

Health orders still questioned

■ Commissioners vow to continue seeking state approval on COVID-19 variance

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

The Weston County commissioners approved and signed a variance to the public health orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic for Weston

County despite the county health officer's hesitation to sign such a variance at the commissioners' Oct. 6 meeting. The commissioners' signatures on a variance does not make it official, however, because the document must be approved by the state before it can

go into effect, according to County Attorney Alex Berger.

During discussion and included in the wording of the variance are the commissioners' primary concern that public health orders related to the pandemic are creating social ills

and having other negative effects on the county's population. On Oct. 20 during their regular meeting, commissioners discussed drafting a countywide variance for consideration by Dr. Michael Jording, the county's public health officer. The

commissioners noted then that they were using a variance approved for Niobrara County as a guide.

"These variances don't look particularly controversial, but I will say

— See **Variance**, Page 10

County hits 102 positives

■ COVID-19 on the rise

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

Weston County and the state of Wyoming continue to see record-breaking increases in the number of COVID-19 cases confirmed by the state. State health officials have reported 2,166 cases statewide in the past week, while Weston County has seen 33 confirmed cases during the same period.

The total number of confirmed cases in Weston County is 102, with 30 other individuals labeled as probable cases, according to the Wyoming Department of Health. As of

— See **COVID**, Page 2

FOCUS to host wine fundraiser

Hannah Gross
NLJ Correspondent

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and there's no time like the present to get involved. You can do just that at the first annual wine-pull fundraiser for FOCUS, Inc., a nonprofit organization that assists victims of domestic abuse. The event will start at 4 p.m.

— See **FOCUS**, Page 8

WHAT
FOCUS Annual Wine-Pull Fundraiser

Where:
Pizza Barn
64 Old U.S. Hwy 85,
Newcastle

When:
Nov. 20, 4 p.m.

Cost:
\$20 per bottle

Pouring it on



Photo by Sonja Karp/NLJ

Newcastle Dogie Autumn Mills poured it on in the breaststroke at the 3A East Conference meet and dropped an impressive nine and a half seconds from her best time in that event. Read more on Page 13.

Hospital preparing as cases climb

■ Restrictions to become tougher as positive COVID tests increase

"We are reliant on the community. If the percentage of positives gets to a certain point in the community, the service area of Weston County, we may have to close down more. We are highly dependent on the community and if they continue to defy orders, not wear masks and not retain a low percentage of positives it is going to be even more detrimental to the residents."

— Maureen Cadwell, Weston County Health Services CEO



Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

As cases of COVID-19 in the county, state and nation continue to rise, Weston County Health Services is doing everything it can to prepare the hospital for a potential increase in patients, according to CEO Maureen Cadwell. Despite a seemingly low number of confirmed cases in the community until the past few weeks, Cadwell said, the facility has been facing issues since the pandemic began and that there is no end in sight.

Some of these issues, including access to testing and personal protective equipment, have been around since March when the pandemic first made its way to Wyoming, she said.

But other issues, including having enough staff to fill the schedule, have only become a sore spot as the illness makes its way through the community, according to Cadwell.

With known community spread and close contact quarantines on the rise, more and more hospital staff are unable to work because of state health orders and facility protocols surrounding illness that must be followed. Not only does COVID-19 impact the ability of staff to work, but other illnesses, including the cold or flu, can have employees out of work due to protocols for remaining home while ill.

"We are struggling right now because we have staff that are out

— See **Hospital**, Page 2

New law to enforce repair of retaining walls

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

Property owners in Newcastle who have crumbling retaining walls will face fines and/or jail time if they fail to repair them. The Newcastle City Council has approved an ordinance it hopes will enforce repair of damaged retaining walls on private property.

— See **Walls**, Page 8

WEATHER FORECAST

Thursday
Partly Cloudy
Hi 50, Lo 27



Friday
Sunny
Hi 52, Lo 33



Saturday
Mostly Sunny
Hi 39, Lo 23



Sunday
Mostly Sunny
Hi 48, Lo 31



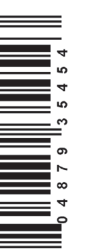
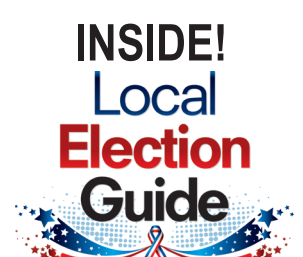
Monday
Sunny
Hi 55, Lo 34



Tuesday
Sunny
Hi 55, Lo 36



Wednesday
Partly Cloudy
Hi 55 Lo 32



REMEMBER TO VOTE
on November 3rd

From city council to the Wyoming Legislature and Congress, First State Bank would like to thank those individuals seeking a public office. Throwing your hat in the ring is a big decision, one that requires a commitment of time and tenacity. Your willingness to serve makes many things in our communities possible. Please know that we appreciate your service.

To the voters in our community, please remember to get out and vote on November 3. Registration and polling site information is available at the Weston County courthouse.

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GOOD CITIZENS
OCTOBER 2020

Mya Stoudt
3rd, Mrs. Wynia

In room 132, you can find a student who comes in each day with a smile on her face and a positive attitude. This student is especially responsible, she comes in every morning and gets started on her daily assignments right away. She always does her best and gives it 110 percent every time. She is kind to those around her and always works well in a group. This student does not have trouble getting along with others at recess, she plays respectfully with all her classmates each and every day. This month's Good Citizen is caring; she never hesitates to jump in and help when someone needs a hand. Congratulations to this month's Good Citizen, Mya Stoudt.

Ashlyn Leonard
4th, Mrs. Liggett

Top notch! That is how I would describe our first fourth grade Good Citizen of 2020! This young lady embodies the many qualities of a good citizen. She is kind, courteous, honest, hardworking, polite, and always gracious. I have found that she always comes to school prepared for the day, determined to do her very best. She is kind and polite to everyone around her and positively a joy to have in class. I am absolutely certain she will continue to be a good citizen all the days of her life. Congratulations Ashlyn Leonard!

Joey Heberling
5th, Mr. Dickey

The student receiving this month's Good Citizen is hardworking, honest and kind to all. This student comes in every day and gives 100 percent regardless of what task is put in front of him. This month's Good Citizen is a good friend to all his classmates. This young man is willing to help in the classroom and is a great teammate. He never hesitates to step up and assist a classmate when given an opportunity. The qualities this young man has will help him accomplish whatever he sets out to do. Congratulations Joey Heberling, our fifth grade Good Citizen Award winner!

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Accomplishments

EWC Phi Theta Kappa inducts new members

Eastern Wyoming College is pleased to announce that 14 students were inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society on Sept. 17. Phi Theta Kappa is the world's largest and most prestigious honor society for two-year college students.

Students inducted into the Alpha Omicron Lambda Chapter of PTK include: Rayden Alonzo, Lingle; Lori Bair, Newcastle; Robert Cates, Torrington; Shaylee Clark, Cheyenne; Rachel Cobb, Kennewick, Wash.; Donna D'Hauwe, Belgium; Margaret Hughes, Crawford, Neb.; Edwin Lucero, Fort Morgan, Colo.; Blaine Lyman, Cheyenne; Chloe Madrigal, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Pajj Peterson, Gildford, Mont.; Isabella Sanchez, Cheyenne; Brandy Swisher, Douglas; and Lora Wurst, Hemingford, Neb.

The keynote speaker for the event was Mr. Dante Geoffrey, EWC's head women's volleyball coach.

Phi Theta Kappa's mission is to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of two-year college students and provide opportunities for individual growth and development through participation in honors, leadership, service, and fellowship programs.

COVID from Page 1.....

Monday, Oct. 26, the county had 62 active cases and 70 total recoveries.

According to additional information from the department, 7.37% of all tests from Weston County are coming back positive and 20.39% of those positive cases have no known source of infection and are designated as coming from community spread.

To date, Weston County has not reported any hospitalizations or deaths related to COVID-19 patients, according to the department.

Wyoming, on the other hand has recorded 77 deaths, nine of those reported on Oct. 22, related to the disease, with 4.1% of confirmed cases needing hospitalization. As of Oct. 26, Wyoming reported 102 total hospitalizations associated with the virus, an increase of 60% from the previous two-week period.

Statewide, the total of confirmed cases reached 9,783 on Monday, with an additional 1,694 probable cases. Of the confirmed cases, 6,552 are listed as recovered, with 1,123 probable cases also recovered.

Community spread (no known source of the infection) in the state, according to the department, is responsible for 28% of the state's total cases, or 2,669 people.

A further breakdown of positive COVID-19 cases information on the state agency's website shows that a majority of cases in the county are in people ages 40 to 69. Statewide, however, almost 50% of cases confirmed are in people 29 years of age or younger.

Lori Bickford, the county's public health nurse, said that as cases continue to climb, the public must remain vigilant and aware of the situation.

Dr. Mike Jording, the county's public health officer, further asserted the need for residents to more seriously take precautionary guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the community. He said that as temperatures drop and activities are confined indoors, the ability for the virus to spread increases and extra caution must

be used.

Bickford acknowledged that everyone is "emotionally exhausted" from the trouble and chaos the pandemic has caused, but she insisted that people must continue to stay strong and vigilant without fear.

"We need to be mindful of our behavior and how it could affect others. New information concerning COVID-19 comes at a rapid-fire pace," Bickford said. "It can be overwhelming and create anxiety, fear and confusion. If watching the news and spending time on social media causes you stress and leaves you feeling down, turn it off and step away. It can be hard to stay positive when everything seems to be projected doom and gloom. Do what you can to focus your attention on the positive in your life and not to dwell on what you can't change. Reach out to family, friends, coworkers, pastors, medical providers or mental health counselors if you are feeling overwhelmed."

As the situation continues to change, Bickford said, she understands that the public is receiving an array of information that can easily become confusing and hard to navigate.

"Unfortunately, the general public has been thrown into a 600-level class of epidemiology, before taking Epidemiology 101. It is completely understandable why people are experiencing confusion, anxiety and fear," Bickford said.

She added that navigating the pandemic would be a lot easier if there were clear symptoms for COVID-19 that didn't overlap with other illnesses.

Typical COVID-19 symptoms include cough, fever and fatigue — also symptoms of the common cold, sinus problems or the flu. Bickford said that the confusion over symptoms is why the precautions are so important.

"The public health precautions, early identification of the illness through testing, isolation of those who are ill and quarantine of those who are exposed but not sick are the public health interventions we have to work with to control the spread of the virus," Bickford said.

Hospital from Page 1.....

either with COVID-19 and/or they are related to a COVID-19 situation (having to quarantine as a probable case). We are struggling somewhat with staffing and filling shifts. We are getting it done, though, with a lot of our staff taking on overtime," Cadwell said. "Thank goodness we have very dedicated staff that will do that. That is probably our biggest concern right now."

If the facility has a shortage of employees to fill shifts, Cadwell said, several levels of staffing solutions are allowed in an emergency situation such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

Besides having the ability to test employees that are "probable" cases due to their close contact with a known positive and bring them back to work despite public health quarantine orders, Cadwell said that the hospital and the Manor can call retired nurses or certified nursing assistants back to work without the required background checks and paperwork.

"We can bring those individuals on quickly so we can continue providing care. There are a lot of different levels involved in that plan," Cadwell said.

With the help of CARES Act funding from the state, Cadwell said, the hospital is preparing space in the basement that can be used for patient overflow. Additional funding will also be used to create two more negative-pressure rooms for isolation.

"We are also able to move swing beds to the Manor to

open up beds in the hospital as well," Cadwell said. "Basically, each patient and each hour/day we would have to triage patients in a surge situation."

Besides preparing for a possible increase in patient load, Cadwell said, the facility and staff are continuing to navigate directives, rules and regulations as they are handed down from officials.

"The other thing people don't realize is that we have a lot of directives, rules and regulations that we have to follow or we jeopardize our certification with Medicare or Medicaid. If we aren't following those and it gets to the point that we are deemed not certified, we will not get paid," Cadwell said. "We can't jeopardize that relationship. Financially, that would close the facility."

Since the end of May, the Manor has been surveyed by the state on three different occasions and has been fined for some deficiencies.

"We can't continue that, we have to follow those directives. We know (that) if (it) is tough on families and on the residents, it is tough on the staff too to see the residents lonely. But, all we can do is keep pushing so we don't jeopardize the facility," Cadwell said.

As cases continue to climb, Cadwell said, the restrictions on the facility will continue to change and become more stringent. Currently, no visitors are allowed in the facility whether it is to visit hospital patients or residents at the manor, per

state health orders addressing COVID-19.

"We are reliant on the community. If the percentage of positives gets to a certain point in the community ..., we may have to close down more. We are highly dependent on the community, and if they continue to defy orders, not wear masks and not retain a low percentage of positives, it is going to be even more detrimental to the residents," Cadwell asserted.

Cadwell said that access to supplies, including personal protective equipment, shields, masks and gowns for staff, has also been affected. The facility is continually looking for new suppliers and a steady stream of needed equipment, she said.

One thing that has improved since the pandemic began, according to Cadwell, is access to local testing with quick results.

"One thing that has been nice is the new testing equipment we have received. We can have a result for any test that is run within 20 to 30 minutes," Cadwell said. "The only issue is that we can only run one at a time and the tests take supplies that we don't normally have, so finding those supplies has proved to be a challenge."

Cadwell said that quick testing at the facility is done on a first-come, first-served basis, only for those people who have symptoms. In addition to testing at local facilities, she said, Gov. Mark Gordon has implemented a statewide home testing program.

nlj OPINION

news letter journal

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WHAT

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

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WHEN

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WHY

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



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Our View

Wyoming stands at a crossroads

If you're like most people, you might be feeling a little election fatigue these days.

After all, we've been bombarded with advertisements, endorsements, pundits and social media posts concerning the presidential election for well more than a year. It's a stressful, contentious subject for many, and it's understandable if you want to turn to something less polarizing.

But the Nov. 3 election has big implications that extend well beyond the presidential race. Wyoming is facing an economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and structural changes in how our country powers itself. In large

part that crisis will be addressed, not by the Congress and the future president, but by the 90 men and women who comprise the Wyoming Legislature.

The majority of them are up for election this year, meaning you have a say in the people who will steer Wyoming through these uncertain waters.

The choice is hardly academic. Some lawmakers maintain the solution to Wyoming's challenges is to support what has worked in the past – namely, the fossil fuel industry – while cutting government services considerably. Others have argued for a transition to a more diversified Wyoming economy while changing

how we raise revenue to support government services that we rely on.

