

The boundary debate looms

Local officials hope redistricting looks different than a decade ago

Bob Bonnar
NLJ Publisher

When the U.S. Census Bureau released preliminary figures from its 2020 census on Monday, it officially

signaled the start of the debate in the Wyoming State Legislature over legislative redistricting. Lawmakers tasked with redrawing the boundaries of the state's legislative districts over the course of the next year got their

first glimpse of the numbers that will ultimately dictate their decisions, and some of the most basic parameters of the debate can now be defined.

But numbers don't tell the entire tale, and this is a story that began long

before census-takers began the chore of counting Wyoming's residents a little more than a year ago.

For the people of Newcastle and Weston County, it began when the Wyoming State Legislature last

approved legislative districts in 2012. As a result of that exercise, the boundary for House and Senate districts representing the county were

— See **Redistricting**, Page 8

On target



Photo by Walter Sprague/NLJ

4-H is in full swing teaching shooting sports. Along with gun training, kids also receive instruction using bows and arrows at the Cambria Bow Hunters, under the instruction of Bow Hunters president, Glen Reed. The classes are held on Sundays from 3 to 6, and Mondays from 5 to 7. Although it's too late to register this year, children can be signed up for next year from October to the end of December by calling Brittany Hamilton at (307) 746-3531, or going to the website at <https://woextension.org/westoncounty/4h-youth-development>. Hannah Gross, pictured, consistently grouped her arrows together, often touching each other, in the bullseye.

Citizen group, GOP want Barton ousted

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

Members of the Concerned Citizens of the Weston County Sheriff's Office and the Weston County Republican Party presented a grand jury finding to the board of Weston County Commissioners, stating that they were concerned that the board is not properly constituted and that not all members of the board currently reside in the county.

The grand jury findings, signed by over 270 county residents, states that Commissioner Tony Barton no longer resides in Weston County and, therefore, is no longer eligible to serve as a county commissioner because he is not a qualified elector in the county. The document also states that the group is asking that the board declare a vacancy, initiating the process of appointing

— See **Barton**, Page 2

Residents reluctant to vaccinate

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

Nearly a third of Weston County residents are not rushing to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

According to U.S. Census survey data, an estimated 32% of Weston County residents are hesitant to be vaccinated, while 17% are strongly hesitant. Statewide, about 35% of residents are hesitant, with over 20% saying that they will definitely not receive the vaccine. Nationwide, that number is reported to be roughly 7.6%.

According to the Wyoming Department of Health, all 23 counties in the state fall into the top 1% of vaccine-

— See **COVID**, Page 7

Jording retires after over three decades in medicine



KateLynn Slaamot
NLJ Correspondent

A lot changes in the medical field over 30 years. Private practices give way to large corporations, medical technology advances at a rapid rate, and different areas of medicine become more specialized. Mike Jording, a physician who has

witnessed all these changes, retired from Monument Health Clinic in Newcastle at the beginning of this year. He had worked there since March of 1989.

Jording said that his interest in medicine first blossomed in high school. He attended two years of high school in Wheatland and then attended Newcastle High School, graduating in 1972. Local Newcastle physicians such as Dr. Willis Franz and others, served as his "role models" as he explored his interest. Jording said that their integrity and willingness to help others appealed to him.

Skilled in mathematics, Jording received a scholarship to the University of Wyoming,

where he studied chemical engineering for his undergraduate degree. After four years, he was accepted to the medical school at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska.

Jording excelled in the math and medical statistics side of medical school, but he told the *News Letter Journal* that medical school is no easy task.

"Medical school is challenging in itself," Jording said.

— See **Jording**, Page 7

Submitted photo
Local doctor, Mike Jording, has recently retired after more than 30 years of service in the medical field.



WEATHER FORECAST

Thursday
Partly Cloudy
Hi 66, Lo 46



Friday
Partly Cloudy
Hi 78, Lo 51



Saturday
Mostly Cloudy
Hi 72, Lo 46



Sunday
AM Showers
Hi 57, Lo 41



Monday
Showers
Hi 49, Lo 37



Tuesday
Partly Cloudy
Hi 59, Lo 38



Wednesday
Partly Cloudy
Hi 60 Lo 40



INSIDE

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Dr. A. Schabauer Aug. 18

VA Clinic: (Usually 1st Monday of month, except holidays)..... May 3, May 17

Mammography: Call 746-3704 to schedule an appointment

MRI: May 13, May 27


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

Upton Lab Draws: (1st Wednesday, except holidays) May 5

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

Wellness Wednesday, Upton..... 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 7-9 am

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Worship through music



Photo by Walter Sprague/NLJ

On Sunday, gospel singer and recording artist Ron Hughes played two concerts in Weston County. The first was held at the Assembly of God Church in Upton. Sunday evening he played at the Skull Creek Community Center to a crowd of about 35 worshippers. There was a carry-in dinner following. Hughes started playing in bars, but lost his ability to sing for 18 years. After a couple surgeries he slowly gained his ability to sing again. "This ministry is dedicated to serving God, through Christian music," said Hughes. Once he regained his ability to sing he promised God that he would only sing music to Him, and gave up secular music altogether.

WYDOT delays expected on Highway 85 north

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

Motorists traveling on U.S. Highway 85 between Mule Creek Junction and Newcastle will encounter road construction and delays of no more than 20 minutes beginning May 3, according to a Wyoming Department of Transportation press release dated April 26.

"Motorists will encounter lane closures with no more than 20-minute delays, reduced speed limits, flagging operations and heavy truck traffic while traveling on US 85," the release says. "Motorists are asked to please respect the posted speed limits to do their part to keep WYDOT employees, its contractors and the traveling public safe within this work zone."

The resurfacing project will involve a mill and overlay with chip seal of 13.47 miles, performed by Northern Improvement Co. of Fargo, North Dakota, which was awarded the \$6.4 million contract.

In addition to the paving project between mileposts 202.38 and 215.85, improvements will be made to the Beaver Creek Bridge between mileposts 202.5 and 212.8. These improvements include installation of a culvert and resurfacing of the bridge.

According to the release, the project should be completed by late July.

Barton from Page 1.....

a properly qualified citizen to the seat.

Both Dan Bau and Kari Drost spoke during the meeting, reporting that Rep. Hans Hunt, R-Newcastle, had successfully sponsored a bill that will be signed into law requiring various elected officials to reside in the county they represent. The bill does not affect those currently holding office.

"I appreciate you exercising your right to assemble and petition the government, but the grand jury finding has no legal basis or force of law from my understanding," Barton said in response to the gathered group.

"There is no legal reason I can't serve until the end of my term (in 2022). ... My decision doesn't rest on the grand jury, the commissioners or the Republican Party. It is my decision to make, and I remain committed to finishing my term. ... I remain committed to putting Weston County first and improving our community," he continued.

A majority of the five-member board sided with Barton, excluding Don Taylor, expressed similar sentiment regarding Barton serving on the board. A statement from County Attorney Alex Berger further supported the commissioners' stance that the board has no legal standing to remove Barton from his elected seat.

"My advice has not changed since we discussed this months ago. There is nothing we can do about him moving to Crook County, there is no authority to declare a vacancy, no authority to remove a commissioner, no authority to treat Barton different than other commissioners as far as duties or responsibilities set forth by statute," Berger said in a letter read by Deputy County Attorney Michael Stulken. "Action against Barton by the board of county commissioners would be unlawful and I would advise against it, in the strongest terms. My office will take no such part in any such action and will provide no further guidance on the manner."

While the commission is unable to take action

WY Stat § 18-3-523

(a) If any county commissioner refuses or neglects without just cause to perform any duties required of him as a member of the board of county commissioners or knowingly commits any act which by law is in violation of his official oath and bond, charges in writing may be made against him before the district judge of the district in which the county is situated. Notice of filing and a copy of the charges shall be served upon the accused by the sheriff of the county within ten (10) days after the charges are filed with the clerk of the district court. The cause shall be tried not later than thirty (30) days from the filing of the charges and shall be by the court without the intervention of a jury. After submission of the proof the commissioner shall be removed from office by the governor of the state.

(b) If charges against a county commissioner are filed with the governor, he shall cause the accused commissioner to be served with a copy of the charges and notice of the time the governor will hear the matter. The hearing before the governor shall be not less than twenty (20) days after the date of the notice.

against Barton, Chairman Marty Ertman stated that the proper avenue for the concerned residents would be a lawsuit in district court.

"What we are finding, with the conversations we have had, is that we do not have the authority to remove a commissioner; the governor does," Ertman said. "And that has to be filed in district court. ... This isn't the place for it; we do not have the authority."

She then recommended that the group follow the avenues set out in Wyoming State Statute 18-3-523 for the removal of a county commissioner from office.

nlj IDEAS

news letter journal

Outsmarting COVID-19

A few months ago, the arrival in Wyoming of the first vaccines meant to prevent infection with COVID-19 was exciting. We'd been through some tough times with high case counts, hospitalizations and deaths due to the pandemic. But we now could see a positive path forward.

At first our supplies were very limited, which meant we had to target those residents of Wyoming who were most likely to be infected and most likely to experience serious illness related to COVID-19. It may have been frustrating for some and confusing for others, but it was necessary.

We're facing a very different situation now. Our vaccine supplies have grown and all Wyoming residents who are 16 or older are eligible for COVID-19 vaccination across the state.

The Wyoming Department of Health strongly encourages everyone who is eligible to get free, safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines as soon as possible. If you were in an earlier priority group but haven't been vaccinated yet, please don't think you have missed your chance.

Together with our county public health partners, healthcare providers in our communities and growing numbers of pharmacies across the state, we have made vaccines easy to find and receive locally. Many individuals are working long hours to provide appointments, walk-in clinics, and larger vaccination clinics to give every eligible person in Wyoming the opportunity to receive a vaccine. Look in your community for the best option for you.

We want you to understand vaccination is important for all people who are eligible, including those who are younger and healthy. Anyone can get sick due to COVID-19 and it's hard to know how each one of us will be affected. Anyone can get the virus and pass it on to someone who could struggle.

We have seen that COVID-19 illnesses can be serious and cause death. In addition, some people experience long-term conditions that severely impact their quality of life.

For people who have had COVID-19 and previously recovered, vaccination is also recommended. COVID-19 infection does not provide lifelong immunity.

We want you to know COVID-19 vaccines have been held to high safety standards. No major safety steps were skipped to develop them.

Many people have questions about the authorized COVID-19 vaccines, which is understandable. We've included some great resources online to provide information and to help answer those questions and encourage people to seek more information from reputable sources such as our department and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. For our department's website, visit health.wyo.gov.

It's important to know COVID-19 vaccinations are free for everyone, regardless of whether they have insurance coverage.

Vaccines are our most effective tool to help stop the COVID-19 pandemic. Thousands of Wyoming residents have been vaccinated since those first exciting days in December when the vaccines first arrived. We are already seeing fewer hospitalization, fewer outbreaks in nursing homes and similar facilities and fewer deaths. So, yes, COVID-19 vaccines are effective.

Vaccination helps keep you and your family safe and helps us each return to what we love. To put this pandemic behind us, we truly do need to outsmart COVID-19.

Michael Ceballos, Director, Wyoming Department of Health



Michael Ceballos
Guest Column

My Wyoming Bucket list

There are literally millions of Americans who will be visiting Wyoming this summer seeking out those secret spots. I will be one of them.

This column is my annual "Wyoming Bucket List" of those places that I have always wanted to visit. Some of them were featured in my three-volume trilogy of coffee table books about Wyoming but many were not.

Either way, I am eager to go see them.

Now readers need to know that Wyoming is full of many of the most scenic places in the world, such as Yellowstone National Park, Teton National Park, Devils Tower National Monument, the Medicine Wheel, the Oregon Trail, the Red Desert, and the Wind River Indian Reservation.

I have been to those places and, if you have not, I would encourage you to go there. Be smart about it, though, as you will be joined by millions of Americans who have been yearning to get "out there," and nobody does "out there," better than Wyoming.

This is the year that I will finally visit Fossil Butte National Monument near Kemmerer. Hopefully Vince Tomassi will be my tour guide as we sort through all those millions of year old fossils there.

Dave Peck of Lovell will be on my speed dial this summer as Nancy and I want to finally see the Big Horn Canyon and Reservoir. This amazing place spans Wyoming and Montana and it's time to go take it all in.

My friend John Davis and his wife Celia of Worland have been wanting a tour of the Oregon Trail. Hopefully, I can be their tour guide and show them some of the sights here in Fremont County.

I am very familiar with the bands of wild horses that roam the Red Desert between Lander and Rawlins and Rock Springs. But Pat Schmidt, who grew up in Greybull and was publisher of newspapers in Lovell and Thermopolis, says it is time to see the wild mustangs near Lovell. We have never explored the Pryor Mountains and we are overdue. This area also spans both Wyoming and Montana.

Wyoming's most noted historian Phil Roberts of Laramie grew up in Lusk and has always touted the "breaks" north of Lusk. I would very much like to see them



Bill Sniffin
My Wyoming

and with his help, this might be the year.

One of the oddest places I have ever seen is Rawhide Butte near Lusk. Quite a story attached to that place which is celebrated each year in that Niobrara County seat. The buttes are a geological marvel. Would not mind seeing them again.

East of Jeffrey City is a rock formation called the Castle or Stonehenge. You can see it from Highway 287 but it is quite a trek to get to it. Charlie Smith promised me he would take me there some day. Hopefully, this will be the year. Lots of pioneer names scrawled on the walls I have been told.

Afton publisher Dan Dockstader is a busy guy, being the president of the Wyoming Senate besides his day job. But I am hoping for a tour of the Afton Star Valley area. It has been a long, long time since I have been over there.

Here are a few more of my favorite places:

Did you know that Fort Laramie in Goshen County was the preeminent place in the northern Rocky Mountains for 50 years, from 1830 to 1880? It is a fantastic site with restored buildings. It is a national site and closes at 4:30 p.m., so do not get there late.

In Cheyenne, a tour of the newly-refurbished State Capitol building is on my list. It cost over \$300 million and from what I hear, it is spectacular.

Devils Tower was the country's first national monument. I love everything about Northeast Wyoming. The Gore Buffalo Jump is incredibly impressive, as is Ranch A. Little Hulett has one of the nicest golf courses in the state, too.

Our mountain ranges are spectacular. My favorite mountain roads will give you goose bumps. Highway 14A out of Lovell, the Beartooth Highway north of Cody, the Loop Road outside of Lander are some of the most scenic. Shell Canyon out of Greybull and Tensleep Canyon out of Worland are terrific mountain passes with good roads.

The brand new National Museum of Military Vehicles just south of Dubois will take your breath away. At a cost of over \$100 million, Dan, Cynthia, and Alynne Starks have created a modern masterpiece.

Those are few of the places listed on my 2021 edition of the Wyoming Bucket List. What are some of yours?

