across such media. Owens took particular issue with the popular social media site Facebook.

"You'll find out that the majority of what's posted on Facebook is totally and completely inaccurate," he said with exasperation. "In some cases what's being posted is not [even] an inaccurate description of what has happened. It's a description of something that never happened at all."

Colvard readily agreed with Owens' assessment of the problems posed by that social website.

"Absolutely. Just electronics period," he answered. "We deal with cases where one individual is here in Newcastle and the other individual is in Pennsylvania, and they're harassing each other electronically. It gets to the point where [serious threats are being made]. That's where you have to decide if [the individual making threats] has the means to [travel or otherwise carry out the threat]."

Owens suggested that instead of taking to social media or other venues to vent their frustrations, the best means for the public to address their concerns about actions taken by local law enforcement is to bring them directly to the department involved.

"If somebody's got a complaint, come talk to me about it. I'd be happy to talk to just about anybody about anything, but when you come in, I need firsthand knowledge. You're complaining about something you saw, not something you heard, and not something somebody else told you, but something that in fact involved you," he concluded.

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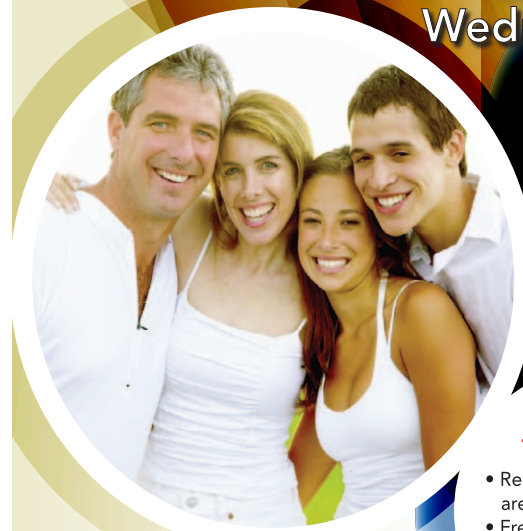
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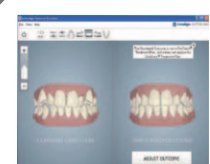


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Sports

News Letter Journal

Schedule

Newcastle High School

Boys Basketball			
11/26	V9	Meet the Dogies	H 6PM
12/06	VJ	East-West Challenge @Cody	A TBA
12/07	VJ	East-West Challenge @Cody	A TBA
Girls Basketball			
11/26	V9	Meet the Dogies	H 6PM
12/06	VJ	East-West Challenge @Buffalo	A TBA
12/07	VJ	East-West Challenge @Buffalo	A TBA
Wrestling			
11/22	VJ	Weight Certification at Gillette	A TBA
12/05	VJ	Hot Springs Bison	H 5PM
12/06	VJ	Custer Invitational	A 1PM
Boys Swimming			
12/02	V	Practice Begins	H TBA

Upton High School

Boys Basketball			
12/6-7		Upton Invite	Noon
Girls Basketball			
12/6-7		Upton Invite	Noon
Wrestling			
12/6-7		Custer Invite @Custer	

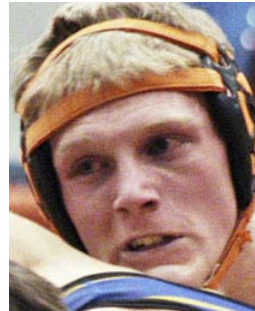
The Score

Girls Basketball B team
Nov. 16, 8th Grade Invitational
Douglas 24, Newc 12
Wheatland 28, Newc 12

7th grade Girls Basketball A Team
Nov. 12
Wright 31, Newcastle 11
Nov. 15
Custer 46, Newcastle 30
Nov. 16
Big Horn 23, Newcastle 10
Buffalo 27, Newcastle 16

— Student Views —

Nation's pastime is going, going ...



Chris Spain
Fight for what's right in the world



NLJ File Photo

“Three strikes, you’re out” is being heard less and less across this nation, and America’s favorite past-time, baseball, is slowly dying. In the age of technology the sport that has gotten America through thick and thin is slowly fading due to lack of interest, other sports, and laziness.

As the youth of the nation slowly grow up, their interest in baseball slowly dies. With so much to do these days kids have just lost interest in baseball.

This really is very tragic because baseball teaches kids so many life skills. Baseball teaches kids how to

be a team player, and how to face adversity. Being a team player and facing adversity with people that may not always be easy to cope with may be difficult, but so

much is gained in the end. Baseball is even dying in our small town of Newcastle. Baseball used to be big in this town, and there were many talented young men. Coaches

that I have had in previous years constantly brag about how great the program used to be, but this is an ever changing world. Baseball has been big here, but now the

ethics, morals and interests of people are changing, and so is the game. That’s too bad, because baseball is

— See Spain, Page 20

Struggles make you stronger



Kiana Hobbs
Throwing an elbow

There are many people like myself. We are people who are the underdogs to the great athletes, the underdogs to the people who naturally have talent and smarts, but we learn and face things that they do not generally have to until later in life. Sticking through situations when we know we will not prevail or achieve the status we wish for. We learn to face failure, to have a strong mental state of mind, and to overcome struggles.

There is a difference between the challenges faced by people who are born talented and the people who are not. Learning how to face challenges at a younger age will help develop skills to face hardships in the future.

An underdog is not the hero of the story, not even a person with a story to tell. Underdogs are people who have a hard time overcoming obstacles. I am one of those people and there are many others like me. Good will not come to us if we wait, but greatness will eventually come through continuous struggle, so it is important for people like this to keep their heads high and back straight and never give up. It will eventually be worth it.

I am not a big name in this town, but I have made certain my name is recognized and remembered. I am a senior in high school, and I present myself as an athlete, which is a status I gladly hold proud. In basketball, I love playing defense, but I have a tendency to pursue the offense so hard I foul out of almost every game I play. In volleyball, I block, hit, and tip. I do not have the talent to be as aggressive as younger teammates, but I accept that and move on.

There is not a formula or secret to success, but over my high school career I have seen students and athletes find ways to encourage each other by combining their efforts and talents, and working together to achieve greatness as a team or group. Individually it is so much harder, but it is possible to learn and work