The point of this editorial isn't to argue in favor of one approach over another, although this board has written before that it favors the latter approach. Rather, it's important that Wyoming residents realize what is exactly at stake in this election and then participate in the political process. Otherwise, they will miss their opportunity to have a say in decisions that will affect Wyoming for generations to come.

Similarly, many of us will decide who will steer our city and county governments. And again, those leaders will have a critical role to play as Wyoming looks to turn around its economic fortunes and establish a way forward. Ironically,

it is the elected officials who receive the least focus and attention that often have the greatest impact on our lives. We focus on the presidential and congressional races, but it is your city and town councils that decide on matters that affect you the most directly: How many police officers will patrol your streets? What development will be allowed in your community? Will the old library be refurbished?

The good news is there is still plenty of time to educate yourself, make your decision and cast a ballot. Make time to vote this year, even as we all are trying simply to get through another day. Our state, our communities, will benefit from your participation in our democracy. Don't let this opportunity go to waste.

Casper Star-Tribune
Oct. 25
Guest Editorial



Bill Sniffin
My Wyoming

OK, who is going to win? Nov. 3 election coming

President Donald Trump wins! Well, at least we think he will win in Wyoming.

Elsewhere in America, however, the outcome of the Nov. 3 election is a matter of some debate.

I always tended to believe polls and thought Trump would lose four years ago. Those same polls again predict he will lose the national election. This time, I am not so quickly going to believe these polls.

For four years, Trump has faced unprecedented criticism and opposition. If he wins, it will be the biggest upset since Truman topped Dewey back in 1948.

Here in Wyoming there are three legislative races that have caught people's eyes.

First is in Fremont County, where the Riverton House seat held by David Miller since 2001 is up for grabs in a race between Republican Ember Oakley and Libertarian Bethany Baldes.

Both are popular candidates and the assumption was the Oakley would easily cruise to a win. That is, until Riverton Mayor Rich Gard endorsed Baldes. And the biggest surprise was when Miller endorsed Baldes, who came within a whisker of defeating Dave two years ago.

Ember's sister Debbie is married to Colin Simpson up in Cody. So former U. S. Sen. Al Simpson knows

Ember well and has been running ads in support of her candidacy lately.

The ultra-right WYGO (Wyoming Gun Owners) is campaigning hard for Baldes. That group had a lot of success in the primary. We shall see if this carries over to the general election in this case.

The founder of WYGO is state Sen. Anthony Bouchard of Cheyenne who just cannot catch a break when it comes to finding an easy opponent to beat. He outpolled a tough challenger in the August GOP primary but now faces an aggressive Democrat in the

general election in Britney Wallesch.

Does that Cheyenne district have enough Democrats to replace Bouchard with Wallesch? Bouchard has been a winner for many recent elections by seemingly always narrow margins. WYGO is pushing hard for him, so we can see how strong their influence is this time around.

Meanwhile, Secretary of State Ed Buchanan is investigating WYGO. That could yield some interesting news.

A third legislative race that offers some statewide interest in District 45 in Laramie between Republican Roxie Hensley and Democrat Karlee Provenza. The winner will replace retiring Democrat Charles Pelkey, who unfortunately is enduring a new bout of cancer. Our best wishes are with Charles, who is an attorney and a former newspaperman. It will be interesting if the Democrats can hold this seat.

For the national races here in Wyoming, Laramie Democrat professor Marev BenDavid's folks have been calling my home and asking to talk to my wife. Nancy is a

registered Republican but for some reason do they believe an individual on the phone can change her mind? We had two calls. First one was from a former Landerite who now lives in Cody. But the second was from someone with a distinctly non-Wyoming accent.

Cynthia Lummis should easily earn a trip back to Washington, D.C., where she represented Wyoming in the House for four terms. Her longtime service to Wyoming as a legislator, State Treasurer, and U. S. Representative has earned her the right to win this election. I think she will be a terrific senator.

It is fantastic that we have four women running for the two top national seats. Incumbent U. S. Rep. Liz Cheney should defeat Lynnette Grey Bull, and we are proud to see a Native American Arapaho woman competing in that race. Lynnette has done some wonderful work calling attention to missing Native American women and girls in her other work.

To a lot of folks, the big

test is how mainstream media will react after this election is over – will its members return to trying to be impartial or will they permanently become the de facto public relations arm of the national Democrat Party?

Critics (mainly Republicans) feel it appears that CNN, MSNBC, NBC, CBS, ABC, NPR, and the New York Times all have become totally partisan for the Democrat side. It is extremely unnerving. The last four years have been very unfair. Fox News and its pro-conservative agenda could also be more balanced.

An unfair national media trend confronting our country of all the dangerous things threatening it.

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, and find volumes from his coffee table book series, which have sold over 30,000 copies, for sale at the News Letter Journal.

Perfect ooey, gooey, crispy, grilled cheese, a winter treat

The grilled cheese is a sandwich that has comfort food written all over it and is an all-American favorite. The grilled cheese you should be making consists of perfectly golden-brown bread and melty cheese. To get a supreme sandwich, here are some tips.

Grilled cheese sandwiches were very popular during World War II, and Navy cooks were instructed to prepare "American cheese filling sandwiches" by government-issued cookbooks.

The actual term "grilled cheese" did not make an appearance until the 1960s. Before then, it was referred to as a "melted cheese" or a "toasted cheese."

Have you ever burned the bread before the cheese melts? This happens when your heat is too high, and your pan is too hot. Or possibly you were distracted during cooking. Start in a cold pan. This allows the pan to heat up slowly, ensuring that the heat is evenly distributed as the cheese melts

and the bread develops the perfect crunch and color.

Pick The Bread

The bread should have a tight crumb. Avoid thick slices, which will make it harder for the cheese to melt. As much as I love hole-ridden bread, you don't want the cheese to ooze onto the pan and burn.

The Spread

Many cooks like to use mayo instead of butter. It is easy to spread on the bread, and it has a higher smoke point than butter. Mayo gives the crust perfect golden crispiness – try it! If you insist on using butter, at least make sure it's softened to room temperature for optimal spreadability. You can even mix butter and mayo together. It is also vital to have a thin layer of spread with an adequate coverage to the edges of the bread.

Spice It Up

Almost every good recipe calls for appropriate seasoning. Basil, chili flakes, chives, garlic powder, Italian seasonings, pepper, parsley, and tarragon all go well on a grilled cheese sandwich. Just add a sprinkle of any herbs or spices to the bread before you cook the sandwich. The recipients of your grilled creation will be in awe. They'll also probably wonder why they never thought to try it!

Say Cheese!

A great grilled cheese uses melting cheese. Use a blend of grated cheeses for the best flavor. Shredded cheese melts more quickly than sliced cheese. Brie, Emmental, fontina, Gouda (red wax), Gruyere, Havarti, manchego, Monterey Jack, mozzarella, and provolone are white melting cheeses. Mild or medium cheddar is the classic cheese flavor. If the cheddar is too sharp, the cheese separates, and you will have a greasy sandwich. Consider a higher quality deli American cheese.

Fillings

Although a grilled cheese sandwich does not need additional fillings, be careful about what is chosen. Grilled cheese sandwiches can be served with bacon, peak-season tomato, and various other additions. If the filling is watery, the sandwich becomes soggy. Some fillings will need to be cooked before adding it to the sandwich, such as bacon, mushrooms, and onions. I have seen some very creative recipes using bread and butter pickles, Dijon mustard, caramelized onions, chutney, deli meats, fig jam, kimchi, olive tapenade, pesto, pickled peppers, sauerkraut, onions, roasted peppers, pickled red onions, spicy tomato jam, seafood, thinly

sliced fruit, and such.

When you add a filling, put it in between two layers of cheese, so the cheese holds the filling when it melts. If you put the filling on top of the cheese, then that piece of bread won't stick, and the sandwich is a disaster when eating it.

Low And Slow

Set the heat on medium-low. At this temperature, the bread will crisp up slowly. This allows the heat to penetrate the cheese and melt it evenly without burning your bread.

Press Down

Make a grilled cheese crispy by firmly pressing the sandwich with a spatula or heavy pan while it cooks. If you have a panini press or grill pan, use it.

Grilled cheese sandwiches are versatile. You have the ability to elevate this simple comfort food to a whole other level of gourmet. Put your skills to use, go to the kitchen, start experimenting by mixing and matching cheese blends, adding fillings, and using various types of bread.

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Payments may be made the following ways:

- In person, at the Weston County Treasurer's Office at 1 West Main, Newcastle, WY
- At the Firstier Bank in Upton, Wyoming, please take your statement with you.
- By mail to Weston County Treasurer, 1 West Main, Newcastle, WY 82701. It must be postmarked by November 10, 2020 to avoid interest
- On our website at westongov.com. Go to the Treasurer's link and click on the pay property tax online link.

The total amount of taxes may be paid on or before December 31, 2020 and no interest will be charged.

Susan Overman, Weston County Treasurer

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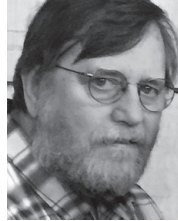
Obituaries

ROBERT 'BOB' VANE BURNS JR.
Oct. 6, 1953–Oct. 5, 2020

Robert "Bob" Vane Burns Junior died Oct. 5, 2020, at the Monument Health Spearfish Hospital from heart disease.

Bob was born in Newcastle, Wyo., on Oct. 6, 1953, to Robert V. and Beverly Burns. After graduating from Newcastle High School, he attended the University of Wyoming.

Bob was employed by the Wyoming Department of Transportation for more than 30 years enjoying his work from start to finish. He retired from WYDOT in 2011. While at WYDOT he continued his education, earning his Associate of Science degree in Engineering Technology, but when he became a certified bridge inspector, he found that inspecting bridges was his passion.



Bob was an avid outdoorsman. Hiking, fishing, hunting and camping with family and friends in and around Wyoming sparked many campfires, stories, great memories and a few emergency room visits. Bob and Jo went on several extended back-country camping trips throughout their 44 years of marriage.

Bob retired five days earlier than his wife Jo, and after that eternal wait, they started traveling the U.S. in a fifth-wheel recreation vehicle, camping and hiking, and exploring all over Bob's beloved country.

Soon after getting on the road they stopped in Spearfish, S.D., to visit Dr. David Elsom and his family, since Dave is Jo's older brother, and some how stayed four months instead of just a week or so. During the travels there was always a side mission of looking for the right place to retire. In the end nothing compared to Spearfish, and Bob and Jo bought a house and have settled the dust from their feet here for the last eight years.

His family said, "Oh, it bears mentioning that Jo loved Bob enough that they stopped and looked closely at each and every significant bridge that they could have just as easily driven across at highway speeds. As I help my sister write this obituary (brother George) she points out that she doesn't think it was every significant bridge along the way, she remembers it being each and every bridge they ever crossed, and they even went out of their way to find others that they didn't need to cross."

Here in Spearfish Bob was restricted somewhat by his health and he diverted his interest largely to his wood shop, restoring antique furniture and building needed items."

Bob is survived by his wife, Jo; son, Kris (Kathleen); three grandchildren; sister, LaRayne (Jim); brother, Bill (Donna); and six brothers- and sisters-in-law; as well as more than 70 nieces and nephews (that's

right 70!), and many cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his in-laws; his niece, Cambria; his nephew, Bopper; and his son, Kyle. Kyle was killed in Iraq in service of his country, not only was Bob a Gold Star parent but he served in the Wyoming National Guard for six years and was honorably discharged.

Due to Covid-19, Bob's service is being delayed until next spring.

CORRINA CONLEY
Jan. 11, 1972–Oct. 19, 2020

On Monday, Oct. 19, 2020, loving mother, grandmother, daughter, sister, aunt, friend and girlfriend, Corrina Conley, age 48, passed away at Weston County Health Services in Newcastle.

Corrina Lynn Suess Conley was born Jan. 11, 1972, in Hillsboro, Ore., to Melvin and Lori Suess. Corrina was the youngest of three girls.

Corrina's family moved to Newcastle where she went to Newcastle schools. Corrina graduated with the class of 1990. Corrina went on to do many things around Newcastle, including work as a waitress, bookkeeper, and bartender. Corrina's biggest achievement in work was getting her real estate and broker's licenses.

On Aug. 20, 2005, Corrina married Rob Conley. Corrina and Rob raised her son Nathan and added a daughter, Heather Lynn, to the family. Corrina and Rob would later divorce.

Corrina had many passions in life. Two of her favorites

were her grandsons, Landon and Ben. Anyone who knew Corrina knew how much she loved her Denver Broncos. Sometimes you might even find her almost going to fisticuffs if you spoke bad about them. Corrina also loved wolves, her dogs and her horses. At times, if you couldn't find her, she'd be out riding, enjoying the most peaceful moments in life.

Corrina found the love of her life in Dave Minshew. They shared years of love, happiness, laughs and memories.

Those left to cherish her memory are her mother, Lori Suess; son, Nathan and fiancée Samantha Walden; grandsons, Landon and Ben; daughter, Heather; sister, Chantel; boyfriend, Dave Minshew; special nieces, Crystal Suess and Salina Sandoval; and special nephew, Brandon Suess. She also is survived by great-nieces and nephews and many cousins.

Corrina was preceded in death by her father, Melvin Suess; sister, Lisa Suess; and all her grandparents.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks donations to be made on Heather's behalf, as a bank account is being set up in her name for a college fund. The family will hold a celebration of life at another time, and anyone who would like to add photos for a PowerPoint slide show may drop photos off at Meridian Mortuary. Please send memorials and condolences to Meridian Mortuary, 111 S. Railroad Ave., Newcastle, WY 82701. Condolences may also be expressed at meridianmortuary.com.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Here's a photo from the News Letter Journal's archives.

This photo was possibly taken in 2007.

—subjects unknown.

