

News Letter Journal

Weston County

March 11, 2021

Newcastle, Wyoming

Year 135 Week 10

County considers Old Highway 85 repairs

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

The Board of Weston County Commissioners has engaged the Wyoming Department of Transportation for potential improve-

ments to Old Highway 85 using funds from the department's Commission Road Improvement Program, also known as CRIP. The needed improve-

ments to the road were originally part of discussions about the bridge on Old Highway 85 that will be replaced

through the Federal Highway Administrations Bridge Replacement Off-System program in 2024. On March 2, Scott Taylor, Sheridan-based district engineer for WYDOT, met with the commissioners to provide preliminary esti-

mates on various improvements that could be done on the stretch of old highway that is now a county road. The program, he said, would be 85% funded by the program with a 15% match from the county. The project would be advertised,

awarded and overseen by the transportation department, although the county would determine the improvement route taken, Taylor said.

"There are options out there,

— See Highway, Page 2

Boot camp move won't affect jobs

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

Moving the Youthful Offender Program, formerly known as the boot camp, from the Wyoming Honor Conservation Camp in Newcastle to other facilities will not negatively impact staff in Newcastle, according to information provided in an email from the Wyoming Department of Corrections.

"No staff will lose their jobs at the Newcastle facility," the email says. "Staff will be utilized as we determine how the department can best use the facility that has been the boot camp."

The program is slated to move to the Wyoming State Penitentiary in Rawlins and a unit at the Wyoming Women's Center in Lusk, the information states.

When the move will happen is unknown, according to Paul Martin, a deputy administrator for the Wyoming Department of Corrections. In an email to the *News Letter Journal*, Martin reported that the move has been

— See Camp, Page 7

Horse racing in Weston County?

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

Wyoming Downs, a live horse racing and simulcast off-track facilities, is looking to bring their betting machines into Weston County.

During the March 3 Weston County Commission meeting, the commissioners expressed support for the idea during a discussion with Jill Jerrard, Wyoming Downs public relations specialist.

The commissioners determined, however, that they needed time before passing a resolution. The

board tabled the resolution and will reconsider the topic on March 16.

According to its website, the Wyoming Downs Racetrack is the largest and only privately owned racetrack in Wyoming, located 10 miles north of Evanston. The company also offers off-track betting in Laramie, Cheyenne, Casper, Evansville, Sheridan and Rock Springs.

The company reports a payout of \$4.2 million in taxes to cities and counties across the state in

— See Racing, Page 7

All bets are on



Photo by Walter Sprague/NLJ

The Newcastle Area Chamber of Commerce's Annual Banquet was held at the Weston County Event Center on Saturday. Above, attendees enjoy Blackjack, with Garrett Borton serving as one of the dealers. See more from the event on Page 8.

Lost class ring returned after 37 years

KateLynn Slaamot
NLJ Correspondent

When David Chick lost his class ring in a snowball fight around Christmas time of his junior year of high school in Saint Joseph, Missouri, he thought he had seen the last of it. Little did he know that 37 years later, it would be found and returned to him.

Chick received his class ring as a gift from his aunt at the beginning of his junior year in 1984, but he joked that he was

an irresponsible teenager. As a result, it wasn't long before he lost his ring in that fateful snowball fight the day before Christmas break started.

Of course, Chick said, he didn't give it much thought after it happened, thinking that it was gone for good and there was nothing he could do about it.

However, on Monday, March 1 of this year, he received a phone call from a man in Chillicothe, Mo. The man talked with him for some time, Chick said, and asked him

several questions to confirm who he was. This included Chick's middle name initial, high school football number, and more — information that was engraved on his class ring.

After they talked for a while, the man told Chick that he thought he had something that belonged to him. After verifying that the man had his long-lost class ring, Chick said, he was very surprised.

"It was a complete shock," Chick said. "I hadn't thought about that ring in years."

According to Chick, the Chillicothe man lived only about 60 miles from Saint Joseph. A previous weekend

— See Ring, Page 7

Photo by Walter Sprague/NLJ
David Chick of Newcastle is reunited with his high school class ring 37 years after it had been lost, thanks to a Missouri man who purchased it in an estate sale then located Chick.



WEATHER FORECAST

Thursday
Partly Cloudy
Hi 37, Lo 20



Friday
Partly Cloudy
Hi 43, Lo 27



Saturday
Partly Cloudy
Hi 46, Lo 29



Sunday
Snow/Rain
Hi 44, Lo 26



Monday
Mostly Cloudy
Hi 42, Lo 18



Tuesday
AM Snow
Hi 30, Lo 15



Wednesday
Partly Cloudy
Hi 32 Lo 16



INSIDE

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Time to check your
BANKING TOOLS?

From notices on your cellular phone when your bank card is used to online banking, First State Bank is offering a growing list of tools. If you need more information about what is available, or help with set-up, please visit our downtown location. We are happy to help!



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COVID-19

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These workers generally include those involved with:


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- Hazardous Materials • Healthcare and Public Health • Commercial Facilities • Defense Industrial Base

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This ad paid for by Weston County Public Health

Repair work



Photo by Walter Sprague/NLJ

On Wednesday, March 3, Z&Z Asphalt, based in Billings, Mont. and under contract with Wyoming Department of Transportation, came to Newcastle to crack seal West Main Street, from the rail road tracks up to South Summit Avenue, then continued on Summit up to Washington Boulevard. "Communication is the biggest thing," Darren Turley of Z&Z said, "We all know what everybody's job is and where they are all the time. That way, if problems do happen we can fill in the slack." The process of following one process after another was smoothly handled by Z&Z while WYDOT specialists Jack Scribner and Jeff Green oversaw the whole process.

Public notice bill dies on third Senate reading

Stephen Dow
The Sheridan Press
Via Wyoming News Exchange

On third reading Friday, the Wyoming House defeated a bill some legislators said would limit government transparency by moving public notices out of newspapers.

"I'm not quite there with the notion that we pull the funding that makes sure that we get information out to our public," Sen. Bill Landen, R-Casper, said.

Senate File 17, sponsored by the Senate Corporations, Elections and Political Subdivisions Committee, would have allowed cities, towns, counties and school districts to move their public notices — including meeting minutes, salaries and ordinances — from the pages of the local newspaper to those entities' websites.

The bill was brought to the floor by Sen. Tara Nethercott, R-Cheyenne, who argued the move online was essential as many local governments face budget cuts. Nethercott said local counties spend anywhere from \$11,000 to \$101,000 each year complying with publication requirements, with Sheridan County spending \$28,000.

While some legislators focused on how the state's newspapers would be impacted if notices moved online, Sen. Drew Perkins, R-Casper, said the bill was, first and foremost, about getting important public information to Wyoming's citizens.

"It was disturbing to me that this bill has become an argument about supporting our newspapers and local communities," Perkins said. "To me, that's not the right argument and not the right consideration.... I hope that as we consider this, your vote is not about whether or not this money goes to support newspapers...This is really an issue about giving notice, and I hope we focus on that and not about the financial health of our newspapers."

Sen. R.J. Kost, R-Powell, said that, while the state should continue to discuss the possibility of moving public notices online, now was not the time to make the move.

"I really feel like... maybe we start talking about it," Kost said. "But right now, it's imperative that we...respect those older people...Let's honor them by allowing them to sit down with that cup of coffee and read those minutes or whatever else they need to read."

Local Sens. Bo Biteman, R-Parkman, and Dave Kinskey, R-Sheridan, were among those who voted against the bill. Biteman said many local websites simply weren't ready to distribute important public notice information.

"I think it would have helped the case and the cause of the argument...if they would have had their websites up-to-date with the minutes on there and showed us what they could do," Biteman said. "But if you go and look across the state right now at these county and city and local government websites, the information is sparse at best, outdated and sometimes nonexistent... So I think they really could have shown us what they could do, and I don't think they're quite ready for that yet."

During a previous discussion on the bill, Kinskey said publication spending made up roughly 0.12% of the average annual budget for counties and 0.17% for cities and towns. For that relatively small investment, the newspapers reach a paid circulation of more than 98,000, Kinskey said.

Senate File 17 was killed with a vote of 9-20. The bill was previously approved by the Senate on first reading Wednesday with a vote of 15 to 12.

Highway

from Page 1

whether you want to leave it paved or go to gravel," Taylor said, presenting preliminary estimates to the board. Any of the options chosen would include full depth reclamation of the roadway.

Once that process is complete, Taylor said, the county could choose whether to repave the entire 3.63 miles of road, repave a portion, or leave the entire stretch of roadway as gravel.

According to Taylor, preliminary estimates range from \$135,000 for leaving the entire stretch gravel to approximately \$2 million to overlay the 3.63 miles. The overlay would be 3 inches, Taylor noted, which should be graded for higher-weight truck traffic than is currently allowed on the roadway. The commissioners expressed the most interest in paving the roadway to Greenhouse Road and graveling the remaining stretch of road to the bridge, a project that comes with a \$630,000 estimate, Taylor said.

Taylor said that the project could be included in planning for when the bridge is replaced in 2024 or added to an overlay project on Highway 85 in 2025, which would allow for "economy of scale" savings on costs.

The one requirement from the department, besides the 15% match, is a mileage exchange of a road currently under the highway department to the county.

"You would take on a mile of state highway for each mile improved. We like to trade roads, mile for mile," Taylor said, noting that both roadways would then be owned by the county.

"Those would be a county road from now on and not on the WYDOT schedule," Taylor said. "We are trying to get rid of roads all the time."

He added that the department had discussed Oil City Road, a 5-mile stretch of paved roadway, or the 1.2-mile Osage Spur as being potential candidates for the trade.

"Depending on what we do for improvements and how much preliminary costs change and shift, both of those sections are good candidates," Taylor said.

Following Taylor's presentation, the board approved drafting and presenting a letter to Taylor that would allow him to begin getting Weston County approved for the funding, no earlier than 2024.

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nlj IDEAS

news letter journal

News Letter Journal: WPA and NNA Award Winner

WHO



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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

Stop in Monday-Friday at 14 West Main Street, Newcastle, Wyoming. POSTMASTER: Please send any address changes to the News Letter Journal, PO Box 40, Newcastle, WY 82701. **Annual Subscription Rate, Print OR Online**
In Weston County\$50
Out of County\$65
Senior Citizens (65+).....\$33
MilitaryFREE
Student, In State.....\$33
Student, Out of State.....\$40
Print + Online, add \$7

WHEN

News Letter Journal is published each Thursday at 14 W. Main Street in Newcastle (Weston Co.) WY 82701. Periodicals postage paid at Newcastle, WY. USPS No. 389-940. Deadline for advertising is the prior Friday at 5 p.m.

WHY

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



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Our View

Our country, state and community need more ideas

If you have been reading the editorials in the *News Letter Journal* over the past three decades, you'll notice that one of our favorite themes is the ideal that "With great freedom comes great responsibility."

We have also been quick to acknowledge the worth of "owning" your past words or deeds, and just as quick to admonish those who fail to do so.

The new policy we are announcing for our Editorial and Opinion Page moving forward is our attempt to be true to both beliefs.

We have long championed the First Amendment right to Freedom of Speech. As a newspaper we consider ourselves one of the last bastions of that particular freedom, and feel an obligation to protect and preserve the freedom of speech that has long been a cornerstone of this country's greatness.