— See Hobbs, Page 20

We need to support the supporters



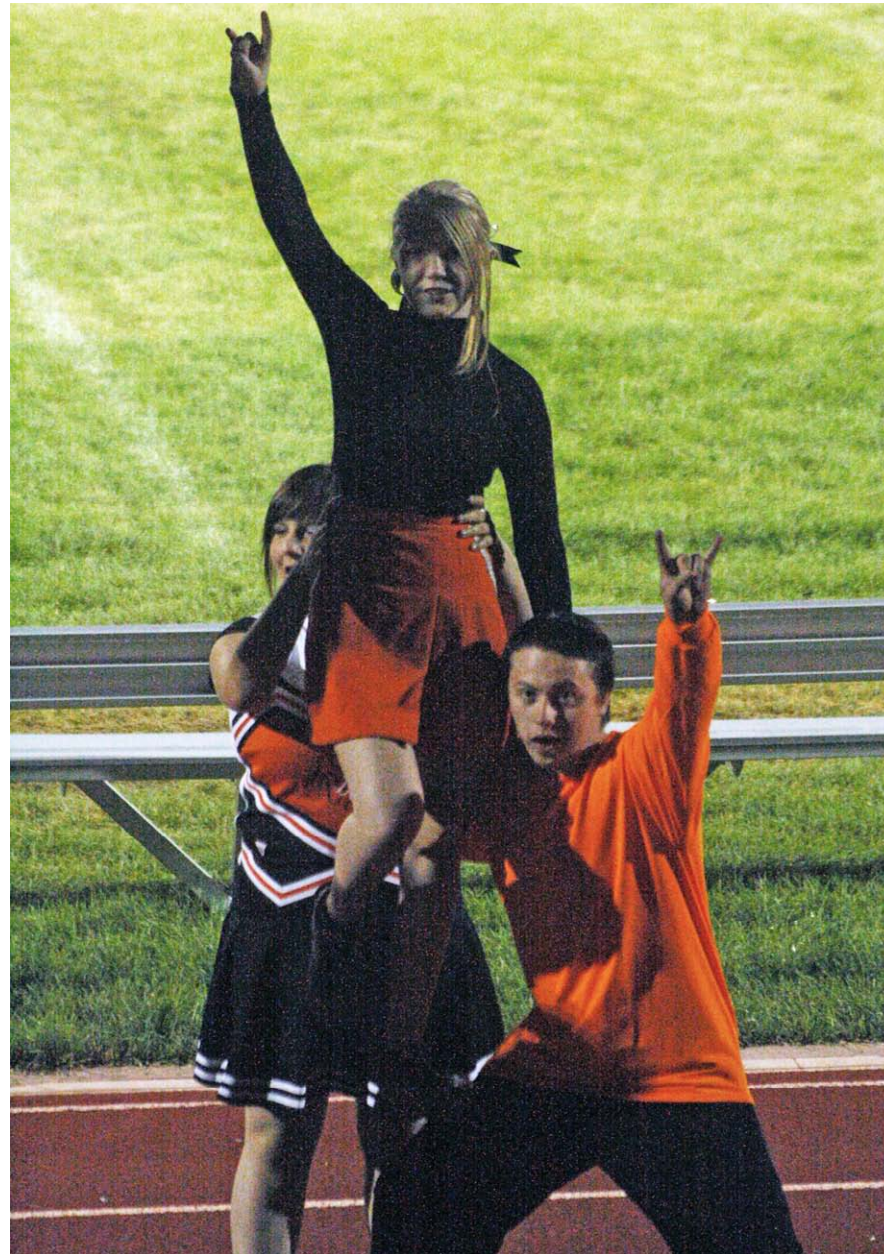
Anna Henkle
From the court to the stands

Since I participate in volleyball, basketball, and track, I haven’t been able to be on the “other side,” so this is my one and only chance to be the cheerleader.

Everybody wants support in whatever it is that they do, but what about support FOR the support? The Newcastle High School Cheerleaders, “The Dukes & Dazzlers,” deserve encouragement and respect from their peers and community members.

When I said “other side,” I meant being a part of the fans standing in the stands or those cheering on the sideline. The cheerleaders are there cheering and rooting us on, giving us all the support and encouragement they can. I’m always stuck on the court, but this is my chance to return the favor.

One of the worst feelings a person can have is putting oneself out there, and as a result getting ridiculed and made fun of. Ever since the cheerleading program has been started, I have heard endless



NLJ File Photo

complaints and disapproval directed toward the group. People should instead be proud and encourage the school providing another opportunity for students to do what they enjoy.

When a guy wants to tryout for the football team or a girl wants to join the basketball team, does he or she receive criticism?

No! In fact, he or she is usually encouraged to go and work hard to be a part of the team. If a boy or girl were to try and be a cheerleader, he or she would probably be met with condemnation, and that doesn’t make sense to me. If someone is joining a group or activity that has a positive influence and helps that person feel like a part of a team or be more involved in the community, then that person should go for it! He or she should not be discouraged because somebody made fun. They should be praised for putting themselves out there and trying a new activity.

Having participated on the numerous sports teams that I have, I know how it feels when everybody seems to be against you. At one point in my high school career, it seemed as if only a couple of teams in Newcastle really mattered, and the others received little to no support. My team decided that this could not go on, and if nobody was going to support us, we would support ourselves, and show we were worth their support.

That year all of my teams experienced the most success we had in years. By believing in ourselves, we showed everyone that our team

— See Henkle, Page 20

Home team needs cheering on the mats too



Merritt Crabtree
Pinning it

After running out onto the field in the fall with the crowd roaring, when I step onto the mat in the Dogie Dome in the winter, I will feel as though I am at a funeral. During football, people support the wrestlers that play greatly, but where are those supporters


in the winter. There are four varsity starters that wrestle, and we are a huge part of the football team. We would love some of the same support during the winter.

Every Friday night the town sees the wrestlers compete, and the wrestlers who are on the football field are very dominating. We are some of the hardest hitters on the team and we never give up. During most of the games this season, the wrestlers have had high energy and got the team going. For those people who enjoy watching that, imagine what we can do on the mat. Even though the wrestling team has not been a force to be reckoned with, I feel that the team will achieve more




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— See Crabtree, Page 20



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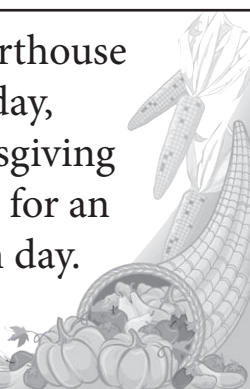


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What do you have a knack for?

Everyone has that unique talent they truly enjoy displaying — that one area they excel in and want to be a part of because of their knack for it.

Getting involved in Newcastle High School sports is a great way to start looking for the specific area a person excels in because sports are a huge part of a high school experience. There are four seasons in athletics that an athlete has the opportunity to be a part of, and they can be involved all year-round.

In the beginning of a regular year in high school there are three fall sports that someone could be a part of. A lot of males see football as the fall sport of choice because a person gets to hit other people and let out anger on someone. He also gets to be a part of a team, and enjoy the possibility of throwing or kicking a football. A female, in the fall season, would be more likely to do volleyball, another team sport where a player works with a team to achieve goals — such as making plays, having fun, working as a unit, and playing on a court. The third and final fall sport a school has to offer is Cross Country — a sport that is more individualized, and allows a single person to push themselves to his or her limits of capability. The team placing is determined on how well each runner does.

During the cold time of the year our school has two winter sports a person can apply themselves to, and basketball is a team sport that is of high interest. Those interests include playing with a basketball, being on a team, shooting

the ball into a basket, and possibly dunking a basketball. Another winter sport a person can enjoy is wrestling, and if a person likes working hard, losing weight, working with leverage, and working strength to their advantage to overpower another person on a mat, then this is their kind of sport.



