

## City to relocate its police, dispatch

**Alexis Barker**  
NLJ News Editor

In response to the ultimatum given to the city of Newcastle by the Board of Weston County Commissioners

regarding that body's dispatch concerns, the city has decided to move the dispatch center and the Newcastle Police Department to City Hall by March 8, 2022. The decision was made after an executive session during

the City Council's Sept. 20 meeting. "There are concerns that this may affect how the agencies work together, but that was already a concern," Mayor Pam Gualtieri told the *News Letter Journal*. "Hopefully,

it is kind of like a bad marriage. Once you finally get divorced, you finally get along." She said that the city hopes that the entities involved in emergency services in the county can continue

to work together so that public safety needs are met. The commissioners expressed similar hopes after Gualtieri delivered the news

— See **Police**, Page 2

## 'Between a rock and a rock'

■ *Hospital board struggles with vaccine mandates*

**Alexis Barker**  
NLJ News Editor

As the Biden administration continues to roll out proposed COVID-19 vaccine mandates, the Weston County Health Services board of trustees is vigilant in keeping up-to-date on what may yet come and what the potential impacts on the local facilities could be.

On Sept. 16, the board discussed what is known about the vaccine mandates with concerned members of the public who attended the meeting. Members of the public who spoke expressed the belief the hospital and clinics should not enforce the mandates because individuals should be able to make choices regarding their own health care.

"Right now, there is no date. There is no real information," CEO Maureen Cadwell said. "We heard last week that they have extended the mandate to all facilities that receive Medicare and Medicaid funding. We are trying to figure out what that means financially and staffing wise."

She noted that Weston County is not the only facility

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## District examines test scoring

**Alexis Barker**  
NLJ News Editor

WY-TOPP scores released in late August show varied results across Weston County School District No. 1, according to Sonya Tysdal, curriculum coordinator. Rankings for each grade, third through 10th, vary from the top quartile to near the bottom of the 48 districts in the state.

"Keep in mind, this is one measurement of student learning," Tysdal told the board of trustees on Sept. 8 when presenting an overview of the WY-TOPP 2021 scores.

She noted that while there were several "celebrations" in the district scores, there were also areas where students didn't perform the way the district would have hoped.

In celebrations in math, Tysdal highlighted the seventh grade. This class was ranked sixth in the state, with 64.71% of the students rated as proficient or advanced. In eighth grade testing, there was an increase of 21.8% in the number

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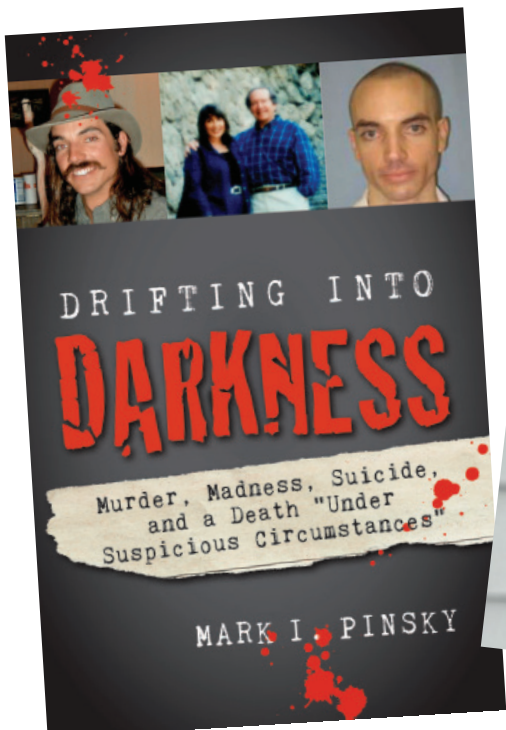
## Newly crowned



Photo by Alexis Barker/NLJ

On Monday afternoon Newcastle High School seniors Shawnee Miles and Slade Roberson were crowned 2021 Homecoming queen and king in a coronation ceremony at the high school. Make sure to check out all this week's homecoming activities including powderpuff football Tuesday at 6:30 p.m., dodge ball Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., the parade Friday at 2 p.m. and both the high school volleyball and football games Friday evening, with varsity starting at 6 p.m.

## Pinsky book featuring Caroline Scoutt available next year



**Alexis Barker**  
NLJ News Editor

True crime author Mark Pinsky's book "Drifting into Darkness," featuring former Weston County resident, and reportedly deceased, Caroline Scoutt is now available through pre-order. The official publica-

Submitted photos

**True crime author and former journalist Mark Pinsky's newest book highlights the crimes tied to former Weston County resident Caroline Scoutt. The book, "Drifting into Darkness," is scheduled to be released early next year.**

tion date falls in January 2022.

In the works for several years, Pinsky's newest book covers crimes associated with Scoutt. The main focus of the book, Pinsky said, are the murders of the affluent Springford couple in Montgomery, Alabama.

Charged with his parents' murder, Brent Springford Jr. had lived with Scoutt before the incident. The young man later died in prison of an apparent suicide.

While chasing the Springford murder story, Pinsky made his way west to Colorado where Brent and Scoutt had lived.

"When I went out West, I thought I was pretty much done. That was before Campbell's body was found," Pinsky said.

"Then (Richard) Campbell's body was found, and all of the sudden the book wasn't over."

The author was struck by the number of similarities between both Springford and Campbell and their relationship with Scoutt.

According to Pinsky, over several years Springford's parents had given about \$1 million in cash, vehicles and a home to Scoutt and their son after Scoutt had presented herself as a caregiver who could help him work through issues that had plagued him for years. Pinsky said that the items were essentially given to Scoutt, but the family eventually

— See **Book**, Page 11

**WEATHER FORECAST**

**Thursday**  
Partly Cloudy  
Hi 74, Lo 45



**Friday**  
Mostly Sunny  
Hi 67, Lo 43



**Saturday**  
Sunny  
Hi 76, Lo 50



**Sunday**  
Sunny  
Hi 82, Lo 51



**Monday**  
Sunny  
Hi 80, Lo 53



**Tuesday**  
Mostly Sunny  
Hi 75, Lo 48



**Wednesday**  
Partly Cloudy  
Hi 75 Lo 48



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## Testing from Page 1

of students who tested at an advanced or proficient level, ranking that grade 14th in the state with 61.4% of students scoring advanced or proficient.

In reading, grades six, eight and 10 all performed well enough to be ranked in the top quartile of the state. The highest ranking in the district goes to the eighth grade with 75.44% of students placing in the proficient or advanced categories, ranking them fourth in the state.

Tenth grade is ranked seventh in the state, with 66.67% of the students achieving an advanced or proficient score. Sixth grade had the same percentage of students scoring high enough, ranking that grade at 12th in the state. The sixth grade also achieved a 13.47% increase in reading scores from the previous year.

The test scores indicate several areas where the district needs to aim for improvement. Tysdal said it is hard to pinpoint a definitive answer as to why scores were low.

"There are always a variety of reasons, you can't narrow it down. I think some of the significant decreases ... last year coming off of COVID-19," Tysdal said.

The grades experiencing the biggest drops were ninth and tenth grade in math and fifth grade in reading.

In math, only 24.19% of the ninth grade achieved a proficient or advanced score, ranking that grade 44th in the state. This is a 25.81% decrease from previous scores.

Tenth grade was ranked 45th in math, with 31.48% of students scoring high enough to be proficient or advanced, down 38.32% from the previous year.

In reading, the fifth grade was ranked 38th in the state, with 45.59% of the students testing at proficient or advanced levels, down 22.91% from the previous year.

"There was brand new curriculum in math and reading," Tysdal said, noting that this could have had an impact on student scores. "Last year was our first year of implementing new math curriculum. They (the state) couldn't have timed it worse. We also didn't have a true fourth quarter the year before. There are a few gaps, but nothing we can't overcome."

She added that there are also individual situations with certain students that are even more challenging to address.

Newcastle Elementary School Principal Brandy Holmes said that several of the students had not taken a test "of this magnitude."

"We usually teach test-taking skills," Holmes said, which could have played a role in scores.

"We are throwing a giant test at those kids that we didn't prepare them for because we were focusing on something else," she said.

## Hospital from Page 1

in the state facing the same concerns and that currently health care facilities across the state are on standby, waiting for the specifics on the mandates.

"Statewide, it is a concern. There isn't a lot we can do besides wait for the regulations from CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services)," Cadwell said.

At this time, 61% of Weston County Health Services' employees have been fully vaccinated, according to Cadwell. The district employs approximately 200 people between the hospital, clinics and other operations.

According to Cadwell, the district looks to lose roughly \$15 million if it does not enforce the federal vaccine mandate by CMS. These reimbursements include costs at the hospital, nursing home and clinic services for people on Medicare and Medicaid.

Charlie Turner, director of human resources for the district, said that the mandate is being considered legal as long as there are accommodations for religious and medical situations.

"One of the few times I talked to our attorneys, they said they didn't know. This is an unprecedented situation," he said.

Legally, the district could terminate employees that did not abide by the mandates. He noted that this is something the facilities must be prepared to do if the individual refuses to comply and does not qualify for the exemptions.

"I want to know how to keep employees, what we can do to not lose them," Turner said. "We definitely want to focus on the accommodations and the process we have to do."

According to Turner, there are several questions that accompany each of the accommodations for either medical or religious exemption from the vaccine requirements. He said that the facilities must be prepared to answer to CMS in these instances.

"We are between a rock and a rock. We will lose employees if we do, and if we don't, we lose money," Cadwell said, adding that the facility would prefer to leave the choice to vaccinate up to the individual employee.

"We do have to continue to provide education to the staff. It may be viewed, as we are constantly putting it out there, but we are required to do that," Cadwell said.

Several board members, including LeAnn Kenagy, Lisa Foster and Connie James, stated that they were against providing incentives to employees who receive the vaccine. Turner said that this is one thing health officials with the state are trying to push on facilities before the mandate is implemented.

"I am hearing that is coercion," James said. Cadwell, on the other hand, said that she has heard that employees would step up to get the vaccine if there was financial incentive.

"I don't think we should do a vaccine bonus; I firmly believe that," Foster said, adding that she does believe that extra pay should be provided to those working through the most recent COVID-19 flare-up in the community.

While the board did not approve a vaccine incentive, it did approve \$3 an hour extra for staff, for a 10-week period. They also approved a \$400 bonus to employees who pick up additional 8-hour shifts during that time.

At this time, Cadwell said there is no release date for the mandates and that the facilities and their administrators are waiting for further direction as they continue to encourage employees to vaccinate.

“We are between a rock and a rock. We will lose employees if we do, and if we don't, we lose money.”

*Maureen Cadwell, WCHS CEO*

## Police from Page 1

on Sept. 21 during the commissioners regular meeting.

"From my perspective, the intent is to serve the community in the best possible way. ... We have to address the concerns of everyone," Commissioner Don Taylor said. "I hope we can resolve this in a way that works for everyone."

Gualtieri explained that the council, police department and dispatch are willing to continue working with the county while providing dispatch services to all of the county's entities from the new location.

The council, commissioners and other entities – potentially including the town of Upton, Weston County Sheriff's Department, EMS and fire services — will meet to continue discussions regarding dispatch services on Oct. 19. An official time and location for this discussion is yet to be determined.

In response to the county's concerns regarding dispatch's handling of calls, Gualtieri said that dispatch personnel prioritized calls "properly" based on the nature of the calls and conveyed the information they were able to gather.

"The last thing dispatch wants is a threat to an officer, deputy, firefighter or EMT," Gualtieri said. "Their safety is just as important as their own."

The city also provided updates on its potential decision to go with the CIS-updated program rather than switching to the Spillman system as the county had wished. As previously reported, the Spillman system would have cost the city and county over \$500,000, and the city rescinded its motion to pay half of that amount in favor of an update to the current system.

"They talked about how we abruptly rescinded the motion on Aug. 17. Chairman Ertman (Marty) was notified a week before on Aug. 9," Gualtieri said.

According to Gualtieri, the city has to be fiscally responsible and that the CIS system saves a significant amount of money.

In regards to addressing technical issues with dispatch and patrol vehicles, the council accepted a bid from Motorola to replace radios. The total cost of the bid was \$296,000.

"This will solve the No. 1 problem. Everything (CAD updates) is a want. The radios is a need being taken care of," Gualtieri said, noting that the CAD system updates should be available by the end of the year.

“There are concerns that this may affect how the agencies work together, but that was already a concern. Hopefully, it is kind of like a bad marriage. Once you finally get divorced, you finally get along.”

*Pam Gualtieri, Newcastle Mayor*

**NLJ deadline is Friday at noon.**

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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.

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## WHY

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



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# We are building a thriving Wyoming

As Wyoming's economy and her communities continue their recovery from the impacts of the global pandemic, the state is now faced with a new challenge. How do we best utilize the additional stimulus funds the federal

**Governor Mark Gordon**  
Guest Column

government has appropriated to help Wyoming regain its footing? The American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds are one-time infusions that can help build a stronger, more resilient Wyoming, and they should be treated as such. We have an opportunity to use these dollars to shape the future of our state, and it's important to maximize the opportunity before us.

I have outlined an approach to help Wyoming survive the initial impacts of COVID and identify what can be done to better drive to a future where all of Wyoming can thrive – this is my Survive, Drive, Thrive plan.

Last year, when Wyoming received \$1.25 billion as part of the CARES Act, I worked with the Legislature to get those funds out the door to help Wyoming residents respond to the pandemic. I'm proud that Wyoming spent more per capita on business relief than any other state. We ensured that our businesses had access to emergency funds in order to survive those challenging early months of the pandemic.

While we were given a tight timeline to spend those original CARES funds, we have three years to spend this second round.

We have time to identify needs and strategize deployment of these dollars, with an eye on the long-term benefits for the people of

Wyoming. Our great-grandchildren will be paying for this government funding. They also deserve to benefit from it.

Wyoming will receive approximately \$1.5 billion from the ARP, which is to be distributed by the executive branch. Additionally, \$182 million is going directly to cities, towns and counties in Wyoming, \$347 million is heading to K-12 schools and higher education institutions, and even more funding is heading directly to agencies to provide assistance to childcare centers, behavioral health clinics, community health centers, and other vital community resources.

As part of the "Survive" phase, we used remaining CARES funds to address challenges arising from the ongoing impacts of the pandemic. I directed these to be used to:

- Stabilize staffing levels at Wyoming healthcare facilities,
- Provide tax relief for businesses,
- Increase employment and activity in our oil and gas industry,
- Stimulate our tourism economy and expand state parks camping,

- Shore up our meat processing industry,
- Enhance broadband access for virtual work, healthcare, and learning opportunities and
- Expand substance use disorder treatment options and youth crisis services.

We can now pivot to the "Drive" and "Thrive" phases of Wyoming's recovery. I am committed to setting our state up for long-term success, not merely balancing the budgets of today's operational activities.

I have prioritized that ARP funds be directed towards health and social services, education and workforce training, and economic diversification and development. My office provided a status update to the Legislature's Joint Appropriations Committee last week and will be updating the committee again in October. Final proposals will be introduced in December, following the release of my biennial budget.

I assembled a Strike Team of state leaders to engage stakeholders and identify the most impactful short, medium, and long-term uses for these funds. A key goal identified by the Strike Team is to retain and attract working families to the state. That includes addressing challenges in affordable housing and child care. A second goal is to strengthen Wyoming's economy and revenue streams. The Wyoming Business Council is taking input from stakeholders to identify new opportunities. Among the other goals are: better alignment of our

higher education institutions; further expansion of broadband access; addressing healthcare challenges including improving access to mental health resources; expanding Wyoming's outdoor recreation economy and tackling infrastructure projects.

Going forward, we will continue to be transparent on how ARP dollars are spent – just as we are transparent with the work we do on the State's budget and have been with the CARES funds. It is important that these one-time funds be clearly labeled and treated as such. I have continued to champion the idea of simplifying Wyoming's budgeting process. That includes a move to one checking account and one savings account so all citizens can clearly identify where funds are originating from, and what they are being used on.

Wyoming is at a crossroads and we have the opportunity to shape our future. I have worked to right-size government; to make it more efficient to best serve our people. These times, and these decisions, have been hard, but let's take this opportunity and the time afforded us to decide where we should invest in order to achieve the future we imagine.

With vibrant communities, good paying jobs for our children, a growing economy and a low cost of living, Wyoming's future can be bright. However, we must be thoughtful in how we approach today's opportunities.

## Deadline for letters is noon on Friday

# Don't let the crowds stop you from visiting Yellowstone

(Part 1 of 2 parts)

In Yellowstone, the voice of authority is a young gal with a bullhorn telling people to move along. We ran into them on three occasions during our 11-hour drive through the park Friday, Sept. 17.

The first two times, the gals had gotten the traffic moving by the time we got to the offending place. The third time, we stopped and rolled down our window, and asked: "What's going on?" "There's nothing here. Get out of here!" said the seemingly pleasant looking but serious traffic mover. Okay, okay. And away we went.

