



### Go Dogies!

The Dogie student section adopts their customary pose when a shooter for the home team is at the free-throw line, during Friday night's game against Torrington. (Photo by Bob Bonnar/NLJ)

## Still in need of doctors

By Bob Bonnar of NLJ

When the hospital board meets on Thursday, they'll discuss the possibility of extending the contract with Cedar Hills Clinic to provide emergency room coverage by six months, which will take it through the end of the year.

The local doctors have requested a 3 percent increase in the amount Weston County Health Services pays them to handle patients that come into the emergency room, but during a meeting between health care providers and several board members earlier this month, it was clear that the primary motivation behind the offer of a six-month extension was to provide both entities with a little extra time to discuss a long-range plan to ensure that the community will continue to have doctors.

"This takes a pretty long time to figure out, and we're wanting to extend [the current contract] a little bit longer and take the opportunity to decide what the clinic and hospital want to do about ER coverage," Dr. Mike Jording said when he made the offer to extend

— See **Doctors**, Page 8

## Beetle war finds new volunteers

By Bob Bonnar of NLJ

More than two dozen residents of northeast Wyoming converged on Newcastle last Tuesday to express concern over the mountain pine beetle epidemic threatening to spread into Wyoming from the forests of South Dakota, and organizers of the event believe their initial effort to enlist important stakeholders in the battle was successful.

"There were some fired up people coming out of there, and I know some of them have started to make calls and raise awareness with politicians," said Bill Kohlbrand of Wyoming State Forestry.

The meeting, which was sponsored by the Save Our Black Hills Coalition, attracted landowners whose property borders Forest Service land, but people from all over

Weston County were drawn to the gathering, including a few from within Newcastle itself and others from outside of the county.

"The real purpose was to try to get a Wyoming presence going, and a couple of people stepped forward out of the meeting, and hopefully we can go to Sundance and get something moving," Kohlbrand said, noting that the Crook County Weed and Pest Office is including the beetle epidemic as part of a meeting that will be held in the basement of the courthouse in Sundance this week.

While Weston County landowners are staring down the barrel of an epidemic that has already infested 400,000 acres of forest, most of which is in South Dakota, the situation

— See **Beetles**, Page 3

## Legislators get busy in Cheyenne

By Bob Bonnar of NLJ

Representative Hans Hunt, R-Newcastle, hasn't seen a lot of bills in his first two weeks in the legislature that are geared specifically to his district, which covers southern Weston County, in addition to Niobrara County and small portions of Goshen and Converse counties.

"In the water projects appropriations bill that came through the Ag Committee last week there was money provided to work on the well for the Cambria Improvement District, but that's the only thing that stuck out as affecting Newcastle or Weston



County uniquely," he told the News Letter Journal Tuesday.

But that doesn't mean the legislation that has been considered by Hunt and other legislators in the first two weeks of the 61st general session of the Wyoming State Legislature hasn't been

important to local voters.

"There's plenty of bills out there that affect us, just as they do everybody else. There's plenty of social legislation that's gone through that affects everybody," he said.

Hunt reported that he is the co-sponsor

of a bill that will mean Wyoming will not recognize gay marriages from other states, but admits that he hasn't been as vocal on the floor of the House as other legislators in his first two weeks on the job.

His counterpart in the Senate, freshmen Senator Ogden Driskill, R-Devils Tower, however, has been quoted in the statewide media for stands he has taken on behalf of personal freedoms, including a speech he made in opposition to the strengthening of the state's mandatory seat belt law.

"Bills on seat belt laws, concealed carry, subdivision fencing, Hathaway Scholarship, teacher tenure, teacher merit pay and wind energy have had extensive debate, and

— See **Legislature**, Page 6

## Wanted: Historians

By Kim Dean of NLJ

Weston County's downtown area has experienced a bit of a face lift with the recent completion of two murals painted last year on each end of Main Street, and while those murals highlight the area's rich heritage, there is still a lot of work to do to preserve that history. At the moment, individuals who want to become more involved in historic preservation efforts in the county are needed to serve on the Weston County Historic Preservation Board.

Lucille Dumbrell, WCHPB chairperson, explained that the group is a county board that represents the county in matters of historic preservation and its members are appointed by the Weston County Commissioners. The board meets once a month on the third Tuesday at 5 p.m. at various locations. Dumbrell said the board typically does not meet in the summer, but will meet whenever an emergency arises.

"We only have six members at the present time. We need 7 to 10, so we could have four new members," she told the News Letter Journal.

Dumbrell said she has found her time on the board

— See **Board**, Page 6

## Pastor receives the greatest gift in the nick of time

By Kim Dean of NLJ

Timing is everything, especially when a deadly disease is robbing you of life. For those people whose lives hang by a thread, and whose names appear on an organ transplant list, they fully understand how important timing is. When that timing and everything else falls into place and someone gives you the greatest gift of all, the gift of life, it's a profound experience — and one that makes you want to express your deepest appreciation for the second chance you have been given.

That's according to Charles Dutcher, for whom serving the Lord and helping others, as a pastor at Four Corners Country Church, is a life he has become well known for throughout several counties in this area.

Three years ago his health declined due to an ailment called pulmonary fibrosis, which is a serious disease that causes progressive scarring of lung tissue. The disease affects both of Dutcher's lungs.

"I don't have [Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease] or emphysema. I have pulmonary fibrosis, it's a lot faster acting disease," he described.

He said a rare form of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is hereditary, and while his is not



Photo courtesy of Tina Sundstrom

Charles Dutcher and daughter Tina Sundstrom said the donor lung he received was the best Christmas gift they could ever get.

that form, hundreds of factors can lead to PF, including occupational/environmental factors or frequent heartburn or Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease which can get in the lungs and instigate it.

Other factors listed on mayoclinic.com are radiation, medications, and tuberculosis conditions such as tuberculosis and pneumonia, which can cause permanent lung damage. The most common symptoms of PF are shortness of breath and a dry cough.

Recently, due to the advancement of his disease and after a series of tests and examinations, Dutcher's name

was moved to number one on the transplant list, and that's where it remained for two months. He had been using supplemental oxygen for quite some time, and routine tasks were becoming more difficult for him.

"When you run out of oxygen, you get so weak you can't hardly do anything," he told the News Letter Journal.

Doctors told him that this particular disease goes in plateaus, and Dutcher was down to 10 percent oxygen. They also told him he was in the last plateau headed for the last dip.

"Doctors finally told me I

had days, maybe weeks and that was it," he said.

Then a few days before Christmas, Dutcher was sitting in his recliner reading a testimonial in a lungsRus pamphlet about a man who received a lung transplant six months prior. The article explained how he was back to doing most of his activities from before the transplant, and Dutcher recalled saying to himself, "Lord, that sure would be nice." The phone rang and it was Denver.

"He said, 'We have a lung for you Mr. Dutcher, do you want it?' I said 'yes', so off we went and here we are," he explained.

Dutcher had a four-hour window to get to the University of Colorado Hospital in Denver on Dec. 23, and Mother Nature was prevalent that day in the form of an ice storm that hindered normal travel conditions.

"With the ice storm, you couldn't get on the highways. The Flight for Life from Rapid couldn't get here, so we switched to the Casper Flight for Life. The flight only took an hour and five minutes to get there. From the time of the phone call to arriving at the hospital was six hours, so the donor must have been kept on life support for a short time until I arrived," Dutcher reasoned.

Dutcher's five-and-a-half-hour left lung transplant surgery began at 6 p.m. on Dec. 23 and he woke up in the Intensive Care Unit on Christmas Eve. Doctors tried to biopsy Dutcher's lung to determine the cause of his disease, but there was no suitable tissue for the test.

"Everything went as smooth as glass. The only pain that I've had is from them cutting and stitching, other than that there is no pain. I'm doing real good. I'm walking one and a half miles a day, and I haven't had any supplemental oxygen since I've been here," Dutcher reported from University of Colorado Hospital in Denver.

He knows that his donor lung came from a 30-year-old male, and that is all the information he will have unless the family chooses to contact him. Dutcher said Colorado has the most donors per capita in the United States, and that state is considering making donation mandatory unless you opt out on your driver's license.

"Four or five other states have tried this and it didn't pass. They might get the bill passed down here in Colorado," he stated.

As a transplant recipient, Dutcher said he feels more than fortunate. He feels blessed to have been given such a gift,

— See **Dutcher**, Page 6

### WEATHER FORECAST

**Thursday**  
Partly Sunny  
Hi 43, Lo 33



**Friday**  
Partly Cloudy  
Hi 49, Lo 24



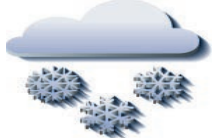
**Saturday**  
Mostly Sunny  
Hi 37, Lo 13



**Sunday**  
Snow Possible  
Hi 29, Lo 13



**Monday**  
Snow Possible  
Hi 33, Lo 16



**Tuesday**  
Mostly Cloudy  
Hi 34, Lo 3



**Wednesday**  
Mostly Sunny  
Hi 24, Lo 9



### Inside:

- Theater group gets ready, Page 5
- Quest for Kitty Moats, Page 7
- In their own space, Page 7
- First baby of 2011, Page 7



# How to spot ‘em, how to stop ‘em

By Bob Bonnar of NLJ

“You look for patches of old red trees as a place to start from. Typically, the bugs will infest a tree close to the last tree they were in, and evidence of woodpeckers is another thing that will draw your eye,” Wyoming State Forester Bill Kohlbrand said when asked how people can tell if trees on their property have been infested by the mountain pine beetle.

He also indicated that pitch tubes and boring dust will be evident on and around trees that have been hit by the beetle, and said the bugs leave a blue stain in the wood under the bark of the tree because of a fungus they carry that is actually one of the things that results in the tree’s death.

Unfortunately, once a tree has been infested, there isn’t anything that can be done to save it.

“Once that tree is turning red, it is already dead, and has been for months,” Kohlbrand told the News Letter Journal. Other beetles can kill trees as well, but Kohlbrand said that trees killed by the mountain pine beetle will generally change color in June or July. If that is happening on your land, the time to respond is now.

“We picked up \$50,000 of bug money that can be used for direct control or thinning and management, and we’ve already obligated \$17,000 of that,” Kohlbrand said.

State Forestry has been able to provide funds to help property owners with bug and fire prevention, but Kohlbrand said the number of resources



Photo from U.S. Forest Service

**The mountain pine beetle is responsible for the loss of thousands of acres of forest in the Black Hills.**

available is limited, and he urges people to contact his agency quickly if they want help to prevent the epidemic from spreading to their land.

“When that money is gone, we’re on our own, and there isn’t going to be enough cost-share money to go around, but at some time we’re going to have to get some work done, whether the government is helping or not,” he remarked.

While his agency hopes to encourage landowners to move quickly to prepare their property for the beetles that are sure to come, he said the effort to do so is also being slowed by a lack of people available who can do the work required.

“Most of the large contractors are busy on Forest Service land doing urgent removal work, so private landowners are kind of on their own. They have to find an independent logger, one of the smaller contractors, or do the work on their own,” he lamented.

That means it is doubly important for those who want to do something about the beetle to act with urgency. While the local epidemic has been largely restricted to South Dakota at present, the beetle has devastated most of the forests in Wyoming already, and Kohlbrand said attempts have to be made to keep the same thing from happening here.

“The Big Horns and the Black Hills are the only green forests in the state, and the whole idea of this effort is to be aggressive now, and eventually the bugs will fall off,” he indicated.