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

A cellphone recording, First Amendment Rights and a guilty verdict

When 17-year old Darnella Frazier used her cellphone on May 25, 2020, to record the murder of George Floyd, a horrifying episode which, viewers across the globe know, lasted 9 minutes and 29 seconds, she probably did not stop to think that she was exercising her First Amendment right of freedom of expression and, perhaps, an element of freedom of the press. As the guilty verdict in the murder trial of Minneapolis policeman, Derek Chauvin revealed, she was "filming" not only an American tragedy in real time, but the most impactful civil rights footage since the Civil Rights Movement.

History and the worlds of journalism and criminal justice are indebted to Frazier for summoning the presence of mind to record the excruciating murder of Mr. Floyd. Because of her courage, millions of Americans everywhere have borne witness to the most direct and compelling evidence of the commission of a crime that they likely will ever see. Her recording may be a catalyst for justice in much the same way cameras captured the civil rights sit-ins at the Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro, North

Carolina in 1960, and the gruesome reality of Sheriff Bull Connor's attacks on peaceful protestors in Birmingham, Alabama in the early 1960s.

"Facts matter," President John Adams was fond of reminding listeners. Indeed, facts matter to our democracy, which requires truth and evidence to create sound policies, programs and laws. Facts matter, as well, to jurors and all those who participate in the criminal justice system. They should matter to those interested in truth and accuracy in our daily conversations and representations.

Photos, like news stories, can inform the citizenry, facilitate engagement and participation in public affairs and usher in social change. Photos and news reports influenced public opinion about the practice and impact of racial discrimination in our nation. News footage of police violence perpetrated against peaceful black protesters and marchers in the south in the 1960s, changed the nation's perception of the Civil Rights Movement and generated critical support for the passage of such landmark legislation as the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Ms. Frazier's video of Officer Chauvin driving his knee into the neck of Mr. Floyd may prove as useful to

meaningful reform of law enforcement techniques and practices as the footage of race discrimination was to the congressionally enacted reforms to civil rights law in the 1960s. Let us hope so.

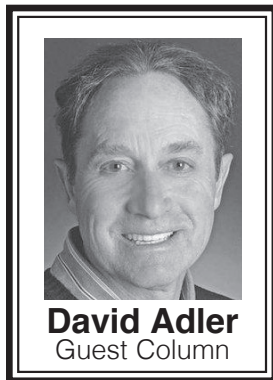
The framers of our Bill of Rights had in mind the importance of "facts" and their illumination of issues for purposes of public understanding and discussion when they drafted the First Amendment's free speech and free press clauses. The founders characterized the press clause, in the words of Thomas Jefferson, as "the people's right to know." Without knowledge of governmental activities that can be best supplied by a free, independent and constitutionally protected press, the right of the people to formulate opinions, provide critiques and criticisms, and even participate in public affairs, would be greatly diminished. The press fulfills an essential role in our democracy, for "it serves the governed," Justice Hugo Black wrote in the Pentagon Papers Case, "not the governors."

Citizens enjoy, by virtue of freedom of speech the right to speak and listen, which entails the right to record or film governmental agents in the exercise of their roles and duties. It has become commonplace for private citizens, like professional journalists, to record and film officials' speeches and announcements, on the steps of government buildings, in parks and

on the public streets. That free speech interest also encompasses a free press component as cellphones and the wonders of technology have broadened the sphere of photojournalism and made every citizen a photographer, able to share breaking news with the masses, indeed, the entire planet, as Ms. Frazier's recording demonstrates.

The Supreme Court has not drawn a clear, bright line distinguishing an "organized press," which at the time of the founding enjoyed a special, protected status under the Free Press Clause, from others who take photos of events, write blogs and pamphlets, or otherwise seek to communicate through the spoken or written word, such as scholars and writers for underground newspapers. Perhaps it's unnecessary. Regardless, on May 25, 2020, Darnella Frazier exhibited the instincts of the best reporters. She stood her ground and, with her cellphone, recorded history that may change a nation.

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



David Adler
Guest Column

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WHY

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



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Obituaries

ELSA MADALINE HAYMAN
Feb. 28, 1929–April 25, 2021
Elsa Madaline Hayman, 92, passed away peacefully at home, Sunday, April 25, 2021, on the Feast of the Good Shepard.

Elsa was born Feb. 28, 1929, to Italian immigrants Dominic and Giovanna (Martineti) Trosello in Newcastle, Wyo. She was the middle of three children born into the Trosello family. She attended school in Newcastle, graduating in 1947.

Elsa attended Barnes Business School in Denver, Colo. Upon her return, she met and married James Hayman on Nov. 30, 1950. To this union, five children were born.

Elsa was a lifelong member of Corpus Christi Catholic Church. She was very active in the Council of Catholic Women, teaching catechism, playing the organ, and taking care of the flowers.

Elsa is survived by her children, Kathryn “Kay” Thomas of Newcastle, Patrick (Vicky Jo) Hayman of Newcastle, Jamie (Tom) Farnsworth of Newcastle, William “Bill” (Vicki) Hayman of Newcastle, and Mary Jo (Dan) Meche of Dayton, Texas; 16 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband Jim, Elsa was preceded in death by her parents, brother Michael Trosello, and sister Patricia Trosello.

Rosary was held at 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 28, at Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Newcastle. Mass of Christian Burial for Elsa Hayman will be held at 10 a.m., Thursday, April 29, at Corpus Christi Catholic Church.

Memorial contributions may be made to Corpus Christi Catholic Church.

FRED AUGUSTINE PERINO
Feb. 11, 1924–April 19, 2021

Fred Augustine Perino passed away April 19, 2021, in Newcastle, Wyo.

Fred was born Feb. 11, 1924, to Northern Italian immigrants Jacento (Matt) and Rosi Monti Perino. He was born at home on the Oil Creek ranch, Weston County, Wyoming. He was the youngest of seven children. He began school in a one-room schoolhouse on Oil Creek. He attended Newcastle High School in 1938 and graduated in 1942, the only one of his male siblings to do so. When Fred started school he attended a country school and only spoke Italian.

Fred married Mary Ann Pzinski July 11, 1949. They had four children. All of his children graduated Newcastle High School and made their homes in Weston County. Fred has seven grandchildren, all of whom graduated from NHS. Fred chose the rural ranch life for his family and retired from ranching in 1982. Fred helped build and then worked at M & M Service Station,

formerly on the west end of Newcastle. He also worked for the Soil Conservation District and the Weston County Road and Bridge for a time. Fred received schooling to be a real estate salesman, adding that to his cache of skills. He also established two new businesses in Newcastle over the years, Fred's Ranch Supply and F & F Auction, working in each for more than 20 years. He retired from retail business at the age of 82. Fred made many monetary donations to community organizations while operating these retail businesses in Newcastle.

In 1946 Fred attended and graduated the Reich American School of Auctioneering in Mason City, Iowa. He started auctioneering Feb. 11, 1947, in Sturgis, S.D. He then auctioneered at Belle Fourche Livestock, Gillette Livestock, St. Onge Livestock where he was their first auctioneer after opening, and finally Edgemont Livestock.

He began his auctioneer career at several different livestock auction barns and moved on to ranch and other individual auctions. He auctioned in Wyoming, Montana and South Dakota. The ranching auctions were family events and lifestyle. The auction team consisted of Fred, his wife and his children. Fred generously donated his time auctioning for churches, community organizations, events, box socials, and individual charity fundraisers over the years, such as ducks, turkey and elk foundations, Weston County Library Foundation, Future Farmers of America, 4-H programs, chamber of commerce, the Weston County and school district surplus auctions, to name a few, as well as community dance halls, The Round House, Osage, Skull Creek, Soda Butte and Clareton. Perhaps the biggest community service contribution Fred was known for was as the announcer and auctioneer of the Weston County Junior Livestock Sale. Fred began auctioneering the sale in 1948 and continued to do so for the next 52 years. The one exception is he continued to guest auction with Mark Stenson during the Pinnacle Bank annual Festival of Trees auction.

Fred provided his time and work as a member of several boards in Newcastle. He was on the Weston County Children's Center Head Start board, served on the Soil Conservation District board, PMA, Farm Bureau and Farmer's Union. He was on the Newcastle Zoning and Planning board for 19 years. He was on the Weston County Senior Center board. In the fall of 2014, Fred was inducted into the Newcastle High School Hall of Fame. On Feb. 11, 2021, Fred turned 97 years of age. He has devoted a major portion of those years to the community of Newcastle and Weston

County in one format or another.

Fred is survived by his children, Linda Perino Hunt, James Perino, Sandy Perino Goodwin (Steve), and Marcia Perino Williams (Kenny); grandchildren, Austin Hunt, Jamie Perino-Van Gilder, Shey Perino Mayland (Dan), Brett Reed (Ashley), Casey Reed (Kellee), Jared Williams (Dianna), Mckenley Williams, Tara Williams, and Jeff Goodwin; great-grandchildren, Kailer Mayland, Aylah Mayland, Alaina Reed, Sam Reed, Alex Reed, Maddox Reed, Bruce Hunt, Gus Hunt, Lacey Williams, and Emberley Williams.

Fred was preceded in death by his parents, Matt and Rosi Perino; brothers, John, Joseph, and Leo Perino; sisters, Maria Perino, Bernadine Kudlock, and Dora Tavegie; and his wife, Mary Ann.

Funeral Service for Fred was held April 23 at 10 a.m. at Corpus Christi Catholic Church, with interment following at Greenwood Cemetery.

Memorials and condolences may be sent in care of Meridian Mortuary, 111 S. Railroad Ave. Newcastle, WY 82701. Condolences may also be expressed at meridianmortuary.com.

PAULA KAY SIEBRANDT
July 27, 1963–April 14, 2021

Paula Kay Siebrandt passed away on April 14, 2021 at her home in Cave Creek, Ariz.

Paula was born on July 27, 1963, to C.E. “Doc” and Loretta Moser in Newcastle, Wyo., where she attended elementary school.

In 1975, the family moved to Sturgis, S.D., where she continued her junior high and high school educations. After completing court reporting school in Sioux Falls, S.D., and Denver, Colo., she became a certified court stenographer and worked for court reporting companies in both Reno, Nev., and Phoenix, Ariz.

After moving to Phoenix to be closer to her sister and to enjoy the year-round summer weather, Paula met and married Harold Siebrandt and together they started Modular Systems, an office furniture installation company. Though Paula and Harry later divorced, this business remains family-run 25-plus years later.

After raising her two sons, Paula enrolled in and completed esthetician and permanent make-up schooling in Scottsdale, where she created/started a company called “A Unique Transformation.”

Paula will be remembered for her beautiful face, gigantic smile, infectious, bubbly laughter, and stellar sense of fashion. She adored flashy colors, sparkles, and pizzazz. She possessed a gift for decorating and turning a house into a home for all to enjoy. Her green thumb kept all of her plants flourishing and she always took the time to stop and smell the roses!

A genuine free spirit, Paula had the

— See Obituaries, Page 6

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Daily Devotional Reading

Apr. 30 Psalm 130	May 4 Jeremiah 7:1-15
May 1 Isaiah 61:1-11	May 5 1 Corinthians 12:1-11
May 2 Isaiah 6:1-13	May 6 1 Corinthians 14:1-25
May 3 Jeremiah 1:1-19	Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures.
~ 1 Corinthians 15:3

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Recapture

A PIECE OF HISTORY

25 Years Ago
May 2, 1996

The public is invited to a dedication ceremony to celebrate the LAK Lake Recreation Improvement Project completion on Saturday, May 11, at 2 p.m. The ceremony will be held at the boat loading dock at LAK, seven miles east of Newcastle on U.S. Highway 16.

Sharon Burdick of Kenai, Alaska, was an overnight guest at Fern Burdick's home, then left for Hulett to visit her mother Jessie Pearson. Sharon and Fern were Friday evening supper guests of the Bill Hagermans.

Branding was the chore of the day at the Art Hagerman ranch Monday. Helping were Dick, Rich and Erick Ludemann, Mike Kraft of Gillette and Bill Kraft of Moorcroft. Donna Turney was cook's helper.

Vi Coutant and the John Thompsons were guests for a Saturday barbecue at the

Clifford Abbot's.

On Monday, the Ed Jenkins family, the Walt Jenkins family, and the Kelly family had supper at the Bill Jenkins home.

Mary and Jeri Shepperson and Jobee Timberman spent the weekend in Thermopolis for the high school rodeo.

Al Shepperson attended the Chance Reynolds sale Wednesday at the Beaver Creek Ranch. Mike Peterson and Millie Peterson did business in Newcastle Tuesday.

Calving is nearing an end in the country. Some will be lambing soon and some have sheared sheep. Soon branding will take up many dates on calendars.

The sixth annual Spring Fling All Women Pro-Rodeo was long on action and short on spectators. Women of all ages and skill levels braved the temporary return of winter on Saturday and Sunday to show off their riding and roping, but they played to

empty stands.

Newcastle hosted its annual Speed Goat Classic Track Meet Saturday, April 27. Twelve competed in what normally would be considered adverse track conditions, but, by this spring's standards, was a good day. The Dogies had 24 medal winners and eight place winners in what was an excellent showing for both the men's and women's teams.

50 Years Ago
April 29, 1971

The Newcastle High School music department attended the Northeast Wyoming Music Festival at Sheridan with 47 blue medals, 41 red medals and five superior and one excellent trophy last weekend.

Sandy Perino is the 1970-71 FFA chapter sweetheart. She is a junior and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Perino.

Tesoro Truck Stop will have an opening celebration

this week end. The truck stop was recently changed from Sioux Truck Stop to Tesoro Truck Stop.

Guy Jones, 72 year old former cowboy, was the top winner at the annual Fiddler's Frolic in Newcastle last Saturday.

Eight Newcastle High School Seniors and five Juniors were inducted into the National Honor Society last Wednesday. Members of the present Society conducted a candle lighting ceremony following the calling of the new members.

The Dogie Drive-In will open this weekend. The drive-in is the former Hi-16 Drive In in west Newcastle. Mr. and Mrs. Norm Caillier are the new owners and have recently remodeled the facilities.

Dennis Pollat stayed overnight Friday at the home of his mother, Mrs. Betty Pollat. Mr. and Mrs. Herb Quest and the Harold Honey family were Sunday dinner guests of the Clay Georges.

Mrs. Wayne Peterson and Jon visited with Mrs. Bob Van Loan and the Bill Pophams in Upton Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Herb Quest were in Upton Wednesday for stock salt. Tuesday night Mr. and Mrs. Lee Roy Ondrizek bowled in Newcastle.

Wednesday Mr. and Mrs. Art Williams checked out the Hay Creek telephone line and drove on to Upton.

Danny Kokesh was a weekend guest of his grandmother, Mrs. Betty Pollat. Friday evening Mrs. Bessie Popham Mrs. Georgia Clark and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Mortenson were supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Herb Quest.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Lordier of Cheyenne announce the engagement of their daughter, Suzanne M. to H. Keith Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chester S. Jones of Newcastle.