We have been going to Yellowstone for 51 years and it is my favorite place on earth. We love going in the fall as a way to avoid the summer tourist rush.

Alas, this year mid-September felt like July 4. If you are going you better be patient. And congratulations

to the park service for installing those traffic-moving gals with the bullhorns as they were effective in moving traffic along.



We spent two nights at the Blair-owned Holiday Inn in Cody, thanks to some scheduling help from Tim O'Leary, that company's CFO. He is an outstanding photographer. Cowboy State Daily ran a photo of his featuring two bear

cubs last Friday morning. The cubs' mom had been hit and killed by a car west of Cody.

Using Cody as a base, we left early and took the spectacular Chief Joseph Highway to connect with the Beartooth Highway and enter the Northeast gate. Traffic was moderate and the smoky haze was gone. It was a nice day that topped out at 66 degrees in the park.

It was chilly in the morning. An old boy in Cooke City said they had had sub-freezing temperatures early that morning. It was still too early to see much color

in the trees. But it will be happening soon. The next two weeks will be golden in the park.

At Tower Junction, the road south was closed for the season as it was getting a major repair. We headed on over to Mammoth hoping to see some elk roaming the streets.

Parking spaces were hard to find. It was a busy place. We had to wait in line and wear masks to get into the Horace Albright Information Center. The poor park service gal, who was in charge of enforcing the mask rule and maintaining proper social distancing, was not having a great day. One of the most unpleasant jobs in the park, I would assume. She was standing outside wearing her mask while everyone around her was not.

Xanterra is the outfit in charge of running just about everything in the park as its concessionaire. They are the best in the business. But this year has been tough. Like just about everyone in the hospitality business, they have had a struggle hiring staff. Lately, they have even

had trouble getting food into the park. One of their staff people strongly suggested that we pack in our own food, which we did. Thus, I have no idea about how service was, although there appeared to be lines everywhere.

I assume a lot of their staff are college students who had to quit and go back to school. It put them in to an impossible position.

Yellowstone is projected to see 4.8 million tourists this year, smashing the all-time record of 4.2 million set last year. The place is busy, even in mid-September.

Is it worth going? Are you kidding! I love the place. It is my favorite place. Just go prepared to be surprised at the large number of fellow tourists there with you this time of year.

Yellowstone was the world's first national park. It was one of our country's best ideas. Next year, it celebrates its 150th anniversary. There will be a big party in Cody. We attended the 100th anniversary party in 1972, also in Cody. Did I say I have had a long relationship with this wonderful place? Yes I

have. But I digress.

From Mammoth we headed south through the Golden Gate, which is an amazing road cut through a huge canyon where the road extends out over the gorge.

Much of this road is newly-paved and was wonderful. At one point, traffic stopped for 20 minutes. No reason why. Cars, trucks, campers, and motorcycles were stopped for five miles. Finally, we started going but there was no indication was what stopped. No bears. No accidents.

Oh well. We still had most of the park to cover on this trip.

*(End of Part 1. Part 2 will be about geysers, lakes, canyons and more and will appear next week.)*

*Bill Sniffin is a retired newspaper publisher who has penned a number of books about Wyoming. Check out additional columns written by Bill at [www.billsniffin.com](http://www.billsniffin.com), and find volumes from his coffee table book series, which have sold over 30,000 copies, for sale at the News Letter Journal.*

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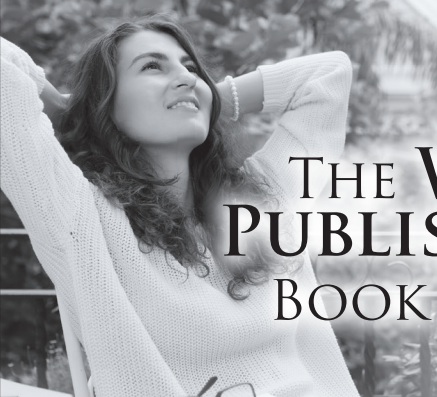
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## Cash Box connection equals lasting friendship

**Kim Dean**  
NLJ Managing Editor

Marge McColley of Custer, S.D., has been a faithful, long-time customer of Linda Cash at Cash Box Ceramics in Newcastle, ordering many Christmas ornaments each year for the past couple of decades.

“The first time Marge came in, she was with Jean McColley,” recalled Cash, who said the two women were just out shopping together. Cash said Marge’s husband, Kenneth, and Jean’s husband, Don, (both deceased) were cousins, and the two families owned funeral homes. Don and Jean owned McColley’s Funeral Home in Newcastle, and Kenneth and Marge owned funeral homes in Edgemont, S.D., and Custer.

The McColley family funeral connection spanned more than just these two families but rather a couple generations, including fathers, sons, uncles, and cousins. Rick McColley, Don’s son, said his great grandfather — also named Don — and his family were farmers and ranchers in northeastern Nebraska before moving to Chamberlain.

“Old Don had five sons who all became funeral directors, including my grandfather, Roland. And then their sons, all first cousins, followed them into the profession, including my dad, Don. My dad went to mortuary science school in Kansas City. That’s where I was born,” said Rick, who added that only one of his generation’s cousins continued on in the family profession, Tom McColley Jr.

According to a *Fall River County Herald* Aug. 19, 2021, article, at one time, the McColley family independently owned and operated six funeral homes in South Dakota and Wyoming: Roland McColley, Chamberlain, S.D.; Morris B. McColley, Lead, S.D.; Dallas McColley, Spearfish, S.D.; Elmer and Kenneth McColley, Edgemont; Thomas E. McColley, Hot Springs, S.D.; and Don McColley, Newcastle.

While visiting last week with Cash, Marge McColley talked about her family’s connection to the funeral business and said that her husband, Ken, went to mortuary science school in St. Louis on his G.I. Bill.

It wasn’t the funeral homes that connected Marge McColley with Cash, though. It was a love of ceramics and a giving spirit.

Cash spoke fondly of her long-time customer and friend.

“I just really enjoy her. She’s been a super customer. Marge always calls ahead and sets a time to come in, usually in July or August to pick out the Christmas ornaments she wants,” Cash continued. “She carries a notebook with her so we never duplicate



Photo courtesy of Kim Dean/ NLJ  
**Marge McColley of Custer and Linda Cash, owner of Cash Box Ceramics, share their story of friendship through ceramics.**

ornaments. She wants them to be different every year. Last year we did a set of seven Christmas carolers, three girls and four boys, and I painted them with different colored clothing.”

McColley’s book is a rather impressive affair. It revealed quite a history of the 935 ornaments she’s either made or purchased since 1994, and her shopping list has grown from family members to friends, neighbors and other children. Now in her 90s, McColley doesn’t do as much of the ceramic work as she used to.

“I don’t paint anymore, I’m too shaky. I still love to garden and be outdoors,” Marge said, adding that her friend, Linda, paints the ornaments for her.

## Veteran’s breakfast

Photo by Walter Sprague/NLJ


**On Sept 14, a Veteran’s Breakfast, sponsored by the Marna M. Kuehne Foundation, was held at the Senior Center. Lee Yake from Gillette spoke about the work of Hometown Veterans and the VFW Post 7756, both in Gillette, who have been raising funds to help veterans and their families who have fallen on hard times. While they don’t give the helping funds directly to the veterans, they will pay for utility bills, help with furthering education and also provide help for other VFW posts who are struggling to stay open.**





**Newcastle Lodge No. 13, A.F. & A.M.**

Meetings are held the First and Third Thursday at 7:30 p.m.  
Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend meetings  
Scott Sewell, Worshipful Master • Mike Hutchinson, Secretary



# faith & values

**Daily Devotional Reading**

<p><b>September 24</b> Ecclesiastes 3:1-22</p> <p><b>September 25</b> Ecclesiastes 4:1-16</p> <p><b>September 26</b> Ecclesiastes 5:1-20</p> <p><b>September 27</b> Ecclesiastes 7:1-25</p>	<p><b>September 28</b> Ecclesiastes 12:1-14</p> <p><b>September 29</b> Job 27:1-23</p> <p><b>September 30</b> Job 28:1-28</p> <p><i>Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society</i></p>
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- **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 a.m.
- **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:** Interim Pastor Ben Roberts, 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:** Pastor Donnie Holt, 834 Pine, Upton, 468-9302. Worship 9 am; Fellowship 10 am
- **VICTORY NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH:** Rev. Theodore L. Halls, 414 Pine, 746-4366

God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.

~ John 4:24



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Courtesy of Weston County Historical Society/Mary Fordyce collection

This photograph depicts Eddie Fordyce, Margaret and Joe.

# Recapture

## A PIECE OF HISTORY

**25 Years Ago**  
**September 26, 1996**

Three burglars who broke into the Old Mill Inn and the West End Lounge in August have been charged and are headed for appearances in district court. City Attorney Jim Peck said two adults, Timothy Dawson and Silviano Vargas, have been charged with burglary. A juvenile was also involved in the break-ins.

The Blotter: Sept. 16 – A woman requested an officer to quiet barking dogs. A deer was reportedly caught in a fence. Sept. 17 – A man requested extra patrol near his property, due to suspicious activity.

George Grummons and Brandy Fisher of Newcastle have announced their engagement and forthcoming marriage. The couple will wed Saturday, Sept. 28. At 7 p.m. at the Weston County Fairgrounds.

The Newcastle Area Chamber of Commerce weekly coffee has become the place to be on Friday mornings. This week's coffee is at KASL Radio at 10 a.m. Stop by and meet Candy Cobb, the new Chamber secretary.

Lt. Col. Carol Lunger, a former member of the 514th Aeromedical Staging Squadron,

became the first woman to command the unit on July 27. The step up represented the culmination of a rise from nurse in 1978 to commander in 1996. Lunger grew up in Newcastle; her maiden name was Mackler. She graduated from Newcastle High School in 1965 and received her R.N. degree from St. Vincent's School of Nursing in Billings.

With the score tied 6-6 late in the second quarter Friday, the Dogies were holding their own against a tough 3-A Douglas Bearcat team. But as luck would have it, Newcastle caused a fumble and Douglas came up smelling like a rose — the play proved to be the turning point of the game.

The Calves began the 1996 season with a home game against the Wright Panthers. The Calves were troubled by mistakes and missed assignments early in the contest, and fell behind 12-0. However, the Calves ran the kick off from the panthers back 75 yards. Ryan Hoffman did the honors for the Calves.

**50 Years Ago**  
**September 23, 1971**  
Homecoming 1971 at

Newcastle high school this week will be highlighted by the Newcastle-Wheatland game Friday evening. The activities started Monday with a pep assembly. Assemblies are being held each morning at the school. On Friday, the homecoming king and queen will be announced and the faculty favorites, chosen by the students, will be also announced. The faculty man and woman will be honored for the "most school spirit."

The Newcastle Dogies with a 2-0-1 record host Wheatland Friday evening for Homecoming. The Dogies, showing an improved running game, came from behind in the final period to defeat Douglas last Friday night 20-15.

Tri-captains for the 1971 Newcastle football high school team are Kim Elliott, John Prell and Bill Lunney. All three are seniors. Elliott is a center, Prell a quarterback and Lunney a fullback.

A mobile home fire near Osage early Tuesday morning burned all the personal effects of Ralph Julian. Julian, a retired man, escaped with only a shirt and trousers when he awoke about 5:30 a.m. to discover the home ablaze. Members of the

Weston County Fire Fighters and Osage Volunteer Fire Department battled the blaze but nothing could be saved.

The king and queen candidates for Newcastle high school's homecoming this week have been announced. The candidates for king are Mike Jording, Bill Lunney, John Prell, Charlie Bartlett and Kim Elliott. Queen candidates are Linda Carr, Candy Keeline, Ellen Marshall, Connie Campbell and Jeanette Huber.

Gov. Stan Hathaway and Peter Smith of Beulah and Newcastle scored early antelope kills to lead the Wyoming team to victory in the Lander one-shot antelope hunt.

Capt., William W. Russell has returned to the states following his second tour of duty in Vietnam. Cpt., Russell returned on Sept. 11 and is at Fort Riley, Kan., where his family remained during his tour overseas. He is the son of Neil K. Russell of Newcastle.

**100 Years Ago**  
**September 22, 1921**

Morgan D. Davis, principal of the high school, who is also coach of the football team, is busy at getting his warriors ready for the coming battles. The schedule has been completed up to the first of November, and is composed of teams with good last year records, and whose prospects this year are very bright.

The first meeting of the Campfire Girls will be held Monday evening, September 26, at 7 o'clock. This is an important meeting and all members are requested to be present.

Congressman F.W. Mondell arrived in the city Tuesday morning from Washington. He was met at the station by a number of his friends, and was taken to the home of J.L. Baird, where he will remain a guest during his stay here.

C.C. Kirkpatrick, Jack Sedgwick and Bill Brennan were members of a hunting party that brought down a buck on the Limestone Sunday. Monday they brought the carcass to the city. The animal was judged as being about three years old, and showed the effect of having lived off the fat of the land during the summer.

Charles F. Shilling of Newcastle has leased the Osage Oil News Tribune, and is installed as editor and "the force." Mr. Shilling formerly was connected with the same paper in the same capacity, but has been a resident of Newcastle for nearly a year.

Drilling will be resumed Friday on the Landridge well on the southeast quarter of Section 8-45-63, in the Osage field unless something unanticipated occurs, and will be continued until a successful conclusion is reached.

Charles Young, Jr., Marion and Campbell Scott went out to their homes in the Hampshire vicinity Friday after school, and returned to Newcastle Sunday afternoon.

Mac L. McLaughlin of Stockade Beaver went to the Julius Bock ranch last Monday on business. J.M. Fulton came from Osage to attend to business in the county seat Friday.

### BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

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## WHAT'S UP

Sept. 2021

### Weston County Meetings & Events Calendar

<b>Thur. Sept. 23</b>	5-7PM 6PM	Farmer's Market NHS Hall of Fame Banquet	Pinnacle Bank Weston County Senior Center
<b>Fri. Sept. 24</b>	9AM 11:30AM 1PM 2PM 5:30PM 7-10PM	Customer Appreciation Day Caramel Rolls WC Library System Board Mtg. Bridge NHS Homecoming Parade BINGO Dance	Pinnacle Bank Weston County Senior Center Library Meeting Rm. Weston County Senior Center Main Street VFW Hall Weston County Senior Center
<b>Sat. Sept. 25</b>	10AM-1PM	WCNRD Hazardous Waste Day	Newcastle Elementary School
<b>Mon. Sept. 27</b>	9AM 1PM	Exercise Class Dominoes	Weston County Senior Center Weston County Senior Center
<b>Tues. Sept. 28</b>	11AM 1PM 3:30PM	Story time Bridge Alzheimers/Dementia Support	Library Weston County Senior Center Zoom
<b>Wed. Sept. 29</b>	6:30-8:30AM 9AM 5:30PM 5:30-7:30PM 6PM	Wellness Wednesday Exercise Class Pedestrian Pathway neighborhood mtg. Marina McIvain fundraiser Cowboy Music	WCHS Weston County Senior Center City Council Chambers First United Methodist Church Weston County Library
<b>Thur. Sept. 30</b>	7AM	TOPS #218	Weston County Senior Center
<b>Fri. Oct. 1</b>	4-7PM 5:30PM	WC Friends of Fair garage sale, \$5 admission BINGO	WC Event Center VFW Hall
<b>Sat. Oct. 2</b>	8AM-1PM 9AM-1PM	WC Friends of Fair garage sale, free WCHS Girls' Getaway	WC Event Center Newcastle Lodge, Cambria Room

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



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### SAFE FOOD HANDLING FOR PRODUCE:

Prepare raw produce with food safety in mind



Wash your hands first.

Rinse fresh fruits and vegetables under cool, running, clean water even if you do not plan to eat the skin or rind.



Never use soap, detergent, or bleach solution to wash fresh fruits or vegetables. They can affect flavor and may not be safe to ingest.

Avoid cross-contamination when preparing fruits and vegetables.



Extension

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# For the Ages

## News Letter Journal

### The Chief Hotel experiences several fires

**Hannah Gross**  
NLJ Correspondent  
With Leonard Cash,  
historian

In this week's installment of "History on Main," Leonard Cash begins a new series on the Chief Hotel that was located in the white building next to A-1 Agency, beginning with a *News Letter Journal* article from Sept. 1, 1938, when excavation for the building started.

Henry Egert and Ralph Doyle were building five "modern" structures, including three houses, a dental bungalow office and a two-story building, which would be the hotel. These structures were to fill the 150-foot vacant space along the street and the newly built C.A. Ward Lumber Co. to "make it one of the most attractive streets in the city."

The 70- by- 26-foot hotel was to be a frame and stucco construction, complete with air conditioning and modernistic designs for the interior decorations. The building was to be divided into two-room rental units, providing 10 apartments.

J.L. Sundstrom was awarded the contract for the rock and stone work, and Kline & Kline Carpentering was doing the interior decorating with Bud Gilbert.