## Beetles

from page 1 .....

may be even more urgent to the north, where an outbreak has already been detected on Inyan Kara Mountain. Kohlbrand said the Forest Service recently discovered that approximately 4,400 trees have been infested there.

The unexpected outbreak on a mountain so far removed from the heart of the epidemic illustrates the difficulties faced by those hoping to battle the scourge.

“One of the most telling graphic instances is the bug spotting done on Inyan Kara. When you drive by on the highway, you see some red patches, but it doesn’t look bad, and there are 4,400 infected trees in there,” Kohlbrand explained.

Unfortunately, the Forest Service has decided not to attack the bugs on the mountain, and that spurred some of the anger displayed by those who attended last week’s meeting in Newcastle.

“The Forest Service has decided not to treat due to the special management area designation and cost,” Darcie Henegar, one of the founders of the SOBH, told the News Letter Journal.

“It would take a revision to the Forest Plan to do anything in there,” Kohlbrand said, explaining that the guidelines presented by the roadless designation given to the mountain dictate that insects and diseases should be allowed to run their course. That’s more than a bit concerning to the private property holders who own parcels surrounding the 1,300 acres of Forest Service land on Inyan Kara.

“If you let the beetles get momentum, it will affect their neighbors,” Kohlbrand said.

“That’s been one of the biggest problems. It’s the big issue,” Henegar agreed.

Aside from the Inyan Kara outbreak, only 2,000 bug trees have been discovered in Weston and Crook counties to this point, and state crews have treated 550 of them, but according to a Forest Health

Survey released by the Black Hills National Forest last week, the rate of advancement of the bark beetle infestation doubled from 2009 to 2010. In 2009, there were 22,000 new acres identified, but in 2010 the number of new acres infested was up to 44,000.

“The leading edge of the infestation is just coming into Wyoming, and we’re trying to be proactive with the little patches before we have huge red patches on the hillside. We want to get ahead of the game before the beetles get a head start,” Kohlbrand indicated.

The Forest Service indicated in a press release that they are focusing their efforts on thinning and removing newly infested trees in the ‘green forest,’ areas that haven’t been overcome by the beetle already.

“We are being very aggressive in our efforts to remove trees killed by the bark beetle to stop the spread and to reduce the risk of falling trees and fire to people and communities,” said Craig Bobzien, Black Hills National Forest supervisor. “There is still much work to be done and we will use every tool we have. We are doing all we can and working with others to do even more.”

Henegar said that if the effects of the epidemic are to be limited in Wyoming, it will take more than the Forest Service to turn back the tide.

“You can’t just leave the Forest Service up to making sure this is successful on their own. Landowners have to get involved in the treatment,” she urged. “I don’t think people realize the magnitude of this. There will be so much more visible by next summer, and it’s critical to treat trees now.”

Gene Norman, a forester with Neimann Timber Company and the co-founder of SOBH, agreed that the situation requires an urgent response, and suggests that the possible damage people of the area will suffer goes beyond the loss of timber and scenery.

“You want to catch these patches when they’re small,

and we’ve got choices to make on priorities of which areas we want to save first. It’s going to take everybody working together. When we lose these trees, we’re also losing the production of oxygen, storage of carbon, and watershed protection. That’s hard to put a price-tag on, but you need to take those values into consideration as well,” Norman said.

The group is hoping that by raising awareness among residents, they will increase the pressure on elected officials, who will then help remove some of the bureaucratic red tape they believe is slowing the response to the epidemic.

“We’ve been through the bug cycle before, and bureaucracy has slowed down the reaction to previous epidemics, and we’re reliving our past again,” Kohlbrand said.

Norman said a decrease in the amount of timber harvested in the past couple of decades has contributed to the rapid spread of the beetles, in addition to increasing the danger of catastrophic wildfires in the Black Hills.

“The timber is growing faster than we’ve been harvesting, and we’ve been protecting the growth from fires and bugs, and now we’ve got a situation with a whole bunch of overstocked stands that need to be treated,” Norman said, indicating that last year the amount of board feet that grew in the Black Hills was 50 million more than what was harvested.

Henegar said that at present, however, the focus needs to be on stopping the beetle, and not on what led to its proliferation.

“We need to come to a consensus. We’re not trying to make anybody wrong or anybody right. We’re trying to get people on the same page and committed to doing something about it, so we’re trying to host educational forums and seminars wherever the public shows an interest,” she said.

Henegar can be contacted at 746-3322 and Norman can be reached at 746-3360 or 605-391-0287.

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## GOOD CITIZENS NEWCASTLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GOOD CITIZENS OF JANUARY

### 3RD GRADE: JAKE DEVERAUX



Our third grade Good Citizen is an exemplary student and gentleman. He greets the day with an attitude of “let’s get to work.” Doing his work to the best of his ability makes him a role model we all need to emulate. Each day I am encouraged by his constant kind and caring personality. he is never concerned about himself but wants to make those around him happy. He is a genuine gentleman beyond his years. This student offers to help before he can be asked and is always conscious of what needs to be done. Extra trips to the “big” building, in bad weather, don’t even phase him. He makes good choices and never complains when things aren’t always fair. Everyone thinks of this young man as a friend, and they know he will listen whether working in the classroom or playing on the playground. He knows that hard work is a part of life. Also, that to be successful a person must stay focused and practice without complaining. I respect this young cowboy and we are proud to share third grade with him. What a wonderful life Jake Deveraux is going to experience and we wish him the best as he reaches his goals and lifelong dreams.

### 4TH GRADE: ALYSSA HOUSER



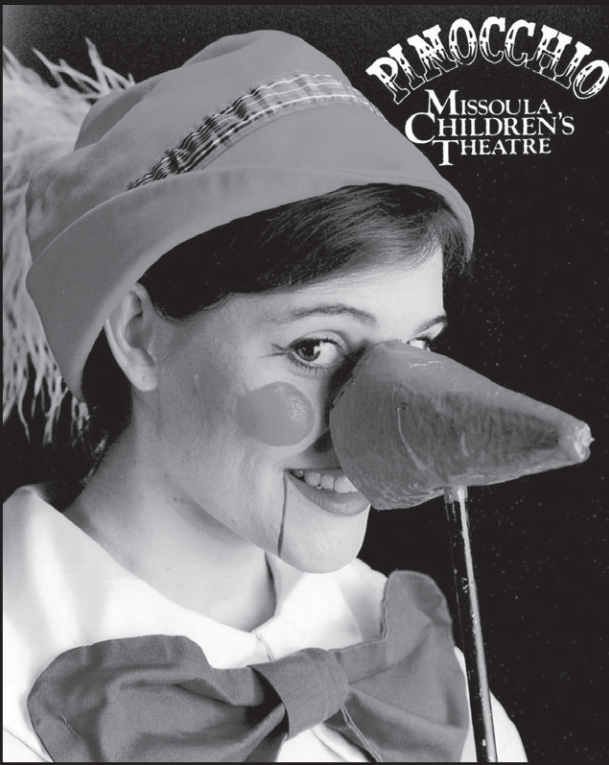
The January Good Citizen possesses many enviable qualities that make her stand out as we enter the new year. She is a quiet leader through example, as she completes her work on time, and always checks to make sure she is caught up. She is an outstanding listener, whether it be a classmate or adult who is speaking. She gives well-thought-out answers and is a great class contributor in all areas. She never misses a beat when there is a task to be accomplished, and she is willing to help anyone who needs it. This student is also a great volunteer and sometimes makes me wonder if she can read minds. She helps get out supplies before class starts and helps clean up after. She has an infectious smile that lights up a room, and a positive attitude that is also catching. She is one of the first to ask questions if she doesn’t understand and her explanations help others around her better their understanding. She is down to earth and pleasant to be around as she makes her way around the school, and we are happy to have her stop in our room this year. Congratulations Alyssa Houser, our fourth-grade Good Citizen of January.

### 5TH GRADE: BAILEY LACEY



The Good Citizen from our family in Room 149 is a young lady that stands for everything good in life. She is gentle, compassionate, and a true friend. She always greets me every morning with a smile and a story. Then she proceeds to welcome her classmates with enthusiasm and twinkling eyes. Her warm personality melts the cold winter days with a force greater than the summer sun. Academically, this student gives it 110% every day of the week. She is a responsible learner and conquers even the fiercest of tasks with the heart of a lion. Her “can-do” attitude is contagious as she beacons others down the path of knowledge. Whether at the front of the pack or at the end, her hands are always out ready to assist those in need. To you she may just seem like an ordinary fifth-grade girl, but to us she is much, much more. She is a Good Citizen in every imaginable way, and we are blessed to have her on our learning journey. Congratulations Bailey Lacey! You are a genuine Good Citizen!

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## Auditions

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Monday,  
January 31<sup>st</sup>  
at 4 p.m. in the  
Crouch Auditorium

Performances will be  
Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup>  
at 3 & 7 p.m.

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**Legislature** from page 1.....

I have been an active participant,” Driskill stated.

He reports that he has also co-sponsored a bill that would put the right to hunt, fish and trap into the Wyoming Constitution, one that would seek the repeal of Obamacare, a measure dealing with immigration issues and another that would eliminate the rare and uncommon designation of land from Wyoming Statutes.

Representative Mark Semlek, R-Moorcroft, is also a sponsor of the last bill, but in his report to local voters this week he focused largely on education issues and those bills that have come before the House Agriculture Committee, which he chairs.

“The bill action in the House Agriculture Committee last week included a do not pass vote by the committee members with the raw milk and the Wyoming Food Freedom Act. The proposals in the bill would have allowed the sale of unpasteurized milk through “herd share” arrangements and the sale of meat from producers to informed end consumers. The concern with both bills was primarily one of consumer health safety and the principal concern with the food freedom act was the potential loss of our state meat inspection system to a federal inspection program. Wyoming currently has no federal meat inspection plants,” he explained.

Semlek said the Wyoming Beef Council fee collection bill, which



Bob Bonnar/NLJ

**Rep. Hans Hunt talks about legislation with lobbyist Jason Mincer of the American Cancer Society's Cancer Action Network.**

would allow the beef council to collect an additional fee for the promotion of products beyond the one collected for the federal beef check-off program, will be heard in the House Ag Committee this week.

As Semlek predicted before the start of the session, education issues have dominated debate in the House through the first couple of weeks of the session, and Hunt said he offered his perspective as somebody who graduated from high school only four years ago when the House discussed

a measure to allow students to use performing arts or vocational courses as an alternative to the foreign language requirement for the Hathaway Scholarship.

“I told them that as the first member of this body to receive the Hathaway, it was a tremendous help for me to pay for college. I went on to say that in the smaller communities, we greatly value our elective courses, so they’re vitally important to the career and education interests of the kids in my district and the smaller towns in the state. It also

gives the music, art, band, ag and shop classes a huge boost because those always seem to be on the chopping block when it comes to talk of things that need to be cut,” Hunt told the News Letter Journal, indicating that he thinks the change will make it easier for students to enroll in such courses.

Semlek, who served in the House when the legislation that created the scholarship program was passed, offered a different perspective.

“The discussion with this issue involves some concern about the scholarship becoming an entitlement for most students, compared to being an award for academic achievement for a few students. I was on the Education Committee when the Hathaway program was established and I had some concerns at that time the scholarship program might gravitate over time in this direction, which I would oppose. On the other hand, the Hathaway program was possible as a result of revenues created by the mineral extraction industry in Wyoming, so to provide students with the option to take career/vocational education classes in place of a foreign language and still be eligible for all three tiers of scholarship also makes sense to me. The primary purpose of post-secondary education is to prepare students for the work force, and the work force needs in Wyoming are primarily career related,” he suggested.