But that freedom faces a very real threat right now, and we believe the source of that threat lies in a present inability on the part of many to take responsibility for their speech and the impact it is having on other people- and our country. As leaders of the ongoing free speech movement, we want to do our part to change the destructive tone of our present political conversation by changing the way we communicate on this page.

The primary reason the Founding

Fathers sought to ensure freedom of speech in the Bill of Rights was because they rightfully thought that was the best way to guarantee a free exchange of ideas.

But we believe that when it comes to politics, we have enjoyed a near-absolute freedom of speech that has led to abuse of the right. This has actually led to an erosion of the free exchange of ideas because individuals have become too intimidated to express thoughts that may not conform to the ideals of the "left" or "right," or be considered truly "Republican" or "Democrat" in their origin. Worst of all, they may be branded "liberal," "conservative," "progressive" or "populist" - to name just a few.

So in response to this tendency to shame and silence the very ideas that this country so dearly needs to exchange right now, the *News Letter Journal* will not allow these types of words or labels to be used in the Letters to the Editor, columns or editorials that appear on this page.

We feel our community will be much more encouraged to share ideas if citizens don't have to be apprehensive about being branded in such a way, and we believe that the ideas themselves will be able to produce a better result if they are judged strictly on their merits.

We also will not print any mate-

rial that targets or mentions specific individuals, political parties or groups - regardless of whether the communication is considered positive or negative. Such messages are really only appropriate as paid advertisements, and we will only publish them as such moving forward.

It is at this point that the *News Letter Journal* has to "own" the fact that past editorials have targeted specific individuals or political groups, and we have used the labels listed above - along with a few others that all seemed pretty clever at the time. Although such statements are in keeping with modern political speech, we are disappointed in our own failure to communicate with more civility. We apologize and hope to set an example that will make it easier for others to adhere to the new standard we have set for this page.

This new standard is not an effort to avoid hot topics or issues that make people uncomfortable - although we will admit that we are hoping to make people feel more comfortable about discussing some of those issues. So please continue to write to us about the issues you feel passionate about, but take responsibility for your communication by not demonizing or accusing others with the statements you wish to make on this page. You will find that your letter will be more effective

because others won't feel the need to defend themselves - or their political belief system - against it.

After considerable deliberation, we have decided that these changes are specifically for the OpEd page of the *News Letter Journal* and our website newsli.com. We are going to continue to allow some degree of political comments under the stories posted to our Facebook page because we believe it is primarily the responsibility of the operators of the platform to take responsibility for the speech expressed there. Within reason, we will leave it up to the owners of the social media platforms themselves to set parameters for responsible speech on those platforms.

But on our own platform - the pages you hold in your hand or the website you are viewing if you are reading these words- we do want to make an effort to change the way we speak to each other. We hope you will embrace our attempt to take responsibility for encouraging more productive speech in the *News Letter Journal* moving forward.

Some of you may have noticed that the heading on this page changed from "Opinion" to "Ideas" last week. We made the change because we believe our country, our state and our community need ideas a lot more than we need opinions at this point in our history.

Bills needing a closer look in this year's legislature

This year's legislative session is unlike any we have seen before. After spending a few days meeting in person early this year to deal with some committee and urgent COVID related bills, the legislature pushed the rest of its session out until now to give time for COVID rates to decline. With over 440 bills and resolutions filed (and counting), there are going to be some good bills and some bad bills. Most will not be enacted into law, if for no other reason than that there is not enough time in the session to consider that volume of bills. Nevertheless, there are a few bills that I want to highlight.

First, there are many good bills this session, dealing with many important issues. Everything from COVID relief to amendments to criminal statutes to addressing government form and function is included in the many good

bills. Rather than list the good bills that will likely pass with little opposition, I want to focus on a few other bills that are worth a closer look.

On the bad bill side, few are worse than House Bill 202, which seeks to suspend without pay any state employee making above a certain amount while a public health emergency is in effect. Presumably, the sponsors of this bill are trying to make a point about the ongoing COVID crisis. What that point is, though, is

hard to see. Do they want the state health officer to ignore a legitimate health crisis to keep state government functioning? Do they think the state health officer can magically make a health crisis go away simply by declaring it to be so? Do

they simply want Wyoming to suffer more during a health crisis by ensuring that even more Wyoming people are out of work and that our state government is functioning worse? Whatever the point, it is not well taken.

Several other bills that I believed were generally well-intended but otherwise flawed have already been either amended or defeated. For example, House Bill 99, which would have limited property tax increases to only 3% per year was amended to a higher number that is more reasonable. Had the bill passed as initially introduced, it would have risked placing an artificial incentive against home sales on properties with active real estate markets. That is one of the problems that California saw with its real estate market and a problem we do not need to introduce here. The bill as amended is much more reasonable. Similarly, a resolution was filed to require any new tax to be submitted to a full public vote, similar to

a constitutional amendment. Again, while well intentioned, the logistics of such a requirement and the lack of a holistic view of government among the general population made this an idea that sounds better than it actually is. The reason we live in a republic, as opposed to a direct democracy, is that we recognize that many of the decisions in government require nuance and a more wide-ranging understanding of government processes than can typically be expected of the voter on the street. We therefore elect representatives to take on the burden of analyzing and understanding the issues facing us so they can make a wise decision. This bill would have run contrary to the idea behind and reasons for a republic. States with high levels of direct democracy provisions are almost never the best run. California again is the most prominent example of a state with many ballot initiatives, which tend to result in worse - not better - government.

Lastly, it is worth noting that we are beginning to see bills filed that direct address the issues with our state budget. At least one bill has been filed so far to raise a new stream of revenue. House Bill 138 provides for a tax on unearned income - primarily meaning income other than salaries, wages, tips, or business income - over \$200,000. This would obviously not apply to the vast majority of Wyoming voters, but would provide some additional income from those receiving large amounts of capital gains income and other certain classes of income. It is worth noting that some other states without statewide income taxes do have similar types of taxes on their books. While I doubt this tax will pass this session, it is possible that this is one of the areas where future tax changes may be seriously considered.

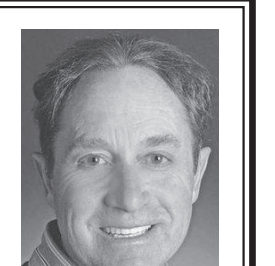
The legislator will be hard at work in the coming month to wade through the many bills before it. Let's all hope they make wise decisions.

What were they thinking? Why the rule of law matters

We know what life looks like in a nation without rule of law principles. The world witnessed the horrors of 20th Century totalitarian regimes in Nazi Germany and Stalinist Russia. Today, the list of authoritarian countries is growing and it includes, among others, Russia, China, North Korea and Syria.

What is life like in such nations? The exercise of unlimited, unrestrained and unaccountable governmental power. Arbitrary, unpredictable governance guided only by the passions, preferences and prejudices of those in power. No rights, just privileges - granted and withdrawn in accordance with the passing whims of rulers. No right to life, liberty or property. No due process of law. No right to counsel and no right to a judicial hearing. No freedom of speech, religion, press or assembly. You get the picture.

America's founders might have traveled that path, but as children of The Enlightenment, they embraced evolving principles of republicanism that rejected traditional views of authority and exalted freedom, dignity and opportunity. They ushered into the life of the new nation, the daily practice of the rule of law through implementation of newly-minted laws and constitutional provisions, along with expectations of a citizenry willing to absorb, practice and defend its ideals.




David Adler Guest Column

The introduction of the rule of law marked America's rejection of the Old World. As a matter of principle, class divisions would no longer determine the scope of rights enjoyed by the citizenry. The implementation into American jurisprudence of the principle of "equality before the law," a governing theme by no means easily incorporated into a world riven by deep racial and gender prejudices, nonetheless charted a future in which

laws would be general and nondiscriminatory in their application. Here, the founders heard the voices of a long line of philosophers, aptly summed up by John Locke, an influential 17th Century English political theorist familiar to them: leaders "are to govern by promulgated established laws, not to be varied in particular cases, but to have one rule for rich and poor." For a founding generation of colonial lawyers who cut their teeth on the writings of the great 18th Century English commentator, Sir William Blackstone, they heard that "restraints introduced by the law should be equal to all." The rule of law, which rests on the idea of equal application of laws, resonates across American history. It was at the center of the efforts of those who drafted, and championed, the 14th Amendment of the Constitution, ultimately ratified in 1868. The conception and application of different laws for different citizens would clearly frustrate the aims of a nation in pursuit of a system of laws aimed at achieving the republican ideals embodied in the rule of law

— whether in the founding period as America moved beyond the confines of monarchical rule, or in the aftermath of the Civil War, as President Abraham Lincoln said, in which the goal ought to be the creation of "a new birth of freedom," committed to the foundational principle of a government of, for and by the people. A political system such as ours, which truly aspires to government based on the consent of the governed and one committed to the rule of law, requires a citizenry, as the founders declared, willing to defend those fundamental principles. We turn next week to the ways in which citizens can fulfill that solemn responsibility.


David Adler, PhD, is a noted author who lectures nationally and internationally on the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and presidential power. His scholarly writings have been cited by the U.S. Supreme Court and lower courts by both Democrats and Republicans in the U.S. Congress. He can be reached at david.adler@altura-institute.com.



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Obituaries

TERRY M. MAGNUSON
March 8, 1945–March 7, 2021

Terry M. Magnuson, 75, passed away Sunday, March 7, 2021, at his home in New Effington, S.D.

Funeral services will be at a later date. The Eggers Funeral Home in Rosholt, S.D., is in charge of the arrangements.

Terry McQuain Magnuson was born March 8, 1945, to Quentin and Agnes (Broz) Magnuson in Sisseton, S.D. He was baptized at Trondhjem Lutheran Church in rural Rosholt and confirmed at Faith Lutheran Church in New Effington. He attended rural school through the eighth grade.



Terry Magnuson

On Sept. 15, 1973, Terry married Maxine Anderson in Tripp, S.D. After their marriage, they lived in New Effington, Victor, Rosholt, and Sisseton in South Dakota, Mesa, Ariz., and Newcastle, Wyo. Terry worked as a deputy sheriff, heavy equipment operator, mechanic and a welder. He loved to hunt and fish with his

children and grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife, Maxine Magnuson of New Effington; children, McQuain (Michelle) Magnuson of Foxhome, Minn., Travis (April) Magnuson of Boxelder, S.D., Daryn Magnuson of New Effington, Philip (Yesneia) Brott of Cypress, Texas, and Thereasa (Randy) Flippin of Sherwood, Ariz.; grandchildren, Jessica Phillips, Kiya Magnuson, Stephanie Brott, Cordell (Morgan) Magnuson-Rikimoto, Terry Magnuson, Melody Brott, and Madison Brott; great-grandchildren, Ayden Phillips, Shyla Hokanson, RyLynn Walters, and Annamarie Magnuson; and a sister, Connie Brus of Summit, S.D.

Terry was preceded in death by his daughter, Mandi Rikimoto; grandchildren, Trentin and Blaine Rikimoto; parents, Quentin and Agnes; two brothers, Larry Magnuson and Gary Magnuson Sr.; a sister, Kathy Magnuson; and a nephew, Dusty Magnuson.