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

Meetings are held the First and Third Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend meetings

Tim Qualheim, Worshipful Master • Mike Hutchinson, Secretary

faith & values

Daily Devotional Reading

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Oct. 30 Nahum 3:1-19 | Nov. 3 Psalm 94 |
| Oct. 31 Ezekiel 34:1-31 | Nov. 4 Psalm 95 |
| Nov. 1 Psalm 92 | Nov. 5 Psalm 96 |
| Nov. 2 Psalm 93 | |

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

- **ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH:** Rev. Norm Brotzman, 216 S. Seneca, 746-2249. Call to Worship 9:30 am; Children's Church during Call to Worship; Faith Rally Sunday 6 pm
- **BAHA'I FAITH:** Firesides (Open to All) 1st & 3rd Fridays 7:30 pm at 15 Skyview Dr, 746-3626
- **CAMBRIA COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH:** 19 Stampede St. 746-2321. Sunday School 9:15 am; Worship 10:30 am; Youth (6-12 grades) and Adult Bible Study Sunday Evening 6-7 pm; Wednesday Night Youth and Adult Bible Study 6 pm; Life Recovery Bible Study Sunday Night 7 pm
- **CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH:** Rev. Wendy Owens, S. Summit & Winthrop Streets. 746-9684. haydshall@hotmail.com. Service times: Sunday 10 am
- **CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH:** Pastor Rob Carr, 224 West Road, West of Dow Park, 746-2415. Sunday Worship 9 am
- **CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS:** Bishop Ty Checketts, 120 Ash, 746-4131. Sunday Sacrament Mtg 9:00 am; Sunday School 10:20 am; Relief Society & Priesthood Mtg 11:15 am
- **CHURCH ON THE HILL:** Pastor Wayne Wilson, 301 Delaware, 746-9663. Adult Sunday School 9:30 am; Prayer 10:15 am; Worship 10:45 am; Prayer Service Tuesday 6 PM; Celebrate Recovery (18+) & Undeclared Youth (Infant- 12th Grade) Wednesday 6:00 pm
- **CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Father Brian Hess, 19 W. Winthrop, 746-4219. Saturday Mass 5 pm; Sunday Mass 8 am; Weekday Mass 7 am
- **COUNTRY CHURCH:** Four Corners, Pastor Bill Haley and Micah Popma, 746-9712. Worship 10 am
- **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH:** Pastor Gary Anderson, 903 S. Summit, 746-2188. Sunday School 9:15 am; Worship Service 10:30 am; Evening Service 6 pm;
- **AWANA Clubs** Wednesday 6:30 pm
- **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Pastor Brenda Torrie, 23 N. Seneca, 746-4119. Adult Bible Study 8:45 am; Traditional Church Services 10:00 am; 10:15 am Children's Church; Youth Group Sunday evenings 5:30-7 pm
- **GATEWAY FELLOWSHIP:** Pastor Jon Andersen, 12 Old Hwy. 85, Evangelical Free Church, Bible Study 9:15 am, Worship 10:30 am. Call 949-0869
- **KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES:** 5018 US Hwy 16, 746-2319 or 746-4517. Tuesday 7:00 pm. Congregation Bible Study, Theocratic Ministry School and Service Meeting, Sunday Public Talk 10 am; Watchtower 11 am
- **NEWCASTLE FOURSQUARE CHURCH:** Pastor Mick Bohn, 1525 S. Summit, 746-3618. Sun. Worship 10 am; Wed. Night Prayer
- **OSAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH:** 348 Sheridan St. in Osage, 465-2341. Sunday School 10 am; Worship 11 am and 6 pm
- **OUR SAVIOR CHURCH:** Pastors Doug and Frezil Westerland. For Bible Study, call (605) 515-3058
- **SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST:** Pastor Lester Bently 612-240-7536, 78 Old Hwy 85, Saturday Sabbath School 9:30 am; Worship 11 am
- **ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Father Brian Hess, Upton. Sunday Mass 5 pm
- **UPTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Rev. Michael Paschall, 834 Pine, Upton, 468-9302. Worship 9 am; Fellowship 10 am
- **VICTORY NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH:** Rev. Theodore L. Halls, 414 Pine, 746-4366

Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn. ~Psalm 37:4

| | | | | | | |
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|--|--|--|---|--|---|--|

Recapture

A PIECE OF HISTORY

25 Years Ago
Nov. 2, 1995

Lifeline of Weston County is launching their first annual Christmas fund raising campaign called "Light the Tree of Life." With a \$5 or more donation, the donor commemorated a loved one with a twinkling, white light on the Lifeline Christmas tree of Life.

Paul Currier was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout in a court of honor on October 29. An honor guard of the other Eagle Scouts of Troop 66 escorted Paul to the stage where his Scoutmaster, Louis Castelli presented the Eagle Award. Paul's Eagle project was to build flower boxes for the wheelchair residents at Weston County Memorial Manor.

Ken and Cheryl Carr, formerly of Newcastle, and their children were recently featured in the Athens, Texas, newspaper in a story which related their youngest daughter's battle with leukemia. Megan Carr, 6, was diagnosed with acute lympho-

blastic leukemia when she was 14 months old. The good news is that after nearly five years of treatment, Megan's leukemia is apparently arrested.

The Newcastle girls swim team surprised the other competing teams by finishing fourth at the 3A state championships held last Thursday and Friday at Gillette. Having only four individuals qualified for the state meet, the swimmers finished behind Lander, Powell and Rawlins, but finished in front of the rest of the field. All four qualifiers, Bonnie Armstrong, Casey Johnson, Keeara Rhoades and Peggy Massman earned All-State honors while Armstrong repeated as the state champion in the 100 Breaststroke.

The Newcastle Lighting U-14 boys team claimed the silver medal in the second annual CSA Soccer Tournament in Cheyenne on Oct. 28-29.

Carla Dowdy was the first Dogie volleyball player to be named to the All-Conference

team in some time, said coach Suzanne Burrough. Dowdy's selection finished the girls' volleyball season for another year.

50 Years Ago
Oct. 29, 1970

The Newcastle Dogies will host Lusk Friday evening in the last home game of the season. The Dogies close out their season Nov. 6 at Douglas high school, Ellsworth Air Force Base, Rapid City.

The Halloween party for the children of Newcastle will be Saturday morning. The parade will form at 9:30 at the court house lawn and proceed down Main Street and then to the Dogie Theatre for a free movie and treats.

Mrs. Betty Shurley, Newcastle Junior High teacher, is Newcastle's nominee for "Teacher of the Year."

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Bullard and John and Craig visited with Mr. and Mrs. Stu Berdahl Friday at Newcastle.

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Ames

and daughters of Moorcroft called on Mrs. Robert Abbott Thursday afternoon. Mrs. Larry Petersen and daughters of Sundance visited Saturday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Darlington and Allen.

Mr. and Mrs. Mick Dowdy and family shopped in Newcastle on Saturday. Mrs. Roy Glenn Julius, Debbie and Lonnie were in Rapid City Monday to have the cast removed from Lonnie's thumb. Gene Cranston and Mike and Robert Hill returned from the Jackson area Tuesday, after a successful elk hunting trip.

Kevin Thompson was honored on his 11th birthday Monday. Monday supper and overnight guest at the Ernest Thompson home was Jerry Frederick, in honor of Kevin's birthday.

On Tuesday of last week the Advance Clothing class and the Home Furnishings class took a field trip to Rapid City. The girls in the Advance Clothing class, went for the purpose of buying material for the clothing that they will make in class.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Bickford of Newcastle announce the engagement of their daughter, Sharon Rae Glasspoole, to Eric John Laurence, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Laurence of Gillette. A November 14 wedding is planned.

100 Years Ago
Oct. 28, 1920

With all tankage filled and flowing without agitation approximately 20 barrels every 15 minutes, the well on section 24-46-64, Osage field has its place among the great producers of the field of which there are twelve.

Marion and Campbell Scott came out from Newcastle to spend Saturday and Sunday at home. Cashes E. Tidd was an over-Sunday guest at the hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Scott on Black Thunder.

Mack Barbour received a shipment of cattle this week. Carol Cornelison and Leo Krue assisted in driving them out to his ranch.

George Lee entertained at dinner last Friday Messrs. Anderson, Tidd and Carrol, prominent oil men. Mr. Anderson, geologist, was examining the structure in order to determine where to spud in next spring.

Judge Raymond has sent out several loads of timber for the erection of an oil derrick on section 36-42-66.

Marion Scott, Ronald Cornelison and Leo Johnson attended Sunday school at Hampshire. Ronald Cornelison hauled a load of wood to the Hampshire school house last Saturday.

Harry Hohlbeck spent Sunday on his homestead. Mrs. P. Bandura of Soldier Creek is spending a couple of weeks with the Ehnat family in Cambria.

The Pete Christensen family are moving in to the Green house this week. Mr. and Mrs. Claud Adkins spent Sunday on the ranch getting everything in readiness for the winter.

Mrs. W.W. Franklin and Mrs. Bert Franklin were shopping in Cambria Monday from near Red Butte. Ladies' Aid will be entertained at the home of Mrs. H.H. DeVol, Mrs. Clarence Malloy acting as hostess.

A big game of basket ball is expected between Cambria and Sundance between the town teams of each place, to be played in Sundance Saturday evening.

The Warne family spent Sunday in the country in search of wild duck and other game. Thomas Porter spent a few hours in Cambria Friday attending to business matters.



7th Annual Holiday Bazaar
Sat., Nov. 7
9am to 3pm

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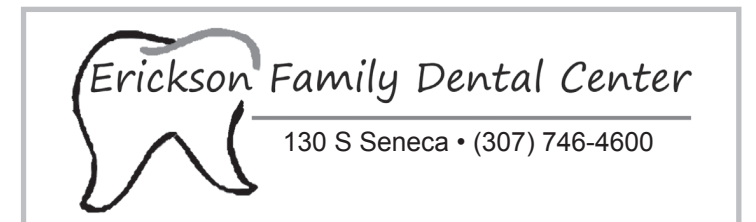
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LIL DOGIE LUNCH

Dylan Conley, Colter Rettinghouse, Logan Dowdy, Roman Diaz, Emiley Lange, and Savannah Smith



Thank you Subway for hosting this month's Lil' Dogie Lunch, and partnering with Newcastle Elementary School to reward students who display good citizenship by helping others.

news1j.com

**WE ARE SORRY,
WESTON COUNTY
MANOR
IS NOT ABLE TO
HAND OUT CANDY
THIS YEAR**




Courtesy of WC Historical Society/Ariel McIntosh collection

This is a picture taken in front of the Assembly of God Church in Newcastle.

WHAT'S UP

Oct/Nov 2020

Weston County Meetings & Events Calendar

| | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Fri Oct. 30 | 5:30PM | BINGO | VFW Hall |
| Sat Oct. 31 | 4-6PM | Trunk-or-Treat | Downtown Newcastle |
| Mon Nov. 2 | 7PM | Newcastle City Council | City Council Chambers |
| Tues Nov. 3 | 9AM 6PM 7PM 7-8PM | Elections WC Commissioners WC Humane Society mtg WC Travel Commission mtg Alanon Meeting | Event Center Courthouse Shelter Upton Food Bank Senior Center Family Room |
| Wed Nov. 4 | 5:15PM 6:30AM 7PM 7PM | Friends of Fair Wellness Wednesday VFW Meeting Jr Livestock Committee | WC Events Center WCHS VFW Hall Fairgrounds Office |
| Th Nov. 5 | 5:30PM 5:30PM 7:30PM | WC Museum District mtg Newcastle Planning & Zoning Mtg Masons #13 | Anna Miller Museum City Council Chambers Masonic Lodge |
| Sat Nov. 7 | 9-3PM | 7th Annual Holiday Bazaar | WC Events Center |

Birthdays & Anniversaries

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Oct. 30 Betty Cowles Tierny Parrish Kim Scharf | Savannah Lorenz Rick McColley | Larry & Darlene Berger 🎂 |
| Nov. 1 Lynda Bickford John & Jamie Foster 🎂 | Nov. 2 Lois Ann Boudlen Trey Sylte | Nov. 4 Saige Lorenz Patricia Kachelhoffer |
| | Nov. 3 Bryan Gardner | Nov. 5 Martha Butts |

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For the Ages

News Letter Journal

Fire nearly destroys all of block 10



Hannah Gross
NLJ Correspondent
With Leonard Cash

After wrapping up his series on the Perkins' Tavern establishment, historian Leonard Cash now dives into a new two-week installment on the next door Hested building on lot 7 of block 10 on Newcastle's Main Street. According to the Sanborn maps, this structure was built in 1951, and it served various purposes through the years, including as a bar, hotel, meat market, bakery, Sears store and mini mall. However, there was a lot of history that preceded this building.

Cash wanted to give a brief overview of the building before tackling the details to fill in the missing pieces of the Sanborn map records, which tell us that as early as 1890/1891, the property was used as a saloon and dance hall (known as the Wheelers music hall), as well as a female boarding house. In 1903, it was still a saloon but also had billiards and lodging. An ice house was installed in the rear, and it remained there until 1912. In 1907, there was a store, and around 1912, the *News Journal* occupied the building. The Newcastle Bakery (which was covered in greater detail in a "History on Main" installment a few weeks ago) was in there around 1936, and then Pacesetter One moved in sometime in the late 1970s.

According to Cash's earliest newspaper records from the July 24, 1890, *Newcastle News*, the Corn Crib, which was the cafe of a bar, was located on the lot. Cash said it was mostly

the Chinese who ran the cafes at the time.

"The Corn Crib short order house in Wheelers music hall has been bailed out and rearranged to meet the esthetic tastes of the major patrons. Eugene Fung is the flopper of the flapjacks, and nothing is too expensive or rare for the Corn Crib Tables," the article says.

The dance hall, which was also a boarding house, ran into some danger. On Nov. 13, 1891, the *Newcastle Journal* reported that one of the girls left a lighted lamp on the bureau of her room when she left for supper. The bureau caught on fire and spread to the ceiling before it was put out.

A few years later, the owners of the saloon went bankrupt. An article from Nov. 20, 1896, announced that "property in Wheeler saloon was seized on execution." Part of it was sold by Constable McLaughlin on a Tuesday, and the rest of it was to be sold that afternoon.

After the bankruptcy, J.H. Minnich leased the property to open up a first-class restaurant and lodging house, according to records from the March 11, 1897.

"Mr. Minnich is an experienced and first-class hotel man and will make a success of his new enterprise," the article says.

The Democrat announced on March 18, 1897, that the J. H. Minnich & Co. People Hotel was celebrating its grand opening the upcoming Sunday with a "big Sunday dinner." The hotel was a "comfortable, homelike place for all to stop" with reasonable prices.

Jack Burns painted a "handsome sign" for the front of the hotel, reported the April 9, 1897, paper. The hotel was gaining popularity for "those deserving a square meal." The public was invited to partake and dine in another "scrumptious" meal.

The Dec. 3, 1897, issue announced that a fine new register was opened, "embellished with the cards of the leading business houses" in Newcastle. The accomplishment was celebrated by an "unusually large registry of the patrons."

