

## Attorney's investment questioned

Alexis Barker  
NLJ News Editor

A trio of Weston County commissioners expressed concerns during a recent meeting about Deputy Weston County Attorney Jeani Stone's work on both the county employee handbook and a dispatch contract or reso-

lution. Vice Chairman Nathan Todd and Commissioners Don Taylor and Ed Wagoner were the only commissioners in attendance at the board's Sept. 20 meeting.

"We have two assignments that were kind of put out to Jeani ... a contract or resolution on dispatch and employee handbook, which we have

not seen yet," Taylor said. "So I was just looking for an update on where we're on that ... and what kind of bang for the buck we got out of that."

The News Letter Journal earlier reported that on March 1 in a 3-2 split vote (Chairwoman Marty Ertman and Commissioners Tony Barton and Wagoner voting in favor

and Commissioners Taylor and Todd against), the board voted to enter a four-month \$20,180 agreement with Stone. The proposal was suggested and prepared by Stone.

The agreement listed various issues Stone planned to address over that period, including the employee handbook, personnel issues, board

training, contract review and other duties. Stone also continued working as the deputy county attorney while taking on the additional public relations/human resource duties included in the agreement.

As part of the agreement, Stone's

— See Stone, Page 7

## Dump the bumps

Alexis Barker  
NLJ News Editor

The Board of Weston County Commissioners agreed to take another look at Old Highway 85 and reconsider the planned scope of work, prior to a bridge replacement scheduled for 2024 and additional road work on the docket for 2025.

Vice Chairman Nathan Todd and Commissioners Ed Wagoner and Don Taylor were approached by several concerned residents during a Wyoming Department of Transportation State Transportation Improvement Program presentation on Sept. 20. Chairwoman Marty Ertman and Commissioner Tony Barton were not in attendance.

— See Highway, Page 2

## RER Demo plant on schedule

Hannah Gross  
NLJ Correspondent

The development of the first Rare Element Resources Ltd. demonstration plant in Upton is right on schedule for its projected 40-month timeline, which began in October 2021, according to an RER press release dated Sept. 26, 2022.

The project is spearheaded by General Atomics, which is an affiliate of Synchron, the largest shareholder of RER, and has three phases: design, procurement and construction, and operations. General Atomics "has just completed the 60% plant design milestone and is now advancing toward the

— See RER, Page 2

## No goal



Kayla Oleson with the Newcastle Lady Dynamite U12 girls' soccer team was able to secure the ball and prevent the Spearfish team from scoring during the team's game on Oct. 1 in Newcastle.

Photo courtesy of Jan Farella

## She's horsing around with a lemonade business



Photo courtesy of Emily Hartinger

Kori Hartinger, 8, and her mom, Emily Hartinger, converted this mini horse trailer together for their newest business venture, Gourmet Coolers. Kori sold unique lemonade flavors to customers at the farmer's market this summer.

Hannah Gross  
NLJ Correspondent

When school is out of session and the spring days turn into hot summer scorchers, it is not unusual to see kids selling cold, refreshing lemonade to earn some extra cash.

That's just what 8-year-old Kori Hartinger enjoyed doing in front of Skull Creek Studios and Boutique, owned by her mother Emily Hartinger, when it was formerly located on Main Street.

But this summer, the mother-daughter duo decided to invest in something bigger and take the lemonade stand to the next level. The idea came when they were trying to come up with something to sell at the farmers market.

Emily is always trying to think of something creative to do, and she wanted Kori to get involved to learn the valuable lessons of hard work, saving money and running a business.

"I've always been that type of person

looking for something to do," Emily said. "So, I wanted Kori to get on board with that entrepreneurship."

After searching on Pinterest for inspiration, Emily stumbled across small horse trailers converted into lemonade stands. After securing a sponsorship from Newcastle Motors, they found the perfect one.

Emily said the 1976 trailer was in pretty good shape, but admitted that the more they tore it apart, the more rust they found. They installed wood doors and flooring to give it a rustic flare and touched it up with a new paint job.

"It was fun. Besides the paint, we did all the work ourselves," Emily said.

"I got a zebra stripe on my butt," Kori said, from the wet paint. "And it was white pants."

That's how Gourmet Coolers was born. The new venture sells homemade lemonade with unique flavor twists created by homemade fruit syrups created from fresh fruits —

without any preservatives. Some of the flavors include blueberry, raspberry, strawberry, peach and blackberry, as well as blackberry limeade and cherry lemon-limeade. Sometimes, they also sell cold coffee.

"We pretty much sell out every time we set up," Emily said. "It's nice because I can make it when I have time and pop it in the freezer."

The lemonade business has been a teaching and learning moment for Kori, who wanted a new Nintendo Switch gaming system but didn't have the money to buy one. The deal was she had to help with the remodeling, working the stand and pitching in with other odds and ends projects. She learned quickly that when she worked the stand alone, she made more money.

"One time, I kicked my mom out. I get more tips," Kori said, with a smile. "One time, someone gave me a \$50 and said no change."

— See Hartinger, Page 8

### WEATHER FORECAST

Thursday  
Partly Cloudy  
Hi 64, Lo 38



Friday  
Partly Cloudy  
Hi 57, Lo 37



Saturday  
Mostly Sunny  
Hi 64, Lo 39



Sunday  
Mostly Sunny  
Hi 64, Lo 40



Monday  
Sunny  
Hi 68, Lo 43



Tuesday  
Partly Cloudy  
Hi 65, Lo 33



Wednesday  
Partly Cloudy  
Hi 52, Lo 30



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<https://www.nhsalumnifoundation.org/>



## Battling for cancer

Weston County School District No. 1 is kicking off their annual PINK campaign this year on Friday, Oct. 7, at the football game against Big Horn, where a silent auction for autographed football helmets will take place. Also, on Thursday, Oct. 13, they will host Upton in volleyball, where there will be a silent auction for autographed volleyballs, one for each team. District officials ask for everyone to come out and support the Dogies and Lady Dogies and cancer awareness.

Submitted photo

SHOPPING! DOOR PRIZES!

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## Highway from Page 1

The main gripe coming from the residents in attendance were the large bumps/holes in the road created by culvert inadequacies. The group also asked the commissioners to reconsider paving Old Highway 85 for the entire length instead of stopping at Greenhouse Road.

“Let me talk to Jimmy (Hansen, Weston County Road and Bridge superintendent) to see if he is able to drive the road this afternoon,” Todd said.

Taylor said it was his opinion that the road would have to be torn up and the culverts reset in order to fix the problem. He also noted that fixing the holes and bumps would not be a simple patch job.

Todd said that he assumed that the county would have the problem areas fixed before WYDOT comes in to replace the bridge and repair the road in 2024 and 2025.

Scott Taylor, WYDOT district engineer for District 4, said that the county is able to change the scope of work on the project if the board so chooses. He noted that adjustments could affect the scope and cost of the project. He agreed to provide additional numbers to the board so they can reconsider the plan for Old Highway 85 repairs.

In 2021, after receiving over 70 comments on the proposed Old Highway 85 bridge replacement, the county decided to replace the bridge and address the rest of the road the next summer, according to News Letter Journal records.

Information provided by the department describes the bridge as the Old Highway 85 Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad bridge, located on County Road 1A, approximately 3

miles south of Newcastle.

The estimated cost for replacing the bridge is \$3.8 million (\$618,000 for design and \$3.2 million for construction).

Ninety percent of the funding will come from the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Replacement Off-System program, said Laura Dalles, public involvement specialist for WYDOT District 4. The county will be responsible for 10% of the cost.

The Commissioners also considered removing the bridge without replacement, which had an estimated cost of \$839,000, but relented to the weight of public comments received in 2021.

The commissioners have engaged WYDOT to improve Old Highway 85, after the bridge replacement, using funds from the department's Commission Road Improvement Program, also known as CRIP. At the time, Scott Taylor had informed the board that the project would be funded 85% by the CRIP program with a 15% match from the county.

According to Scott Taylor, original preliminary estimates ranged from \$135,000 for leaving the entire stretch a gravel road to approximately \$2 million to overlay the 3.63 miles.

The current scope of work, Scott Taylor said on Sept. 7, is to pave from the edge of city limits to Greenhouse Road. From Greenhouse Road to the replacement bridge is scheduled to have full-depth reclamation completed. These projects are scheduled for 2025.

“It is not set in stone. ... We are trying to put the best plan together,” Don Taylor said, noting that the county would have to work through the economics of potential plan changes.

