

News Letter Journal

Weston County

December 1, 2022

Newcastle, Wyoming

Year 136 Week 48

Weston wields legislative power

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

Legislators who represent Weston county occupy leadership spots in both the Wyoming House of Representatives and Wyoming Senate after Sen. Ogden Driskill, R-Devils Tower, was elected Senate president

and Rep. Chip Neiman, R-Hulett, was elected majority floor leader for the 67th Wyoming Legislature by the Republican caucus on Nov. 19.

Both will assume their new positions on Jan. 10, the start of the legislative session.

While Neiman's role was made official by the caucus vote, Driskill will be

referred to as president-elect until the entire Wyoming Senate holds a formal vote before he can be sworn in.

"To be honest and quite frank, it was a God thing. ... I really do believe in the Lord and his choice. That he raises people up and picks them out, and I trust him to lead me through this," Neiman said, noting that he offered

his time and service as the majority floor leader after being approached by others.

First elected to the House in 2021, Neiman topped veteran Rep. Jared Olsen, R-Cheyenne, by one vote to secure the position of majority leader, something that is rarely seen. According to Neiman, it was a very

humbling experience to beat the more senior representative in the 29-28 vote cast by the 57 Wyoming Republican Representatives.

"It was a very humbling vote by my colleagues, that they would see it fit to trust me to be able to do that,"

— See **Legislature**, Page 2

And then there were two

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

Newcastle Police Department is down to two full-time officers, Peg Miles and Lance Riebel, after officer Laramie Frank resigned, Mayor Pam Gualtieri reported on Nov. 21 during the regular Newcastle City Council meeting. The latest resignation comes on the heels of the announcement that the new police chief, Charles Bowles, will start on Dec. 5.

Gualtieri noted that two people have applied for officer positions.

— See **Police**, Page 8

Still time to apply for school board

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

There is still time to throw your name into the ring for a two-year term on the Weston County School District No. 1 board of trustees, but the deadline for applications is this Friday. The open seat is the result of the resignation of 22-year board member Ronnie Mills on Nov. 9, just one day after the 2022 general election.

According to Celo Dickey, executive secretary for the district, Marcia Lambert and Paul Bau

— See **School board**, Page 7

Earning honors



Photo by Alexis Barker/NLJ
National Honor Society new inductee Pate Tavegie is dressed in his robe by Gabby McVay and Jaylen Ostenson during the Newcastle High School National Honor Society induction ceremony on Nov. 23. A total of six new members were sworn in that day, promising to uphold the four pillars that are the base for the organization. See more photos on Page 2.

Three entities to benefit from Festival of Trees



Hannah Gross
NLJ Correspondent

Pinnacle Bank is hosting its 19th annual Festival of Trees on Friday, Dec. 2, at the Weston County Senior Services Center, with doors opening at 6 p.m.

The money raised by Festival of Trees goes to local non-profit organizations as a way to give back to the community, according to Pinnacle Bank Vice President Amy Hoffman. Last year, the event brought

NLJ file photo
Pinnacle Bank has been auctioning off donated Christmas wreaths and trees at its annual "Festival of Trees" for nearly two decades to raise money for local nonprofits.

in over \$41,000, and the bank is hoping to raise close to the same amount this year.

The three organizations chosen this year are the Weston County Sheriff's Search and Rescue, the local WYO Help office, and the Weston County Senior Citizen Center.

As an all-volunteer organization, search and rescue depends on donations for its operations, so the money raised at Festival of Trees, unless designated by the donor for something specific, will help cover operating expenses.

"Everything we do as volunteers and members, we pay for it ourselves," said Tracy Wildermuth, a volunteer since 2008. "We can't operate without the money that we get through donations."

The money will also be used

toward the completion of the Youth Exhibit building at the fairgrounds, which has been renovated almost entirely by donation and volunteer work.

And without the search and rescue department, other emergency management agencies would suffer a loss of help, according to Wildermuth. Search and rescue assists many local entities — including from sheriffs' departments, ambulance services and fire departments and have even received calls from Pennington County in South Dakota.

"All first responders are important to the community," Wildermuth said, adding that the search and rescue crew "flows over multiple lines" and often plays a fundamental role

— See **Festival**, Page 6

WEATHER FORECAST

Thursday
Partly Cloudy
Hi 49, Lo 31



Friday
Mostly Cloudy
Hi 34, Lo 8



Saturday
Mostly Sunny
Hi 38, Lo 22



Sunday
Partly Cloudy
Hi 43 Lo 17



Monday
PM Snow
Hi 27, Lo 10



Tuesday
Partly Cloudy
Hi 28, Lo 7



Wednesday
Mostly Sunny
Hi 29, Lo 11



INSIDE

- Bergquist, Page 4
- Fire, Page 8
- Cantata, Page 9
- Espionage, Page 9





Inducted



Photos by Alexis Barker/NLJ

Top right, MacKenzie Conzelman lights the blue candle representing the National Honor Society pillar of citizenship during the society's induction ceremony at Newcastle High School on Nov. 23. Six new members were inducted that day. At right, New inductee JJ Lipp lights MacKenzie Rose's candle before the two gave the official National Honor Society oath. Above, Holden McConkey, a member of the National Honor Society, lights new inductee Taylor Crinklaw's candle before the new members took their oath.

Legislature

from Page 1.....

Neiman said.

Much like when he ran for office, Neiman said he was very clear that he was a conservative who believes in those (conservative) values and that he is committed to those values, but he will try to create a better relationship between those who hold different viewpoints in the House.

Neiman said that he was "keen to know that 28 of my colleagues did not support me," and said he was motivated to work for everyone.

He said that he will not do anything to undermine the Republican Party but that he will hear the concerns of all of the representatives and be a responsible leader with integrity, someone

people can count on.

"It is a community effort, it is not a one person show. Everything that happens takes everyone to be involved and I told them all that," Neiman said. "I am not going to shoulder the whole role. I need the knowledge and wisdom of others."

Neiman said he will be able to have a lot more say on what bills are seen by the House and therefore what bills get passed.

"To help northeast Wyoming, I have a lot more say on what legislation gets passed and what people will get laid on them and what we can keep laying on them," Neiman said. "As the majority floor leader, I can manipulate

what bills are heard and what ones are put in the drawer."

This ability to somewhat control what legislation is heard by the House gives him the opportunity to stop tax increases for the people and more government overreach, he said.

"I can look at each piece and say what will this do for Crook and Weston County? Do they want this?" Neiman said. "I have to hear the entire state, but my first responsibility is to make sure I don't do anything to harm and take freedoms and rights away from the people of this district (House District 1)."

Driskill has served in the Senate since 2011, representing House District

1, which includes Crook County and parts of Weston and Campbell County.

He is the first senator from Crook County to serve in this role since 1965 when Leslie Hauber served as Senate president (1963-65). Before Hauber, Al Harding of Moorcroft served as Senate president (1951-61), according to a press release from Driskill, who did not respond to requests for additional comment.

In Weston County, the last Senate president was Jerry Dixon of Newcastle (1993-94), while Campbell County's John Hines served as president of the Senate from 2009 to 2011.

Before being elected president by the caucus, Driskill served as the majority

floor leader from 2021 to 2022 and was vice president from 2019-20.

"He (Driskill) will continue to be a budget hawk and continue to work to create jobs and business in Wyoming without government spending," Driskill's press release claimed. "He is working to tackle school choice, education budget stability and civility in the Capitol. He is looking for solutions to our meteoric property tax increases."

The release also notes that Driskill will continue to cut regulations and red tape to diversify the state's economy, as well as continue to support and strengthen the state's oil, coal, gas, trona and mining, along with agriculture and tourism.

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news letter journal

Our View

The most wonderful time

It is once again that “most wonderful time of the year,” and holiday cheer is all around us. From the upcoming holiday concerts hosted by Weston County School District No. 1 to the Festival of Trees and the Christmas Cantata, we hope to see the community come together to celebrate.

Throughout this week’s edition, we have highlighted several upcoming events, and there are many more that you will be able to find in our pages over the next few weeks. So make sure to stay up to date on the all the holiday happenings by reading our stories, checking out the advertisements in the News Letter Journal’s printed pages and online, and perusing our weekly What’s Up calendar.

In addition to all of the holiday events, there are several ways community members can donate and support local families during the season. Make sure to drop your extra change in the Operation Santa jars located at various local businesses, and always remember the BREAD Office takes donations all year round.

These are just a few of the things happening in and around Weston County this Christmas season. Is your organization hosting an event? Do you know of a worthy cause that should be highlighted? Do you have a heart-warming story to tell? Be sure to drop us a line at editor@newslj.com or reporter@newslj.com and tell us about it!

Speaking of heart-warming and worthy, now is the time to send us your nominations for the NLJ 2022 Person of the Year award. Let us know who has made a difference in your life, that of your neighbors, or in the community. Send your nominations to editor@newslj.com or drop off at our office at 14 W. Main St., Newcastle. Be sure to include the nominee’s name, contact information and an explanation of why they deserve nomination — include your name and phone number, too, so we can contact you and you can tell us all about this deserving person.

We look forward to seeing all of you throughout the season, and encourage you to support our local businesses and events during the holiday season.

POLL of the WEEK

QUESTION:
 Elon Musk owns Twitter...

- Good thing
- Bad thing

Go to newslj.com to vote!
 Look for results in next week’s News Letter Journal.

RESULTS:
 Will you watch the United States play in the World Cup?

- No67% (12 votes)
- Yes33% (6 votes)

News Letter Journal:
 WPA and NNA
 Award Winner

WHO



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Stephanie Bonnar
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WHAT

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

WHERE

Stop in Monday–Friday at 14 West Main Street, Newcastle, Wyoming
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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

Lots to be thankful for — mainly COVID is over

Masks, guns, and banks. Out here in Wyoming, that sounds like Butch Cassidy and Wild Bunch. Butch was famously asked why he robbed banks? “That’s where the money is,” he answered, looking like he had just been asked the dumbest question on the planet. If Butch did not say it originally, I am sure he thought it.

Two years ago, right now, I recall seeing a local Lander sportsman standing before a teller in a local bank, with his pistol on his hip, wearing a mask, and making a withdrawal. Because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, this happened all the time, but those were strange times, indeed. It was not odd then because everybody in the bank was wearing a mask.

I was thinking about this while contemplating things that a person should be thankful for here during a contemplative time between

Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Besides that peaceful money transaction described above, vaccines come to mind when I think of things to be thankful for. Just two years ago, the entire world had shut down because of the COVID-19 virus and more than a million Americans died from the disease.

Most of us were housebound and working remotely. People were spending that easy money that came from the government and smart businesspeople were filling out forms and working with their bankers and accountants to collect money from programs called PPP and CARES.

Here in the Cowboy State, the Wyoming Business Council did an absolutely magnificent job of passing out millions of dollars to small business people. I know dozens of small businesses that would not have made it without that good work by the WBC. The number of businesses saved by their good efforts was probably in the thousands.

Gov. Mark Gordon caught a lot of flak during this time as he and his health officer tried to navigate the state through the crisis. From today looking back, Gordon appears to have done a good job in how he handled things.

We are thankful to have lived through the pandemic. We lost some good people during that awful time. A lot of folks got sick and our medical community paid a high price for their dedication and good work.

New ways of doing business evolved. Remote meetings and telehealth were probably the biggest. School kids had classes at home.

Wyoming has always been famous for its long-distance driving. People in our state drive more miles per-capita than any other state. A typical Wyoming meeting was described as driving three hours, meeting for two hours, and then driving three hours home. Not so much anymore.

Zoom meeting became the norm and continue to be the norm. What a luxury is it to sit in your home office and be at

a meeting 160 miles away. We all just gained six extra hours plus not having to risk our lives on dangerous roads or dodging wildlife at night.

The term “Zoom casual” came into being where a person would wear a nice shirt but might be wearing shorts below the waist and out of camera sight.

I have lots of scenic photos and Zoom has an option where you can put a different backdrop behind you. My home office is very cluttered and is a mess. My wife says I have a piling system, not a filing system. Thus, I always put up a nice scenic image behind me. At a recent Cowboy State Daily Zoom meeting, I used a photo of a giant bison in Yellowstone Park.