Justin Francis
Life on the fast track

When the snow melts and spring hits, a person has two different opportunities to find what he or she is looking for. Track takes a wide range of skills that can be tested within the activity. Some of the skills that are tested are upper body strength, explosion within the muscles, jumping technique, short distance, middle distance, and long distance running. The other road that a person can take is being part of soccer — a total team sport that takes footwork, coordination with teammates, and motivation to keep moving.

Finally, there is one major sport that takes place in the summer and two other sports that take place at various times of the year. Summer has baseball, or softball for girls, as the main activity to take part in. Those are sports that take speed, hand-eye coordination, judging chances of making it to the next base, aiming a throw or hitting a ball. A well-known sport (that some may question as being an actual sport) is cheerleading. A cheerleader's performance takes flexibility, strength, muscle memory, practice, and a lot of coordination, and it is practically a year-round sport that a person takes part in.

Swimming has one main season like other sports, but male swimming takes place at a different time than female swimming does. Male or female swimming offers a full body workout, and a swimmer has about the same options as track because he or she can do short distance racing, middle distance racing, long distance racing, and style competition.

The sport picks the person. The person does not pick the sport, and when I started playing sports, I found every sport that I took part in interesting. In middle school I wanted to try them all, and when it came time to pick only three sports in high school, I almost could not decide because I enjoyed cross country, basketball, wrestling, track, soccer, and baseball all so much. The 10 sports that are offered at Newcastle High School are not for everyone, but I enjoyed every one that I did. I am going to participate in cross country, basketball and track this year.

Sports have changed my high school experience because they build skills that a person needs in his or her future that school alone cannot give. I found a knack for all sports that I became involved in and others can find the same thing that I fell in love with if they try it as well.

After a person finds the activity he or she truly enjoys, they may realize that it changed their high school experience. There is a sport for everyone, and involvement in high school sports is one of the many ways to start looking for an area where a person can be successful. Through those 10 different sports a person has a better chance to find their knack and improve their high school experience — an experience that can change their life.

After all, it's the Cowboy Way



Patricia Miller
Throwing the ropes

Wyoming is known as the Cowboy State because of all the western aspects we still hold dear today. People from all over the world come to Wyoming to see our great state, and to experience some of our western culture. One of the most well-known Wyoming experiences is getting to see the rodeos that take place all over our state. Wyoming boasts many wonderful cowboys and cowgirls, and although they are recognized by our state, most high schools in Wyoming do not recognize rodeo athletes.

Dedication, commitment, and hard work are qualities that make up a great athlete. Athletes put in hours of practice, and give it their all in



NLJ File Photo

every task that is put in front of them. Most importantly, they never give up. Many great athletes like this can be found in high schools all over Wyoming, and they are usually recognized with their team — and sometimes even individually in their high schools. However there are also a small handful of athletes

that are just as dedicated, committed, and hard-working that do not get the same recognition from their schools. Rodeo athletes usually participate in other sports besides rodeo. They go from a sport that is recognized by the school to a sport that is not even mentioned, which can be upsetting to some of

these athletes. During school sport assemblies all sports that are going on at the time are acknowledged, but rodeo is left out. Throughout the school year, seniors in every sport are recognized constantly throughout their season, but rodeo seniors aren't. It would be reasonable to think that rodeo would get recognized since we are supposedly the "Cowboy State." Rodeo is not acknowledged by some schools, however, because it is not recognized as an official school sport.

When involved in a school sport, athletes have to practice every day whether it is in the morning or in the afternoon. They have to keep passing grades, and they have to be willing to sacrifice of their time to achieve their best. Although rodeo athletes do not have specific times that they have to practice like most high school sports, they still put in the hours of practice just like any other student athlete.

They do everything that a student athlete does without the same school recognition. Wyoming is made up of many cowboys and cowgirls. Recognizing this is easy, so why not recognize the young cowboys and cowgirls that are in every high school?

Success carries over into all aspects

A young man tells his high school coach that he has a desire to play sports at the college level. The coach looks down and shakes his head in dismay and says, "Well, I've missed 9,000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. Twenty-six times, I've been trusted to take the game-winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over again in my life, and that is why I succeed."

That was Michael Jordan, and not many people know that Michael Jordan failed to make the Varsity team at one point during his high school career.

As in Michael Jordan's case, many people decide the future of a person by judging his or her abilities, strengths, and talents. They fail to realize that a person's will is what matters in the end. College sports can help a person develop discipline, character, respect, individual growth and success.

The will to play at the college level is the first step in developing discipline. As a person's desire to achieve his or her goal increases, discipline naturally follows. That discipline involves a commitment to spending more time on training and sets the person apart from other athletes less committed. This leads him or her to progress, gradually or incrementally, depending on where the person is in physical and mental development.

No matter who it is though, there will always be challenges to overcome. Discipline gradually emerges into the training itself, making sure the mind tells the body to push itself to the limit. The limit steadily increases as the amount of training increases.



Nate McMahon
It carries over

The next step is to stand out even further, giving all the time a person has in order to succeed. This does not mean sacrificing school work. It means using one's time more prudently and making sure school work is done first, leaving the remaining time for training. As a person sacrifices and gives more to achieve his

or her goal it affects other areas in life. Character is another area that is strengthened because of discipline. The way a person acts or treats others speaks a lot about his or her character. Character distinguishes a person who cares for others, and does whatever is necessary to do the right thing. The attributes of an individual make them stand out. The way people with good character act around teachers, fellow students, and other athletes is a reflection of a confidence in their abilities, work, and character. People show that they are disciplined as they compete against others athletes who have the same discipline. Just as discipline carries over, so does character. Respect for others and oneself

is also increased as character is strengthened. Respect for coaches, teammates, and a fellow competitor is established, and this respect towards other's work and abilities show that a person understands respect, and is willing to work with others as a team.

As a member of a collegiate varsity team, every member has to work together to achieve team goals. Even though each member is human, and may not always make the right decisions, an athlete respects those decisions. It starts with small things, whether a teammate should have passed a ball, or whether a coach is doing well in organizing a team. A team player is always accepting and ready to face the challenges — both current and those yet to come.

From all of this, an individual's success, through goals and growth, begins to shine. Success is measured by effort. The power of success begins with the will to succeed. From discipline, character, and respect, people begin to grow.

It is worth the attempt and effort, no matter what happens. If a person gives his or her very best, that is all that can be asked of anyone. College sports can give a person discipline, character, respect, and individual growth and success. A high school athlete should be encouraged to dream big! If a person wants to succeed, he or she will do it.

As General George S. Patton said, "The test of success is not what you do when you are on top. Success is how high you bounce when you hit bottom."