BELVA JEAN ROTHLEUTNER
May 26, 1941–March 2, 2021

Belva Jean Rothleutner, 79, passed away Tuesday, March 2, 2021, at her home near Douglas, Wyo., surrounded by her loving

family.

She was born May 26, 1941, in New Underwood, S.D., to Vincent Earl and Evelyn M. (Duster) Stanton.

Funeral liturgy for Belva was held at 10 a.m. on Monday, March 8, at the Saint Louis Catholic Church in Glenrock, Wyo., with Father Lucas Kazimiro Simango as the celebrant.

A Vigil for the Deceased was held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 7, at the Gorman Funeral Homes – Converse Chapel in Douglas. Inurnment will be held at a later date at the Glenrock Cemetery.

Memorial contributions to Central Wyoming Hospice Home, 319 S. Wilson St., Casper, WY 82601 or to a charity of the donor's choice would be appreciated by the family.

The Gorman Funeral Homes – Converse Chapel of Douglas was in charge of the arrangements.

Condolences may be sent to the family at gormanfh.com.



Belva Rothleutner

Engagement



MORRISON–EVANS

Kendra Morrison and Drew Evans are engaged to be married on Sept. 11, 2021, in Laramie, Wyo.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Mike and Shawnda Morrison of Newcastle, Wyo. She has a doctorate degree in physical therapy, and works for High Country Physical Therapy.

The groom-to-be is the son of Bart and Joan Evans of Cheyenne, Wyo. He is a high school math teacher at Laramie High School.

The wedding ceremony and reception will be held at the Historic Ivinson Mansion and Alice Hardie Stevens Center in Laramie.

The couple plan to make Laramie their home.




Newcastle Lodge No. 13, A.F. & A.M.
Meetings are held the First and Third Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend meetings
Tim Qualheim, Worshipful Master • Mike Hutchinson, Secretary



faith & values

Daily Devotional Reading

Mar. 12 Jeremiah 32:16-44	Mar. 16 Lamentations 3:34-66
Mar. 13 Jeremiah 42:1-22	Mar. 17 Lamentations 5:1-22
Mar. 14 Lamentations 1:1-22	Mar. 18 Luke 11:1-13
Mar. 15 Lamentations 3:1-33	Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

- **ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH:** Rev. Norm Brotzman, 216 S. Seneca, 746-2249. Call to Worship 9:30 am; Children's Church during Call to Worship; Faith Rally Sunday 6 pm
- **BAHA'I FAITH:** Firesides (Open to All) 1st & 3rd Fridays 7:30 pm at 15 Skyview Dr, 746-3626
- **CAMBRIA COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH:** 19 Stampede St. 746-2321. Sunday School 9:15 am; Worship 10:30 am; Youth (6-12 grades) and Adult Bible Study Sunday Evening 6-7 pm; Wednesday Night Youth and Adult Bible Study 6 pm; Life Recovery Bible Study Sunday Night 7 pm
- **CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH:** Rev. Wendy Owens, S. Summit & Winthrop Streets, 746-9684. haydishall@hotmail.com. Service times: Sunday 10 am
- **CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH:** Pastor Rob Carr, 224 West Road, West of Dow Park, 746-2415. Sunday Worship 9 am
- **CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS:** Bishop Ty Checketts, 120 Ash, 746-4131. Sunday Sacrament Mtg 9:00 am; Sunday School 10:20 am; Relief Society & Priesthood Mtg 11:15 am
- **CHURCH ON THE HILL:** Pastor Wayne Wilson, 301 Delaware, 746-9663. Adult Sunday School 9:30 am; Prayer 10:15 am; Worship 10:45 am; Prayer Service Tuesday 6 PM; Celebrate Recovery (18+) & Undeclared Youth (Infant- 12th Grade) Wednesday 6:00 pm
- **CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Father Brian Hess, 19 W. Winthrop, 746-4219. Saturday Mass 5 pm; Sunday Mass 8 am; Weekday Mass 7 am
- **COUNTRY CHURCH:** Four Corners, Pastor Bill Haley and Micah Popma, 746-9712. Worship 10 am
- **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH:** Pastor Gary Anderson, 903 S. Summit, 746-2188. Sunday School 9:15 am; Worship Service 10:30 am; Evening Service 6 pm;

AWANA Clubs Wednesday 6:30 pm

- **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Pastor Brenda Torrie, 23 N. Seneca, 746-4119. Adult Bible Study 8:45 am; Traditional Church Services 10:00 am; 10:15 am Children's Church; Youth Group Sunday evenings 5:30-7 pm
- **GATEWAY FELLOWSHIP:** Pastor Jon Andersen, 12 Old Hwy. 85, Evangelical Free Church, Bible Study 9:15 am, Worship 10:30 am. Call 949-0869
- **KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES:** 5018 US Hwy 16, 746-2319 or 746-4517. Tuesday 7:00 pm. Congregation Bible Study, Theocratic Ministry School and Service Meeting, Sunday Public Talk 10 am; Watchtower 11 am
- **NEWCASTLE FOURSQUARE CHURCH:** Pastor Mick Bohn, 1525 S. Summit, 746-3618. Sun. Worship 10 am; Wed. Night Prayer
- **OSAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH:** 348 Sheridan St. in Osage, 465-2341. Sunday School 10 am; Worship 11 am and 6 pm
- **OUR SAVIOR CHURCH:** Pastors Doug and Frezil Westerlund. For Bible Study, call (605) 515-3058
- **SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST:** Pastor Lester Bently 612-240-7536, 78 Old Hwy 85, Saturday Sabbath School 9:30 am; Worship 11 am
- **ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Father Brian Hess, Upton. Sunday Mass 5 pm
- **UPTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Rev. Michael Paschall, 834 Pine, Upton, 468-9302. Worship 9 am; Fellowship 10 am
- **VICTORY NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH:** Rev. Theodore L. Halls, 414 Pine, 746-4366

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

~Romans 6:23

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Harry Stevenson, Louis Semsey at Big Horn, Wyoming.

Courtesy of Weston County Historical Society

Recapture

A PIECE OF HISTORY

25 Years Ago March 14, 1996

Vance Everett took over as superintendent at the Wyoming Honor Conservation Camp/Boot Camp March 1. The 49-year-old Everett comes to WHCC from the Honor Farm in Riverton.

The Happy Ranchers 4-H Club met March 10 at the Kline home. President Joe Ertman called the meeting to order. Leo Ertman led the 4-H Pledge and Chris Walker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Blotter: Feb. 26 — A small white poodle with ribbons in its ears was trying to enter a house. Feb. 28 — A deer reported lying in a window well was found to be unharmed and taking advantage of the heat. Mar. 2 — Two juveniles were tubing down Hospital Hill. Mar. 3 — A pack of dogs was reported chasing a herd of deer. A man complained that someone had taken his dog off the chain and was throwing snowballs at him.

The Newcastle Middle School 7th grade team finished the season with a 7-9 win-loss record.

The Newcastle Lady Dogies emerged from the state tournament experience in Casper last weekend knowing they did their hometown proud despite losing the consolation championship on Saturday. The girls,

who had not been to the state tournament in several years, played their first round against the Mountain View Bison on Thursday. Mountain View was able to take the early lead as both teams suffered from tournament jitters.

Three more Newcastle Dogies qualified for the State 3A State Swimming and Diving Championship, to be held later this week, at a Last Chance Qualifying Meet held in Gillette Saturday.

On Saturday night the Calves culminated the 1996 basketball season in Gillette by winning the Northeast District Tournament.

50 Years Ago March 11, 1971

A sportsmen's meeting has been scheduled in Newcastle on Mar. 27, according to Les Donahue, deputy game warden for the Wyoming Game and Fish commission.

The Newcastle Dogies lost both their games in the Class A east region basketball tourney at Buffalo last week. The Dogies lost to Douglas in the opening round 63-50 on Thursday night and then lost to Lusk in the consolation game Saturday night 73-53.

The Northeast district AAU wrestling tournament will be held Saturday in Newcastle. The tournament will start at 9:30

a.m. and continue throughout the day with recesses for lunch and dinner.

Sgt. Herbert J. Pridgeon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Pridgeon of Gillette, placed first in the Tactical Air Command wrestling tournament held at Mountain Home Air Force base, Ida., on Mar. 1.

Mrs. Velmar Ruff and Mrs. Lloyd Koch of Moorcroft were Monday morning coffee guests of Mrs. Cal Petersen.

Mrs. Anna Norris, Mrs. Bill Wattenberg and Mrs. Pete Snider were in Newcastle Thursday on business and to shop.

Mrs. Matt Barker, Melvin and Donnie and Robert Fullerton were in Newcastle Wednesday for a medical appointment for Donnie.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Eisenhower, Bob Eisenhower, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Benson and Mr. and Mrs. Del Eisenhower enjoyed bowling at Moorcroft Saturday night.

Miss Pamela Thompson was honored on her 13th birthday at a supper at her home Sunday evening.

Shelly and Dawn Peterson of Sundance were weekend guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Darlington.

The Newcastle Square Dance Club will dance Sunday evening at the IOOF Hall starting at 7:30. Pete Coxie is

the caller. All interested persons are invited to come and join in the dancing.

100 Years Ago March 10, 1921

The drillers for the Dubuque Petroleum Company began drilling Monday of this week. An effort was first made to pull the eight inch casing which was in the well but it was found to be "froze" so tight that it could not be loosened. A new string of 6 5-8 casing has been ordered.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Shell spent Sunday at the O.C. Olsen home. Chris Hansen visited at Nels Smith' and at Simonsens' Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Hans Hansen visited their son Anton and family one evening last week. Miss Dorothy Olsen spent Monday and Tuesday with Miss Alegra Hook on Cold Creek.

Mr. and Mrs. Nels Smith are away on a business and pleasure trip to Omaha, Sioux City and points in South Dakota.

Pete Christensen was a week end visitor in the county seat last week. Leonard DeVol entertained Raymond Culver of Newcastle as his guest here during the last school lay off.

Mrs. J.F. Landrigan has been visiting in Newcastle this week with her sister, Mrs. F.T. Vasey. Tommy Lucas Jr., was a visitor in Newcastle last week attending to business matters.

Mrs. R.T. Spurgeon was a visitor in Newcastle last Thursday and Friday being the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Arch Kirkwood.

George DeBow, his daughter Maggie and his grandson Jack spent last Friday in the "Hub" attending to shopping and business affairs.

A large number of our foreign born towns-people attended court Monday in an effort to obtain citizenship. Many were called but few were chosen so those who failed now will again be examined June 16.

While threading a bolt in the machine shop last Thursday, Harold Van Stone so severely cut his right hand that he couldn't work for a few days.

Cambria was down in force for the basket ball game Friday evening. Cambria contributes liberally to the support of our athletic events and the local organizations putting them on appreciate their attendance.

Editor Gregory and wife of the Upton Gazette were here attending the Good Roads meeting Monday evening.

A.C. Pentico of Lincoln Ridge was a business caller in Newcastle the first of the week. Rev. McFarland of Cheyenne was a business caller here the latter part of last week.

Mrs. Kem and infant daughter returned the latter part of last week from several weeks' visit with friends and relatives in Kentucky and Missouri.