By Jan. 12, 1939, the "strictly modern" Chief Hotel was completed with the latest fixtures. There were 16 hotel rooms, seven apartments, and two business offices, equipped to offer "utmost in comfort and convenience." The rooms were furnished with chairs, floor lamps, rugs, drapes, a writing desk and "other necessities."

The floors were laid with carpet and inlaid linoleum with cream-colored walls. The lobby and office had chrome furniture "making the rooms very attractive." The laundry equipment was in the basement, where the oil burner was, with a new washing machine. Doyle was the owner, and he invited everyone to come visit the new hotel.

An announcement was put in a local, undated newspaper to congratulate the hotel on its newest purchase of eight Monarch electric range ovens, featuring a "floating heat oven," porcelain roaster, cooker and saucepan. The heat was generated by "hi-heat" electric coils and "conserved for actual use with effective insulation," along with "dependable" automatic temperature and time control.

"Electric cooking brings with

it cleanliness, convenience and freedom," the advertisement says. "A small down payment places the new Monarch Range in your kitchen. Easy monthly payments can be arranged."

On Jan. 4, 1945, it was reported that a fire broke out at the Chief Hotel because some oil around the burner caught fire. Fortunately, the fire department was called, and the fire was quickly extinguished before any significant damage was done. Evidently, this was not the first fire because the article said it was the third fire at the hotel.

A few months later, an article from Oct. 25, 1945, announced that Claude R. Drown and Albert Toulouse purchased the hotel. Both Toulouse and his wife were to manage the hotel. Drown was the assistant manager for Mutual Life Insurance Co. of New York but lived in Sheridan. He planned on continuing his business in addition to the new hotel responsibilities. Toulouse had an executive position with the Republic Coal Co. for 20 years, and he came "very well recommended." He was actively involved with the Masons, American Legion and Boy Scouts.

Another fire broke out in the hotel around Feb. 7, 1946 — this time the firemen thought it started in the electric wiring, but it took three hours to locate the source. A considerable amount of damage was done.

Because Doyle was the original owner, Cash decided to include the obituary of his wife, Ella, which appeared in the Dec. 19, 1946, paper. She was only 38 years old when she died, and she was found Monday morning around 10:30 a.m. 10 miles northwest of town in the family car.

Her funeral was held on Dec. 18 at 2 p.m. at Methodist Church in Newcastle before she was buried in the Greenwood Cemetery. A choir provided the music for service, including songs such as "In the Garden," "Valley of Peace" and "One Sweetly Solemn Thought."

Ella Doyle was born on Nov. 5, 1908, in Newcastle, although she lived in Osage. She graduated from Newcastle High School before going to nursing school at St. Joseph's Hospital in Alliance, Nebraska, to become a registered nurse. She was also active in the American Legion Auxiliary. She married Ralph on May 15, 1935, and at the time of her death, she left a 2-year old



Photos courtesy of Leonard Cash

Photos of the Chief Hotel from its days full of guests to standing empty today.

daughter named Sally.

A news report from Jan. 6, 1949, announced that one of the largest real estate transactions in Newcastle was completed when the Toulouses sold the hotel and apartments to Emil Evey for \$115,000. Evey was a well-known man who had been doing business in the area for 20 years, and he officially took possession of the hotel on Jan. 1, according to the Jan. 12, 1949, *Weston County Gazette*.

The Toulouses put a "thank you" in the Jan. 13, 1949, *News Letter Journal*.

"Thanks. We wish to thank our many friends and patrons for the fine patronage and co-operation extended us during

the past three years," they said.

However, Evey didn't have possession very long because the Oct. 5, 1950, paper reported that he sold it to Alfred Danielson. Danielson had a ranch on Oil Creek, but he traded the ranch to Evey for the hotel.

Two years later, it was announced in the Oct. 30, 1952, issue that the 17-room Chief Hotel and 25 apartments were to be auctioned off. The rooms and apartments were all furnished and of good condition. A few months later, another significant sale was made when Toulouse and Drown sold the historic Sheridan Inn to E.C. Jensen, according to an article from July of 1953.

Although not related to the Chief Hotel, Cash wanted to include it because it involved Toulouse and Drown.

By Jan. 28, 1954, the Chief Hotel was sold, this time back into the possession of Ralph Doyle. Eventually, Addie Keener was the owner because an article from March 24, 1977, announced that she sold it to John T. Bell of Rapid City, South Dakota. Keener and her late husband, George, owned and managed the property for 23 years.

More considerable damage, costing between \$5,000 and \$8,000, was done to the hotel around June 23, 1977, when another fire struck one of the apartments. It was caused

by a short circuit in the electrical wiring.

A few months later, Woody Hasting and his wife became the new managers, according to the Sept. 1, 1977, paper.

Just five years after the last fire, the March 25, 1982, issue reported yet another fire in the south apartment unit of the complex, leaving extensive damage.

"Firemen battled the blaze most of the day and into the night," the article says.

Although not sure of when it closed, Cash said that the still-standing hotel has been closed for a number of years.

And with that, we conclude the "History on Main" series until further notice.

## SCHEDULE YOUR COVID-19 VACCINATION TODAY

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## Spaghetti Feed & Silent Auction

To benefit Marina Podio McIlvain



Wednesday, Sept. 29, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

First United Methodist Church, 23 N. Seneca, Newcastle

Marina was involved in a motorcycle accident on July 10 of this year. Please join us in helping to fund her continued recovery.

Dinner: 5:30-7:30 p.m.

(no cover fee; donations encouraged)

Silent Auction: 5:30-7 p.m.



All proceeds benefit Marina's continued medical care. If you cannot attend and would like to donate to this cause, please mail donations to Meridian Mortuary, 111 S. Railroad Ave., Newcastle WY 82701

Visit the News Letter Journal online at [newslj.com](http://newslj.com)!

# Turning dreams into realities at the state level

Every year in August, many Weston County 4-H and FFA families look forward to traveling to Douglas, Wyo., to compete at the Wyoming State Fair in livestock events, static exhibit judging, contests, and to have some good old-fashioned fun! Some laughingly call this their show-cation before school starts! Outside the ring, members and parents can connect with friends and families from across the state.

This year did not disappoint as 14 youth from Weston County took all their hard work, determination, and dreams to Douglas to turn them into realities. Among those participating in contests were: Hailey Wehri (4-H and FFA), breeding beef; Rachel Sweet (4-H and FFA), breeding wool sheep; JJ Lipp (FFA), breeding beef; Cooper Miller (4-H), breeding & market cattle; Jorie Miller (4-H Tumbleweeds), breeding cattle; Jace Rich (4-H), market beef & swine; Colby Rich (4-H), market swine; Reagan Redding (4-H), market sheep; Serenity Kline (4-H), rabbits; Ethan Parsons (4-H), rabbits; Tony Farley (4-H), dog; John Farley (4-H), dog; Audrey Williams (4-H), Fashion Revue Contest; and Laura Lipp (4-H), Fashion Revue Contest

Weston County also had several static exhibitors represent us well in projects such as baking, cake decorating, archery, self-determined, welding, photography, etc. Members must earn a state fair blue or purple at county to have their exhibit advance to state.

As a 4-H educator, it is awesome to see our kids participate at this higher level of competition. Outside the ring and behind the stage, hours of prep work, learning, prayers, hard knocks, small victories, and other life lessons are wrapped up in these projects. To see our youth grow as individuals,

gain resolve and character, display sportsmanship against bitter disappointment at times, and celebrate hard-earned victories for themselves or others are just a few of the fruits of these programs and upper level competition. County fair provides these experiences as well, but I believe the experiences are amplified more when competing on the next level, and it requires even more determination and commitment if one wants to take a win at state. It doesn't matter if it is sports, 4-H, or a speech contest, if a member really wants to learn and take their skills to the next level, I encourage competing at those upper levels if possible.

Our county had some exceptional victories at the Wyoming State Fair, many earning top-10 honors in their divisions or classes, and some winning their divisions and classes. Several 4-H and FFA members worked their way into the top ten in showmanship as well, which is difficult to do when competing with 20-plus in some classes. Please visit the Wyoming State Fair website to view official results or refer to the included table for our county's results.

The Wyoming State Fair is not the only higher-level contest Weston County youth competed in this year. There were five youth who also participated in the Wyoming 4-H State Shoot held in Douglas this past July. Among those competing were: Tevon White, Shotgun, Outdoor Skills; Trevon White, Shotgun, Outdoor Skills; John Farley, Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Air and .22 Pistol and Rifle, Archery, Outdoor Skills; Tony Farley, Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Air and .22 Pistol and Rifle, Archery, Outdoor Skills; and Ethan Parsons, Archery.

John Farley and Tony Farley also represented Wyoming on this year's 4-H National Shooting Sports



Brittany Hamilton  
**A Bit from Britt**

State Fair Results	
Jace Rich, 2, Dark Crossbred Division 1 Class 3 Market Swine	Tony Farley, 2, Dog Herding Group Conformation
Jace Rich, 1, Main Anjou Light Weight Market Beef Class 1	Tony Farley, Champion, Senior Dog Showmanship
Jace Rich, 4, Intermediate Beef Showmanship	John Farley, 5, Dog Herding Group Conformation
Colby Rich, 5, Dark Crossbred Division 2 Class 1 Market Swine	John Farley, 6, Senior Dog Showmanship
Colby Rich, 3, Dark Crossbred Division 3 Class 2 Market Swine	Reagan Redding, 3, Maine Anjou Heavy Weight Market Beef Class 2
Cooper Miller, 1, Black Angus Spring Yearling Heifer	Reagan Redding, 1, Blackface Division 1 Heavyweight Market Lambs
Cooper Miller, Champion, Black Angus Female	Reagan Redding, 4, Blackface Division 1 Heavyweight Market Lambs
Cooper Miller, 1, Hereford Summer Yearling Heifer	Reagan Redding, 10, Blackface Division 2 Mediumweight Market Lambs
Cooper Miller, 1, Hereford Senior Yearling Heifer	Reagan Redding, 9, Intermediate Sheep Showmanship
Cooper Miller, Champion, Hereford Female	Rachel Sweet, 1, Columbia Ewe 1 Yr Old Under 2
Cooper Miller, 3, Maine Anjou and Maine Cross Spring Yearling Heifer	Rachel Sweet, 1, Any Other Wool Breed Ewe 1 Yr Old Under 2
Cooper Miller, 1, English Breeds Junior Bull Calf	Rachel Sweet, 1, Any Other Wool Breed Winter Ewe Lamb
Cooper Miller, Champion, Supreme Champion Bull	Rachel Sweet, Champion, Any Other Wool Breed Ewe
Cooper Miller, 5, Black Angus Market Beef Class	Rachel Sweet, Res Champion, Any Other Wool Breed Ewe
Cooper Miller, 1, Any Other Continental Breed Market Beef Class 1	Serenity Kline, 3, Californian Senior Doe Rabbit
Cooper Miller, Champion, Any Other Continental Breed Market Beef	Serenity Kline, 1, Californian Junior Buck Rabbit
Cooper Miller, Champion, Junior Beef Showmanship	Serenity Kline, 3, New Zealand Senior Doe Rabbit
JJ Lipp, 1, Shorthorn Summer Yearling Heifer	Serenity Kline, 2, New Zealand Junior Buck Rabbit
JJ Lipp, Res Champion, Shorthorn Female	Serenity Kline, 1, Himalayan Senior Doe Rabbit
JJ Lipp, 1, Any Other Continental Breed Senior Heifer Calf	Serenity Kline, Champion, Four Class Breeds Rabbit
Hailey Wehri, 1, Shorthorn Spring Yearling Heifer	Serenity Kline, 1, Fur, Normal, White Only (Rabbit)
Hailey Wehri, Champion, Shorthorn Female	Serenity Kline, 4, Fur, Normal, All Colors But White (Rabbit)
Hailey Wehri, 4, Any Other Continental Breed Spring Yearling Heifer	Serenity Kline, 3, Fur, Fryer Fur, All Colors (Rabbit)
Hailey Wehri, 6, FFA Beef Showmanship	
Hailey Wehri, 5, 4-H Senior Beef Showmanship	
Weston County, Best Pen of 5, Beef Females	
	Serenity Kline, 5, Junior Rabbit Showmanship
	Ethan Parsons, 2, Meat Pen of 3 Rabbits Class
	Ethan Parsons, Res Champion, Meat Pen of 3 Rabbits
	Ethan Parsons, 4, Junior Rabbit Showmanship
	Laura Lipp, 9, Junior Ready to Wear Modeling (Fashion Revue)
	Laura Lipp, 8, Junior Constructed to Wear Modeling (Fashion Revue)

### 2021 STATE SHOOT RESULTS

Name of Youth, Placing, Class/Division  
 Tony Farley, 18, Senior .22 Pistol  
 Tony Farley, 13, Senior .22 Rifle Light Target  
 Tony Farley, 17, Senior Air Pistol  
 Tony Farley, 15, Senior Air Rifle Light Target  
 Tony Farley, 19, 26, Senior Class D Archery 3-D Portion, Blue Face Portion  
 Tony Farley, 35, Senior Muzzleloader  
 Tony Farley, 9, Senior Outdoor Skills  
 Tony Farley, 93, 41, Senior Shotgun Handicap, Singles  
 John Farley, 13, Senior .22 Pistol  
 John Farley, 12, Senior .22 Rifle Light Target  
 John Farley, 25, Senior Air Pistol  
 John Farley, 29, Senior Air Rifle Light Target  
 John Farley, 39, 62, Senior Class D Archery 3-D Portion, Blue Face Portion  
 John Farley, 27, Senior Muzzleloader  
 John Farley, 22, Senior Outdoor Skills  
 John Farley, 89, 88, Senior Shotgun Handicap, Singles  
 Tevon White, 5, 2, Intermediate Shotgun Handicap, Singles  
 Tevon White, 3, Intermediate Outdoor Skills  
 Trevon White, 5, 8, Intermediate Shotgun Handicap, Singles  
 Trevon White, 6, Intermediate Outdoor Skills  
 Ethan Parsons, 34, 25, Junior Class D Archery 3-D Portion, Blue Face Portion

Championships held in Grand Island, Neb., in June.

As summer has come to a close and many of our youth have returned to school and to fall sports, their 4-H and FFA competitive experience may also come to a close for

the season. However, I know many are already looking at their next projects, planning, budgeting, and researching. Some will continue to show through the fall at the Western Junior Livestock Show held in Rapid City, S.D., and the NILE in

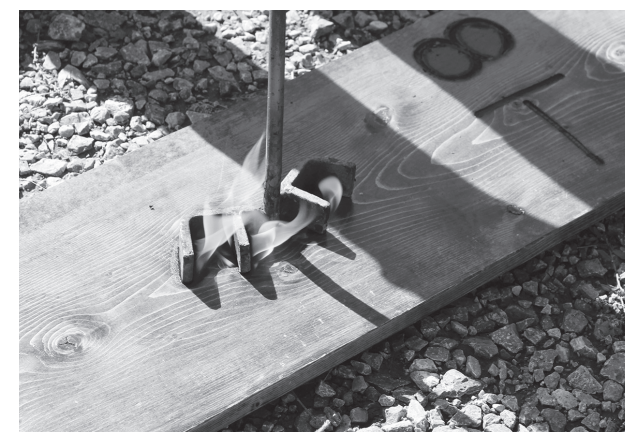
Billings, Mont., which are both held in October. Some may even compete on a national level. Others will select their projects for 2021-2022 later this year and try once again to turn their dreams into realities both at the county level and beyond.

## Time for a branding



On Wednesday, Sept. 15, the Red Onion Museum in Upton invited ranchers from the area to come and brand some old boards that had been donated several years ago from the Antlers. These boards will be placed on display with the brands soon at the museum. Far left, Liz Barritt and Janet Materi of Upton brand a wide board with the Lazy 8 brand from the Lazy 8 ranch outside of Upton. At left, Landon Keever, of Upton, brands a board with a couple different brands from ranches around the area. Below, the Sunshine brand is being used by Anita Shepperson of Upton. This historic brand was bought by her father-in-law, Al Shepperson, in the 1950s and has been in use since then by the family.

Photos by Walter Sprague/NLJ



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# Sports

News Letter Journal

## SPORTS SCHEDULES

**NEWCASTLE HIGH SCHOOL**

**NHS Football**

9/24	Tongue River HS (Homecoming)	H	6PM
10/1	Glenrock HS	H	6PM
10/8	Torrington HS	A	7PM

**NHS Volleyball**

9/24	Torrington	H	4PM
9/25	Wheatland	A	Noon
9/30	Douglas	H	5PM
10/1	Sundance	A	4PM

**NHS Cross Country**

10/8	Campbell County HS	A	1PM
10/14	Douglas HS (Conference)	A	2PM

**NHS Girls' Swimming**

9/24	Buffalo HS	A	TBA
9/25	Worland HS	A	10AM
10/2	Douglas HS	A	TBA

# NHS netters split in quadrant play

**NHS Volleyball**

Newcastle v. Thermopolis  
9/17/21: 25-19, 25-23, 25-19  
Newcastle @ Buffalo  
9/18/21: 12-25, 12-25, 28-26, 10-25

**Sonja Karp**  
NLJ Sports Editor

After three weeks of pre-season tournament play, the Lady Dogies hosted the Thermopolis Lady Bobcats in their home and quadrant opener on Friday. The Dogies sent the Bobcats home with their tiny tails between their legs as they took care of them in quick fashion, winning 25-19, 25-23 and 25-19.