Newcastle High School Student Council



Photo courtesy of Lifetouch

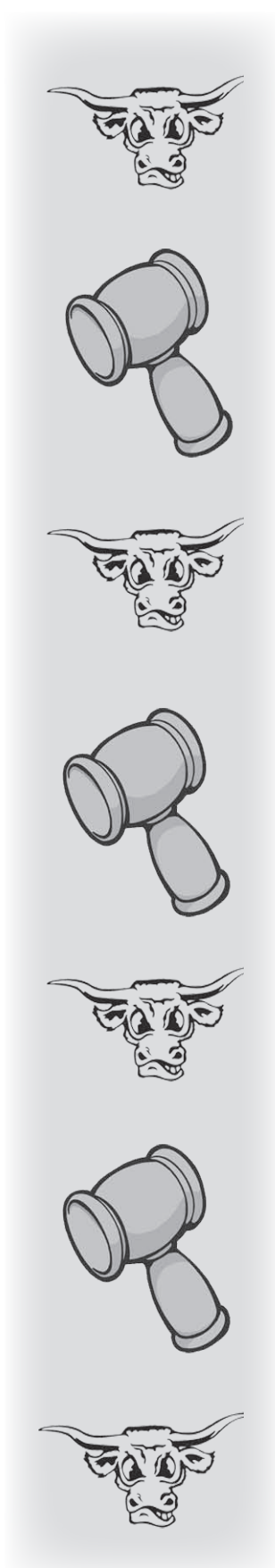
Back row from left: Mason Sundstrom, Patricia Miller, Zach Scheussler, Kelsey Wood, Dillon Ehlers, Lexi Krogman, Savannah Davis, Sponsor Brian Geisinger. Middle row from left: Anna Henkle, Abbigail Hutchinson, Madison Crawford, Hannah Williams, Hallee Adams, Jordan Brooks, Laura Chord. Front row from left: Catherine Halliday, Wyatt Voelker, Kalya Houser, Alondra Munoz, Cassie Munoz, Sierra LaCroix, Alexys Barker.




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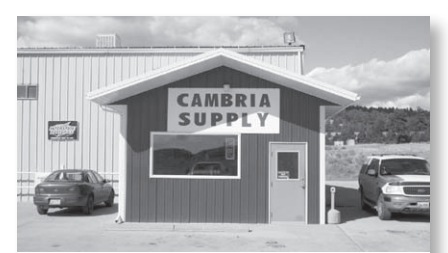
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Black Hills Power
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Wyoming Automotive
746-2769



Big Box Storage
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746-4191



Newcastle Vision Clinic
746-2371




Taco Johns
746-4631



JackMaster Const.
746-3521



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307-670-9001



Black Hills Exploration
and Production
746-3517



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Blotter

November 10, 2013
 Message delivery requested. Domestic problem reported, one arrest. Report of a dog at large. Dog impounded for safe keeping. Report of a dog at large. Suspicious activity reported. Traffic hazard reported. Civil standby requested. Vandalism reported. 911 hang up.

November 11
 Open door discovered. Dead deer reported. Residential alarm reported. VIN inspection. Residential alarm reported. Weed complaint. Missing children reported. 911 hang up. Hit and Run accident reported. Train derailment reported. Traffic stop, 2 arrests made.

November 12
 Extra patrol requested. Injured deer reported. Bike recovered. Six VIN inspections. Parking complaint. Missing dog reported. Protection Order issued. Abandoned vehicle reported. Injured deer reported.

November 13
 Welfare check requested. Barking dog complaint. Theft reported. Motorist assist. 911 hang up. Abandoned vehicle reported. Suspicious activity reported. Traffic hazard reported. VIN inspection. Parking complaint. Suspicious activity reported. Report of dog at large. Civil standby requested. Protection Order violation. Missing dog reported.

November 14
 Open door discovered. Civil problem reported. Missing dog reported. Three VIN inspections. Animal license violation, Citation issued. Missing dog reported. Found dog reported. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Dead deer reported.

Report of a dead deer. Civil standby requested.



November 15
 Disturbance reported, one arrest. Barking dog complaint. Phone harassment reported. Three VIN inspections. Report of a dog at large. Report of a dog at large. Trespassing reported. Assist other agency. Message delivery. Gas drive off reported. Traffic complaint. Traffic stop, Citation issued. Phone threats reported. Traffic stop, Citation issued. Assist other agency. Assist other agency. Assist other agency.

agency. Vandalism reported. Suspicious activity

Public Notice

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE AND FINAL PAYMENT FRONTIER AVENUE / STOCKADE AVENUE 2013

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE AND FINAL PAYMENT OF PUBLIC COMMENT
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with Wyoming Statute Sections 15-1-113 and 16-6-116 that the Governing Body of the City of Newcastle, has accepted as completed according to the plans, specifications and rules the work performed under that certain agreement dated June 4, 2013, by and between the City of Newcastle and

Timberline Services of Sundance WY, as the Contractor, and that said Contractor is entitled to final payment therefore.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that on the forty-first (41st) day following the first (1st) publication of this Notice, to wit: December 17, 2013, the City of Newcastle will pay to said Contractor the full amount due under the above-mentioned agreement, subject to Final Pay Request and all Change Orders there to.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any person, partnership, corporation, agency or association having any unpaid claim(s) against said Contractor for or on account of the furnishing of labor, materials, equipment, sustenance, provisions, provider or other supplies used or consumed by said Contractor pursuant to said Contractor's performance under the above-mentioned agreement must within forty (40) days following the first (1st) publication of this Notice, to wit: no later than December 16, 2013, file a verified statement of any and all amounts due on account of such claim with the City of Newcastle. Failure on the part of any such claimant to timely file such a statement will absolutely relieve the City of Newcastle from any and all liability for such claim.

City of Newcastle
 By: Robert C. Hartley
 City Engineer, City of Newcastle

(Publish November 7, 14 and 21, 2013)

Bid Notice

INVITATION TO BID MAINTENANCE ON AQUATIC CENTER

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Trustees of Weston County School District # 1, Newcastle, Wyoming, will receive at the Office of the Superintendent, 116 Casper Avenue, Newcastle, Wyoming, up to but no later than, 10:00 a.m. on December 4, 2013, sealed bids to repair/reline the plumbing for the aquatic center.

Bids will be opened and publicly read aloud in the Board Room of said District (116 Casper Avenue, Newcastle, Wyoming) beginning at 10:00 a.m. on December 4, 2013.

Information and specifications are available at the district maintenance office or may be obtained by calling 746-4613 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. weekdays.

The Board of Trustees of School District # 1 reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
 Weston County School District # 1
 Newcastle, Wyoming

(Publish November 21, 2013)

reported.

November 16
 Suspicious activity reported. Animal license violation issued. Unsupervised children. Civil assist. Suspicious activity reported. Vandalism reported. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Traffic stop, Equipment Repair Order issued. 911 hang up. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Suspicious activity reported.

Foreclosure Notice

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

**TO: RICHARD WOOTEN AND MELINDA WOOTEN
 TS # 13-00467-8**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to WYO. STAT. §§ 34-4-101 through 34-4-113, Assignee, DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR SAXON ASSET SECURITIES TRUST 2007-4, MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-4, will foreclose that certain Mortgage dated August 2, 2007, and given by RICHARD WOOTEN AND MELINDA WOOTEN, HUSBAND AND WIFE AS JOINT TENANTS WITH RIGHTS OF SURVIVORSHIP, Mortgagor(s) to SAXON MORTGAGE, INC., D/B/A SAXON HOME MORTGAGE, A CORPORATION, Original Mortgagee by Sale to the highest bidder at a public auction of the premises described pursuant to the "Power of Sale" contained in the Mortgage. If you wish to contest said Sale, then you must challenge said Sale by filing a lawsuit in a court of competent jurisdiction.