A bill that would extend the school

year by five days for Wyoming students also passed in the House on first reading with relative ease Friday, but Weston County’s representatives weren’t among those who cast a voice-vote in favor of going from 175 to 180 days.

“I voted against it. I’ll agree that it provides more teacher/student contact time, but I don’t know if five days provides the impact you’re aiming for,” Hunt said.

“Some studies indicate learning is enhanced with the longer school year, which might be the case, however I would prefer not to increase the school year and allow students to spend time with their families. I also believe that there are more productive ways for teachers to have more contact time with their students besides increasing the length of the school year,” Semlek agreed.

The legislature will also consider a bill that seeks to eliminate teacher tenure in Wyoming, and Semlek said that he believes such a measure would allow school districts more freedom to replace teachers who aren’t effective.

“Studies have indicated that 80 percent of teachers are performing their duties at a satisfactory level or higher and the remaining are performing in a substandard way. The elimination of the tenure law will allow school districts to more easily remove under performing teachers,” he remarked.

**Board** from page 1.....

to be most interesting, and she learns something new at every single meeting about the history of the area. The board can obtain grant funding and works with the State Historic Preservation office to do so.

Current projects are preservation work on the oldest cabin at Mallo Camp, and a survey being conducted of the Newcastle residential district which includes both sides of Summit Avenue.

The group took the lead in the past couple of years in securing a listing for Newcastle’s downtown on the National Register of Historic Places.

“We had a survey, and we were instrumental in getting the downtown on the National

Register of Historic Places. I think that’s a big thing for Newcastle,” Dumbrill observed.

The board continually works on conducting surveys of historical places in Weston County, which are placed on a list and stored at the museum. With so much history in the area, there’s a significant amount of work involved, and the group hopes to attract more members so they can accomplish more.

“It’s fun learning about these places. It’s a joy to learn about them and collect information. We’d like to have a larger group so we can expand our list. We’re hoping also that if people have 100-year-old ranches, we’d like to

get them included on the state project, at the State Historic Preservation office,” Dumbrill professed.

She believes anyone would enjoy serving on the board, and Dumbrill stressed that you don’t have to be a professional to serve on it. Interested individuals should write a letter stating their desire to serve on the board and deliver it to County Clerk Mamie Krank.

“We have achieved a lot for the few members we have,” Dumbrill boasted.

She can be reached at 746-2248 for more information. Other WCHPB members are Fran Lehman, Clara Varner, Alice Tratebas, Mary Capps and Nancy Andersen.

**Dutcher** from page 1.....

and he shared some of his thoughts for those considering checking the donor box while in a driver’s license office.

“If you have real good health, it is the most wonderful gift you can give to anyone, the gift of life, whether it’s heart, lungs, kidneys — any life-saving organ. The people who receive a donated organ are very appreciative of it,” he assured.

Dutcher said he will be in Denver for two full months, and he may possibly get to come home in March.

“I have to stay close in case there are any issues. It’s been one month and I haven’t had any. I’m taking all kinds of anti-rejection medications. Right now they are weaning me off it, but some of it I will take the rest of my life. They are trying to find the lowest dose possible to protect my other organs,” he said.

Dutcher will have to avoid being around others who have colds and viruses, and he will wear a mask in heavy public settings for added protection.

“If I go in a restaurant I can take it off to eat. I wore a mask for the first 30 days here. I have no diet restrictions and I can exercise as much as I want,” he remarked.

The University of Colorado Hospital is ranked

among the top research hospitals in the nation and has performed more than 450 lung transplants since 1991, according to their website, uch.edu. Dutcher said the hospital is treating 200 lung transplant recipients, some for up to 18 years. Approximately 1,625 lung transplants were performed in the United States in 2009, according to transplantliving.org.

When asked if his new lung felt like a Christmas gift since the timing coincided with the holiday, he replied, “It was as good as you could get.”

“I think God had a hand in it, being a pastor and everything. He’s apparently got a few more things for me to do. It’s kind of nice to have a second chance on life. You can fix the mistakes you’ve made and do the things you haven’t had a chance to that you still want to do. I’ve been thinking about it a lot actually,” Dutcher professed.

He said the cards he’s received have filled a suitcase, and he is thankful for all of the prayers and cards, and for everyone just thinking about him.

The first thing he plans to do when he gets back to Newcastle, he said, is “probably just go to church.”



**Play pals**

While the Dogies battled against Torrington Friday night at the Dogie Dome, Ally Cass and Anasofia Baeza seized the opportunity for some play time of their own. (Photo by Bob Bonnar/NLJ)

# SuperBowl Party

Sunday, February 6th at 4 p.m.

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# Generations Next

## News Letter Journal

### Osage community eager to take back Kitty Moats

By Denice Pisciotti of NLJ

Last week, Weston County School Board District #1 held two public meetings, one in Newcastle and one in Osage, to discuss the future of the Kitty Moats Elementary School in Osage, and it was apparent from attendance at the forums that the residents of Osage are far more concerned with the disposition of the building than Newcastle citizens are.

The meeting Monday night in Newcastle had only three people in attendance, and all three were residents of Osage. Wednesday night’s meeting in Osage, which was held at the school building itself, was attended by about two dozen residents however, and they all appeared to be significantly interested in the outcome of the building.

School Board Chairman Bill Lambert began the meeting by stating that the board was there to listen and talk about ideas for Kitty Moats, and said they were especially interested in hearing if there were any other ideas for the building besides simply giving it back to the people of Osage through the newly formed Osage Improvement and Service District. It was thought that a private individual may have expressed an interest in purchasing the building, but no buyers presented themselves at either meeting.

A letter from the district’s legal representative, Don Hansen, was handed out at both meetings, and it stated that a political subdivision of the State of Wyoming would



NLJ file photo

Osage's Kitty Moats School was mothballed more than a year ago but Osage's community members are hoping to gain control of the building and put it to use.

be able to take over possession of the building. At the time the letter was drafted, on Feb. 13, 2009, the Osage Water and Sewer District were considered by Hansen to fit the definition of a political subdivision, and Superintendent Brad LaCroix and the members of the board said they believed the improvement district that had been formed would qualify as well.

Cliff Perkins, an Osage Service and Improvement District board member, said those requirements have been met, and as early as the Dec. 8, 2010, school board meeting, Perkins had provided the board with a written statement defining the group’s future plans for the building.

School Board Trustee Bob Bonnar stated that although other government entities have been approached about acquiring the building, none of them have indicated a desire to do so.

“The Osage Service and Improvement District is the only one under the criteria that has expressed an interest,” confirmed Bonnar.

Lambert explained that even if a private buyer expressed an interest, any money given to the school district for the building would simply be deducted from the foundation payment provided by the State of Wyoming for that year.

“It would not be a net gain of money for the district. Some

people would say we should sell it, but it is going to be a wash if we do,” Lambert acknowledged.

When the board was asked how long they have to make a decision about the building’s fate, LaCroix explained that the Schools Facility Commission allows the district to “mothball” the building for three years after the district stops using it to give the board time to figure out what to do with it.

“Right now we are pretty much at a year and a half, give or take a few months,” LaCroix acknowledged.

Perkins said that if the board agrees to give the building to the community, the Osage Improvement and Service

District will need to hold a public meeting to discuss whether or not the people of Osage want to take on the responsibility of the building, and a vote will have to be taken. Perkins said he doesn’t believe a vote could happen until November because the State of Wyoming has made an effort to discourage extra election dates over the course of the year. He estimated about 120 days are needed to get the vote put on the election ballot in Osage.

“The board will definitely make a decision before July because that will give you time to get it on the ballot in November,” reassured Lambert.

There was concern expressed over whether or not the Osage Service and Improvement District will need to show if it is financially capable of taking on maintenance of the building, but the board made it clear they need no such assurance.

“If you guys come to us and say you can make it work, then we are going to take you for your word,” Lambert replied.

Perkins estimated that about \$2,500 will be needed each month to keep up the building, and while he expressed the belief that the building could generate its own revenue, he said he can’t identify parties interested in using the building until a final decision is made to have it taken over by the Osage District.

“So everyone can rest assured, we are definitely seeking income to support the building. We are trying to firm them up for our public hearing,”

commented Perkins. Trustee Joanie Kachelhoffer suggested there may be grant money available to aid in such an effort, and Perkins said such options have been looked into. He indicated they had been in touch with the Wyoming Business Council and Northeast Wyoming Economic Development.

The location of the trophies that used to be in the school was another concern, and LaCroix reassured the concerned parties they are in a room at the school. Some of the residents said they would like to see the items displayed in the halls of Kitty Moats, similar to how the pictures are displayed at the Weston County Senior Citizen Center, which was previously the Gertrude Burns Elementary School. LaCroix said plans have been made to set aside a display area in the Newcastle High School/Middle School complex for Osage memorabilia as well.

“I would like to display some trophies at our school because it is a part of our district. Let’s split them up and work together,” Lambert stated.

Although the board had no intention of making a decision last week, they did indicate that they favor the idea of giving the building back to the community.

“Can Osage plan on having the building?” an audience member asked.

“In my opinion, yes,” replied Lambert, who had stated at the meeting’s outset that he personally hopes the people of Osage will be given the building.

### Macy is the year’s first baby

By Kim Dean of NLJ

Born on the fourth of January in Rapid City, S.D., at 1:38 p.m., Macy Marie Steber holds the distinction of the first baby of 2011 for Weston County Public Health’s Maternal Child Health Program, according to coordinator Michelle Sweet.

Macy is the daughter of Justin and Katie Steber of Newcastle. She weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long. A first-time mom, Katie said they recently learned Macy is a bit photogenic and it seems 10 could very well be her lucky number.

“She was the 10th baby born in Rapid City in birthing room 10. She’s a great little baby,” shared Steber.

A blanket and hat knitted by the Fancy Workers were presented to Macy along with other helpful baby gifts.

Steber said Sweet’s program and the local doctors and nurses have all been most helpful, and she is thankful for their assistance with her first child. Macy had jaundice, and required a few trips to Weston County Health Services after she arrived home.

“It’s great to have Michelle come in. We had to venture out every day



Justin and Katie Steber, with daughter Macy, Public Health's first baby of 2011.

for three or four days, so it’s nice she comes to your home and you don’t have to get out. She answers questions, and she’s just wonderful anyways. She’ll come as often as you like or as little as you like. She’s just there if you need her. The nurses at Rapid City and the hospital both highly recommend her. Lanny and all the nurses at the Newcastle hospital were wonderful also,” Steber told the News Letter Journal.

Macy’s proud extended family include maternal grandparents Mark and Scarlett Lawler of Rapid City, S.D., and Tim and Doreen Schwartz of Kenmare, N.D., along with a host of aunts, uncles and cousins.

Welcoming her to Newcastle were paternal grandparents, Dave and Penny Steber, and aunt Lindsey Steber.

### Glad to have their space back

By Katie Domina of NLJ

When students returned to school on Jan. 10, the Newcastle Middle School remodel was complete and high school and middle school students were finally allowed to grace the halls in their proper schools. From August until January, all of the Newcastle students from sixth through 12th grade were in the high school wing of the building, and a number of things were done in the effort to make such a change tolerable.

“I was scared having two sixth-graders going to the high school. I was afraid of the bullying problem with the older kids to the younger ones,” said Peg Morgan, the parent of two sixth-graders.

While Morgan and parents like her may have been primarily concerned about their younger children’s safety and well-being, she admits her students were more concerned with their sense of belonging.