"The girls were a little bit nervous, but really excited for their first game in the Dome," exclaimed acting head coach Andrea Gregory. "I thought they played well, and came out and did some really good things."

Though Thermopolis is not as tough of an opponent as the Lady Dogies have seen so far this season, Gregory noted that she was proud of her squad for playing their game and putting them away in three straight sets.

Tiernan Stanton's blocking presence at the net was giving the Lady Bobcats fits early on, so in order to get around the wall she put up, they began to tip over the block and to the setter.

"It was good that we were able to work on defending the tip," Gregory admitted. "We pulled our double block in the middle since we didn't need it, and we had Kenz [Rose] covering those tips on the right side instead of our setter."

The adjustment worked. Thermopolis' biggest threats were their two middle hitters, so between

excellent blocking by Stanton and MacKenzie Conzelman, both became hesitant to swing.

Meanwhile, the Lady Dogies were feeling it on offense and Stanton, Jaylen Ostenson and Hunter McFarland were pretty consistently putting the ball down in their attacks.

"Hunter had a really nice swing going all night," Gregory stated. "She's an all-around player. She's our setter, she's strong outside and she's one of our strongest servers and she just really showed that on Friday."

After playing a dominant first set, the Lady Dogies seemed to struggle just a bit in the second, opening a door for Thermopolis to rally.

"I think they got a little too comfortable after the first set," Gregory surmised. "It gives Coach Anderson and me some anxiety, but I think they like to keep games close. They are all really competitive so I think they like the excitement."

The 25-23 win in the second set was a little too close for comfort for Gregory, however, going into set three with a 2-0 advantage was definitely a plus.

Ostenson and Stanton were in the double digits for kills, and McFarland was close as well. Stanton also had a good block game, and Gregory is confident that their hitters were pretty easy for her to read.

"Our hitters were doing great at the net," Gregory began. "I could tell in warmups that Jaylen was feeling good, so it was fun to see her dialed in all night."

On Saturday, Newcastle headed north to take on the Lady Bison in Buffalo. The Bison are ranked fourth

— See Volleyball, Page 9

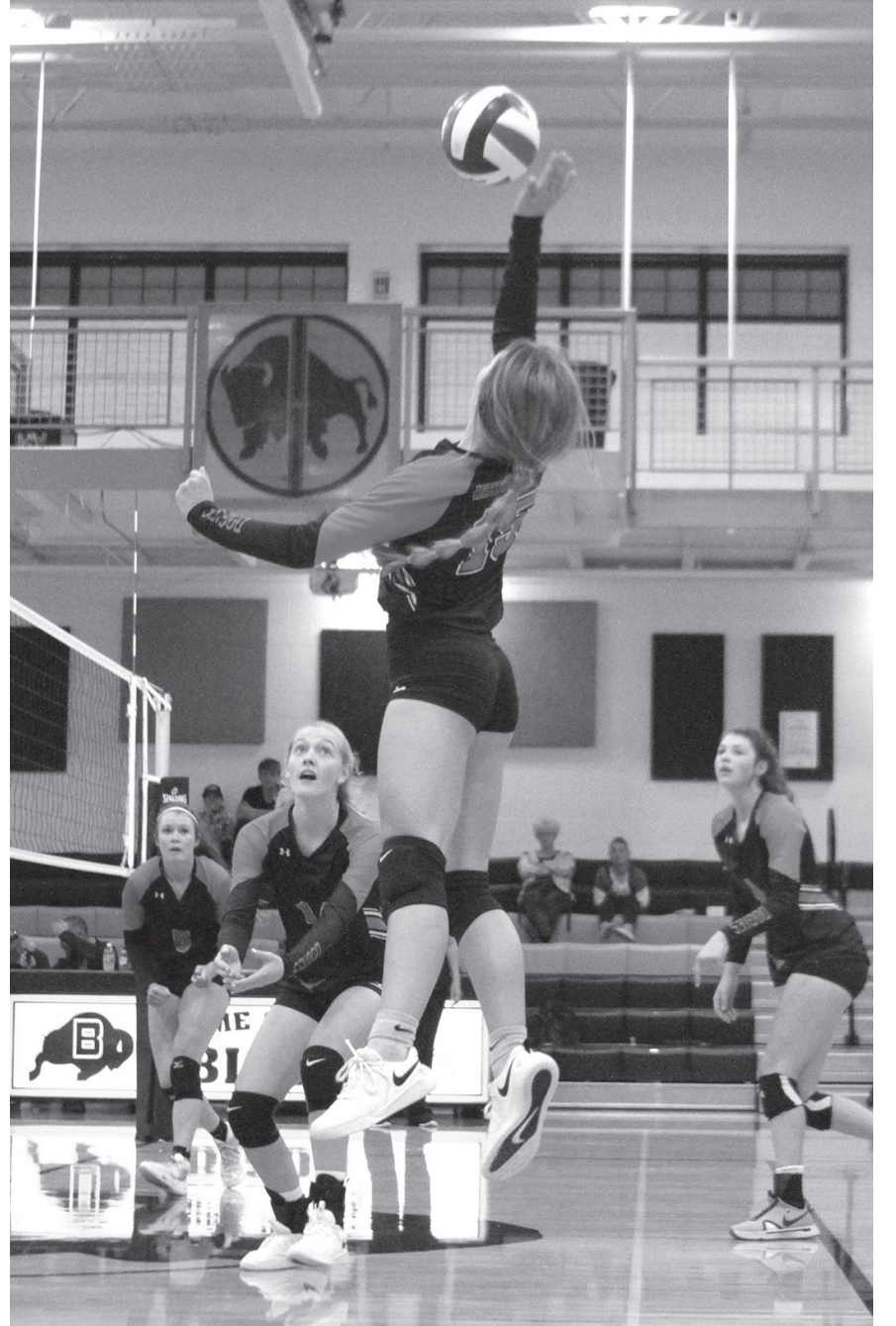


Photo courtesy of Seth Taylor/Buffalo Bulletin  
Hunter McFarland had two great games putting the ball down from the outside last weekend. The junior was dialed in at home against the Lady Bobcats of Thermopolis and kept up the trend in Buffalo on Saturday.

## Fans make a difference

I've been in the gym for nearly every home volleyball game for the last 100 years.

Okay, so that's a slight over exaggeration but it's been a long time between coaching, being a parent, photographing, reffing, and broadcasting.

At any rate, I have to say how happy my heart was to see the turnout at last Friday's home opener for the Lady Dogies' 2021 season.

There have been moments in the last couple of decades where the Dome has been rocking for our volleyball games, but it has definitely been a minute. Last year, of course, fans were limited due to

Covid restrictions, so to see the stands filled with the Dogie faithful on Friday was so appreciated.

I've thought about attendance in the past but really feel like after

playing to an empty stadium for a year, having the support of fans in the stands just takes on a whole new meaning.

Last Sunday as I watched pro football, the announcers made more than one reference to the fact that a fan presence was a game influencer and maybe even a game changer, and it really got me thinking.

We play for the love of the game, but we also need those supporters in the crowd to build us up and push us to our limits.

Nerves get a little higher when we know that all eyes are on us, but at the same time, knowing that all eyes are on us also drives us to put our best foot forward with every play.

Our fans lift us up. Looking across the gym and seeing Grandpa (Allen Friesen) taking up his usual spot, and

— See Karpe, Page 10



Sonja Karp  
Karpe Dogie

## Anderson punches her ticket

**Sonja Karp**  
NLJ Sports Editor

At about the midpoint of the season, the Lady Dogies hosted their first home competitions and junior Lydia Anderson turned it on in front of her hometown fans to qualify for not one, but two events on Friday and Saturday.

Head coach Doug Scribner was expecting Anderson to make the time in the 100 Free as that has been a focus so far this season, but admitted being more than pleasantly surprised to see her

— See Swimmers, Page 9



Photo by Sonja Karp/NLJ  
Lydia Anderson ramped things up last weekend in her home pool as she qualified for the state meet in the 50 Free with a 4A time and the 100 Free with a 3A time.

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# Swimmers from Page 8



Photo by Sonja Karp/NLJ

**Hailey Beastrom is one of two Lady Dogies whose strength lies in the breaststroke which she demonstrated on Saturday at the Newcastle Duals meet.**

qualify for the 50 Free as well.

“She had a great race in the 50 on Friday, and took two seconds off her best time,” Scribner said. “And, she won the race on top of qualifying so that was exciting!”

Anderson posted a 4A qualifying time of 27.66 seconds in the 50 Free, and then on Saturday, put up a 3A qualifying time of 1:03.46 in the 100 Free.

“Her time in the 100 was pretty sig-

nificant for her because she suffered a shoulder injury this summer, so for her to be able to do that is great given the situation,” Scribner declared. “She’s been doing a lot of kicking, so I put her in just a couple of events this week so she didn’t overdo it, and that helped as well.”

Raeleigh Shipp also had a strong weekend. She shares with Anderson a goal of qualifying in the 100 Free, and is just a couple of seconds away from

doing just that.

“I am confident that she will get that time, and she is working toward that as her goal,” Scribner nodded. “Raeleigh was a breaststroker, but she developed a problem with her hip so she’s learning and adjusting to the Freestyle. We’re really kind of trying to catch up in that stroke.”

Hailey Beastrom is in a similar boat, as she too is strong in the breaststroke and trying to perfect her

freestyle. So Scribner admitted that he is trying to train two breaststrokers to be freestylers.

Rebekah Olson improved 1:43 in the Butterfly from Friday to Saturday.

“With Rebekah, it’s about coordinating her arm technique and staying smooth,” Scribner analyzed. “She has a good dolphin kick so that really helps her there.”

Lilly Ralls dropped quite a bit of time in her races as well over the weekend. Though she DQ’d in the 100 Breaststroke, she dropped over 40 seconds from her time in Lander.

Ruth Rose, who is new to swimming, is improving every week, and last weekend was no exception.

“As soon as Lilly swims the breaststroke and doesn’t DQ, she should have a pretty good time,” Scribner anticipated. “Ruth races and is competitive, so as soon as she gets the technique down, we can really start to train for faster times.”

“We made some individual improvement overall, but from my perspective, we are about where we should be as far as being tired, so I feel good about that,” Scribner continued. “The fatigue showed a little bit in the 400 Free Relay on Saturday. Where we’ve typically been able to drop a little bit of time, we didn’t do that as much this weekend.”

Scribner is continuing to work on the combination of swimmers for the 200 Medley Relay due to most everyone being capable of swimming all the strokes. According to the coach, it’s a matter of finding the right fit for each of the legs of the race.

This weekend, the team will head

## NHS Ladies Swimming

**Newcastle @ Newcastle Duals 9/17/21**

1. Cheyenne South 79.5
2. Worland 77
3. Newcastle 24.5
- 200 Medley Relay: 2:36.86
4. Ruth Rose, Lydia Anderson, Hailey Beastrom, Raeleigh Shipp
- 200 Freestyle:
8. Rebekah Olson 2:50.40
- 200 IM:
4. Hailey Beastrom 2:03.12
- 50 Freestyle:
1. Lydia Anderson 27.66 PR 4AQ
10. Ruth Rose 41.05
- 100 Butterfly:
6. Rebekah Olson 1:29.43
- 100 Freestyle:
2. Raeleigh Shipp 1:05.27
- 100 Backstroke:
2. Hailey Beastrom 1:19.21
- 3T. Raeleigh Shipp 1:26.74
8. Ruth Rose 1:44.53
- 400 Free Relay: 4:54.56
3. Rebekah Olson, Lydia Anderson, Hailey Beastrom, Lilly Ralls

**Newcastle @ Newcastle Triple Duals: 9/18/21:**

- Loss v. Worland 37-110  
Loss v. Douglas 39-95  
Loss v. Cody 38-99  
Loss v. Cheyenne South 38-105  
Loss v. Buffalo 43-76  
200 Medley Relay: 2:55.11  
8. Hailey Beastrom, Ruth Rose, Rebekah Olson, Lilly Ralls  
50 Freestyle:  
11. Raeleigh Shipp 30.53  
16. Lilly Ralls 38.93  
100 Butterfly:  
8. Rebekah Olson 1:28  
100 Freestyle:  
2. Lydia Anderson 1:03.46 3AQ  
5. Hailey Beastrom 1:12.73  
15. Ruth Rose 1:30.70  
200 Free Relay: 2:14.22  
7. Raeleigh Shipp, Rebekah Olson, Lilly Ralls, Lydia Anderson  
100 Backstroke:  
11. Raeleigh Shipp 1:30.43  
14. Rebekah Olson 1:34.34  
100 Breaststroke:  
10. Hailey Beastrom 1:30.80  
DQ. Lilly Ralls  
400 Free Relay: 5:11.85  
7. Raeleigh Shipp, Ruth Rose, Lydia Anderson, Hailey Beastrom

to Buffalo on Friday for a Triangular and then on to Worland for an invite on Saturday.

# Volleyball from Page 8



in the state in 3A, and according to Gregory, they have a pretty solid game.

“They have a strong outside who plays all the way around,” she explained. “She and Tiernan have been battling since middle school and she hit a really deep cross that we really struggled to defend.”

The Lady Dogies adjusted their defense to have the outside pull back, but still were just a little slow on the block and the dig so she scored quite a few points against Newcastle.

Buffalo came out and stampered the Dogies in the first two sets, putting them away quickly by winning 25-12 in both. Heading into the third set, it was do or die for Newcastle.

“We had a great mental game against Thermopolis, and then we went to Buffalo where they always have a really good

Photo by Alexis Barker/NLJ  
**At left, MacKenzie Conzelman gets up for the kill while her team prepares to cover the block in the Lady Dogies’ home and conference opener win last Friday against Thermopolis.**

student section, and our mental game was not where it should have been,” Gregory said. “We should have been a lot closer than we were but we were off. We were hitting out and our serve receive wasn’t the greatest. We got a lot of touches on the ball, but we weren’t closing our block so even though our defense was in the right place, the ball was dropping in front of our blockers or really changing direction making it difficult for our passers.”

Newcastle was able to push the match to a fourth set by scratching out a 28-26 win in the third, but then fell by the greatest deficit of the night, 10-25, losing the set and match.

“I think things started out rough and then it continued to decline throughout the match,” Gregory admitted. “I can’t wait to meet them again when it’s not at their house, because I think we beat ourselves. It should have been a lot closer”

This week is Homecoming at NHS and the Lady Dogies will host the Lady Trailblazers of Torrington on Friday at 4, 5, and 6. On Saturday, the team will go to Wheatland for games at 11 a.m., noon, and 1 p.m.



Photo courtesy of Seth Taylor/Buffalo Bulletin

**Though usually a right-side player, junior Shelby Tidyman gets the set on the outside for a kill attempt at Buffalo last Saturday.**

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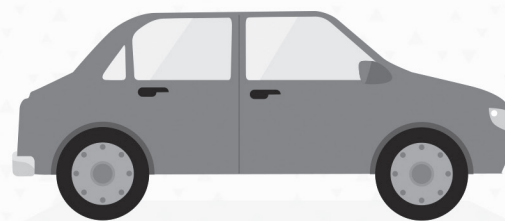
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# Dogies fall to the Rams

**Sonja Karp**  
NLJ Sports Editor

The Dogie football season has had the team facing one huge challenge after another, and Friday was no exception. Newcastle travelled to Big Horn to take on the Rams who enjoy a tradition of being a big, tough, winning program and though the Dogies suffered defeat in Sheridan County, head coach Matt Conzelman was very pleased with his squad’s defensive effort and liked a lot of what he saw on offense as well.

“The defense did a good job keeping them out of the end zone. Only letting them score three times is a positive with that team,” Conzelman insisted. “We played pretty well, but we were in the red zone five times and ended up without any points to show for it, so we have to get that cleaned up.”

The Dogies received the ball to start the game and they marched it all the way down the field. They got down to the red zone, but ended up stalling out. Newcastle went for the field goal to try to get on the board, but the 30-plus-yard attempt went wide left.

Despite the disappointment of their first promising possession, the Dogie defense went to work and stopped the Rams on their first drive. A great opportunity presented itself when Big Horn muffed the punt giving Newcastle possession on their 20-yard line.