The Mortgage was recorded in the County Clerk and Ex-Officio Register of Deeds of WESTON County on August 6, 2007, as Instrument No. 696511, in Book 299, at Page 0059, which Mortgage was later assigned to DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR SAXON ASSET SECURITIES TRUST 2007-4, MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-4 by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded in the County Clerk and Ex-Officio Register of Deeds of WESTON County on June 6, 2012, as Instrument No. 735948, in Book 337, at Page 411.

The legal notice advertising said sale will be published for four (4) consecutive weeks, at least once a week in the NEWS LETTER JOURNAL commencing on November 14, 2013. The foreclosure sale will take place on Tuesday, December 17, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. at the WESTON County Courthouse located at 1 West Main Street, Newcastle, Wyoming.

The premises described in the Mortgage are as follows:

LOT 7, BLOCK 7 OF FAGAN'S ADDITION TO THE TOWN OF UPTON, WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING.

More commonly known as: 732 Grant Street, Upton, Wyoming 82730

In the event that a representative from a local title company is not present at the Sale, the Sale will be postponed until a later date.

THE ABOVE-REFERENCED MORTGAGOR(S) defaulted on the terms of the Note and Mortgage, and as of the date of this Notice, the undersigned claims an outstanding balance of \$175,696.88. Interest continues to accrue on the unpaid balance.

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

DATED: November 12, 2013

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR SAXON ASSET SECURITIES TRUST 2007-4, MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-4

By: JAMES H. WOODALL
 LAW OFFICES OF JAMES H. WOODALL, PLLC.
 10808 RIVER FRONT PARKWAY, SUITE 175
 SOUTH JORDAN, UTAH 84095
 (801) 254-9450

(Publish November 14, 21, 28 and December 5, 2013)

Probate Notice

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT WITHIN AND FOR WESTON COUNTY, STATE OF WYOMING

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF RHONDA L. SANDNESS, Deceased.
 Probate No. PR-7947**

NOTICE OF PROBATE

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID ESTATE:

You are hereby notified that on the 11TH day of October, 2013, the estate of the above-named decedent was admitted to probate by the above-named court, and Ronald W. Sandness was appointed personal representative thereof.

Notice is further given, all persons indebted to the decedent or to her estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned at HUGHES LAW OFFICE, P.O. Box 456, Sundance, WY 82729.

Creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate are required to file them in duplicate with the necessary vouchers in the office of the Clerk of Court, 1 West Main, Newcastle, Wyoming, 82701 on or before three (3) months after the date of the first publication of this notice and if such claims are not so filed, unless otherwise allowed or paid, they will be forever barred.

DATED this 30th day of October, 2013.

RONALD W. SANDNESS
 Personal Representative

(Publish November 7, 14 and 21, 2013)

Public Notice

DESTRUCTION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENT RECORDS

Wyoming Statute 9-2-410 states: "All public records are the property of the state. They shall be delivered by outgoing officials and employees to their successors and shall be preserved, stored, transferred, destroyed or disposed of, and otherwise managed, only in accordance with W.S. 9-2-405 through 9-2-413."

Weston County School District #1 will retain for 3 years, then destroy the special education records of students who have moved or are no longer in WCSD #1 School System. WCSD #1 will retain for 1 year, and then destroy special education records of students who have graduated or reached 21 years of age after notification to the parent/guardian, unless litigation is pending or unless the parent/guardian requests earlier destruction of the records; and the district no longer requires the records. If the School District determines that a specific file needs to be permanently maintained, that file may be sent to the State Archives. WCSD #1 will retain for 5 years, and then destroy special education records of students who have become inactive after notification to parent/guardian unless litigation is pending or unless the parent/guardian requests earlier destruction of the records and the district no longer requires the records.

WCSD #1 pupil's permanent record cards will have permanent retention unless transferred to State Archives after graduation or age 22.

WCSD #1 will destroy the following records on the corresponding basis unless such records are requested by the parent/guardian by November 30, 2013. Please make requests to Tobey Cass, Special Education Director at 746-9713 or 116 Casper Ave., Newcastle, WY 82701

Special Education Student Records – Dropped Retain 3 years then destroy
 *Records prior to August, 2010

Special Education Student Records – Graduates or 21 years of age Retain 1 year after student graduates or reaches 21 then destroy

Special Education Student Records – Inactive Retain 5 years then destroy
 *Records prior to August, 2008

*Indicates notification of records to be destroyed.

(Publish November 14 and 21, 2013)

**Deadline for Legals
 noon on Friday**

Utility Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. (Golden West) has received authority from the Wyoming Public Service Commission (Commission) to increase its local Residence Service Access Line Rate for Wyoming customers from \$10.95 to \$14.00, effective June 1, 2013. This approval is subject to notice, protest, intervention petition, opportunity for hearing, refund, and such further action as the Commission may deem appropriate. On August 29, 2013, Golden West applied for authority to revise its tariff to reflect a monthly increase of \$3.05 in its tariffed local Residence Service Access Line Rate for Wyoming customers, effective June 1, 2013.

This is not a complete description of the filing. You may review the tariff filing during regular business hours at the Commission's offices located at the Hansen Building, 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Anyone wishing to file an intervention petition, request for a public hearing, or a statement, public comment or protest in this matter must file in writing with the Commission on or before December 6, 2013. A proposed intervention or request for hearing must set forth the grounds under which they are made and the position and interest of the petitioner in this proceeding.

If you want to intervene in this matter or request a public hearing that you will attend, or want to make a statement, a protest or a public comment, and you require reasonable accommodation for a disability, please contact the Commission at (307) 777-7427, or write to the Commission at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, to make arrangements. Communications impaired persons may also contact the Commission by accessing Wyoming Relay at 711. Please mention Docket No. 70010-9-TA-13 in your communications. Dated: November 7, 2013.

(Publish November 14 and 21, 2013)

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M-11	—	—	.03
T-12	54	27	—
W-13	57	26	—
T-14	48	38	—
F-15	49	24	—
S-16	46	28	—

Foreclosure Notice

FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE

WHEREAS, default in the payment of principal and interest has occurred under the terms of a promissory note ("Note") and real estate mortgage ("Mortgage"). The Mortgage dated November 15, 2007, was executed and delivered by Jesse R Williams and Janel L Williams ("Mortgagor(s)") to First Interstate Bank, as security for the Note of the same date, and said Mortgage was recorded on November 20, 2007, at Reception No. 699316 in Book 302 at Page 0196 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: Wyoming Community Development Authority
Assignment dated: November 15, 2007
Assignment recorded: November 20, 2007
Assignment recording information: at Reception No. 699318 in Book 302 at Page 212

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 Mortgagor 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 \$174,570.52 which sum consists of the unpaid principal balance of \$164,670.30 plus interest accrued to the date of the first publication of this notice in the amount of \$8,699.41, plus other costs in the amount of \$1,200.81, 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 Wyoming Community Development Authority, as the Mortgagor, 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 o'clock in the forenoon on December 10, 2013 at the front door of the Weston County Courthouse located at 1 West Main, Newcastle, WY, Weston County, for application on the above-described amounts secured by the Mortgage, said mortgaged property being described as follows, to-wit:

LOTS 1 AND 2, BLOCK 9, FAGAN'S ADDITION TO UPTON, WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF. HUD TAG #NTA718328 & NTA718329.

with an address of 725 Sherman, Upton, WY 82730.