## RER from Page 1

final detailed engineering due to completion later this year,” according to the release.

The design phase is scheduled to be complete at the end of the year, the release says, “followed by the completion of permitting activities” in the late spring 2023 and then the plant's construction 12 months later.

RER is a “publicly traded, strategic materials company focused on delivering rare earth products for technology, energy and defense applications,” the release states, and the plant will use the company's “proprietary processing and separation technology.”

The plant's goal is to produce neodymium praseodymium

(NdPr), a high purity oxide formed by two magnet elements, to lower the costs of current technologies and benefit the environment, according to the release. These elements are found in the Bear Lodge region of northeast Wyoming.

“Rare earth ore from the Bear Lodge deposit was recovered in 2015 and is stockpiled at the future mine site north of Sundance. Operations to process and separate the rare earth elements from the stockpiled sample will follow for an additional 8-to-12-month period,” said George Byers, RER consultant.

The U.S. Department of Energy is funding nearly half of the \$44 million budget, and RER came up with the rest, according to Byers in a previous News Letter Journal article (“Upton to house RER demo plant,” published July 7, 2022).

RER CEO Randall Scott stated in the release that domestic rare earth supply “is of vital importance to our nation.”

“We continue to work diligently with the State of Wyoming, the University of Wyoming, and the Town of Upton to ensure our demonstration project becomes a cornerstone for the rare earth industry in Wyoming and America, while providing a venue for worker training in rare earth processing and separation,” Scott said.

## Celebration time



Photo by Sonja Karp/NLJ

David Chick, second from left, enjoys time with clients Tammy and Jay Schreiber at the customer appreciation night he hosted Friday evening on Isabella's patio. To the far right, Mark Bicker — a member of Chick's study group — from Pittsburgh, was also on hand to celebrate his 15-year career with New York Life Insurance.



# nlj IDEAS

## Where did the rattlesnakes go?

Rattlesnakes are common in Wyoming. Just about everybody has a favorite story. Here is mine: We lived in an area called Squaw Creek (now Popo Agie Creek) outside of Lander for 21 years. It is a beautiful area dominated by big red rocks and was well-known as a snake haven.

One day our dog scared up a pretty good sized one and I knew I had to kill it. But how? It was getting away in the sagebrush and there wasn't time to get a shovel or a gun. I spotted a cement block. I heaved it at the snake and killed it.

Forever more, our kids, who were quite young then, referred to it as the time "dad bricked the snake!"

We buried the snake and then were horrified the next day to see the dog had dug it up and left it on our front porch. Luckily, the pooch did not get stung by either a live or a dead rattlesnake.

Out east of Riverton is a place that used to be crawling with rattlesnakes, so much so, that it is called the Rattlesnake Hills.

Today it is hard to find any rattlers there. Mining expert Dave Miller of Riverton knows why: "In the Gas Hills I have heard that story. Tens of thousands of early drill holes were never plugged! I have heard stories of rattlesnake skeletons at the bottom of drill holes in the underground mines!"

Seems that rattlesnakes love to move into dens created by other critters. When they crawled into these seemingly bottomless drill holes, they were never seen again.

Perhaps the name should be changed to "No Rattlesnake Hills."

One of my favorite Wyoming-themed books is Rising From The Plains by John McPhee. The lead character is the famed Wyoming geologist David Love, who died some years ago.

Love grew up on an isolated ranch in the exact center of Wyoming. Here is McPhee's story about the Love family and rattlesnakes.

The Love Ranch was one of those outposts that was so far from everything else that anyone passing through would stop. Often, people would sleep in the bunkhouse and join the Loves for dinner.

McPhee writes about one memorable meal.

"People like that came along with such frequency that David's mother eventually assembled a chronicle called

'Murderers I Have Known.' She did not publish the manuscript or even give it much private circulation, in her regard for the sensitivities of some of the first families of Wyoming. As David would one day comment, 'they were nice men, family friends, who had put away people who needed killing, and she did not wish to offend them -- so many of them were such decent people.'

"One of these was Bill Grace. Homesteader and cowboy, he was one of the most celebrated murderers in central Wyoming, and he had served time, but people generally disagreed with the judiciary and felt that Bill, in the acts for which he was convicted, had only been 'doing his civic duty.' At the height of his fame, he stopped at the ranch one afternoon and stayed for dinner. Although David and Allen were young boys, they knew exactly

who he was, and in his presence were struck dumb with awe. As it happened, they had come upon and dispatched a rattlesnake that day --- a big one, over five feet long. Their mother decided to serve it creamed on toast for dinner. She and their father sternly instructed David and Allen not to use the word 'rattlesnake' at the table. They were to refer to it as chicken, since a possibility existed that Bill Grace might not be an eater of adequate sophistication to enjoy the truth.

"The excitement was too much for the boys. Despite the parental injunction, gradually their conversation at the table fished its way toward the snake. Casually -- while the meal was going down -- the boys raised the subject of poisonous vipers, gave their estimates of the contents of local dens, told stories of snake encounters, and so forth. Finally, one of them remarked on how very good rattlers were to eat.

"Bill Grace said, 'By God, if anybody ever gave me rattlesnake meat, I'd kill them.'

"The boys went into a state of catatonic paralysis. In the pure silence, their mother said, 'More chicken, Bill?'"

"Don't mind if I do," said Bill Grace."

*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.*



Bill Sniffin My Wyoming

## POLL of the WEEK

QUESTION: Halloween: Trunk-or-Treat or door to door?

- Trunk-or-Treat
- Door to Door

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

RESULTS: When it comes to education, who should call the shots?

- Teachers ..... 44% (8 votes)
- Parents..... 56% (10 votes)
- Students..... 0% (0 votes)

## Deadline for Letters to the Editor is noon on Friday

## Lenhart: Wyoming's cities need support to thrive

We are in the political doldrums between the high-energy primary election in August and what likely will be a low-event Wyoming general election in November. Accordingly, it is a fitting time to return to my vision of what the future of our state might look like. Rather than focusing on rural communities as I did in June, I want to instead look at the future of Wyoming's urban areas.

Census numbers unequivocally show that Wyoming's population is getting more concentrated in its cities and towns. Over half of our state population lives in our twelve largest cities. The population of our three largest cities combines to nearly 27% of state population, and that is just the people within city limits. If you consider metro areas, the five largest metro areas account for over half of our state population. Contrary to what many may expect, Wyoming's population is primarily located in cities.

Accordingly, even though our heritage and mindset are unquestionably rural, we need

to recognize that our urban areas also need our support. Nationwide, urban areas are growing much faster than rural areas. This holds true for Wyoming as well and presents a different set of challenges. Instead of focusing on how to avoid population loss, urban areas must consider how to approach growth. What levels of growth can a community sustain in a given period? How do we address infrastructure and services with the influx of new people? How do we ensure that the people that are growing our communities are contributing to a healthy community? All of these are necessary questions that our cities and towns must contend with as new people move in.

Our cities have the potential to be significant economic drivers. Wyoming cities have access to transportation hubs, natural resources, and an advan-

tageous tax climate that can make them attractive to businesses that will help fuel urban growth and success. However, we also have obstacles. For our cities to thrive, they need a skilled workforce, affordable housing, infrastructure -- especially water -- and the amenities that make cities desirable places to live.

For Wyoming's cities to thrive, we need to address these obstacles. Perhaps the most pressing issue is access to water. Wyoming is already an arid state and issues of water access cause significant concerns as is. Water projects are also not quick to complete, so our state would do well to put additional focus on how to provide our growing communities with sufficient water to support additional population and industry. If there is one thing that could stop significant development in its tracks, I suspect access to water is it.

We also must make a concentrated effort to ensure that our cities are places that people want to live. If we are going to attract the professionals and families that drive economic

prosperity, our cities and towns must be places where they want to spend their lives and raise their families. With a highly mobile workforce, we are not competing with just the next town or state over anymore. Instead, people have options to move nationwide to fit their preferences.

Although there has been progress, our cities still lag behind when it comes to enriching amenities that young families value. Many of our cities lack access to things like local restaurants, entertainment options, and other quality of life amenities that people have come to expect in cities. We can address this, at least partially, by making it easier to found and grow those types of businesses.

Although we have a generally friendly tax climate, we have too many bureaucratic obstacles to starting small businesses. Streamlining that process and removing outdated regulations like many of our liquor license caps would provide a more welcoming environment for entrepreneurs in our cities. This is a problem that we can try to solve here at home by setting a more

favorable table for Wyomingites to grow their own businesses.