Even though hardly two years had passed, it was time for fresh blood. A.J. Briggs bought the business from Minnich, according to an article from the April 22, 1898, *Newcastle News Journal*. Later issues reported that Minnich was moving to Loretta, South Dakota, to live on a farm, and Briggs was remodeling the hotel, including "petitioning off a parlor."

Shortly after, the building again caught fire, but this time it was more serious. In an article titled "A Close Call" from the Feb. 10, 1899, issue, a fire "seriously threatened to destroy all of the buildings on block 10," if not the entire main part of town on a Tuesday afternoon. The fire was initially discovered in one of the hotel rooms, where it was determined to have been caused by a stove.

"An alarm was at once given and was quickly responded to (with) two lines of hose being laid in a very short time. When the first line had been laid it was found that several lengths of hose was frozen up, it having been used by the employees of the electric light company to fill the boiler," the article says.

The second line was also frozen from the cold weather, and this delayed the process of putting it out, giving the fire time to do a lot of damage. Five or six rooms were destroyed before the "energetic work" of the fire department extinguished the flames to contain the fire. Part of the loss was covered by insurance, but the building where the fire started was uninsured.

"The loss was light though falling rather heavily upon several laboring men who lost all their clothing and personal possessions," the article says.

The Weston County Leader said on Feb 11, 1899, that the loss was a considerable amount, although the amount was unknown. Briggs suffered the most loss because he had no insurance on the bedding, clothing and stoves, which were destroyed.

"It was a \$1,000 fire all right, and the citizens of our town feel lucky that it is not ten times that amount and only for

the heroic efforts of every one of them it would have been," the article says.

A change of ownership took place shortly after the fire. Thos. Long and T.P. Sweet co-bought the People hotel property from H. Wasserman, according to articles from March 24, 1899, and April 21, 1899. Long moved his saloon stock into his new location.

By Dec. 15, 1899, Sweet and Long were building a two-story addition to the building.

Cash's records jump ahead to June 24, 1910, and here we find that the *News Journal* moved its office into the former hotel.

The next business to occupy the building was a bakery, but before going through those records, Cash

dug up an article from Oct. 7, 1920, which described the tragic, life-changing accident suffered by Paul Keef, who later owned the bakery. He was 20 years old at the time, and he headed up to the Union Oil Co. shack on his property one early Saturday morning to straighten up the scattered lumber because the high winds of the night before wrecked the shack. When Keef attempted to raise the floor (which was still in one piece) using props, a gust of wind swung the broad side back, which knocked the props and caused it to come crashing down on Keef, crushing his head forward between his feet.

"He was unable to extricate himself and was held in the position for 15 minutes until

help arrived and he was lifted out, at which time he lost consciousness," the article says.

Keef's back had been broken and he was paralyzed. He was taken to the Sheridan hospital, and although he recovered, Cash said, he remained in a wheelchair for the rest of his life.

However, he didn't let this accident stop him from moving on in life. According to the Feb. 1, 1936, *News Journal*, he was opening up the Paul Bakery and Confectionery, in which he installed a continuous baking oven, on a Monday morning in the former *News Journal* building.

Next week, we will learn how another fire destroyed the building, causing the confectionary to close permanently.



Photo courtesy of Leonard Cash

Photo of Lot 7, J. H. Minnich & Co. People Hotel.

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October 23, 2020

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Please do what is right for our communities and keep everyone safe!

Weston County Health Services
Mondell Heights
Monument Health Providers

Weston County Public Health
Weston County Medical Director
Weston County Emergency Manager



Goshen Help wants to provide assistance

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

Goshen Help is a community action agency that is currently working on establishing roots in Weston County. The Torrington-based agency administers funding, primarily from the federal Community Service Block Grant program, for Weston, Niobrara, Washakie, Goshen, Crook and Carbon counties in conjunction with the Wyoming Department of Health.

“Our contract with the Wyoming Department of Health stipulates what we will do in a year. This year we were contacted to provide affordable housing assistance, through rent and utility assistance, as well as other things to help people stay in their homes or get into a home in Weston County,” Director Kyle Borger said.

Goshen Help, Borger said, is more than just financial help. He explained that the program is meant to help those who are struggling to become self-sufficient by identifying and addressing the cause of their struggles.

“We are trying to address the causes of the issues and help people stay in their homes or obtain housing. We want to make sure they are going to be OK the month after too,” Borger said.

The goal of Goshen Help is to provide stabilization to the people struggling in the six counties it currently represents, he said.

“We don’t want to be a one-time fix. We will work with them on budgeting, help with finances, going over their expenses, helping to find cheaper housing if needed and making sure that they have sufficient income for their expenses,” Borger said.

“Hopefully, when we are done assisting, the individual can be a viable member of the community instead of needing future assistance.”

While the agency doesn’t define the

number of times it will help a person, staff is restricted to helping those who have the ability to participate and work to better themselves and their situation.

“There are times we can’t help people if they are unwilling to work on goals for better income and adjusting expenses. If they are unwilling to do anything to improve, they are not going to be a fit for the program,” Borger said. “There will be times that someone says, ‘Just give me the money,’ and this program doesn’t work that way. We want to help make healthy communities.”

The grant used as the backbone of the Goshen Help program isn’t enough to tackle solving the affordable housing issue for everyone in Weston County. Borger said that the agency

also works to bring other resources together for people.

“We partner with local agencies. We are people helping people. Goshen Help takes care of the paperwork and tries to free time up for people to do great things. We want to provide another resource,” Borger said. “That is the idea. To make that money work better with the intent of finding solutions.”

According to Borger, the federal grant requires a needs assessment, which is the purpose of the community meetings being held in Weston County. The assessment is almost complete, he said.

“We will work with the community members to develop a plan to address those needs,” Borger said, adding that Goshen Help is working on the grant application for 2022.

The main need of the agency now is getting the Weston County community involved in the program.

“What we do in the community we want to be owned by the community, done by the community and supported

by the community. That requires volunteers. We are trying to build connections and opportunities to give back through Goshen Help. We don’t want to be an outside entity that does stuff but is not a part of the community,” Borger said.

Goshen Help is still here to provide financial assistance for rent and utilities and begin addressing the issues of those needing the assistance, he said, and the 2022 grant application process does not affect the agency’s ability to service current needs.

To access more information or fill out an application, Borger said, people can visit goshenhelp.com, where there is a link to the application and other various assistance programs. Those who find navigating the website overwhelming can call 307-532-0269 Monday through Friday between 1 and 5 p.m.

“We are working on getting a brochure put together to get our information out there. Right now, it is really easy to get online and fill everything out on the website,” Borger said.

“We are trying to address the causes of the issues and help people stay in their homes or obtain housing. We want to make sure they are going to be OK the month after too.”

— Kyle Borger, Director of Goshen Help

Walls from Page 1.....

The ordinance was introduced at the council’s Oct. 5. meeting, passed on second reading on Oct. 19 and is expected to pass on third and final reading Nov. 2.

Although some of the walls are considered historic, said City Clerk-Treasurer Greg James, they are not eligible for grant funding.

“Because they/it are privately owned, they do not qualify for any state historical funding,” James said.

This ordinance would provide the city an avenue for requiring owners to repair retaining walls that are already part of a specified building code, according to city engineer Mike Moore. For some time the council has discussed their attempts to get property owners to address retaining walls that have become a public safety hazard and have more recently led to the closure of at least one sidewalk in the city.

Moore has explained on several different occasions that previous attempts to engage the property owner have been unsuccessful and that the city was at a dead end as far as actions they would take, until an ordinance is passed by the council allowing for further action.

The ordinance states “any owner of any fence, retaining wall, or other similar structure shall ensure that said structure is maintained in good repair, structurally sound and sanitary so as not to pose a threat to public health, safety or welfare.”

City Attorney Mike Stulken said that ordinance would allow the city to enforce repairs and, if the property owner failed to comply, the city could charge them with a misdemeanor.

“It would become what is called unlawful, and under the general municipal code that makes it a misdemeanor,” Stulken told the council at its Sept. 21 meeting.

The ordinance says that “any person who maintains or permits the existence of the prohibited dangerous condition herein is in violation of the 1997 Uniform Code for the Abatement of Dangerous Buildings and the procedure for abatement of such condition shall be pursuant to such Code.”

According to Stulken, Moore would be the person who would determine whether the structure is dangerous. Moore would also be charged with enforcing the consequences. A property owner found to be in violation of the ordinance could be subject to a maximum penalty of 6 months in jail and/or a \$750 fine.

At the Sept. 21 meeting, Councilman Tom Voss asked how the ordinance would help Moore do his job.

“It will help me by giving me the way to notify the owner that there is an issue with the wall that needs to be addressed, and if it is not, there are enforceable actions for not addressing,” Moore said. “The ultimate goal is to get something down with that wall, for the owner to do something about it. That is basically the bottom line.”

Moore said that the building code also allows the city to repair the wall if the property owner does not comply. In that case, the property owner would be responsible for the cost.



Veteran appreciation



On Oct. 13, Weston County Senior Center hosted the first Veteran’s Breakfast since the COVID-19 closure. Along with the breakfast two special guests spoke to attendees. Chip Neiman, running as state representative for District 1, and U.S. Senator John Barrasso addressed the crowd of about 25. Due to other commitments, Barrasso had to leave right after he spoke, but his words were uplifting and patriotic. Afterward he gave each person there a special made coin, with the Wyoming bucking bronco on it, telling each veteran how much he appreciated their service, sacrifice, and commitment to make this nation the best in the world. The veterans were appreciative. Both Barrasso and Neiman received big applause after they spoke.

Photos by Walter Sprague/NLJ



FOCUS from Page 1.....

on Nov. 20 at the Pizza Barn and continue until the wine runs out. To make things interesting, Executive Director Stacie Hoxie said that each bottle will be wrapped so participants can’t see what’s inside. The cost is \$20 per bottle, but according to Hoxie, some of the wines are valued up to \$100. Buyers will have their choice of dry or sweet wine.

FOCUS normally raises money through summer donkey races and the annual pie auction, but because both

of those events were canceled and the organization experienced budget cuts due to COVID-19, a lot of revenue was lost. And that’s where the idea for the wine-pull came in.

“We have to find a way to supplement that income,” Hoxie said.

The goal is to raise \$1,000. Although that doesn’t come close to the income they’ve lost, Hoxie said, it will help. In addition to the wine, the event will feature a silent auction with a variety of baskets, including

a kid’s basket, a wine basket and packages for a night in Deadwood. Organizers are still working on getting more donations, but those who want to see what the group has so far or who are interested in donating either more wine or a basket can stop in the office.

“We’re still taking donations,” Hoxie said.

Invitations will be sent soon, and the event will also be held on Facebook live so that those who can’t attend can still participate.

Having been a victim of domestic violence herself, Hoxie said that working for FOCUS is a way she can “give back to the community.”

“Weston County is really important to me, and it’s home,” she said.

She encourages the community to keep Domestic Violence Awareness Month in mind, and if they ever see or suspect anything, to give FOCUS a call so they can help. FOCUS has a 24-hour hotline, as well as part-time and full-time staff members and vol-

unteers. Even if FOCUS can’t help victims directly, the organization can lead them to agencies that can.

“This is vital to Weston County,” Hoxie said.

If you’d like to know more about FOCUS or are interested in donating something to the fundraiser, drop by the office at 204 W. Main. The office is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., or call 746-2748.

“I want to see our community thrive,” Hoxie said.

Newcastle Calves



Middle School Cross Country

2020-21



Back row from left to right: Samuel Scribner (8th), Triston Parks (8th), Sam Cunningham (7th), Aspen Bloom (8th), Logan Olson (8th), Madison Sterriker (7th), Rachel Baird (8th), Kyan Allen (6th), Kendrick Blumenthal (6th), Greg Klemmetsen (6th), Lillie Morrill (6th), Coach Jessica Troftgruben. Middle row from left to right: Mischa Unterseher (8th), Elizabeth Mills (8th), Spencer Lorenz (7th), Delainey Dresen (6th), Julie Morris (8th), Taylor Conklin (8th), Jesse Tighe (8th), Netanya Prell (6th), Ben Carter (8th), Caden Esposito (8th), Laila Lopez (7th), Eli Morrill (8th), Thatcher Troftgruben (8th). Front row from left to right: Lucas Scribner (6th), Ruth Rose (8th), Christian Rose (6th), Adalyn Olson (6th), Aria Wheeler (6th), Caleb Hoover (8th), Daxton Phillips (6th), Nickolas Lopez (8th), Lane Carter (6th), Jaden McGuire (6th), Emerett Josephson (7th).

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Photo by Walter Sprague/NLJ

Representative-elect for House District 1 Chp Neiman, standing, and Michael Tooman, seated, appeared at the Weston County Commissioners meeting on Oct. 20. Pictured seated are commissioners Nathan Todd and Marty Ertman.

Variance

from Page 1.....

that it is unlikely right now that they will get signed by the state health officer (Dr. Alexia Harrist)," Berger said. "We discussed it at the last meeting, but it doesn't hurt to ask."

Berger said that he understood that Jording opposes a blanket variance to the state's health orders.

During the Oct. 20 commissioner meeting, Commissioner Tony Barton stated that while he respects Jording's opinion, the commission needs to draw attention to the social, economic and health impacts on the welfare, safety and well-being of Weston County residents that are the result of the public health orders. Berger supported this idea.

"We need something that says the restrictions have affected us in a negative way," Berger said.

These negative ways, according to Barton, include a higher rate of unemployment, stress on business owners, substance abuse, domestic abuse, child abuse, depression, suicide, kids not being fed, and an array of other social woes. He noted that these negative impacts must be balanced with the response to COVID-19.

The increased number of cases as well as the guidelines being used by public health officials to quarantine and contact trace a positive case is also part of the problem, Commissioner Marty Ertman said.

"The probable cases should be off of the county count. I'm not even sure who makes that decision. They are not testing them, but they are added to the caseload. It skews the numbers in some ways," Ertman said. "Our probable cases make up 66% of confirmed cases. Very few counties have probable cases at that level. I am not sure why. Who is making that determination? I think

“The more lax people are, the more cases will spread. The county condition is constantly changing . . . We are seeing a marked increase in cases, and other states have begun implementing travel restrictions on people from Wyoming.”

— Mike Jording, Weston County Public Health Officer

that could be included in the variance. If the county health officer denies it, it will be recorded we were denied. We can keep working on it until we get what we need. He can tell us why he denied it."