“I think it was more stressful for them not to have a place of their own. They didn’t have a place for their belongings,” Morgan indicated.

Although seventh- and eighth-grade students had lockers in the high school, the sixth-grade class was faced with the task of having their belongings in backpacks. With the remodel complete, the sixth-

graders now have their own lockers, and the seventh- and eighth-graders were moved from the lockers they occupied on the first floor of the high school to new ones in their own building.

“I think things are better now that they are back. Everything turned out OK with them being in the high school. I think for the most part the faculty members did a good job keeping the middle school students away from the high school students,” Morgan acknowledged.

Of course, the impact of the remodel wasn’t just felt by the three additional grade levels that occupied the high school through the first four months of the year, and change occurred for Newcastle High School faculty members and students as well.

“It was really hard and it was really crowded. Just having a bunch of little kids around and having them messing around in the halls was a struggle. I wasn’t used to having them in the high school. It was more stressful with the younger kids around,” said Cassie Resner, herself a new member of NHS student body this year.

With the remodel complete, however, Resner believes the endeavor was a success.

“I think it’s great they have their own school, and the construction workers did a great job on the

school,” she smiled.

While the changes did present some demands on students, arrangements were made for middle school teachers to have a temporary space of their own, and the conditions for faculty members may have been even more crowded. Some rooms in the high school that weren’t being used were utilized for this purpose, but some NHS faculty members had to suffer through a temporary eviction from their own space until the remodel was complete.

Starla Miller was one of the high school instructors to forfeit her space for middle school use, but she also sees the benefits to students and staff that have come as a result of the remodel.

“I wasn’t able to do the after-school program because of lack of space, but I think things went pretty good. There were a few issues, but it was all handled very well for the most part,” she said. “I love the middle school and I’m excited for them, and I’m happy to be there for my gear up kids now.”

Change is still continuing in the process to restore order in both the middle and high schools, but those impacted by the remodel agree that, for the most part, things turned out well. The middle school is back to their newly remodeled home, and the high school students have their quiet halls to themselves once again.

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## Doctors

from page 1.....

the contract through Dec. 31 on behalf of the Clinic.

The current contract was originally set to run from December 2009 through June of this year, but it was pointed out that the newest member of the clinic's staff, Dr. Aaron Jagelski, is committed through his agreement with Cedar Hills to cover the ER through October. Jording said the clinic will work out the details of extending Jagelski's commitment for an additional two months, but the real issue is going to involve finding doctors to cover the emergency room beyond the end of this year, as the current group is nearing retirement. Jagelski's arrival a couple of years ago removed some of the urgency behind the effort to recruit new doctors to town, but in the big picture, the issue still exists.

"That's a major discussion, and I think this extension of the ER contract is something to tide us over," Jording offered.

Hospital Board Chair Norma Shelton agreed.

"We'll have the opportunity then to have many meetings to figure it out," she said.

A consulting firm looked into possible solutions prior to Jagelski's arrival, and it was suggested at that time that the hospital and clinic could form a partnership — Jording suggested the option be explored further.

"We see that collaboration between physicians and hospitals is paramount, and we should look into that process again," he said, suggesting that board members and doctors attend a conference detailing the process involved in forming such a partnership.

Jording also touched on the possibility that a community advisory group could be formed to discuss the issue, and look into the options presented by the independent consultants, but the board's vice chair, Mike Ratigan, was concerned that it may take community members some time to grasp the intricacies involved.

"I think we diffuse the process a lot if we spread it out," he said, noting that there are a lot of factors involved, and it will take awhile to bring community members up to speed.

Shelton said she thought it would be a good idea to involve residents in the discussion, however, and suggested that the group ask for public input, then choose a core group from those who express an interest to help explore the issue.

"We talked about having some community meetings, and maybe we should do that and just take their input and move forward with whatever group we need to help us figure it out," she reasoned.

It was pointed out that there may be a faction in the community that is uncomfortable with the thought of the hospital compensating the clinic's owners if the two entities merge, but Jording said he and his partners welcome the opportunity to have a frank and open discussion about the future of their business with the community it has served.

"If there is sentiment like that, let's get it out on the table and air it," he said.

Mike Carpenter, one of the physician's assis-

“

Where it used to be that there was a little entity here and a little entity there, and now it's got to be a bigger thing.”

— Dr. Mike Jording  
Cedar Hills Clinic

it was a good idea.

"I had good conversations with people from the school, and guys from the bank, and it was great. For Bea and I it really helped. It gave us a broader picture of the community," he said.

Limits on the amount of future revenue available to health care providers is one of the reasons recruiting to a small town like Newcastle is difficult, and Jording proposed that the board should be willing to look into the possibility of local providers offering services to smaller communities in northeast Wyoming as a way to increase that revenue base.

"We have to have some openness to the communities around us," he said, indicating that Moorcroft, Lusk, Sundance and other small towns have needs that Newcastle doctors may be able to meet.

"It's not like we're going to make satellites of other communities, but there needs to be some discussion of how primary care facilities can hook together," Jording suggested, noting that Weston County Health Services may be able to generate income from offering services like mobile mammography and hospice to communities that don't have the ability to offer it themselves.

"I'm thinking about all of northeast Wyoming. Where it used to be that there was a little entity here and a little entity there, and now it's got to be a bigger thing," he reasoned.

The same formula could work for doctors based in Newcastle, too.

"I'm talking about the provision of primary care for all of northeast Wyoming. For example, if we could come to some kind of agreement to provide some primary care for the people of Sundance, it would keep people in their community. I'm talking about doctor travel. I can see us traveling to Sundance if there's a need and a desire to see us," Jording stated.

In his opinion, such arrangements with other towns would benefit those smaller communities and also make the local hospital and clinic more lucrative financially to younger doctors they hope to recruit when the current group is ready to retire five or 10 years down the road.

"We talk about revenue-generating areas, and if we don't have enough of that in our own town, we can look elsewhere. It keeps them strong and keeps the health care for people in northeast Wyoming better," Jording said, suggesting that WCHS should reach out to Sundance, which has recently lost three doctors, and offer to discuss such a solution.

"I don't know what it would hurt. It's just talking," Shelton agreed.

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1/29 VJ Belle Fourche Invite TBA

**Girls Basketball**  
1/28 VJ @ Cheyenne South 4 PM  
1/29 V9 @ Rawlins Outlaws 1 PM  
1/31 9 Wright Panthers 4 PM

**Boys Basketball**  
1/28 VJ @ Cheyenne South 4 PM  
1/29 V9 @ Rawlins Outlaws 1 PM  
1/31 9 Wright Panthers 4 PM

**Boys Swimming**  
1/27 V @ Gillette Quad 4 PM

**NMS**  
**Boys Basketball**  
1/27 @ Twin Spruce Jr Hi 4 PM  
1/29 3A 7th @ Buffalo TBA  
1/29 3A 8th Newcastle Invite 9 AM

**Newcastle Fall Guys Wrestling**  
**Whitewood Tournament**  
**January 15**  
**6 and Under**  
Keondre Banks 1st  
Harley Cookston 3rd  
Chad Cobb 5th  
Taten Engle 3rd  
Braden Hill 3rd  
Chase Hill 1st  
Cael Holmes 1st  
Caleb Hossfeld 1st  
Kaden Miller 4th  
Kyah Miller 1st  
Hayden Overman 1st

**7-8**  
Steven Achenbach 5th  
Ezra Anderson 3rd  
Aidan Chick 2nd  
Avery Chick 3rd  
Elijah Cookston 5th  
Kale Corley 1st  
Docota Earnest 3rd  
Reid Holmes 2nd  
Kacy Jones 3rd  
Devin LaPierre 4th  
Westin LaPierre 5th  
JJ Stalder 2nd  
Logan Wyina 3rd  
Jacob Prell 1st  
Thomas Prell 1st  
Agustus Turner 5th  
Zander White 1st  
Tristan Troftgruben 2nd  
Payton Larson 4th

**9-10**  
Wyatt Corley 2nd  
Grant Darrow 3rd  
Trayton Dawson 1st  
Cooper Deveraux 3rd  
Bailey Domina 5th  
Zach LaPierre 4th  
Teigen Marchant 2nd  
Davin Tysdal 3rd

**11-12**  
Dennon Parks 1st  
Donovan Prell 2nd

**Rapid City Westside Tournament**  
**January 16**  
**6 and Under**  
Keondre Banks 2nd  
Chad Cobb 5th  
Harley Cookston 1st  
Braden Hill 3rd

**7-8**  
Elijah Cookston 5th  
Taten Engle 3rd  
Chase Hill 4th  
Cael Holmes 2nd  
Nicholas Jingslki 5th  
Kacy Jones 5th  
Darren Simmons 3rd  
Zander White 3rd

**9-10**  
Stephen Achenbach 5th  
Kale Corley 3rd  
Cooper Deveraux 2nd  
Docota Earnest 3rd  
Reid Holmes 3rd  
Lance LaCross 4th  
JJ Stalder 2nd  
Davin Tysdal 3rd

**11-12**  
Wyatt Corley 4th  
Trayton Dawson 1st  
Teigen Marchant 1st  
Dennon Parks 1st  
Donovan Prell 2nd  
Hunter Rawlings 2nd

# Sports

## News Letter Journal



# Ladies shoot for winning streak

By Bob Bonnar of NLJ

The Lady Dogies hoped that the consistent improvement they’ve shown over the past month would help propel them to at least one victory over a pair of contenders for a state tournament berth out of the 3A East last week, but after losses to Torrington and Glenrock, they are now shifting their focus to a pair upcoming road contests against teams who will also be looking for their first conference win.

“We obviously can’t overlook anyone. We’ve got to go get conference wins, no matter who we’re playing, because if we don’t get conference wins, we’re not going to be in very good shape in March,” Bartlett said of this weekend’s games against Cheyenne South (0-5 3A East) and Rawlins (0-6).

South will field a varsity squad made up entirely of underclassmen, and the Dogies (0-7) may go into Friday’s game in the Capitol City as slight favorites, but Bartlett isn’t letting his team take anything for granted. Rawlins has one of the most talented post players in the conference, and she will present match-up problems for the undersized Dogies, but Bartlett believes Newcastle will be motivated to perform well against the Outlaws on Saturday.

“This group has a little bit of extra energy for Rawlins, and we’d like to get them,” the coach said.

Bartlett indicated that he’ll try to channel that energy this weekend when the team hits the road, and he plans to allow his players more freedom to get up and down the floor and use their speed and court savvy to their advantage against a couple of squads who are feeling just as much pressure as the Dogies to notch a conference win.

“By no means are we going to go pedal to the floor, but we’ll go full court



Bob Bonnar/NLJ

Brandi Roetzel keeps a loose ball inbounds and pushes it up the floor on a rare fast break opportunity Friday.

pressure and man to man, and increase the tempo a little bit from what we have been doing,” he indicated.

That’s exactly the opposite of the approach the team took on Friday when the high-scoring Torrington Trailblazers came into town, and the slow tempo did keep the visitors in check for two quarters.

“We told the girls all week long that we’d want to slow it down and they’d want to speed it up, and thought

whichever team executed their game plan would have the advantage. In the first quarter, we really dictated the pace, and to hold them with 15 points was something we were really happy with,” Bartlett told the News Letter Journal.

Unfortunately, the Dogies were held to single digits in the first half, which meant they were unable to take advantage of their ability to rein in Torrington. That gave the Blazers the breathing room they needed to open up the lead

in the second half and cruise to a 48-30 victory.

“We still have to be able to put points on the board and make shots, and in the second half we ran out of steam,” Bartlett said.