100 Years Ago
April 28, 1921

The annual class play of the Senior Class, given at the City Hall last night proved to be a very enjoyable event and uncovered histrionic ability which has until this time gone unrecognized in Newcastle. The cast of characters in the play, "All-of-a-Sudden Peggy," under the direction of Miss Helen Sprecher, put on a performance that will stand for some time as the theatrical event of the city.

Sunday afternoon a fire broke out in the kitchen of one of the buildings at the camp of the Producers and Refiners, located on 25-46-63, says the Osage Tribune. It seems that the fire broke out under the range by the floor getting too hot. Due to the courage and presence of mind of J.W. Hill they saved the company a great loss.

In spite of the unsettled weather during the past week, director LaZar, of the Continental Picture Corporation has been able to squeeze in a few "shots" of interiors on the two-level western comedy which that company has in the course of preparation for national release. The scenes, which are entirely interiors, are being "shot" at the studio on the Holst ranch, west of Newcastle, and are drawing a considerable crowd.

Dr. Ira Kingsley filled the Methodist pulpit Sunday. The small cottage being built by Harry Smith east of the school house is nearing completion.

Mr. and Mrs. M.W. Elliott are rejoicing over the arrival of a fine baby boy. Stella and Della Sweet were among the Beaver Creek representatives in Newcastle last Saturday.

Carl Hays, county assessor, was called to the country on official business the latter part of last week.

Jim Stephens, manager of the Strawberry Dome wildcat, has announced that a part of the drill was broken during operations which will necessitate a delay of several days in repairs. He left last week for Sturgis, S. Dak., for a few days visit with his family.



Courtesy of Weston County Historical Society

This is a picture of Earl Christensen in 1965.

WHAT'S UP

April/May 2021

Weston County Meetings & Events Calendar

Fri Apr. 30	10AM 5:30PM	Arbor Day Celebration BINGO	Greenwood Cemetery VFW Hall
Apr. 30-May 2		High School Rodeo	Fairgrounds
Sat May 1		Spring Bazaar	Fairgrounds Event Center
Mon May 3	7PM	Newcastle City Council	City Council Chambers
Tues May 4	9AM 6-8PM	WC Commissioners S&S FFA Meeting	Courthouse Fairgrounds Event Center
Wed May 5	6:30-8:30AM 7-9AM 5:15PM 5:30PM 7PM	Wellness Wednesday Wellness Wednesday Friends of Fair WC Travel Commission Jr Livestock Committee	WCHS Upton Medical Clinic Fairgrounds, WC Event Center Newcastle Lodge Fairgrounds Office
Thurs May 6	4:30PM 5:30PM 7:30PM 5-9PM	WC Museum District mtg Newcastle Planning & Zoning Mtg Masons #13 Martial Arts Class	Anna Miller Museum City Council Chambers Masonic Hall Fairgrounds Event Center



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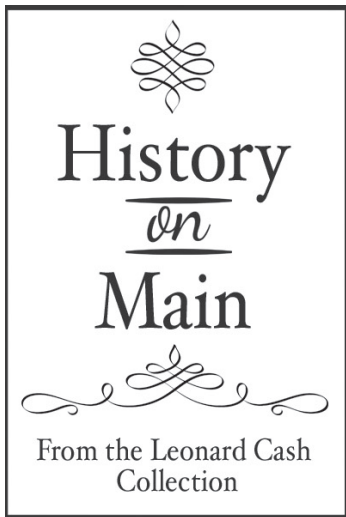
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For the Ages

News Letter Journal

Fueled by icy cold wind, the flames shot 20 feet



Hannah Gross
NLJ Correspondent
With Leonard Cash,
historian

In this week's installment of "History on Main," Leonard Cash will wrap up the discussion on the building and businesses located behind the former First State Bank building, which was on lot 12 of block 10, on South Seneca Avenue. He will also rehash the history of one of Main Street's largest fires, which wiped out nearly the entire block.

Picking up where we left off with an article from the April 5, 1962, we find an announcement in the *News Letter Journal* that the Kirby Sales and Service station opened up on 7 S. Seneca.

Nearly a decade later, Cap 'N Bottle (which was located on Seneca for a number of years) moved to 625 W. Main, according to the April 16, 1970, paper. By July 1, 1971, Gerald Lee opened up Lee Electronics in the former liquor store. However, he did not stay there long because we find in an article from Dec. 30, 1971, that he moved his electronics store to 104 Frontier Ave.

Around the same time, Clarence Gilkison and his wife bought the Club Café, located on 13 S. Seneca, in an auction from Louise Edwards, who had owned it for 10 years, according to the Dec. 2, 1971, paper. But by Oct. 5, 1972, the Gilkisons sold it to Walt and Lake Erdman.

That summer on July 18, 1972, Betty and Donna Pollat opened the Newcastle Bible book store on 9 S. Seneca, with free coffee and doughnuts, as well as door prizes, available for the community. Not only did the store sell books, but the Pollats also offered a gift line of merchandise.

Around Nov. 8, 1973, Betty Nolan became the new manager of the café, but by Nov. 21, 1974, Ed and Elsie Sept took the café over.

The Jan. 9, 1975, paper announced the opening of H&R Block, with Donna Pollat as the manager of the income tax office.

According to a news report from June 3, 1976, the café was closed and was to be held for auction. More reports from July 15 and Aug. 5, 1976, reveal that First State Bank remodeled the café building into a set of offices (Cash said after the café moved out, Ron Moody operated an insurance company there in the '80s and '90s).

By the mid-1970s, Grieves Insurance, which had also been located in that area, moved next to the Cap 'N Bottle a few years later. The liquor store was later purchased by Dennis and Marlene Dixon from Karl Thooming by May 5, 1977.

In the 7 S. Seneca location, we find that the Aldenger and Coulter Agency Real Estate Brokerage opened for business around March 8, 1979.

By Oct. 1, 1981, Donna Fletcher was hosting a grand opening for Book Nook, which opened next to the Newcastle Cable TV office on 11 S. Seneca.

A few years later, the cable TV company, which was in operation for nine years, was sold to Cablevision Services Inc., according to the Nov. 8, 1984, paper. Morgan Pate was the owner at the time and Cecil Fifer was the manager of the Newcastle Cable TV, and they put a "thank you" in the paper, urging "your support for the new owner."

An article from Jan. 16, 1990, paper announced that



Janice Freeman purchased H&R Block, which was open six days a week. Cash said he believes H&R Block was in two different locations behind the bank (but not at the same time). Although uncertain, he said it was probably 7 and 11 S. Seneca.

And that is the final article in Cash's records from the buildings behind the bank, but before ending this series, he wanted to include a section on the fire that we've previously mentioned. The fire destroyed many of the buildings and businesses on block 10.

The following information on the 1998 fire comes from several articles in the Dec. 24, 1998, edition of the *News Letter Journal*. It all began when "a 'ticking or dripping noise' woke John and Robyn Buffington in the middle of the night," but because they couldn't find the source, they went back to bed. At 7:22 a.m., the city garbage crew spotted smoke rising out of the attic above Newcastle Zoo and Sweet Temptations (business on block 10). Robyn discovered the fire in their building through a skylight. Her husband tried to put it out with a fire extinguisher, but it was too late. Fire Chief Ed Wagoner said he believed the fire started several hours before it was reported. Fortunately, the fire engine promptly arrived on the scene at 7:28 a.m.

The crew "attacked the fire



Photos courtesy of Leonard Cash

Smoke and flames poured out of the buildings in one of the worst Main Street fires in Newcastle history.

in the attic that was shared by three buildings, housing the pet shop, Sweet Temptations, and A-1 agency." Due to a lack of firewall, the three buildings were more like one conjoined structure, so the fire was able to spread more easily. The fourth business, Abstract and Title Agency, was protected somewhat by a firewall but the pre-existing archway that con-

nected it to the neighboring building when it was still home to Newcastle Drug and Jewelry allowed some of the flames to pass through.

Intense heat forced the firefighters to come outside three times. To aid in the fiery battle, Black Hills Power and Light shut off electricity, and the firefighters were able to get a ladder to the top and vent the

Senior Happenings	
WC Senior Services	
FRIDAY April 30	
Exercise Room	8AM
Walking	8AM-NOON
Rolls	9AM
Bridge	1PM
Dance	7-10PM
MONDAY May 3	
Exercise Room	8AM-NOON
Walking	8AM-NOON
Exercise Class	9AM
TUESDAY May 4	
Exercise Room	8AM
Walking	8AM-NOON
Dominoes	1PM
Bridge	1PM
WEDNESDAY May 5	
Exercise Room	8AM-NOON
Walking	8AM-NOON
Exercise Class	9AM
Toe Nail Clinic	9AM
THURSDAY May 6	
TOPS #218	7AM
Exercise Room	8AM
Walking	8AM-NOON

building through skylights. The flames shot 20 feet into the air through the holes they created, followed by three explosions in Sweet Temptations. Wagoner said the firefighters went into a defensive mode to focus on controlling the blaze and keeping it contained to the already damaged buildings. As if that wasn't enough, the winter chill brought an "icy cold wind" to deal with, further spreading the flames and making conditions miserable for the firemen. By 8 p.m. that evening, most of the fire was finally extinguished.

This fire was one of the worst in Newcastle Main Street history, and next week, we will learn about how the community came together and got through the tragedy in the final installment of this "History on Main" series on lot 12 of block 10.

Obituaries

from Page 4

kindest heart one could ever know, which guided her through life and made an impact on many. She harbored a soft spot for many critters through the years: dogs, goats, and a variety of other animals. However, the ultimate loves of her life were her two sons, Jesse and Zack. There was seldom a day that went by that she wasn't in contact with either one or both of her boys. She loved to call or text them daily to wish them a beautiful day, always with numerous emojis attached. There was nothing she wouldn't do for them.

Paula is survived by her two sons, Jesse Collins of Phoenix and Zack

Siebrandt of Cave Creek; one sister, Pam Clarkson (Bill) of San Marcos, Calif.; and one brother, Jeff Moser of Spearfish, S.D.

She was preceded in death by her parents, C.E. "Doc" and Loretta Moser; and one brother, James Allen Moser.

A Memorial Service will be held May 1, 2021 at 10 a.m. at Messenger Mortuary, 8555 E Pinnacle Peak Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85255

Condolences may be sent to Zack Siebrandt or Jesse Collins, 4007 E. Forest Pleasant Pl., Cave Creek, AZ 85331.

THOMAS 'ELMER' STEINBRINK

Sept. 3, 1959–April 17, 2021

On Saturday, April 17, 2021, Thomas "Elmer" Steinbrink passed away at age 61.

Tom was born on Sept. 3, 1959, to Robert and Bernice (Quandt) Steinbrink. Tom was a skilled mechanic and talented welder who was employed by Chippewa Valley School District in Michigan for many years.

Tom enjoyed spending time with his family and friends and loved hosting parties where he could be found manning his homemade pig

roaster. Tom had a caring disposition, a boisterous personality, and loved tossing back a cold one while conversing with many acquaintances. Tom also enjoyed the great outdoors particularly hunting, shooting, and riding his beloved horse Ringo.

Tom had numerous animal companions throughout his life but none more loyal than his dog, Floyd. Tom's

free spirit and love of nature is what drew him to relocate to Wyoming in 2004, where he lived out the rest of his days.

Tom was preceded in death by his father, Bob; his mother, Bernice; and his brother, Robert "Bob".

He is survived by his brother, Ronald (Mary) of Clinton Township, Mich.; his sister, Barbara (Eric) of Macomb, Mich.; sister-in-law, Denise of North Branch, Mich.; and numerous nieces, nephews, and great-nieces and nephews.

He will be missed and remembered by his family and all of the friends that he met along the way.



Thomas Steinbrink

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Submitted photo

Mike Jording reading to his grand-daughters, Lily and Emma Jording. He enjoys more time with his kids and grandkids now that he is retired.

Jording

from Page 1.....
"It was surprising." He added that the sheer amount of time involved in medical school was overwhelming at times. Even just the copious amount of information was difficult.

By the second and third years, Jording said, he found things much improved as he learned more and more. Being further along in medical school also meant more responsibilities. "You assume so much more responsibility for patient care," Jording said.

In 1980, Jording went to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, to take part in the family practice residency program. During his three years there, he met and married his wife, Peggy.

In 1983, the couple headed to Torrington where Jording joined a private practice with three experienced doctors. "I continued to learn from them," Jording said. He stayed there until 1989, when he relocated to Newcastle and joined Drs. Chuck Franklin and Lanny Reimer at Cedar Hills Family Clinic, privately owned at the time. Then, in 2013, they sold the business to Regional Health, now Monument Health, where the doctors remained in employment.

"All three of us got along very well," Franklin said. "He (Jording) was always willing to do his share and help out." Franklin added that Jording often went home for supper and came back to complete paperwork. Franklin also appreciated Jording's cheerful attitude.

"He was very caring and thoughtful toward his patients and their problems," Reimer said. The time commitment was one of the difficult aspects of being a doctor, and Peggy said that it is definitely challenging to be married to a physician because they are very tied to their job.

"You have to be independent enough to fill your time when they're working," Peggy said. Ultimately, though, she said that she is proud of her husband and what he's accomplished. "I'm proud of the work that he does," Peggy said.

And Jording has much to speak of in the way of accomplishments. From 1983 to 1989, Jording was an adviser to Goshen County Family Planning in Torrington, and he filled a similar position in Newcastle for over two decades. Jording served Weston County as its public health officer from 2006 to 2021.



"He had a keen interest in medical education as well," Reimer said. Starting in 1992, Jording traveled to Casper once a month to help educate and train residents at the Casper Family Practice Residency. "I have maintained ties to the education side of medicine and impacted students from the high school level to family practice residency. Many of those students have since returned to practice in Wyoming," Jording said.

Jording has also been involved in medicine on a statewide scale. He was on the Wyoming Medical Society board of trustees for 10 years, serving as president for two years. Jording said that while it was a prolific time commitment, it was also very "rewarding."

"I was able to guide the society in medical and political decisions that impacted most Wyoming physicians," Jording said. "At that time, I was fortunate to have participated in the establishment of the Wyoming Medical Society Centennial Scholarship Fund, which is an endowment that recognizes outstanding Wyoming medical students."

Jording even got to connect with fellow Wyoming doctor William Close, who Jording said was involved in efforts to provide quality health care in the Congo and to help with controlling the Ebola epidemic. Jording was also president of the Wyoming Board of Medicine for three years and a member since 2013. Along with Reimer, Jording also received an outstanding alumni award from the University of Wyoming for all his hard work and accomplishments. In all of these accomplishments, Jording said, his highest motivation is to take care of each and every one of his patients well. It's a privilege to be in a place to help people with their health care needs and educate them on those things, he said.