Two years ago, during the COVID-19 crisis, there were many months in the early days when Wyoming seemed to be spared from the scourge. On June 28, 2020, we had just 20 deaths, which was the third least of any state in the country, behind Hawaii and Alaska.

Ultimately that changed and we ended up with our share

of deaths. A lot of good folks died because of it.

A true oddity occurred during the summer of 2020. Millions of tourists came to Wyoming because of our open spaces and wonderful sites and sights. Instead of an explosion of COVID-19 cases, it was benign until fall. Looking back, that is something I continue to be thankful for.

I had made a promise to myself to never write another column focused on COVID-19, but when it was time to reflect on things to be thankful for this week, there just were no other options.

We are also thankful for our family and our friends. Please be safe if you are traveling this week and have a wonderful holiday season!

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.

McCulloch v. Maryland: the greatest landmark decision

The Supreme Court’s landmark ruling in McCulloch v. Maryland (1819), widely regarded by scholars as the most important decision ever rendered by the nation’s High Tribunal, provided firm footing for national action and continues to shape American constitutional law. The Court’s iconic opinion, authored by Chief Justice John Marshall, was immersed in high drama and extensive public interest, and featured the imprint of four of the nation’s leading attorneys.

The case itself addressed three issues of transcendent importance to the future of the United States.

The three great questions involved the nature of the Union, the scope of the Necessary and Proper Clause of the Constitution and the extent of a state’s power to tax the federal government.

Chief Justice Marshall, a ratifier of the Constitution, wrote for a 7-0 Court and delivered a series of thunderbolts. He declared that “the people,” not the states, are sovereign. He held that the Necessary and Proper Clause (Article I, section 8, paragraph 18), should be interpreted broadly, not narrowly, laying the constitutional foundation for Congress to exercise sweeping powers to govern the nation, at the expense of state authority. And he rejected the claim of state authority to tax an entity of the federal government, since “the power to tax is the power to destroy,” which, following the logic of Article VI (which estab-

lishes the supremacy of the federal government over the states), was impermissible. Otherwise, the states might possess a tool with which to destroy the federal government.

The importance of McCulloch v. Maryland persuaded Chief Justice Marshall to allocate nine days for oral argument, which resurrected some of the great debates that shadowed the origins of our nation and pitted state v. national power.

The Court’s ruling was explosive in its impact. Strong criticisms from state and national leaders compelled Marshall to defend the opinion in an unprecedented series of pseudonymous op-ed pieces, the existence of which was unknown until 1967. In sum,

McCulloch was a blockbuster.

The issues that gave rise to McCulloch were congressional power to incorporate the Second Bank of the United States and the power of a state to tax an instrument of the United States. The constitutionality of the bank had been the subject of debate ever since Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton, proposed in 1791 the creation of the First Bank of the United States. Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, then a leading voice in Congress, argued the bank was unconstitutional. Congress, with the support of President George Washington, enacted legislation to charter the bank for a period of 20 years.

In 1811, Congress, dominated by Jeffersonians, refused to re-charter the bank and it expired. The War of 1812, several years of inflation and eco-

nomie stresses convinced Congress, still controlled by the Jeffersonians, to change its mind and it chartered the Second Bank in 1816.

The constitutionality of the bank remained a point of national debate. Various states, including Maryland, passed legislation to tax branches of the bank doing business within their jurisdiction. In 1818, Maryland enacted a law to tax banks operating in the state that were “not chartered by the legislature.” James McCulloch, cashier of the branch in Baltimore, refused to pay the tax. Maryland went to court — state court — and, not surprisingly, won. It prevailed on appeal and the United States, appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. Chief Justice Marshall held the state tax unconstitutional and void.

Marshall’s monumental opinion reflected his practice as Chief Justice of assigning himself the responsibility for writing the Court’s opinions. Marshall dominated the Court during his long tenure, writing roughly half of the opinions the Court produced, including virtually every one that involved constitutional issues.

His opinion spoke for two Justices who were Federalists, the party of George Washington, Alexander Hamilton and John Adams, the one with which Marshall had aligned since the Constitution was adopted by the citizenry. The other five Justices were Jeffersonians who, despite their party heritage and political affiliations, stood with Marshall and the Hamiltonian view that the Constitution should be interpreted broadly. Amazingly, the opinion was delivered just three days after the closing of oral argument.



Bill Sniffin
 My Wyoming



David Adler, Ph.D.
 Guest Column



news letter journal
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BOARD OPENINGS

The Weston County Board of Commissioners is accepting Letters of Intent for the following board positions:

PREDATOR (SPORTSMAN #1): 1 OPENING
PLANNING: 1 OPENING
MALLO BOARD: 1 OPENING

These positions will be open until filled. Those wishing to apply may mail a letter to:

Weston County Clerk
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Obituaries

ANDREW N. MITICH
 Feb. 13, 1955–Nov. 11, 2022

Andrew N. Mitich was born on Feb. 13, 1955, to Pauline (Phillips) and Alex Mitich in Newcastle, Wyo. He graduated from Newcastle High School in 1974. While there, he played the trumpet in band, was in choir, played football, and was in one school play. Andy played the drums in his dad's dance band every Saturday night and worked at the local grocery store after school. He met his future wife, Beverly Hawki, in his dad's literature class when she was a freshman. They dated for five years and were married for 46.

Upon graduation, Andy was active in the Newcastle and Wheatland, Wyo., Jaycees. He was a member of the Weston County Special Deputies and was the only member who was allowed to carry his 44 mag. He enjoyed target practicing, reloading,

hunting, fishing, music, and watching all Star Trek. Once married, Saturday nights had to be planned around the Star Trek television schedule for over 20 years.

Andy worked as an auto mechanic for three years before being asked to be a service manager. In 1984 he won a trip to Hong Kong for being one of the top 10% of GM service managers in the Rocky Mountain region. He was Master Certified and had over 100 factory trainings. After leaving dealerships after over 30 years, Andy went back to school and got his Associate of Arts degree 30 years after graduating high school, and earned his

bachelor's degree a couple years later. He was an automotive instructor at Central Wyoming College when he retired.

Andy and Bev had three boys to whom he was completely devoted. He enjoyed teaching them the important things in life and how to enjoy life to the fullest.

Andy is survived by his wife, Bev; his sons, Justin of Riverton and Jeremy (Jori); granddaughter, Emilie of South Weber, Utah; sisters, Alexis, Joni and Connie; brothers, Alex, Jim, and Mike; his Uncle Marvin and Aunt Ruthie; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his son James, his parents, and extended family members.

A celebration of life was held in Riverton on Nov. 19. A short graveside rite will be held at Boyd Cemetery next summer, when his ashes will be buried.



Andrew Mitich

Associate of Arts degree 30 years after graduating high school, and earned his

Anniversary

Bergquists celebrate 50th anniversary

Submitted by Belinda Chesbro

50 years ago, Ray Bergquist and Shirley Schwarze Cattles, with some encouragement from friends, set out on a blind date to the Flying V for a St. Patrick's Day dance. There were a few sparks on that blind date and it led to a few more dates. Before long, fate was sealed and a new family was founded.

Nov. 11, 1972, they headed to the Justice of the Peace in Lusk, Wyo., to say their vows, and they're still "I doing" in 2022. Ray, an employee of the Wyoming State Forestry Division, joined Shirley, a homemaker, and her three children on Cambria Street. It was certainly a busy, vibrant home, to say the least! They decided to add one more to the crew and a daughter was born to them in 1974. The family of six enjoyed a traditional family life, sitting down to dinner together every night, going on family vacations, and participating in the usual laughs and spats!

Newcastle has remained their home and Ray and Shirley have been blessed with many friends and family throughout the 50 years. As a matter of fact, that family of six has grown considerably. Their four children all remain in Wyoming and have given them nine grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. The kids and grandkids and great-grandkids celebrated their favorite couple last weekend with a family dinner party.

Their family said, "We wish Ray and Shirley many more happy years!"



Photos courtesy of Belinda Chesbro
Ray and Shirley Bergquist recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with family and friends. The couple met on a blind date at the Flying V for a St. Patrick's Day dance.

faith & values

Daily Devotional Reading

December 2 Psalm 136	December 6 Exodus 12:37-51
December 3 Psalm 138	December 7 Exodus 13:1-10
December 4 Exodus 12:1-14	December 8 Exodus 13:11-22
December 5 Exodus 12:15-36	<i>Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society</i>

- **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. Kenti Barling, S. Summit & Winthrop Streets. 746-9684. haydishall@hotmail.com. Service times: Sunday 4 pm
- **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 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; Undeafened Youth/children's ministry (3 years old-12th Grade) Wednesday 6 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 Ben Roberts, 903 S. Summit, 746-2188. Sunday School 9:15 am; Worship Service 10:30 am; Evening Service 6 pm;

- AWANA Clubs Wednesday 6:30 pm
- **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Rev. Ron Sample, 23 N. Seneca, 746-4119. Adult Bible Study 8:45 am; Traditional Church Services 10 am; 10:15 am Children's Church; Youth Group Sunday evenings 5:30-7 pm
- **GATEWAY FELLOWSHIP:** Pastor Jon Anderson, 12 Old Hwy. 85, Evangelical Free Church, Bible Study 9:15 am, Worship 10:30 am. Call 746-8091
- **KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES:** 5018 US Hwy 16, 746-2319 or 746-4517. Tuesday 7 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
- **SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST:** Pastor Lester Bently 612-240-7536. 78 Old Hwy 85. Saturday Sabbath School 9:30 am; Worship 11 am
- **ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Father Brian Hess, Upton. Sunday Mass 5 pm
- **UPTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Pastor Donnie Holt, 834 Pine, Upton, 468-9302. Worship 9 am; Fellowship 10 am
- **VICTORY NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH:** Rev. Theodore L. Halls, 414 Pine, 746-4366

In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

~ Acts 17:30

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**25 Years Ago
Dec. 4, 1997**

Newcastle merchants had much to be grateful for the day after Thanksgiving when an estimated 1,000 people turned out for the Newcastle Area Chamber of Commerce "Santa's coming to Newcastle Lighted Parade."

The word from Newcastle's two flower shops is that snowmen are definitely "in" this year. They are everywhere. The chubby white fellows greet shoppers in the window of Kalico Kupboard on Main Street. And they decorate a tree at Flowers 'n Things on Highway 16.

Her newspaper career began in 1930 when, as a high school sophomore in Sheridan, she was asked to write an English assignment that she didn't particularly care for. A young Mabel Brown received an "A plus" for her effort and the Sheridan newspaper ran the story. A year later her family moved to Newcastle and as a reporter for the 1931 Dogie News she saw her first byline in the pages of the News Letter Journal.

Under mounds of snow this winter, think of the guys who are out there clearing the roadways. State road chief Calvin Cook credits the 1993-94 winter as one of the worst in recent years.

Hometown fans can expect to see sophomores and juniors get plenty of playing time on the court this season as Head Coach Dan Olson sees to it that his young players get the experience they need. With only one senior on the team, the Lady Dogies varsity basketball squad is made up largely of sopho-



mores and juniors.

Like so many teenagers, these Newcastle High School students love to argue. But Forensics Coach Brian Knox and his wife Dena have found a creative and rewarding outlet for our most talented young debaters, who have already logged a win in a season that runs through April. But whatever the season may bring, Coach Knox is proud of his team.

**50 Years Ago
Nov. 30, 1972**

Dr. Wayne Erickson, dentist, has announced he will open his dental offices in Newcastle on Wednesday, Dec. 6.

Keith Donald Cummings of Newcastle was found innocent of negligent homicide charges [by a] district court jury Monday. Cummings had been charged following the death of Randall G. Marquette, 17, of Trenton, Nebr., in a motorbike-

car accident east of Newcastle on Aug. 12.

A district court jury was unable to hear a scheduled case on Tuesday because the defendant failed to appear in court. Daniel Joseph Orr, who had been charged with possession of marijuana and LSD, was scheduled to appear in court Tuesday morning.

Mountain Bell and the Wyoming Highway Patrol will unveil Friday the latest look in law enforcement communications systems. The new cooperative project is an up-dating of the original Law Enforcement Teletype System (LETS) that was installed five years ago by the telephone company.

Mr. and Mrs. Loren Lewis of Tooele, Utah, announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Cathy Ann, to Dwayne Philo of Gillette, son of Mr. and Mrs. Linn Philo of Casper. A December

16 wedding in Newcastle is planned by the couple.