One other area that we must address for our cities to thrive is the "Not In My Back Yard" or "NIMBY" mindset. This is the idea that, while I may support job growth or development in theory, I do not want any impacts to my day-to-day life. The NIMBY mindset is alright with growth, but not if it impacts traffic or causes personal inconvenience. It wants the impacts of growth to be borne by others. Simply put, it wants the benefits, but not the associated costs of a thriving community.

For Wyoming to thrive in the future, we must acknowledge that our cities are the prime economic drivers of our state. Most Wyomingites live in our cities, and the percentage is growing. They have the potential to bring a lot of prosperity to our state, but we must support them in developing the infrastructure and amenities that will allow them to take advantage of opportunities. Growth is vital, and we can support that growth to ensure that Wyoming's tomorrow is as bright as its past.



Khale D. Lenhart Attorney Guest Column

## Letters to the Editor

### The real killer

To the Editor: School shootings, mall shootings and other mass shootings generate a large volume of publicity and sorrow, but the numbers are relatively small compared to drug deaths.

One hundred people died last year and we are on the same trend this year. We have to start treating fentanyl deaths differently from other drugs. Selling a fentanyl pill is little different from selling six-shooters with one bullet and telling the person to have fun. If people were aware of the conditions in Mexico where the drugs are made they would be frightened. They are made in sheds where materials are mixed in barrels using buckets as measuring containers, then evaporated and powdered and pressed into pills.

The federal government seems to

make little effort to stop the flow with the crush of immigrants. Transporters caught with pills are let go. There needs to be a change.

Any person caught with pills for sale should be charged with attempted murder because that is what they are guilty of and sentenced to life or death. There can be no excuse for any leniency.

It is difficult to have sorrow for anyone who is stupid enough to buy these pills in the first place, but there is always someone and they often give them to young children to get them started.



— Don Thorson, Newcastle

### What's the reason for snooping?

To the Editor: Before I discuss aggressive poll watching by the Weston County Republican Party, let me first establish my bona fides. For my entire adult life, I have been a registered Republican. For a significant part of that time, I had to vote by absentee ballot because of my military service. When I moved my family to Weston County in 1996 I was delighted for the opportunity to actually vote at a polling place. I was also impressed by the efforts by four county clerks and their army of volunteers to make the election process smooth and secure. Each of those clerks, to include the current clerk, were women of high integrity and

professionalism.

It is for that reason I question the aggressive poll "snooping" by the county Republican Party. What problem are you seeking to remedy? Are the voters of Weston County electing too many Democrats? Don't think so. In the 26 years that I have been a resident of and voter in Weston County I have found the voters of this county to be reliably conservative and Republican, just like I am.

I do not understand the reason for this political drama, but maybe the NLJ can investigate the source of the drama.

As for this registered Republican, I suggest that poll watchers just watch. Do not insert yourselves into the voting process. Do not be looking over my shoulder when I sign in to vote, or mark my ballot, or insert my ballot into the ballot reader.

— Doug Jorrey, LTC, USA (ret)

News Letter Journal: WPA and NNA Award Winner

## WHO



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Stephanie Bonnar Owner



Bob Bonnar Publisher



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Alexis Barker News Editor



Katelynn Slaamot NLJ Reporter



Sonja Karp Sports Editor



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## WHAT

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

## WHERE

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Print + Online, add \$10

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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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## Thank You!

While attending the benefit for Janet Davis, we would like to commend the people who served and cleaned tables. These young people were members of the FBLA and were very polite, courteous and respectful in their dress and attitudes. We are so grateful to have had the opportunity to attend this amazing event!

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## Obituaries

### TOMMY EUGENE FORDYCE June 6, 1942–Sept. 22, 2022

Tommy Eugene Fordyce was born June 6, 1942, in Newcastle, Wyo. He passed away in the same town he was born in, on Sept. 22, 2022, following a brief, but hard-fought battle with cancer. We are all blessed that his suffering was short and pain free.

The third of five children born to Joseph and Mary (Noe) Fordyce, Tommy was raised on the family ranch on Mush Creek. Though poor in dollars, the family was blessedly rich in work ethic, togetherness, ingenuity, and resourcefulness. With the help of great neighbors, friends, and lots of hard work, they eked out a living.

In his youth, Tommy and his brother Buz took a job of breaking a few dozen Shetland ponies for Tookie Wilmot, of Upton. Lots of stories have been handed down from them taking on that one! Tommy was a talented lineman, on both offense and defense, for the Upton Bobcat football team. He was also their place kicker. Tommy also participated in basketball, track, and choir. In his later teens, he and his Dad stacked hay in the summers all around the county with their good friend and neighbor, Charles Rankin. He also worked for the Rankin Ranch and the Bill Dixon Ranch during that time. After graduating from Upton High School in 1960, he joined the National Guard and served for four years.

Tommy met Della Luhman in 1962, and they were married July 8, 1963. Two sons were born to this marriage, Kenneth in 1964 and Dennis in 1966. Tommy went to work for Neal Riesland and his brother John Fordyce in their service and gas stations. He delivered milk, worked for Wortham Machinery, Wyoming Automotive and Updike Bros.

In the late 1960s, he went to work for Harry Thorson and his son Don Thorson for TOCO Corp, where he pumped wells for roughly 20 years. During that time, Tommy had side businesses that included backhoe work and pulling water wells, and photography for rodeos. He and his family also helped keep the family ranch going as Joe and Mary aged.

In the mid 1980s, Tommy began a whole new career, which he loved, with the Wyoming Department of Corrections as a drill sergeant for the Wyoming Honor Conservation Camp north of Newcastle. He worked there until he retired.

Tommy made countless friends through all his different life adventures and careers, and was always up for a good visit. He loved music and other reasons to get together. Tommy played mandolin in The Fordyce Family Band with his father, and brothers John and Buz, and John Martens. In recent years, he would help sing harmony at church and other local get-togethers with his son Kenny, Bill Haley and others. Tommy was especially proud of his son Dennis, for his 23 years of service in the U.S. Air Force. God, family, and patriotism were very important to him.

Tommy was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Wayne, John, and Joe R. (Buz); and his wife, Della, in March of 2022. A few weeks before his death, he told his niece Wanda, "I sure do miss fighting with my wife."

Tommy is survived by his sons, Kenneth (Teresa) Fordyce of Moorcroft, Wyo., and Dennis (Janina) Fordyce of El Paso, Ark.; sister, Mary Jo (Lewis) Fawcett; grandchildren, Clayton Fordyce, Randi Fordyce, Riley (Nick) Edelman, Joey Fordyce, Bryson Bell and Maria Herman; nine great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial services were held Saturday, Oct. 1, 11 a.m. at Meridian Mortuary, 111 S. Railway Ave., in Newcastle. A reception followed at the Newcastle V.F.W., 2990 W.

Main St., Newcastle. Memorials in honor of Tommy may be made to the Country Church at Four Corners, 24693 U.S. Hwy 85, Four Corners, WY, 82715. Condolences and memorials can be sent to Meridian Mortuary, 111 S. Railway Ave., Newcastle, WY, 82701. Condolences may also be expressed at meridianmortuary.com.

### MICHAEL JOHN ZEIMET Aug. 30, 1955–Sept. 29, 2022

Michael John Zeimet, 67, of Newcastle, Wyo., passed away Sept. 29, 2022, at Mayo in Rochester, Minn.

Mike was born Aug. 30, 1955, in Hot Springs, S.D., to Michael David and Sylvia Marie (Owens) Zeimet. Mike attended grade school in Pringle, S.D., graduated from Custer High School and attended Black Hills State College.

Mike's careers included, but certainly were not limited to, rancher, truck driver, construction worker, carpenter and heavy equipment operator.

Mike is survived by his wife, Linda L. Zeimet; son, Matthew (Michelle) Hubbard; daughter, Kristi (Scott) Krogman; daughter, Lori Kolczak; sisters, Lesley (Ralph) Seney; Eileen (Randy) Calhoon; Catherine (Osman) Alawiye; brother, Patrick (Linda J.) Zeimet; grandchildren, Abigail, Alexis, Jacob, Bella, Alexander, Nicholas, Shaun, and Brandon; great-grandchildren, Sophia and Gabriel; and a large, loving family.

Committal services will be held 11 a.m., Friday, Oct. 7, at Pringle Cemetery in Pringle. Please bring your own lawn chair. Memorials may be sent to the Pringle Volunteer Fire Department in Pringle.