As of Monday, Oct. 26, Weston County is listed as having 30 unconfirmed probable cases, 62 confirmed active cases, 102 total confirmed cases and 70 recoveries to date, according to Wyoming Department of Health. Despite the continued increase in cases statewide, Ertman said, the government cannot and should not tell individuals that they can or can't leave their house. She said that health care decisions should be left to the individual.

"From what I've heard, there was one family that had a child that was positive and the health officials 'probabled' the other children," Ertman said. "The parents had kids quarantined for three weeks. They have jobs and something had to be worked out there. It needs to be an individual choice. The government shouldn't tell you that you cannot leave your home and that you cannot go to work."

The issue goes beyond a

household then, because the employer may have to hire someone else to fill the position of the parent who must stay home, said Commissioner Ed Wagoner, then the "temporary" employee would then be laid off and the unemployment cycle continues.

"This is an interesting place for us to be, as business owners or anybody. It is a strange place that we are and the biggest thing overhanging is the liability," Ertman said. "We are changing everything based on liability."

Rep.-elect Chip Neiman, who attended the Oct. 20 meeting, thanked the commissioners for their actions.

"You are trying to put our lives back to a little bit of normal. I support you. I think it's awesome," Neiman said.

Jording told the *News Letter Journal* that he does not support a countywide variance because he believes that, as government leaders, the commissioners should consider what is best for the general public.

"When they talk about withdrawing, that has the possibility to affect a great number of people. It (a countywide variance) is more for their personal feeling than public welfare. They need to do what is best for the county," Jording said.

Now more than ever, he said, as Wyoming and Weston County's infection rates continue to climb (see related story on Page 1), there is a need to withdraw from socialization and adhere to the public health orders to keep the community safe.

"The more lax people are, the more cases will spread. The county condition is constantly changing," Jording said. "We are seeing a marked increase in cases, and other states have begun implementing travel restrictions on people from Wyoming."

Dogie Live Stream



Middle School Girls Basketball
Thursday, Oct. 29
4:30 PM
vs Upton Bobcats

High School Dogie Football
Thursday, Oct. 29
5:00 PM
vs Burns Broncs



Middle School Wrestling
Saturday, Oct. 31
10:00 AM



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October 29, 2020 — 11

COMING UP:

NHS Swimming @ Gillette
NHS 3A East Volleyball
NMS Wrestling @ the Dome

Sports News Letter Journal

SCHEDULE

Table with columns for event name, date, location, and time. Includes NHS Football, NHS Girls Swimming, NHS Volleyball, NMS Wrestling, and NMS Girls Basketball.

Silver linings

In this crazy year full of cancelled events and solitude, of constant fighting and stress, of uncertainty and worry, there have been a few silver linings that have shown themselves recently in the realm of high school sports.

The first is that the Newcastle Cross Country team became the first fall sports team to successfully complete their season.

Well, one down, three to go! Another unexpected silver lining is that due to Covid-19, the normal regional volleyball format has been modified this year.

Initially, this may seem as if it's not a good thing, but on closer inspection — and taking into consideration the Lady Dogies season right now — it turns out that the



Sonja Karp Karpe Dogie

be able to see their seasons to fruition, but in the back of my mind, I was afraid they would be cut short.

— See Karpe, Page 18

Netters win big over Buffalo

Sonja Karp
NLJ Sports Reporter

The Lady Dogies record last week may seem disappointing, however their one win was a big one as they toppled the second seeded Lady Bison of Buffalo on their home court last

NHS Volleyball

Newcastle @ Wheatland 10/20/20: 13-25, 11-25, 15-25
Individual Stats
Jaylen Ostenson: 4-4 serves, 7 kills, 1 set assist, 12 digs

Newcastle v. Douglas 10/23/20: 18-25, 13-25, 10-25
Individual Stats
Jaylen Ostenson: 9-9 serves, 7 kills, 1 stuff block, 1 block assist, 1 set assist, 6 digs

Newcastle @ Buffalo 10/24/20: 25-19, 18-25, 25-21, 25-17
Individual Stats
Jaylen Ostenson: 13-15 serves, 1 ace, 11 kills, 1 stuff block, 2 set assists, 16 digs

Newcastle v. Burns at Buffalo 10/24/20: 13-25, 17-25, 25-20, 17-25
Individual Stats
Jaylen Ostenson: 11-13 serves, 1 ace, 11 kills, 1 block assist, 1 set assist, 13 digs

Saturday. The journey to get to that big win was challenging, however.

It was a really busy, up and down week for the team which began with a makeup trip to Wheatland to play the Lady Bulldogs on Tuesday.

“Wheatland was rough,” admitted head coach Keeley Anderson. “We just did not play well which lead to us having a long talk about changing things up and that seemed to help as Wednesday and Thursday were great, positive practices for the team.”

It became apparent early in the Lady Dogies contest against the powerhouse Douglas Lady Bearcats on Friday that the positivity of the last couple of days had made an impact on the squad.

“They played really hard and had really positive attitudes which was great,” Anderson began. “It might not seem like it looking at the scores, but we battled well and I was proud of how they played.”

The Lady Dogies dropped the sets 18-25, 13-25 and 10-25, but ended up scoring more points against the number three ranked Lady ‘Cats than they had against the Lady Bulldogs on Tuesday.

The focus of the week for the team was the contest against the Lady Bison in Buffalo on Saturday morning. This was a big game for the squad as Newcastle and Buffalo are slated to face off against each other in round one of the Regional tournament this Thursday.

Buffalo held the two seed in the Northeast Quadrant while Newcastle was third, and the winner of the Saturday game had no bearing on who would play whom, however, since the Lady Bison had stolen the win against the Lady Dogies in five sets earlier in the season, Newcastle was eager to even the score and take that momentum into the postseason.

“We just really wanted to beat them, and do so in four sets at the most,”



Photo by Walter Sprague/NLJ

Hunter McFarland is solid behind the service line for the Lady Dogies and can be counted on to keep the ball over and in for her team.

— See Volleyball, Page 13

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MRI: Nov. 12

Speech Therapy: Every other Monday & Thursday, 4-6 pm
 Patient's Provider must schedule with WCHS Radiology Department

Upton Lab Draws: (1st Wednesday, except holidays) Nov. 4

Wellness Wednesday, Newcastle Every Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 am

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Dogies struggle against Bulldogs

Sonja Karp
 NLJ Sports Reporter

Turnovers were the name of the game and the Dogies' worst nightmare Friday in Wheatland as the Bulldogs racked up four pick-sixes in their 45-13 victory over Newcastle.

"Initially, it was a pretty good start for us," began head coach Matt Conzelman. "But then their first score was a pick-six and then we had three more of them by the end of the game. The turnovers are killing us."

The Bulldogs were guilty of even more turnovers than the Dogies, throwing two interceptions and committing three fumbles which the Dogies recovered. However, the difference in the outcome of the contest was that Wheatland was able to convert all four into touchdowns while Newcastle was only able to capitalize on one.

The Dogies put together an offensive drive after the Wheatland touchdown to punch one in to get on the board.

"We ran a spread out pass play, and Quint [Perino's] first look was [Aidan] Chick deep and then it was [Hogan] Tystad," Conzelman began. "Quint put up a perfectly thrown ball and Aidan ran under it for the catch. That was exciting for us to be able to do that right away in the first quarter."

| NHS Football | |
|--|--|
| Newcastle @ Wheatland 10/23/20: 13-45 136 yards rushing, 91 yards passing Individual Stats Aidan Chick: 1 TD, 1 carry for -2 yards, 5 receptions for 91 yards, 1 interception, 3 tackles Holden McConkey: 1 TD, 35 carries for 131 yards, 1 tackle Kale Corley: 7 carries for 18 yards, 9 tackles Tristan Wornkey: 4 carries for 8 yards, 1 pass break up, 13 tackles Quint Perino: 1 TD pass, 7 carries for -8 yards, 5-14 pass completions for 91 yards | Hogan Tystad: 1 carry for -11 yards, 1 fumble recovery, 1 pass breakup, 2 tackles Braden Jenkins: 1 interception, 1 fumble recovery Christian Santos: 3 tackles Chauncey Jenerou: 1 tackle Emily Beastron: 1-1 PAT Josh Womack: 4 tackles Jacob Prell: 1 fumble recovery, 1 pass breakup, 3 tackles Dylan Drost: 1 fumble recovery, 1 pass breakup, 4 tackles |

After snagging the 40-yard pass from Perino, Chick had to run for another 20 yards to get in the endzone for the Dogies' first six points of the game. Because the Bulldogs had run in a two-point conversion, Conzelman opted to do the same to try to even the score, however the Dogies were unsuccessful in their attempt so ended the first quarter down 6-8.

"We were battling and it was exactly where we needed to be," Conzelman nodded. "But then things went down hill during the second quarter."

At the beginning of the second, the Bulldogs were putting together a drive on Newcastle when Braden Jenkins got an interception off a screen play. He read the play and picked it off, however the Dogies were unable to convert that turnover into any points.

Unfortunately, the squad then threw another pick-six, Wheatland was able to get a big run from their running back for

another TD, and by the end of the half, the Dogies were back in familiar territory, down 6-22.

After the half, Newcastle rallied to battle against the Bulldogs and right at the beginning of the fourth the Dogies struck again as Holden McConkey punched another one in on a seven yard scamper.

McConkey's score was set up by Chick with another big catch to put the Dogies in good field position. Conzelman thought Chick was going to go all the way to the house, but he got pushed out at about the seven yard line. Then McConkey ran it in on the next play.

Emily Beastron pushed the score up to 13 by putting the ball through the uprights on the PAT following the touchdown. She then went on to execute a perfect on-side kick which ended up bouncing over the top of a Bulldog and the Dogies piled in and recovered it to

— See **Football**, Page 18

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Newcastle's cross country season ends

Sonja Karp
 NLJ Sports Reporter

The Dogies made the incredibly long drive to Afton last Thursday, hoping to finish their season strong at the 3A State Cross Country Meet. Unfortunately, the deck was stacked against the Dogies with a couple of runners dealing with injuries and illnesses, the thinner air of the higher elevation of the course and inclement weather.

While every runner competing had to deal with the wintery conditions, those teams unaccustomed to running at 6,200 feet were at a little bit of a disadvantage.

"We had some runners who really ran well, and some didn't have their best race," head coach Kathy Beehler admitted. "Injuries and illness were still nagging a couple of our guys, which unfortunately hit at the wrong time of the season. They ran as well as they could at the moment, but definitely not their best."

Carson Bock finished the race once again as his team's top finisher, crossing the finish line in 21st place with a time of 18:24.30. Avery Chick and Tristan Troftgruben were next for the Dogies in 37th and 38th.

"Carson ran a good race. I thought he might get anywhere from 15th to 20th and kind of sneak in to the top, and he ended up getting 21st so he did about as he was expected to do," Beehler nodded. "Avery and Tristan also both ran well and had an exciting finish to watch."

Chick and Troftgruben were neck and neck coming down the stretch and, to the observer, crossed the finish line at the exact same time. Each runner wore a chip on the left side of their jersey because the chip reader was positioned on the left side of the finish line. Troftgruben was running on the left, and Chick on the right so the chip reader didn't read Chick's finish because Troftgruben's body was blocking his chip.

At the end of the race, Beehler and assistant coach Cody Nelson saw there was no finish for Chick so they alerted the race supervisors and they had to go back to the video and slow down the film to determine which of the two had actually crossed first.

It turned out that Chick edged out Troftgruben by .10 of a second to be the second Dogie across the finish line.

Bridger Alishouse was next after Troftgruben in 67th, while Teegan Hatheway was three seconds behind in 68th. Mathew Drake finished in 74th and Zach Purviance came in 81st, and the team's combined score of 229 points gave the Dogies a ninth place finish as a team.

"It was a long trip, and we went down really hoping to be among the top five when it all shook out and if the cards had been right, we could have been there," Beehler nodded. "Unfortunately, it didn't work out that way, but I was proud of how they carried themselves after

| NHS Cross Country | |
|---|--|
| Newcastle @ 3A State Meet in Afton 10/23/20 Men's Results: Team: 1. Lander 45 2. Star Valley 118 3. Lyman 128 4. Mountain View 133 5. Cody 143 6. Worland 159 7. Riverton 167 8. Green River 201 9. Newcastle 229 10. Douglas 234 11. Powell 250 12. Buffalo 283 13. Rawlins 299 | 14. Pine Bluffs 388 Individual Results: 21. Carson Bock 18:24.30 37. Avery Chick 18:45.80 38. Tristan Troftgruben 18:45.90 67. Bridger Alishouse 19:41.80 68. Teegan Hatheway 19:44.20 74. Mathew Drake 20:04 81. Zach Purviance 20:30.7 Women's Individual Results: 72. Janaya Ralls 24:31.56 84. Tara Carter 26:04.40 86. Alaina Laurence 26:40.38 |

the race as individuals and as a team."

"When a race doesn't go as planned it's disappointing," Beehler continued. "But then you just have to use those setbacks as your motivation to set new goals for your future endeavors. I was proud of all of our runners because I thought they ran the very best race they could on that day."

Only three Lady Dogies ran on Friday, and so they were unable to compete as a team. However, individually Beehler was happy with how they raced.

Janaya Ralls was the first of the three to cross the finish line in 72nd with a time of 24:31.56. Tara Carter was next in 84th and Alaina Laurence came in close on her heels in 86th. In doing so, Laurence improved her time by over two minutes from her previous few races.

As the team boarded the bus to begin the long trek home, Beehler noted that she was so pleased to hear them talking very realistically about their performance on the day and their goals for the future.

"It was really awesome because they didn't make any excuses, and they were already setting goals for the spring track season and talking about what they needed to do over the winter to try to reach those goals," Beehler beamed. "We've talked a lot about the fact that we want our program to be a legacy to be proud of, and the kids are doing a great job of wanting to do whatever is necessary to maintain that. They know they are responsible for bringing the young kids up and setting the standard by mentoring the newbies."

Beehler bid adieu to seniors Bock, Purviance, Alishouse, Conrad Prell, Gunner Ramsey, Laurence and Lara Lopez. However, the squad will return their top two finishers for the girls and the four of the top seven for the boys. While Beehler is pleased to have a good core returning, she admitted that losing her seniors is difficult.

"Our seniors are a big part of this team and we are going to miss them, and they will leave some big holes," she frowned. "Our returning guys will need to step up to fill those shoes and the new freshmen will need to step up and contribute right away."