The Dogies were able to get the ball in the hole with a little more regularity in the second half, but Torrington was even more successful in that regard, and

— See **Girls**, Page 10

# Not a loss

By Denice Piscioti of NLJ

The Newcastle Boys Swim Team had a very busy weekend, beginning on Friday in Buffalo and continuing in Worland on Saturday, and Danny Brooks qualified in new events for the State Meet in both venues. On Friday he qualified for the 200 Freestyle and Saturday he qualified for the 500 Freestyle.

Brooks wasn’t the only swimmer who performed well though, and Coach Doug Scribner said all the athletes started their weekend out strong.

“The meet went well in Buffalo,” Scribner said, noting the team competed against Sheridan, Cheyenne South and Douglas.

In addition to the 200 Free, Brooks swam in the 100 Backstroke, while fellow



Denice Piscioti/NLJ

Swim team members Ty Bock, Danny Brooks, Tanner Schaidt and Alex Sharpes relax before starting practice last week.

— See **Swimmers**, Page 10

# Matmen get a wake-up call

By Bob Bonnar of NLJ

A week after dominating in their first action at home and winning the championship of the Dogie Invitational, Newcastle’s wrestlers were stuck licking their wounds when they returned from a much larger two-day tournament in Chadron, Neb.

“We didn’t have anybody place, and only had four kids make it to the second day,” Coach Mike Gregory lamented.

Alex Rettinghouse, Matt Schuessler, Austen Wells and Sean Petersen all survived to compete on Saturday, but none advanced to the medal rounds in an invitational that Gregory said may have been the most competitive the team will compete in all year.

“That was probably the toughest tournament we’ve gone to this year. There were 32-man brackets, and two-thirds of the

kids in each bracket went in with winning records. We had kids with decent records who didn’t get seeded at all, so it was an impressive tournament,” he told the News Letter Journal.

While the competition may have been stiffer than any they’ve seen all year, Gregory said the squad’s performance wasn’t as good as it should have been, and he believes it may be because they’re still learning how to deal with some of the success they’ve had early in the 2010-11 campaign.

“The tournament was way tougher than usual, but I also don’t think we wrestled to our potential. I think some of our wrestlers were guilty of over-looking kids. We got beat by kids that we’ve handled in the past, and lost to some we should have beat hands down because

— See **Wrestlers**, Page 11

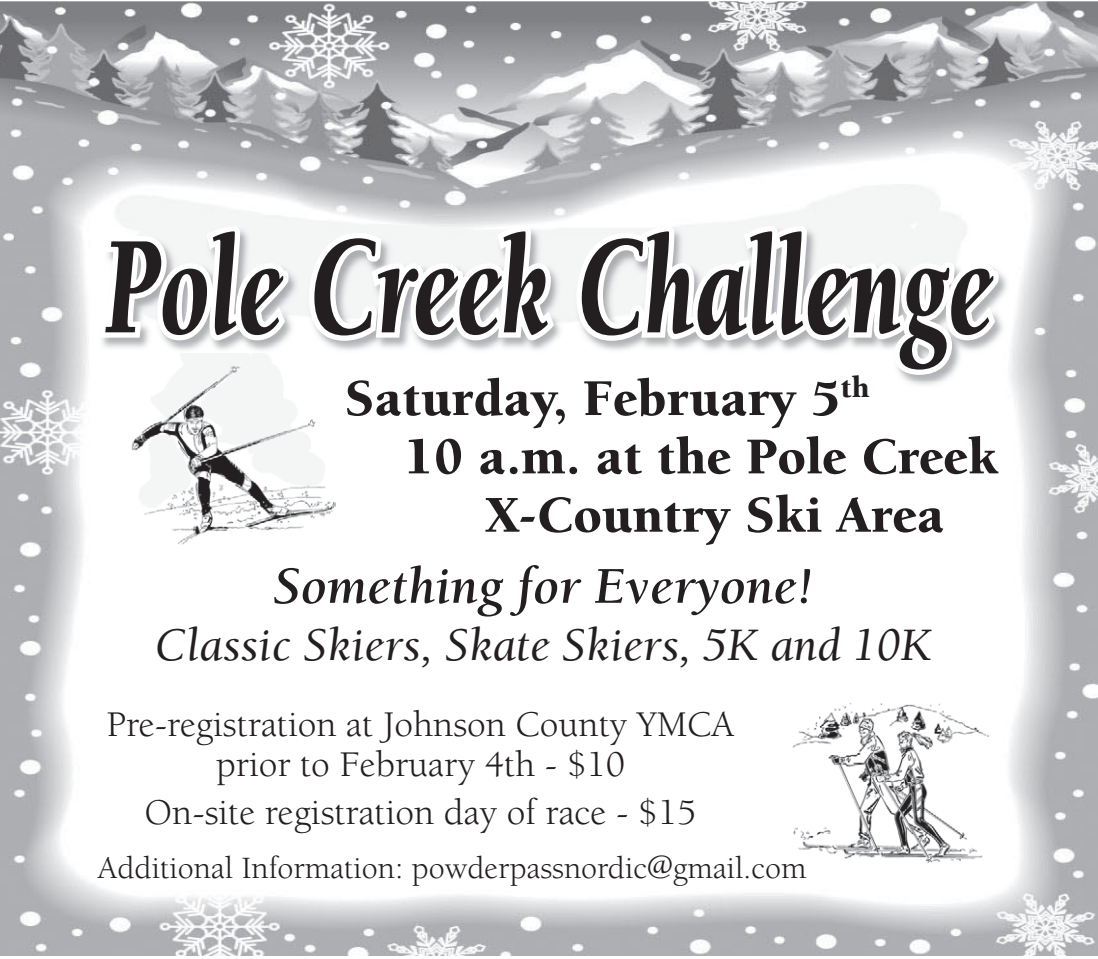


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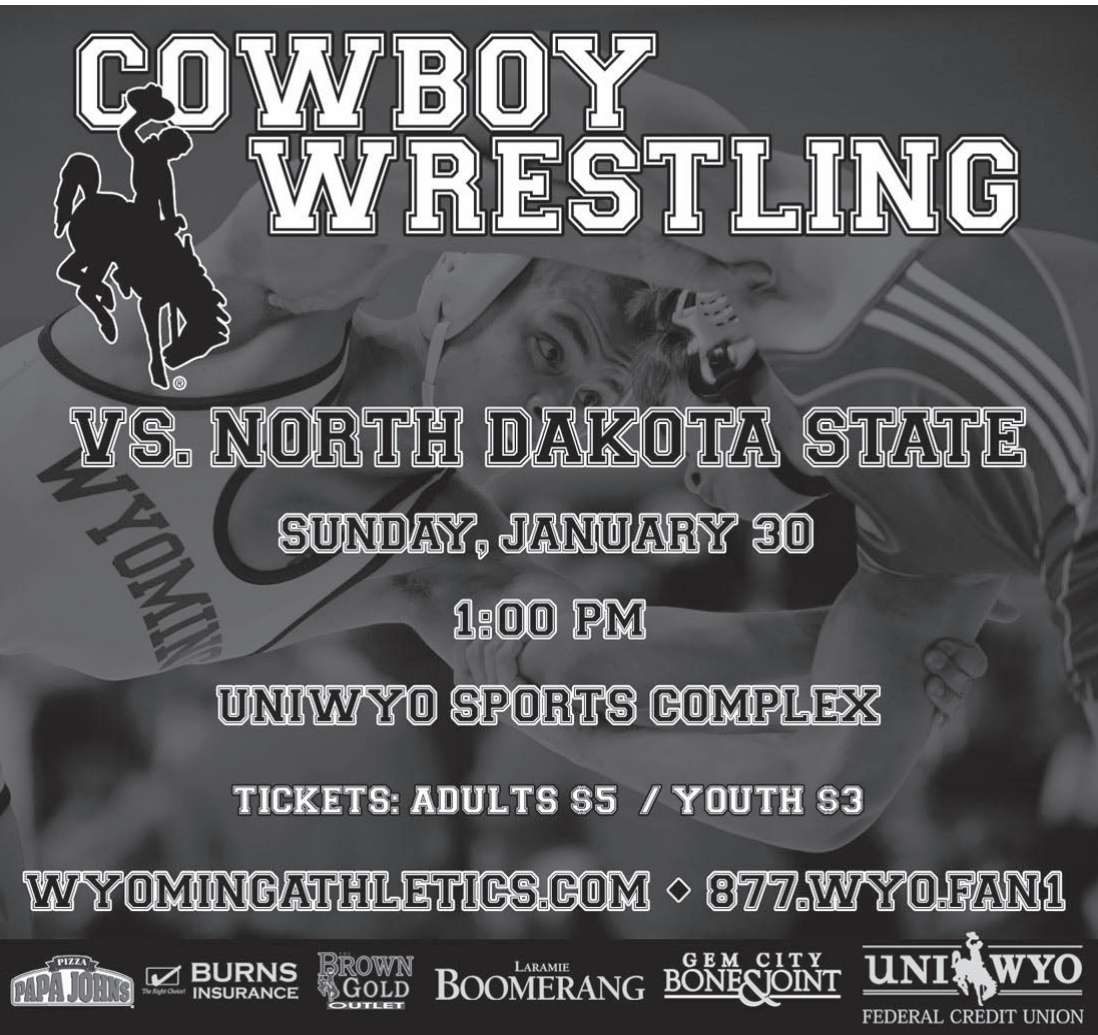
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# News Letter Journal

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**Swimmers**

from page 9.....

teammate Austin Harley entered the 50 Freestyle and 100 Breaststroke.

"Austin competed in the 100 Breast and competed well. He had a good time, dropping six seconds," Scribner recalled.

All the swimmers competed in two relays, the 200 Medley and the 400 Free, while both freshmen, Alex Sharpes and Ty Bock, competed in the 100 Backstroke.

"Alex competed in the 200 IM for the first time. He did well in that. Ty dove, and he did OK. We have been focusing more on swimming with him lately, and his swim times are faster. This week we will focus back on his diving," explained Scribner.

The meet in Worland was a very large meet, with nine schools in attendance, and the boys started out swimming the 200 Medley Relay. Unfortunately, the meet a day earlier and a weekend on the road appeared to take a toll.

"The boys started off tired. The first relay the time was off by quite a bit," acknowledged Scribner. He then challenged the boys to refocus during the break for diving, and come back refreshed.

The Dogie swimmers met the challenge, coming back to beat two teams, Cheyenne South and Rawlins, whom they had lost to at the Douglas Invite last week. With only

four swimmers, it is difficult to score high enough to compete against teams who have two and three times as many members.

"We placed high, scoring a lot of points at Worland, and we did not come in last!" Scribner boasted. The swimmers also enjoyed some individual success.

"Danny swam the 500 Free and qualified for his fourth State event, and Austin swam the 100 Fly, dropping four seconds off his time," noted Scribner. Brooks also swam the 50 Free and Harley competed in the 100 Breaststroke.

In the second relay of the day, the 200 Free, the Dogies each swam faster than they had earlier in the morning, and that was a trend they followed for the rest of the day.

"Both Alex and Ty swam the 100 Free, and both dropped time," Scribner nodded.

Sharpes also swam the 100 Breaststroke, while Bock took fifth for the second day in a row in diving.

On Thursday, the Dogies will compete in Gillette, but Scribner is unsure of the teams they will be competing against. He has asked the athletes to think about what races they want to compete in at the State Meet, and in Gillette they'll swim those events to get an idea of how they'll measure up later in the season.