**100 Years Ago
Nov. 30, 1922**

The first copy of "The Focus" the Newcastle High School and District No. 1's publicity organ, was circulated the first of the week. A considerable quantity of advertising is carried and the reading matter is all of general interest and should be very acceptable to the school patrons.

In the building formerly occupied by Jack's Grill, Sam Walker has opened up a cream buying station and is prepared to offer high local prices for cream delivered here.

You often hear the expression of "handing someone a lemon," but if the lemons handed out were all like the one received the latter part of last week by French Glascock from his mother living in Texas, the gifts would be well worth receiving. The lemon in question weighed one pound and 11 ounces and measured 14 1/2 inches around one way and 17 inches the other.

Whether we have little or much immigration, we want that little or much of such a character as can be assimilated. We have too many hyphenated Americans already.

Some time during Saturday night or early Sunday morning the warehouse of the Newcastle Mercantile Company was broken into and somewhere in the neighborhood of a dozen or twenty one hundred pound sacks of sugar stolen.

The Woodmen with the Royal Neighbors will give a public box supper and open program in the Princess theatre, Dec. 5th, and a good time is expected.

25 Days of Christmas!

12/2 15% OFF All Wrangler	12/3 FREE Hat or gloves w/purchase	12/5 DRAW 5-20% OFF from Bucket <small>*excludes fee Discount off entire purchase</small>	12/6 15% OFF Gloves
12/7 20% OFF Candles, Honey, Syrup, Etc.	12/8 10% OFF Dog and Cat Food	12/9 Purchase 1-ton CLX, receive \$20 Gift Card	12/10 10% OFF Hay Chix Nets

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Lil' Dogie Lunch

Vianney Munoz, Raiden Chandler, Peter Keeler, Annaliese Butler, Dustin Porter, and Alora Zimiga

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

Three Rivers Health is hiring for a **Laboratory Manager** for a small critical access hospital and rural health clinic.

Competitive pay, excellent benefits, upbeat team, located at the base of the Big Horn mountains. \$10,000 sign on bonus available.

Apply at www.trhealth.com or email resume to human.resources@trhealth.com

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From the vault ...



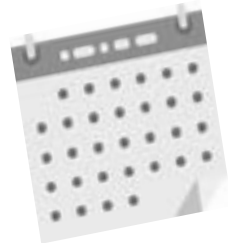
Courtesy of Weston County Historical Society/Anna Miller Museum Collection

This is a picture of the main lodge at Mallo Camp.

LET US KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING

Is your group or organization hosting an event?

Send your event listings to design@newsli.com for inclusion in the News Letter Journal's weekly What's Up Calendar



WHAT'S UP

WESTON COUNTY MEETINGS & EVENTS CALENDAR

Fri. Dec. 2	8:30AM-4PM Customer Appreciation Day 9AM Caramel Rolls 11AM-1PM Annual Community Christmas Tea By Appt. COVID Booster Clinic 1PM Bridge 2PM Christmas Party 5:30PM BINGO 6PM Pinnacle Bank's Festival of Trees	First State Bank W.C. Senior Center Gateway Fellowship Church W.C. Health Services W.C. Senior Center Anna Miller Museum V.F.W. Hall W.C. Senior Center
Sat. Dec. 3	6PM Meet the Dogies & Chili Feed 6PM Lighted Parade	Dogie Dome/N.H.S. Commons Newcastle Main Street
Sun. Dec. 4	4PM Ministerial Association Christmas Program	W.C. Senior Center
Mon. Dec. 5	9AM Exercise Class 11:30-5:30PM Blood Drive 1PM Computer Clinic 6:30PM Christmas Concert (3rd-5th Grades) W.A.C.D. Annual Convention 7PM Alcoholics Anonymous 7PM Newcastle City Council Mtg.	W.C. Senior Center W.C. Senior Center W.C. Senior Center Crouch Auditorium Casper W.C. Senior Center City Council Chambers
Tues. Dec. 6	9AM W.C. Commissioners Mtg. 1PM Bridge & Dominoes 11AM Story Time 6:30PM Christmas Concert (K-2nd Grades)	W.C. Courthouse W.C. Senior Center W.C. Library Crouch Auditorium
Wed. Dec. 7	6:30-8:30AM Wellness Wednesday 7-9AM Wellness Wednesday 9AM Exercise Class & Toe Nail Clinic NOON Lions Club Mtg. 1PM Marathon Bridge 5:30PM W.C. Travel Commission Mtg.	W.C. Health Services Upton Medical Clinic W.C. Senior Center W.C. Senior Center W.C. Senior Center Newc. Lodge & Conv. Ctr.
Thurs. Dec. 8	7AM TOPS #218 1PM Crafts & Bridge 5:30PM Understanding Grief Series 7PM Alcoholics Anonymous	W.C. Senior Center W.C. Senior Center Meridian Mortuary W.C. Senior Center

Ho Ho Ho!

Anna Miller Museum Christmas Party!

Friday, December 2nd 2:00 p.m.

Christmas Crafts, Cookies, & Carols with the Western Ramblers

Anna Miller Museum 401 Delaware Ave, Newcastle, WY. 307-746-4188

Visit News Letter Journal online!
newsalj.com

Bread-making basics for beginners

Making homemade artisan bread is not only possible for the average home cook but also simple and easier than you think.

Today, I am going over some helpful bread-baking tips for beginners. You will be equipped with all the beginner bread-baking knowledge you need for your bread-making endeavors. You can make bread with just four ingredients: yeast, flour, salt, and water.

1) Read and follow the recipe

When making bread, you need to read all of the instructions. Make sure to take an inventory of the equipment and ingredients you need before you begin the process.

2) Use quality ingredients

Purchase good-quality ingredients. Use the type of flour and yeast recommended in the recipe. Check the expiration date of the ingredients, especially the yeast.

3) Correctly measure the ingredients

Precisely measuring the ingredients is the best way to

start a fail-proof loaf. My best advice for bread making is to use a kitchen scale. If you do not have a scale, stir the flour in its container to break up clumps, spoon the flour into a measuring cup and use a knife to level it off.

of water.

6) Use room temperature ingredients

Cold ingredients will slow the fermentation process and will not activate the yeast. Make sure the ingredients are

8) Rise dough in a warm spot

Place the dough in a warm spot for the first and second rises.

Yeast dough is considered “ripe” when it has risen enough — usually doubling in size. The ripe test determines if the dough is ready to be punched down and shaped. Gently stick two fingers in the risen dough up to the second knuckle and then take them out. If the indentations remain, the dough is “ripe” and ready for punch down. If not, cover and let the dough rise longer.

Many doughs will have a second rising in the pan. For the second rise test, touch the side of the dough lightly with your fingertip. If the indentation remains, the loaf is ripe and ready for the oven.

9) Preheat the oven

Always preheat the oven for at least 15 minutes before baking the bread.

10) Cool the bread before slicing

Bread should be cooled at room temperature. When the bread is pulled out of the oven, it is still baking and setting inside. If bread is sliced while hot, the chances of you ending up with a mushy, soggy loaf are high.

To cut fresh bread, heat the serrated knife in hot water, wipe it dry, and slice the bread on its side.

Making bread from scratch is a simple life pleasure that provides a beautiful sense of satisfaction. So, put on your favorite tunes and roll up your sleeves—it is a worthwhile investment of your time.

(Sources: bobsredmill.com; kingarthurbaking; milkandpop.com; sallysbakingaddiction.com)



If the recipe includes eggs, make sure to use the correct size.

4) Add the salt

Adding salt to the dough will bring out the flavors and strengthen and slow down the fermentation process. Bread needs time for the gluten to develop. A dough with well-developed gluten has a better structure or crumb and crust.

The yeast and salt should be added to opposite sides of the bowl. Salt may also be added at the end of the mixing process. Salt can kill yeast, causing fermentation and rising problems, which is an essential step.

5) Never use hot liquid

The liquid should be 105 to 115°F. Yeast can be killed if the liquid is too hot. Water will add coarseness to the texture. A more refined texture will be produced if milk is used instead

at room temperature.

7) Carefully knead the dough

Kneading dough helps bread develop the gluten that makes a stretchy dough. A successfully mixed dough will be elastic. If you are kneading in a mixer, stop and check the dough every two minutes to see how it is coming along. Perform the windowpane test. Grab a small ball of dough. Stretch the dough into a square until it forms a thin film in the middle without breaking. The dough needs to be thin enough that light passes through it. If you can accomplish this without tearing, the dough is properly kneaded.

Over-kneading or over-working dough frequently happens with a stand mixer. Overworked dough may feel tight and tough.

The Newcastle Booster Club invites the public to the kick-off of the 2022-2023 Newcastle High School Basketball Season

MEET THE DOGIES

Sat. Dec 3, 6 p.m., Dogie Dome

Free Chili Feed afterward in the NHS Commons

nlj
News Letter Journal

PERSON OF THE YEAR

WHO WILL IT BE?

Who made a difference in Weston County this year? Or in your life? Or in the life of your neighbors? Nominate that someone who gave a little extra for the **News Letter Journal Person of the Year Award!**

Send nominee's name, contact information and a brief explanation of why this person deserves nomination to: News Letter Journal, PO Box 40, Newcastle WY 82701, Email to editor@newsalj.com, or drop off at 14 W. Main Street. Please include your name and phone number as well.

HELP KEEP THOSE GOLDEN YEARS Golden

Please help others have this precious sense of security by donating in Memory or Honor of a loved one this holiday.

Write your loved one's name on a piece of paper, indicate whether it is Memory or Honor of them. For donations of \$25 or greater you can pick up your crystal angel ornament at 725 Washington Blvd. Please make checks payable to WCHS Lifeline and mail them to 1124 Washington Blvd., Newcastle WY 82701. Call 307-746-3553 for more information.

WESTON COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES
1124 Washington Blvd., Newcastle WY 82701 wchs-wy.org

Hospital 746-4491 | Newcastle Clinic 746-6720 | Upton Clinic 468-2302
Therapy Services 746-3720 | Home Health 746-3553 | Pharmacy 746-2425 | Manor 746-2793

“I have had a lifeline for 15 years. I always wear it around the home and when I go outside. I live by myself and it's a good source of security.”
— Mac Vondra

Festival from Page 1.....

during emergency response situations.

If a department is having difficulty getting someone out of a house, search and rescue can provide lift assistance. The WCSSR was even responsible for locating an escaped convict from the Wyoming Honor Conservation Camp a few years ago. The volunteers also helped with the school shooter scenario training at Weston County School District No. 1 and local natural disasters, wherever they're needed. WCSSR also has its own dive unit.

“We pretty much help everybody,” Wildermuth said. “We spread across a really wide range.”

Tanya Hespe, case manager for WYO Help, is also grateful for the support of Festival of Trees.

“Being awarded this money is a huge honor for us. We are relatively new to the community, and we have a lot of plans. These plans require community support, and this is such a big step in that direction for us,” Hespe said.

She said WYO Help assists residents in being self-sufficient by helping them keep their jobs and homes. If a person can't afford a required driver's license for a job or needs additional training to obtain a better job, WYO Help can step in.

Hespe said this allows people to stay in Weston County, keeping children in the local school district, as well as local monies in the community. WYO Help also brings in a mobile food pantry once a month.

“WYO Help is important to the community because we strengthen it. There are times in a person's life that a little boost would change the trajectory of their lives. We want to assist in providing that boost,” Hespe said.

The money raised at Festival of Trees will be used to continue providing those services to the community.

“WYO Help case workers offer residents wrap-around case management services, which means we don't just give out money. We help identify a client's struggle and address what can be done to eliminate these,” Hespe said. “We do this by providing constant support throughout the process, as well as working with other partnerships to help our clients be self-sufficient.”

As the third recipient of the Festival of Trees fundraiser, the senior center will use the money to replace the flooring in the dining room and water-damaged hallways, said executive director Carolyn Shields, now that the roofing project is coming to completion.

“That is our big project for right now,” Shields said. “So, this will definitely help us out. We're very thankful they (Pinnacle Bank) chose us.”

The senior center has been serving the Weston County community since 1973, according to the organization's website. In addition to delivering meals and providing rides for local seniors, the

What is the Festival of Trees?