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Swimmers compete at conference meet

Sonja Karp
NLJ Sports Reporter

In an imperfect situation, the 3A East swim teams made their conference meet work.

On Friday, Douglas and Newcastle travelled to Buffalo to create their own pre-conference meet in order to simulate an actual conference meet which was altered due to Covid this year.

According to head swim coach Doug Scribner, some of the girls swam the same events on Saturday, just so they could get the feel for doing a true post-season competition.

“We wanted to try to make it as close to a real post-season meet as we could,” he began. “It was a little different than what a real preliminary meet would be because there was nothing riding on it and it was just the three teams, but we wanted to give the girls an experience that was close to the real thing.”

The Lady Dogies swam well on Friday with Brooklyn Schmitz dropping over a second in the 50 Free, Rebekah Olson taking almost three minutes off her time in the 100 Butterfly, Raeleigh Shipp saw a slight improvement in the 100 Free, and Schmitz took nearly three seconds off her best time in the 100 Backstroke.

“Always the strategy in these two-day meets is to be competitive on Friday and then come out and have energy on Saturday for the finals,” Scribner explained. “State will be the normal format of



Photo by Sonja Karp/NLJ

Lydia Anderson, above, just missed the 3A qualifying mark in the 50 Free at the Conference meet Saturday as she touched the wall just .54 of a second too late. She will have one more opportunity to get in under 28 seconds on Thursday in Gillette. Below, Becca Henkle starts things off for the Lady Dogies at the 3A East Conference Meet swimming the first leg of the 200 Medley Relay. The senior would go on to take third in the Conference in diving and earned a personal best score of 305 in the process.

prelims on Friday and finals on Saturday, so we wanted to try to give the girls that experience.”

Newcastle hosted half of the 3A East Conference Meet on Saturday, once again competing against Buffalo and Douglas. It was set up the same way a regular post-season meet would be, with the swimmers being announced for each finals event and allowing them to have their walk-in.

In addition, as Newcastle was hosting three of the teams,

Worland was doing the same simultaneously with the other three teams of the 3A East Conference. Through shared Google documents, the two schools were able to tabulate results so the top 12 swimmers were recognized in each event, while the top six got to stand on the podium to celebrate their finishes.

“Medals” were given though the real ones were in Worland where the meet was originally scheduled to take place, and Scribner thought that it worked out pretty well in the long run.

“It actually worked really well because you could really see the anticipation from the athletes and the fans. Because they couldn’t actually see how the other three teams swam, they had to wait to see how things fell out regarding individual finishes, and that was pretty cool,” he smiled. “They might have won the race here, but they didn’t know if they had been fast enough to win against swimmers in Worland. There were some pleasant surprises, as teams and individual swimmers awaited the announcement to see how they finished overall.”

Hannah Gross decided to swim the 200 Free and the 100 Backstroke at Conference, and she did that in order to get an idea where she stood, because those are almost certainly the two events she will compete in at the State meet.

Though she easily won the contest in Newcastle, touching the wall 17 seconds before the

second place finisher, she was behind Tara Joyce of Cody by nearly 10 seconds. Joyce swam a 1:53 which was four seconds faster than she went two weeks ago in Buffalo.

Throughout the season, Gross and Scribner have been aware of the abilities of Joyce, however the two haven’t been in the pool at the same time in the 200 Free. Her Conference time is certainly fast, and Gross has not finished under that time, however the senior thrives on competition and is excited to race her to see how she does.

One drawback of conducting the Conference meet in this manner was not being able to have all six teams together where swimmers could actually race against each other.

“That was one of the things that gave Hannah confidence last year. We were anticipating that Olivia from Lander was going to be her competition, so we were able to work out a schedule where we swam against her four times during the season, and we haven’t been able to do that this year,” Scribner acknowledged. “We have only swam against Cody one time and those two didn’t swim the same event so the first time it’s going to happen will be at the state meet.”

Though Gross had to settle for second in the 200 Free, she was the Conference Champion in the 100 Backstroke, touching the wall three and a half seconds before the second-place finisher in Worland.

Becca Henkle earned a personal best score in the 11-dive format on Saturday. Buffalo has two strong divers, and Douglas also has a diver who is very good. Henkle hung in there with the top divers and ended up taking third behind the Buffalo divers with a score of 305.65.

“Becca was excited and she just had this huge smile on her face,” Scribner grinned. “Breaking 300 is very good and to finish in the top three was just a real feel-good moment.”

Lydia Anderson dropped a little in the 50 Free and is now just .54 of a second away from qualifying for State in that event. All four Lady Dogies

who competed in the 50 Free dropped time with Olson having the most impressive finish shaving off two seconds in this very short race.

Shipp dropped another second and a half in the 100 Free which she is still trying to qualify for, Autumn Mills took over nine and a half seconds off her 100 Breaststroke time and Schmitz was an astounding 18.37 seconds faster in the same event.

Anderson and Shipp will have one more opportunity to cut time and get under the qualifying mark this week at the last chance qualifier in Gillette on Thursday.



NHS Girls Swimming

Newcastle @ Buffalo Premeet 10/23/20

Individual Results:
200 Medley Relay: 2:29.99
4. Lydia Anderson, Hannah Gross, Rebekah Olson, Autumn Mills
200 Free:
1. Hannah Gross 2:03.16 4AQ
50 Freestyle:
9. Lydia Anderson 29.71
14. Raeleigh Shipp 33.37
17. Rebekah Olson 37.98
18. Brooklyn Schmitz 39.34
100 Butterfly:
2. Rebekah Olson 1:31.21
100 Free:
4. Raeleigh Shipp 1:08.95
12. Autumn Mills 1:24.64
100 Backstroke:
1. Hannah Gross 1:04.04 4AQ
8. Lydia Anderson 1:19.78
9. Brooklyn Schmitz 1:58.79
400 Free Relay: 5:15.26
6. Raeleigh Shipp, Hannah Gross, Lydia Anderson, Brooklyn Schmitz

Newcastle @ 3A East Conference Meet in Newcastle 10/23/20

Team Results:
1. Buffalo 324
2. Cody 311
3. Worland 235
4. Douglas 141
5. Rawlins 122

6. Newcastle 102

Individual Results:
200 Medley Relay: 2:49.65
6. Becca Henkle, Brooklyn Schmitz, Rebekah Olson, Autumn Mills
200 Free:
2. Hannah Gross 2:03.05 4AQ
50 Freestyle:
9. Lydia Anderson 28.54
15. Raeleigh Shipp 31.69
20. Rebekah Olson 35.66
23. Brooklyn Schmitz 40.25
1 Mtr. Diving: 11 Dives
3. Becca Henkle 305.65 3AQ PR
100 Free:
12. Lydia Anderson 1:04.59
14. Raeleigh Shipp 1:07.52 PR
500 Free:
17. Rebekah Olson 7:58.25
200 Free Relay: 2:17.58
5. Raeleigh Shipp, Lydia Anderson, Brooklyn Schmitz, Rebekah Olson
100 Backstroke:
1. Hannah Gross 1:02.11 4AQ
17. Becca Henkle 1:26.69
100 Breaststroke:
16. Autumn Mills 1:47.61
17. Brooklyn Schmitz 2:10.40
400 Free Relay: 4:34.75
6. Hannah Gross, Raeleigh Shipp, Lydia Anderson, Becca Henkle

Volleyball

from Page 11

Anderson began. “It was super fun to watch and the girls were jacked. They were having fun and were making Buffalo scramble.”

Newcastle burst out of the gate strong, taking the first set 25-19, and then Buffalo came back to take the second 25-18. Tied at one set apiece, both teams were determined to prevail in the third set.

“It was awesome to see the girls come out and play well in the first set, because we have been starting slow pretty much all season,” Anderson admitted. “When they won the second set, I told the girls that we wanted to make sure we got the next one so that they would be scrambling to catch up in the fourth set.”

The ladies took that to heart and battled hard with the Lady Bison to go up 2-1 after the third by taking the 25-21 win.

At that point, Newcastle dominated Buffalo through the fourth set and took the match with the most decisive win of the morning by putting them away 25-17.

“That was awesome to see the girls really step up in those last two sets,” Anderson smiled. “I think if we bring the same mentality to our game on Thursday, we have a really good chance to beat them again and earn a trip to the state tournament.”

The emotions of getting the victory over the Lady Bison may have contributed to the performance of the Lady

Dogies in their second match of the day as they took on the Lady Broncs of Burns. Once again, a slow start nagged Newcastle and they were only able to get 13 points on the board before Burns reached 25.

The Lady Dogies started to warm up in the second, but couldn’t quite get there, dropping it 17-25. Finally, in the third set, the squad came alive to take the 25-20 win and push the match to a fourth, however they couldn’t maintain their momentum so dropped the set at match 17-25.

“We were playing tired,” Anderson admitted. “We made mistakes that could definitely be attributed to fatigue but that means that we have to work on our stamina.”

Though the team finished with a 1-3 record on the week, they won when it counted and will take that with them as they prepare to face off against Buffalo at 3 p.m. in Douglas on Thursday in the first round of the one-and-done 3A East Regional Tournament.

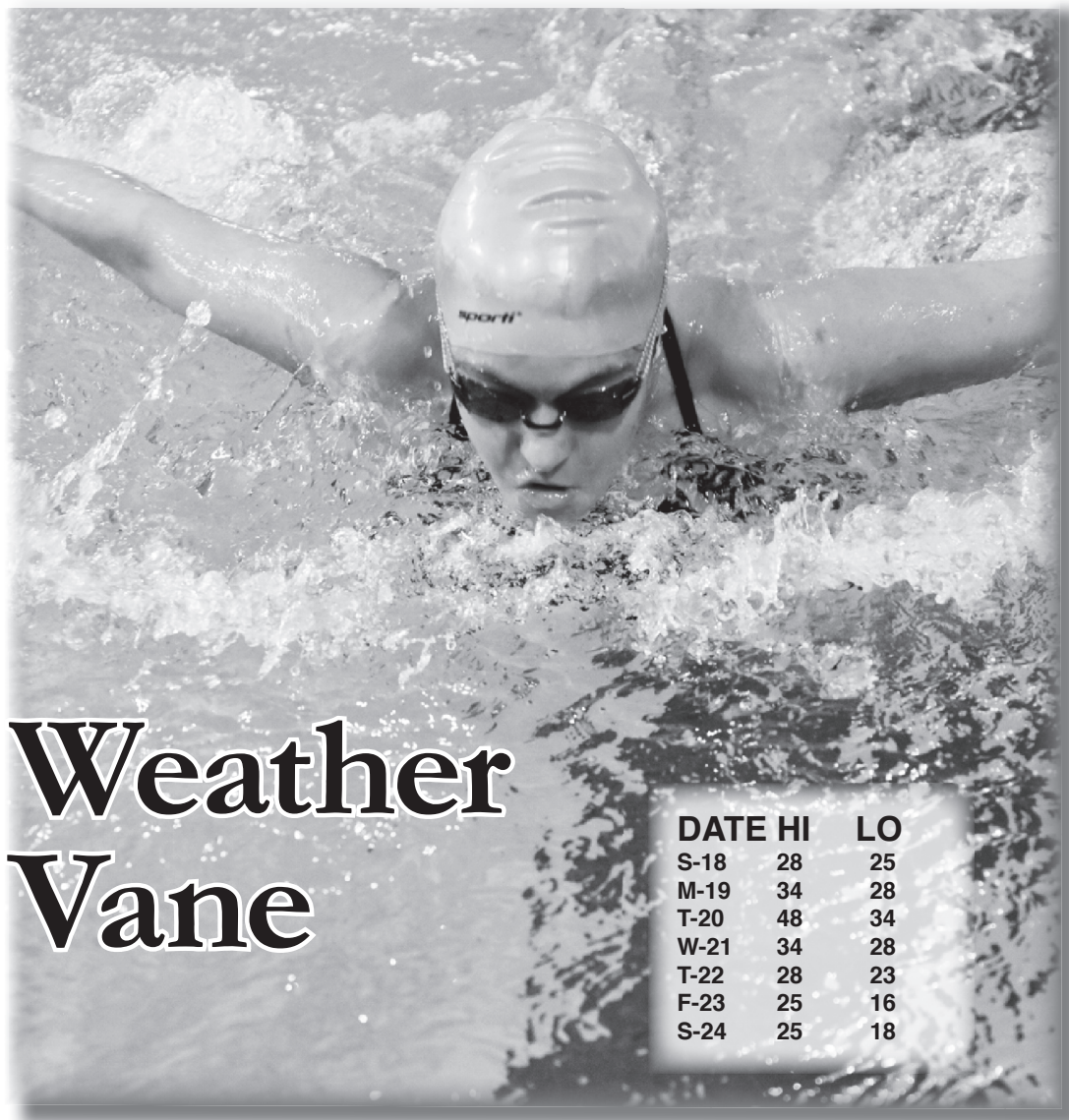
“We are holding the edge on Buffalo, having beat them in fewer sets than they beat us,” Anderson began. “But, we may have lit a fire underneath them as well, and we are two pretty evenly matched teams so we will have to bring our A game for sure.”

With a win, the Lady Dogies will likely play Douglas also on Thursday for seeding against the Southeast winners on Saturday.



Photo by Walter Sprague/NLJ

Jaylen Ostenson goes up for a tip while the rest of her team is ready to cover her shot against the Lady Bearcats. Though the Lady Bearcats dropped the match in three straight sets, they played well against the powerhouse team.



Weather Vane

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| T-20 | 48 | 34 | |
| W-21 | 34 | 28 | |
| T-22 | 28 | 23 | |
| F-23 | 25 | 16 | |
| S-24 | 25 | 18 | |

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR RED GIANT NEWCASTLE FACILITY'S RENEWAL PERMIT APPLICATION

In accordance with the provisions of the Wyoming Environmental Quality Act and Chapter 1 of the Solid Waste Rules and Regulations, Red Giant Oil Company LLC has submitted a renewal permit application for the Red Giant Newcastle Facility.

This facility provides for the transfer, treatment, storage of used oil, used antifreeze, slop diesel, and process water which have been generated within Wyoming, Idaho, Nebraska, Montana, South Dakota and Northern Colorado. The 8.8-acre facility is located approximately 2.5 miles southwest of the Town of Newcastle on Highway 16. More specifically, this facility is located in a portion of the SE ¼ of Section 2 and the NW ¼ SW ¼ of Section 1, T44N, R61W, in Weston County, Wyoming. The volumetric capacity of this facility is comprised of 30 yards of petroleum contaminated soil, 371,620 gallons of used oil, 8,000 gallons of used anti-freeze, 98,500 gallons of slop diesel and 19,800 gallons process water totaling 497,920 gallons and 30 cubic yards. The life of the facility is estimated to be indefinite.