"It's our responsibility as physicians to direct patients to the best care they can get," Jording said. "It's a bundle of emotions and memories when you do take care of patients." And with all the changes and specializations in the medical field, Jording said, opportunities for better and more comprehensive care have become more and more inexhaustible. Now entering this new chapter in life, the Jordings hope to see their two children and grandkids more. They also hope to travel more — camping and vacationing — and Jording hopes to have more time for hobbies. Although he will still miss his work, Jording said, he's grateful for his time and experience as a physician over the years. "Last of all, I would say that the most endearing years of life as a doctor were spent beside Dr. Lanny Reimer and Dr. Chuck Franklin, both of whom have committed 40-plus years each to the medical care of residents of Weston County. Working with them certainly made me a better physician and person, without a doubt," Jording said.

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⁵Based on customer experience reviews shared online at www.thehartford.com/aarp as of June 2020. 006131

COVID

from Page 1.....

hesitant counties. The reasons for this reluctance to get vaccinated vary, according to Lori Bickford, Weston County public health nurse. The most common reasons are concerns about side effects, concerns about effectiveness, waiting for more data related to the vaccine, waiting until more people receive the vaccine and overall misinformation about the vaccine, she said.

"Interest in the vaccine has declined since we began vaccinating, but people keep signing up for the vaccines. I hear many different stories of why people have changed their mind about getting the vaccine," Bickford said. "Some want to feel safer to travel; others want to be able to attend special events such as weddings and graduations."

As people continued to get vaccinated, she said, the hope is that confidence in the vaccine will

grow and that people will continue to step up and get vaccinated.

"Some people will never get the vaccination. The goal of herd immunity is around 70% of the community for a community to be at a safe level of protection," Bickford said. "We can reach that goal, but it will take time."

Currently, according to the state health department, 18.95% of Weston County residents are fully vaccinated. This is the 10th-lowest county vaccination rate in the state, after Campbell, 11.47%; Crook, 13.78%; Lincoln, 15.59%; Converse, 16.51%; Sublette, 17.14%; Uinta, 17.51%; Niobrara, 18.69%; Big Horn, 18.77%; and Laramie, 18.88%.

Statewide, 42% of the population has been fully vaccinated, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



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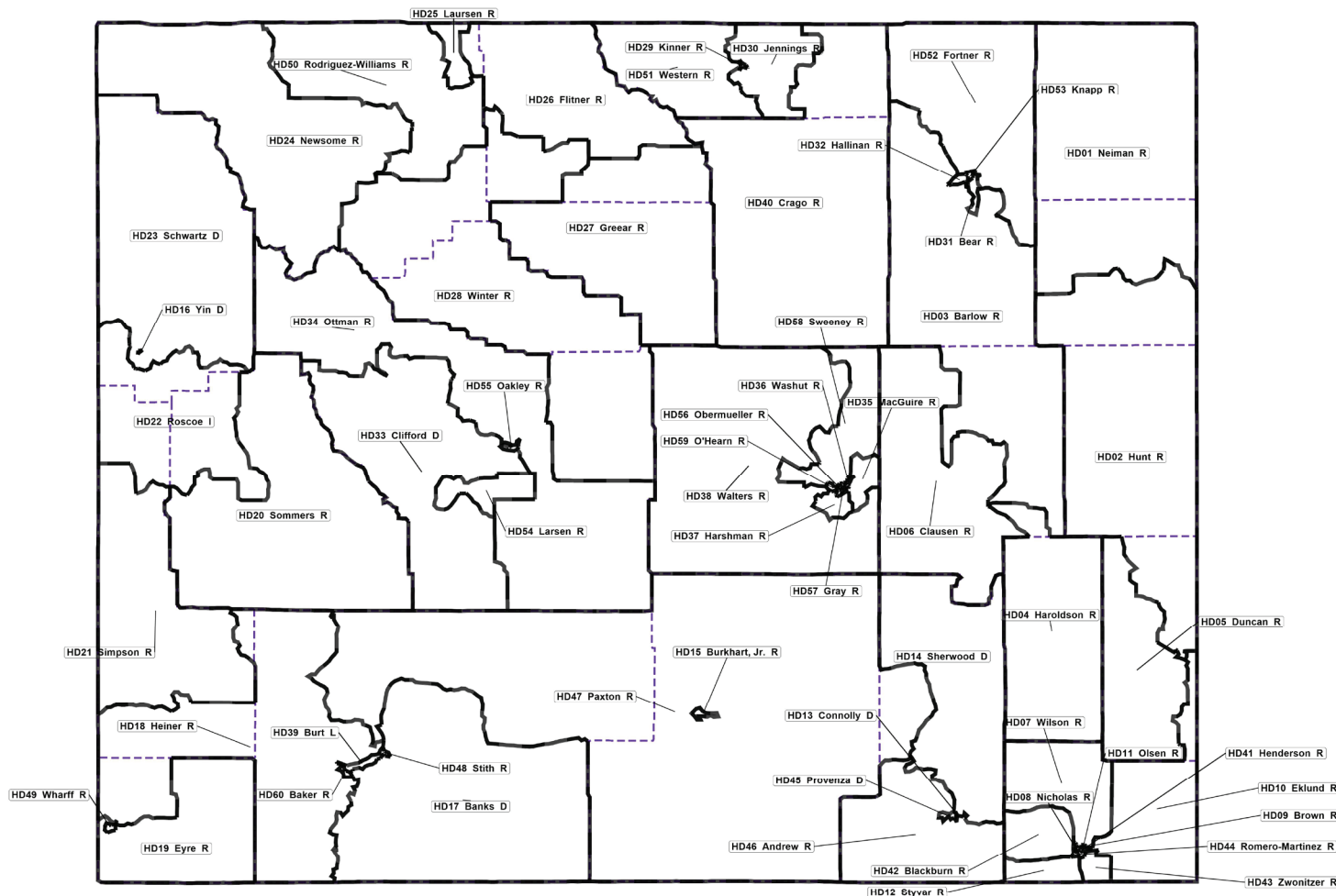
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Redistricting

House Districts – 66th Legislature



drawn right through the heart of Newcastle, effectively dividing the county.

At the time, local officials and some residents feared that the community's voice in state government would be diluted — or even lost — because the voting blocks of Newcastle and Weston County were effectively split as well.

"I would really suggest that you guys get lined up for 10 years from now because you're the big loser in this deal," State Senator Ogden Driskill, R-Devils Tower, said after his district, Senate District 1, was radically altered in 2012.

Prior to redistricting he had represented Crook, Weston and Niobrara counties, and Newcastle, the most populated city in any of the three counties, was effectively right in the middle of that district. Redistricting moved the southern half of his former district, including Newcastle, into Senate District 3, which was represented by Curt Meier of LaGrange, a town more than 170 miles away. Senate District 1 was expanded to the west to encompass part of Campbell County, which became the dominant county voting block in the district.

"I think it's absolutely tragic that we've left the big and powerful with bigger and stronger voices, and the smaller and under-represented with an even weaker voice. It's not what the framers of the Wyoming Constitution wanted to happen," Driskill said at the time.

His sentiments were echoed by local officials who feared Newcastle and Weston County were going to find it harder

to influence decisions in the state capital.

"Because those [legislative] districts have fallen into the urban centers, we are losing our voice," County Commissioner Marty Ertman said after the new legislative boundaries were approved in 2012.

Driskill and Ertman had both been elected to their posts in 2010, and the fact that they were relative political newcomers made it more difficult for either to influence the outcome of the redistricting debate, although both tried.

Representative Hans Hunt, R-Newcastle, was also newly elected when the debate about redistricting began in 2011, and his efforts to introduce amendments and offer his own redistricting plan in an attempt to "keep Weston County whole" also failed to gain traction, either in committee meetings or on the floor.

"The way that the district lines fell 10 years ago was not what we were hoping for," Hunt, now a veteran lawmaker and former Wyoming House Majority Whip, told the *News Letter Journal* last week.

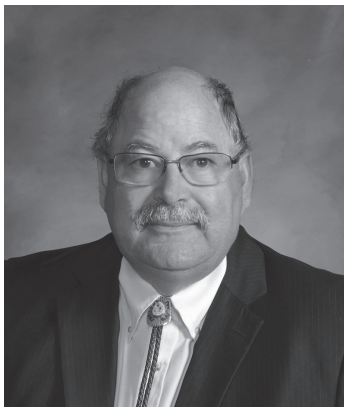
Making lemons out of lemonade

The actual impact of that last redistricting exercise, however, may not have been as negative as local officials feared at the time.

"I don't think Newcastle has been represented well at all because of the way districting went. I don't know that it hurt us, but I don't know that it has done us any good either," Newcastle City Clerk/Treasurer Greg James said.

When the issue of redistricting was debated a decade ago, James was Newcastle's mayor. In response to the legislature's decision to split Newcastle's voting block into two different senate districts, he encouraged local residents and interest groups to use the new reality as an opportunity to double-down on their advocacy by contacting the senators representing both districts to voice their concerns and provide local input.

"We need to be in contact directly with them, and need to be pounding on them," James said in 2012.



Ogden Driskill

You have to have a plan that works statewide. You can't redistrict your corner of the world, and expect the rest of the state to adapt to you. You can't do redistricting that way."

Those sentiments were echoed by Driskill at the time, and he encouraged voters in Newcastle

and Weston County to turn the situation into an advantage by demanding representation from their senators.

"I would recommend you use the heck out of everybody. I would stand hard on Curt, and he'll represent you fine," Driskill said. "Stand on me and use me as well. You do have multiple representation across those lines, and they're obligated to represent you. I would not let them forget that, regardless of where they live. You're alright as long as you fight to keep your representation, but if you let down, they'll head north and south on you," Driskill warned.

Local officials and voters alike took his words to heart, and Weston County's legislative delegation actually grew in some respects because of efforts made by those involved to strengthen lines of communication.

"On the whole, local governments did try to keep me informed, and I made a conscious effort to keep in touch with them on my end," said Hunt.

Meier, who had suddenly become Newcastle's senator, said he actually welcomed the opportunity to serve Niobrara and southern Weston counties when his district shifted north.

"It wasn't hard. The folks in Newcastle and Lusk are even more conservative than the folks around Torrington, and I'm more conservative too," he told the *News Letter Journal* on Tuesday. "The Weston County people were just a great group of people, and easy to talk to."

Meier admitted that the size of his new district presented some challenges, but said that

logging miles to cover large legislative districts is not unusual in Wyoming. He was re-elected to serve Senate District 3 in 2014, but stepped away from the legislature after that term when he successfully ran for the office of Wyoming State Treasurer. Meier said that the experience of covering a large district actually prepared him for his race for statewide office.

"It really kind of helped me in my state endeavors to have that aspect of having to travel and reach out to folks," he reasoned.

Meier wasn't the only legislator representing Weston County whose star rose through the course of the last decade. Hunt rose rapidly to a leadership position in the House and spent time as the chair of the House Agriculture Committee, and Driskill is now the Majority Floor Leader of the Senate. Tyler Lindholm, who represented northern Weston County and Crook County in the House of Representatives for the majority of the past decade, lost a re-election bid in 2020 but passed a number of important bills and rose to leadership and held the rank of committee chair during his time in the legislature.

"Crook and Weston County had the most effective elected delegation there has been in the state in a long time," Driskill said this week, basing his assessment on successful bill passage, leadership positions and overall legislative influence.

Hunt agreed, but noted that Weston County residents were only able to reap the benefits of their suddenly expanding influence in the legislature because of the shared commitment to keep the doors of communication open.

"By the sheer effort of our representatives, and through their engagement, it has gone much better than it potentially could have," Hunt suggested.

"Generally they were always for northeast Wyoming," Ertman agreed, noting that she felt that the people and communities of Weston County responded to the challenges presented by the new districts by drawing closer together to present a unified voice to their legislators.

"I think [Newcastle is] closer to Upton than we were," she reasoned. "When we got split, it forced us to come together. We had to because we couldn't afford to be split."

James isn't sold on the idea that the current legislative district boundaries have been turned into a positive for the City of Newcastle, but he acknowledges that city officials have learned to make the best of the reality.

"I can't say that it has necessarily hurt us, but it hasn't done us any favors to deal with someone who has no connection to our community," he

suggested. "I think what has happened locally is we've done an excellent job with the city organization of surviving and getting by the best we can."

While there is agreement that present legislative districts may not have hurt Newcastle and Weston County, and may have even benefitted the communities politically over the course of the past decade, there is still a shared belief that things could have been much worse.

"Slightly different circumstances could have significantly changed the situation," Hunt said, indicating that different election outcomes could have left Newcastle and Weston County with representatives who weren't as receptive to the concerns of those communities and their residents.

He believes his House district, which stretches 150 miles from Newcastle to Torrington, is largely homogeneous, but admits there are pieces of legislation that force him to make choices between the communities he serves.

"It was certainly helpful to be able to get up there and say the people of my district support this or don't, and know that was solidly the case of the vast majority of the population, but there are a handful of issues, particularly when it comes to local government funding, where there is a huge clash between communities in a legislative district," he explained. "There are times when what is good for Torrington isn't good for Lusk, or when something good for the Goshen County School District is not good for Weston County School District No. 1."

A desire to be whole

The consequences of legislative redistricting may not have been as dire for Weston County as many feared 10 years ago, but there is still a belief that the county's lack of a concentrated voting block could result in a complete loss of representation in the state legislature.

"Weston County has the population for one House seat and one Senate seat right now, and they get neither. Your odds of getting a senator in the district the way it lays is somewhere between slim and none," Driskill said. "If they get the wrong person elected, they could get no representation."

Although that fear didn't become a reality in the past decade, officials who lost the redistricting battle the last time believe the potential still exists, and they are hoping for a better outcome this time around.

"We will always want Weston County to be whole, and I think we will fight for that again," said Ertman, who is now the

— See **Legislature**, Page 9

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Legislature from Page 1.....



Hans Hunt

ture will be more inclined to use county boundaries as a guide in drawing legislative district boundaries.

“We can do better this time,” Hunt predicted. “The legislature seems to be more inclined and open to the idea of trying to draw those lines along county boundaries where they can.”

Sen. Cale Case, R-Lander, helped guide the debate as the chair of the Corporations Committee 10 years ago. He acknowledged there will be an effort to adhere more to county boundaries when drawing new legislative districts, but cautioned that it will prove difficult in some instances.

“To actually mandate representation on county lines is really difficult to accomplish based on legal constraints,” he said, explaining that the population of each district created by the legislature must be within 5% of the average number of residents between each of the state’s 30 senate districts or 60 house districts.

“That is only a 10% range, and that is very challenging,” Case warned.

A statewide solution

Even with those challenges, a solution that keeps Weston County “whole” is possible, but the solution is likely to still require some compromise.

“You have to have a plan that works statewide. You can’t redistrict your corner of the world, and expect the rest of the state to adapt to you,” Driskill cautioned. “You can’t do redistricting that way.”