“We got all the way to the three when a penalty

### NHS Football

**Newcastle @ Big Horn 9/17/21: 0-20**  
83 yards rushing, 70 yard passing  
Slade Roberson: 8-17 pass completions for 70 yards, 17 carries for 32 yards, 1 interception, 4 tackles, 2 tackles for loss, 8 tackle asts.  
Aidan Chick: 4 tackles, 2 tackles for loss, 1 tackle ast.  
Holden McConkey: 16 carries for 60 yards, 1 reception for 12 yards, 1 punt return for 7 yards, 2 kickoff returns for 45 yards, 5 tackles, 1 tackle ast.  
Quint Perino: 5 carries for -9 yards, 1 interception, 3 tackles, 3 tackle asts.  
Tanner Neilson: 2 receptions for 15 yards, 2 kickoff returns for 33 yards, 1 interception, 2 tackles, 1 tackle ast.  
Hogan Tystad: 5 receptions for 43 yards, 1 fumble recovery, 1 tackle, 4 tackle asts.  
Josh Womack: 1 sack, 2 tackles, 6 tackle asts.  
Jacob Prell: 1 fumble recovery, 1 tackle for loss, 3 tackle asts.  
Dylan McFarlin: 3 punts for 102 yards, 1 tackle  
Tristan Troftgruben: 1 punt block, 4 tackle asts.  
Connor Stohlhammer: 1 fumble recovery, 1 tackle, 3 tackle asts.  
Jonathan Anderson: 1 tackle for loss

forced us back,” Conzelman said. “Unfortunately, Slade [Roberson] then threw a pick in the end zone so we ended up scoreless again.”

Big Horn got on the board about midway through the first quarter to take a 7-0 lead and then again at the beginning of the second to extend the gap to 13-0. However, Dogie D held them out for the rest of the first half to go into the locker room well within reach.

Defense came out and held strong throughout the third frame of play, keeping the Rams out of the end zone, however Big Horn was able to punch one more in late in the fourth to take the 20-0 win over the Dogies.

“It was another, ‘close but no cigar’ situation,” Conzelman sighed. “We had a couple of

opportunities that looked like we could get a chance to get on the board, and that would just change the whole dynamic of the game, and I thought it was two pretty equally matched teams.”

Indeed, looking at the end of game numbers, the two teams were very close on paper. Though the Rams ended up with a little over a 100 yards more than the Dogies on offense, other stats were very similar. Big Horn ended the night with 12 first downs, while the Dogies were close behind with 11. As far as turnovers go, the Rams forced five on Newcastle, while Conzelman’s crew edged them out with six on the night.

Roberson, Quint Perino and Tanner Neilson each picked off an interception while Connor Stohlhammer, Jacob Prell and Hogan Tystad each recovered a fumble.

“We just need to be able to take advantage of the turnovers we cause and get some confidence,” Conzelman nodded. “We had three or four goal line stands so the defense did a pretty good job. Also, 11 first downs is an improvement over past weeks so it’s really coming down to being able to finish, and we’ve gotta break the seal on the end zone.”

This week is Homecoming where the Dogies will host Tongue River. Kickoff is scheduled for 6 p.m. The Homecoming Royalty will be announced prior to kickoff and then Hall of Fame recognition will take place at half time.

# Youngsters coming on strong

**Sonja Karp**  
NLJ Sports Editor

The Dogies faced one of their hardest courses last Thursday in Custer, but NHS head cross country coach Kathy Beehler was happy to see her team take on, and rise to, the challenge it presented.

“The Custer course is the hardest course we run on, so to put out good times there is awesome,” Beehler said. “I didn’t expect anyone to get a faster time at Custer, but a lot of them did!”

The Dogie men weren’t able to roster a team in the varsity division due to freshmen Thatcher Troftgruben and Sam Scribner, the squad’s second and third runners, being sidelined by temporary injuries. However, nearly all of the JV boys and varsity and JV girls put together good races on the day.

“I was very pleased with our ladies and with our underclassmen,” Beehler said. “Our freshmen are just running super well and are working really hard so that’s exciting.”

Freshman Aspen Bloom once again led her team in the girls’ varsity race. With her 14th-place finish of 23:29.88, she improved by 30 seconds over her time at Belle Fourche last week. Janaya Ralls was next across the line in 29th place and was followed by Tara Carter in 35th. Ralls carved off 2:26 seconds from her time in Belle Fourche while Carter took an impressive 1:40 off of hers.

Meanwhile, Taylor Conklin, in her first varsity appearance of the season, came in just four seconds behind Carter in 36th place and her improvement was impressive at 5:44 faster than Belle Fourche.

“Every single girl ran well,” Beehler said. “They awarded the top 20 medals, so Aspen got one with her 14th-place finish, and that was great for her.”

In the men’s race, Avery Chick again led the team and also took home a medal with his 13th-place finish. The senior was one of the rare instances where there wasn’t an improvement from last week, however, Beehler chalks that up

to the fact that he was not feeling well.

“Avery ran a good race, and he went out in the top five, but it really looked to me that he wasn’t feeling up to par,” she mused. “I thought this race was mentally tough for him. I think he ran well, but didn’t hit it out of the park.”

Wyatt Cole was back at it after missing the last couple of weeks, and he was the next Dogie across the finish line in 25th place with a time of 20:30.13.

He was coming off being sick and then injured, however he ran 30 seconds faster in Custer than he did in Newcastle, which is a much easier course.

Travis Scribner and Logan Olson each cut about a minute and a half from their time, Tayson Wheeler was 3:17 faster, Caleb Hoover finished 4:28 better than Belle Fourche, and Richard Smith turned it on to finish over seven minutes faster.

“The freshmen boys and girls really knocked it out of the park. They keep getting better and I really appreciate their hard work and dedication. The future looks bright with this crew,” Beehler said. “Richard told me that he didn’t feel good, so he didn’t want to run. I said that since he was here, he needed to try and he ended up having the best race of his life.”

This week the team went to Hot Springs on Tuesday where all the girls ran varsity for the first time this year.

“We can run seven or eight in the varsity division, so I would like to split it up to try to get both the men’s varsity and JV to win the meet,” Beehler explained. “Some of that will depend on where my injured runners are at and how they are doing. I would also like to place as high as we can with the girls varsity.”

The Dogies were scheduled to run at Hart Ranch on Friday, but Beehler decided that since it is Homecoming, they will skip that due to having runners who are in the Homecoming Court and some in the band who are counted on for the parade.

### NHS Cross Country

**Newcastle @ Custer Invite 9/16/21**

**Men’s Results**

**Individual Varsity:**  
13. Avery Chick 19:23.52  
25. Wyatt Cole 20:30.13  
31. Matthew Drake 20:58.10  
36. Max Makousky 21:31.91

**Team JV:**

1. Rapid City Central 40  
2. Custer 53  
3. Newcastle 60  
4. Douglas AFB 71  
**Individual JV:**  
9. Tayson Wheeler 22:00.47  
11. Ben Carter 22:08.14  
13. Logan Olson 22:25.87  
41. Caleb Hoover 25:45.71  
43. Travis Scribner 26:10.37  
44. Richard Smith 26:23.09

**Women’s Results**

**Individual Varsity:**  
14. Aspen Bloom 23:29.88  
29. Janaya Ralls 25:24.87  
35. Tara Carter 26:12.33  
36. Taylor Conklin 26:16.67

**Individual JV:**

16. Julie Morris 26:16.67



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# Karpe

from Page 8

watching Big Mama (Debb Proctor) leading the crowd in “Sweet Caroline” almost got me a little choked up.

A rocking fan presence truly can be the 12th man in football, sixth man in basketball and 12th man in soccer, and I really think they were the seventh man for the volleyball team last Friday.

When the girls got down in the second set, the fans were there to lift them up and the

team turned the tables to come out on top.

And then a fan presence played against the Lady Dogies in Buffalo on Saturday where the Bison’s student section and pep band were out in full force to provide motivation for their girls.

As we go through the festivities of Homecoming this week, I have also been happy to see the level of school spirit which is alive and well at NHS. The

kids are excited and enjoying all the activities, and both the volleyball team and the football team have home games this Friday.

I fully expect both Schoonmaker Field and the Dogie Dome to be packed to the rafters — or the sky — with wildly exuberant fans ready, willing and able to cheer our teams on to victory. We need our fans to be our 12th and seventh man!



## A 'Gather' in Newcastle

On Thursday the Will James Society met at the Anna Miller Museum for their Annual Meeting, where they discussed the year's upcoming events and held officer elections.

The group started the day with a tour of the museum, asking curator Cindy Dysart questions about the different displays. The society donated between seven to 10 books written by Will James to the school libraries, the Weston County Public Library and other organizations. One of his books, "Smoky the Cowhorse," was a winner of the Newberry award in 1920.

For more information visit their website at [willjamesociety.org](http://willjamesociety.org).

Photos by Walter Sprague/NLJ

Above, Will James Society president Sharon DeCarlo checks out the displays at the Anna Miller Museum. Below, memers pose for a photo before conducting their annual meeting. The society meets in various locations throughout the country, this year choosing Newcastle for its three-day Gather that included tours of Weston County and the Black Hills, and culminating in dinner and speakers at the Newcastle Lodge & Convention Center.



## Book

from Page 1.....

began to question the relationship and the vast resources they were providing to their son and his companion.

"At some point, they decided Caroline wasn't just his caretaker, and that she was basically squeezing them for money and using Brent as the vehicle," Pinsky said in a 2016 interview with the *News Letter Journal*.

The Springfords eventually cut the couple off, a choice that would have a tragic result for the couple and their son.

"Approximately eight weeks later, Brent got on a bus in Boulder (Colo.), went to Montgomery (Ala.) and bludgeoned his two parents to death. He then went back to Boulder, where he was ultimately arrested after committing himself to a psychiatric institution. They extradited him and brought him back to Alabama, where he was accused of capital murder," Pinsky said. The author indicated that a plea had been negotiated for life in prison with no chance of parole.

According to Pinsky, sometime after Brent's arrest, Scoutt separated from him and then divorced him after the guilty plea. Following the divorce, Brent committed suicide in prison.

Suspicion surrounding the murder, according to Pinsky, began to increase after Brent's death. It is believed, by Pinsky and several law enforcement officials, that Brent had not acted on his own initiative when he killed his parents and that Scoutt manipulated him in some way into doing so.

Inspired by the story, Pinsky began his own investigation, hoping to turn the story into the book that will be released in January.

"I thought that was my story – Brent, Caroline, his parents, their murder and his suicide," Pinsky previously said.

Then, Pinsky learned of the 2015 death of Richard Campbell. At the time of his death, Campbell was living on Scoutt's property near Newcastle and his apparent cause of death was suicide.

After a coroner's inquest into the death, Campbell's death was ruled to be suspicious and the cause of death was changed to homicide.

Leading up to the inquest, Pinsky worked with former Sheriff's Sergeant Pat Watsabaugh, former Weston County Deputy Coroners Laura Sundstrom and Steve Rossier, and Weston County Coroner Cynthia Crabtree.

Through their investigation, the group discovered that Scoutt had purchased a life insurance policy on Campbell worth \$100,000. In addition

### About the Author

Mark Pinsky was born in Miami, Florida, in 1947 and raised in southern New Jersey in a conservative Jewish home. He holds degrees from both Duke and Columbia universities and began his journalism career in the mid-1960s at the *Duke University Chronicle*. After graduation, he moved to the local underground press and has written for both the *Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today*. Pinsky has penned several books, including "The Gospel According to The Simpsons: The Spiritual Life of the World's Most Animated Family," "The Gospel According to Disney: Faith, Trust and Pixie Dust" and another true crime story titled "Met Her on the Mountain."

More information about Pinsky and his books can be found by visiting his website, [markpinsky.com](http://markpinsky.com).

to the life insurance policy, they found that money from Campbell's father's estate had ended up in Scoutt's bank account.

Suspicion surrounding Campbell's death continued to peak as Scoutt continually requested a death certificate from the coroners so she would be allowed to collect the payout on the life insurance policy.

The number of parallels between the two men associated with Scoutt, specifically the manner in which Scoutt cut off communication between the men and their families, helped in leading the group to believe Scoutt had a larger role in both of the crimes.

"There is a surreal pattern of exploitation, both mental and financial," Pinsky said.

With Scoutt's reported death in 2019, the truth in the matter of both incidents may never be known. While Pinsky said her death will never let justice be seen in several potential crimes linked to Scoutt, her death did provide reprieve when it comes to the book and potential libel associated with the story.

The full story, as known by Pinsky, surrounding the deaths and crimes linked to Scoutt will soon be available for the public, thanks to NewSouth Books, the publishing company working with the author.

Pinsky said he hopes to visit Newcastle to promote his book in the future but that preorders are currently available through Amazon.

## COWBOY MUSIC AT WESTON COUNTY LIBRARY

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Shine, and show

Photos by Walter Sprague/NLJ

Dow Park in Newcastle was the setting for the 15th Annual 2021 Shine and Show car show, in conjunction with the Fall Festival. Many classic cars were on display while the proud owners answered questions about their cars, or just chatted about cars with other car buffs. The event was followed by the Annual Burn Out, while law enforcement officers controlled the traffic on Main Street. At left, Complete with the pole and speakers from a drive-in theater and side tray from a hamburger joint, a classic Comet recalls a nostalgic time of days gone by. Above, while riding in the bed of Troy Cade's classic Ford pickup, a German Shepherd takes notice of the clouds of smoke being raised from the rear tires.

# Fire up your taste buds with some hot and spicy foods

While there have been extremely hot temperatures outdoors this summer, Americans also love experiencing the heat with extra hot and spicy foods.

Your favorite chicken wing shop may rate its spiciness in clever terms ranging from "mild" to "hot" to "suicide hot," but did you know that there is the



Vicki Hayman  
Extension  
Notes

semi-scientific Scoville scale for measuring spicy hotness? This scale rates the amount of capsaicin, an ingredient in chili peppers that creates that burning sensation. Test your resolve today!

Eating chili peppers is good for your health. Chili peppers are a great source of beta carotene, potassium, calcium, and other vitamins. Consumption of chili peppers may even help reduce cholesterol.

It is essential to wear gloves when handling peppers. Some peppers



contain oils that can even blister skin or cause an allergic reaction. During and after handling peppers, it is also important to avoid touching your eyes and nose.

Peppers contain a chemical called capsaicin that makes them hot. Capsaicin cannot be found in any

other plant and is potent and easily identifiable. The heat produced by spices or foods is measured in Scoville Heat Units. This measurement tool was created by Wilbur Scoville, who pioneered measuring the heat produced by a food or spice. If peppers have a higher capsaicin content, they will be higher on the Scoville scale, while foods with less capsaicin or

"heat" are lower on the Scoville scale.

Using the SHU, we can compare foods to see which one has more "heat" or spice. Chili peppers are almost always hot, but these peppers are always evolving, so the "hottest" pepper title frequently changes.

For a frame of reference, jalapeños have an average range of 5,000 to 7,000 SHU. Tabasco averages from 30,000 to 50,000 SHU. Habanero peppers, long thought to be the hottest on the planet, generally average 200,000 to 300,000 SHU. The Carolina Reaper, current holder of the World Record for the hottest pepper, has been rated at 2,200,000 SHU. There is always another "hottest pepper in the world" ready to emerge.

Preliminary testing shows that Pepper X (3.18 Scoville units) and the Dragon's Breath chili (2,483,584 SHU) could be hotter than the Carolina Reaper. Official testing needs to be done before we add it to our list of hottest peppers.

Besides chili peppers, other hot and spicy foods can be made with ingredients such as wasabi, horseradish, or other spices. Americans like to make spicy chili, chicken wings, and gumbo.

Examples of international spicy foods include vindaloo, jerk chicken, Sichuan hot pot, and griot. While there are hot and spicy foods from all countries and cultures, some are more well-known for their spicy cuisines, such as Thailand, Mexico, Malaysia, Korea, Jamaica, India, and China.

After eating spicy food, it is better to have a dairy product like milk or yogurt nearby to ease the burning in your mouth. Drinking water will not bring relief. It can actually make the burning sensation worse because the water does not mix with the spices and oils and instead moves the heat around your mouth.

If you want to include more spicy foods in your diet, don't be afraid to dine at Thai or Indian restaurants that serve spicy food you may have never tried. Learn about the different types of chili peppers and discover your tolerance level and favorite flavors. Maybe try a spicier salsa or a new chili recipe.

While the comfort level of spiciness for some people may be a sprinkle of pepper on food or eating the spiciest peppers, fire up your tastebuds. Start with mild spices, then gradually increase the heat level.

## Accomplishments

### HONORING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT



#### Tidyman named to Sheridan College honor rolls

More than 300 students were named to the Sheridan College honor rolls for the spring 2021 semester, including Dylon Tidyman of Newcastle who was named to the Vice President's Honor Roll.

For full-time students to earn a place on the Vice President's Honor Roll, they must maintain full-time enrollment by completing 12 credit hours or more with letter grades of A, B, C, OR S and a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Credits counted in S graded classes may not exceed one credit.

#### Butler named to SNHU President's List

Kristi Butler of Newcastle has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's summer 2021 President's List. Eligibility for the President's List requires that a student accumulate an academic grade point average (GPA) of 3.7-4.0 and earn 12 credits for the term.

SNHU is a private, nonprofit institution with an 89-year history of edu-

cating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 150,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as the "Most Innovative" regional university by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at snhu.edu.