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has reviewed the application and found it to be complete. Any interested person has the right to file comments on the permit application and the DEQ's completeness review. The period for providing comments shall begin on October 29, 2020 and end on December 7, 2020. Comments must be received by 5:00 PM on the last day of the notice period. Comments on this application must be submitted in writing to the Department of Environmental Quality, Luke Esch, Administrator, Solid and Hazardous Waste Division, 200 W. 17th Street, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002.

DEQ is now conducting a review of the application to determine if it complies with applicable technical standards for a facility of this type. If DEQ finds that the application complies with the technical standards, DEQ will issue a proposed permit and provide public notice and further opportunity to comment on the proposed permit.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, special assistance or alternative formats will be made available upon request for individuals with disabilities.

Para español, visite deq.wyoming.gov.

(Publish October 29 and November 5, 2020)

Public Notice

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

Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality PUBLIC NOTICE: In accordance with Chapter 6, Section 2(m) of the Wyoming Air Quality Standards and Regulations, notice is hereby given that the State of Wyoming, Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality, proposes to approve a request by Wyoming Refining Company to modify the Newcastle Refinery with the installation of one (1) 30,000 barrel (bbl) internal floating roof (IFR) storage tank (TNK045) and associated piping. This modification will also include demolishing and removing Tank 42 (TNK033) from service. The Newcastle Refinery is located at 740 West Main in Newcastle, in Weston County, Wyoming.

For the duration of the public comment period, the permit application, the agency's analysis, and the public notice are available for public inspection online at <https://openair.wyo.gov>, utilizing facility ID F000980 and permit number P0029180 under permits. Additionally, during the state of emergency declared by Governor Gordon on March 13, 2020, if you have questions about or need assistance accessing the materials, please contact Nancy Vehr, Air Quality Division Administrator, Department of Environmental Quality, 200 West 17th St., Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, by fax at 307-635-1784, via phone at 307-777-3746, or via email at Nancy.vehr1@wyo.gov. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, special assistance or alternate formats will be made available upon request for individuals with disabilities.

Written comments may be directed to Nancy Vehr, Administrator, Division of Air Quality, Department of Environmental Quality, 200 West 17th St., Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002 or by fax (307) 635-1784. Please reference A0011332 in your comment. Comments submitted by email

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act and the Wyoming Public Service Commission's (Commission) Rules, the Commission hereby gives notice of the Application of Black Hills Wyoming Gas, LLC d/b/a Black Hills Energy (BHWG or the Company) to revise the Fuel and Lost and Unaccounted for Gas Percentages (FL&U) in the Cheyenne and Cody Divisions.

BHWG is a public utility as defined by Wyo. Stat. § 37-1-101(a)(vi)(D), subject to the Commission's jurisdiction pursuant to Wyo. Stat. § 37-2-112.

On October 12, 2020, BHWG filed its Application requesting approval to implement a Transmission FL&U percentage of 0.000% for the Cheyenne Division and 0.410% for the Cody Division. BHGW states the FL&U percentages will be incorporated into the October 2020 Gas Cost Adjustment filing with rates proposed to be effective December 1, 2020, and revised on a going forward basis annually on or before March 1st of each year to align with existing Casper, Gillette and Torrington Divisions filing schedule.

This is not a complete description of the Application. Interested persons may inspect the Application at the Commission's offices in Cheyenne, Wyoming, by visiting the Commission's website at <https://psc.wyo.gov/>, or by visiting BHWG's website at www.blackhillenergy.com.

Anyone wishing to file a statement, intervention petition, protest or request for a public hearing in this matter must do so in writing filed with the Commission on or before November 17, 2020. Any intervention request filed with the Commission shall set forth the grounds of the proposed intervention or request for hearing as well as the position and the interest of the petitioner in this proceeding. Please be sure to mention Docket No. 30026-32-GA-20 (Record No. 15629) in all correspondence with the Commission.

If you wish to intervene in this matter or request a public hearing which you will attend and you require reasonable accommodation for a disability, call the Commission at (307) 777-7427 or write to the Commission, 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002. Communications-impaired persons may contact the Commission through Wyoming Relay at 711.

Dated: October 16, 2020.

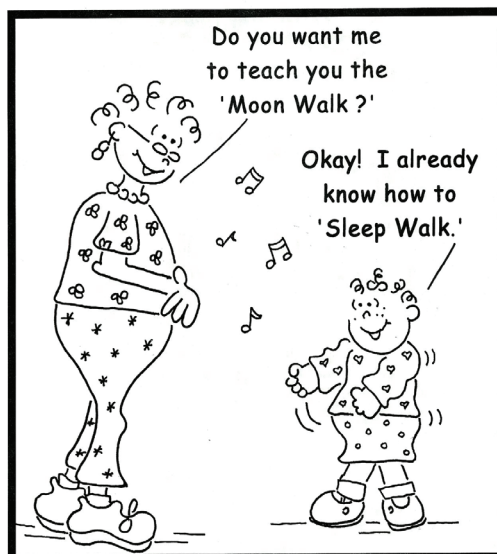
(Publish October 22 and 29, 2020)

will not be included in the administrative record. All comments received by 5:00 p.m., Monday, November 30, 2020 will be considered in the final determination on this application. A public hearing will be conducted only if in the opinion of the administrator sufficient interest is generated or if an aggrieved party so requests. For the duration of the state of emergency declared by Governor Gordon on March 13, 2020, public hearings will be conducted telephonically. Para español, visite deq.wyoming.gov.

(Publish October 29, 2020)

DEADLINE FOR LEGALS IS FRIDAY

Gwamma by JaNel M. Farnsworth



PROVERBIALY SPEAKING

ACROSS

- Bornean ape
- Casino's pull
- Elbow-wrist connection
- Paralyzing disease
- Pigeon sound
- Teething drops
- Mary's subjects (1542-1567)
- Ostrich-like bird
- September stone
- *One responsible for someone else's welfare
- *Both rodents and humans like to come up with these
- Name fit for a king
- Wedding cover
- Like a dim star
- Head vermin
- *Like the schemes of a fool, biblically speaking
- Thor's father
- Cleopatra's necklace
- Blood carrier
- Ice on a window
- Famous Teatro alla _____
- Took to court
- Prevent
- Burden of proof
- Leprechaun's land
- Fit
- Cabinet div.
- Steadfast Soldier's material
- Letter before kappa
- European Economic Community
- *It increases love and friendship
- *It will cause additional harm
- Raccoon relative
- Short for the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC
- Huey, Duey and Louie, e.g.
- #41 Across location
- Prior to, pref.
- Organ swelling
- Benevolent fellows
- African tam-_____
- English county

DOWN

- Roman goddess of plenty
- *It's just as unpleasant as a hard place
- Sunburn soother
- Fertilizer ingredient
- Luke's teaching, e.g.
- Laptop manufacturer
- Data storage acronym
- *Cowards are sometimes compared to this
- Encourage
- Good earth
- Sound on a scale
- Saloon selections
- Perennial garden flower
- Signs for escape
- Post-Soviet Union alliance, acr.
- Covered porch
- *Can't use these to break a skeleton
- Farewell, to ami
- Nimbus, pl.
- Gabrielle Chanel's nickname
- *Keep it clean to stay out of trouble
- *It's tastier if one is not allowed to have it
- First cradles
- Filled with cargo
- Like whiskey right out of bottle
- Classic board game
- Colorado ski resort
- Curb, two words
- Disney dwarf
- ACT taker, e.g.
- Dangle a carrot

Fun and Games

- Miss Muffet's meal
- "The Road Runner" corporation
- Skin infection
- #13 Across conqueror
- J.F.K. postings

- Bookkeeping entry
- *Don't want inquiries if you don't want to hear this
- Hefty volume
- Chapter in history
- Coltrane's woodwind

CROSSWORD

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"The man who stops advertising to save money is like the man who stops the clock to save time."

— Henry Ford

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City Council Minutes

**CITY OF NEWCASTLE
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MINUTES
MONDAY, 19 OCTOBER 2020**

Council President Don Steveson called this regular meeting of the Newcastle City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Those present were: President Steveson; Council members Roger Hesse, Michael Alexander, Ann McColley, Pam Gualtieri and Tom Voss. Also present were Department Heads City Police Chief Sam Keller, City Engineer Mike Moore and City Clerk/Treasurer Greg James. City Attorney Michael Stulken was absent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Roger Hesse moved, seconded Ann McColley to approve the agenda as amended, adding Thayne Austenhurst and Zach Pickle reference building purchases and plans. **MOTION CARRIED.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Ann McColley moved, seconded Tom Voss to approve the minutes of the meeting on Monday, October 5, 2020 as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

PUBLIC HEARING: as advertised at 7:00 p.m. to hear a request for partial abandonment of a City Street. The record reflects Valerie Pollat spoke briefly in favor as one of the parties involved, but otherwise there was no comment and no objection to the request. Tom Voss moved, seconded Roger Hesse to approve the abandonment as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

NOMINATIONS FOR RECOGNITION: Walter Sprague and Siri Karr for their work on the Red Butte Mural on the News Letter Journal building.

Chris Gualtieri for the work and resources to light the Antler's Motel sign.

Jim Neiman and Randy Lewis for their willingness to work with the City for the bus turnaround and the easement near the water tank.

CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION:

Dick and Bonnie Rich will have their certificate mailed to them for the annual Show & Shine Car Show.

CITIZEN'S BUSINESS—IN WRITING: None
CITIZEN'S BUSINESS—VERBAL:

Martha Bickford and Sasha Townsend reported on the Madness on Main and the Fall Festival and expressed their appreciation for the continued support of these activities.

Thayne Austenhurst and Zach Pickle informed the City Council about their plans to purchase the building the Frontier Home Ranch and Hardware currently occupy and the adjoining Newcastle Auto Parts building. They plan to expand their inventory to include many things that aren't available since Shopko closed.

MAYOR/COUNCIL REPORTS: Former Mayor Debra Piana was present to receive a plaque for her service as mayor and historically as the first woman to serve as mayor of Newcastle.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

City Clerk Greg James presented the audit engagement letter from Ketel Thorstensen for approval and signatures. Roger Hesse moved, seconded Michael Alexander to approve the letter and authorize signing. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. James then briefly discussed a proposal to apply for some of the CARES Act funds but needed a resolution from the City Council approving the application. Roger Hesse moved, seconded Ann McColley to pass Resolution #6, Series 2020 which approves application for \$50,000.00 of CARES Act funds to replace money expended for COVID-19 related expenses. **MOTION CARRIED.**

City Engineer Mike Moore reported on projects. The Salem Street is nearly complete. Jim Neiman and Randy Lewis were instrumental in allowing for the bus turn-around and allowing an easement across Neiman's property near the orange water tank. The bus loop is complete. Mr. Moore requested a \$0.50 per hour raise for Adam McFarlin for completing his probation period. Roger Hesse moved, seconded Ann McColley to approve this request. **MOTION CARRIED.**

City Attorney Michael Stulken was not present but asked Mr. James to read Ordinance #3,

Series 2020 on second reading. The proposed ordinance reads: ANY OWNER OF ANY FENCE, RETAINING WALL, OR OTHER SIMILAR STRUCTURE SHALL ENSURE THAT SAID STRUCTURE IS MAINTAINED IN GOOD REPAIR, STRUCTURALLY SOUND AND SANITARY SO AS NOT TO POSE A THREAT TO PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY OR WELFARE. ANY PERSON WHO MAINTAINS OR PERMITS THE EXISTENCE OF THE PROHIBITED DANGEROUS CONDITION HEREIN IS IN VIOLATION OF THE 1997 UNIFORM CODE FOR THE ABATEMENT OF DANGEROUS BUILDINGS AND THE PROCEDURE FOR ABATEMENT OF SUCH CONDITION SHALL BE PURSUANT TO SUCH CODE. Michael Alexander moved, seconded Pam Gualtieri to pass Ordinance #3, Series 2020 on second reading. **MOTION CARRIED.**

City Police Chief Sam Keller reported on calls for service, 4024 year to date and 259 for the month of October so far. Chief Keller announced that the officer previously approved to hire has decided not to accept the job. There are other candidates being looked at locally.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS: None
OTHER CITY BUSINESS: None

CLAIMS AGAINST THE CITY: Tom Voss moved, seconded Roger Hesse to pay the claims against the City dated Monday, October 19, 2020. Tom Voss moved, seconded Michael Alexander to adjourn this regular meeting of the Newcastle City Council at 7:52 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Claims: Ad-Pro Office Supply, office supplies, \$52.55; BCN Telecom, Inc., long distance service, \$182.40; Black Hills Energy, electric service, \$175.00; Black Hills Plumbing & Supply, service and replace pump, \$668.92; Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming, employee health insurance, \$38,398.00; Bobcat of Gillette, wiring parts, \$432.03; Butler Machinery Co. parts, \$198.03; Cambria Supply, supplies/materials, \$4700.89; Contractor's Supply, Inc., lath & grade rod, \$198.25; Culligan Water Conditioning, bottled water, \$52.00; Deckers Food Center, housekeeping supplies, \$183.77; Delta Dental of Wyoming, employee dental insurance, \$1939.00; Eastern Wyoming Equipment Co., Inc., parts, \$3035.19; Energy Laboratories, Inc., water sample testing, \$172.00; Farnsworth Services, Co., Inc., portable sanitation, \$250.00; Fisher Sand & Gravel Co., crushed rock, \$247.81; Frontier Home Ranch & Hardware, supplies/materials, \$646.88; Grimm's Pump & Industrial, pump parts, \$447.78; Heartland Kubota, LLC, parts, \$230.21; Jones Construction, cattle guard buttress, \$1600.00; Lost Cabin Photo & Design, trail pamphlets, \$308.30; Lou's Service, LLC, cattle guard, \$2000.00; Mastercard, supplies/materials, \$586.34; Mountain View Plumbing & Heating, change meter, \$130.00; Newcastle Equipment Co., truck repair, \$2315.94; News Letter Journal, office supplies, \$167.74; NORCO, Inc., welding cylinder rent, \$24.30; Office Shop Leasing, office copier lease, \$71.45; One Call of Wyoming, utility locates, \$36.00; Pete Lien & Sons, Inc., concrete sand, \$259.70; Powder River Energy Corp., electric service, \$766.45; Range, city share phones, \$333.94; Rapid Delivery, Inc., parts delivery, \$27.61; Genell Rothleutner, PD cleaning, \$200.00; Russell Industries, Inc., air pump, \$851.03; Una Seely, water deposit refund, \$144.63; Short Stop Fuel Mart, fuel purchases, \$5392.08; Michael Stulken October 2020 attorney fee, \$2800.00; Summit Plumbing & Heating, valve replacement, \$210.24; Titan Machinery, parts, \$121.00; Valli Information Systems, credit card services, \$100.00; Becky Vodopich, city hall cleaning/supplies, \$318.00; WEBT, employee life insurance, \$98.00; Weston County Treasurer, tax handling fee/youth services/airport expenses, \$4216.35; Weston County True Value, lumber, \$65.77; Woody's Food Center, housekeeping supplies, \$14.07; Wyoming Rents, LLC, CAT 315 rental, \$6580.00.