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WHAT'S UP March 2021

Weston County Meetings & Events Calendar

Mar. 12-13	9-5PM	Treasures & Trash	"Old store" Deckers
Mar. 13-14	9AM	WC Sportsman Club Gun Show	WC Event Center
Fri Mar. 12	5:30PM	BINGO	VFW Hall
Mon Mar. 15	6PM 7PM	WC Children's Center Directors Mtg Newcastle City Council	WCCC City Council Chambers
Tues Mar. 16	9AM	WC Commissioners	Courthouse
Wed Mar. 17	6:30-8:30AM 7-9AM	Wellness Wednesday Wellness Wednesday	WCHS Upton Medical Clinic
Thurs Mar. 18	6PM 6PM 7:30PM	WCHS Board of Trustees MTG Veteran's Memorial Meeting Masons #13	WCHS Four Square Church Masonic Hall



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For the Ages

News Letter Journal

First National Bank opens in Mondell building



Hannah Gross
NLJ Correspondent
With Leonard Cash

Historian Leonard Cash picks up where he left off in last week's installment of "History on Main" series — with the Mondell building, located on the corner of Warren Avenue and Seneca Street on lot 12 of block 10. Throughout the late 1890s and early 1900s, the building was occupied by Mollring Bros. & Co., and this week, we continue that discussion, as well as starting a new discussion on the First National Bank, which moved in around 1919.

At the time, George Mollring was the brother who was involved with the Newcastle store, but the Sept. 28, 1906 issue of the local paper announced that he and his wife were moving to Alliance, Nebraska, because Mollring had purchased his brother Fred's interest in the Alliance business due to Fred's failing health.

"We regret to have these esteemed people leave us and hope to some day see them return to Newcastle to again take up their residence," the article says.

According to a Feb. 21, 1908 report, George retired from his position at the Newcastle store, and his brother Clem Mollring retired from his position at the Alliance store to assume entire control of Newcastle business.

An article in the Nov. 18, 1908 *News Journal* (although portions of the information came from the *Alliance Times*) announced the unfortunate news that George's wife, Francis Murrin, passed away at the young age of 26. She had been sick for a period of 10 days, but it was not thought serious until she developed heart failure. Francis was born in the Black Hills area and was a teacher in both Newcastle and Sheridan. She had only been married to George a little over two years before her untimely death.

The funeral was conducted



Photo courtesy of Leonard Cash

This is a photo of Main Street. Next week Cash will talk more about the banks of Newcastle's early days.

at her home, with Rector Frederick Graves from the Episcopal church. Many of her friends endured the "uncomfortable weather" to attend the funeral that was "symbolic of what she had loved best in life." The refined and educated Francis was said to have a bright, happy countenance, admired by all.

"The death of Mrs. Mollring is deeply mourned by her many friends in this city, and the entire community is tinged with sadness in sympathy with the bereft husband," the obituary says. "It is doubtful if there has been any in Alliance where such immense quantities of splendid flowers were there as the last mute testimonial of friends."

To pick up the store's history again, we turn to the Dec. 4, 1908, issue of the paper, which reported that new tungsten electric lamps were available at Clem's to "enable you to buy Christmas articles of delicate shade just as well at night as by daylight."

A burst pipe poured water through ceiling lines and plaster all over the merchandise, ruining some of the goods, according to an article from Jan. 14, 1910. Though some of the goods were ruined, others were only "slightly spotted," so a "hot sale" was running.

Evidently, Mollring was a businessman with diverse interests. The Nov. 18, 1910 issue said that "the only airship ... in Wyoming (was) owned by C.V. Mollring of Newcastle recently bought in Chicago."

Around Aug. 25, 1911, a

new steel ceiling was installed at the store in the Mondell building, which greatly added to its appearance.

By March 22, 1917, the *News Journal* reported that Carl Kugland relocated his insurance and real estate office to three front rooms of the Mondell flat for additional space and better lighting. Additionally, the building was being remodeled to allow rooms for other offices to be installed, including Wyoming Transfer & Machine Co., B.H. Thoeming Co. and Robert Allan Smith, representing the Northern Wyoming Telephone Co.

The following issue announced that the office for Newcastle Light & Power Co. moved to its new location in Mondell flat, and by Jan. 3, 1918, Wyoming Transfer and Machine Co. officially moved in. Additionally, Dr. O. Horton moved his practice from Nichols block into Mondell's.

"I wish to announce that I have moved my office from the Nichols block to the room on the second floor of the Mondell block adjoining the offices of Carl Krugland," Horton said in the paper.

Another article from the same paper said that Edwin Mollring, who attended Stanford University, received the principal appointment through a congressman to the Naval Academy at Annapolis.

According to July 18, 1918 news reports, Clem was diligent in making his store look appealing to passersby.

"The display window of

'Clem on the Corner' is very artistically arranged with the various service banners displayed and everyone who passes is attracted by its fine appearance," the article says.

The sons of two prominent men (Clem and A.M. Nichols) in town, Ed Mollring and Dwight Nichols, were at an U.S. Army training camp in Lincoln, Nebraska, when they caught the deadly Spanish influenza, according to the Sept. 19, 1918 paper. Fortunately, their health was improving.

Around this time, although Cash doesn't have the exact dates in his records, the First National Bank moved into the Mondell building, but it was going under extensive remodeling, reported an article from June 19, 1919. Because of this remodeling project, Dr. Horton temporarily moved his office to the first floor of the Antler's. The following issue announced that Horton took a position with the bank.

The Oct. 16, 1919 paper assured its readers that a full crew of men were busy hastening the bank building to completion. Denver Mantel and Tile Co. was tiling the floor and entrances and installing the counter, railing and marble wainscoting. Ira Young from Cambria Fuel Co. did the electrical work, and a contractor named Statler was hired to direct the finish carpenter work. A bathroom was installed in the basement for employees and representatives, which was "a novel feature of the bank."

Evidently, the remodeling

project was finished because by the Nov. 6, 1919 paper, Krugland and Horton were "preparing to move back into their old home this week and feel like the prodigal sons after a long absence from the paternal roof." Additionally, First National Bank moved into its newly remodeled home at Mondell. The bank was established in 1904, with capital stock of \$25,000 and deposits of \$718,000. J.L. Baird was the president and E.P. Coyle was the cashier at that time. Around Sept. 15, 1909, First National Bank purchased the capital stock of Stock Growers & Merchants Bank to move into that building (which is the present location of the H&R Block, Cash said).

By May 13, 1920, First National Bank reached resources of more than a million dollars, and its new home in the Mondell building "equipped (it) with every modern convenience to expedite banking work." A gold leaf sign for the front of the building was installed, according to an article from June 10, 1920.

After closing up the dry goods shop at Mollring & Mollring, Clem Mollring and his family moved to San Diego, reported the June 8, 1920 paper.

In next week's installment of "History on Main," Cash will continue to discuss the history of First National Bank, which was eventually bought out by First State Bank, one of the many banks located in Newcastle over time.

Senior Happenings

WC Senior Services

Weston County Senior Services is opening effective March 8th for the following:

*Exercise Class Mon. & Wed 9a.m.

*Exercise Room open Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to noon (limit to 2 people at a time)

*Walking open Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to noon

*Various meetings & various clinics

*Monthly dances

**Not open as of now for dine in meals or Friday rolls

Call 746-4903 with any questions.

FRIDAY Mar 12

Exercise Room 8AM
Walking 8-12

MONDAY Mar 15

Exercise Class 9AM
Exercise Room 8-12
Walking 8-12

TUESDAY Mar 16

Exercise Room 8AM
Walking 8-12

WEDNESDAY Mar 17

Exercise Class 9AM
Exercise Room 8-12
Walking 8-12

THURSDAY Mar 18

Exercise Room 8AM
Walking 8-12

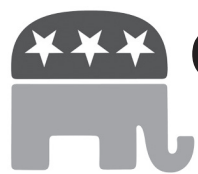
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Weston County Republican Party



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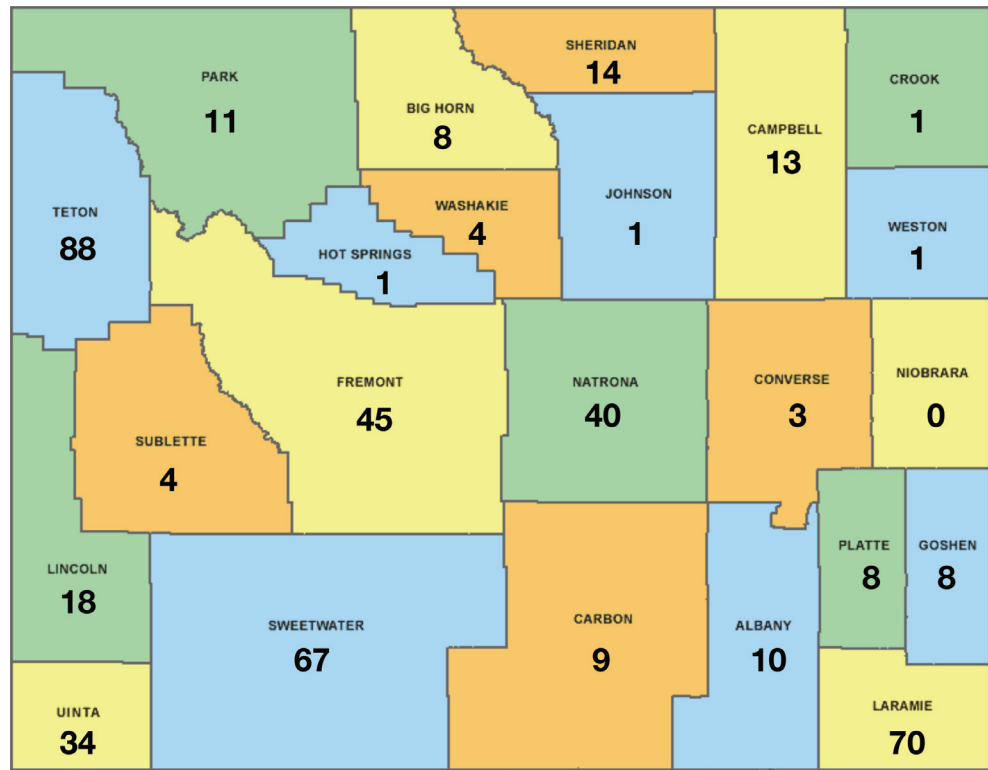


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Weston County is officially COVID-19 free, according to Weston County Public Health Nurse Lori Bickford. She reported early Tuesday, March 9, that the last active case in the county had officially recovered. On top of that, the county has not seen a confirmed case since March 1. "I am really happy with where we are at," Bickford told the *News Letter Journal*, adding that administering vaccines for the disease continues with a clinic Friday. Currently, Bickford reported, a total of 1,700 first doses of vaccines have been received with just over 1,200 of those being administered. Of those 1,200 who received their first dose of the vaccine, 700 also received their second dose. She noted that the number of second doses received is expected to increase over the next two weeks.

Ring

from Page 1.....

he had gone to an estate sale and purchased a box of antique cameras, and at the bottom of the box were four class rings. The man then tried to track down the owners, but he was only successful in finding two of the four owners. He found Chick through Facebook.