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# NEWCASTLE HIGH SCHOOL Class of 2021 HALL OF FAME

## Newcastle welcomes the Class of 2021

The Newcastle High School Hall of Fame will induct six members and one legacy family for the 2021 class.

The Hall of Fame was introduced to Weston County School District No. 1 Board of Trustees in 2013 by then NHS English instructor, Debb Proctor, to honor individuals that have made a significant contribution to the school and community.

Wyoming Refining Company made a sizeable donation that financed the initial creation of the Hall of Fame, and contributes annual support ensuring this tradition will continue for many years to come.

The banquet honoring these individuals to be inducted, introduced on these pages, will be held Thursday, Sept. 23, at 6 p.m. at the Weston County Senior Center. The public is invited to attend and tickets can be purchased at the NHS office.

The honorees will also serve as grand marshals during the NHS Homecoming Parade on Friday, Sept. 24, at 2 p.m. They will also be introduced during half time at the Homecoming game against Tongue River High School, which begins at 6 p.m., Friday evening.

dentistry since 2002.

He is a past president of the Wyoming Dental Association and has served on several American Dental Association boards and councils. Brian is very involved with soccer, having served as president of the Gillette Soccer Club and on the Wyoming Soccer Association board.

Brian has also served on the University of Wyoming Cowboy Joe Board of Directors for nine years, as well as the Gillette College Pronghorn Booster Board.



GEORGIA JAPP

Georgia Japp's 78 years were spent living, loving, and continually learning. She earned several degrees, that inspired her to help others.

After retirement, she went on to find her most important job and one she truly loved —being a school bus driver.

Georgia Evelyn Japp was born on July 9, 1942, in Sundance, Wyo., to C.K. "Smokey" Japp and Wilma L. (Trail) Japp. Georgia was a good student and loved learning. She graduated from Newcastle High School "most likely to succeed" in 1960, and received a full scholarship to attend the University of Wyoming for nursing. Georgia went on to obtain three more degrees from the University of Wyoming in accounting, criminology, and sociology.

Georgia was a jack-of-all trades and wasn't afraid to try anything new. She was blessed with four children, Marla, Suzy, Dottie and David. They were the "true" loves of her life. Georgia never met a stranger and made friends everywhere she went. She loved to travel and lived all over the United States, her favorite being in Homer, Alaska.

After retiring from being a counselor at the Lusk Women's Prison facility, she moved back to Newcastle to live with and help care for her mother. Georgia became restless and took a job as a bus driver for Weston County School District No. 1. She said it was

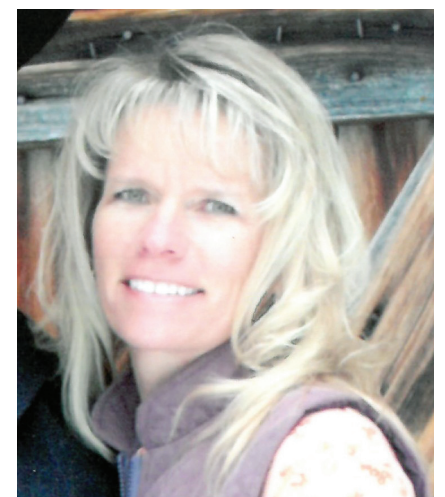


her favorite job, and she adored all "her" kids and touched many students' lives during the 10 years she drove her bus route.

Georgia loved all animals, especially her beloved dogs. She enjoyed cooking, and was an artist at heart. She blessed many of her family and friends with her paintings. Many students and people in the community will remember her genuine smile, along with her trademark phrase, "I love you, honey" that she used frequently.

After a 10-month courageous battle with cancer, Georgia passed away on March 22, 2021. Those carrying on her legacy, are her children, Suzy Blakesley, Dottie Wood, David Servinski, 13 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren along with many friends and students in the community whose lives she touched.

**JODENE (DIXON) BRANSCOM**  
Jodene was born Sept. 15, 1962, in Newcastle to Dennis and Marlene Dixon. She was the third of four children; she joined brother Dwight and sister Denette (Price). A few years later a sister, Patty (Drum), was born.



JODENE (DIXON) BRANSCOM

Jodene was raised on the Cheyenne River, west of Newcastle on the Dixon family ranch. She attended country school at Clareton until sixth grade. The family then moved into town where she attended middle and high school, graduating from Newcastle High School in 1980. During her high school career, Jodene was involved

— See Inductees, Page 10



ANNA COY

Anna Coy is the daughter of Donald and Sandra Walford and a 1989 graduate of Newcastle High School.

After high school Anna attended cosmetology school in Torrington, Wyo., and graduated in the fall of 1991.

She married TJ Coy in May of 1993 and they made Newcastle their home. Anna and TJ have four children, Courtney, Drew, Jacob, and Grace.

Through the years Anna enjoyed being the room mom for all of her kids. She helped plan school parties, went on field trips, was involved with any sports that her children played, and was always a major contributor to prom decorating. Anna would assist with prom decorating even when stu-

dents from other classes asked for assistance.

All of Anna's children have graduated, however she still enjoys helping in the classroom whenever needed. Anna is the happiest when she gets to spend time with her family, friends, and people in this community that she loves so much.



BRIAN HOKANSON

Brian Hokanson is a 1994 graduate of Newcastle High School, 1998 graduate of the University of Wyoming, and 2002 graduate of the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Dentistry.

He is married to Willa (Schlup), also from Newcastle. They have three kids, Ainsley, Sam, and Bridger, and live in Gillette where Brian has practiced

Wyoming Refining Company is proud to be the sole sponsor of the NHS Hall of Fame, and gladly continues to provide generous contributions to help ensure this new tradition will continue for many years to come.



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# Inductees

from Page 9

in sports and many clubs, FHA, FFA, track, and basketball, to name a few.

After graduation, she attended Sheridan College to start her dental hygiene career. Her peers voted her the "Outstanding Hygiene Student" of her class. She returned home to Newcastle and worked for Black Hills Dental for more than 30 years.

Along the way, she married Clay Branscom and to that union came two beautiful young ladies, Taren and Lindsey, and now three outstanding granddaughters, Hadley, Rainey, and Sidney. She was active during the girls' younger years in 4-H and school activities and become more devoted as they became Dogies as well.

Jodene had a heart for her community of Newcastle, her patients, family and friends.

Jodene loved the Lord and lived every day to glorify Him and to tell people about Him. She is greatly missed and will be always loved and remembered. Jodene passed away on Sept. 28, 2016.



LEAH BARRETT

Leah Barrett became the president of Northeast Community College in January 2020. Prior to coming to Northeast, she served as the vice president of Student Affairs for the Northern Wyoming Community College District from 2016-19.

Prior to that, she worked at four-year institutions across the United States in the area of student affairs.

She began her career at the University of Wyoming then moved onto professional experiences at Arizona State University, Valparaiso University and Boise State University. She then served as the associate vice president for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs at the College of Brockport, State University of New

York, from 2008-16.

She earned her bachelor's degree in business and an MBA from the University of Wyoming, then earned her doctorate in education at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, N.Y. Her professional career has included involvement in multiple professional and civic organizations, and in her personal life many volunteer hours supporting youth sports. Her most profound volunteer work was in the 1990s when she worked with the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt.

Leah graduated from Newcastle High School in 1988 and currently resides in Norfolk, Neb., with her husband and two sons.

For several years Northeast Community College has been recognized in the top 100 community colleges by the Aspen Institute and in December 2020 received an unexpected gift of \$15 million from Mackenzie Scott.



PAMELA PZINSKI

I was born in Chamberlain, S.D., to the parents of Donald and Jean McColley, where I joined my brother Rick McColley and sister Cathy McColley Aldrich. A younger sister, Debra McColley Piana, joined us later.

At the age of six weeks, my family moved to Newcastle, Wyo. Newcastle has been and remains my home today. Some of my most precious memories are of my childhood neighborhood that was filled with best friends and elderly neighbors. The village had a hand in raising the children in our neighborhood. "It took a village" or at least a neighborhood to raise a child.

My educational journey began in Weston County School District No. 1 with kindergarten. I was the first in my family with the opportunity to attend kindergarten. I attended Gertrude

Burns Elementary School, with Paul Scissons as my principal. The best year of my education was third grade. Ms. Pringle was my teacher, and she had a profound affect on me. It was because of her that I decided I wanted to be a third grade teacher. I loved my years in Newcastle Junior High School and Newcastle High School. I graduated from NHS in 1970.

In the autumn of 1970, I continued my education at the University of Wyoming at Laramie, Wyo. It was the first step toward reaching my goal of being a third grade teacher. My years at the university were very fulfilling years in my life. In 2009, 33 years after receiving my Bachelor of Arts in Education, I received a master's degree, in Curriculum and Instruction.

After graduating from UW in 1974, I returned to Newcastle where I renewed my acquaintance with Chuck Pzinski. We started dating and were married two years later. Chuck is a third generation rancher and farmer. We have been blessed with two children, Christopher and Matthew Pzinski. They have both joined their dad in the family business.

When my sons married, I was blessed with two daughters-in-law. Christopher is married to Lisa Praeuner Pzinski, and Matthew is married to Erin Vineyard Pzinski. Chris and Lisa blessed us with three perfect grandchildren: Cole, 8, Codi Shay, 4, and Cadi Jo, 3. Matt and Erin blessed us with a perfect grandson, Charlie.

In the Spring of 1976, I was interviewed for a third grade teaching position, by my former grade school principal, Mr. Paul Scissons. I was honored to teach under his tutelage. My dream of teaching was realized. I taught third grade for 20-plus years. In addition to third grade, I taught second grade, first grade, and ended my career as a reading specialist in 2009. My love for teaching grew with each change of assignment.

Teaching children, especially in the area of language arts, was and is still my passion. Each visit with a former student or a note from one thanking me for the love of reading or the way I touched their life, is my reward. It has been a career that fulfilled me and put much joy in my life. I continue to promote and encourage reading by serving on the Weston County Library Foundation Board. Teaching future Dogies has been the greatest reward and award of my life. I am humbled to be admitted into the Newcastle High School Hall of Fame.

## 2021 LEGACY FAMILY



DR. TRACY RAGLAND



MARY RAGLAND

It is indeed an honor and a privilege to nominate Dr. Tracy Ragland and his wife Mary as a power couple who truly deserve being nominated to the Newcastle High School Hall of Fame.

Tracy Ragland graduated from Newcastle High School and after completing his first teaching position in Kadoka, S.D., where he met his wife, Mary, and both chose to return to Newcastle. They made the decision to spend their lives sharing their gifts with our community.

Tracy is a visible presence. He is always amid students and teachers at the high school checking for understanding and providing much needed encouragement. Tracy is an active and empathetic listener. He believes in our community, and he helps folks feel worthy and confident that we can prevail and persevere no matter what the problem.

Mary is and continues to be one of the most outstanding teachers in Weston County School District No. 1. There is a kind of aura surrounding this dynamic woman as she performs her magic in the classroom. She uses a variety of teaching strategies, and she is cognizant of the importance of preparing lessons at the individual readiness of students. Mary has incredible rapport with children, parents, and our entire community. She single-handedly began the "Coats for Kids" project at Newcastle Elementary School. Her leadership and organization have meant the program continues even after her retirement.

Finally, these two folks have spent little time preparing and applying for awards of recognition. Instead, they have given their entire being to serve their calling in life. The world is and will continue to be a better place because Dr. Tracy Ragland and Mary Lynn Ragland are here.

Sincerely, Bette Sample

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\*Gao, Peng and Lee, Chang and Murphy, Dermot. (2018, October 18). Financing Dies in Darkness? The Impact of Newspaper Closures on Public Finance. Journal of Financial Economics (JFE), Forthcoming. Retrieved from SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3175555>

# Weather Vane

DATE	HI	LO
S-12	82	57
M-13	77	61
T-14	77	52
W-15	88	48
T-16	79	48
F-17	72	39
S-18	97	54

## Legal Notice

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

Civil Action Case No. CV-2106  
 Plaintiff/Petitioner: Donald Ballard Jr. vs.  
 Defendant/Respondent: Kimberly Janicke

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 Unknown  
 You are notified that a Complaint for Divorce

has been filed in the Wyoming District Court for the Sixth Judicial District, whose address is 1 West Main St. Newcastle, Wyoming 82701, seeking dissolution of your marriage to Donald Ballard Jr. Unless you file an Answer or Reponse or otherwise respond to the Complaint or Petition referenced above within 30 days following the last date of publication of this notice, a default judgement will be taken against you and a Decree of Divorce will be granted.  
 Dated this 13 day of September, 2021  
 By Clerk of Court: Tina Cote  
 Clerk of Court

(Publish September 16, 23 and 30 and October 7, 2021)

## Legal Notice

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

CIVIL ACTION CASE NO. CV-2103  
 GLORIA SCOTT, PLAINTIFF. VS.  
 JOSEPH HENRY, and THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES AND LEGATEES OF GEORGE L. HENRY AND MYRNA M. HENRY, and ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN INDIVIDUALS CLAIMING ANY INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3309 STIRRUP STREET, NEWCASTLE, WYOMING, DEFENDANTS

**NOTICE OF COMPLAINT**  
 Gloria Scott has filed a Complaint against you in the above-entitled action in the District Court of Weston County, Wyoming, Sixth Judicial District and has alleged the following:  
 1. Plaintiff has filed suit against you requesting that title to the following property be quieted in the name of the Plaintiff, to wit: **Lot 19, Block 3, West Saddle Subdivision**

of Arnold First Extension to Newcastle, Weston County, Wyoming, according to the recorded plat thereof.

2. Plaintiff claims ownership of said property and seeks to have title quieted solely in the Plaintiffs name.  
 3. Plaintiff has also requested that the District Court declare the Plaintiff's ownership in the foregoing described property to be superior to all others claiming an interest in such property.  
 4. The addresses of the foregoing named defendants are not known.  
 YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that if you fail to answer or otherwise defend the action within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication of this notice, a judgment by default may be entered against you.

Dated this 10 day of September, 2021  
 By Clerk of Court: Tina Cote  
 Clerk of Court

(Publish September 23 and 30 and October 7 and 14, 2021)

## Legal Notice

WESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1  
 116 CASPER AVENUE  
 NEWCASTLE, WY 82701

**INVITATION TO BID**  
**NATATORIUM POOL FILTER REPLACEMENT**  
 Notice is hereby given that Weston County School District #1, 116 Casper Avenue, Newcastle, WY 82701, will receive sealed bids for this project up to the date and time as stated below.

**BIDS DUE:**  
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2020 @ 2:00 PM**  
**WCSD1 ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**  
**116 CASPER AVENUE**  
**NEWCASTLE, WY 82701**  
 There will be no Pre-Bid Meeting; however, site visits can be scheduled by contacting Greg Gregory at Weston County

School District #1,  
 116 Casper Avenue, Newcastle, WY 82701  
 (307) 746-4613 or email: gregoryg@weston1.k12.wy.us  
 Drawings, Specifications, and Bid Forms are available after September 17, 2021 at: Wyoming School Facilities Division (https://state-construction.wyo.gov/school-facilities/projects). Bid Documents can also be accessed via www.questcdn.com, Quest Project #8033318. Wyoming preference will be given, according to the School Board Policy. The Weston County School District #1 reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities or informalities in biddings.  
 Greg Gregory  
 Maintenance Director  
 (Publish September 16 and 23, 2021)

## DEADLINE FOR LEGALS IS FRIDAY

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# journalism

the collection and editing of news for presentation through media.