Together with all improvements thereon situate and all fixtures and appurtenances thereto.

Wyoming Community Development Authority
By: The Castle Law Group, LLC
123 West 1st Street, Ste. 400
Casper, WY 82601-0000
(307) 333-5379

(Publish November 14, 21, 28 and December 5, 2013)

December 2013 'Gwamma' turns seventeen



Gwamma by JaNel M. Farnsworth

Meeting Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Weston County School District #1 Board of Trustees will have a 6:00 p.m. early start to their December 11, 2013 meeting to view a technology 3D printer demonstration.

(Publish November 21, 2013)



Foreclosure Notice

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having occurred and all prerequisites to foreclosure having been met, notice is hereby given that the mortgage given by Mark D. Wilcoxon and Tuesday M. Wilcoxon, husband and wife, mortgagors, in favor of The Home Loan Center, Inc., mortgagee, dated April 20, 2004, recorded April 22, 2004, in Book 272 of Photos, Page 76, in the Office of the Clerk of Weston County, Wyoming, given to secure payment of a note in the original amount of Fifty Five Thousand Dollars and 00/100 (\$55,000.00). Said note and mortgage were assigned to American National Bank of Cheyenne, by Assignment dated April 20, 2004, and recorded April 22, 2004 in Book 272 of Photos, Page 0090 in the Office of the Clerk of Weston County, Wyoming. Said note and mortgage were assigned to the Wyoming Community Development Authority by Assignment dated May 6, 2004, and recorded September 20, 2004, in Book 274 of Photos, Page 0937 in the Office of the Clerk of Weston County, Wyoming. The past amount due as of October 23, 2013, is Three Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Four Dollars and 24/100 (\$3,834.24), plus accruing interest, fees and costs, and the amount due as of October 23, 2013, is Forty Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Six Dollars and 54/100 (\$49,726.54), plus accruing interest, fees and costs. Said mortgage contains a power of sale which by reason of default the owner of the Note and Mortgage 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. 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 days prior to the commencement of this publication. The property being foreclosed upon may be subject to other liens and encumbrances that will not be extinguished at the sale and any prospective purchaser should research the status of title before submitting the bid.

Therefore, said mortgage will be foreclosed by sale of the following described real property located in Weston County, Wyoming, described as:

LOT 5, BLOCK 7, BLACK HILLS VIEW ADDITION TO THE CITY OF NEWCASTLE, WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF.

which has the address of 303 Stockade, Newcastle, Wyoming 82701, to be sold by public auction by the Sheriff to the highest bidder, for cash, at 10:00 a.m. on December 3, 2013, at the Weston County Courthouse, 1 West Main, Newcastle, Wyoming 82701.

The sale will take place only if a representative of the Wyoming Community Development Authority, or its agent, is present.

Wyoming Community Development Authority
By: Thomas A. Valdez
Chapman Valdez Law Office
125 West 2nd Street
P.O. Box 2710
Casper, WY 82602

(Publish October 31, November 7, 14, and 21, 2013)

News Letter Journal
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Fun and Games

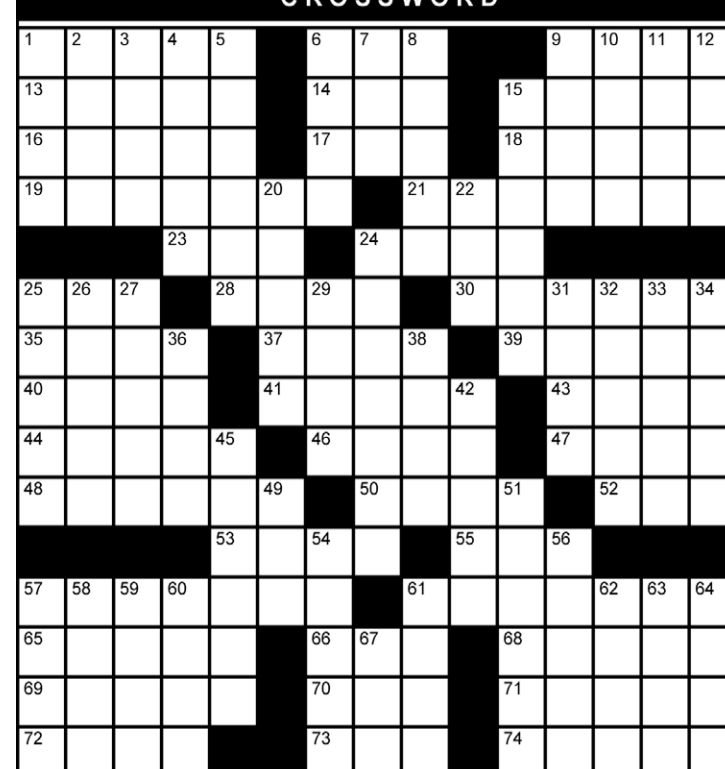
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ACROSS

- "The buck _____ here"
- Augment
- Like a jury unable to agree
- Orca, e.g.
- *Photographs in text messages
- Wiser
- Buddhist who has attained nirvana
- Australian runner
- Sign of life
- *Movie host
- *Like popular TV genre
- Hot springs resort
- Ski lift
- Sensitive subject to some
- Delhi wrap
- Boredom
- "_____ Free" (1966)
- *What a judge does on "Top Chef"
- Straight muscles
- Continental currency
- Iron Age priest
- Churn
- Make more attractive
- Major European river
- "Fool me _____, shame on you"
- Rodent and name of outdoor gear maker
- Fungal spore sacs
- Articulate
- Coffin along with stand
- Mozart's "L_____ del Cairo"
- *One Direction, e.g.
- *Modern book
- Architectural projection
- Jelly-like stuff
- **"Say Yes to the Dress" target
- Calyx part
- Emergency responder
- Saint _____ of Rome
- *American Idol's Ryan Seacrest
- Unidentified John
- City in Belgium

- Frustration, in print
- *One of Miami Heat's "Big Three"
- Filling treat
- Pitiful puppy cries
- **"Teen _____" mag (1967-2007)
- Besides
- Have supper
- Original garden?
- R in RIP
- Rock music style

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Last week's answers

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Classifieds

news letter journal

Methodist Church Bazaar

Come join the fun at the Annual **Christ-mas in Wyoming Bazaar, Saturday, Nov. 23 at the Methodist Church.** Hours are 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Crafts, Christmas Decor, Baked Goods, Sewing, Silent Auction Items, Raffles, 2nd Time Around and more. **Lunch available** starting at 11 a.m. 3-1p