Arrangements have been placed in the care of Chamberlain McColley's Funeral Home in Custer, S.D.



Tommy Fordyce



Michael Zeimet

## Support for her journey




Anna Coy, Janet Davis and Lisa Foster pose for a picture during a benefit on Oct. 1 to support Davis through her journey as she battles cancer. According to Foster, the benefit was able to raise \$75,000 to help with expenses associated with Davis' illness. Donated baskets lined the Weston County Senior Center gymnasium during the benefit.

Photos by BreeKlee Loeb's/ for NLJ

# faith & values

### Daily Devotional Reading

<b>October 7</b> Psalm 17	<b>October 11</b> Nahum 2:1-13
<b>October 8</b> Psalm 122	<b>October 12</b> Nahum 3:1-19
<b>October 9</b> Obadiah 1-21	<b>October 13</b> Habakkuk 1:1-17
<b>October 10</b> Nahum 1:1-15	<i>Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society</i>

- **ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH:** Rev. Norm Brotzman, 216 S. Seneca, 746-2249. Call to Worship 9:30 am; Children's Church during Call to Worship; Faith Rally Sunday 6 pm
- **BAHA'I FAITH:** Firesides (open to all) 1st & 3rd Fridays 7:30 pm at 15 Skyview Dr; 746-3626
- **CAMBRIA COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH:** 19 Stampede St. 746-2321. Sunday School 9:15 am; Worship 10:30 am; Youth (6-12 grades) and Adult Bible Study Sunday Evening 6-7 pm; Wednesday Night Youth and Adult Bible Study 6 pm; Life Recovery Bible Study Sunday Night 7 pm
- **CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH:** Rev. Kenli Barling, S. Summit & Winthrop Streets. 746-9684. haydishall@hotmail.com. Service times: Sunday 4 pm
- **CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH:** Pastor Rob Carr, 224 West Road, West of Dow Park, 746-2415. Sunday Worship 9 am
- **CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS:** Bishop Ty Checketts, 120 Ash, 746-4131. Sunday Sacrament Mtg 9 am; Sunday School 10:20 am; Relief Society & Priesthood Mtg 11:15 am
- **CHURCH ON THE HILL:** Pastor Wayne Wilson, 301 Delaware, 746-9663. Adult Sunday School 9:30 am; Prayer 10:15 am; Worship 10:45 am; Prayer Service Tuesday 6 pm; Undeafened Youth/children's ministry (3 years old-12th Grade) Wednesday 6 pm
- **CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Father Brian Hess, 19 W. Winthrop, 746-4219. Saturday Mass 5 pm; Sunday Mass 8 am; Weekday Mass 7 am
- **COUNTRY CHURCH:** Four Corners, Pastor Bill Haley and Micah Popma, 746-9712, Worship 10 am
- **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH:** Pastor Ben Roberts, 903 S. Summit, 746-2188. Sunday School 9:15 am; Worship Service 10:30 am; Evening Service 6 pm;

- AWANA Clubs Wednesday 6:30 pm
- **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Rev. Ron Sample, 23 N. Seneca, 746-4119. Adult Bible Study 8:45 am; Traditional Church Services 10 am; 10:15 am Children's Church; Youth Group Sunday evenings 5:30-7 pm
- **GATEWAY FELLOWSHIP:** Pastor Jon Anderson, 12 Old Hwy. 85, Evangelical Free Church, Bible Study 9:15 am, Worship 10:30 am. Call 746-8091
- **KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES:** 5018 US Hwy 16, 746-2319 or 746-4517. Tuesday 7 pm. Congregation Bible Study, Theocratic Ministry School and Service Meeting. Sunday Public Talk 10 am; Watchtower 11 am
- **NEWCASTLE FOURSQUARE CHURCH:** Pastor Mick Bohn, 1525 S. Summit, 746-3618. Sun. Worship 10 am; Wed. Night Prayer
- **OSAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH:** 348 Sheridan St. in Osage, 465-2341. Sunday School 10 am; Worship 11 am and 6 pm
- **OUR SAVIOR CHURCH:** Pastors Doug and Frezil Westerlund. For Bible Study, call (605) 515-3058
- **SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST:** Pastor Lester Bently 612-240-7536, 78 Old Hwy 85, Saturday Sabbath School 9:30 am; Worship 11 am
- **ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Father Brian Hess, Upton. Sunday Mass 5 pm
- **UPTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Pastor Donnie Holt, 834 Pine, Upton, 468-9302. Worship 9 am; Fellowship 10 am
- **VICTORY NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH:** Rev. Theodore L. Halls, 414 Pine, 746-4366

He has shown all you people what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. ~ Micah 6:8

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**25 Years Ago  
October 9, 1997**

Chances are that the single reported case of spinal meningitis in Newcastle this weekend is isolated. Homecoming weekend took a turn toward tragedy for 18-year-old Heidi Howell when she began feeling sick Saturday. Howell's symptoms typified a diseased appendix. Howell's appendix was not the problem, however, and doctors determined Sunday night that the Newcastle High School senior was suffering from meningitis. The antibiotics likely saved Howell, who has made it through the critical 24-hour period. It's unlikely that anyone else in the community will develop the disease.

After last winter's cold, snow and high home heat bills, Weston County residents might just be glad El Nino decided to make an appearance this year. John Marwitz, PhD, the University of Wyoming professor of atmospheric science predicts a warm, dry winter for northeast Wyoming.

Their names are Falgun and Yuges and the place of their birth is half way around the globe in India. This summer they moved their families to the Cowboy State in search of something we don't hear much about these days: the American dream. Although both men share the same last name (Patel) they know of no common family relation and in fact met for the first time just last month. Falgun said that the name "Patel" means landlord.

The cross county team participated in the biggest meet of the year Friday. Twenty teams from four states met at the Elks Golf Course. In the middle school women's race Rachel Reynolds was 2nd. The girls placed 1st out of 17. The middle school



women's team has placed 1st at every meet this season. The men placed 4th out of 17 teams with 198 runners. The middle school teams are having a fantastic season.

**50 Years Ago  
October 5, 1972**

The Newcastle Dogies won their first game of the season last Friday evening when they downed Custer 20-6. Newcastle now has a 1-4 record for the season. Newcastle remained on the ground in the victory over Custer as they rushed for 345 yards and passed for only 25. Custer managed 125 rushing and 50 passing.

Thomas Fulton, 1968 graduate of Newcastle High School, was elected Program Chairman of the Iota Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda at Southwest Baptist College, Bolivar, Mo. Fulton is a senior at the college majoring in Business Administration.

Wyo. Chapter No. 125 of TOPS meet Monday mornings at 9:30 in the fire hall. A first anniversary and recognition

evening was held by members Sept. 25. Charm bracelets were presented to all members, and charms designating officers and special achievements. Combined weight loss for the year was 202 pounds.

Hostesses for the Oct. 2, meeting of Girl Scout Troop 226 Rothluetner. There were 16 girls and three leaders present. As part of the dramatics study the girls practiced different ways of walking. Later each patrol met and started writing a play.

Thirty persons attended the annual Parent-Teachers' Reception Tuesday evening, Sept. 26 at the Osage Grade School and heard the 1972 delegates noted for usefulness of the programs in their development as informed citizens. Kevin Johnson of Osage indicated his delight at the opportunity to make new friends. Christ Weaver of Upton recommended a workshop for future delegates to prepare them for Boys' State. Host organizations for the annual reception is the

Osage Women's Club.

**100 Years Ago  
October 5, 1922**

Twenty years ago, according to the files of the News-Journal there was a great agitation going on in the city as whether or not a flouring mill would be a success here. We have only to call slightly on our imagination to know that pessimism ran rampant during those days and prophecies of money that would be lost if no one dared to invest in such an enterprise could be heard more frequently than opinions of optimism. The 20 years that have come and gone have proved that the pioneers who backed a mill in this city were far sighted and progressive. Today the mill stands as one of the most thriving businesses in the county.

An old desert rat and the Goldwyn Players who staged scenes in "Going Home" at Victorville, Cal., found mutual interest in each other. The picture is a typical Rex Beach affair and will appear at the city hall for two days commencing Sunday.

Miss Elva Snidow was an arrival from Hot Springs Monday for a week's visit with Miss Bernice Flaner. She left on Sunday morning for a trip to the coast.

The bulk of cattle here came from the big pasture sections and they sold down 15 to 25c. Well wintered summer grazed steers were weak to 15c lower, and full fed steers scarce and steady.