# Fun and Games

**CROSSWORD**

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**Last week's answers**

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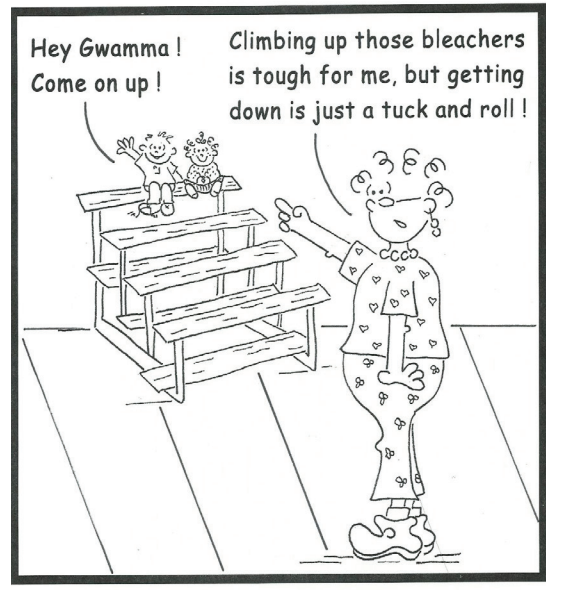
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4	6	5	3	1	8	7	9	2
3	2	1	7	4	9	6	5	8

- WORLD SERIES**
- ACROSS**
- Locker room infection?
  - Vow at #41 Across
  - Smoke plus fog
  - Veranda in Honolulu
  - Salmon on a bagel
  - Hindu religious teacher
  - To the left, on a boat
  - Hula dancer's necklace
  - Cheryl Strayed on the Pacific Crest Trail, e.g.
  - \*Winningest World Series team
  - \*Infield shape
  - Acronym, abbr.
  - Make or break, e.g.
  - Repellent brand
  - Minimal distortion
  - Loathes
  - Make children
  - Low-\_\_\_\_\_ diet
  - Cry of the Alps
  - Swarm like bees
  - Location of #6 Across vow
  - Tiny piece
  - Lack of intestinal movement
  - Siren's song
  - Buffalo lake
  - Makes sense, 2 words
  - "Aid and \_\_\_\_\_"
  - "Game, \_\_\_\_\_, match"

- Like time with Bill Maher
  - Road, in Rome
  - \*Current baseball champions
  - \*Won in NLCS or ALCS
  - Mode of communication
  - "\_\_\_\_\_ Now or Never"
  - Styluses
  - \*\_\_\_\_\_ Martin, 5-time World Series champion
  - Bad-mouth
  - Upright in position
  - Let it stand, to proofreader
  - Is, in Paris
  - Rodeo rope
- DOWN**
- Kill
  - Spanish appetizer
  - Any minute, arch.
  - Winter cover
  - Of advanced technology, colloquially
  - Bad wishes
  - Buck's partner
  - Nitrous \_\_\_\_\_, a.k.a. laughing gas
  - Sink or this?
  - Type of shark
  - Damien's prediction
  - To put a girdle on
  - Showing signs of wear and tear
  - Writer \_\_\_\_\_ Jong
  - Retirement plan acronym

- Like a Zoom session
- Port of old Rome
- \*\_\_\_\_\_ of dreams?
- Let out of jail
- \*\_\_\_\_\_ Classic
- \*Runner's destination
- Frankincense and myrrh, but not gold
- Adjust, as laces
- Between rain and snow
- Outback birds
- Prickle on a wire
- "Super" Christopher
- Definitely
- p in mpg
- Glittery decoration
- Digression
- Bone hollows
- Young female socialites, for short
- Fail to mention
- Earnhardt of racing fame
- Coating of aurum
- Attention-getting sound
- Pirates' affirmatives
- \*ALCS counterpart
- \*Nickname of Red Sox manager who won two World Series
- "\_\_\_\_\_ the season ..."

## Gwamma



## DID YOU KNOW? THERE HAVE BEEN 114 WORLD SERIES.

**Public Notice**

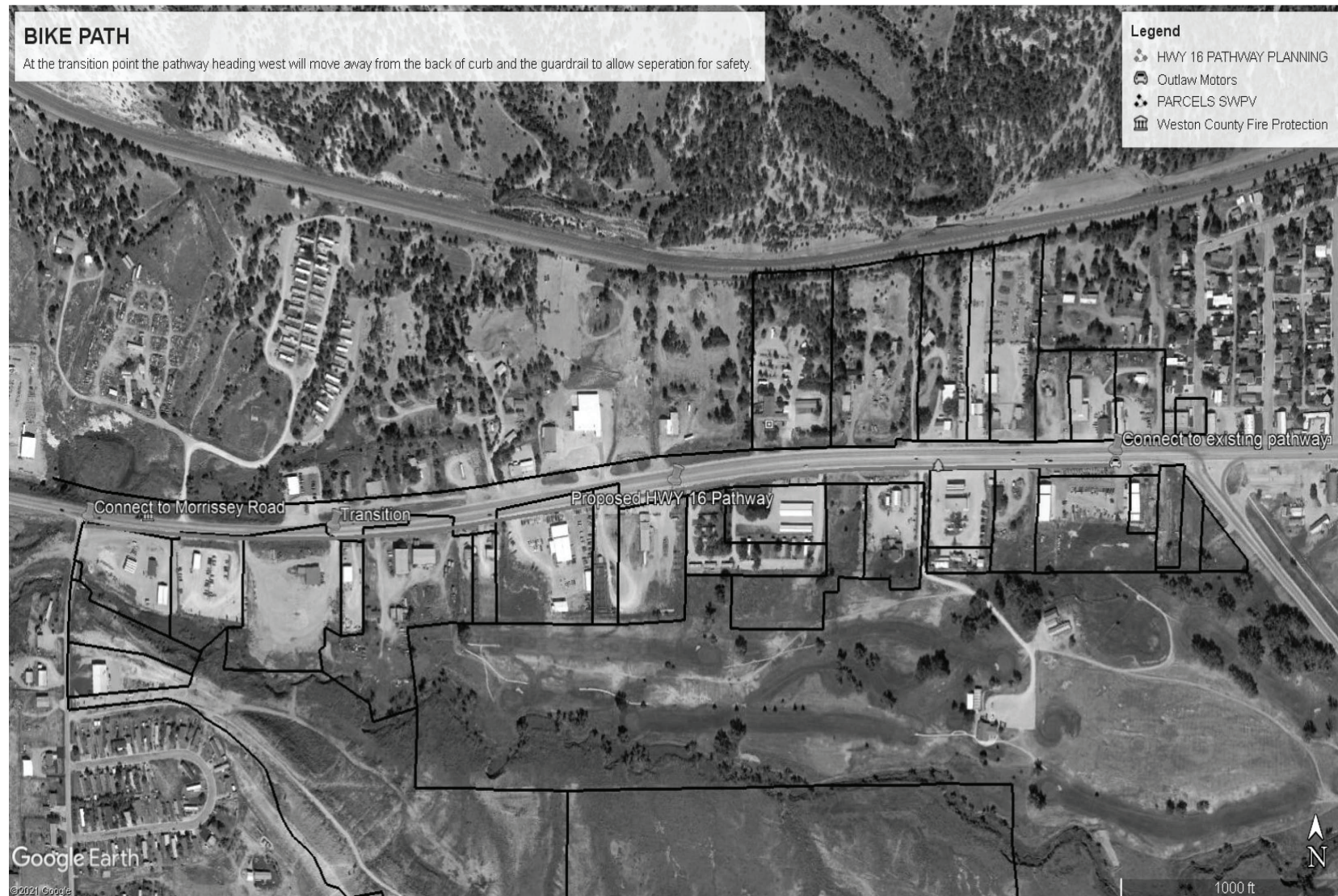
**MEETING NOTICE  
9/17/2021**

A neighborhood meeting is to be held Wednesday, September 29, 2021 at 5:30 P.M. at Newcastle's Council Chambers, 10 W. Warwick, to discuss the plans for constructing a concrete pedestrian pathway 8-foot in width along the south side of Highway 16 from the Highway 16 bypass to Morrissey Road. The Pathway adds an important segment to the Safe Routes to School program. Currently there is no pathway from the Highway 16 bypass to the west end of town. Adding this segment will encourage non-motorized travel and provide safety for those that currently travel along the edge of the highway. The pathway is typically to be placed along the back of curb. The curb is 8 feet in width providing a safety buffer with vehicular traffic that has a posted speed limit of 40 mph.

Estimated costs are \$442,000. Proposed funding for the project is to be 80% grant from the federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) administered by the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT) and 20% match from local funds. I look forward to the participation to all those interested. If you are unable to attend or would like to further comment please stop by the city office or call me at (307) 746-3535. Comments can be sent to my attention at the City of Newcastle, 10 W. Warwick, Newcastle, WY 82701.

Sincerely,  
Mike Moore  
City Engineer

(Publish September 23, 2021)



**Court Report**

**MUNICIPAL COURT REPORT FOR THE TOWN OF NEWCASTLE, JUDGE R. DOUGLAS DUMBRILL**

- David S. McElhiney, Vehicle Superintendent's Speed Zone (6+ MPH Over), Total Paid: \$125
- Nathan Wempen, Vehicle Superintendent's Speed Zone (6+ MPH Over), Total Paid: \$100
- Riley Paul Merry, Stop Sign, Total Paid: \$120
- Altangerel Khalzanbanid, Vehicle Superintendent's Speed Zone (6+ MPH Over), Total Paid: \$180
- Robert D. Daniels, Parked Along Roadway, Total Paid: \$35
- Kimberly A. DeFord, Public Nuisances (1st Offense), Total Paid: \$45
- Alec Logan Arthur, Vehicle Superintendent's Speed Zone (6+ MPH Over), Total Paid: \$155
- William Hammond Brown, Vehicle Superintendent's Speed Zone (6+ MPH Over), Total Paid: \$125
- Brian M. Klemmetsen, Stop Sign, Total Paid: \$120
- Ryan A. Fulk, Exhibition Driving (1st Offense), Total Paid: \$120
- Kirstin L. Jarboe, Stop Sign, Total Paid: \$120
- Timothy W. Cook, Vehicle Superintendent's Speed Zone (6+ MPH Over), Total Paid: \$130
- Chavira Alvaro Baeza, Dog at Large (1st Offense), Total Paid: \$45
- Susie Kay Overman, Vehicle Superintendent's Speed Zone (6+ MPH Over), Fees and Fines: \$115
- Adam J. Himrich, Careless Driving (1st Offense), Total Paid: \$220
- Zachary C. Lane, Exhibition Driving (1st Offense), Total Paid: \$120
- David Roland Tanner, Vehicle Superintendent's Speed Zone (6+ MPH Over), Total Paid: \$115
- Xiah Lee Gallardo, Stop Sign, Total Paid: \$120

Total Paid: \$40,115

(Publish September 23, 2021)

**Meeting Notice**

**WESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

Weston County Board of Trustees will have a board retreat on Wednesday, October 6 at 6:00 pm at the Pizza Barn.

(Publish September 23, 2021)

**Public Notice**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Wyoming Public Service Commission (Commission) approved the Application of Black Hills Wyoming Gas, LLC d/b/a Black Hills Energy (BHWG or the Company) to establish a total gas cost rate of \$0.3763 per therm, representing an increase of \$0.0218 per therm, effective on and after September 1, 2021. The rate is applicable to approximately 68,913 customers, including all Cheyenne and Cody Division customers and all Choice Gas customers in the Casper, Gillette, and Torrington Divisions who have elected to take service under the Gas Cost Adjustment Rate (formerly known as the Pass-on Rate [Regulated Rate]). The Commission's approval is subject to notice, protest, intervention, refund, change, further investigation, opportunity for hearing, and further order of the Commission.

The proposed gas cost rate results in a monthly increase of approximately \$0.78 or 1.9% for residential customers using a monthly average of 36 therms during the rate-effective period from September 1, 2021 to November 30, 2021, and results in an overall projected dollar-for-dollar increase in the Company's revenues of approximately \$427,004 during the same period.

The Commission also approved the Company's request to implement a February 2021 Extreme Weather Rider rate on an interim basis, subject to refund or adjustment, effective September 1, 2021, in Docket No. 30026-45-GP-21. The net effect of the changes is an increase in the volumetric rate of \$0.1444 per therm and results in an average monthly increase of approximately

\$5.19 or 12.3% for residential customers using a monthly average of 36 therms during the rate-effective period from September 2021 through November 2021.

Commission Rule Chapter 3, Section 26 allows a utility to pass on to its customers known or projected commodity cost increases or decreases on a dollar-for-dollar basis, subject to public notice, opportunity for hearing and refund.

Interested persons may inspect the Application at BHWG's Wyoming business office and at the Commission's offices in Cheyenne. The Application is available for inspection by any interested person during regular business hours or online at: <http://psc.wyo.gov>.

Anyone desiring to file a statement, intervention petition, protest or request for a public hearing in this matter must file in writing with the Commission on or before October 8, 2021. A proposed intervention or request for hearing must set forth the grounds under which it is made and the position and interest of the petitioner in this proceeding.

If you wish to participate in this matter and you require reasonable accommodation for a disability, please contact the Commission at (307) 777-7427, or 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, to make arrangements. Communications-impaired persons may also contact the Commission by accessing Wyoming Relay at 711. Please mention Docket No. 30026-47-GP-21 in your communications. Dated: September 9, 2021.

(Publish September 16 and 23, 2021)

**Legal Notice**

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

**Probate No. PR-8257 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Dianna L. Holscher Deceased.**

**NOTICE OF PROBATE TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID ESTATE:**

You are hereby notified that, pursuant to W.S. §2-1-205, Noella Otten has filed a sworn Application for Decree of Distribution with the Clerk of the above-entitled court wherein she prays the following-described real property at 43 Skull Creek Road, Osage, WY be set over and distributed to the decedent's nieces and nephews:

A tract of land in the E1/2SE1/4 of Section 4, Township 46N, Range 63W of the 6th P.M., Weston County, Wyoming, being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the SE corner of the said Section 4, run N 0° 54' E along the east boundary of the said Section 4 for 1189.38 feet to the Southeast corner of this tract

and the point of beginning; Thence S 89°07' W for 280 feet to the Southwest corner of this tract; Thence N 0°54' E for 310 feet to the Northwest corner of this tract; Thence N 89°07' E for 280 feet; Thence S 0°54' W along the East boundary of the said Section 4 for 310 feet to the point of beginning; Said tract containing 2.0 acres, more or less, together with all improvements situated thereon and all appurtenances applicable thereto.

and the personal property consisting of the personal effects of Dianna L. Holscher be set over and distributed to the decedent's nieces and nephews, Tara Blissard, John Vaught, Kena Derby, Penny Vaught, Jason Blissard, Steven Vaught, and Noella Otten pursuant to the provisions of W.S. §2-1-205.

If no objection to the application has been filed within thirty (30) days of the first day of publication, to-wit, October 26, 2021, the Court shall enter such a decree. Dated this 15th day of September, 2021

Anthony Toscana  
307 Law Office  
307-257-6368

(Publish September 23 and 30, 2021)

**Election Notice**

**PROCLAMATION OF ELECTION SWEETWATER I&S DISTRICT**

Sweetwater Improvement & Service District will be holding an election on November 2, 2021. The filing officer is Shirley Parks. The elected office is for Co-Director, for a term of four years. To be a qualified candidate for this position the candidate must be a landowner within the boundaries of the District and have no relative serving on the current board. Applications will be accepted by mailing them to 107 Breakneck Rd, Newcastle, WY 82701. This will be a mail-in ballot election.

(Publish September 23, 2021)

**Public Notice**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Wyoming Public Service Commission (Commission) approved the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. d/b/a Black Hills Energy (BHE or Company) for authority to pass on an Energy Cost Adjustment (ECA) increase of \$0.012 per kilowatt hour (kWh), effective for usage on and after September 1, 2021. The proposed rate is due to increased purchased power and natural gas costs, largely driven by winter storm Uri, combined with a decrease in annual retail energy sales. The Commission's approval is subject to notice, protest, intervention, refund, change, further investigation, opportunity for hearing and further order of the Commission.

The average residential customer using approximately 771 kWh per month may expect a monthly increase of \$9.25, or 9.77%, excluding taxes. Actual bills will vary with usage.

This is not a complete description of the Application. It is on file in the Commission's offices in Cheyenne, Wyoming, and in the Company's offices in Newcastle, Wyoming. The Application is available for inspection, by any interested person, during regular business hours or online at: <http://psc.wyo.gov>.

Anyone desiring to file a statement, intervention petition, protest, or request for hearing must file, in writing, with the Commission on or before October 18, 2021. An intervention or request for hearing must set forth the grounds under which it is made as well as the position and interest of the petitioner. Please reference Docket No. 20002-122-EM21 (Record No. 15888) in your communications.

If you wish to participate in this matter and you require reasonable accommodation for a disability, please contact the Commission at (307) 777-7427, or 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, to make arrangements. Communications-impaired persons may contact the Commission through Wyoming Relay at 711.

Dated: September 17, 2021.

(Publish September 23 and 30, 2021)

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(307)746-8726

Managing Editor Kim Dean  
circulation@newsfj.com  
(307)746-2777

News Editor Alexis Barker  
reporter@newsfj.com  
(307)941-1413

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**Police Blotter**

**August 22**  
 Medical Assist. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Civil Matter Reported. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Suspicious Person Reported. Report of a Dog at Large.

**August 23**  
 Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Computer Fraud Reported. Medical Assist. Traffic Stop, Verbal Warning Issued. Alarm Reported. Minor Two Vehicle Accident Reported. Assault Reported. Assist Other Agency. Disorderly Conduct Reported. Domestic Issue Reported. Abandoned 911.

**August 24**  
 Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Medical Assist. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Suspicious Person Reported. Theft Reported. Arrest Made. Suspended Driver Reported. VIN Inspection Requested. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Report of a Dog at Large, Impounded.

**August 25**  
 Suspicious Activity Reported. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Assist Other Agency. Civil Matter Reported. Report of an Injured Bird on the Highway. Medical Assist. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Commercial Burglar Alarm Reported. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued.

**August 26**  
 Arrest Warrant Issued. Arrest Warrant Issued. Arrest Warrant Issued. Arrest Warrant Issued. Assist Other Agency. School Walkthrough. School Walkthrough. Medical Assist. Public Assist Requested. Warrant Arrest Made. Arrest Warrant Issued. 911 Misdiagnosis. Agency Assist. Arrest Warrant Issued. Medical Assist. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Vehicle Vs. Deer Accident. Disorderly Subject Reported.