Don Steveson, President
ATTEST: City Clerk/Treasurer, Greg James
(Publish October 29, 2020)

**Cowboy
State
Look-In**

*Courtesy of the
Wyoming News Exchange*

Storm halts beet harvest

POWELL (WNE) — With 87% of the area sugar beet crop delivered, freezing temperatures and snow called a halt Friday, Oct. 23 to the 2020 Western Sugar Cooperative harvest.

Sugar company and growers hope the shutdown is only temporary and were collectively holding their breath about the extent of damage.

After a weekend in which temperatures over the growing area reached the single digits and even readings below zero, some frozen beet crop damage is inevitable. The crown — the top of the beets closest to the surface — typically sustains initial frost damage.

"The beets will be evaluated during the week," said Heart Mountain grower Ric Rodriguez, a member of Western Sugar's co-op board.



"There was already some damage below the tops and into the crown. That was the reason for the separation of the piles. The cold temperatures in the last few days drives the damage down further into the root. Lots of tops help insulate the root, as well as snow coverage," he added.

When conditions allow, the harvest will resume as long as growers can bring in fairly clean loads —without excessive frozen beet top matter or dirt clogs. It has not been determined how much will be harvested initially.

"We'll definitely take some loads and start processing frozen beets immediately and keep on with that for as long as possible," Rodriguez said. "We'll probably put three to five days of slice down (at dumps) and see how they look."

Money lost in email scam

CODY (WNE) — Yellowstone Regional Airport has fallen victim to cybertheft.

Heidi Rasmussen, YRA board member, revealed during a board meeting on Oct. 14, that a wire transfer for \$7,829.67 was mistakenly sent to a fraudulent requester posing as the job-hiring firm the airport recently hired.

Rasmussen said this encompassed about the first 40% of payment to Florida-based ADK Consulting and

Executive Search. She said it was four days before it was discovered the money had been wired to a fraudulent account.

She said the bank was able to recoup \$450 of this loss.

"It was pointed out to me that it could have been much worse and I agree with that," Rasmussen said.

Ray Lee, airport interim director, said the phishing attempt came from a technological breach through ADK, in which the scammer was

able to send a request from a real ADK email address.

He said ADK is pursuing the crime with law enforcement agencies in their jurisdiction and have locked down a potential suspect.

In September, YRA decided it would pay ADK around \$22,000 to help the airport find a new director.

Rasmussen said the airport will consider cybersecurity insurance moving forward, which she said can cost around \$4,400 per year.

Election Notice

**OFFICIAL MAIL BALLOT
WEST END WATER DISTRICT
NEWCASTLE, WYOMING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION
NOVEMBER 2020**

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER

1. To vote you must place a mark to the right of the name of the candidate for whom you wish to vote.

2. To write in a name, you must place a mark to the right of the line provided, and write the complete name on the space provided for the purpose.

3. After completing your ballot, sign and complete the return-verification envelope included. Ballots must be returned in the attached signed envelope in order to be counted. Ballots are included for each person listed on the account or Land Owner. **Voter's signature must be on the envelope in order for the ballot to be counted.** Envelopes are separated from the ballots before being counted, in order to ensure anonymity.

4. Ballots may be returned by mail. The enclosed, signed envelope with ballot must be postmarked no later than November 5, 2020.

NOTE: There are no other designated polling places for the West End Water District.

WEST END WATER DISTRICT
DIRECTOR ELECTION
FOUR YEAR TERM
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN THREE

* CHRIS A. MILLER
* DAVE MORION
* ERIC DUBZINSKI
* WRITE IN _____

WARNING

The criminal law regulating the conduct of elections contained in chapter 26 of the Wyoming Election Code of 1973, as amended apply with equal force to elections conducted by mail.

OFFICIAL BALLOT
Weston County, Wyoming
West End Water District

(Publish October 29, 2020)

Banned items exploded in Teton

JACKSON (WNE) — After suffering both a fire and a bear spray canister explosion, Teton County Integrated Solid Waste and Recycling is asking the public to do a better job properly disposing of batteries and canisters.

"Please remember the human element of recycling and trash in Teton County," a press release said. "Recycling Center staff work very closely with every piece of material that comes to the facility, and some can be very dangerous."

Batteries and bear spray are banned from the landfill and should be brought to the Teton County Recycling Center at 3270 S. Adams Canyon Road.

If they are not — or end up in the wrong bins — the results can be dangerous.

Lithium batteries, the press release warned, "pose an extreme fire risk when exposed to water, heat, or pressure."

Recently, they may have caused a fire at the Trash Transfer Station that was extinguished and reignited hours later. Another time, batteries were found in office paper recycling, but caught before moving further down the recycling stream where they could have caused fire or damage.

A bear spray canister mistakenly placed into the glass bin at the Recycling Center was punctured recently, causing the center to pause operations and send two staff members home.

Police Blotter

October 11

Juvenile Curfew Enforced. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Traffic Stop, Citation Issued. Report of a Dog at Large. Ministerial Assistance Requested. Warrant Arrest Made.

October 12

Traffic Stop, No Action Taken. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. School Walkthrough. Barking Dog Complaint. Assist Other Agency. VIN Inspection Requested. 911 Misdial. School Walkthrough. VIN Inspection Requested. School Bus Stop Arm Runner Reported. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Traffic Stop, ERO Issued. Assist Other Agency.

October 13

Barking Dog Complaint, Citation Issued. School Walkthrough. VIN Inspection Requested. Arrest Warrant Issued. Traffic Stop, No Action Taken, Arrest Warrant Issued.

October 14

Assist Other Agency. Assist Other Agency. Traffic Hazard Reported. VIN Inspection Requested. Traffic Stop, Equipment Repair Order Issued.

October 15

VIN Inspection Requested. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Parking Complaint. Minor 2 Vehicle Accident Reported. VIN Inspection Requested. Barking Dogs Reported.

October 16

VIN Inspection Requested. Parking Complaint. School Walkthrough. School Walkthrough. Parking Complaint. Medical Assist. VIN Inspection Requested. Aggressive Dog Reported. Animal Ordinance Violation. Child Assault Reported. Barking Dogs Reported. Residential Burglar Alarm Reported. Assist Other Agency. Arrest Warrant Issued. Suspicious Activity Reported. Medical Assist.

Arrest Warrant Issued.

October 17

Arrest Warrant Issued. Funeral Escort Requested. Probation Arrest Made. Medical Assist. Theft Reported. Suspicious Activity Reported. Barking Dogs Reported.

October 18

Medical Assist, Drug Overdose. Medical Assist. Missing Person Reported.

October 19

Traffic Stop, Verbal Warning Issued. Medical Assist. Suspicious Activity Reported. Search Warrant Served. 911 Misdial. Abandoned Animal Reported. Report of a Dog at Large. Parking Complaint, Citation Issued.

October 20

Fire Reported. Traffic Stop, Verbal Warning Issued. 911 Misdial. Parking Complaint. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. VIN Inspection

Requested. Traffic Complaint. Suspicious Activity Reported. MIP Tobacco Reported. Citation Issued. Trespass Warning Requested. Suspicious Activity Reported.

October 21

Trespassing Reported. Theft Reported, Citation Issued. VIN Inspection Requested. Public Assist. Wild Animal Issue Reported.

October 22

911 Misdial. Parking Complaint. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Suspicious Person Reported. Domestic Issue Reported.

October 23

Assist Other Agency. Message Delivery Requested. 911 Misdial. VIN Inspection Requested. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Public Nuisance Reported. Civil Issue Reported. Traffic Stop, ERO Issued. Bar Walkthrough Reported.

October 24

Arrest Warrant Issued. Arrest Warrant Issued. Animal Issue Reported. Traffic Stop, Written Warning Issued. Threatened Suicide Reported. Disorderly Conduct Report.



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TOPS
TOPS meets at three Newcastle locations each week: Tuesday at 4 at First United Methodist Church, call Joyce Brown at 629-1033; Thursday at 8 at Gateway Fellowship Church, call Grace Davis at 746-4531; and at 9 am Thursdays at First Baptist Church, call Ellen Butts at 746-4251. All are welcome!

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|--|--------------------------------------|
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| Pharmacy Technician | FT |
| Environmental Services (EVS) | FT & PRN |
| Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) | FT, PT, & PRN (Day and Night Shifts) |
| Nutrition Support Aide (NSA) | PRN |
| Registered Nurse (RN) | FT, PT, PRN (Manor Nursing Home) |
| Health Information Management (HIM) Technician | FT |
| Radiology Technician | FT |

Employment Applications can be found on our website or picked up at the hospital front desk.
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Up for election

On Oct. 9, Don Steveson held a Meet & Greet in the Cambria Room at the Newcastle Lodge and Convention Center. About a dozen people showed up to talk with Steveson and ask policy questions in his run for Newcastle mayor. Read more about all the candidates in this week's special Election Guide, starting on Page 19.

Photo by Walter Sprague/NLJ

Football from Page 12

regain possession. Unfortunately, the Bulldogs held Newcastle out of the endzone for the remainder of the contest to take the win.

“Other than the turnovers, we had a pretty good game. We were over 200 yards in total offense, Holden had 131 yards rushing, so if we could get the turnover bug fixed, we would have been in good shape,” Conzelman sighed. “You can’t have four turnovers like that and expect to win a game and having four of them going back to the house is crazy.”

Chick also had a successful night snagging five receptions for all 91 yards of the Dogie offense in the air, and defensively the squad played pretty well aside from letting the Bulldogs pull off a few big plays.

“We were fighting which is great, but we need to clean it up and go into the Burns game and just play,” Conzelman determined.

This week is the beginning of playoffs, however both Burns and Newcastle didn’t make the cut for postseason play so they are using the opportunity to make up their postponed contest from earlier in the season.

“The guys are excited about it because they know that game should have been the senior’s last game on Schoonmaker Field so they are pumped to get one more,” Conzelman stated. “It gives us an opportunity to play this game we love and we have a chance to get this one. It will be great if we can go out and execute and take care of the ball to get a win to finish off the year.”

Kickoff is scheduled for 5 p.m. Thursday.

Karpe from Page 11

squad couldn’t have asked for a better scenario.

Here’s how the tournament is set up. The one and four seeds from the Northeast will play each other and the two and three seeds from the Northeast will play each other — the same will take place in the Southeast Quadrant as well.

The winners of those two games will qualify for the state tournament and the losers will bid adieu to their 2020 season.

Yes, it’s a really high-stakes game which may lead one to think that it is not such a great situation. Well, that’s where one would be wrong.

Douglas is the clear number one in our quadrant so there is little doubt that they will be advancing, however, the contest between the two and three seeds is totally up for grabs. Buffalo currently holds the second seed and Newcastle is the third, so on paper, it looks like that gives the advantage to Buffalo.

But here’s the deal: Buffalo and Newcastle have split on the season and when Buffalo won, they came from being behind two sets to zero to win in five, and when Newcastle won (Saturday), they defeated the Lady Bison in four sets.

So with this in mind, it is actually the Dogies who are going into the contest with the upper hand. Granted, they will have to play well because the Lady Bison are scrappy and will definitely bring it, but Newcastle has momentum right now.

With that said, the real silver lining for this unique format for Newcastle is that when you look at the whole east conference, the south teams are actually stronger than the north. Rawlins, Wheatland and Torrington all have winning seasons and have defeated the northeast teams they have played (except for Douglas), so for them this format is less than desirable since one of the legitimately better teams from the east is going to see their season end prematurely when it likely wouldn’t have if the Regional tournament were played in the usual way.

While on one hand I feel a little bad for those teams, on the other hand the thought of it makes me smile. The Lady Dogies’ season record isn’t indicative of the young team’s ability so I love the fact that they have a pretty good chance of making it to the Big Dance.

It just goes to show that even in less than satisfactory situations, there’s always a silver lining that can be found if you just look.

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A note from Superintendent LaCroix

Dear Weston County Community,

We have officially made it through the first nine weeks of the 2020-2021 school year. Thankfully we have had minimal COVID-19 impacts on students and staff. We thank all the students, parents and staff who have made this possible through their diligence and support of the smart start plan. The plan is allowing continuation of school when individuals or groups are impacted by COVID. This is not an easy task, but it is one that we have all worked on as a community.

Unfortunately, we continue to see an increase of positive cases among our community. While we have had our share of successes and are grateful to be able to offer in-person learning, now is not the time to let down on our efforts. Transmission rates in the community are beginning to rise, and that is creating a challenge for the education community, but it is also making the job of contact tracing more difficult for health experts.

We must all do our part and remain vigilant in following health guidelines to help assist in containing the spread of the virus. As we prepare to transition to indoor activities, we need to also be respectful to all members of our community! If we all do our part, our schools will be able to remain open, and our students will be able to participate in both school and community activities.

We know access to face to face education is critical for students and our families. We all want school operations to continue while demonstrating we can be respectful of the different health concerns and beliefs we all may have as individuals. We appreciate all of the support and efforts of our teams to manage this situation to this point, and believe if we remain optimistic and flexible we will continue to see success for all students and the participation of students in activities.

Please feel free to reach out to me or any member of our team if you have questions or concerns regarding school operations. Thank you again for allowing us to be part of your child’s life, and please take the time to remind yourself of these guidelines to give our kids their best shot at success in the second nine weeks!

Stay home when you are ill
Maintain social distancing if possible
Maintain good hand washing hygiene
If you can’t distance, be ready to mask

This is not forever, this is for now!

Respectfully,
Brad LaCroix

www.wcsd1.org

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