<b>Buffalo Invite</b>	
200 Medley Relay	
6th: Danny Brooks, Alex Sharpes, Austin Harley, Ty Bock	2:16.18
200 Freestyle	
5th: Danny Brooks	2:15.49
200 IM	
11th: Alex Sharpes	3:35.19
50 Freestyle	
3rd: Austin Harley	25.54
Diving	
5th: Ty Bock	124.50
100 Backstroke	
4th: Danny Brooks	1:12.57
6th: Ty Bock	1:22.33
7th: Alex Sharpes	1:34.64
100 Breaststroke	
3rd: Austin Harley	1:13.09
<b>Worland Invite</b>	
200 Medley Relay	
12th: Danny Brooks, Alex Sharpes, Austin Harley, Ty Bock	2:18.29
50 Freestyle	
12th: Danny Brooks	27.22
Diving	
5th: Ty Bock	122.20
100 Butterfly	
5th: Austin Harley	1:05.73
100 Freestyle	
26th: Ty Bock	1:14.23
27th: Alex Sharpe	1:15.45
500 Freestyle	
12th: Danny Brooks	6:20.39
200 Freestyle Relay	
9th: Austin Harley, Alex Sharpes, Ty Bock, Danny Brooks	1:56.51
100 Breaststroke	
5th: Austin Harley	1:14.31
22nd: Alex Sharpes	1:42.13

**Girls**

from page 9.....

Newcastle's scorers just couldn't keep up.

Kate Livingston and Audra Manzer led seven Dogies who scored with seven points apiece, and Elyse Gray netted another six. While Bartlett was pleased with the number of players who made contributions, he said the team will be successful when they can each be a bit more prolific.

"We had seven girls score, so it was a nice balance, but we needed them to score more. If we get one more bucket out of each one of them, that's 14 more points. Even at the line, we seemed to make the first one every time, and if we could just make the second one it would help a bunch," he remarked.

While the first half effort on Friday kept the Dogies in the contest against one of the conference's best teams, a poor start in Glenrock the following afternoon put them in a 15-3 hole at the end of the first quarter, and it was one they just couldn't claw their way out of in a 42-25 loss to the Herders.

"It was disappointing because I thought we took a step back, and even though we played them even from there on, we'd dug ourselves too big of a hole," Bartlett said.

Newcastle held Glenrock to only 12 points in the second half, but the 30 the Herders scored through the first two quarters was more than enough to secure the victory, and Bartlett said his team has to start the game with the same mental approach they showed on Friday night every time they hit the floor.

"With talented shooters like they've got, you can't give them open looks, because once they get hot you can't cool them down," he said.

He said that slow starts haven't been uncommon for his squad when they've played back to back games, however, an while they may have suffered the effects of being on the road and playing an early afternoon game, he believes the team has to learn how to maintain intensity when they play on Saturday after already competing on Friday.

"It always seems like the second day we struggle with," Bartlett stated.

He indicated that he used last weekend's losses to motivate the squad when practice began this week, and hopes it will pay off when they hit the road Friday.

"It was the first time in three weeks that we'd taken a step back, and I challenged them to take two or three steps forward this week," Bartlett professed.

### Girls Basketball

#### Dogies 30 Torrington 48

**Team Stats**

Field Goal Percentage 25  
Three Point Percentage 25  
Free Throw Percentage 48  
Steals 8  
Assists 6  
Turnovers 17  
Rebounds 23

**Individual Stats**

Points

Kate Livingston 7  
Audra Manzer 7  
Elyse Gray 6  
Rebounds

Kate Livingston 6  
Brandi Roetzel 4  
Assists

Brandi Roetzel 3  
Steals

Brandi Roetzel 5

#### Dogies 25 Glenrock 42

**Team Stats**

Field Goal Percentage 28  
Three Point Percentage 29  
Free Throw Percentage 33  
Steals 11  
Assists 7  
Turnovers 16  
Rebounds 22

**Individual Stats**

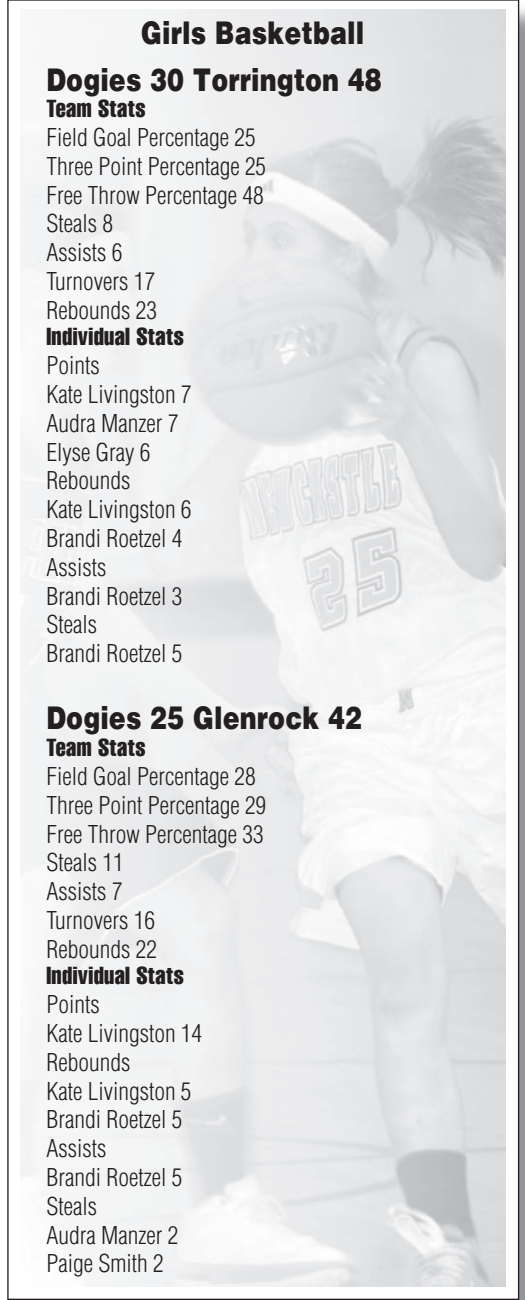
Points

Kate Livingston 14  
Rebounds

Kate Livingston 5  
Brandi Roetzel 5  
Assists

Brandi Roetzel 5  
Steals


Audra Manzer 2  
Paige Smith 2



He also said he was pleased with the performance of the team's underclassmen over the course of the weekend, and that may bolster the squad's depth as the season wears on.

"I was very happy with the way our younger girls played this week, both at the JV level, and when the younger girls got into the varsity game," Bartlett commented.

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# Dogies hope to start streaking

By Bob Bonnar of NLJ

With the exception of a little foul trouble for guard Mitch Weigel, the first half of last Friday’s rematch with third-ranked Torrington Trailblazers (8-4, 4-1 3A East) couldn’t have gone much better for the Dogies (7-7, 3-4), but those fouls may have been one of the biggest factors in a second half collapse that saw Torrington outscore Newcastle 34-14 on the way to a 55-46 victory.

“We had some guys who played a little hesitant, and when Mitch {[Weigel] got in foul trouble, it made him and Jeremy [Beehler] both a little bit hesitant to attack the rim. We also lacked some contributions down the stretch from other players, and you can’t do that against the third-ranked team in the state,” Coach Allen Von Eye said.

Newcastle jumped out to a 17-7 lead in the first quarter, and extended it to an 11-point advantage by the end of the half, largely due to a stellar performance from Beehler who ended the night with 26 points — but the cushion wasn’t enough against the defending state champions.

“They did what they needed to do coming out after halftime, and took care of business,” Von Eye nodded.

While it was disappointing to let a ranked team off the hook in front of their home crowd, the coach was pleased with steps his team has taken since Torrington rolled to victory against the Dogies in the first conference game of the year six weeks ago/ “We improved in a lot of areas from the first time we played them. We rebounded better and played much better defense,” Von Eye said.

Unfortunately, Newcastle didn’t have the firepower to keep up with the ‘Blazers, who shot 50 percent from the floor, and had three players score in double figures. With the exception of Beehler, only Weigel netted more than three points for the Dogies.

Von Eye said it’s important for his players to acknowledge that they did have the defending champs on the ropes, and said his squad proved they can match-up against the state’s top teams.

“We showed we can pretty much play with anybody, and did that against Buffalo and Wheatland, too,” he said.

The Dogies were given an opportunity to bounce right back after the loss when Glenrock (3-

Boys Basketball			
Dogies 46 Torrington		Newcastle 66 Glenrock 33	
30	Field Goal Percentage	50	47
26	Three Point Percentage	45	25
75	Free Throw Percentage	36	59
2	Bench Points	3	16
10	Points in Paint	28	38
15	Points off Turnovers	17	33
9	Second Chance Points	9	13
26	Rebounds	28	43
10	Turnovers	8	13
Individual Stats		Individual Stats	
Points		Points	
Jeremy Beehler 26		Mitch Weigel 22	
Mitch Weigel 12		Jeremy Beehler 15	
Rebounds		Travis Garhart 6	
Justin Wermers 6		Rebounds	
Mitch Weigel 5		Mitch Weigel 12	
Jeremy Beehler 5		Jeremy Beehler 8	
Assists		Assists	
Travis Garhart 2		Jeremy Beehler 6	
Steals		Steals	
Mitch Weigel 2		Jeremy Beehler 4	

13, 1-6) came into the Dogie Dome the following afternoon, and they didn’t waste the opportunity. Newcastle held off the hot shooting Herders to grab a 19-13 lead at the end of the first quarter, and cruised to a 66-33 win.

“We’d have loved to get the Torrington game, but we got the one we knew we had to have,” Von Eye said.

The coach cautioned his team against looking past Saturday’s opponent, and it was a good thing he did. The Herders came in with a chip on their shoulder after getting routed by conference foes the past couple weeks, and definitely had a spark in the first period.

“You’ve got to give Glenrock credit. They played pretty scrappy, and shot the ball better than they usually do, especially in that first quarter,” Von Eye nodded.

But the Dogies stayed the course going on to outscore Glenrock 17-7 in the second quarter, and cooling the visitors off by holding them to only 13 points in the second half. At the same time, the Dogies got points from nine different players, including 16 off the bench.

“We got contributions from tons of kids, and had some pretty balanced scoring. That’s definitely a good thing,” Von Eye said.

Weigel dominated all four quarters on his way to a 22-point, 12-rebound performance, and Beehler backed him with 15 points and eight boards. Travis Garhart led the supporting cast with six points and four rebounds, but Newcastle got five points each from Trey Sylte,

Jeremy Feist and Justin Wermers as well.

“We didn’t want to go out and blow their doors off, so we used it more as a way to get kids some experience at the Varsity level, and we definitely did that. It was good for them to get out and go. We never have been the type of team that puts the pedal down and blows your doors off. We tend to play down to our competition a little bit, and you could see that at the beginning, but in the end we rebounded pretty well and shot the ball well,” Von Eye indicated.

The Dogies will need to continue that trend this weekend when they travel to Cheyenne and Rawlins to take on a pair of teams that would love to notch conference victories after recent struggles.

In the case of 1-9 Cheyenne South, the struggle has spanned the course of the year, but Von Eye said his team won’t be looking past their opponent on Friday night.

“We’ll focus first on the South game, even though they’re struggling on the same level as Glenrock, because it’s on their turf, and we’ve never played there, so it will be a unique experience for us. It’s one of those games where you don’t worry about what your opponent does one bit. You focus on what you do, and work on doing it well,” he said.