Festival of Trees is an annual fundraiser hosted by Pinnacle Bank to raise money for local nonprofits by auctioning off 45 wreaths decorated by local businesses and residents, according to Amy Hoffman, the bank's vice president and the person in charge of the event.

“Our festival is to give back to our community by having the community decorate wreaths for an auction to our nonprofits that we choose every year,” Hoffman said.

Every year, personnel from Pinnacle Bank act as a board to discuss each applicant and choose which organizations will receive the money raised based on what their anticipated needs are. Hoffman said it's a way for the bank to stay involved in the community.

Not only is Festival of Trees a way to raise money, but it's also a fun event for the community to get into the Christmas spirit.

The doors open at 6 p.m. at the Weston County Senior Citizen Center, and participants will be treated to wine tasting, beer, hors d'oeuvres and music furnished locally by Al and Brenda Costello.

A \$10 wine glass can be purchased at the door for unlimited refills throughout the evening. After the social hour, the auction will start at 7:30 until all the wreaths are sold, usually around 9 p.m. Hoffman said they appreciate whatever the community can contribute.

“It's just a chance to gather as a community and really give back to those in need,” Hoffman said.

building operates as a community event center.

Every Friday, people from the community gather for cinnamon rolls and coffee, and the building can be rented for functions such as birthday parties, family gatherings for the holidays, and Hall of Fame dinners.

“I think it's a good place for a lot of different things,” Shields said. “We feel very blessed to be a part of the community.”

Shields said COVID-19 took a big toll on the center, and it no longer has the number of volunteers it had in the past. Because of the volunteer shortage, it's been difficult to find the manpower to have fundraisers, Shields said, so she is very grateful for the Festival of Trees.

“We're very fortunate to have that and be a part of a community that cares,” Shields said.

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Holiday shopping



Photo by Kim Dean/NLJ

Christmas arrived early at Newcastle's First United Methodist Church on Nov. 19, and many people in the community came out to prepare for the holidays, begin shopping, and support the church's annual "Christmas in Wyoming" bazaar. Pictured, Josiah Popma selects many Christmas gifts and Heidi Wood bags his items while Kyla Popma, Josiah's mom, helps him find the right payment.

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School board

from Page 1.....

have both submitted letters of interest for the seat. Both Lambert and Bau had run in the general election.

As reported in the story "Mills calls it quits," dated Nov. 17, the board accepted Mills' resignation during its regular Nov. 9 meeting and then discussed how to replace him. Mills had retired after a long career as director of transportation for the district before beginning his board service. Mills also held the office of secretary on the school board.

Trustee Dana Mann-Tavegia suggested that the board move its Dec. 14 meeting up to Dec. 7 at 5 p.m. so that it could consider applications for the position before the 30-day replacement deadline, but Trustee John Riesland suggested the board should instead use the just-completed election to choose a replacement for Mills and fill the vacancy sooner.

"We just had an election yesterday," Riesland said. He then suggested that the board appoint the fifth-highest vote-getter from the Nov. 8 election.

"I think, at this point, Marcia (Lambert) was fifth in the election. ... I don't know (that) we need to go for applications," he said, adding that the voters had already voiced their opinion.

Going into the election, voters were to choose four names from the list of candidates for the four seats open. The top four vote-getters were

Sean Crabtree, 1,121; Dana Gordon, 1,009; Joe Prell, 941; and Jason Jenkins, 684. Of the four, Gordon and Jenkins are incumbents who were re-elected. Lambert, also an incumbent, had 682 votes, putting her in fifth place.

Trustees Billy Fitzwater and Jason Jenkins agreed with Mann-Tavegia, stating that the last time an appointment was made, the board requested applications before replacing former trustee Dean Johnson with Tom Wright.

"We went through the interview process," Jenkins said.

Wright argued that the community just had a 90-day interview process for 11 individuals who had expressed interest in serving on the board.

"People said who they wanted in that order. There was a two-vote difference between Jason (Jenkins) and Marcia (Lambert)," Wright said.

He noted that the vote had taken place just 24 hours before the meeting, and that he believed appointing Lambert that night was the appropriate thing to do. He then moved to appoint Lambert for the two remaining years of Mills' term, and Lambert told the board that she would be interested in filling the term.

That motion failed, however, and the board ultimately decided to interview candidates before their now rescheduled official meeting begins at 7 p.m. on Dec. 7. Interested parties are asked to submit letters of interest to the board by Dec. 2.

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Holiday Concerts!

Monday, Dec. 5, 6:30 p.m.

3rd-5th Grade Winter Concert

Tuesday, Dec. 6, 6:30 p.m.

Kindergarten-2nd Grade Winter Concert

All concerts held at Crouch Auditorium at Newcastle High School

Weston County School District #1 • wcsd1.org

Weston County Health Services is honored to announce the 2022 Recognition Award Winners. These employees possess the essential attributes that are at the

HEART OF OUR SERVICES

Not pictured: Leilani Butts, Compassion Award

Attitude

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Travis Beck
**Dr. Virgil Thorpe,
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Megan Sams



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Wendy Erb



Dr. Chuck Franklin




Cassie Munoz

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Home catches fire



Photo by Alexis Barker/NLJ

Kolby Piscioti and Newcastle Volunteer Fireman Chris Kenney stand outside of a fire at 105 Bonnie Brae in Newcastle on Thanksgiving afternoon. According to people on the scene, the fire was the result of an accident involving a turkey smoker. Requests to Newcastle Volunteer Fire Department Chief James Curren for additional information were not returned by press time. By the time News Letter Journal staff was on scene, the fire had been extinguished and smoke was being cleared from the home. No injuries were reported as of press time.

Police

from Page 1

Because of the police shortage, Gualtieri said, the city has been using reserve officers to cover shifts. At this time, she noted that the city has six reserve officers approved by the council — Mike Staiger, David Smith, Abe Magana, Ryan Kerns, Kellie Moran and Matt Anderson.

“We have two full-time officers, and they are getting tired,” Gualtieri said, noting that hopefully the reserve officers will be able to cover enough shifts to get those two officers some much-needed time off.

According to Sheriff Bryan Colvard, the Weston County Sheriff’s Office is also helping to ease the burden on the two officers.

“We are doing anything we can and anything they ask; they are not asking for much, though,” Colvard said.

He noted that this does put a burden on the department, but that it isn’t anything his deputies can’t handle.

“The guys (deputies) basically have the ability to help them out throughout the day, for the unforeseen stuff. When they ask for help on events, we make sure we cover,” Colvard said. “The deputies have also taken it upon themselves to help with things even when the city doesn’t ask.”

As previously reported in the story “Newcastle police force now down to four,” dated July 21, the police department employs eight officers when it is at full strength.

At this time, several officers, including former Sgt. Levi Tacy and detective Richard Hillhouse, resigned following the resignation of former Chief Sam Keller. Since Keller’s

May 30 resignation, Mayor Pam Gualtieri and the council’s police committee have acted as leadership for the department.

Since that time, the department has lost two additional police officers, leaving two at the department full time as the new chief prepares to take over.

Bowles has 23 years’ experience in law enforcement. Most recently, he served as a sergeant with the Missouri State Highway Patrol in the criminal investigations unit working on an FBI violent crimes task force, as previously reported in “A new chief may be on the way,” dated Nov. 3.

Gualtieri reported that Bowles has accepted the offer approved by the Newcastle City Council on Oct. 17, and will make \$32 an hour to start and \$34 an hour after the first six months.

Gifting ideas for budget-conscious families

The holiday season is a magical time of year when many people celebrate their faith and express their love and appreciation for their families. Such expressions are often made through the exchange of gifts, which can stretch families’ budgets.

For budget-conscious families, entering the holiday spending fray can have lasting effects that cast a pall over their finances for months to come.

Staying within budget is not impossible during the holiday season. It might take a little creativity and discussion among family members, but there are ways to exchange gifts and avoid debt this holiday season.

Embrace a “Secret Santa” exchange. Large families can save money by engaging in a Secret Santa exchange. Rather than asking each member of the family to buy gifts for one another, a Secret Santa exchange asks each participant to pick a name out of a hat and then only buy gifts for that person. This is a great way to save both money and time, and it saves participants from the potential hassle of returning gifts after the season.

Establish spending limits. Whether families embrace a Secret Santa exchange or not, they can save money by agreeing on a spending limit for each gift. Families participating in a Secret Santa exchange can set their spending limits a little higher than those families who will be buying gifts for multiple people.

Share experiences in lieu of exchanging gifts. Adults tend to be more difficult to shop for than children, as many adults can simply buy their own gadgets, clothing and other items commonly given during the holiday season. To save money, adults can forgo gifting traditional gifts to one another, instead resolving to provide an experience for a loved one. Invite a loved one over for a homecooked meal or offer to take a family member out to dinner once the holiday season has come and gone and there’s more room in the budget.

Connect with your creative side. In lieu of purchasing a gift made by someone else, make your own gift. Skilled crafters can create a one-of-a-kind gift out of supplies they already have on hand, while woodworkers can follow suit. Such gifts are thoughtful and inexpensive, and they will likely prove more memorable than another video game or sweater.

Budget-conscious families don’t have to sit out of holiday gift exchanges, as there are plenty of creative ways to express your love and appreciation for family without breaking the bank.



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Lifestyles

News Letter Journal

SPORTS SCHEDULE

NEWCASTLE HIGH SCHOOL

Wrestling
 12/9/22 VJ Lusk Invitational A NOON
 12/15/22 VJ Buffalo HS H 6PM
 12/16-17/22 VJ Battle in the Big Horns A NOON

Men's Swimming
 12/9/22 VJ Powell HS A 4PM
 12/10/22 VJ Cody Invite A 10AM
 12/16/22 VJ Cheyenne South A 5PM
 12/17/22 VJ Cheyenne South A 10AM
 12/22/22 VJ Newcastle Triangular H 4PM
 12/29/22 VJ Buffalo HS A 11AM

Ladies' Basketball
 12/9/22 V9 Burns Invite A NOON
 12/10/22 V9 Burns Invite A NOON
 12/15/22 V9 Sundance HS A 4PM
 12/16/22 V9 Stataline Shootout, Lead H NOON
 12/17/22 V9 Stataline Shootout, Lead H NOON

Men's Basketball
 12/9/22 V9 Burns Invite A NOON
 12/10/22 V9 Burns Invite A NOON
 12/15/22 V9 Sundance HS A 4PM
 12/16/22 V9 Stataline Shootout, Lead H NOON
 12/17/22 V9 Stataline Shootout, Lead H NOON

When the going gets tough ...

If you're a Broncos fan, you know what I mean when I say, "when the going gets tough." Denver is having a tough year, struggling on both offense and defense, and that kind of season can and does lead to a great deal of frustration from players, coaches, owners and from fans.

On Sunday, the frustration of eight losses out of the last nine games revealed itself as the television cameras zeroed in on an apparent tiff that played out on the sidelines between Mike Purcell and Russell Wilson.

The blowup happened early in the fourth quarter. Purcell came off the field angry that the defense was not doing its job. Wilson was angry that while the other team's offense was performing, his was not. Both also recognized that they were part of the problem.

The truth of the matter was that Purcell was frustrated with the performance of the defense, while Wilson was frustrated with the offense. Both recognized that neither side of the ball was playing up to snuff, but both were also frustrated that it was occurring.

Obviously, at the pro level there is a greater expectation for athletes to be successful and to pull out wins for their team or their city. That's what they get paid the big bucks to do, so when they are not winning there is going to be someone to blame for the problem.

— See **Karpe**, Page 10



Sonja Karp Karpe Dogie

'Angels we have heard on high'

Youth raise their voices

Hannah Gross
 NLJ Correspondent

After bringing Christmas alive with a concert for the past 15 years, the community cantata choir doesn't plan on stopping anytime soon. This year's cantata, directed by Walter Sprague, is scheduled to sing "Love Came Down at Christmas," by Joel Ramey, on Dec. 11 at 2 p.m. at the Crouch Auditorium.

The first year Sprague directed, he had about 35 members who were all older, and he admitted he was concerned that the cantata could end in any given year if younger people didn't participate.

But that changed last year. "We started getting some younger people involved, and it was wonderful. This year we have even younger people as well. That gives me the sense that this group can continue for a long time. It gives the feeling of a future for the whole group, even after I'm gone," Sprague said.