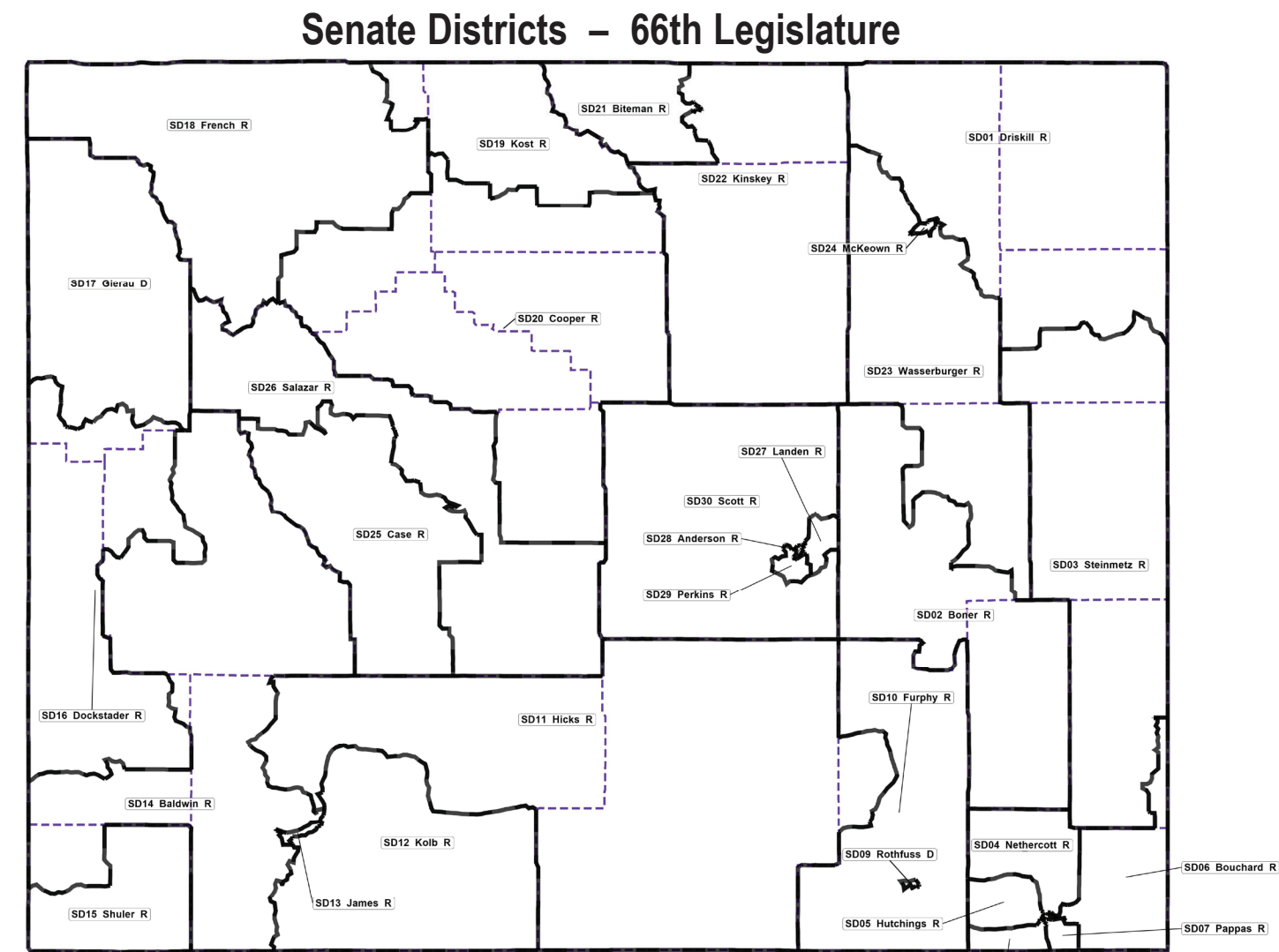
If there is hope to reunite Weston County’s voting block, however, it will require local officials and their legislative representatives to act quickly. Unlike the last time, those officials believe they are in a better position to ensure Weston County’s concerns are part of the conversation early in the process, and that may make a big difference.

“During the last redistricting, the northeast was the last piece to get put in the puzzle. The east side of the state is where they made all of the corrections at the end of the map, and we were the very last,” Driskill said. “My intent is that this time the northeast is where we start at.”

He pointed out that his co-chair on the Corporations Committee from the House, Dan Zwonitzer, R-Cheyenne, will be motivated by different concerns, however, and insisted that advocates for a solution to keep Weston County “whole” would have to work with other legislators to address concerns from their constituents as well.

“Almost any way that you cut northeast Wyoming, you have to deal with Sheridan, Johnson, Campbell, Crook and Weston in that corner to make it fall together,” Driskill reasoned.

Although he is no longer the chair, Case is still a member of the Senate Corporations Committee and will be able to offer his knowledge of the laws, constraints and technicalities associated with redistricting to the conversation. He said he thinks there are ways to improve representation within districts, but says the math and the



“I think it is every bit as important today, if not more so, to draw those lines along county boundaries as closely as possible. We need to do the best we can to ensure every community has a representative that they know is, relatively speaking, right next door.”

chair of the county commission, and hopes to use her experience and office to lobby for a better outcome for her constituents this time around.

“I think there is a contingency of us that will push,” she said. “We paid our dues, and we will go in with so much knowledge and so much patience that I think we will be okay.”

Hunt is also in a better position to influence the outcome of the debate than he was a decade ago, and he admitted he will use his new position on the Corporations Committee — which is tasked with designing a redistricting plan in the coming months — to advocate for an emphasis on respecting county boundaries to the greatest extent possible when legislative districts are drawn.

“I think it is every bit as important today, if not more so, to draw those lines along county boundaries as closely as possible,” Hunt said. “We need to do the best we can to ensure every community has a representative that they know is, relatively speaking, right next door.”

“I think it is appropriate to look at the needs of all of the folks, and the county structure is definitely one,” Meier agreed. “It was a political process which could have served the county structure better.”

Driskill still believes that to be true as well, and as the chair of the Corporations Committee, he may be in the best position to help steer the legislature toward a more desirable outcome for Weston County this time around.

“My promise to Weston County for a long time was to try to figure out how to put the county back together for them,” he told the *News Letter Journal*. “My intent is to keep Weston County whole this time.”

The fact that Weston County’s political leaders and elected representatives are certainly more seasoned this time around should help that cause, but there is also a belief that the legisla-

dynamic changes in the state’s population will make it almost impossible to make everyone happy. He suggests that a better way to keep county’s “whole” may be to focus on regions of similarity.

“I do know that it makes some sense to look at population numbers and look at a broad grouping. We could maybe try to look not at county boundaries but at area-of-interest boundaries,” he offered, indicating that he hopes the committee will at least consider a plan that includes multi-member districts. He believes such an approach provides more flexibility by allowing at-large representation within the district’s boundaries.

“That will be considered, I can tell you,” Driskill assured.

And so it begins

The release of preliminary figures from the 2020 census on Monday provided the first bit of data that will guide decision-makers, and the conversations around redistricting will start to pick up in the coming weeks. It is unlikely, however, that the committee will tackle the issue in depth until additional numbers are provided, and that will be several weeks from now.

“I don’t know that we will have much discussion about redistricting prior to July,” Hunt said, noting that the committee will probably try to address its other interim topics so they can put all of their energy and attention on redistricting when all of the data becomes available.

“To the greatest extent possible, we hope to focus on redistricting without being distracted by everything else,” Hunt said, indicating that the committee will probably participate in workshops to help its members understand the issue and the legal requirements associated with drawing legislative boundaries.

“It’s nice to have Hans’ knowledge there,” Ertman said when asked about the upcoming debates. The Weston County Commission chairman

said she feels more prepared for the battle this time as well. She also admits that the fact that the county did not suffer as much politically as many had feared the last time around will allow her to approach the debate differently.

“I look at things through a bigger scope now instead of a little tunnel. We did just fine, and we do know that, so I just don’t think there’s as much fire in the belly [this time],” she said.

Newcastle’s city clerk/treasurer agreed that local officials have learned that the impact of the legislature’s make-up is not as significant as people thought 10 years ago, and he anticipates that the conversations will be measured and reasonable.

“I can’t see anybody on the council pounding the pulpit over it,” James stated.

At the same time, most Weston County officials have been waiting for a decade to right what they felt was a political wrong, and the commitment is still strong to pursue that goal. There is also a belief that local leaders have done their homework and positioned themselves better this time around, and they are cautiously optimistic heading into the discussions.

“I am looking forward to it. I’m looking forward to the process and looking forward to being on the committee as opposed to being an outsider and a freshman who barely knew what to do,” Hunt said.

The makeup of the Corporations Committee has also changed considerably from a decade ago. That committee did not have any representatives from Wyoming’s 13 least populated counties, and all 14 of its members hailed from eight of the largest counties in the state.

“That is no longer true. The committee is more balanced than it was 10 years ago,” Hunt said, noting that in addition to he and Driskill, the east side of the state is also represented by voices from nearby Goshen and Converse counties, which

Redistricting in Wyoming

Institution

Wyoming has only one congressional district. Wyoming’s state legislative lines are drawn by the state legislature, as a regular statute, subject to gubernatorial veto.

Timing

The legislature’s constitutional deadline for drawing state legislative lines is the end of the first budget session after the Census; the next regular budget session is currently scheduled to begin Jan. 11, 2022. [Wyo. Const. art. III, §§ 6, 7, 48] Candidates must file for state legislative primary elections by May 27, 2022. [Wyo. Stat. §§ 22-2-104(b), 22-5-209] Wyoming ties the drawing of state legislative lines to the Census, and might therefore be construed to prohibit redrawing lines mid-decade. If Wyoming gets a second congressional district, those districts may be redrawn at any time. [Wyo. Const. art. III, §§ 48, 49]

Public Input

The legislature has not announced any specific plans for public input this cycle just yet.

Criteria

Like all states, Wyoming must comply with constitutional equal population requirements and abide by the Voting Rights Act and constitutional rules on race.

The Wyoming state courts have interpreted the state constitution to impose no requirement to minimize county splits. [Hunzie v. Maxfield, No. 179-562 (Wyo. Dist. Ct., Laramie Cnty. Nov. 30, 2015)] In 2011, the joint legislative committee responsible for redistricting adopted principles for state legislative districts; these guidelines were subject to change at any time. The legislature may or may not issue similar guidelines in this cycle.

2010 Cycle

Wyoming’s legislature passed a state legislative plan (HB 32) on Mar. 1, 2012, which was signed by the Governor on Mar. 6, 2012. The plan was challenged in state court, and upheld. [Hunzie v. Maxfield, No. 179-562 (Wyo. Dist. Ct., Laramie Cnty. Nov. 30, 2015)]

(Courtesy of redistricting.lls.edu/state/wyoming/?cycle=2020&level=State%20Upper&startdate=)

share similar concerns. He also expressed confidence in the experience and abilities of the committee members.

“The committee is a good one on the House side. It is a good, thoughtful, well-balanced, senior committee. We have no freshman on Corporations Committee in either house, so everybody is coming in with some knowledge,” he stated.

Data on county and city growth was not part of the report released by the U.S. Census Bureau this week,

but the agency has reported that states can expect those numbers by Aug. 16, and that is when the work on redistricting will really begin.

(Editor’s Note: Reporting for this piece was made possible through a grant from Wyoming Humanities funded by the “Why it Matters: Civic and Electoral Participation” initiative, administered by the Federation of State Humanities Councils and funded by Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.)

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Fundraiser for Little League a success

Walter Sprague
Art and Culture Reporter

VFW Post No. 2516 held a fundraiser on Friday, April 16, to benefit the Mefford Memorial Tournament. Complete with bingo, a silent auction and music from members of Nate Smith and the Caddywhompus Band, funds were raised to support the annual Little League tournament held every year. Unfortunately, restrictions due to COVID canceled last year's tournament. But the kids will play this year on Father's Day weekend, June 18-20.

The baseball tourney will be at 870 Birch St., in Newcastle, the baseball field next to the Weston County Senior Center.

With the motto "Make a child smile, and it's all worth it!" the fundraiser hosted bingo enthusiasts, young and old, and the VFW hall was packed, with plenty of overflow filling the bar. The "Pack the Post" event started at 6 p.m. and went well past 9. Refreshments included sloppy joes, chips and drinks. Overall, friends stayed for the whole event, having a wonderful evening filled with excitement, laughter and fun-filled fellowship. According to Stan Dixon, who called the bingo games, the fundraiser was a great success. With dozens of people playing bingo, bidding on donated silent auction items and baskets, and listening to the country sounds of Nate Smith and the Caddywhompus Band, the tournament folks couldn't be happier, said Brenda Shields, with the Mefford Memorial Tournament.

Shields said they were looking forward to a wonderful tournament. At the end of the night, \$5,193 was raised to help pay for gloves, shoes, bats and other equipment and for registration fees for kids who would otherwise be unable to play.

Above, Jackie Guzman and Kimberly Bryant have a wonderful time, hoping to get a Bingo. At right, Stan Dixon called out the numbers for the Bingo games as dozens of people had fun playing. Far right, Chris and Kristi Dittmer dance to Nate Smith and the Caddywhompus Band, helping to celebrate Kristi's Birthday.



Photos by Walter Sprague/NLJ



COVID-19

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COMING UP:

Soccer @ Riverton
Soccer vs. Torrington
Track: Buffalo Twilight

Sports

News Letter Journal

SPORTS SCHEDULES

NEWCASTLE:

NHS Men's Soccer			
4/30	J/V	Riverton HS	A 3PM
5/3	V	Torrington HS	H 4PM
5/6	J/V	Torrington HS	A 4PM
NHS Ladies' Soccer			
4/30	J/V	Riverton HS	A 3PM
5/3	V	Torrington HS	A 4PM
5/6	J/V	Torrington HS	H 4PM
NHS Track			
4/30	V9	Buffalo Twilight	A 2PM
5/1	V9	Lusk	A TBA
5/7	V9	Torrington	A TBA
Rodeo			
4/30-May 1	@	Newcastle	H 9 AM
NMS Track			
4/29		Wright	A TBA
5/8		NE B District	H 8:30AM
UPTON:			
UHS Track			
4/30		HS/MS Wright	A
5/1		Lusk	A
UMS Track			
4/30		HS/MS Wright	A
5/1		Gillette	A

Spring vs. winter

Schizophrenia (skitsə'frēnēə, skitsə'frēnēə)

noun

a long-term mental disorder of a type involving a breakdown in the relation between thought, emotion, and behavior, leading to faulty perception, inappropriate actions and feelings, withdrawal from reality and personal relationships into fantasy and delusion, and a sense of mental fragmentation.

(in general use) a mentality or approach characterized by inconsistent or contradictory elements.

origin

early 20th century: modern Latin, from Greek skhizein 'to split' + phrēn 'mind.'

According to New Oxford American Dictionary.