Willis Bashford had his elbow joint dislocated by a kick from a horse at school. His parents motored to Newcastle with him on Tuesday for medical aid and Willis is now getting along nicely.

**CLOSED**  
Weston County Courthouse  
will be closed on Oct. 10, 2022,  
for Columbus Day.  
We will re-open on Oct. 11

**A.D.I. Insurance Agency LLC  
under new ownership**

Bill Ackerman and John Ackerman are pleased to announce the sale of A.D.I. Insurance Agency LLC to Jacob (Herb) Finn, a lifelong resident of Upton, WY. Finn brings extensive insurance industry experience to the agency, having been a licensed insurance agent in Wyoming and multiple other states since 2005.

Founded in 1946, A.D.I. has been owned and operated since 1996 by the late Karen Ackerman. Finn will continue to operate offices in Upton and Hulett under the A.D.I. name, offering commercial, ranch, home, and auto insurance coverage. Finn pledges to provide the same hometown, friendly atmosphere to which its clients have been accustomed.

The Ackerman family wishes to thank past and present clients of A.D.I. for the many years of support and patronage, and encourages continued support of Jacob Finn in the new endeavor.

For new or continued service, please contact A.D.I. at (307) 468-2486, adii@tribespc.com, 518 Pine Street, P.O. Box 556, Upton, WY 82730.

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**Newcastle High  
School Auditorium**

Presented by Delta Kappa Gamma &  
Newcastle Education Association

From the vault ...



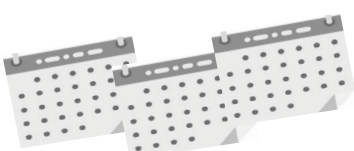
This is a photograph of the Star Hotel in Newcastle.

Courtesy of WC Historical Society/Alex Mitich collection

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WHAT'S  
HAPPENING**

Is your group or organization hosting an event?

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



**WHAT'S UP**

**WESTON COUNTY MEETINGS & EVENTS CALENDAR**

<b>Fri. Oct. 7</b>	4-7PM 5:30PM	W.C. Friends of Fair Sale (\$5 admission) BINGO	W.C. Event Center V.F.W. Hall
<b>Sat. Oct. 8</b>	8AM-1PM NOON-4PM	W.C. Friends of Fare Sale (free admission) Free Breast Exams	W.C. Event Center Hometown Medical Clinic
<b>Sun. Oct. 9</b>	2PM	Cambria String Band/W.C.C.A.	Crouch Auditorium
<b>Mon. Oct. 10</b>	6:30PM 7PM	W.C. Fair Board Mtg. Alcoholics Anonymous	W.C. Event Center W.C. Senior Center
<b>Tues. Oct. 11</b>	8AM 10:30AM 11AM 1:30PM 3PM 6PM 6PM	Free Veterans' Breakfast Alzheimers/Dementia Support Story Time Dirt Daubers Mtg. W.C. Natural Resource District Mtg. W.C. Humane Society Mtg. American Legion Mtg.	W.C. Senior Center Zoom W.C. Library 1234 Broadway, Osage Location TBD Shelter Newc. Lodge & Conv. Ctr.
<b>Wed. Oct. 12</b>	6PM 6:30-8:30AM 9AM-1PM	City Council Candidate Open Forum Wellness Wednesday GiGi's Closet	Newc. Lodge & Conv. Ctr. W.C. Health Services First United Methodist Church
<b>Thurs. Oct. 13</b>	7PM 5:30PM	Alcoholics Anonymous Understanding Grief Series	W.C. Senior Center Meridian Mortuary




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**SPECIALTY CLINICS**  
October/November 2022 Schedule

**Orthopedics:**  
Dr. McEleney: To schedule appointments call 800-446-9556 .... Oct. 27, Dec. 22  
Dr. Lochmann: To schedule appointments call 605-755-6700..... Nov. 2  
Echo: Patient's Personal Physician must schedule ..... Oct. 5  
Heart Doctors: To schedule appointments call 800-432-7822  
Dr. D'Urso ..... Nov. 15  
Dr. A. Schabauer ..... N/A  
Dr. Hatanelas ..... N/A  
VA Clinic: (Usually 1st Monday of month, except holidays)..... Oct. 17, Nov. 7  
Mammography: ..... Call 746-3704 to schedule an appointment  
MRI: ..... Oct. 13, Oct. 27  
Patient's Provider must schedule with WCHS Radiology Department  
Speech Therapy: ..... Every Monday & Thursday, 4-6 pm  
Upton Lab Draws: (1st Wednesday, except holidays) ..... Nov. 2  
Wellness Wednesday, WCHS Newcastle ..... Every Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 am  
Wellness Wednesday, W.C. Upton Clinic ..... 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 7-9 am  
Home Health Toenail Clinic: (W.C. Senior Center 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 9-10:30 am)  
To schedule appointments call 746-3553 ..... Oct. 5, Oct. 19

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



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

## Cleaning up




Photo by Walter Sprague/NLJ

**On Saturday, Sept. 24, the Weston County Natural Resource District held a Household Hazardous Waste Day drop-off at the Newcastle Elementary School parking lot, under the direction of Caleb Carter. At the event people were able to get rid of items that varied from electronics, oil, paint, and solvents, as well as other hazardous materials. Veolia, a waste management company from Denver, Colo., handled the safe handling, transport, and disposal of the waste, with support from the City of Newcastle, County of Weston, Wyoming Refining Company providing forklifts, and Farnsworth Services supplying portable toilets. Wearing protective clothing and sometimes face masks, above, oil, petroleum products, varnishes, and solvents of different kinds are carefully sorted and emptied for safe disposal.**

## BLM begins work on revisions

**Alexis Barker**  
NLJ News Editor

The Bureau of Land Management has started revising the agency's 1999 Newcastle Resource Management Plan, a document that guides the management of the 292,000 surface acres and 1.6 million acres of mineral estate in Niobrara, Weston and Crook counties, according to Tyson Finnicum, public affairs specialist for the BLM High Plains District.

A pre-scoping meeting was held on Aug. 30, and it was discussed by consultant Dru Bower with DRU Consulting on Sept. 6 during the Board of Weston County Commissioners meeting.

Bower works with the county as a representative and consultant in various situations, including work with the Thunder Basin National Grassland, U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

"The BLM decided to have a pre-scoping meeting, which is not required," she said. "They did not do a good job advertising for it. I found out the day before in Newcastle and could not make it."

4W Ranch owner Bob Harshbarger echoed Bower's sentiments about the meeting.

"On the scoping meeting, it was very short notice by the BLM. I did come in and attend that. I was the only one from Weston County there," he said.

Harshbarger noted that while it was short notice, it would have been nice to have a Weston County commissioner there. Both he and Bower acknowledged that a commissioner from Niobrara County and a commissioner from Crook County were in attendance.

"Historically, the BLM has tried to not involve the general public in the current land management plan," Harshbarger said, noting that he saw the

change beginning in 1990.

The News Letter Journal was not aware of the meeting and therefore could not attend, but the agency has acknowledged the need for public involvement in the process moving forward.

The BLM has extended the land use plan comment period on the document until Oct. 28, Finnicum reported to the News Letter Journal. He noted that this extension was the result of feedback received, and indicated that subsequent meetings are in the works.

"The BLM's land use plans allocate resources and determine appropriate multiple uses for public lands, provide strategies to manage resources and establish systems to monitor and evaluate resource health and effectiveness of management," he said.

These meetings, Finnicum said, are the BLM's way of engaging the public early in the process, before the formal planning begins.

"We want to hear from the public about the places or uses they're interested in and help us identify potential issues or land use conflicts up front," he said. "From there, we take that feedback into consideration as we identify planning alternatives or analyze environmental impacts. This early outreach also gives folks a chance to learn about the planning process so they participate when the formal process kicks off."

A Notice of Intent to officially initiate the process is expected to come next summer.

"Public involvement is crucial to land use planning, and at this early stage, can help the BLM identify the parameters of the project, as well as planning issues that need to be considered," Finnicum said. "BLM will then take that input into consideration and work with its cooperating agencies,

including the county commissioners and state agencies, to develop alternatives that will then be published for public review and comment."

The planning process can take some time and likely changes to the plan are unknown at this time. During the process, people will have the chance to provide comments during the formal scoping period, as well as review the draft plan and associated environmental impact statement once it's developed and provide feedback," Finnicum said.

"The planning process often takes multiple years to complete and includes multiple opportunities for public involvement — like comment periods, meetings and more — throughout the entirety of the project," Finnicum said.