Submitted photo

David Chick's long-lost class ring was returned to him after 37 years.

Chick immediately asked the man what he could give him to get the ring back, he said, but the man said that all he needed was his address and he'd send the ring to Chick. After he received it in the mail later that week, he went home, where he tried on the ring, and much to his surprise, it fit.

"It hadn't been on my hand in 37 years," Chick said.

Chick's aunt was the first person he called to tell her he got his ring back, he said, and she was excited for him. He also took to Facebook to share

his interesting story, and his post received a lot of positive feedback, with over 600 likes and more than 200 comments.

Chick sent the Missouri man

a thank you card and something for his efforts to show his gratitude.

"There are good people out there," he said.

Racing

from Page 1.....

2019, according to Jerrard. A share of that money would come to Weston County, Newcastle and Upton once machines were in place.

Jerrard explained that the company hoped to have a resolution providing blanket access to bars in Weston County. This resolution, she said, would allow for up to four machines to be placed in any bar in Weston County, unless the municipalities of Upton or Newcastle restricted the gambling devices.

While passing the resolution would give Wyoming Downs access to Weston County locations, Jerrard reported that each specific location would be heavily reviewed and vetted by the Wyoming Gaming Commission.

"We have to approve the machines and locations. Blanket resolutions are not how the commission works," Jerrard said. "They go site by site, location by location. It is a long process. ... Everything has to be signed off on; there is scrutinizing in every location."

Before approval is granted to a location, the gaming commission requires blueprints of the bar, several cameras placed to monitor the machines, each individual machine examined and approved and the licensing

of all employees working with the machine through the commission, she said. Jerrard noted that training and licensing fees are absorbed by Wyoming Downs.

"We feel it is our responsibility to pay for the training and licensing. They have to be fingerprinted, have background checks and be licensed, and we cover all of that. We then do additional training on how the machines work when we go in," Jerrard said.

Commissioner Don Taylor questioned whether the board wanted to approve a blanket variance or if the commissioners should review each business that would receive the machines. Commissioner Nathan Todd also expressed concerns about underage use.

"There is nothing that compels the board to do blanket approval if they don't want to. The statute doesn't require you to approve one (individual business). You can nix it. You have the power to stop it," said Alex Berger, the county attorney. "I will say that the gaming commission is really powerful, and they do an excellent job of regulating. They have policy that matters, and they are a state entity that can be trusted to make sure it is

done right."

Chairman Marty Ertman expressed a personal dilemma with the board reviewing every business because "we could play the personality thing."

"I would rather them go through the process and have a non-local entity decide. Especially if they have to go through training," Ertman said.

"We would be adding another layer of bureaucracy. We are either for private property or not," Ertman continued. "I understand what you are saying, but as a private business owner, I should be able to do as I choose."

She said that the city of Newcastle and town of Upton have the authority to pass ordinances, which require three public hearings, if they choose to restrict the machines in city or town limits.

As for underage use, Jerrard said that the company will only put their machines in bars, where it is assumed that age-restrictive laws are already being followed.

Despite a consensus in support of Wyoming Downs bringing its business to Newcastle, the commissioners felt they needed more time before putting a resolution to a vote.

Camp

from Page 1.....

proposed to the Legislature, and if approved, the move would not take place until after July 1.

"The program for the men is being moved to the WSP to better utilize the space the Department of Corrections has available," the email says. "In the past few years, we have not had enough young men to fill the space, so we are relocating the program to a unit within a different prison. The women have previously been sent out of state to states that have youthful offender programs to participate in their program."

The space currently housing the program at the Newcastle facility will likely be used as a substance abuse treatment unit for female offenders, the email states. This should prevent the department from being forced to send females to county jails in the state due to overcrowding at the Wyoming Women's Center in Lusk.

"These moves should allow WDOC to house all Wyoming inmates in WDOC facilities," the email concludes.

The Wyoming Honor Conservation Camp now houses 223 inmates, with 79 staff members.



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Decker's
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Casino Royale



Photos by Walter Sprague/NLJ

The annual Newcastle Area Chamber of Commerce Banquet was held at the Weston County Event Center on Saturday, with 168 people in attendance for dinner, and more than 200 enjoying the event by the end of the evening. Catered by Isabella's, the crowd enjoyed a happy hour at 5 p.m. and a dinner at 6. The meal, consisting of a barbecue from brisket to chicken, baked potatoes, vegetables, and salad, was enjoyed by all, with many compliments given regarding the quality of the food. Shortly after that the audience was privileged to hear several speakers. They were Frank Eathorne, Sherri and Corey Steinmetz, Harriet Hageman, and the special guest speaker from Washington, D.C., the former Western Regional director for the Trump Campaign, Dave Huguenel. Many times during the course of the speeches, which included topics from free markets to reigning in government overreach, the audience applauded loudly. Also available for the fundraising event was a large silent auction of items and baskets of goodies from Weston County businesses and casino games after the speeches. While Sandy Martin said they made a profit for the event, the figures could not be released until after the board meeting. The master of ceremonies for the event was Holly Borton with Garrett Borton giving the invocation at the beginning. Top left, Dave Huguenel gives a speech to lift the spirits of the people, letting them know that it is not the elected officials who are ultimately in charge, but the public. At left, Wyoming GOP Chairman Frank Eathorne heads to the salad bar after filling his plate. Above, NACOC co-directors Barbie Turner and Martha Bickford are recognized by the chamber board members and given certificates of appreciation by Charlie Turner and Garrett Borton.



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Sara Thurgood, M.D.



Michael Carpenter, PA-C



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COMING UP:
NHS Ladies 3A State Championships
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Sports

News Letter Journal

SPORTS SCHEDULES

NEWCASTLE:
NHS Girls Basketball
 3/10 V 3A State Champ. @Casper A TBA
 3/11 V 3A State Champ. @Casper A TBA

NHS Boys Soccer
 3/8 J/V/V 1st Practice H TBA

NHS Girls Soccer
 3/8 J/V/V 1st Practice H TBA

NHS Track
 3/19 V9 Buffalo Tri A TBA

NMS Girls Soccer
 3/20 Tri @ Buffalo A TBA

NMS Boys Soccer
 3/20 Tri @ Buffalo A TBA

UPTON:
UHS Track
 3/26 Newcastle A TBA
 4/1 Jerry Campbell (Buffalo)A TBA

UMS Track
 3/27 Newcastle A 9AM

Heading to the finals

Sonja Karp
NLJ Sports Reporter

It's hard to beat a team three times, and head coach Chad Ostenson knew that heading into Thursday's 3A Northeast Quadrant state play-in game. This year's regional tournament was a one-and-done, do-or-die, high stakes format where if you won your first game, you qualified for the state tournament, but if you lost, your season was done.

As such, there was a whole season riding on the Lady Dogies' contest against the Lady Bison in Buffalo Thursday. Newcastle had defeated Buffalo twice in the regular season, and while the first win came pretty easily when they met at home in the Dogie Dome, the second time they played in Johnson County, it was a much closer contest.

"Hopefully the girls didn't know it, but when I knew our draw was Buffalo at Buffalo, I was pretty nervous," Ostenson admitted. "They remind me a lot of our team last year. They started slow, but have been improving throughout the season and peaking when they needed to peak. Their team built all year and they played us close at their place recently, so I knew that would give them confidence to play us again. I knew going in it

was going to be all we wanted and more."

The Lady Dogies started the contest out fast and had firm control of the game throughout the first two quarters of play, leading 13-8 at the end of one and 26-15 at the half.

"We knew the run was coming and we knew that Buffalo wouldn't roll over," Ostenson said. "They started to crawl out of the hole when we returned to play in the second half, and while we had several opportunities to put it away in regulation, we didn't shoot well from the line."

The Lady Bison out-scored Newcastle 9-7 in the third and 19-10 in the fourth quarter to tie things up at 43 at the end of regulation. An additional four minutes also finished with the

— See Ladies, Page 16

Photo courtesy of Jessi Dodge/
Buffalo Bulletin

Hunter McFarland, Tieran Stanton and Mercedes Voelker crash in on a rebound during the second half against Buffalo on Thursday, March, 4, 2021 at BHS. Newcastle won 64-61 in the final seconds of double overtime, knocking Buffalo out of the state tournament and advancing Newcastle.



Basic human decency

When we think about sportsmanship, the tendency is to consider sportsmanship exhibited by players or athletes who are competing.

We think about the character they display and how they conduct themselves in whatever venue they are playing.

However, sportsmanship extends beyond the court or the field, the mat or the pool. It encompasses coaches, officials and fans as well as athletes.

The other day, I saw a post on Facebook which consisted of just a picture. In the photo, a female high school basketball player was inbounding the ball on the sideline in front of her opponent's student section.

At least, I feel safe in assuming it is her opponent's student section.

The picture screamed a thousand words, and most of them were not good. As the player is

— See Karpe, Page 10



Bison end season for Dogie men

Sonja Karp
NLJ Sports Reporter

The Dogies ended their hoops season short of achieving their goal of earning a trip to the state tourney last Thursday. Head coach Allen Von Eye compared his squad's 25-71 loss against the Buffalo Bison at the Northeast Quadrant Regional

Tournament in Douglas as a succinct summation of a season which has presented its share of obstacles.

"What played out was ultimately an illustration of what our season was... inconsistency that we couldn't rise above," Von Eye sighed. "From the onset there was something that was in our way. There was always something we had to rise above, something we

had to re-track or readjust, and start all over — and that just made it tough."

As the No. 4 seed from the Northeast, the Dogies were tasked with taking on the very talented, No. 1-seeded Bison, so putting together a perfect game was of the utmost importance. Though they began the contest aggressively and jumped out to a quick 6-2 lead, Newcastle was unable to maintain their

momentum and quickly succumbed to Buffalo's arsenal.

"I figured they'd come out in man against us, but also figured that if we were successful in attacking their man defense they'd drop into their 3-2 pretty quick, and that's exactly what they did," Von Eye explained.

— See Men, Page 10

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Men from Page 9

“Our kids did a really nice job against their man initially. We got to the rim, and got some buckets and just did some really nice things inside.”

Buffalo quickly called a time-out to revamp their defensive approach, ramp up their pressure and switch to a zone. After the change-up, the Dogies initially got a little too quick-triggered offensively, which is what Von Eye explained has been an Achilles heel for his team against a zone, but they were also able to get some pretty good looks.

“When you have all those people in front of you in a zone, it makes it feel like those threes are wide open,” he frowned. “But when you’re an inconsistent shooting team, that’s exactly what the defense wants you to do. They’re baiting you into taking those perimeter shots, and trying to keep you away from the rim.”

The Dogies took the bait and put up four consecutive threes which were unsuccessful, while the Bison countered with buckets of their own to erase the Newcastle lead.

“When you go one-and-done against a good basketball team, you’re giving them the confidence they need,” said Von Eye. “They were a little shell shocked at the beginning. You could see it in their demeanor and in Tanner’s [Hart] demeanor. They weren’t expecting us to come out swinging like that, but they recovered, settled in and decided to take care of business.”

Newcastle just couldn’t get anything to fall after that. Even when they got to the rack, the ball just couldn’t find the bottom of the net.