Rawlins is a different story. The Outlaws started the season 8-0, but have dropped four straight games since the break, and Von Eye said that team will be anxious to turn things around.

## Wrestlers

from page 9

we were overconfident. Our older kids have been competitive for long enough that they should know about that. They aren’t no-names, and aren’t being taken lightly, and that means they have to be ready to go when they get on the mat,” he explained.

Although the Dogies have rolled up a significant number of victories, and several of them are ranked in their weight classes at the midway point of the season, that level of success is still relatively new to the squad, and Gregory admits it’s something they still haven’t gotten used to.

“It’s obviously a learning process because we still have to learn that lesson. We opened their eyes at practice last night, and asked the kids what they wanted to get out of this season because we had to refocus on the goals that we had, and get back to work on them,” he indicated.

Inconsistency has plagued the local grapplers throughout the year, and their coach doesn’t want them to be content with their early success. He said he felt better about the way things had gone over the weekend after the team’s leaders echoed those concerns.

“I need them to take losing a little more personally, and last night was probably one of the best practices we’ve had all year long. We let the captains talk to the kids alone, and they came back and told us they needed to step up and do what we were asking of them,” he shared.

That reality was brought home to even the team’s most veteran wrestlers in Chadron, where the level of competition meant that even the first round matches were challenging.

“It was good for our kids to go into first round matches that were really tough. It made them realize that every time they go on the mat, they’re wrestling the match for a reason, and they have to be prepared,” Gregory remarked.

He hopes his squad will bounce back this weekend when the team splits for a pair of tournaments in South Dakota.

“We’ll send kids to both places. Our younger kids will go to Red Cloud, and we’ll try to take a full varsity team to Belle Fourche,” Gregory reported.

He said it won’t be any easier for the Varsity wrestlers to earn medals in Belle Fourche than it was in Chadron, and indicated that the meet will give them a chance to show that they can compete with the region’s top teams.

“We need to go up there and compete at the level we know we can. This tournament will be tough too because Sturgis will be there, and a ton of good teams from North Dakota and Montana will come down. We’ll get to see some different kids too, and I think our athletes benefit more from that variety in competition,” Gregory suggested.

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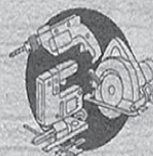
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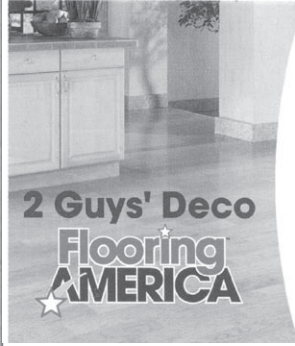
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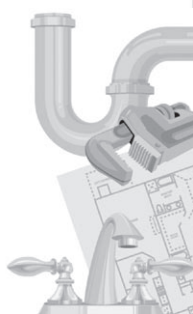
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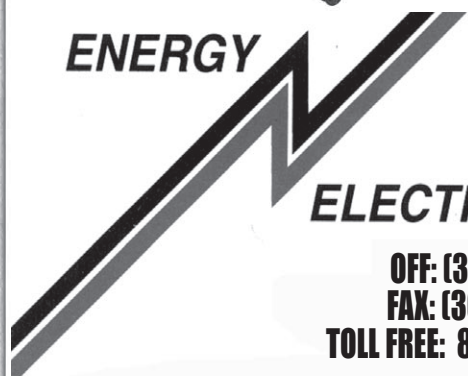


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# Classifieds

## news letter journal

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You are not forgotten, nor will you ever be, As long as life and memories last, We will remember thee.

To some you may be forgotten, to others a part of the past, But to us who loved you dearly, your memories will always last.

Nothing can be more beautiful than the memories we have of you. To us you were someone special. God must have thought so too.

Your Family

### Card of Thanks

The family of Orville D. Whitney wishes to extend a heartfelt thanks to our friends and relatives for all they have done during his extended illness. The cards, prayers, hugs and moral support have been greatly appreciated.

Special thanks to Dorothy Walker-Brown, the VFW, and Don Scott with the I.O.O.F. and Gary Howell for the video tribute. Also, a special thanks to the doctors and staff at the Manor and Hospital.

The Whitney Family

Deadlines-Fridays!!!!

### Card of Thanks

The family of Donna Garhart would like to thank all of our family, friends and Church family for all the love, support, and prayers during our difficult loss.

Many thanks for all the food, flowers, visits, phone calls, and the Memorial donations.

A special thanks to Pastor Fowler and Kit Fanning of the First Baptist Church of Upton and also the Osage Ambulance Volunteers.

God Bless You All, The Garhart and Davey Family's

### Christmas Fair

**Annual Christmas Fair**, Nov. 6th from 9-4 at Weston County Senior Center. Tables available. Call Bobbie at 746-3002, Ronnie at 746-2736.

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FOR SALE: 2-Horse, Outback Horse Trailer by Circle J, like new asking \$4500. Call 746-4962. 42-3tp

FOR SALE: Craftsman 32" snowblower in excellent condition, 10 H.P., 5-Speed W/Chains-\$350-Firm. 746-4565. 44-3tp

FOR SALE: Hospital Bed, Walker on Wheels, Bathtub Seat. Upton, 468-2239. 44-3tp

Firewood for sale, \$50 per pickup load. Please call 746-4227. 42-3t

**FREE to a good home**, 2 kittens, male and female about 2 1/2 months old. Have first shots and are litter box trained. Please call 746-8449 43-2tf

Deadlines-Fridays!!!!

### For Sale

FOR SALE: Pine Fire wood in Upton. Pick up or delivery. Call Eric at 307-272-7892 or Devlin at 307-629-0804. 40-6tp

### Trailer Space

Trailer Space for rent for a small trailer only. \$125 per month. 746-4060. 41-5tp

### Rentals

Available immediately 1 BR and Studio Apartments. No Pets! Call 629-0909. 44-tfc

FOR RENT: Three bedroom house. \$800 per month. 307-299-9897. 42-tfn

APARTMENT for rent. Call, 941-1240. 41-4tp

FOR RENT: Four bedroom, 2-story house near the Catholic Church, \$750 +utilities. Lease and deposit required. Smoke Free. Call 605-209-0607. 43-3tp

FOR RENT: Super Nice Two bedroom mobile home, furnished. \$400 +utilities. Call 746-3429. 40-3tp

FOR RENT: 3 BR, 2 BA, Mobile Home. Also 16x80, 4 BR, 2 BA 746-9446. 28-24tc

FOR RENT: 3 bedroom mobile home, no pets. Call 746-5711 or 746-9469. 40-tfc

### Fax

We offer public faxing. 14 West Main.

### Topo Maps

News Letter Journal carries topographical maps for Weston County.

### Land For Sale

FOR SALE: 85+ Acres next to Mallo. (North of Newcastle.) Call Jimmy Finley at 307-746-4542. 41-6tp

### Home For Sale Open House

HOUSE FOR SALE: Open House, Friday, November 12, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. 13 W. Winthrop Street, 3+ bedroom, 2 Bath. 44-2tp

### Home For Sale

FOR SALE BY OWNER: 3100 sq. ft. home for sale with 32x50 detached garage. Go to [www.Newcastlehomeforsale.com](http://www.Newcastlehomeforsale.com) for contact info pictures call 307-629-0909.

### Auto Service XTREME WORX AUTO SERVICE

There's a new shop in town looking to service your vehicle. Call me up and I'll fix you up! Military, Senior and Police Enforcement Discounts. Randell Bryan 307-629-0481. Hours Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. - Saturday, 7 a.m. to noon. 2891 West Main. 42-tfc

### Deadline-Friday!

### Self-Help

**AA Meeting** at the hospital dining room on Tuesdays and Fridays at 8 p.m. 746-9791.

**AA Meeting Old Mill Basement-Open Door.** Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 7 p.m. Smoking is permitted. 746-2293, more info.

Deadlines-Fridays!!!

### Self-Help

AL-ANON (help for family and friends of alcoholics) meets every **Tuesday night at 6:45 p.m. Mondell Heights.** For more information call 746-9791.

TOPS Meeting on **Tuesdays at 5 p.m. a First United Methodist Church basement.** Contact Norma Lease 746-4568

**TOPS Club** meeting every **Thursday morning at the First United Methodist Church** for more information contact Grace Davis, 746-4531.

**AlaTeen-Support Group.** Any youngster, any issues. Tuesdays, 7 p.m. Old Mill Inn, Downstairs. 629-0211, all calls are confidential. 53-tfc

### Recreation

2008 Kawasaki KFX 450R brand new, make an offer. 746-4974. 44-2tp

### Office Furniture

We have a great selection of office furniture in our catalog to choose from. We can order it, deliver it and even help you set it up. Call today for a catalog, or just information 746-2777, ask for Becky.

We carry HON Furniture which has a lifetime warranty. Get the Best. Call News Letter Journal at 746-2777.

### Notary

News Letter Journal has a public notary, 14 West Main.

### Rummage Sale

**154 Butte Drive-** November 6th, 8 a.m. to afternoon. 2 older Yamaha 4-Wheelers, Boys Gear Bike, Chopper Replica Bicycle, Barn Wood Shelves, Mirrors, Frames, Snow Blower, Candy Bouquet Containers. 44-1tp

### Carport Sale

Two Family Carport Sale, November 5th and 6th Friday from 10-4, Saturday from 8-3. Furniture and Misc items. Will cancel if weather is bad. **3297 North Sage Circle.** 44-1tp

### Wy-Cans

**WYOMING PRESS ASSOCIATION DOES NOT ENDORSE AND HAS NOT VERIFIED THE LEGITIMACY OF THESE ADVERTISERS**

**NEW NORWOOD SAWMILLS.** Lumber-Mate-Pro handles logs 34" diameter, mills boards 28" wide. Automated quick-cycle-sawing increases efficiency up to 40%! [www.NorwoodSawmills.com/300N](http://www.NorwoodSawmills.com/300N). 1-800-661-7746. Ext. 300N.

**SMALL CHEYENNE CPA FIRM SEEKS STAFF ACCOUNTANT.** B.S. in Accounting required. CPA candidate preferred. Send resume with letter to: 311 West 18th Street, Cheyenne, WY 82001.

### Deadline

The deadline for the News Letter is on Friday. Noon for legals and 5 p.m. for news and ads, 746-2777.

## Newcastle Apartments

has 1, 2 and 3 bedroom apartments for rent. HUD subsidized, Section 8. Rental based on income. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

2115 Delaware • Newcastle, WY  
307-746-9330 • TDD 1-800-877-9975



## Weston County School District # 1 is accepting applications for custodial substitutes.

Applications are available at the administration office, 116 Casper Avenue, Newcastle, WY, Monday-Friday, 7:00 am- 4:30 pm, or on the school website at [weston1.k12.wy.us](http://weston1.k12.wy.us)

The Newcastle Police Department is accepting applications for the position of

## Police Officer

The starting salary is \$17.08 per hour with a .50 cent an hour raise at the end of a successful (1) one year probation along with a Comprehensive Step Raise System. Benefits include paid health and dental insurance, City contributes to Wyoming Retirement, life insurance and longevity track as well as sick leave and vacation.

**Qualifications:** Minimum of 21 years of age, United States Citizen, High School Diploma or equivalent, be able to pass background investigation, and be free of any physical, emotional or mental conditions which might adversely affect the applicant's performance as a peace officer, Preference may be given to Wyoming Certified Police Officers. Deadline to have application packets returned is November 30, 2010.

Application packets may be picked up or called for at the Newcastle Police Department; 25 N. Sumner St. Newcastle Wyoming 82701, 307-746-4486.