In the end, the agency hopes to have a plan that will "allocate resources and determine appropriate multiple uses for public lands, provide a strategy to manage resources, and establish systems to monitor and evaluate the health of resources and effectiveness of management practices," he said. The specifics in the plan will be based on the agency's multiple use and sustained yield mandate.

The plan will be designed to manage the area for the next 15 to 20 years.

The public can provide input during the pre-planning phase by mailing written comments to the Newcastle Field Office at Attn: NFO RMP Project Manager, BLM Newcastle Field Office, 1101 Washington Blvd., Newcastle, WY 82701 or online via the ePlanning project page at [eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2013064/510](http://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2013064/510).

The BLM is also planning to host an additional pre-scoping meeting in Lusk and will provide further notice when that is scheduled.

## Burning to begin on the border

**Alexis Barker**  
NLJ News Editor

The Bureau of Land Management will conduct a prescribed burn near the South Dakota-Wyoming state line in Weston County, according to an Oct. 3 press release.

"Burning may start as early as October, after fire restrictions are lifted, and could continue throughout the fall as weather and fuel conditions allow," the release says. "All BLM prescribed burn projects are conducted in accordance with approved burn plans that specify weather, smoke dispersal and fuel moisture conditions. Smoke may be visible at times from the surrounding areas."

The burn will cover approximately 80 acres in the Sherwood Canyon area along Beaver Creek Road.

The agency is working with adjacent landowners to reduce the density of the Rocky Mountain juniper in the area, as well as improve the ecological health, function and structural diversity of the pine and mountain mahogany ecosystem.

"The project is part of a multi-year effort by the agency and partners to reduce the risk of catastrophic fires and improve stand growth and wildlife habitat in the area," the release concludes.

More information is available by contacting the Newcastle Field Office.



Fun at Mallo



Photos by Walter Sprague/NLJ

Newcastle Elementary School fifth-graders spent three days, from Wednesday, Sept. 28, to Friday, Sept. 30, at the annual stay at Mallo Camp. Activities such as fishing, hiking, dancing, games, and other recreations were enjoyed by the children during their stay, with a natural preservation emphasis. Top, the children go through dance steps they are taught in the cafeteria area of the Mallo Lodge. Above, a game of Tag included both teachers and students in the fields at Mallo Camp.

### Stone

from Page 1

salary increased from \$5,000 a month to \$7,500 a month for four months. The total cost for this increase, including benefits, was \$10,901, according to her proposal.

The agreement also included the addition of a part-time secretarial position for the same period. The total cost for this position was listed at \$6,279 in the proposal.

Also included in the agreement was a \$3,000 line item for training and consulting fees. This line item would "allow for trainers and consultants/facilitators to come in and present on various topics" and to "aid in

task completion."

The commissioners participated in a board training, set up by Stone, with Jeremiah Rieman, executive director of the Wyoming County Commissioners Association, on April 19.

Per the four-month time frame, the commissioners expected to have the employee handbook and contract with the city for consideration in June.

"Here we are, she thought she would have it by June and it is late September," Todd said.

All three commissioners at the Sept. 20 meeting agreed that an update from Stone on her

progress was needed.

"I would like to see resolution on this with Jeani. What have we gotten for the \$20,000?" Taylor asked. "I'm not seeing it."

County Attorney Michael Stulken reported that Stone had been sick, although he did not mention specifics. He noted that she had informed him that she had sent correspondences to the department heads for feedback on the handbook.

The News Letter Journal requested additional comment from both Stone and Stulken, but no response was returned by press time.

### An oral history lesson



Photo by Walter Sprague/NLJ

As part of efforts by Weston County Museum District Director Cindy Dysart to collect a recorded history of Weston County, a First Responders Coffee was held at the Anna Miller Museum on Wednesday, Sept. 21. Former first responders Dwight Souder and Carl Jungck shared many pictures of events that took place in the past and told stories of their experiences, while Dysart recorded the conversations. Jungck, a former rural fire trainer with the Wyoming State Forestry Division, pictured, describes fires and training he has participated in, detailing equipment, accidents, and hazardous events.

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307-746-2777

## Feeding the soul with music



**Hannah Gross**  
NLJ Correspondent

Many of the women you'll find playing the piano or organ in church on Sunday have been tickling the ivories since they were young girls. That hobby eventually bloomed into a passion and became a way to serve their churches in song.

Music is a central part of most worship services, and Weston County is full of these talented pianists. While many of them say it's possible to worship without music, the melody of song enhances the worship experience in a way that words often can't.

"I know you can worship in your own way without music, but it seems like when you offer it up in song, it makes it special. ... It brings you closer to your faith," said Jan Ellis, former Newcastle High School choir teacher. "It's there to feed your soul."

"Music in general is important. Our lives are richer because of music, but I think, especially in church, it's part of the service and even part of prayer," added Delores Sylte, one of the organists at Corpus Christi Catholic Church. "It goes hand in hand with the message of the day. ... It reinforces the message."

Karen Spears, who plays the piano and organ for both the Seventh Day Adventist Church and Christ the King Lutheran Church, said that music was biblically a "tremendous and inaugural part of worship," referencing the psalms played on the lyre by King David in the Old Testament.

"It's continued on and been a part of worship for eons. Because it is a more emotional expression of our love for God, it cannot be dispensed with," Spears said.

While these ladies might attend different churches, they all share a common passion for music and began practicing at an early age.

Betty Brotzman, wife of the Rev. Norm Brotzman of the Assembly of God Church, was practically born playing the piano. She took lessons when she was in fifth grade and fell in love with it.

"When I was young, my mother couldn't keep me off the piano," Brotzman said. "I think I was born with it. ... It's just part of me."

When her husband started pastoring the church in 1976, Brotzman served as the church's main pianist. When Jim and Carolyn Shields moved to Newcastle a few years later, Jim, who passed away a couple years ago, accompanied Brotzman on the organ.

"We were quite the team," Brotzman said. "You can ask (Carolyn) and she'll say, 'Betty and Jim rocked the music.'"

Although Brotzman enjoys various types of music, she loves playing hymns and praise choruses more than anything.

"Truly, I think worship music puts us into praising God. Our hymns are our theology set to music," she said, adding that it prepares the congregation's hearts to receive the Word of God.

Lynda Russell, organist at First United Methodist Church, began taking lessons shortly after her parents bought a piano



Photo by Hannah Gross/NLJ

**Lynda Russell sits at the organ of the First United Methodist Church, where she has been playing for around 17 years. She loves classical music and traditional hymns.**

"I think we all need music, whatever type we like — even those who like rock 'n' roll — it does something for them. I think it's very important in our lives."

— Lynda Russell

when she was in third grade until she was a sophomore in high school and "just kept playing."

"My mom and dad were always in a church choir wherever we lived, and on Sunday afternoons, they would get together with other singers and sing all afternoon," Russell said. "My mom and dad were the inspiration (of) why I like traditional hymn music."

She passed that same love down to her children by playing classical music at the breakfast table. All of her children love music and sing in city choruses.

About 17 years ago, Russell took her piano skills and added the organ to her list of instruments. When the church no longer had an organist, she volunteered her services.

"I love music for one thing, especially classical music. And there was nobody else in the congregation who played the piano or organ," Russell said. "It's a service to the church."

Similarly, Jan Ellis, who used to play at Corpus Christi Catholic Church until her schedule no longer allowed, came from a musical family where music was "just kind of expected." Ellis began learning from her older sister and later learned from an elementary teacher.

Although she loved it, she admitted that her discipline to practice had an ulterior motive.

"It also afforded me to get out of doing dishes because I would go practice," Ellis said. "When you can get out of doing the dishes daily at age 5 and 6 and on through high school, you would have."

However, music wasn't just a chore to get out of a lesser chore, and Ellis pursued a career as a music teacher, retiring as the Newcastle High School choir teacher just last year.

"Music has always been my passion. I love to help people grow in their music, ... wanting them to have that 'aha' moment where it just all clicks and brings tears to their eyes," Ellis said. "There's always a point in a song where it just goes 'oh, my gosh, this is what it's all about.'"

Ellis and one of her musically gifted friends were music teachers at the same school at one point in their lives and began playing piano duets together. On a particular Easter Sunday, they worked up a special duet and went from one church to another

to perform. "It was just really fun, and I don't know — I just loved it," Ellis said. "I find it very rewarding to help out at church. I think it's stewardship for us to do that."