“The urgency seemed to fade a bit, and the physicality we met at the rim also started to get to us and we started to fade or adjust our shots,” admitted Von Eye. “They are a good basketball team who do a lot of different things really well. We played pretty well defensively in spells, but at times it was a little bit ugly.”

Another big blow for the team is that their top two scorers were held to just three and nine points in the contest as the virus of good looks that

NHS Men’s Basketball

Newcastle v. Buffalo @ 3A NE Regionals in Douglas 3/4/21: 25-71
Zach Purviance: 9 points, 6 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal, 1 block, 2 charges taken
Tate Engle: 6 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal
Landon Engle: 3 points, 1 rebound, 1 block
Aidan Chick: 2 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals
Avery Chick: 3 points, 3 rebounds, 2 assists
Christian Santos: 1 assist
Gavin Gray: 2 points
Hayden Overman: 1 assist
Hogan Tystad: 2 points, 4 rebounds, 1 assist

four seniors in Purviance, Landon Engle, Christian Santos and Gray. “We’ve had them for all four seasons, and it’s something you never get used to even after 17 years of coaching,” Von Eye said. “They all had some really impactful contributions to our program whether it was on the floor or off. They are good kids who did some great things for us, and you could never question the effort they gave us. They will each go on to be successful in whatever avenue they choose because their work ethic is unquestionable.”

Von Eye reminded the returning players that one never knows when something might happen that takes opportunities away, so one must not take anything for granted.

“When you have moments that can make you better, you need to take advantage of those and use them to the best of your ability,” he said. “We’ve had two rough seasons in a row following two back-to-back state tournament appearances, and that wears on everyone. No one is satisfied, but we need to realize that all entities need to work together to change the trajectory.”

Off-season is just as important as basketball season, he noted.

“Whether we like it or not, the name of the game is to work in the off-season to improve your skills, and being a multi-sport athlete is also an advantage. Strength and athleticism are required to compete anymore and in-season work just isn’t enough,” Von Eye determined. “We want multiple sport athletes, and we support our kids in other sports and our goal is to work together with all the different sports to build up and encourage our kids during and out of the season. I look at the Buffalo model that dedicates one day a week to each sport for off-season development, and at this level, there is no reason why a kid should have to choose between sports.”

Von Eye is looking forward to having off-season training opportunities that were lost last year due to the COVID-19 shutdown in order to get his team on track to compete in the 21-22 winter season.

“They are a good basketball team who do a lot of different things really well. We played pretty well defensively in spells, but at times it was a little bit ugly.”

— Coach Allen Von Eye

didn’t translate into points attached itself to Landon Engle and Zach Purviance.

“Landon went 1-18 and Zach was 4-14 so when they go five for 32 that’s the story, because the name of the game is to put the ball through the hoop,” Von Eye pointed out. “They were taking good shots that, on any other day, would find the mark, but it just didn’t happen on Thursday.”

Unfortunately, the Dogies’ shooting drought hit at the most inopportune time of the season. After becoming a pretty accurate shooting squad in the latter third of the year, in the last three games the team has struggled to score.

The Bison, however, did not suffer an inability to put points on the board. They established a 30-point lead over Newcastle with 2:50 to play in the second quarter and hit the 40 point, mercy rule mark less than three minutes into the third. When all was said and done, the Bison ended the Dogies’ season.

Purviance led the team with nine points, Tate Engle followed with six, Landon Engle and Avery Chick each added three points while Gavin Gray and Hogan Tystad contributed two points apiece.

The Dogies are graduating

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Karpe from Page 9

waiting to pass the ball inbounds, she has many boys taunting her in the background. One is even leaned over and whispering in her ear.

She is exhibiting no signs of distress and appears to be entirely focused on the game, however the message being sent is clear.

Immediately, I felt that this situation was not okay, and I expected to see similar opinions as I clicked on the comments for the picture.

To my dismay, I actually saw more people comment that they were not offended by the image and the obvious display of extraordinarily poor sportsmanship!

People commented that putting up with fans is part of the game and if you want to play, you need to toughen up.

Or, life is hard and you need to be able to take it if you are going to succeed. You have to learn to tune that out.

Or, it’s only because the player is a girl being taunted by boys that people might be upset. I totally had to shake my head about that one.

Or, people who don’t think it’s okay just have a participation trophy mentality.

Or, how is it any different than when people make noise when a player is at the free-throw line?

My first response was, since when is it straight up acceptable to be horrible to people, regardless of the situation?

This is not the same as making noise when a

player is in the middle of the court. The young man whispering in her ear was not inhibited by social parameters because only she could hear him, and I would just about guarantee that what he was saying quietly, he would never have yelled across a gym.

In no other sport can the fans be that up close and personal as they can in a basketball game. I recall an incident several years ago when one of our Lady Dogies was physically grabbed by the opposing team’s student section when she was inbounding the ball in front of them.

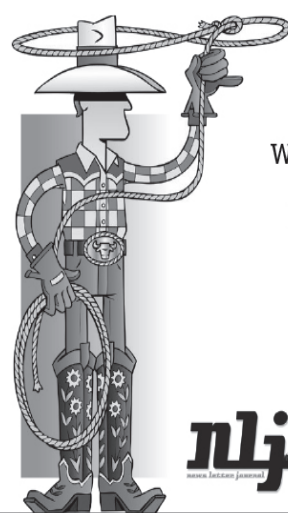
That was not okay.

At this same location a few years later, I sat next to the student section and was astonished to hear the sexual harassment our ladies had to endure during a volleyball game. I spoke to the students and to the athletic director about the behavior and was brushed off by both.

That was not okay.

Players know that the other team’s fans are going to taunt them, that is true. However no players — male or female — should be subjected to intimidation or just plain harassment by fans watching a sporting event.

I know that it’s been a long time since I was a player on the court, and that the game has changed a lot since then, but the expectation of basic human decency hasn’t. It’s not okay to treat any person like that young lady was being treated while she was playing a game.



Statewide News Coverage

We’ve lassoed the news from around the great state of Wyoming and are bringing the best stories to you on our News Letter Journal website. From the grizzlies in Yellowstone to the latest from the legislature in Cheyenne—we have the stories you want to know about.

Look for “The Cowboy State Tidbit”, a piece of Wyoming history, daily on the News Letter Journal FaceBook page.



Newcastle Dogies



FFA
2020-21



Bottom Left to Right: Harry Lichtenberger (11), LaKacee Lipp - President (11), Alyssa Morris - Sentinel (10), Chris Fullerton - Vice President (12), Tell Tavegie - Reporter (10), Kacy Jones - Treasurer (12), Bailey Benshoof - Secretary (11), Jill Pischke - Advisor. 2nd Row Left to Right: Jonathan Carlson (11), Rachel Sweet (11), Hailey Wehri (12), Cole Wehri (9), Josh Womack (11), Callie Hiser (11), Pate Tavegie (9). 3rd Row left to Right: JJ Lipp (9), Parker Stevens (9), Quint Perino (10), Teegan Hatheway (9), JR Graham (9), Riley Lewis (11). Top Row left to Right: Peyton Crinklaw (12), Jayde Harrington (9), Leo Orban (11), Taylor Crinklaw (9), Brook Martell (10). Not pictured: Shane Baire (10).

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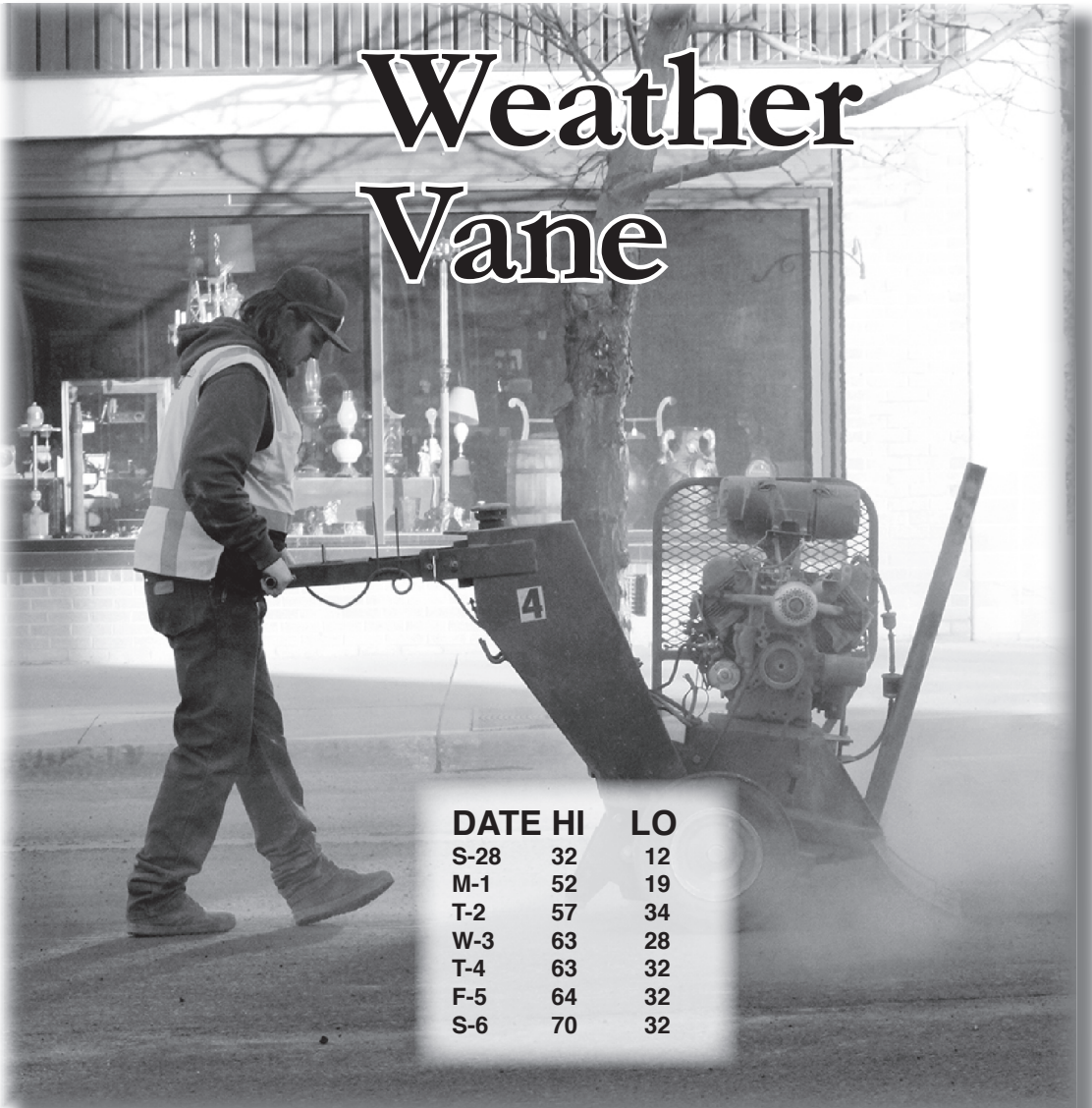
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F-5	64	32
S-6	70	32

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To apply, you must submit a cover letter, resume, and Weston County Museum District application. All three must be submitted in order to be considered for the position.