Firearm Safety Self-Defense Classes

LADIES the Weston County Sportsman Club is conducting **Ladies Firearms Safety and Self Defense Classes** at the WCSC Indoor Range on Wednesday nights from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. There is **no charge** for the classes. If interested or need more information, **contact Craig Stuart at 307-746-2822. 47-31p**

Air Conditioner Covers

Fabricated right here in Newcastle. Protect your central air units from getting clogged with leaves and debris. Black Hills Boot & Canvas Repair. (307) 746-2999. 45-4t

Help Wanted

HELP WANTED: Typist/Word Processor Needed to Type Hand Written Documents as Needed. Will Pay \$20 Per Hour. Please call 746-2999. 47-2f

AMERICAN GREETINGS is looking for Retail Greeting Card Merchandisers in Newcastle, WY. As a member of our team, you will ensure the greeting card department is merchandised and maintained to provide customers the best selection of cards and products to celebrate life's events. Join the American Greetings family today by applying online at WorkatAG.com or call 1-888-323-4192. 46-2tp

Deadlines for the paper will be early for Thanksgiving, Friday at Noon, Nov. 22.

Help Wanted

PART-TIME opening for a Retail Clerk. Microsoft Excel, Word experience helpful and excellent customer service important. If interested drop your resume off at **Something Healthy, 119 W. Main Street-Newcastle. 45-2**

Will Do Odd Jobs

Odd Jobs Wanted: Will do painting, yard work, tree trimming, gutter cleaning, etc. Call Leonard Lang, 746-2999. 42-3tp

Cliff's Tree Service

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Rentals

FOR RENT: 2 BR, 1 BA Mobile Home. 307-629-1032. 45-3tp

HOUSE FOR RENT: Clean 3 BR, 2 BA Attached Garage W/ Large Yard. Includes W/D. First and Last Months Rent, \$900 Per Month, Includes Utilities. No Smoking, No Pets! Please call 307-941-0525. 47-3tp

FOR RENT: Clean, 3 BDR, 1 BA, Double Wide W/Carport. **NO PETS-NON-SMOKER.** Central Air, W/D. \$750/Month \$600 Deposit +Propane and Electricity. Looking for a Clean Responsible, Trustworthy Tenant. Please call to view **307-746-5918. 47-6tp**

FOR RENT: Clean 3 BDR-2 BA, Single Wide, 14x70. **No Pets, Non-Smoker.** Central Air, W/D, \$600 Month, \$500 Deposit, +Propane and Electricity. Looking for a Clean, Responsible, Trustworthy Tenant. Please call to view **307-746-5918. 47-6tp**

FOR RENT: Three Bedroom Mobile Home on private lot. 746-9446. 01-1fc

Rentals

FOR RENT: Two and Three Bedroom Mobile Homes with New Flooring Throughout. No Pets Please! Please Call 746-5711. 47-1fc

Land For Sale

LAND FOR SALE: 3 miles North on 85, 3/4 mile off Highway. Overlooks Cambria Canyon. \$6000/Acre-20 or 40 Acres. 746-5337. 34-1fc

Storage Sheds

FOR SALE: NEW Storage sheds. 8'x12' \$1100. Please call 307-756-3314. 46-52tp

No Trespassing

Absolutely No Trespassing or Hunting on the Burke Property at the west end of McArthur Street. **Violators will be prosecuted.** The land is "Posted". It is for sale. 44-3tp

Vehicles

FOR SALE: 2000 Jeep Wrangler Sport, Automatic, 60,000 Miles, 2 Sets of Wheels and Tires, 3 Tops. Asking \$12,500, OBO. Please call 307-941-0164. 47-2if

Self-Help

BIBLE STUDY-Non-denominational. Thursdays 10 a.m. Senior Citizen's Dining Room. More info call 629-0211 or 629-1472. 45-1fc

AL-ANON (help for family and friends of alcoholics) meets every Tuesday night at 6:45 p.m. Mondell Heights.

Open Door AA Meetings, **Sunday, and Fridays at 7 p.m. Wednesday meeting at 8 p.m. at the Catholic Church Basement (Back Entrance).** Contact, 629-0211 for more information. 3-1fc

AA Meetings-Weston County Hospital on **Tuesdays at 7 p.m.** 23-1fc

HELPING HANDS Foundation of Weston County. Applications are now available to help. Please contact Rita Conklin at 307-629-0627 for information.

Self-Help

TOPS Meeting on Tuesdays at 4:45 p.m. at First United Methodist Church upstairs. Contact Norma Lease 746-4568

TOPS Club Meeting every Thursday morning at the Weston County Senior Center. **Contact Grace Davis, 746-4531.**

Recovery of HOPE-N.A.

1124 Washington-Newcastle, WY. Downstairs in the Board Room at Weston County Health Services. Every Monday at 7 p.m. For information contact Bobby 307-315-1000 or Russ 307-949-0823.

Garage Door For Sale

One 9Wx7H Metal Garage Door with Rails, White, Good Condition. \$60. Ken Hunter 307-660-0282. 46-3tp

For Sale

Wood Stove with assorted insulated pipe and fittings, \$400. Small wood/coal stove, \$100. Used Electric Range, \$30. Apartment dishwasher, \$90. 10 miles east of Newcastle. 605-440-0871. 45-3tp

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Want a great gift giving idea, treat your friends and relatives with their hometown news, **The News Letter Journal.** Call 746-2777 for more details. **Happy Holidays!!**

Public Fax at NLJ

Early Deadline

There will be an **early deadline for next week's paper for Thanksgiving.** Friday at noon for ads, classifieds, news, letters. The papers will be out of Tuesday, Nov. 26th. Have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Services

Public Fax, Copier and Notary Services at the News Letter Journal, 14 West Main, 746-2777.

News Letter Journal has a great selection of calculator ribbons for many different brands, stop in at the News Letter **Monday-Friday, 8:30 to 5 p.m. 14 West Main-Newcastle. 47-1f**

Electric Pencil Sharpeners available at the News Letter. Several selections to choose from. Great gift giving idea!! 14 West Main-Newcastle. 746-2777.

COLOR Copies now available at the News Letter, stop in today and have your **Christmas letter** done before the rush!!! 14 West Main, Newcastle. **746-2777.**

We do **business cards** at the News Letter. We can do them right in the office in black and white or color. We also can do the thermographed ink. Check it out today, 14 West Main Newcastle, 746-2777.

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.

2014

2014 is just around the corner **our dated goods are here!** Desk Calendars, Daily, Weekly and Monthly Planners, several sizes to choose from. **2014 Wyoming Picture Calendars are here too!!** 14 West Main, News Letter Journal, 746-2777, Monday-Friday, 8:30-5 p.m.