Spears has been playing piano since she was 7 years old, and her interest in playing at the Lutheran church began when she saw an ad in the paper. She was a little leery at first, but she decided to pray about it, and when the ad ran again, she gave it a go.

"I am very, very grateful to have had this position, and it really helped to develop me musically," Spears said.

All these women enjoy classical music and traditional hymns, but Russell acknowledged that regardless of what genre one prefers, music has the same uplifting effect on its listener.

"I enjoy the calming serenity of the spirit that music brings. The enlivening of the spirit — and especially religious music — makes us realize how important the peace of God is to us," Russell said. "Music lifts the spirit so much. For instance, if a person is down or blue and they play their favorite song or piece of music on a CD or the piano, I think it makes them feel better."

Although Spears admitted that she has seen a shift in worship music from traditional to more contemporary and modern, the music in the small churches of Newcastle has remained steadfast over the years.

"I don't believe church music changes. ... They add new hymns from time to time, but all the old standards are still there," Ellis said. Sylte added that some of her favorites include "How Great Thou Art" and "Peace is Flowing Like a River."

Unfortunately, piano and organ-style music seem to be usurped by modern trends and technology.

"It's sad, but I think it's a dying art," Sylte said.

"Which is a real shame," Russell added. "(It) is one reason I'm real happy that there is still music in the schools."

Russell noted that the benefit of modern technology allows churches without a pianist or organist to still enjoy a song-filled service. Whether it's old music or new, it is always a "lifter of spirits."

"I think we all need music, whatever type we like — even those who like rock 'n' roll — it does something for them. I think it's very important in our lives," Russell said.

Thanks to these dedicated women, local churchgoers can still enjoy the timeless sound of a live piano or organ to enhance their Sunday morning worship in Weston County.

"It's not only an emotional but an intellectual expression of the depths of your soul," Spears said.

## Hartinger from Page 1.....

The money has been an incentive for the 8-year-old, but she also enjoys talking to other people.

"Kori's kind of a little social butterfly," Emily said.

Emily has also been able to have conversations with Kori about figuring out the profit

after paying back the supplies. The money is currently going into her savings, and Kori hopes to someday purchase a car or go-cart.

"Lots of kids these days don't understand the importance of savings. ... I would like to teach Kori that through this," Emily

said. "Eventually, when she is older and we keep up with it, then she can go run it herself."

In the meantime, Emily and Kori hope to continue running the lemonade stand together when they have spare time and look forward to seeing where the business venture goes.



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October 6, 2022 — 9

# Sports

## News Letter Journal

### SPORTS SCHEDULE

**NEWCASTLE HIGH SCHOOL**

**Cross Country**

10/07/22	VJ	Glenrock Invite	A	1PM
10/13/22	V	3A East Regionals @ Douglas	A	2PM
10/22/22	V	3A State Championships @ Ethete	A	TBA

**Volleyball**

10/07/22	V9	Torrington Trailblazers	H	4PM
10/08/22	V9	Wheatland Bulldogs	A	11AM
10/13/22	V9	Upton Bobcats	H	4:30PM
10/14/22	V9	Moorcroft Wolves	A	2PM
10/21/22	V9	Glenrock Herders	H	4PM
10/22/22	V9	Buffalo Bison	A	11AM

**Football**

10/07/22	V	Big Horn Rams	H	6PM
10/10/22	JV	Upton Bobcats	A	5PM
10/14/22	V	Glenrock Herders	A	6PM
10/17/22	JV	Moorcroft Wolves/Wright Panthers	A	4PM
10/21/22	V	Torrington Trailblazers	H	6PM

**Ladies' Swimming**

10/07/22	VJ	Buffalo Quad	A	4PM
10/08/22	VJ	Buffalo Quad	A	10AM
10/14/22	V	Laramie Pre-Invite	A	4PM
10/15/22	V	Laramie Invite	A	10AM
10/21/22	V	3A Regionals @ Buffalo	A	1PM
10/22/22	V	3A Regionals @ Buffalo	A	10AM

## High school sports are in crisis

It's been looming on the horizon for quite a few years now, but the reality is drawing ever nearer. High school sports are in a



Sonja Karp  
Karpe Dogie

crisis which, if not averted, could mean the demise of programs. The crisis is that fewer and fewer adults are stepping up to be coaches and officials, and without them, there can

be no season or games. Newcastle is also short on bus drivers this year, which may mean the cancellations of contests if there is no one to drive the team to their destination.

Having served in two of these roles — coach and official — I have to admit that I don't blame people for hanging up their whistles and opting to sit on the sidelines.

— See **Karpe**, Page 10

## Dogies prevail over the Patriots

Sonja Karp  
NLJ Sports Editor

The Dogies hosted the Upton/Sundance Patriots in the annual Weston County Civil War Friday at Schoonmaker Field, and for the first time since the Patriots have joined the ranks of 2A, Newcastle was able to claim bragging rights by decisively defeating Upton/Sundance, 32-14.

Not only was the win against their Weston County rival satisfying for head coach Matt Conzelman and his crew, but it also elevated the Dogies to 2-2 in the conference, which is a good position to be in at this point in the season.

"It felt really good to get that win," said Conzelman. "I just preached the 'next play' attitude to try to get them to play all four quarters, and everything just came together. It wasn't perfect, but it was where we needed things to be for that day."

The Dogies switched up their strategy a bit and opted to defer to the second half for possession, therefore the Patriots received the ball to start the game and were able to pick up a couple of first downs, however the Dogie defense stopped their offensive drive short.

"We decided to get the defense out there first so we could get rid of some start-of-game jitters," Conzelman explained. "Defense is playing pretty

— See **Football**, Page 11



Photo by Hannah Gross/NLJ

Newcastle High School senior Quint Perino pushes up the middle on a quarterback keeper to get a first down for the Dogies Friday at Schoonmaker Field.

## Newcastle runners struggle in Sturgis

Sonja Karp  
NLJ Sports Editor

It was hot, it was dusty, and it was ripe with adversity.

The Dogie Cross Country team was in the same boat as all runners at the meet in Sturgis Thursday, as each had to suffer through some miserable conditions. The challenges presented proved themselves difficult as nearly every participant put up slower times compared with recent weeks.

"It was about 85 or 86 degrees, which doesn't feel too bad early in the season, but at this point it's stifling," head coach Kathy Beehler explained. "No one PR'd as far as times from previous meets this year, but I didn't expect them to, given the conditions."

Though there were no time improvements on the

NHS Cross Country		
<b>Newcastle @ Sturgis Invitational 9/29/22</b>	10. Custer 225 11. Campbell County 269	Individual JV: 43. Ben Carter 23:12.40 51. Caleb Hoover 24:04.40
<b>Men's Results</b>	Individual Varsity: 18. Thatcher Troftgruben 18:37.07 43. Sam Scribner 20:05.15	<b>Women's Results</b>
1. Bowman 49 2. Natrona 55 3. Sturgis 81 4. Kelly Walsh 113 5. Belle Fourche 176 6. Thunder Basin 183 7. Douglas AFB 184 8. Newcastle 207 9. Spearfish 223	46. Wyatt Cole 20:08.79 48. Nick Lopez 20:12.17 67. Logan Olson 21:24.16	19. Aspen Bloom 22:28.13 Individual JV: 39. Taylor Conklin 33:11.29

season, four runners did put up better times than they did last year on the Sturgis course. Thatcher Troftgruben (-14 seconds), Logan Olson (-31), Nick Lopez (-38) and Caleb Hoover (-1:09) all improved their performance from last season.

"Though the entire field was slower, we have some work to do," Beehler admitted. "We have to drop our times because we're coming up on the end of the season, so we don't have a lot of time to do it — and we have to drop our times regardless of the weather."

A highlight of the day was that the boys pack-ran a little better than they have been so far this season. Troftgruben was way out front, however the next four runners were close.

"When we have been practicing our running form, I have seen it start to break down when we get tired," Beehler began. "At this meet, I thought everyone was much better at holding their form, so that was good to see."