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Anna Miller Museum, 401 Delaware Ave. Newcastle, WY 82701 or
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Interested parties out of the area may contact the Anna Miller Museum at 307-746-4188 or annamiller@rtconnect.net to request an application & job description
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(Publish March 11, 18 and 25, 2021)

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Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

Weston County Museum District has an opening to fill the unexpired term of a District Board Member.

Position runs from April 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024.

Deadline to apply is 2:00 P.M. March 29, 2021. Interested parties must be Weston County residents. Please send a letter of interest and qualifications to:

Weston County Museum District
P.O. Box 698
Newcastle, WY 82701

Or

Weston County Museum District
401 Delaware
Newcastle, WY 82701

(Publish March 11, 18 and 25, 2021)

Public Notice

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, DIVISION OF AIR QUALITY PUBLIC NOTICE:

In accordance with Chapter 6, Section 2(m) of the Wyoming Air Quality Standards and Regulations, notice is hereby given that the State of Wyoming, Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality, proposes to approve a request by Enterprise Jonah Gas Gathering Company LLC to permit blowdowns, venting and portable flaring during construction and/or maintenance events at pipelines located within Albany, Big Horn, Campbell, Carbon, Converse, Crook, Fremont, Goshen, Hot Springs, Johnson, Laramie, Lincoln, Natrona, Niobrara, Park, Platte, Sheridan, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton, Uinta, Washakie, and Weston Counties, Wyoming.

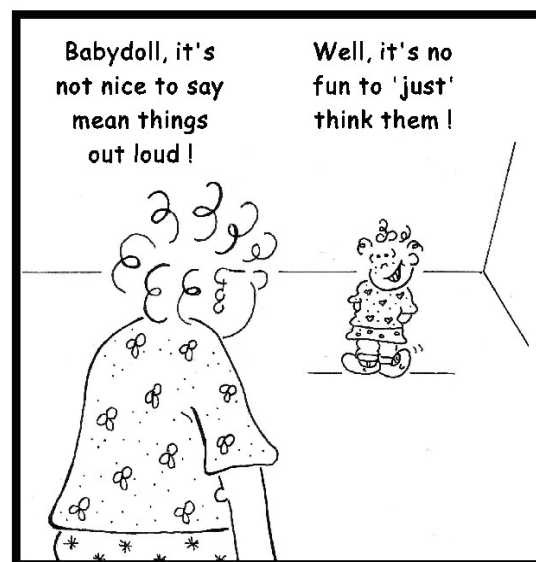
For the duration of the public comment period, the permit application, the agency's analysis, and the public notice are available for public inspection online at <https://openair.wyo.gov>, utilizing facility ID F030183 and permit number P0029966 under permits. Additionally, during the state of emergency declared by Governor Gordon on March 13, 2020, if you have questions about or need assistance accessing the materials, please contact Nancy Vehr, Air Quality Division Administrator, Department of Environmental Quality, 200 West 17th St., Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, by fax at 307-635-1784, via phone at 307-777-3746, or via email at Nancy.vehr1@wyo.gov. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, special assistance or alternate formats will be made available upon request for individuals with disabilities.

Written comments may be directed to Nancy Vehr, Administrator, Division of Air Quality, Department of Environmental Quality, 200 West 17th St., Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002 or by fax (307) 635-1784. Please reference A0011625 in your comment. In addition, comments can be submitted electronically at <http://aq.wyomingdeq.commentinput.com>. However, comments submitted by email will not be included in the administrative record. All comments received by 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 13, 2021 will be considered in the final determination on this application. A public hearing will be conducted only if in the opinion of the administrator sufficient interest is generated or if an aggrieved party so requests. For the duration of the state of emergency declared by Governor Gordon on March 13, 2020, public hearings will be conducted telephonically. Para español, visite deq.wyoming.gov.

(Publish March 11, 2021)

Gwamma

by JaNel M. Farnsworth



Fun and Games

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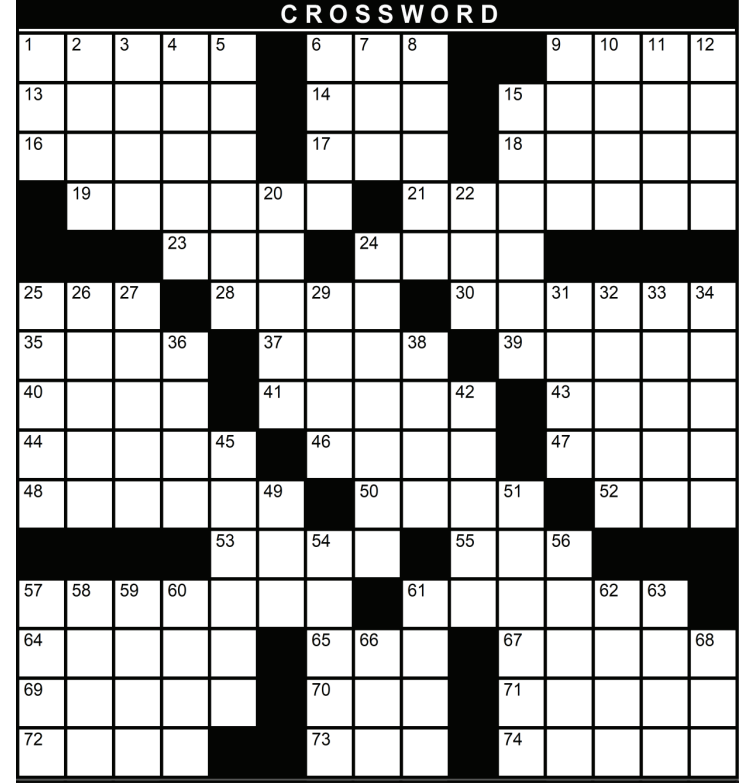
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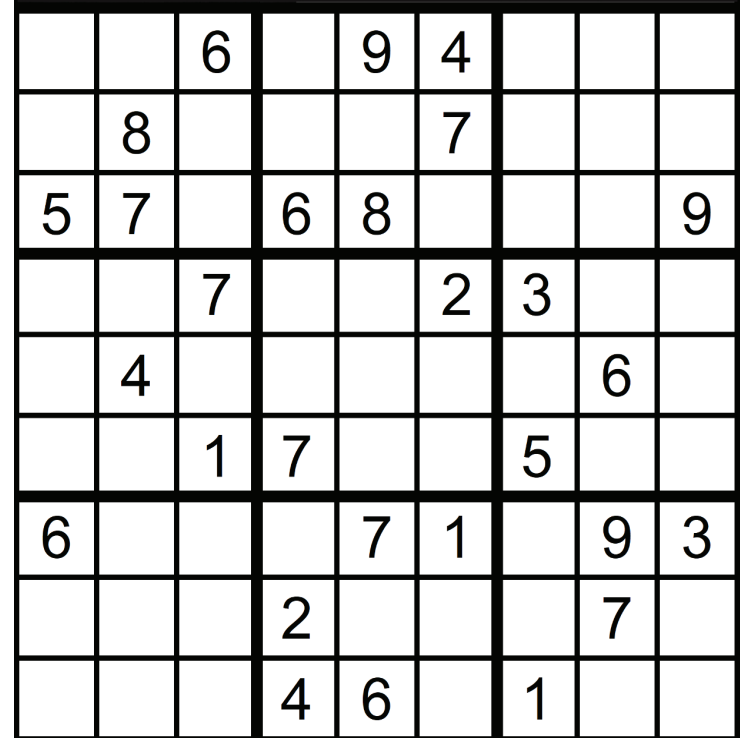
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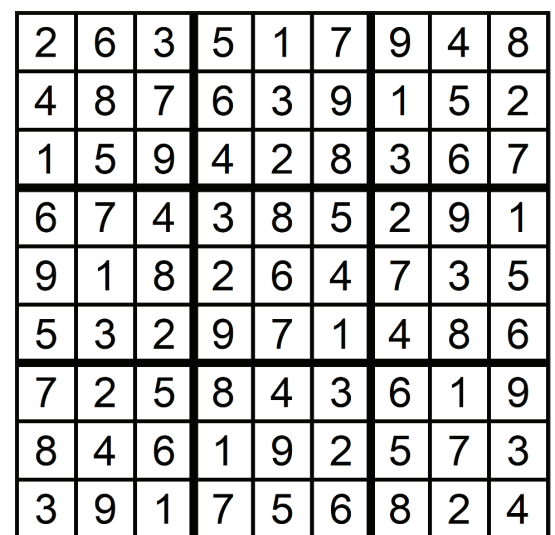
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Table with 2 columns: Categories/Number of Personnel and Total Annual Gross Salaries. Includes sections for ADMINISTRATION, SECONDARY, SECONDARY EXTRA-DUTY, ELEMENTARY, ELEMENTARY EXTRA-DUTY, DISTRICT-WIDE SERVICES, DISTRICT-WIDE EXTRA-DUTY, SUPPORT STAFF, and GRAND TOTAL.

Cowboy State Look-In

Courtesy of the Wyoming News Exchange



Unemployment rate down

CHEYENNE (WNE) — The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported Monday that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell from 5.2% in December to 5.1% in January. Wyoming has recently completed a comprehensive annual revision of its unemployment data. The revised data show that the state's unemployment rate peaked at 8.5% in May 2020 and has steadily decreased since then. Wyoming's January unemployment rate of 5.1% was much lower than the U.S. rate of 6.3%. Most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and increased from December to January. Unemployment rates often rise in January as seasonal job losses are seen in many sectors, including construction, retail trade, transportation & warehousing, leisure and hospitality, and government. The largest jobless rate increases were seen in Sublette (up from 6.7% to 8.3%), Big Horn (up from 4.7% to 6.2%), Niobrara (up from 3.9% to 5.2%), and Hot Springs (up from 4.4% to 5.6%) counties. From January 2020 to January 2021, unemployment rates rose in nearly every county. The largest increases were seen in areas of the state dominated by the energy sector. Converse County's unemployment rate rose from 3.5% to 6.7%, Natrona County's rate rose from 5.2% to 8.2%, Campbell County's rate rose from 4.4% to 7.0%, and Sweetwater County's rate rose from 6.2% to 7.7%. In contrast to those increases, Big Horn County's unemployment rate was unchanged from a year earlier at 6.2%.

Shield law gains house support

CHEYENNE — The Wyoming House of Representatives gave initial approval Thursday to a bill that would prevent journalists from being sued to disclose their confidential sources, a protection often referred to as a shield law. House Bill 103, which gained committee approval Monday, would protect journalists in Wyoming from being held in contempt of court for refusing to disclose a confidential source or piece of information during a legal proceeding. If approved, Wyoming would join 48 other states that have some version of shield law in place, with Hawaii being the only other state to lack any protection after its shield law expired in 2015. During testimony in the House Judiciary Committee, journalists from several Wyoming news outlets spoke of the need for a shield law, arguing it is essential for investigative reporting and transparency. Bill sponsor Rep. Dan Zwonitzer, R-Cheyenne, told his colleagues Thursday on the House floor that a shield law would also protect sources who otherwise may not be willing to speak about a controversial topic. "You're more likely to say some bad things are going on in your company or the government or business if your anonymity can be protected, what we call 'off the record,'" Zwonitzer said. There was little debate over the proposal on the floor, as lawmakers advanced the bill by a voice vote shortly after adopting the amendment. Last year, a similar shield law proposal fell three votes short of being introduced in the House. House Bill 103 will need two more votes in its originating chamber before it could head to the Senate for further consideration.