(Source:)

Do I need to say more? OK, maybe a little bit of context will help. So, go reread the title of this column. That should explain everything.

— See **Sprague**, Page 12

Newcastle's ladies are on fire

Sonja Karp
NLJ Sports Reporter

The Lady Dogies are on a roll. Four shutouts in a row, nine different players scoring against Douglas and a first ever defeat of the Buffalo Lady Bison are the highlights from last weekend, and head coach Cami Willyard's crew is just getting started.

On Friday, the Lady Dogies hosted the No. 3-ranked Buffalo Lady Bison. In the squad's first meeting, Newcastle had a slow start but came back in the second half to tie the contest 3-3. This time, they came out strong putting three points on the scoreboard by halftime, and held Buffalo scoreless throughout.

"I can't even tell you how proud I am of the girls. We just put everything we've been working on together against Buffalo," Willyard beamed. "We were three for three shots on goal in the first half, so we were efficient."

The Lady Dogies dominated the first half and Willyard admitted being surprised that her squad had only gotten off three shots throughout those 40 minutes.

At just a minute and a half into the contest, Newcastle maneuvered a dangerous ball in the box. Gabby McVay shot it off the post and Claire Beastron was right there to knock it in for the Lady Dogies' first goal of the day.

Halfway through the first, Beastron once again found the back of the net to put her team up 2-0.

"Claire was about 30 yards out, and she used the wind to put it in the top left corner of the net," Willyard explained. "It was a pretty shot that was just well placed."

With short time remaining in the first, Lara Lopez sent a cross pass to MacKenzie Conzelman on the right side at the back post, finishing high to take a 3-0 lead into the mid game break.

"Going up 3-0 was like a mirror of the first time we played them, only this



Photo by Sonja Karp/NLJ

Gabby McVay raced the Lady Bearcat defender to the ball in the Lady Dogies' 10-0 routing of Douglas on Monday. McVay was a step faster and was able to execute one of her three shots on goal.

time we were in the lead," Willyard said. "It was a little scary so I just told them to be proud and be confident, but don't be satisfied."

"They played so well in that first half and let's talk about that defensive line," she said. "As a unit, I've not seen them play like that all year long. They don't get the glory but they won the game for us for sure, because they shut down the No. 1 goal scorer in the state."

LaKacee Lipp, Caitlyn Perhinger, Emily Beastron and Alaina Steveson are the crew that make up the Lady Dogies' back line. These four also had the added pressure of playing the entire 80 minutes without a break, defending against two of the most productive scorers in 3A, and they rose to the challenge.

For the first 11 or 12 minutes of the second half, Buffalo came out firing,

trying to make up their deficit, but Newcastle was having none of it.

"Angel [Perez] had some really good saves during that part of the game," Willyard said. "Then we found our composure and started finding feet and playing our game so possession swung our way for the last 28 minutes."

The Lady Dogies rode the

— See **Ladies**, Page 12

Dogie men starting to make gains

Sonja Karp
NLJ Sports Reporter

The Dogies have been progressively showing improvement this season, and last weekend was no exception to that rule. Though they emerged from it without a win, in their contest against Buffalo on

Friday and their partial game against Douglas on Monday, head coach Elyse Dickey and assistant coach Sally Hoover agreed that the men are beginning to put things together.

"Overall, we played much better than we have been playing. We were connecting passes and possessing better

than we have been," Dickey declared. "The score didn't look great, but we looked a lot better and you could tell from their demeanor that the guys felt better about how they played."

Hoover made a point to note that the squad also played a much more consistent game,

rather than coming out strong in the first half only to falter in the second.

The Bison held a 4-0 lead going into the half, and put four more into the back of the net by the end of the contest, however they had to work hard to get those goals.

Buffalo scored four times

on corner kicks which Hoover admitted that the boys had a hard time adjusting to and defending.

"If we could have figured out those corners, the score would have been much different," Hoover said. "We will

— See **Men**, Page 18



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Ladies

from Page 11

NHS Ladies' Soccer

Newcastle v. Buffalo 4/23/21 3-0
Claire Beaström: 2-3 shots on goal
Lara Lopez: 1 assist
Alaina Laurence: 0-1 shot on goal
Gabby McVay: 0-2 shots on goal
MacKenzie Conzelman: 1-1 shot on goal
Angel Perez: 6 saves, 1 shutout

Newcastle v. Douglas 4/26/21 10-0
Lara Lopez: 0-1 shot on goal
Claire Beaström: 1-2 shots on goal, 1 assist
Emily Beaström: 1 assist
Alaina Laurence: 1-2 shots on goal, 1 assist
Caitlyn Pehringer: 1-1 shot on goal
Gabby McVay: 1-3 shots on goal
MacKenzie Conzelman: 2-2 shots on goal, 1 assist
Shawnee Miles: 1-1 shot on goal; 1 assist
McKenzie Rose: 1-2 shots on goal
Kyah Miller: 1-3 shots on goal
Zariah Ward: 1-3 shots on goal
Angel Perez: 3 saves, 1 assist, 1 shutout



Photo by Walter Sprague/NLJ

The Lady Dogies got a big win over the No. 3-ranked Lady Bison of Buffalo on Friday. Lara Lopez, as a member of her team's offensive line, helped her squad to their 3-0 advantage.

momentum of their win on Friday into their makeup contest against Douglas on Monday at Schoonmaker Field.

It was a whirlwind of scoring in the first 10 minutes of play with Newcastle putting five points on the board. Claire Beaström opened up the scoring frenzy in less than two minutes after kickoff with the first goal of the game, assisted by MacKenzie Conzelman. A minute later Conzelman found the back of the net and then within a minute and a half, goalkeeper Perez booted the ball down the field to Conzelman who took a touch and shot the ball over the Bearcat goalie's head into the back corner for her second goal of the contest bringing the Lady Dogie lead to 3-0.

"We knew that Douglas is struggling a bit this year, so I challenged the girls to get something out of the game," Willyard said. "We had a goal of finding the sideline, the wings and the corners, and also to finish." The ladies took the challenge to heart and from the start dictated the way the game was going to be played and didn't allow the Bearcats to gain any confidence throughout.

Alaina Laurence was the next Lady Dogie to score and showed off her skills by launching a shot from 35 yards out into the back of the net at the 32:26 mark.

Gabby McVay was good on one of her three shots on goal 10:30 into the game, which extended the Lady Dogie lead

to 5-0.

At that point, Willyard encouraged her girls to get other players opportunities to score, and to challenge themselves to attempt to score with a header.

McKenzie Rose, Shawnee Miles and Zariah Ward each got their first goal of the season. Rose got hers with 18:01 to play in the first half, Miles was first to score in the second half when she found the back of the net from an assist by Laurence at the 31:53 mark, and Ward scored the last goal of the contest with 2:50 to play.

Caitlyn Pehringer made the last goal of the first half with 13:48 to play, and Kyah Miller scored the ninth goal of the contest at 28:10 to go.

Perez completed her fourth consecutive shutout, and had three saves on the day.

"We had nine girls score

against Douglas, and there were six assists on those 10 goals, which is an improvement for us this year," Willyard nodded. "We were able to sub freely and it was fun for a lot of girls to have opportunities that they don't always get."

The Lady Dogies' next challenge is a rematch against Riverton on the road Friday. In their first meeting, Newcastle got the better of them 2-0, however Willyard stated that the Lady Wolverines are playing well right now.

"They only lost to Buffalo 2-1 and they tied Lander who is ranked No. 1 in the state right now," she stated. "They are pretty hot right now, so it will be a good game for us."

Then on Monday, May 3, the ladies will travel to Torrington for a makeup game against the Lady Trailblazers.

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Sprague

from Page 11

Now, do I need to say more? I thought not.

But I'm going to. You didn't think you would get away from my innermost thoughts, did ya? In my mind's eye, I can see a bunch of you sighing in resignation and saying to yourselves, "Not again!" At the same time, I see a few imaginary fans of mine jumping up and down and shouting at the top of their lungs, "Not again!" But since I control my MacBook, I'm going to continue. So there!

I woke up on Wednesday morning, saw a robin in my front yard. Now, this is the third winter I've had to endure in the new North Pole (see "Santa relocates to Wyoming" in the *News Letter Journal*, December 26, 2019, page 17, for clarification — well ... maybe, maybe not). I've been told that if I survived two or three winters here, I would probably choose to stay.

So, y'all are stuck with me. Neener, neener. But that's not the point. I saw a robin. Now a robin is a bird with a bright orange/red breast with letters painted on the red saying, and I quote, "SPRING IS HERE! YIPPIE!" At least that is what I saw. This probably is why I was dancing around in my yard last Wednesday. But it was all a tease. So, in retrospect, I'm glad nobody was about to see me dance. That would have been embarrassing. I avoid embarrassment at all costs. That's why I write these stupid columns because that's dignified.

I can see the weather gods up there laughing at me now. It's like Heat Miser and Snow Miser have finally learned how to get along with each other, but they're still mean little buggers. Instead of taking out their vindictive nature on each other, they've decided to go back and forth with us. If you don't know who the Miser brothers are, watch "A Year Without a Santa Claus." That's a very educational movie, and you'll come away much wiser and make smarter choices for your life.

I was taking out the trash Wednesday night. It was a pleasant 40 degrees. And in between steps, everything changed. One step planted firmly on the grass. The very next step sunk into 4 inches of snow. What the hell is that?

But it didn't last. Thursday was white when I first went outside. By noon, it was spring again. And we had a fairly decent weekend. That is until Sunday night. Heat Miser stepped aside, and Snow Miser leaped forward and firmly took to our state again. I woke up, and 150 feet of snow

had covered everything! It is April 19 as I write this. Again I ask, what the hell is this?

I don't blame the Miser brothers; I blame their mom, Mother Nature. She's schizophrenic. Her mind is characterized by inconsistent or contradictory elements, and that's definite. She's over there, where ever "there" is, thinking to herself, "Let it be warm, let it be cold, let the sunshine in, white out the country, blather-blather-blather." Personally, I'm sick of her whiny, nasal voice. I want to find out where she lives and send in the militia. Bomb her back to the dark ages and be done with her ever-changing attitudes. I don't mind the changes, mind you. But can't it be a bit less extreme? She swings back and forth way too much.

The snow is pretty, I will give you that. But on April 19 ... I repeat... APRIL DANG 19 ... I'm shoveling snow, scraping ice off the car, and freezing my butt off again! This is not March. It's April! What is wrong with spring?

As I said, I don't blame the Miser brothers, but I do wish they would grow a pair against their mom. But have you seen these guys? They're wieners, backing down and grudgingly saying, "Yes, Mother." Sick little buggers. And they're weak. They have magic on their side, so that's not where they are soft. But Heat Miser is a fat jerk, and Snow Miser is a skinny stick wearing a coat that has tails. What can you expect?

It is Mother Nature's fault. Her control over her sons is absolute. And sure, the movie portrays her as a benevolent, if snarky, old woman who wants to make sure America gets to have Christmas. And that may be true. But I'm not an expert there.

However, I know that Christmas was four months ago, and Mother Nature doesn't care now. I think she also dropped a bit too much acid rain, and I'm certain drugs do lead to schizophrenia.

So now, we are here, getting ready to enjoy barbecue hamburgers and hot dogs and picnics on the lawn. But NOOOO! Some really high, old bitty decides she can't make up her mind about what the weather should be, so she just goes back and forth and again and again.

In the words of George Carlin, "Tonight's weather: Dark. Continued mostly dark throughout the night with widely scattered light in the morning." Beyond that, who can tell? Welcome to Wyoming.

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Newcastle Dogies

Girls Varsity Soccer

2020-21



Back row from left: Coach Cami Willyard, McKenzie Clark-Brownlow, Hailey Wehri, Alaina Laurence, Claire Beastrom, MacKenzie Conzelman, Emily Beastrom, Shawnee Miles, Kyah Miller, Mia Peterson.
Front row: Caitlyn Pehringer, Alaina Steveson, Laura Lopez, Angel Perez, LaKacee Lipp, Sammy Simmons, Gabby McVay.



Junior Varsity

Back row from left: Emilia Lichtenberger, Taylor Crinklaw, MacKenzie Rose, Katie Rose, Ava Williams, MacKenzie Conzelman, Victoria Pehringer, Zariah Ward, Shawnee Miles, Jessica Wildermuth, Coach Ashley Reed. Front row: Peyton Crinklaw, Mia Peterson, Kyah Miller, Andrea Garcia, Sammy Simmons, McKenzie Clark-Brownlow, Leti Ayers.

#GoDogies

#HornsUp

#Soccer

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DATE	HI	LO
S-18	52	23
M-19	62	23
T-20	31	20
W-21	34	15
T-22	41	15
F-23	55	31
S-24	49	27

Legal Notice

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

In the Matter of the Change of Name of Xandra Marie Gallardo Civil Action Case No. CV-2073

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

You are hereby notified that a Petition For Change of Name, Civil Action No. CV-2073, has been filed on behalf of (current full name) Xandra Marie Gallardo in the Wyoming District Court for the 6th Judicial District, whose address is (address of District Court) 1 West Main, the object and prayer of which is to change the name of the above-named person from Xandra Marie Gallardo to Xandra Marie Goodrich.

Any objection must be filed with the District Court within 30 days following the last date of publication of this notice, or an Order Granting Name Change may be granted without further notice. Dated this 2 day of April, 2021

By Clerk of Court
Tina Cote by Riki Bartels
Clerk of District Court/ Deputy

(Publish April 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2021)

Legal Notice

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

In the Matter of the Change of Name of Xavin Edmund Gallardo Civil Action Case No. CV-2074

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

You are hereby notified that a Petition For Change of Name, Civil Action No. CV-2074, has been filed on behalf of (current full name) Xavin Edmund Gallardo in the Wyoming District Court for the 6th Judicial District, whose address is (address of District Court) 1 West Main, the object and prayer of which is to change the name of the above-named person from Xavin Edmund Gallardo to Xavin Edmund Goodrich.