Joyce Diedrich, who started and directed the cantata for a decade,



Photo by Walter Sprague/NLJ

Samuel, Joseph, Esther, and Julia Ferguson sing a quartet during rehearsal for the Weston County Christmas Cantata Choir on Wednesday, Nov. 16.

still participates as a choir member, and she loves having the younger children and young adults involved, especially after watching some of the older members drop out.

"We're so grateful for the young people that are starting to come into it the last four or five years," Diedrich said. "They're great, they're enthusiastic, they follow directions beautifully, and they listen."

"Choir was one of my favorite things in high school," said Emma

— See **Cantata**, Page 10

Espionage through the ages presented

Hannah Gross
 NLJ Correspondent

Despite the bitter cold temperatures and biting wind, nearly a dozen people bundled up to attend the "History of Espionage" presentation given by Weston County Museum board member Linda Nessul at the Weston County Event Center on Thursday morning, Nov. 17.

From spies invading Jericho in biblical times to encrypted codes and hidden transmitters, Nessul cruised through 3,000 years of espionage history.

She began with accounts of Moses sending 12 spies into the Promised Land, and the two spies protected by a harlot in Jericho named Rahab, who hid them in her house in exchange for her family's protection.

"Spies usually work for something," Nessul explained, adding that other examples of biblical espionage include the accounts of Gideon and Judas.

Even the mottos of Israel's modern day Shin Bet, which is comparable to the Central Intelligence Agency, can be traced back to their scriptural roots, Nessul said, in Psalm

121 and Proverbs 11:14, 24:6.

The birth of modern espionage was founded by Sun Tzu, author of "The Art of War," and he is credited with establishing the importance of knowing one's enemy well, developing the earliest form of secret agents, according to Nessul.

"Sun Tzu set the foundation for modern espionage," she said.

The next nation that comes into play is the Egyptian kingdom. As a rich and powerful nation, Egypt acquired enemies and that necessitated a need to inquire information.

"All of the resources in Egypt initially went into protecting Pharaoh," Nessul began.

However, as Greece and Rome became threats, the Egyptians sent spies beyond the palace walls and developed the first stages of encrypted writings, invisible inks and toxins.

Despite the leaps and bounds made in espionage, Egypt still did not have a centralized system of spies, so Nessul said that without coordination, it remained "messy."

The Greeks took the stage next as the masters of dis-



Photo by Hannah Gross/NLJ

The Weston County Museum District presented "The History of Espionage" on Thursday morning, Nov. 17, at the Weston County Event Center. The presentation, given by Linda Nessul, covered approximately 3,000 years of history, including the development of spy techniques, gadgets and the influence of technology.

guise and deception, which was demonstrated during the Trojan War. An uncommonly known character in the famed story was the Grecian double agent named Sinon, Nessul said. Sinon claimed he was left behind by Odysseus and wanted to align with Troy. He deceptively said the Trojan horse was a gift from

the gods the Greeks used as protection. Eager to have this supernatural protection, the Trojans gladly took the horse, and before long, the Greek warriors came out of hiding and conquered the city of Troy.

The Roman empire later developed the use of internal spies, which included food

scouts, tax collectors and information seekers.

"They (Rome) also saw the needs of spies to protect them, but much of their spying was internal," Nessul said. "The Romans had as many internal spies as external."

However, this was met with the disapproval of many citizens, so the group was banned and later recreated to be less offensive and more professional, she added. Rome also made advances in technical collection by hiding people behind curtains to eavesdrop unsuspectingly, similar to a modern use of hidden microphones.

Although Rome performed significant espionage, Hannibal was more impressive. A key player in the development of espionage, he surveyed not only his enemies but also the topography of the land, and used that information to decimate the Roman army.

"Hannibal had a very, very good intelligence system," Nessul said.

Entering into the Dark and Middle Ages, the Catholic Church became the "biggest power at hand" through the

— See **Espionage**, Page 16

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News Letter Journal

Christmas

COLORING CONTEST

Prize Per Age Group: 2 Tickets for Dogie Theatre!

Instructions:
Color the image for corresponding age group. Images were printed in the Nov. 24, 2022, issue, or you can pick them up at the News Letter Journal. They will be printed again in the newspaper next week.

Drop off your entry form and colored page at: News Letter Journal, 14 W. Main St., Newcastle WY 82701. Call (307) 746-2777 for more information.

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SPECIALTY CLINICS
December 2022 Schedule

Orthopedics:
Dr. McEleney: To schedule appointments call 800-446-9556 Dec. 22
Dr. Lochmann: To schedule appointments call 605-755-6700..... Dec. 7
Echo: Patient's Personal Physician must schedule Dec. 7, Jan. 4, Feb. 1
Heart Doctors: To schedule appointments call 800-432-7822
Dr. D'Urso Dec. 1
Dr. A. Schabauer N/A
Dr. Hatanelas N/A
VA Clinic: (Usually 1st Monday of month, except holidays).....Dec. 5, Dec. 19
Mammography: Call 746-3704 to schedule an appointment
MRI: Dec. 8, Dec. 22
Patient's Provider must schedule with WCHS Radiology Department
Speech Therapy: Every Monday & Thursday, 4-6 pm
Upton Lab Draws: (1st Wednesday, except holidays) Dec. 7
Wellness Wednesday, WCHS Newcastle Every Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 am
Wellness Wednesday, W.C. Upton Clinic 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 7-9 am
Home Health Toenail Clinic: (W.C. Senior Center 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 9-10:30 am)
To schedule appointments call 746-3553 Dec. 7, Dec. 21

Please check out our calendar for updates at wchs-wy.org

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1124 Washington Blvd. Newcastle WY 82701
www.wchs-wy.org | Hospital 746-4491
WC Newcastle Clinic 746-6720 | WC Upton Clinic 468-2302
Manor 746-2793 | Therapy Services 746-3720 | Home Health/Lifeline 746-3553 | Pharmacy 746-2425

Upcoming events

Come and meet the Dogies

Anyone who is chomping at the bit for some high school basketball can get a taste of what this season has to offer during Meet the Dogies Night on Dec. 3, starting at 6 p.m. in the Dogie Dome.

Meet the Dogies Night

Schedule
6-6:10 Girls Warm-ups
6:10-6:30 Girls Scrimmage
6:30-6:40 Boys Warm-ups
6:40-7 Boys Scrimmage
7 3 Pt Contest
7:15 Dunk Contest
7:25 Team Shooting Competition
Chili feed to follow

Following the basketball action, the Newcastle Booster Club will host a free chili feed in the Newcastle High School commons.

According to Dogie head basketball coach Allen Von Eye, the tradition was started before the 2008 season, possibly in 2007.

"I am pretty sure it was 2008, coming off our appearance in the title game," he said. "That makes this the 14th annual (we missed the COVID year) Meet the Dogies Night."

He started the event, and invited the girls' program to participate as well, to give the team a meaningful scrimmage before the season officially tipped off. It also provided an opportunity to showcase the players to the community.

"The purpose was to get the whole community jazzed up for the season, along with our programs," Von Eye said. "Historically, it has been a very fun event that gave our kids the opportunity to play in front of our crowd that first time in a much more controlled setting."

Over the years, he has incorporated skills games, a 3-point contest and dunk contest, in

addition to the scrimmages.

In addition to showcasing the team and giving the players experience, Von Eye said the event also serves a more strategic purpose for the program.

"It enables us as coaches to see where we are at before we head into the last week of practice before games," he said. "It is much more beneficial than any regular scrimmage in practice because of its game atmosphere."

Parade of Lights is on

The Parade of Lights sponsored by the Newcastle Area Chamber of Commerce is still on despite recent resignations from both Director Barbie Turner and board President Sandy Martin.

Following the Nov. 8 resignations, a letter to chamber members received by the News Letter Journal stated that the future of chamber events, and the chamber in general, were up in the air unless enough support was received.

According to Vice President Garrett Borton, the chamber board, consisting of himself and trustees Megan Sams and James Curren, are

Newcastle Area Chamber of Commerce Contacts

Megan Sams
(307) 941-0633 or
megankmomof2@gmail.com
Garrett Borton
(307) 746-8618

able to continue with the Parade of Lights scheduled for Dec. 3.

The event will begin at 6 p.m. on Main Street. Anyone wanting to enter a float can contact the chamber by call, text or email at the contact information listed.

Cantata from Page 9

Anderson, who graduated in 2014. "It is because of that time in choir that I have come to enjoy being a part of the cantata choir."

The Ferguson family will be another set of young voices heard at this year's cantata. Siblings Julia, Esther, Joseph and Samuel, along with friend of the family Christopher Johnson, enjoy the fellowship of making music together with the other choir members and are looking forward to "blessing the audience with the message of Christmas," Esther said.

The Fergusons have grown up singing in choirs, which is something they have missed since moving to Wyoming a couple of years ago, so they were excited to join the cantata.

"Music is very important, especially at Christmas time because more people will listen to the message of Christ's birth," Esther said.

"I believe the cantata is vital to the community because it brings us together to enjoy a variety of music and fellowship with one another and mainly brings glory to my Lord Jesus," Anderson added.

For many of the younger members, it's an opportunity to sing with family and friends. Tanya Foote grew up with music in the church and participated in band and choir, but due to her husband's night shifts at the refinery and raising nine kids, she had to put singing on the shelf.

Tanya laughed. "It's hard to practice when your husband's sleeping," she said. "It's not my husband's fault, but that's my story, and I'm sticking with it."

Tanya admitted she was "too

lazy" and impatient to practice music, but when the opportunity to join the cantata came up, she thought it would be something fun for her to do with her youngest daughters, Lizzy, 15, and Sarah, 12.

"We've really enjoyed it. I really like having a reason to sing with my girls," Tanya said. "This is a way I can give them light into my world growing up."

"Last year, my mom had us try it," Lizzy said. "It's absolutely a lot of fun."

This year, Lizzy decided to step outside of her comfort zone and volunteer for one of the narrator parts. Although she's a little nervous, she knows it will be fun too.

"I hope I don't slip up with my words — I'm kind of known for that," she said.

Both Lizzy and her sister Sarah have especially enjoyed the practices this year because their friends Patience, 18, and Grace Hovland, 12, are also in the choir.

"I like singing. ... It's really fun. I get to sit next to my friend Grace," Sarah said.

Patience admitted she is new to the music world, but she enjoys the challenge.

"I enjoy music, and this is an opportunity to learn more. And as something new and challenging, it really caught my curiosity," Patience said. "I enjoy music not only because it is pleasant to the ear, but because its complexity amazes me. Through its depth, complexity and reliability, it declares the glory of God."

Grace agreed and added that she enjoys learning from others as well.

"I think music is important, and I enjoy it because I like to

glorify God with it," she said.

Their brothers Noah, 17, and David, 15, are also participating because they wanted to experience singing in a choir.

"I am most looking forward to my first choir performance like this," David said. "I have enjoyed the practices so far because I'm singing in a group and learning."

"I enjoy music because it is fun singing and learning," Noah added. "The most challenging thing so far has been the actual singing."

Sprague believes cantata is important to the community for various reasons. From a personal aspect, he loves the opportunity to conduct, and for the choir, it's a fun activity and a chance to be "involved in something beautiful."

"For the community, it gives me a chance to bring something I feel is beautiful and with a group effort. I adore the dynamics of cooperation," Sprague said. "It gives the community that sense that they were important enough for a group to invest this kind of time to bring them something wonderful, just for them. I think it's important for the town to feel good about themselves."

Additionally, the Newcastle Bell Choir, directed by Lynda Russell, and the youth bell choir, called "Bells of Glory," directed by Elaine Wilcomb, will perform at the cantata.

Diedrich said she is hoping for a good turnout.

"It is just such a joy to sing in a large group of people," she said. "I've always said, 'Music feeds the soul,' and they (the younger choir members) feel that whether they recognize it or not."

Karpe from Page 9

Therefore, there is a lot on the line, which means that frustration levels must be pretty intense for the Broncos right now.

When you get to the high school level, the pressure is certainly less than at the professional or even the collegiate level, however the expectation for success is still a thing, and when teams are unable to live up to expectations, the frustration is real.

I've seen that frustration from teams we are playing, and when players turn on each other during a game the outcome is never a good thing — unless you're the other team.