## HOUSEKEEPER

Full-time position with benefits. Must be able to work weekends and holidays. \$2.00 weekend differential. No experience necessary, we will train. EOE Post-offer; pre-employment drug screens required. Applications available at Weston County Health Services, 1124 Washington Blvd,



**WESTON COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES**

Newcastle, WY or call Shirley Parks at 307-746-3707.

## SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY

### Neil Short Lawyer

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The Wyoming State Bar does not certify any lawyer as a specialist or expert. Anyone considering a lawyer should independently investigate the lawyer's credentials and ability, and not rely upon advertisements or self-proclaimed expertise.

## ABSOLUTE LAND AUCTION BLACK HILLS OF WYOMING

### "THE BUSH RANCH"

**Prime 7121+- Acre Trophy Ranch – Near Sundance, Wyoming MONDAY NOVEMBER 22, 2010 10:30 am mst**

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See photos, maps, inspection info & terms  
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## NORTHERN WYOMING MENTAL HEALTH CENTER

is accepting applications for a full-time secretarial position. Applicant must be a high school graduate, possess good computer and organizational skills, enjoy working with the public and be willing to work flexible hours. Excellent benefits. Salary DOE.



Send resume to: NWMHC,  
420 Deanne Ave, Newcastle, WY 82701

## FREE HEARING AIDS

**ATTENTION MINERS & MINING SUBCONTRACTORS ACTIVE OR RETIRED: YOUR SUBSIDY HAS DOUBLED!**

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Reach over 205,000 Wyoming homes with a single classified ad when it is placed in WY-CAN, Wyoming's Classified Ad Network

WY-CAN is the only way to cover the state so inexpensively. A 25-word classified line ad costs only \$135. Each word over 25 is an additional \$5. And 44 of Wyoming's 45 newspapers participate in the network to offer you coverage throughout Wyoming.\* Place your WY-CAN through your local newspaper and put the power of Wyoming's press to work for you!

\*Individual newspapers may reject an ad due to availability of space or other reasons.



# Time for ranchers to round up and sell the bulls

As I sit at my desk, watching the latest deposit of new snow being blown into sizeable drifts across the yard and the road, it’s hard to imagine heading to a bull sale, let alone being able to conceive of green grass and turn-out time. But, whether we can believe it or not, we’re only 45 days or so from the first calf on the ground — and then, hopefully, that season of renewal when the colors of nature transform from grays and browns (and white) to the soft colors of spring. (Frankly, I can hardly wait. Winter has returned! With all the years of drought and warmer weather, we had a dearth of “real winter,” but that shortage now seems to be at an end. Please, somebody, preach global warming to me right now!)

In the good ol’ days, when we were first ranching, we ran all Simmental bulls. They were nice looking critters, usually provided great weight gain, but we have since become more focused on what sells the best and in the past few years have finally weaned out all the other breeds and gone 100 percent Black Angus. (Not to “dis” any of the other breeds, but this one works for us.)

Our wonderful vet, Pete Vorpahl, (recently featured in the News Letter Journal), keeps up a constant stream of commentary about our black cattle every time he works with them.

“Hey now, Mabel! You are just like your mama! Listen, Louise, just calm down and get right in here.” (Pete somehow manages to name each and every cow that goes through the chute.)

For the most part, ours are gentle and quiet (some of them too much so, but that’s a story for another day), but cattle don’t like to be corralled, or isolated, or bothered. I agree with them. I don’t like to corral or isolate or bother them, unless it’s absolutely necessary. When they are penned and separated and disturbed, it’s anybody’s guess what the results might be. At least our place is not like some ranches, where it’s a good day working cattle if nobody gets sent to the emergency room.

The herd, by now, is all black. It’s SO boring! We used to have one of those “rainbow herds” that are so colorful, but don’t sell as well as the ones that are uniform and consistent; the calves all the same color, all relatively the same size at shipping. We do have one white-faced cow left. She had a cancer

eye, which Pete removed for us several years ago — and we never attempted to sell her because you take such a beating with one that has a defect of any sort. (I can’t even calculate how old she is, but she raises a nice, big calf ever year. And she is my one hope of getting a variation on the theme of “all black-hided.”)

Our first bulls were leased from a cattle trader up near Gillette. The arrangement worked fine for us, then, but I wouldn’t recommend it, mainly because you like your animals to be young, virgin — and to be isolated from everybody else’s animals. Those first years we had such a mish-mash, just trying to get a feel for the market — what would sell, what would do well in our country, and a myriad of other considerations.

We started with vari-colored Simmentals. One was cream-colored, almost like a Charolais. One was yellow with a white brockle face and “scurs” (which are the nubs of horns that the animal was born with, or that sometimes happen when a dehorning doesn’t quite work). And for several years we ran black “Simmies,” all black or with brockle faces.

My dictionary doesn’t like the words “brockle” or “scurs.” I suppose there are some terms that are strictly ranching jargon and known nowhere else. A brockle-faced cow is one of any color, with a white face and spots of the main color. Those are the photogenic animals, baby calves with a splash of spots across their faces or even, in some cases, across their bodies.

Some of the neighbors have developed their herds, as we have, to be uniform in color and size — and some have the rainbow herds that are so picturesque. There are even some of the belted cattle around, which don’t sell well at all, but sure are cute. (Pardon me, all you big, tough ranchers whose vernacular does not include the word “cute.”) We watched a group of belted calves go through the sale barn one time and were just heartbroken for the sellers. They really took a beating compared to the same-size, same-color calves which



Nicky Groenewold  
Living Local



Nicky Groenewold Photo

were minus the white cummerbund.

Our early bull-buying forays were often adventures in winter-time travel. For some reason, the bull sales start way early in the year (to my mind). If you look at the sale schedules right now, there are dozens of sales in January and February. The first Simmental sales we attended were either in Baker, Mont., or Ogalala, Neb., — in February. (In fact, the Montana sale used to end up falling on Valentine’s Day occasionally. Not to miss an opportunity, we celebrated Valentine’s Day with a nice steak dinner — the night before the bull sale. We even found a home-town café in Baker that served side pork for breakfast. What a treat!)

Now we stick closer to home for our bull sales, mostly attending those in Belle Fourche, although all of the “local” barns in South Dakota and Northeast Wyoming have bull sales scheduled from now through April. Most of the sellers have some sort of guarantee, many have the bulls’ semen tested before sale time, almost all measure the scrotal sack. (There’s a story, or comment in there, for sure, but I’m going to leave it alone, discretion being the better part of valor — and wisdom. The theory being larger, uh, characteristics, mean better fertility.)

I’ll warrant that most of the buyers have fairly strict guidelines for their purchases. At one time, we were a little less discriminatory, but you live and you learn. Now, we not only restrict our bull-buying to bulls that are tested and (usually) those that are guaranteed and polled (hornless), but those that are touted as being gentle. Thus, we hope to avoid some of those emergency room possibilities that ranchers deal with. (In a later story, I’ll explain how, in the past, that hasn’t always proven true.)

One year we bought bulls from a seller I shall not name, knowing that the philosophy, “What’s in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet,” is not always true. The opposite viewpoint, that your name may be the only thing your father gave you and you certainly want to keep it pure and clean (to paraphrase the poet), is probably more accurate.

These bulls had great stats, good rates of gain, small birth and weaning weights, good size for yearlings, and so forth. Unfortunately, that year we didn’t pay close enough attention to the gentleness factor.

We like to save the seller the trip all the way out here, if possible, so I

You got it from your father  
It was all he had to give  
So it’s yours to use and cherish  
For as long as you may live  
If you lost the watch he gave you  
It can always be replaced;  
But a black mark on your name  
Can never be erased  
It was clean the day you took it  
And a worthy name to bear  
When he got it from his father  
There was no dishonor there  
So make sure you guard it wisely  
After all is said and done  
You’ll be glad the name is spotless  
When you give it to your son.

– Anonymous

agreed to meet the guy at a neighbor’s ranch, maybe 30 miles south of us. At the specified time, I arrived with our horse trailer and was directed where to back it up in preparation for loading the bulls.


I guess my first clue should have been that this man, the owner, the bull merchant, stopped and picked up a good-sized stick when he followed me into the corral. He continued to follow me as we proceeded to the pen where our two bulls were waiting.

“You never know,” he said, “this bull is out of such-and-such blood line.”

I bluffed my way on through, holstered more fiercely than usual, and got the bulls loaded without incident. (My spouse occasionally comments that he thinks I can scare or badger a critter — two-legged or four — into doing what I want!)

Needless to say, I was distraught to think that we had paid really (really) good money for bulls that couldn’t be trusted. Unfortunately, having made the mistake, we couldn’t afford to get rid of the bulls at a loss because of what they might do. Sure enough, they proved to be trouble from the get-go. When the seller called us some time later, I told him how displeased I was with their temperament and he offered to replace the bulls, minus the “salvage value” (whatever we could make by selling them at the barn). I pleasantly turned him down — and we’ve never gone to that particular seller again.


This is what I mean by keeping your good name honorable. Most of us have long, long (long) memories!



## Newcastle EWC Outreach

### February General Interest Classes

<b>CARD/GIFT MAKING</b> <b>MADE EASY</b> Fee: \$5 per month for 3 items Day: Every 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday Dates: 2/21 – 4/18 Time: 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Registration Deadline: 1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of each month	<b>DRIVERS EDUCATION</b> Fee: \$50 Days: Mondays/Thursdays (required to attend one day a week) Start Date: 2/17 Time: 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Registration Deadline: 2/10	<b>KARATE</b> Fee: \$10 single \$20 family per month Days: Tuesday/Thursday Dates: 1/11 - 5/26 Time: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. *Sign up anytime	<b>SQUARE DANCING</b> Fee: \$2 per person, per session Days: Mondays (class night) & 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fridays (dance night) Dates: 1/17 - 5/27 Time: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. & 7:30 – 9:45 p.m. *Sign up anytime
<b>PINWHEELS AND RECTANGLE QUILT</b> Fee: \$45 + \$4.50 for pattern + supplies Day: Thursdays Date: 2/24 – 3/31 Time: 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Registration Deadline: 2/17	<b>SAVORY FILLED BREADS</b> Fee: \$20 Day: Wednesday Date: 2/16 Time: 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Registration Deadline: 2/9	<b>KICKBOXING</b> Fee: \$35 per month Days: Tuesday/Thursday Dates: 2/1 - 5/26 Time: 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. *Sign up anytime	<b>EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION</b> Fee: \$10 Day: Saturday Dates: 2/26 Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Registration Deadline: 2/18
<b>HOCKEY GAME RC RUSH VS. LAREDO BUCKS</b> Fee: \$35 per person (Includes game ticket and trip) Day: Saturday Date: 3/19 Departure: 4:30 p.m. Approx. Return: 12:00 a.m. Registration Deadline: 2/4	<b>INDOOR WALKING</b> No Fee Days: Monday - Friday Dates: 1/10 – 5/31 Time: 5:30 a.m. – 7:00 a.m. & 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Location: NHS, NMS and mornings only for NES *Please register before participating	<b>VARIETY FITNESS CLUB</b> *Ladies Only* No Fee Days: Monday - Friday Dates: 2/1 - 5/27 Time: 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. *Sign up anytime	<b>HOW TO START A QUALITY CHILDCARE BUSINESS</b> Fee: \$10 Day: Saturday Dates: 2/26 Time: 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Registration Deadline: 2/18



\*Please call Newcastle EWC Outreach

# 746-3603

for further details on our classes.