Any objection must be filed with the District Court within 30 days following the last date of publication of this notice, or an Order Granting Name Change may be granted without further notice. Dated this 2 day of April, 2021

By Clerk of Court
Tina Cote by Riki Bartels
Clerk of District Court/ Deputy

(Publish April 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2021)

Legal Notice

ORDINANCE NO. 1, SERIES 2021

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 22-20 OF THE CITY OF NEWCASTLE, WYOMING MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING THE CREATION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF TREE ADVISORY BOARD AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, The Governing Body for the City of Newcastle, Wyoming has recommended the amendment of Ordinance No. 22-20 of the City of Newcastle Municipal Code as hereinafter set forth; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City of Newcastle held final reading of said proposed amended ordinance 22-20 on April 19, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City of Newcastle publicly read proposed amended Ordinance 22-20 on three different days, pursuant to W.S. 15-1-115(c); and

WHEREAS, passage of the proposed Ordinance received the affirmative vote of the majority of the qualified members of the Governing Body of the City of Newcastle; and WHEREAS, adoption of proposed amended Ordinance 22-20 as hereinafter set forth will recognize changing conditions in the City of Newcastle and is in harmony with the purpose of the City of Newcastle Municipal Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF NEWCASTLE, WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING that:

Budget Notice

BUDGET HEARING NOTICE SUNSET RANCH WATER DISTRICT BUDGET HEARING - MAY 11, 2021

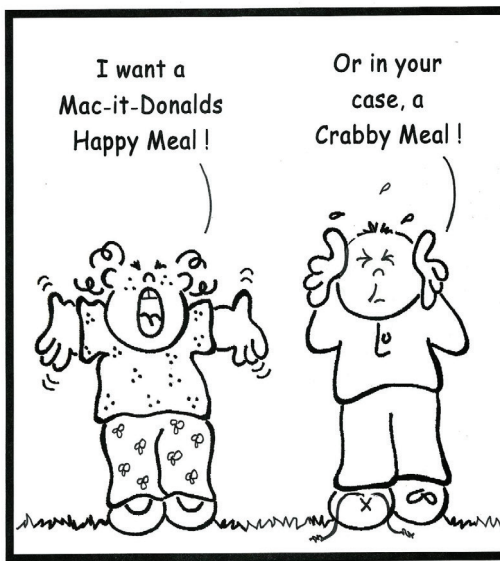
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing on the proposed budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022 will be held in the private dining room at the Pizza Barn at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 11, 2021.

PROPOSED BUDGET

Receipts	
Monthly Water Usage	22,320
Tax Receipts	3,500
Wyo-Star Dividends	1,200
Cash Reserves	3,050
Total Receipts	\$30,070
Expenditures	
Accounting Services	2,400
Advertising	400
Billing Services	1,800
Electricity	1,500
Insurance	600
Land Lease for Meter House	1,550
Maintenance and Repairs	3,000
Meter Reading Service	1,800
Meter Replacements	1,800
Office Supplies	240
One Call of Wyoming	155
Postage and Mailing	320
Safe Deposit Box	20
System Operator	5,760
Water Purchased from City	8,000
Water Testing	725
Total Expenditures	\$30,070

(Publish April 29, 2021)

Gwamma by JaNel M. Farnsworth



Fun and Games

SESAME STREET

ACROSS

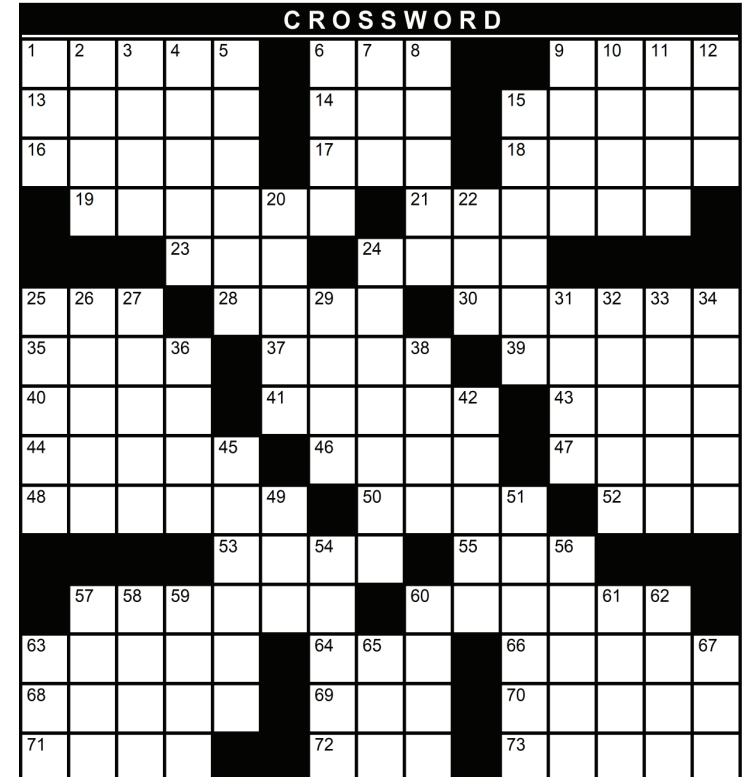
- Scarecrow stuffing
- Observe
- Kind of ski lift
- "Fear of Flying" author Jong
- Madame Tussauds' medium
- Fervent
- Never say this?
- You to are is as thou to

- Skylit lobbies
- "It isn't easy "bein' green" for him
- *First bilingual Sesame Street puppet
- Flower precursor
- Rental on the links
- Rowing prop
- Banana remnant
- Besmear
- Poker variety
- Away from wind
- Like helium gas
- Coconut fiber
- Like an iPhone
- Singular of #33 Down
- Per _____, or yearly
- Guesstimate phrase, 2 words
- Raise, as in child
- Bob Marley's music
- TV classic "_____ Make a Deal"
- Hi-_____ monitor
- Oscar Wilde's Dorian _____
- *Sesame Street's Meryl Sheep
- *Every starred clue in this puzzle
- *Self-described as lovable, cute and furry
- One born to Japanese immigrants
- Be in the red
- He had no cause?
- Thin mountain ridge
- Local area network
- Unmanned flyer
- Hospital statistics unit, pl.
- NaOH
- Church assembly

Down

- D.C. V.I.P.
- "Star _____"
- Either Gauche or Droite in Paris
- Like a lemon
- Beginning of a workout
- Special law enforcement unit, acr.
- Elephant's distinguished feature
- Uncredited actor
- Lake _____caca, South America
- *Ernie's roommate
- Diva's delivery
- Swedish shag rug
- "_____ your seatbelts"
- Think tank output
- Eyeball shape
- "I can see _____ now the rain has gone..."
- *Trash can dweller
- Be sorry for one's wickedness
- Repenting
- *He avoids pronouns and speaks in falsetto
- Gloomy
- More competent
- Arm bones
- *Mama, Papa, Baby and Curly
- Chemical cure
- Gaelic tongue
- Load carrier
- Crow's cousin
- Old English for before
- Arya Stark's Needle and Jedi's Lightsaber, e.g.

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Last week's answers

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Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act and the Wyoming Public Service Commission's (Commission) Procedural Rules and Special Regulations, notice is hereby given of the Application of Black Hills Wyoming Gas, LLC d/b/a Black Hills Energy (BHWG or the Company), for authority to pass on a Transportation Rate Adjustment (TRA) rate decrease of \$0.0035 per therm to all of its customers.

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

2. On April 15, 2021, BHWG filed an Application for authority to pass on a TRA rate decrease of \$0.0035 per therm to all its customers, effective June 1, 2021. The Company is requesting a TRA rate of (\$0.0004) per therm, which reflects a decrease of \$0.0035 per therm from the currently effective rate of \$0.0031 per therm. The Company's TRA provides for an annual adjustment in order to align rates with delivery costs incurred. This is the final year BHWG's TRA is effective, with the collection period ending on May 31, 2022. Any remaining balance at that time, positive or negative, will be transferred to the Company's Gas Cost Adjustment FERC Account 191.

3. BHWG states that its TRA only consists of the Surcharge TRA rate in this final effective year. The Company states the adjustment reflects a decrease in TRA costs to Wyoming

customers over the twelve-month period ending May 31, 2022. BHWG also states it will apply its TRA decrease uniformly to each tariff schedule and its proposed rate of \$0.0035 per therm will refund an estimated \$76,188 to its customers during the period June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022.

4. This is not a complete description of the Application. Interested persons may inspect the Application at BHWG's business office and at the Commission's offices in Cheyenne, Wyoming, or online at: <http://psc.state.wy.us/>.

5. Anyone desiring to file a statement, intervention petition, protest, or request for a public hearing in this matter must file in writing with the Commission on or before May 17, 2021. A proposed intervention or request for hearing must set forth the grounds under which they are made and the position and interest of the petitioner in this proceeding. Please mention Docket Number 30026-41-GA-21 (Record No. 15766) in your communications.

6. If you wish to intervene in this matter or request a public hearing that you will attend, or want to make a statement, a protest, or a public comment, and you require reasonable accommodation for a disability, please contact the Commission at (307) 777-7427, or write to the Commission at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, to make arrangements. Communications-impaired persons may also contact the Commission by accessing Wyoming Relay at 711.
Dated: April 16, 2021.

(Publish April 22 and 29, 2021)

Cowboy State Look-In

Courtesy of the Wyoming News Exchange



College approves cuts

CODY (WNE) — Long-dreaded cuts have finally arrived at Northwest College. The trustees approved some \$2.6 million in cuts Monday evening, the culmination of a months long process to overcome the funding deficit for the coming year.

The cuts, which had been talked about for at least the last six months, were forced after Gov. Mark Gordon and the Legislature cut community college funding by nearly \$20 million across the state at the close of the legislative session. Low returns from the fossil fuel

and mineral industries in the state in 2020 were the primary culprits for the funding reduction the community colleges faced.

The cuts will shrink an already reduced faculty even more. Five faculty members will be laid off, while another six support staff will be let go. Another four full-time and one part-time instructional positions will simply not be filled. A total of 10 faculty positions (including one part-time position) are being cut in music, animal science, biology, English, education, math, communication and

anthropology departments.

With these cuts, the faculty has been reduced by more than 25% since 2013.

Trustees called the decision "difficult" but said their hands were tied.

"We all talk about how these are tough decisions," said Meeteetse trustee Larry Todd prior to the vote. "Regardless of how the vote comes out, I'm not going to be happy with it either way. I guarantee once I go into my lab and put that hat on again, I'm going to kick myself in the butt for going with this recommendation."

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having occurred and all prerequisites to foreclosure having been met, notice is hereby given that the mortgage given by Edward C. Kiesling and Beverly A. Kiesling, Trustees of the Edward and Beverly Kiesling Trust Dated the 16th day of October, 2014, mortgagors, in favor of Pinnacle Bank Wyoming, mortgagee, dated August 13, 2018, recorded August 14, 2018, in Book 380 of Photos, Page 242, in the Records of the Clerk of Weston County, Wyoming, given to secure payment of a note in the original amount of One Hundred Twenty Six Thousand Three Hundred Seventy Eight Dollars and 00/100 (\$126,378.00). A modification of mortgage was recorded on December 20, 2019, in Book 388 of Photos, Page 913 of the Records of Weston County, Wyoming, and a modification of mortgage was recorded August 18, 2020, in Book 392 of Photos, page 700 of the Records of Campbell County, Wyoming. The amount due as of April 8, 2021, is One Hundred Thirty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Three Dollars and 16/100 (\$139,553.16), plus accruing interest, fees and costs. Said mortgage contains a power of sale which by reason of default the owner of the Note and Mortgage declares to have become operative and no suit or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt secured by the mortgage or any part thereof, nor has any such suit or proceeding been instituted and the same discontinued. Written notice of intent to foreclose

the Mortgage by advertisement and sale has been served upon the record owner and the party in possession of the mortgaged premises at least ten days prior to the commencement of this publication. The property being foreclosed upon may be subject to other liens and encumbrances that will not be extinguished at the sale and any prospective purchaser should research the status of title before submitting the bid.

Therefore, said mortgage will be foreclosed by sale of the real property described as:

TOWNSHIP 46 NORTH, RANGE 64 WEST, 6TH P.M., WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING SECTION 24: E1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4 SECTION 25: NW1/4NE1/4

which has the address of 347 Oil City Road, Osage, Wyoming 82723, to be sold by public auction by the Sheriff to the highest bidder, for cash, at 10:00 a.m. on May 18, 2021, at the front steps of the Weston County Courthouse, 1 West Main, Newcastle, Wyoming 82701. The sale will take place only if a representative of Pinnacle Bank Wyoming, or its agent, is present.

Pinnacle Bank Wyoming
By: Michael J. Lansing
Chapman Valdez & Lansing
125 West 2nd Street
P.O. Box 2710
Casper, WY 82602
(307) 237-1983

(Publish: April 15, 22, 29, and May 6, 2021)

Yellowstone to debut shuttles

POWELL (WNE) — Visitors to Yellowstone National Park may be able to catch a glimpse of a rare kind of ... vehicle this summer.

As part of a new, first-of-its-kind pilot program, the National Park Service will test out new automated shuttles in the Canyon Village area from late May through the end of August. The two driverless vehicles will operate at low speeds and stay within the Canyon area — only shuttling people from campgrounds and hotels to restaurants and visitor centers.

The slow-moving electric vehicles will not be operating entirely on their own, either. As a Yellowstone webpage explains, "Each shuttle will have its own onboard attendant who will monitor safety and can take over the shuttle operation at any time."

Park officials and contractor Beep, Inc., are also conducting weeks of onsite testing and safety checks before opening the shuttles to visitors.

"A successful pilot needs to ensure that safety comes first," says a Yellowstone webpage dedicated to the program. "We will be able to measure and mitigate this in real time as we actively monitor all shuttle activity and environmental conditions."

The Park Service says it will be collecting data on ridership, speed, stop times, how often the attendants have to override the vehicle and more.

The two shuttles delivered to Canyon Village on Monday have been decked out with park-themed imagery bearing the moniker T.E.D.D.Y. — shorthand for "The Electric Driverless Demonstration in Yellowstone."

Budget cuts close group home

GILLETTE (WNE) — The Greenhouse Group Home will no longer house residents beginning July 1 as a result of state-wide budget cuts that reduced funding for behavioral health programs throughout the state.

The six-bed group home in Gillette, operated in partnership between the Council of Community Services and Campbell County Health, will relocate its residents and lay off its seven full-time workers by the start of July, said Mikel Scott, executive director of the

Council of Community Services.

As part of a more than \$15 million cut from the Wyoming Department of Health's Behavioral Health Division, CCH had about \$800,000 cut from its Behavioral Health Services Community Mental Health Center Grant for fiscal year 2022.

The Greenhouse Group Home's funding was slashed by more than half with the cuts, forcing it to close and prompting both organizations to evaluate other uses for the Greenhouse

facility, according to a CCH press release.

CCH has subcontracted the Council of Community Services to run the group home for the past 15 years. The home has given housing and stability to adults experiencing mental illness and homelessness with the goal of transitioning them into the community.

Both organizations sought solutions to keep the group home open in some capacity, but could not find a feasible way given the cut in state money, Scott said.

Legal Notice

FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE

Payment default occurred under the terms of a promissory note ("Note") and real estate mortgage ("Mortgage"). The Mortgage dated November 3, 2017 was granted by Jason Donner ("Mortgagor") to Sundance State Bank ("Mortgagee") as security for the Note of the same date executed by Jason Donner. The Mortgage was recorded on November 7, 2017 in the office of the Weston County Clerk as Document # 763909, Book 375, Page 766 at the County Clerk and ex-officio Register of Deeds in and for Weston County, State of Wyoming.