Bill to cut k-12 funding advances

CHEYENNE (WNE) — The House Education Committee voted 5-4 Friday afternoon to pass a bill that would cut \$30 million worth of K-12 funding over the next three years. House Bill 173 proposes a mix of cost-saving and revenue-raising measures to balance a \$300 million shortfall in the state's K-12 education budget. If passed in its current form, the bill would earmark a 1% sales tax hike for education, redirect funds from the state's savings accounts to the state's school foundation program account and make some adjustments to the education model. The adjustments include the following: increasing class sizes by two students; increasing teacher salaries by 10% and reducing administrative salaries by the same amount and increasing school districts' allowable cash reserves from 15% to 25%. That would equate to about a \$10 million cut each year for the next three years. "If you add all of those things up — when the 1% sales tax kicks in — it would equal over \$300 million" in savings, Rep. Albert Sommers, R-Pinedale, said. House Bill 173 is a substitute for a bill drafted by the Select Committee on School Finance Recalibration, which originally proposed a \$100 million cut to the school foundation program account. The House Education Committee debated amendments all week. Some lawmakers, including Rep. Cathy Connolly, D-Laramie, raised questions about altering the Legislature's education model, which prescribes things like pay and classroom size. In the end, Reps. Landon Brown, R-Cheyenne; Steve Harshman, R-Casper; Sandy Newsome, R-Cody; Sommers and Committee Chair Jerry Paxton, R-Encampment, voted to advance the bill as amended, which now moves to the House floor for consideration.

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Public Notice

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, DIVISION OF AIR QUALITY PUBLIC NOTICE: In accordance with Chapter 6, Section 2(m) of the Wyoming Air Quality Standards and Regulations, notice is hereby given that the State of Wyoming, Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality, proposes to approve a request by Enterprise Jonah Gas Gathering Company LLC to construct and operate portable tanks, stationary tanks, pig receivers and launchers for Statewide Piggings Activities at pipelines located within Albany, Big Horn, Campbell, Carbon, Converse, Crook, Fremont, Goshen, Hot Springs, Johnson, Laramie, Lincoln, Natrona, Niobrara, Park, Platte, Sheridan, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton, Uinta, Washakie, and Weston Counties, Wyoming. For the duration of the public comment period, the permit application, the agency's analysis, and the public notice are available for public inspection online at https://openair.wyo.gov, utilizing facility ID F030192 and permit number P0029967 under permits. Additionally, during the state of emergency declared by Governor Gordon on March 13, 2020, if you have questions about or need assistance accessing the materials, please contact Nancy Vehr, Air Quality Division Administrator, Department of Environmental Quality, 200 West 17th St., Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, by fax at 307-635-1784, via phone at 307-777-3746, or via email at Nancy.vehr1@wyo.gov. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, special assistance or alternate formats will be made available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Written comments may be directed to Nancy Vehr, Administrator, Division of Air Quality, Department of Environmental Quality, 200 West 17th St., Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002 or by fax (307) 635-1784. Please reference A0011656 in your comment. In addition, comments can be submitted electronically at http://aq.wyomingdeq.commentinput.com. However, comments submitted by email will not be included in the administrative record. All comments received by 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 13, 2021 will be considered in the final determination on this application. A public hearing will be conducted only if in the opinion of the administrator sufficient interest is generated or if an aggrieved party so requests. For the duration of the state of emergency declared by Governor Gordon on March 13, 2020, public hearings will be conducted telephonically. Para español, visite deq.wyoming.gov. (Publish March 11, 2021)

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CARD OF THANKS

The family of John R. Larsen would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to Pastor Bill Haley for the beautiful service and kind words. Thank you to Pastor Wayne Wilson and the ladies of Church on the Hill for the help with the service and the coffee and desserts served after. A very "special" thank you to Mark Williams for his beautiful voice and touching music tribute. Thank you to Meridian Mortuary and staff for helping us through this difficult time and putting together the keepsake photo tribute. A note of gratitude to the First Responders for their care and concern. There are not enough words to express how

grateful we are for the love and caring we have received from family, friends and neighbors through all the phone calls, visits, cards, food, flowers and memorial contributions. We are truly blessed with the outpouring of support in our loss.

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TOPS meets at three Newcastle locations each week: Tuesday at 4 at First United Methodist Church, call Joyce Brown at 629-1033; Thursday at 8 at WC Senior Center, call JoAnn Dunn at 746-2654; and at 9 am Thursdays at First Baptist Church, call Ellen Butts at 746-4251. All are welcome!

AA Meetings

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Notice

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- There is no evidence of voter impersonation (HB0075)
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 (Publish February 25 and March 4 and 11, 2021)

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Photo by Tyler Sage/NLJ

Shelby Tidyman looks to escape a trap set by the Lady Bulldog defense in the seeding game on Saturday at Cheyenne Central. The Lady Dogies cruised to a pretty easy 45-25 victory to claim the No. 3 seed from the East.

Ladies from Page 9

teams tied, so they went to a second overtime.

The final eight minutes were a slug fest with each landing blows, but neither were willing to concede. The Lady Dogies had the clock on their side and were able to land the deciding punch giving them the 64-61 victory and securing their spot in the 3A State Tournament.

“The game was what I thought it was going to be. They’re good and I knew it was going to be a battle,” Ostenson nodded. “I’m so proud of all our kids for stepping up and doing what they needed to do to get it done.”

Jaylen Ostenson led her team with a double double, scoring 27 points and pulling down 11 boards. Shelby Tidyman poured in 19 points of her

own while Mercedes Voelker had eight, Hunter McFarland six and Tiernan Stanton added four points and also pulled down 11 rebounds.

The regional tournament was so much different this season with the first game being as high of stakes as it gets, and once it was done and the state tournament berth secured, the Lady Dogies turned their attention to the Northeast Quadrant seeding contest against Douglas.

“The girls had a sandwich and I had three girls with their ankles in an ice bath, and we were just happy to be playing again,” Ostenson chuckled. “We were tired but we got to try some things out against Douglas and got some new ideas. It was a valuable

game because it was another shot to try to figure out how to get a win.”

Newcastle dropped that contest 38-78, however the Bearcats didn’t succeed in slapping the mercy rule on Ostenson’s crew and everyone got the chance to get on the court and play in a regional game. In addition, Stanton was able to put a feather in her cap as she successfully blocked 6-foot-5-inch Allyson Fertig on one of her shots.

Ostenson finished with another double double, scoring 13 points and nabbing 10 rebounds. Two others were in double figures as Tidyman put in 11 points while McFarland added 10 of her own. Shawnee Miles got in on the action with five points, Stanton added four,



Photo by Tyler Sage/NLJ

Tiernan Stanton used her height advantage to catch an inbound pass over a Wheatland defender. The Lady Dogies defeated the Lady Bulldogs in the seeding game on Saturday in Cheyenne so will take on Lander, the No. 2 seed from the West, in their opening contest at the 3A State Tournament Wednesday morning at Casper College.

MacKenzie Conzelman put in three while Jayde Harrington contributed two points.

As the No. 2 seed from the Northeast, the Lady Dogies headed to Cheyenne Central on Saturday to take on the Wheatland Lady Bulldogs who earned the No. 1 seed from the Southeast. In the two meetings during the regular season, Newcastle defeated Wheatland the first time by one in overtime and the second time by 11.

In Saturday’s state seeding contest, the Lady Dogies dominated, leading the Lady Bulldogs 10-2 at the end of one, 18-8 at the half, 40-16 at the end of the third and 45-25 at the final buzzer.

In the third quarter, the Lady Dogies put on a three-point shooting clinic for everyone in the gym as they hit five consecutive from beyond the arc, and sandwiched a third between a bunny and a couple of free-throws.

That kind of shooting streak from your opponent is demoralizing in and of itself, however Newcastle made it worse for Wheatland as those six threes came from five different Lady Dogies. Voelker, McFarland, Conzelman and Ostenson hit one apiece while Tidyman sank two from beyond the arc.

“It really was a fun game and it’s super fun when the girls get into a rhythm like that,” Ostenson said. “Not only

did we shoot pretty well, finishing with 10 threes overall, defensively we played really well.”

With the win the Lady Dogies earned the No. 3 seed from the east so will face off against Lander in the opening matchup at the state tournament on Wednesday morning.

“Lander is solid but we match up a little better with them than with Lyman. They are athletic, they’ll be pressuring us and they have one really good shooter so we will need to bring our defense with us this weekend,” Ostenson determined. “Playing Douglas has done us a world of good when it comes to playing against pressure. Hopefully, they have toughened us up a little bit and enough to get to see them in the semifinals on Wednesday evening.”

Newcastle will play this first game at Casper College which may be beneficial over playing in the wide open spaces of the Wyoming Ford Center (formerly the Casper Event Center), and only Newcastle and Lyman got a chance to play in the state tournament last year so hopefully that will play to their advantage as well.

“You have to beat the best team in the state to win a state title so hopefully we’ll do that this weekend,” Ostenson said. “Teams at the state tournament are there for a reason. We have to take care of business if

NHS Ladies’ Basketball

3A East Regional Tournament
Newcastle v. Buffalo 3/4/21: 64-61 2OT
 Mercedes Voelker: 8 points, 3 rebounds, 4 assists, 1 steal
 Jaylen Ostenson: 27 points, 11 rebounds, 5 assists, 4 steals, 1 charge taken
 Shelby Tidyman: 19 points, 2 rebounds, 3 assists, 2 steals
 Hunter McFarland: 6 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals
 Tiernan Stanton: 4 points, 11 rebounds, 2 blocks

Newcastle v. Douglas 3/4/21: 48-78
 Mercedes Voelker: 1 rebound, 1 assists
 Jaylen Ostenson: 13 points, 10 rebounds, 4 assists, 1 steal
 Shelby Tidyman: 11 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals
 Hunter McFarland: 10 points, 3 rebounds
 Tiernan Stanton: 4 points, 1 rebound, 2 assists, 2 blocks
 Claire Beasstrom: 2 rebounds
 MacKenzie Conzelman: 3 points, 6 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal
 Shawnee Miles: 5 points, 2 rebounds, 3 assists, 2 steals
 Jayde Harrington: 2 points, 1 rebound

Newcastle v. Wheatland @ Cheyenne Central 3/6/21: 45-25
 Mercedes Voelker: 6 points, 6 rebounds, 1 assist
 Jaylen Ostenson: 21 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals, 1 block
 Shelby Tidyman: 6 points, 5 rebounds, 7 assists, 1 steal
 Hunter McFarland: 3 points, 4 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals
 Tiernan Stanton: 2 points, 8 rebounds, 1 block
 Claire Beasstrom: 2 rebounds, 1 assist
 MacKenzie Conzelman: 3 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist
 Shawnee Miles: 4 points, 3 rebounds
 Ana Baeza: 1 rebound

we want to bring home some hardware.”

The quarterfinal game will tip off at 10:30 on Wednesday morning. With a win, the Lady Dogies will play at 6 p.m. at the Wyoming Ford Center, or with a loss they will play at 9 a.m. on Thursday morning at Casper College.

COVID-19

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