**August 27**  
 Commercial Burglar Alarm Reported. Vandalism Reported. Welfare Check Requested. VIN Inspection Requested. Found Animal Reported. Missing Child Reported. Assist Other Agency. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Arrest Warrant Issued. 911 Misdiagnosis. Probation Violation Reported. Welfare Check Requested. Medical Assist. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued.

**August 28**  
 Domestic Issue Reported. Suspicious Activity Reported. Welfare Check Requested. Animal Issue Reported. Suspicious Activity Reported. Civil Matter Reported. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. 911 Misdiagnosis. Welfare Check Requested. Trespassing Order Requested. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, ERO Issued. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued.

**August 29**  
 Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Driving Complaint. Report of a Dog at Large. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Suspicious Activity Reported. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Hit and Run Accident Reported. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Assist Other Agency. Suspicious Person Reported.

**August 30**  
 Assist Other Agency. Trespassing Order Requested. Vandalism Reported. School Walkthrough. Parking Complaint. 911 Misdiagnosis. Assist Other Agency. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. VIN Inspection Requested. School Walkthrough. Motorist Assist. Arrest Warrant Issued. Medical Assist. Arrest Warrant Issued.

**August 31**  
 Commercial Burglar Alarm Reported. Assist Other Agency. Assist Other Agency. School Walkthrough. Assist Other Agency. School Walkthrough. Minor in Possession of Nicotine. Protection Order Issued. 911 Misdiagnosis.

**September 1**  
 Assist Other Agency. School Walkthrough. School Walkthrough. VIN Inspection Requested. Injured Deer Reported. MIP Nicotine Reported. Arrest Warrant Issued. Arrest Warrant Issued. Arrest Warrant Issued. Public Assist Requested. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Traffic Stop, Arrest Made.

**September 2**  
 Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Report of a Dog at Large. Arrest Warrant Issued. Arrest Warrant Issued. Welfare Check Requested. Arrest Warrant Issued. Parking Complaint. Arrest Warrant Issued. Found Property Reported. Arrest Warrant Issued. Animal Problem Reported. Drunk Driver Reported.

**September 3**  
 Suspicious Activity Reported. Commercial Burglar Alarm Reported. Fire Alarm Reported. Trespassing Order Requested. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. VIN Inspection Requested. VIN Inspection Requested. Medical Alarm Reported. VIN Inspection Requested. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Report of a Dog at Large. Arrest Warrant Issued. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Suspicious Activity Reported.

**September 4**  
 Report of a Dog at Large, Written Warning Issued. Threats Made. Lost Property Reported. 911 Misdiagnosis. Missing Animal Reported. Assault Reported. Traffic Stop, Verbal Warning Issued. Bar Walkthrough Reported. Assault Reported. Report of a Dog at Large, Impounded.



**September 5**  
 Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Barking Dogs Reported. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Found Property Reported. 911 Misdiagnosis. Report of a Dog at Large.

**September 6**  
 Abandoned 911. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Warrant Arrest Made. Abandoned 911. Motorist Assist. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Warrant Arrest Made. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Medical Assist. Abandoned 911.

**September 7**  
 Assist Other Agency. Assist Other Agency. Commercial Burglar Alarm Reported. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. School Walkthrough. School Walkthrough. VIN Inspection Requested. Report of a Dog at Large. Extra Patrol Requested. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Rattlesnake Reported. Report of a Dog at Large. Report of a Dog at Large. Medical Assist. Suspicious People Reported. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Medical Assist. VIN Inspection Requested. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Water Leak Reported. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Fireworks Violation Reported.

**September 8**  
 Arrest Warrant Issued. VIN Inspection Requested. VIN Inspection Requested. School Walkthrough. School Walkthrough. VIN Inspection Requested. Medical Assist. Check Fraud Reported. MIP Alcohol Reported. Verbal Warning Issued. Protection Order Issued.

**September 9**  
 Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Extra Patrol Requested. Welfare Check Requested. School Bus Arm Runner Reported. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Suspicious Activity Reported.

**September 10**  
 Suspicious Activity Reported. Domestic Issue Reported. Arrest Made. VIN Inspection Requested. Motorist Assist Requested. Arrest Warrant Issued. VIN Inspection Requested. Lost Property Reported. Found Property Reported. Traffic Stop, Verbal Warning Issued. Suspicious Activity Reported.

**September 11**  
 Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Panic Alarm Reported. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Abandoned 911. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Civil Standby Requested. Welfare Check Requested. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Prowler Reported.

**September 12**  
 Suspicious Activity Reported. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Fire Alarm Reported. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. VIN Inspection Requested. Illegal Dumping Reported. Abandoned 911. Welfare Check Requested. Medical Assist. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued.

**September 13**  
 School Walkthrough. Civil Matter Reported. School Walkthrough. Theft Reported. VIN Inspection Requested. VIN Inspection Requested. Civil Matter Reported. VIN Inspection Requested. Assist Other Agency. Assist Other Agency. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Report of a Dog at Large.

**September 14**  
 Medical Assist. Commercial Burglar Alarm Reported. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. School Walkthrough. School Walkthrough. VIN Inspection Requested. Arrest Warrant Issued. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Disorderly Subject Reported. VIN Inspection Requested. Assist Other Agency.

**September 15**  
 Arrest Warrant Issued. Arrest Warrant Issued. Arrest Warrant Issued. Arrest Warrant Issued. School Walkthrough. School Walkthrough. Lost Property Reported. Arrest Warrant Executed. Warrant Arrest Executed. Runaway Reported. Arrest Warrant Issued. Arrest Warrant Issued. Warrant Arrest Executed. Assist Other Agency. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Extra Patrol Requested. Arrest Warrant Issued. Arrest Warrant Issued. Suspicious Activity Reported.

**September 16**  
 Hit and Run Accident Reported. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Public Assist Requested. MIP Nicotine Reported. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. School Walkthrough. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. 911 Misdiagnosis. Public Intoxication Reported. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued.

**September 17**  
 School Walkthrough. Dead Deer Reported. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Verbal Warning Issued. Minor Two Vehicle Accident Reported. Assist Other Agency.

**September 18**  
 Parking Complaint. Abandoned 911. Welfare Check Requested. Suspended Driver Reported. VIN Inspection Requested. 911 Misdiagnosis. Lost Property Reported. Found Property Reported. 911 Misdiagnosis. Harassment Reported. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Abandoned 911. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued.

# Cowboy State Look-In

Courtesy of the Wyoming News Exchange



## Gas prices fall 3.4 cents

CHEYENNE (WNE) — Wyoming gas prices have fallen 3.4 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.47 per gallon Monday, according to GasBuddy.com's daily survey of 494 stations in Wyoming. Gas prices in Wyoming are 8.4 cents per gallon lower than a month ago, and stand \$1.31 per gallon higher than a year ago. According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Wyoming was priced at \$2.97 per gallon Monday, while the most expensive was \$4.10, a difference of \$1.13 per gallon. The national average price of gasoline has risen 1.3 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.18 per gallon Monday. The national average is up 1.8 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands \$1.01 per gallon higher than a year ago.

## Attendance breaks record

CODY (WNE) — Yellowstone National Park continued its summer of historic visitation with a record-breaking 921,844 recreation visits in August. This beat the previous record set in August 2017 when 916,166 people came, many for the solar eclipse. In July, the Park had its first month of visitation with more than a million visitors. So far in 2021, the Park has hosted 3,590,904 recreation visits, a 15% increase from the same period in 2019 and 40% from 2020. In order to break the annual visitation record set in 2016, only 666,274 people will have to visit the Park over the remainder of the year. This number has been exceeded in September alone the last three years in a row. During 2021, the Park has broken every monthly record for visitation besides January and February. The East Entrance had its third busiest August on record with 42,927 visitors. It was the fourth busiest of the five gates in the Park, ahead of the Northeast Entrance.

## Tongue River Cave reopened

SHERIDAN (WNE) — Access to Tongue River Cave is now open to individuals that register and obtain the lock passcode, which will change frequently. An updated management order was released by the USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Region in Golden, Colorado. This management order states that all caves in the region — which includes Colorado and parts of Wyoming, Nebraska, South Dakota and Kansas — require mandatory registration. The new order also changed the annual seasonal closure for Tongue River and Cliff Dwellers Caves to April 15 through Aug. 31. Other significant caves in the Bighorn National Forest will be closed Oct. 15 through April 15. The reasoning behind the change of the seasonal closure comes from the last few seasons of monitoring and learning how bats use caves in the Bighorn National Forest. After the 2019 discovery of a maternity roost of Townsend's big-eared bats in Tongue River Cave, scientists were able to monitor bat activity during the temporary cave closure. It was also found that few bats were utilizing Tongue River and Cliff Dwellers Caves for hibernating. In addition to monitoring bat use, surveillance of the area noted vandalism and damage to the sensitive cave ecosystem. Vandalism to the cave closure and a break-in occurred in early July 2021, resulting in expensive repairs to federal property and suspected mineral theft. This not only impacted taxpayer funds to fix what was damaged, it also removed part of the cave that took millennia to build and is not replaceable, thus forever altering the experience of future visitors.

## Redistricting webpage launched

SHERIDAN (WNE) — The Wyoming Legislature has launched a webpage dedicated to providing the public with up-to-date information regarding this year's legislative redistricting. A link to the webpage is now prominently displayed on the Legislature's homepage at wyoleg.gov. The page provides the public with a wide variety of information about the redistricting process as well as a list of scheduled public meetings and work sessions. The webpage will continuously be updated with draft redistricting plans and maps as the Joint Corporations, Elections and Political Subdivisions Committee's work progresses. In addition to the webpage, the Legislature will also conduct informational meetings and work sessions in communities around the state to gather public input as part of the redistricting process. Details on these meetings can be found on the Joint Corporations, Elections and Political Subdivisions Committee's meeting page. Although remote participation will be provided for most of these meetings, the work sessions will not be streamed live on YouTube. Those wishing to participate remotely are encouraged to sign up on the Legislature's website by 5 p.m. the day prior to the meeting. The purpose of redistricting is to redraw the geographic boundaries of an area from which people are elected as representatives to the Legislature. Under the state constitution, the Legislature is required to redraw state legislative districts prior to the first budget session following the U.S. Census to reflect shifts in the state's population. The full Legislature will adopt the redistricting plan during the 2022 Budget Session, which is scheduled to convene Feb. 14.

## Algae bloom advisory for Keyhole

GILLETTE (WNE) — Recreational use and toxin advisories went into effect at Keyhole State Park this month after more of the harmful cyanobacterial blooms, otherwise known as blue-green algae, were spotted in two separate parts of the reservoir last month. Recreational use advisories were issued on Aug. 19 for the Rocky Point and Wind Creek areas of the reservoir, based on samples collected Aug. 16, according to the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality map of statewide algae blooms. The bloom advisories in Keyhole are two of 26 harmful cyanobacterial bloom advisories issued throughout Wyoming this summer. Those same Keyhole blooms also warranted toxin advisories, which were issued on Sept. 3 and indicate the algae bloom samples tested conclusively for dangerous levels of toxins, which also means that people and pets should avoid contact with the blooms. The toxin advisories at Keyhole are two of five toxin advisories issued by the state Department of Environmental Quality this summer. Park goers and their animals are advised to avoid water in the areas with harmful cyanobacterial blooms. The park remains open through the advisories, which remain in place until the blooms dissipate or the end of summer recreation season comes on Sept. 30. The blooms, which also occurred in Keyhole Reservoir last August, more typically occur in late summer when a combination of warm temperatures and still water create an environment for the bacteria to proliferate.

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Stephanie 746-8007 or Sue 746-3325 for more information.

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### BLAST FROM THE PAST

Here is a photo from the News Letter Journal's archives. Dates and subjects unknown. Email reporter@newsnj.com to share any information about these photos or events.

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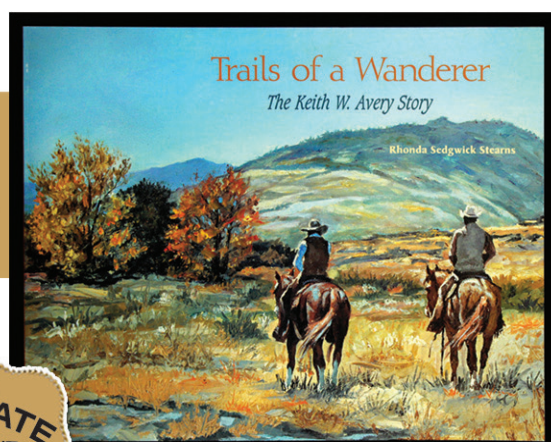
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## Homecoming royalty



Photo by KateLynn Slaamot/NLJ

Newcastle High School's 2021 homecoming court pose for a photo on Monday, at the start of Homecoming Week. Pictured are Slade Roberson, Nickalena Schantel, Aiden Chick, Olivia McVay, Zade Ornsborn, Shawnee Miles, Avery Chick, and LaKacee Lipp. The 2021 Homecoming King and Queen, Slade Roberson and Shawnee Miles, were crowned later that day in a ceremony at the school (see photo on Page 1).

## Hoffman revamps NHS

**Avery Chick**  
NLJ Intern

COVID-19 truly threw a curveball at the entire world last year. It hit school systems across the United States particularly hard. Newcastle High School, a school that was significantly less affected by the virus than most, experienced an entire shutdown and then a slowed recovery when the doors opened for the 2020-21 school year. Along with COVID-19 restrictions, NHS also had lost its principal of 16 years, Tracy Ragland, to retirement. But in spite of all the changes – and with most restrictions lifted – NHS was in for quite a different-looking year.

Bryce Hoffman, previously the woodshop teacher and then vice principal of Newcastle Elementary School, would be taking over the administrative responsibilities of NHS as the new principal. Coming into the position, Hoffman was ready to make some changes while still trying to make NHS the best place possible. On the first day of the new school year, the annual “first day assembly” was held in Crouch Auditorium. Hoffman stated that his approach to learning in his newest venture was to do his best to “make sure every student at Newcastle High School felt safe, supported and cared for.”

“I’d really like each student to have a trusted adult who



**Bryce Hoffman**

important for them,” Hoffman said. “Distracted learners do not learn very well. Whether it be a text from a peer, or even a parent, that can dampen a student’s entire class period or even day, so we want to try and minimize the chance of them seeing that text as much as possible.” Students are now directed to keep their cell phones put away during class hours. Teachers are to heavily restrict cellphone usage during class when they are needed.

In 2015, Newcastle High School inserted what we all know now as ER time, then named Tech Time. During this time, students would have the opportunity to work on content that they may have gotten behind on or needed to further develop. Since then, Hoffman said, it had largely been underutilized.

“At the time, I was completing my master’s and I really wanted to answer the question of ‘What do you do when students don’t get it, or don’t understand?’ How can we use this 30-minute block of time to help students? The problem with this time was the student-to-teacher ratio,” he said. “With the new placing of students into classrooms, we try to place them to advocate for an 8-1 student-to-teacher ratio. We have about 75 students in the commons who are all either not requesting a quiet room or not on the D&F list (the athletic ineligibility list).”

The last major thing that Hoffman changed was the “leaving the school” policy. His philosophy, he said, was that he felt responsible for each and every student at NHS.

“I wouldn’t be able to sleep at night if someone got into an accident leaving the school and I was supposed to be responsible for you. I am really just concerned for the safety and well-being of our students,” Hoffman said.

With all the changes to rules and in approaches to learning, NHS should be in for quite a different-looking school year. Hoffman said he will be looking to the senior class of 2022 to lead Newcastle High School in showcasing their ideas regarding initiatives, school spirit and overall school improvement, and he said that they are off to a very nice start.

they can confide in ..., who they can reach out to if they are struggling,” Hoffman declared. He said he wants to instill his three goals of safe, supported and cared for into his students, as well as his staff, and has a solid plan to do so.

“When you’re struggling, you should be able to reach out to an adult at school, so we are trying our best to create that environment for safe, supported and cared for learning,” he said. “We also want our students to feel supported academically. In my opinion, high school students are young adults, all at different levels. To support them, we have to meet everyone where they’re at.”

Hoffman spoke about this in relation to his changes to enrichment recovery time (better known as ER time in the halls of NHS). He said that his last goal of students feeling “cared for” is a relatively simple concept to grasp. But, Hoffman said, he wants to be a caring face that students see when they walk in the building each day. He plans to try hard to make NHS an environment where students feel as comfortable as possible.

In order to achieve the environment that Hoffman thinks is prime for learning, academics and personal growth and development, certain rules have been put in place to help guide students. One of the biggest changes is a new phone policy.

“Last spring, I surveyed teachers and asked, ‘What are some things that I can help you with to support students in this school?’ Eighty-seven percent of teachers surveyed said that looking at the cellphone policy would be something that was

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