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

Written notice of intent to foreclose the Mortgage by advertisement and sale was served upon the record owner and the party in possession of the mortgaged premises at least ten (10) days prior to the commencement of this publication. The amount due upon the Mortgage as of the date of first publication of this notice of sale (4/29/2021) is calculated as \$7,229.26, which sum consists of the unpaid principal balance of \$6,154.89, plus accrued interest in the amount of \$123.62, plus \$40.00 in late charges, plus \$910.75 in attorney fees and costs. Fees, costs, interest and late charges continue to accrue from and after the date of first publication of this notice.

Sundance State Bank, as the Mortgagee, will have the Mortgage foreclosed as provided by law by causing the mortgaged property described below to be sold at public venue by the Sheriff or Deputy Sheriff in and for Weston

County, Wyoming to the highest bidder for cash at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon on June 1, 2021 at the front door of the Weston County Courthouse located at 1 West Main, Newcastle, Wyoming, for application on the above-described amounts secured by the Mortgage, said mortgaged property being described as follows, to-wit (the "Mortgaged Property"):

LOT 5 AND THE WEST 25 FEET OF LOT 6 IN BLOCK 29 OF SAWMILL ADDITION OF THE TOWN OF UPTON, WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED APRIL 21, 2014 AS INSTRUMENT NUMBER 750924, which is sometimes commonly known as 439 Division Street, Upton, WY 82730, together with all improvements thereon situate and all easements, appurtenances, and fixtures thereto.

The Mortgaged Property does not include the 2000 Redman Bonanza mobile home VIN # 450027701540 presently located at 439 Division Street, Upton, WY 82730, or any personal property not encumbered by the Mortgage. Sundance State Bank anticipates offering the mobile home for sale separately. Please contact Sundance State Bank for information concerning the mobile home.

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

Sundance State Bank
By: Bradley C. Sweat
Crowley Fleck PLLP
111 West 2nd Street, Suite 220
Casper, WY 82601
1-844-280-7990

(Publish April 29, May 6, May 13, and May 20, 2021)

Arch leaving Powder River Basin

GILLETTE (WNE) — An accelerated plan to exit the Powder River Basin continues for Arch Resources Inc., which reported Thursday that it's on pace to stop producing coal from its Coal Creek mine by the end of the year and to account for about 80% of its reclamation obligations at the mine by mid-2022.

"We are methodically harvesting value and cash from our legacy thermal assets while working down our long-term closure obligations in a systematic and measured way," said Arch CEO Paul A. Lang in a 2021 first-quarter earnings report released Thursday morning.

The company already has completed \$8 million worth of work in reducing Coal Creek's retirement obligations along with \$2 million for

its flagship Black Thunder mine near Wright.

Overall, Arch reports a net loss of \$6 million for the first quarter of the year, compared to losing \$78.5 million in the fourth quarter of 2020 and \$344.6 million overall in 2020.

After a sluggish start to the new year in January and February, mostly fueled by a continuing lag from the COVID-19 pandemic, Lang said the company had a very good March and is optimistic for that to continue into the summer.

He also said that while the PRB mines continue to show a profit, at 98 cents per ton in the first quarter, the company remains committed to extracting itself from thermal coal and the Powder River Basin.

Gordon approves rental assistance

CASPER (WNE) — Gov. Mark Gordon signed legislation Wednesday authorizing a federal rental assistance program in Wyoming paid for with \$200 million in pandemic relief dollars.

The application process for the program is expected to open 8 a.m. Tuesday.

The rental assistance program isn't new, but it has been reorganized under the Department of Family Services.

A previous rental assistance program paid for by federal pandemic relief dollars went largely unused in the state. The Wyoming Community Development Authority had been overseeing that program,

which distributed fewer than \$2 million from the \$15 million earmarked for the program.

Officials said a combination of strict eligibility requirements and high rates of denial contributed to the relative ineffectiveness.

That program has not been active since December, meaning federal rental assistance hasn't been available in Wyoming for several months.

Officials are hoping this iteration of the program will distribute a much greater share of aid. Applicants can use the funds to pay for late fees and utilities as well as housing costs.

Applicants will need to

meet income-based eligibility criteria and will need to prove their housing instability is related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We are very thankful to Governor Gordon and the Wyoming Legislature for giving us the opportunity to help families who rent their home to avoid homelessness while recovering from the impacts of the pandemic," Department of Family Services Director Korin Schmidt said in a release Wednesday. "The program also will help landlords, many of whom are small businesses, avoid financial difficulties when their renters cannot pay."

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News Letter Journal

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Tidyman becomes first individual qualifier

Sonja Karp
NLJ Sports Reporter

It was cold and windy on the wide open plains in Douglas Friday, and Dogie head track coach Chad Ostenson admitted it wasn't one of his team's best days, however a few of the Dogies and Lady Dogies managed to do some good things before heading back home.

Shelby Tidyman didn't let the adverse weather conditions stand in her way as she became the first Newcastle trackster to put up a qualifying time in an individual event. In her fourth-place finish in the 100 Meter Dash, the sophomore clocked in at 13.35, which was .03 of a second under the 3A standard.

"The girls scored pretty well considering there were only four of them, and the boys tied for fourth, so that's not too bad," Ostenson began. "It was kind of a tough day so they competed pretty good, considering. Shelby ran well against some good competition and cut half a second off her 200, but she just really had a great race in the 100."

The Lady Dogies had only four competing, yet were just one point shy of sixth place out of 10 teams. Tidyman and Jaylen Ostenson scored 32 of the squad's 38 points, while Tiernan Stanton added the other six.

Tidyman earned 14 points with her finish in the 100 Meter Dash, she also was fifth in the 200 Meter Race, and fourth in the long jump. Ostenson picked up 18 with a third-place finish in the 100 Meter Hurdle, second in the 300 Meter Hurdle and fifth in the discus throw, and Stanton was third overall in the shot put.

"Jaylen had a pretty good day," Ostenson nodded. "She was right on, or better than, her best times in the hurdles and she PR'd in the discus by seven feet. Jay was leading in the 100 until about the fifth or sixth hurdle

NHS Track		
Newcastle @ Douglas Invite 4/23/21	Long Jump:	400M:
Women's Team Results:	1. Douglas 135	3. Zach Purviance 54.18
1. Douglas 135	2. Buffalo 122.5	6. Tristan Troftgruben 57.05
2. Buffalo 122.5	3. Glenrock 79.5	1600M:
3. Glenrock 79.5	4. Cheyenne South 78	8. Bridger Alishouse 5:22.89
4. Cheyenne South 78	5. Wheatland 59.5	300M Hurdles:
5. Wheatland 59.5	6. Wright 39	2. Grayson Ramsey 45.31
6. Wright 39	7. Newcastle 38	PR
7. Newcastle 38	8. Moorcroft 34	5. Dylan Drost 47.09
8. Moorcroft 34	9. Sundance 29	4x100M Relay: 46.59
9. Sundance 29	10. Shoshoni 15	1. Dylan Drost, Gunner Ramsey, Grayson Ramsey, Holden McConkey
10. Shoshoni 15	Women's Individual Results:	4x400M Relay: 3:44.94
100M:	1. Douglas 182	2. Gunner Ramsey, Grayson Ramsey, Tristan Troftgruben, Zach Purviance
4. Shelby Tidyman 13.35	2. Buffalo 83	4x800M Relay: 9:27.74
PR 3AQ	3. Wheatland 80	2. Tristan Troftgruben, Teegan Hathaway, Bridger Alishouse, Jacob Prell
200M:	4. Newcastle 57	Discus:
5. Shelby Tidyman 28.19	5. Cheyenne South 57	7. Braden Jenkins 103-02
100M Hurdles:	6. Glenrock 55	8. Skyler Jenkins 100-00.50
3. Jaylen Ostenson 17.43	9. Guernsey-Sunrise 33	
300M Hurdles:	10. Shoshoni 15	
2. Jaylen Ostenson 50.35	11. Moorcroft 4	
PR	Men's Individual Results	
	100M:	
	8. Holden McConkey 12.05	
	200M:	
	5. Holden McConkey 24.09	
	6. Dylan Drost 24.35	

and then the two Buffalo girls turned it on."

Ostenson was bested by the two Buffalo athletes in the 100 Meter Hurdle, though the difference between second and third was a mere .07 of a second. There was just .27 of a second difference between first and second in the 300 Meter Hurdle where a Cheyenne South runner just edged Ostenson out. Her time of 50.35 is also a personal best for the sophomore.

Two 3A competitors finished ahead of Ostenson in the discus throw where she let go of a 96-foot, 3-inch toss.

Tidyman allowed only one 3A competitor to get the better of her in the 100 Meter and the 200 Meter races, finishing in 28.19 in the latter. Her leap of 14 feet, 10 inches was short of her best jump this season, however, given the adverse weather conditions, Coach Ostenson felt she did pretty well.

Stanton put the shot 31 feet, 5 inches which was three inches short of her best toss this season. Had she been on her best distance, it would have earned her second place behind Douglas' Allyson Fertig who is number one in the state in 3A in this event.

The team of Ostenson, Stanton,

Sierra Blaney and Tidyman also ran their debut relay race as they took on the 4x100 Meter Relay. Unfortunately, a bad handoff disqualified them from finishing with a valid time.

"It was the first time that the girls ran a relay and had only one day to practice handoffs beforehand," Ostenson said. "If it had been a longer relay, it wouldn't have made quite as big of a difference, but in a fast race like the 4x1 every moment counts. There's definitely some potential there though."

The Dogie men also had a few standouts on the day. Grayson Ramsey cut three seconds off his best time in the 300 Meter Hurdle, Holden McConkey finished in the top eight in both the 100 and 200 Meter races, Braden and Skyler Jenkins broke the top eight in the discus throw which had more than 60 contestants, and the 4x100 and 4x400 Meter Relay teams finished second in each of their races.

"Grayson had a heck of a day in the hurdles! We got to work on them once last week in practice, so I think his time will come down even more," Ostenson said. "I thought he had probably the best race of the day for us. Cutting three seconds off the 300 hurdles on a cold, windy



Photo courtesy of Ton Winter/Platte County Record Times

Pictured right to left: Bridger Alishouse, Teegan Hatheway and Jacob Prell pace each other in the open 800 Meter Race in Douglas Friday. Though none placed in the top eight, Alishouse did finish eighth in the mile run in 5:22.89.

day is a lot."

Ramsey finished in second place in the 300 hurdles in 45.31 seconds, which puts him just two and a half seconds away from qualifying for the state meet. As a member of both the 4x100 and 4x400 Meter Relay teams, he also walked away with two more second-place finishes.

Dylan Drost, Gunner Ramsey and McConkey made up the rest of the 4x1 and that crew crossed the line in 46.59 seconds while the squad of Grayson and Gunner Ramsey, Tristan Troftgruben and Zach Purviance manned the 4x4 and finished in 3:44.94. The 400 Meter Relay team is now less than a second away from a qualifying time, and the mile relay is right at six seconds

away from doing the same.

McConkey finished eighth in the 100 Meter Dash in 12.05, which is right at his best time of the year and tied for fourth in the 200 Meter with a time of 24.09. Drost was right behind McConkey, finishing sixth in 24.35. Drost also nabbed fifth place in the 300 Meter Hurdle, crossing the line in 47.09.

"This was one of Holden's best meets," Ostenson conjectured. "He took almost a second off his time in the 200, which is pretty impressive."

Purviance and Troftgruben were third and sixth, respectively, in the open 400 Meter Race. Purviance finished with a time of 54.18 and Troftgruben in 57.05. Bridger Alishouse took eighth place in the mile run which he completed in 5:22.89.

Braden Jenkins lofted the discus 103 feet, 2 inches for his seventh-place finish, while Skyler Jenkins took eighth with his toss of 100 feet, 1/2 inch.

"That was fun to see both of them compete like that and get into a scoring situation for us," Ostenson said. "If they can continue to compete like that, they should be able to battle at regionals."

Finally, in their debut performance the 4x800 Meter Relay team of Troftgruben, Teegan Hatheway, Alishouse and Jacob Prell took second with a time of 9:27.74.

This week the Dogies are off to Buffalo for their annual Twilight Meet on Friday. Field events get started at 2 p.m. with running events taking off at 3:30.

Men from Page 11

be working on those this week because they also became a problem in the Douglas game, and we have to put that issue to rest."

With short time remaining in the contest, Ezra Anderson scored the Dogies' only goal after being fouled in the box. He shot his penalty kick low into the back corner of the net.

The Dogies were able to get off five shots on goal throughout the contest, with Hayden Overman attempting three and Dayton McFarland shooting two. Goalkeeper Heath Henkle had nine saves on the night.

"The guys played hard the whole game, and even at the end, you would never have known they were down 8-1 with the effort that they were putting forth on the field," Hoover insisted. "That was awesome to see and if we can keep that up, good things will happen."

The Dogies took the pitch on Monday in their makeup game against Douglas and it didn't take long for the fans to see that the men were on a mission.

The fifth-ranked Bearcats were on their heels for most of the first half as the Dogies were on the attack and clearly had control of the contest.

"I'm really glad that people got to see what I've been seeing from the guys all season," Hoover said. "The guys moved the ball well and they were playing their spots well. We've been focusing on making small passes and keeping our diamond formation as we move up the field, and they really did that well in the first half."

Newcastle got on the board first, which is also the first time this season that the team has gotten the jump on their opponent.

Cael Holmes scored at about 10 and a half minutes into the game to take the 1-0 lead. The play evolved with a solid run up the left side of the field with Aidan Chick and Overman. Chick crossed the ball which went past McFarland to Holmes on the back side who was able to find the back of the net.

"The guys really executed well in

that attack," Hoover nodded. "We took advantage of our speed up top and Cael took a good shot to finish."

For the remainder of the first half the Dogies controlled the tempo and went into the break with the 1-0 lead, however Douglas fired back in the second half quickly tying the game, then with two consecutive corner kicks took a 3-1 lead over the Dogies within 9:30 of returning to the pitch.

"In the second half, we tightened up and got defensive and we also stopped communicating," Hoover sighed. "It was almost as though we tensed up and were afraid to lose our lead rather than work to extend it."

With a little over 25 minutes to play, a lightning delay caused a pause in the contest and with the projected restart time of 8:30, the teams opted to suspend the game with the decision to be made this week whether they will finish at a later date or call the game as the score stands.

"Because we played half of the game, technically they can call it," Hoover explained. "However, both we and Douglas want to finish it, but it is ultimately up to the state whether we will."

While they await the state's decision, the Dogies will be preparing for



Photo by Sonja Karp/NLJ

The Dogies had the Bearcats on their heels in the first half of their makeup game on Monday. Dayton McFarland was surrounded by Douglas defenders but he managed to get the ball out for an attack on goal.

a rematch against the Wolverines in Riverton on Friday.

"We have a lot of speed that we can take advantage of if we make those quick passes we've been stressing," Hoover stated. "We will also be

working on corners because they know how to defend corners, we just need to reinforce the roles that each player will be taking on so they are able to get over any issues we may have on those right now."

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