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Please remember deadline for Classified ads are Friday by 5:00 p.m. If you are unable to bring in your classified call: 746-2777 or email: office@newslj.com

Planning Ahead, Difficult Decisions

11 Estate Planning Bulletins:

- Introduction to Estate Planning
- Estate Planning Checklist: Information to Assemble Before Consulting Your Attorney
- After a Death: What Steps are Needed?
- Wyoming Wills: Some Suggestions for Getting the Most from Estate Planning
- Death Certificates
- A Walk Through Probate
- Disinheritance
- The Personal Property Memorandum
- Guardianships and Conservatorships
- Advance Health Care Directives
- Durable Power of Attorney



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Have an important conversation this holiday season!

Fairgrounds Office/ Grounds Assistant

The Weston County Fair Board is seeking applicants for a part time (no more than 28 hours a week) Office/Grounds Assistant. This person is responsible for general office communications, memos and detailed reports, creating and maintaining databases; organizing and managing data and supplies for the Weston County Fair and other Fairground events, assisting with grounds keeping and janitorial duties. Must be proficient in general office procedures, Microsoft Office products, the internet and willing to learn agency specific software as well as have exceptional customer service skills. This position works closely with the Fairgrounds Manager to ensure smooth daily and event operations. All applicants will need to be able to pass a background check. Resumes must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, December 9, 2013. Contact the Weston County Fairgrounds for details at (307)746-9906, applications should be submitted to: 24 Fairgrounds Road, Newcastle, WY 82701.

Bilingual Paraprofessional

Weston County School District #1 has an opening for a full-time paraprofessional that is bilingual in Spanish. Applications are available at the Administration Office, 116 Casper Avenue, Newcastle, WY., during normal office hours (7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.), or on our website at www.weston1.k12.wy.us. Position will be open until filled. WCSD # 1 is an E.O.E.

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Spain

from page 13

needed in this nation for the life lessons that are taught.

Another reason baseball is dying is because it is being beat out by other sports. Baseball players in college often receive the least amount of money for scholarships. Not having funding in college for a sport can really discourage someone to attend school there. College is not cheap, and for some people athletics is the way they try to afford it, but the funding for baseball is on the decline. Fewer and fewer full rides are being given out. With better chances of getting a scholarship in other sports, why would someone want to play baseball? With

only so much money out there for athletics, colleges are becoming even more selective, and the funding that the baseball programs receive today is discouraging athletes from playing the sport.

The final factor in the slow decline of baseball is people themselves. The youth of the nation has gotten lazier, and parents have started babying their children. Those children do not have to work as hard as their parents did in the past, and much of what they receive is given to them by their parents. Laborious work is becoming less common for youth, and technology has made the

outdoors nearly obsolete for them as kids would rather play Xbox than be outdoors practicing for their sport.

A whole new mindset has been developed, and it is one that is not going to help the nation but hurt it. Kids are taking advantage of their parents and technology, and that is making them lazier.

"Take Me Out to the Ball Game" is being played less and less across the nation as the country's ethics have changed, and it is affecting people's interest in baseball, a sport that teaches so many important life lessons, and is needed for this nation to be successful.

Crabtree

from page 13

this year because we have great leadership and a team that is willing to work hard. Hard work in the off-season has made the football playing wrestlers a strength for both squads.

Many people would rather watch the basketball team in the winter, and the crowds at basketball games are great. I even enjoy and look forward to the games myself because the stands are always packed and it is a very intense atmosphere.

When Tuesday comes around, however, and there is a home duel for wrestling a person could hear a pin drop during warm-ups. Man, sometimes I wish I would have played basketball so more people would watch me play, but if I would have made that decision I may have lost a home to live in due to the fact that my father is the wrestling coach!

I would love to see the Dome packed for the 3A East Regional Tournament that will be hosted

in Newcastle this year. Come watch the wrestlers that you cheered for in the fall. Entertainment is high during wrestling events, and last year, at our home duels, they were very close events. It was exciting for both the crowd and the participants. Not only does the crowd get to watch intense wrestling, but they would also get to see how intense the coaching staff is. From making faces to yelling and jumping around, the head wrestling coach can be very entertaining to the audience. Intensity and comedy alike can be seen, which makes it extremely entertaining. A fan will not be disappointed that chooses to attend a home wrestling event at Newcastle High School.

Running out on the mat with the crowd roaring would be a sight to see at the Dome. During football, support for wrestlers is huge, but where is that support in the winter? From the "pumpkin pounders" to the "mat rats," I would love to see a lot of support for each sport.

Henkle

from page 13

was one to be proud of.

The cheerleading program may not be super popular at this point in time, but like my teams in the past, if they believe in themselves and are given the encouragement they need, they could be extremely successful. What I'm saying is that you "Dukes and Dazzlers" should be confident! Once you are confident and believe in yourselves, others will start to believe in you too.

Now I'm not saying people have to go to every one of their events, or that anyone has to go out there, put a skirt on, grab some pom-poms, and cheer with them. I am saying, however, that when someone

is at an event where they perform, instead of criticizing, they should watch, clap, and cheer for them. Give them at least a portion of the support members of the community reserve for other teams, because those boys and girls that go out there are cheering their hearts out and working as hard as they can to make their high school experience the one they have always dreamed of.

If you really watch the team, you might even realize the team is pretty good. They are better than a lot of teams from other schools at least, so we should all give them the respect they deserve and work so hard to receive. As

students of Newcastle High School and as members of this community, we have an obligation to give all the teams and organizations the admiration and appreciation they warrant, not just a select few.

By respecting and having pride in the cheerleaders, we can be the support that the support needs. The cheerleaders of Newcastle High School have worked hard and deserve recognition and respect. We all ask for support in whatever activity we participate, so go out there and show it to every organization that needs it, because if we do, we can help the dreams of ordinary people become an extraordinary reality.



Support your neighborhood businesses by shopping local

SHOP OUR BLOCK



Giving our students the opportunity to learn the rewards of volunteering and making the community a better place is an important part of their education. — Pete told us

Hobbs

from page 13

through times of struggle. Motivation and devotion can be brought upon one's self.

I have learned over the years that I will not get where I want to be. Coming into high school we are told, "You get what you work for." I have worked for what I want, and have failed time and time again.

Am I disappointed? Yes.
Will this bring me down? No.
Younger athletes like me should see that failing is hard to face, but it can teach us so much. It would be great for the adults to be proud that I gave my all to the tasks I took on. People like me should be proud of themselves because we have shown that we are strong. We will not stop even though we will not come in first.

I enjoy investing time in other underdogs and showing them that they are special and can achieve their dreams. It might not happen soon, but it will eventually happen. Struggles

develop strengths and strengths benefit a person to win or achieve. When a person goes through a hardship, he or she should not choose to surrender because it is a strength being developed in disguise. I have not given up and wish the same to others who feel as if they cannot work for what they want.

Mental toughness is a skill that starts to develop during school years. Every person struggles at something at some point, but there are people out there who struggle so much more than they should. I expect life to be challenging — no one has ever claimed it would be easy. Take that as an advantage. Expect the worst and work for the best.

I am an underdog. There are many people like me and we are fighters. We learn to face failure and learn to have a strong mental state of mind. We face continuous struggle and we finish what we start.

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