The Dogies have been small fish in the big pond of class 3A for as long as I have been here. We have had pretty talented teams come and go throughout the years, but it has always seemed that when those strong teams are in high school, the rest of the conference is able to also put out teams to rival ours.

And, in the rebuilding years, I understand how frustration can build up in the hearts of players because it is daunting having to try to

compete against teams who have a much bigger well from which to draw their players.

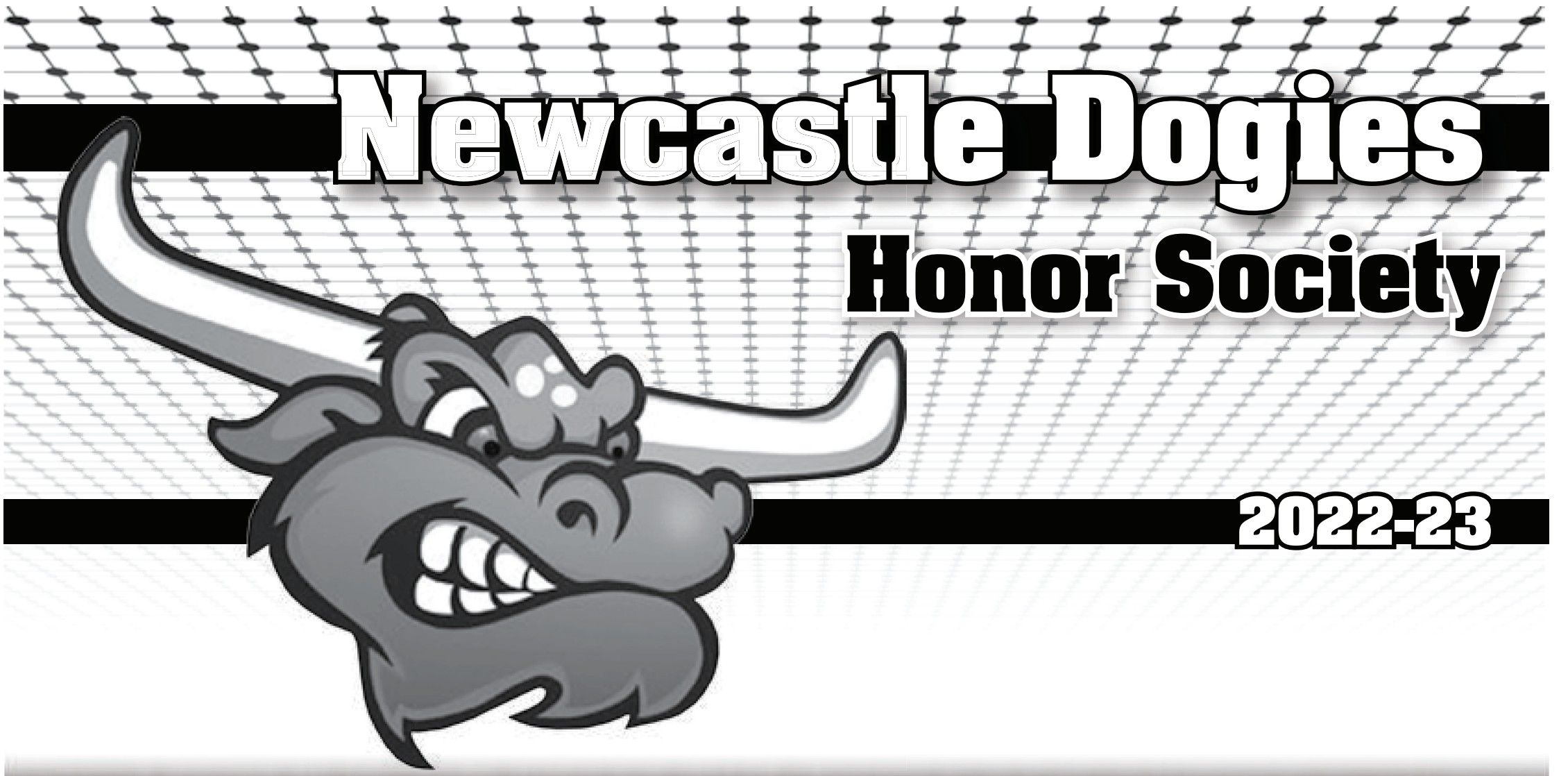
Those feelings build up and then, as we saw on the Denver sideline, it can lead to blowups between members of the team, disgruntled feelings from fans, sleepless nights for coaches and all sorts of angst for the school and the town in general.

As I go to games at other 3A East schools, it's also a little frustrating to see all the banners hanging from their gym ceilings or walls. We have our fair share as well, but it's been a hot minute since we've put one up.

I know how deep the longing is to rectify that situation.

Whether it will happen this year or not, I do not know. But, what I do know is that frustration on the field, the court or the mat is real. What I don't know is how to avoid it, or how to turn it into something good.

I guess it's all just part of the game, but when the going gets tough, hopefully the tough get going.



Front row: Ava Williams, Taylor Crinklaw, Colton Vanderpool-Mobley, Pate Tavegie, McKenzie Rose and JJ Lipp.
 Middle row: Jay Ostenson, Kendal Mullen, Gabby McVay, Ana Baeza, Shelby Tidyman, Hunter McFarland, MacKenzie Conzelman. Back row: Hogan Tystad, Heath Henkle, Tell Tavegie, Holden McConkey.

Photo by Alexis Barker/NLJ

#GoDogies #HornsUp #HonorSociety #JoinTheRide

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	DATE HI	LO
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M-21	50	25
T-22	57	25
W-23	52	23
T-24	48	28
F-25	68	28
S-26	50	30

Bid Notice

WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION LEGAL NOTICE INVITATION TO BID

The Wyoming Department of Transportation will receive sealed bids in the Office of the Procurement Services Manager, 5300 Bishop Blvd., Building No. 6189, Cheyenne, Wyoming, 82009-3340, until 11:00 A.M., Mountain Time on December 22, 2022, at which time they will be publicly opened and read for FURNISHING MAINTENANCE JANITORIAL MAINTENANCE AT THE MULE CREEK REST AREA. A MANDATORY Pre-Bid Inspection will be held at 10:30 A.M., Mountain Time on Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at the Mule Creek Rest Area located at U.S. 85 approximately 34 miles south

of Newcastle, Wyoming. Only bids received on Wyoming Department of Transportation bid forms will be considered. Bid forms and further information may be obtained, without charge, by going to <http://www.publicpurchase.com>, logging in and clicking on Bid No. 23-044AC. You must be registered with Public Purchase to log in and view bids. If you are not registered, click on the "free registration" button and follow the registration instructions. The registration process takes up to 24 hours, so signing up right away is recommended.

BY: NICHOLAS GRONSKI
PROCUREMENT SERVICES ASSISTANT
MANAGER

(Publish November 24 and December 1 and 8, 2022)

Public Notice

FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE

WHEREAS, default in the payment of principal and interest has occurred under the terms of a promissory note (the "Note") dated August 23, 2011, executed and delivered by Randy Lee Hise to Premier Home Mortgage, Inc. and a real estate mortgage (the "Mortgage") of the same date securing the Note, which Mortgage was executed and delivered by Randy Lee Hise, a single man (the "Mortgagors"), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Premier Home Mortgage, Inc. and which Mortgage was recorded on August 23, 2011, as Instrument No. 729397, Book 330, Page 0893 in the records of the office of the County Clerk and ex-officio Register of Deeds in and for Weston County, State of Wyoming; and WHEREAS, the mortgage was assigned for value as follows:

Assignee: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A
Assignment dated: 05/28/2020
Assignment recorded: 06/01/2020
Assignment recording information: Instrument No. 767813, Book 391, Page 208
All in the records of the County clerk and ex-officio Register of Deeds in and for Weston County, Wyoming.

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

WHEREAS, written notice of intent to foreclose the Mortgage by advertisement and sale has been served upon the record owner and the party in possession of the mortgaged premises at least ten (10) days prior to the commencement of this publication, and the amount due upon the Mortgage on the date of first publication of this notice of sale being the total sum of \$147,942.59 which sum consists of the unpaid principal balance of \$136,232.70 plus Interest accrued to the date of the first publication of

this notice in the amount of \$8,322.45, plus attorneys' fees, costs expended, and accruing interest and late charges after the date of first publication of this notice of sale;

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

NOW, THEREFORE Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as the Mortgagee, will have the Mortgage foreclosed as by law provided by causing the mortgaged property to be sold at public venue by the Sheriff or Deputy Sheriff in and for Weston County, Wyoming to the highest bidder for cash at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon on January 17, 2023, at Weston County Courthouse, 1 West Main, Newcastle, WY, 82701, for application on the above-described amounts secured by the Mortgage, said mortgaged property being described as follows, to-wit:

Lot 7 of the Duff Gray Third Addition to the Town of Newcastle, Weston County, Wyoming. With an address of: 1663 Sage St., Newcastle, WY 82701

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

Date: 11/11/2022
Brian G. Sayer

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

This instrument was acknowledged before me on the 11 day of November, 2022 by Brian G. Sayer as attorney of The Sayer Law Group, P.C.

Shannon Saul
Notary Public

(Publish November 24 and December 1, 8 and 15, 2022)

Bid Notice

WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION LEGAL NOTICE INVITATION TO BID

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at U.S. 85 approximately 34 miles south of Newcastle, Wyoming. Only bids received on Wyoming Department of Transportation bid forms will be considered. Bid forms and further information may be obtained, without charge, by going to <http://www.publicpurchase.com>, logging in and clicking on Bid No. 23-043AC. You must be registered with Public Purchase to log in and view bids. If you are not registered, click on the "free registration" button and follow the registration instructions. The registration process takes up to 24 hours, so signing up right away is recommended.

BY: NICHOLAS GRONSKI
PROCUREMENT SERVICES ASSISTANT
MANAGER

(Publish November 24 and December 1 and 8, 2022)

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Last week's answers

STAR JOE SASH
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ONION ORC
SLANTS GROOVED
TAG RECTOR NOGO
ANOMY LAN RETRY
FARO BUDGIE EEL
FIANCEE CHATTY
ORE NAIAD
TAPE LITEBRITE
DADOS ACTS ONIT
ORALS THAT IDEA
HOMY HER TORS

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

Gwamma by JaNel M. Farnsworth



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

- ACROSS**
- Result of too much pressure
 - Stir-fry pan
 - Steps to the river, in India
 - Hindu sage
 - Attorneys' org.
 - *Christmas cookies emanation
 - The Brady Bunch, e.g.
 - Mourner's wish
 - Mature, as in fruit
 - *Santa's entryway
 - *Holiday plum treat
 - Foot the bill
 - Hot alcoholic beverage
 - Not transgender
 - *Frosty's corn cob
 - Attract
 - Bad luck prediction
 - Indian cuisine staple
 - The whole amount
 - "Keep this information" button
 - *Coveted letter on a dreidel
 - Dry as dust
 - Opposite of digest
 - Inconclusive
 - Dirty air
 - Diplomat
 - Tallest volcano in Europe
 - Like a fox

- DOWN**
- Nile denizen, for short
 - *Like Duke brothers in "Trading Places"
 - *New Year's Eve option: _____ Spumante
 - Title-holder
 - Take for ransom
 - On one's guard
 - ____-Wan of "Star Wars"
 - K, in Greek
 - *Rose Bowl field, e.g.
 - Kachina doll maker
 - Answer from the flock
 - Drink for John Glenn
 - Fervent
 - Giving the once-over
 - **"Mele Kalikimaka" strings
 - More sordid

- Trig function
- Insect in adult stage
- *Number of candles in Kwanzaa's kinara
- Sacrifice for gain
- Eighty-six
- List components
- *Holiday song offering
- Lament for the dead
- Scotland's famous loch
- Eagle's aerie
- Lid or lip embellishment
- Go to bed (2 words)
- *Yule tradition
- Pirate's "Yes!"
- Savory jelly dish
- English county
- London art museum
- Hipbones
- *It's sometimes ignored in face of holiday treats
- Wading bird
- Displeasure display
- Biblical birthright seller
- Backgammon predecessor
- Prong of a fork
- Column's partner

FIND THE SOLUTIONS IN NEXT WEEK'S PAPER

Newcastle City Council Minutes

**NEWCASTLE CITY COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2022**

Mayor Pam Gualtieri called this regular meeting of the Newcastle City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Those present were Mayor Gualtieri; Council members Don Steveson, Ann McColley, Daren Downs, Lance Miles and Tyrel Owens. Also present were City Attorney Dublin Hughes, Public Works Supervisor Greg Stumpff and City Clerk/Treasurer Stacy Haggerty.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Tyrel Owens moved, seconded Ann McColley to approve the agenda. **MOTION CARRIED.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Tyrel Owens moved, seconded Ann McColley to approve the minutes of the regular meeting and executive session of Monday, November 7, 2022. **MOTION CARRIED.**

NOMINATIONS FOR RECOGNITION: Naomi Miglia for her 37 years of service with the Newcastle Recreation Board.

CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION: None

CITIZEN'S BUSINESS—IN WRITING:
Greg James submitted a letter of interest to fill the open seat on the Newcastle Planning and Zoning Board vacated by Mark Williams. Ann McColley moved, seconded Don Steveson to appoint Greg James to the open seat. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Newcastle Area Chamber of Commerce submitted a letter informing their members of the resignations of Barbie Turner and Sandy Martin, stating that they may have to dissolve the board if replacements are not found prior to December 31st. The Parade of Lights may also, need to be canceled. Water Sprague was present, he stated that he had spoken with Garrett Borton, who was hopeful that the positions would be filled and that the Lighted Parade would be held.

CITIZEN'S BUSINESS—VERBAL: None

MAYOR/COUNCIL REPORTS:
Councilman Owens reported on the Chapter 56 Permit. He is still waiting on numbers from Wildlife Biologist, Joe Sandrini.

Councilman Owens reported that RCAP is moving forward with a grant application for an economic development study.

Mayor Gualtieri referenced Ordinance No. 6, Series 2022 which heading reads AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY OF NEWCASTLE ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 13 SERIES 1985 AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; The keeping of chickens shall be allowed subject to certain criteria. Tyrel Owens moved, seconded Lance Miles to pass Ordinance No. 6, Series 2022. Much discussion was had. **MOTION CARRIED.**

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Mayor Gualtieri reported calls of service - PD 159 and 3,416 YTD; CSO 59 and 857 YTD; City Crew 2 with 44 YTD. She then stated New Police Chief Charles Bowles would be starting December 5, 2022 and that we have four reserve officers, Officer Frank has resigned. Mayor Gualtieri congratulated Leanne Cox, for being nominated for IT of the Year with APCO.

City Attorney Dublin Hughes reported that he had not had any response from Weston County regarding the 50 pair phone wire. He then referenced the Ackley house and the Uniform Code for Abatement of Dangerous Buildings.

City Clerk/Treasurer Stacy Haggerty had no

report.
Public Works Supervisor Greg Stumpff referenced the Public Works report for projects and work done. Mr. Stumpff then made a request to hire Scott Thompson at the rate of \$16.50 per hour with one year probation. Tyrel Owens moved, seconded Don Steveson to approve this request. **MOTION CARRIED.** He then requested the approval of hiring Charles Bartlett part time at the rate of \$40.00 per hour in the interim of filling the grant writer/administrator position. Don Steveson moved, seconded Ann McColley to approve this request. **MOTION CARRIED.**

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

OTHER BUSINESS: None
CLAIMS AGAINST THE CITY: Don Steveson moved, seconded Tyrel Owens to pay the claims against the City dated November 21, 2022. **MOTION CARRIED.** Tyrel Owens moved, seconded Don Steveson to adjourn this regular meeting of the Newcastle City Council at 8:05 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Claims: A Spiritual Cleanse, PD car-washes, \$30.00; Advanced Drug Testing, drug testing, \$78.00; Alpha Communications, Painted Hills tower rent, \$95.00; American Business Software, website maintenance, \$74.50; American Public Works, membership, \$402.00; American Solutions for Business, checks, \$275.06; AT&T Mobility, PD cell service, \$908.89; BCN, long distance service, \$108.36; Black Hills Energy, energy services, \$1,843.03; Black Hills Plumbing & Supply, plumbing services, \$507.40; Butler Machinery, parts, \$7,093.77; CRM, architectural work, \$1,585.03; Culligan, bottled water, \$52.00; Eastern Wyoming Equipment, parts, \$3,285.05; Farnsworth Services, portable sanitation/contract work, \$44,225.00; First State Bank, water bond, \$49,297.50; Gateway Travel Center, fuel, \$6,476.81; Gene's Lock Shop, PD locks, \$8,970.00; Imperial Pump Solutions, Tank 2 repairs, \$947.50; Betty Jensen, seamstress repairs, \$10.00; Ketel Thorstenson, audit, \$8,000.00; Laboratory Corp., laboratory testing, \$98.40; Abelardo Magana, mileage, \$172.50; Marco, PD copier lease, \$1,006.95; Marco Technologies, copier lease, \$305.70; Kellie Moran, mileage, \$974.38; Municipal Emergency Services, SCBA flow test/batteries, \$2,862.86; Neenah Foundry, trench gate, \$4,818.81; Newcastle Volunteer Fire, reimburse fuel/training expense, \$137.59; Norco, batteries/cylinder rent, \$217.25; One Call of Wyoming, CDC Code CON, \$47.25; Powder River Energy, energy services, \$1,062.60; Cody Raab, deposit refund, \$100.00; Range, City share PD phone service, \$471.11; Range, phone service, \$151.28; Genell Rothleutner, cleaning services, \$200.00; Safeguard Business Systems, tax forms, \$147.57; David Smith, mileage, \$327.50; Michael Staiger, mileage, \$482.50; Uline, ice bag, \$314.42; Valli, monthly services, \$179.16; Verizon, cell phone, \$382.43; Becky Vodopich, cleaning services, \$300.00; Weston Co. Health Services, drug testing, \$5,348.55; WC Treasurer, handling charge/Youth services/Airport expenses, \$5,348.55; WY DOT, P6 citations, \$73.82; Wyoming Association of Rural Water, mini conference, \$154.00; Wyoming First Aid, supplies, \$42.45.

Pam Gualtieri, Mayor
ATTEST: City Clerk/Treasurer, Stacy Haggerty

(Publish December 1, 2022)

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) for authority to implement Integrity Rider Rates.

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

2. On October 31, 2022, BHWG filed its Application, together with testimony and exhibits, requesting authority to implement Wyoming Integrity Rider (WIR) Rates. The Company requests authority to implement its proposed WIR Rates, on an interim basis, on January 1, 2023, subject to refund, with final rates to be authorized on or before April 1, 2023. The Company's proposed 2023 WIR Rates are as follows:

Customer Class	Proposed 2023 WIR Rate (per therm)
Residential General Service	\$0.0231
Small General Service	\$0.0139
Medium General Service	\$0.0148
Large General Service	\$0.0092
On-system Transportation Service	\$0.0285

3. The WIR is a mechanism designed to recover costs arising between rate review filings, stemming from the Company's investments in integrity programs aimed at improving system data and accelerating the replacement of higher risk pipe, including certain customer-owned yard lines. WIR includes six categories of projects: Data Infrastructure Improvement Program; At-Risk Meter Relocation and Yard Line Replacement Program; Span and Exposed Pipe Replacement Program; Problematic Pipe Replacement Program; Transmission Integrity Projects; and Storage Integrity Projects. The projects included in the 2022 WIR filing are stated to have been necessary integrity projects that improve the safety and reliability of the system for all customers.

4. The proposed 2023 WIR Rates include: the costs of qualifying projects completed and in service or expected to be in service between March 1, 2020, and December 31, 2022, which includes historical costs through September 30, 2022 and forecasted costs for October through December 2022; a true-up to actual investment costs and related revenue requirement from the amount in the previous year's WIR rate; and a true-up of the revenue collected from customers to the amount reflecting the prior year's true-up investment. The proposed 2023 WIR Rates will have a monthly impact of \$0.24 on an average residential customer's bill and a \$0.12 impact on the average Small General Service customer's monthly bill.

5. This is not a complete description of the Application. BHWG's Application is available for inspection at the Commission's offices in Cheyenne, Wyoming, or online at: <https://dms.wyo.gov/external/publicusers.aspx> (enter Record No. 17189).

6. Anyone desiring to file a statement, intervention petition, protest or request for a public hearing in this matter must do so, in writing, on or before December 16, 2022. A proposed intervention request for hearing shall set forth the grounds, and the position and interest of the petitioner in this proceeding.

7. 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 at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002. Communications impaired persons may contact the Commission through Wyoming Relay by dialing 711. Please mention Docket No. 30026-68-GM-22 in your communications.

Dated: November 18, 2022.

(Publish November 24 and December 1, 2022)

Cowboy State Look-In

Courtesy of the Wyoming News Exchange



COVID cases and deaths rise

CASPER (WNE) — More of Wyoming's nursing home residents are getting sick and dying from COVID-19, new figures released Wednesday by the AARP show.

COVID cases occurred in state nursing homes at a rate of six per 100 residents during a four-week period that ended Oct. 23.

That is the third-highest rate in the nation behind New Hampshire (10.12) and Maine (9.16). It's also a slight increase over the previous four-week rate, which stood at 4.5, according to the AARP.

Total cases for the four weeks ending Oct. 23 were 107.

Three nursing home residents died during the four weeks that ended Oct. 23, equating to a rate of .17 per 100 residents.

That's the sixth-highest rate in the U.S., the

AARP reported.

About 44% of Wyoming's nursing home residents are up to date on COVID vaccines, and only one in five staff is current on immunizations. Wyoming in general trails the nation in COVID vaccination rates.

Three of five nursing homes in Wyoming reported at least one staff case of the virus, or 85 cases in total.

Wyoming nursing homes and long-term care facilities were particularly hard hit during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic.

One of the state's first notable outbreaks took place at a nursing home. And by December of 2020, more than 50 residents of Casper long-term care facilities had died.

This story was published on Nov. 26, 2022.

CFD tickets for 2023 go on sale

CHEYENNE (WNE) — Tickets will go on sale Dec. 1 for Cheyenne Frontier Days' 2023 event, according to a news release.

Tickets for the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association Rodeo, the PBR (Professional Bull Riders) Team Series Event, carnival armbands and gift cards (redeemable for tickets or merchandise) will go on sale at 9 a.m. Dec. 1 at cfdrodeo.com and by calling 307-778-7222.

The 127th anniversary "Daddy of 'em All" takes place July 21-30, and will feature nine days of PRCA and Women's Professional Rodeo

Association (WPRA) rodeo, culminating in Championship Sunday.

The PBR Team Series is an elite league that launched in July at CFD, featuring the world's top bull riders competing on teams in five-on-five bull riding games.

Daily rodeo tickets range from \$23-\$48, with VIP at additional cost.

A \$3 discount is offered on rodeo tickets purchased before July 1.

PBR tickets range from \$25-\$105 with special Elite Seating and VIP tickets also available at various prices.

Carnival armbands will be

\$40 per session, or \$150 for all 10 days.

Event attendees will use AXS Mobile ID technology through the AXS app, which provides contactless, secure and personalized fan experiences.

Attendees will need to download the AXS app to access digital ticket purchases for 2023.

Artist announcements are coming in March.

For the full range of pricing and more event information, visit cfdrodeo.com.

This story was published on Nov. 25, 2022.

Senators support IRS accountability

TORRINGTON (WNE) — U.S. Senators John Barrasso, R-Wyoming, and Cynthia Lummis, R-Wyoming, stated in a press release they are joining South Dakota and Iowa Senators in introducing an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Funding Accountability Act.

"This legislation holds the IRS accountable for the \$80 billion in new funding from the Democrats' reckless tax and spending bill," the release said. "The IRS Funding Accountability Act protects taxpayer dollars, prevents wasteful spending, and measures improvements to the IRS."

"Joe Biden and the Democrats want to give the IRS more power to squeeze as much money as they can out of hard working Americans," Barrasso wrote. "Our legislation ensures that

taxpayer money is not abused by a supersized IRS and holds the service accountable for irresponsible and wasteful spending."

"The hardworking people of Wyoming should not be subject to frivolous audits to help pay for the Democrats' reckless tax and spending spree," Lummis added. "This commonsense legislation will hold the IRS accountable by ensuring the American people know exactly how this increased funding is being spent."

The announcement comes after the October 2022 Consumer Price Index (CPI) revealed inflation has risen 13.9% since Joe Biden took office in January 2021, according to the release.

This story was published on Nov. 23, 2022.

Barrasso spends Thanksgiving in Japan

CHEYENNE (WNE) — On Thanksgiving Day, U.S. Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyo., shared dinner with Wyoming Marines and airmen serving in Okinawa, Japan.

They're attached to the 3rd (III) Marine Expeditionary Force and Air Force's 18th Wing, according to a news release from Barrasso's office.

Barrasso visited with service members at Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, Japan.

"Our state is so grateful for the brave men and women from Wyoming who serve our country," Barrasso said in the release. "Right now, we have service members from across Wyoming serving 16 time zones away from home in Okinawa, Japan. They're face to face with China and North Korea every day. We are so proud of their service to protect America and our allies abroad. I made sure they

knew that everyone at home is thinking of them during the holidays and awaiting their safe return home."

Barrasso sat down for Thanksgiving dinner with service members, toured Kadena Air Base and was briefed by military officials about operations in the Indo-Pacific.

This story was published on Nov. 26, 2022.

Statewide News Coverage

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

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

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Are you in need of medical traveling assistance? Contact Glenna at 307-468-2316 or Carol at 746-2298.

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NA meets at Church on the Hill, 6:30-7:30pm, every Tuesday. Call Shawn at 307-575-6641.

Alcoholics Anonymous

AA meets at WC Senior Center family room, 627 Pine St., Mondays and Thursdays, 7-8pm. Contact Stan 746-9199.

Veterans

Veterans Outreach and Advocacy Program (Wyoming Dept Health/BHD) Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom eligible. For assistance, call 307-630-3230.

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Weston County Health Services is currently accepting applications for the following positions.

Please see our website at wchs-wy.org for details.

Position	Status
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Home Health RN	FT
CNA, In-Home Services	PT
Radiology Technician (\$15,000 Sign-On Bonus)	FT
RN – Long-term Care	FT/PT/PRN
CNA – LTC (\$1,000 Sign-on Bonus)	FT&PT
Acute Care CNA	FT
Acute Care RN	PT/PRN
Nutrition Support Aide	PT
CNA	FT/PT/PRN
Dietary Aide	PRN
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Employment Applications can be found on our website or picked up at the hospital front desk. Fax completed applications/resume packets to 307-746-3726, or email CTurner@wchs-wy.org. WCHS performs post offer, pre-employment drug screening. EOE.



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An hourly salary and appropriate bonuses will be offered to the most suitable applicant based on experience and whether or not the employee wishes to work full or part time. Please email your resumé and cover letter to editor@newsjl.com, drop off at our office on 14 W. Main St., Newcastle, or mail to P.O. Box 40, Newcastle, WY 82701. EOE

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WESTON COUNTY JOB OPENING

The Weston County Board of Commissioners is accepting applications for **MAINTENANCE MANAGER**. A detailed job description is available at westongov.com or the Weston County Clerk's Office. Pay DOE. Please submit a cover letter and resumé to the Clerk's Office at 1 West Main, Newcastle, WY 82701. Position will be open until filled. For questions, please call (307) 746-4744

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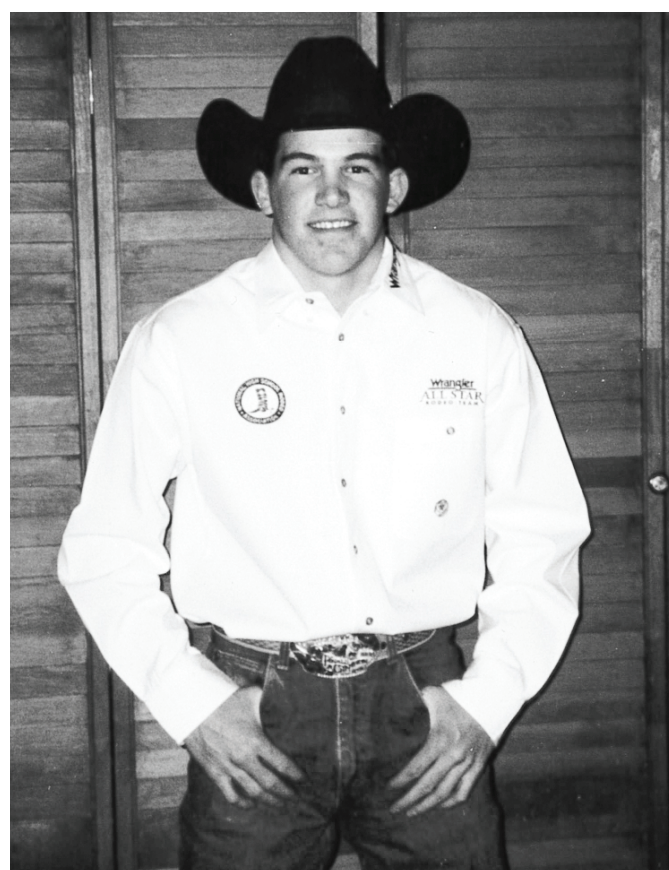
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BLAST FROM THE PAST



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What could go wrong?

“TIMBER!” was the resonating shout on the Friday after Thanksgiving as many families, including my own, headed into the forest to chop down a tree and kick off the Christmas season.

I absolutely love Christmas — it is truly the most wonderful time of the year, but I am of the opinion that Christmas doesn't start until the day after Thanksgiving. However, as soon as we all come out of our food coma, I'm ready to crank up the Christmas music and put out the decorations.

Every year, we have a tradition with several family friends to go up by Mallo on Black Friday and hunt for the not-so-perfect Christmas tree, followed by a campfire lunch and hours of football in the snow. I think I might enjoy it more than Christmas Day itself.

With plans to leave in January for a 10-month mission trip in Mexico, I was especially looking forward to it this year. But things did not happen as expected.

To start off, my brother was hit with a flu bug on Wednesday, and soon became victim to aches and pains with a 103.6 degree fever.

If that wasn't enough, that same day we started having plumbing issues at our house. The drains weren't working properly, and the sewer was backing up. With it being the holidays, there would be no available plumbers until Monday.

So, we had to severely limit our water usage, which meant using the restroom, showering and doing laundry elsewhere as much as possible.

My grandma, mom and I still managed to cook a full Thanksgiving meal by filling a large pot with water to handwash all the dishes and

dumping the water outside rather than down the drain. The rest of the afternoon was spent enjoying card games, pumpkin pie and a “Charlie Brown Thanksgiving.”

When I woke up the next morning, I was excited when I remembered that the 2022 Christmas season had officially begun, but I was sad that my brother would miss out. On top of that, my grandma caught the same bug, so she and my grandpa, who were going to visit until Monday, decided to go home early.

With the plumbing still out, my dad also decided to stay home in case a plumber called back. So, with half our family, we headed out, now 20 minutes late, to meet up with the others.

Despite everything that had gone wrong, it was a beautiful day. At first, I was disappointed because of the lack of snow, but I was delightfully surprised to find several inches of white the deeper we drove into the forest.

In fact, we were still sliding and fish-tailing a little even with four-wheel drive, and one of our friends nearly got stuck in a ditch.

Some years, we've hiked up and down, right and left, across the road and back to the other side, traipsing through the snow before settling on the right tree. But this year, we found our tree right away — it stood tall, symmetrical and very full (a little too full now that it sits in the house taking up half the living room).

My mom, brother and I took turns sawing the trunk before dragging the tree back to the vehicles and hoisting it up on the suburban. After everyone else found theirs, it was time for the fun to begin!

We set up some tables and chairs, started a campfire

and brought out the roasting sticks, hot dogs, marshmallows and leftover pie.

With stomachs full, it was time to begin our annual football game to burn off all those Thanksgiving calories. Using a sled to create boundaries, we split into even teams, which is usually a mash-up of kids and adults of both genders.

It usually gets pretty competitive, and a “two-hand touch” tackle still ends in a full-blown tackle into the snow. We did our best not to slip and slide as we attempted passes and touchdowns—let me just point out that it is not easy to run in muck boots.

(Sometimes our dads, who often join us, try to relive the glory days of their youth and wind up icing their sore joints for the next week.)

When my family finally got around to decorating the tree later that weekend, we realized it had a crooked trunk. When we tried repositioning it, the tree tipped over and broke the stand. My mom rushed to buy a new stand before the store closed, leaving me to hold the 10-foot pine by myself.

Despite many of the things that went wrong this Thanksgiving, it was still a good holiday celebration. Both my brother and grandma eventually got better, we had friends and neighbors willing to help out with our plumbing dilemma, and there were many laughable memories made with our family and friends.

I wasn't able to control or predict how this year's Thanksgiving went, but I could control how I responded. I could have (and sometimes did) thrown myself a pity party, or I could count my blessings. And by the grace of God, when I did just that, I realized how much I truly have to be thankful for.

I'm already counting down the days until next year when we go Christmas tree hunting, and we can do it all over again.



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Espionage

from Page 9

Crusades and the Spanish Inquisition, which had “huge networks of informants” that bribed and killed people during this religious and political war.

Sir Francis Walsingham, principal secretary under Queen Elizabeth I, set up an extensive espionage network to intercept the mail of Mary Queen of Scots and expose her plot to overthrow Elizabeth. His spy work allowed Queen Elizabeth to have one of the most successful reigns in history, Nessul said, and this led to the age of the industrial espionage of the Modern Era.

The use of technology made its way into espionage during the Revolutionary War, and George Washington was a brilliant spy master, according to Nessul. Popular espionage methods included hiding messages in various objects, encrypting codes and using common workers as undercover agents — which sometimes involved a woman hanging laundry in a certain coded pattern.

“He also was really big on gadgets,” Nessul said. “Some of the first encrypted writing on a large scale was done during the Revolutionary War.”

Additionally, Nathan Hale was a famous American spy executed by the British Army during the war after he was caught. His bravery and willingness to defend his country earned him a “proud place” in modern-day CIA headquarters, she said.

As technology continued developing, the need to encrypt messages became more prevalent, according to Nessul. This was especially true during the Civil War, so more methods were introduced.

Aerial imagery was first used in this time with an artist sketching the battle scene from a hot air balloon to report it back to headquarters. In World War I, aerial imagery was further developed, including arming pigeons with cameras.

Additionally, windmills were used to send out Morse code signals and other similar methods were involved.

During World War II, the German Enigma, the first automated coding machine, was invented. Franklin D. Roosevelt developed the first civilian centralized intelligence services in the United States called the Office of Strategic Services, later rebuilt as the CIA in 1946, Nessul said.

Modern gadgets such as miniaturized cameras, weapons disguised as everyday accessories, and bugging devices made an appearance during the Cold War. A youth group from the Soviet Union gifted the U.S. government with a plaque of the great U.S. seal. Unbeknownst to the leaders at the time, the seal contained a hidden transmitter and was used to spy on government meetings months before it was discovered.

The next major event in the history of espionage was the emergence of China, Nessul explained.

“China's goal is to lead the world in everything, and they don't care how they get there,” she said, adding that popular companies like GE Appliances, Motorola (Lenovo), Dirt Devil and more are owned by China.

The rise of technology, specifically smart technology, has created more convenience, but it also opens people up to a greater risk of vulnerability, Nessul said.

“Technology has created all sorts of problems for intelligence,” she said. “If China decides they want to shut down the U.S., they could do that.”

“(James) Woolsey, who was the director of CIA, said, ‘Yes we have slain a large dragon (Soviet Union), but we now live in a jungle filled with a bewildering variety of poisonous snakes. And in many ways, the dragon was easier to keep track of.’” Nessul said. “So, when you think about the problems that we face today in terms of China, Vladimir Putin in Russia, Afghanistan, ISIS ... all of the issues that we face today — that's those poisonous snakes.”

However, Nessul said, the authorities in Washington, D.C. are “starting to wake up” and take proactive measures against the rising threat of China.

Thank You!

I am beyond humbled by the support from Senate District #1 voters. Thank you for your confidence in me. I will continue to fight for our communities and our conservative values. I look forward to serving each and every one of you in my final term.

Respectfully yours,
 Senator Ogden Driskill