Troftgruben finished 18th in 18:37.07, which was about a minute and a half faster than the next Dogie

— See **Runners**, Page 11

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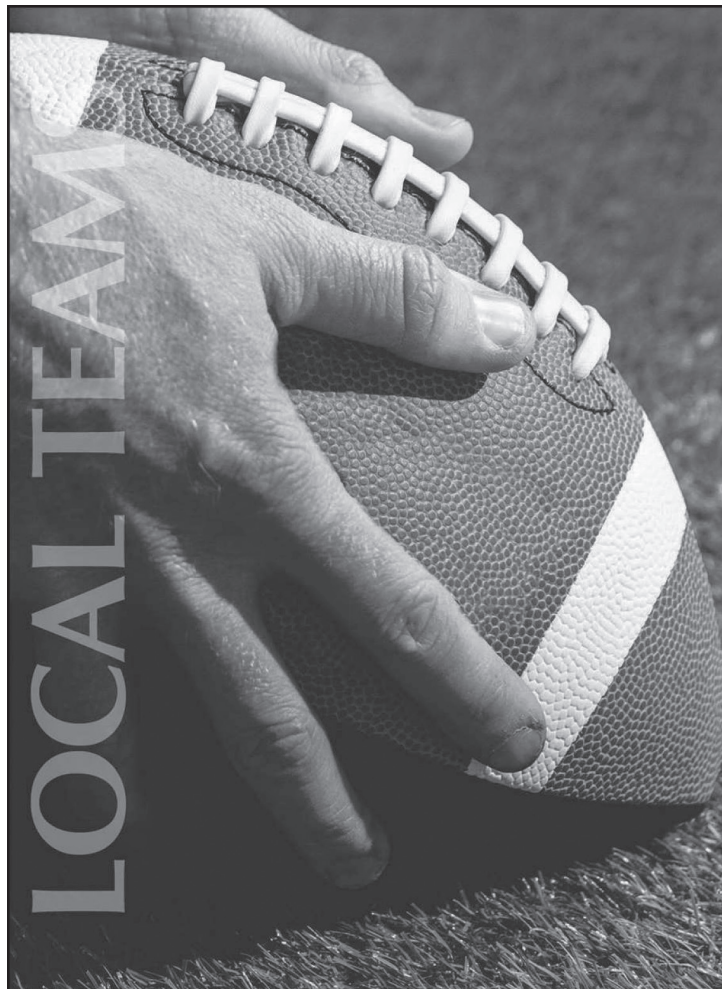
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# Netters round up 'Cats and 'Dogs

**Sonja Karp**  
NLJ Sports Editor

The Lady Dogies knocked off two ranked teams Thursday and Friday by defeating the Lady Bearcats of Douglas, who are currently sitting in third in 3A, and the Sundance Lady Bulldogs, who enjoy the fifth spot in the 2A rankings.

The win over the Lady 'Cats was especially sweet for Newcastle as the Converse County team has gotten the better of head coach Mickey Crabtree's squad in their first three meetings of the season.

"The fourth time's a charm," Crabtree said. "It was awesome to beat them at their house and to do it in three sets. It was such a good feeling!"

Admittedly, things started off a little rough as Douglas took a commanding 10-2 lead early in the first set. However, the Lady Dogies made the needed adjustments to not only rally back, but to take that first set 25-18.

"It was great to see them right the ship," Crabtree said. "It also didn't hurt that Douglas started to make mistakes that we were able to capitalize on."

The second and third sets were a bit more of a back-and-forth battle between the two squads, however, the Lady Dogies prevailed to take the three-set win, 25-23 and 25-21.

"It was a pretty sweet win," said Crabtree. "It was great to see the fight in the girls and to see their determination to come out on top."

While Douglas was making errors, Newcastle was able to cut down on the amount of errors they were making on their own side of the net. Serving was also improved over past weeks' contests.

"It was awesome to see them implement the things we've been working on in practice," Crabtree began. "They saw the



Photos by Nicole McFarland/NLJ

**Gabby McVay, above, gets low to dig up a hit from the Lady Bearcats Thursday in Douglas. The Lady Dogies swept the match in three straight sets. Below, hitter McKenzie Rose takes a swing at the Lady 'Cats. The junior racked up nine kills in the big Dogie win.**

court really well and started placing it well, which proved to be really beneficial."

After the satisfying win over the Lady 'Cats, Newcastle had to get ready to take on the Lady Bulldogs of Sundance at home on Friday.

"I think we were still a little sore over our loss to Moorcroft last week, so the girls were pretty determined to go 2-0 on the week," Crabtree said. "They don't like to lose, and we had a goal of continuing to implement the changes we've been working on, and they were able to carry over their good play from Thursday to Friday."

The Lady Dogies continued to diversify their attack, to be more effective from the service line and to minimize the amount of unforced errors they were committing. That combination culminated in Newcastle sweeping Sundance pretty decisively in three sets, 25-16, 25-14 and 25-20.

Jaylen Ostenson really implemented the changes that Crabtree had been emphasizing as she saw the court and placed the ball well in both the Thursday game and on Friday at home.

"She implemented the roll shots, the digs and the dinks well this weekend. She also targeted the deep corners like we've been working on these past few weeks," Crabtree reported. "It was good to see that skill blossom, instead of always swinging as hard as she can."

Still, a goal for Crabtree's crew is to build upon stringing more than a couple of points together at a time.

This week, the Lady Dogies will kick things off by hosting Torrington in their annual Pink Game on Friday starting at 4 p.m. with the C-team game, then will travel to Wheatland

NHS Volleyball	
<b>Newcastle @ Douglas 9/29/22: 25-18, 25-23, 25-21</b>	<b>Newcastle v. Sundance 9/30/22: 25-16, 25-14, 25-20</b>
Jaylen Ostenson: 11-11 serves, 1 ace, 12 kills, 1 solo block, 2 set assists, 24 digs	Jaylen Ostenson: 6-6 serves, 2 aces, 7 kills, 1 solo block, 1 set assist, 11 digs
Tiernan Stanton: 5 kills, 2 solo blocks, 2 block assists, 2 digs	Tiernan Stanton: 11 kills, 2 solo blocks, 1 block assist, 1 set assist, 3 digs
MacKenzie Conzelman: 10-10 serves, 2 kills, 2 block assists, 1 set assist, 3 digs	MacKenzie Conzelman: 10-10 serves, 3 kills, 1 block assist, 1 set assist, 6 digs
Hunter McFarland: 10-12 serves, 1 kill, 1 block assist, 20 set assists, 13 digs	Hunter McFarland: 18-18 serves, 2 aces, 3 kills, 1 block assist, 24 set assists, 8 digs
Shelby Tidyman: 12-13 serves, 1 ace, 3 set assists, 17 digs	Shelby Tidyman: 15-15 serves, 4 aces, 1 set assist, 23 digs
Gabby McVay: 5-6 serves, 6 digs	Gabby McVay: 12-14 serves, 1 ace, 17 digs
McKenzie Rose: 3-5 serves, 9 kills, 1 block assist, 4 digs	McKenzie Rose: 6 kills, 4 digs
Lizzy Rushton: 8-8 serves, 3 kills, 2 block assists, 1 set assist, 7 digs	Lizzy Rushton: 4-6 serves, 1 kill, 1 block assist, 9 digs
Storee Tupa: 6-6 serves, 3 digs	



on Saturday for games beginning at 11 a.m.

Newcastle lost to Wheatland early in the season, and Crabtree is looking forward to seeing how her team will perform against them after the work they've put in.

"We will attempt to keep the ball away from their libero, who is phenomenal," Crabtree predicted. "They also beat Douglas in three last week and are playing really well right now, so we will have to bring our A game."

## Karpe

from Page 9

But at the same time, it's very sad to see the waning interest in being involved in school sporting programs.

It can feel like a very thankless job, and worse, it can be the cause of a great deal of stress between the hours spent devoted to performing all the requirements of the job and dealing with all of the backlash, which can border on abuse from outside parties.

If all a coach had to deal with is the players, and working toward putting together a successful season, it would be one of the most enjoyable and rewarding positions out there.

There's really nothing better than getting to spend time with a group of young people outside of the classroom who are participating in a sport they love, and working toward a common goal.

Some of the most lasting relationships are formed when you spend around 30 hours a week together, with several of those being game situations where the team mentality is at its peak.

It is those relationships, as well as a love for the game, that keeps people dedicated to the role of coach. There are drawbacks to coaching, though, which can be overwhelming.

Coaches spend hours above and beyond practice time, travel time and games. There is game film to go over, stats to be verified and distributed to interested parties, strategies to be developed which address each opponent their

team will face — and all of those are hours the coach sacrifices with his or her own family.

Then, there is the reality that everyone in the stands knows they can do the job better than the coach, and many are quite vocal about calling out every perceived mistake.

Parents can also be a thorn in a coach's side. Understandably, they want the best for their child, but harassing or bad-mouthing a coach because they feel like their kid isn't getting the playing time they think he or she deserves is not the best approach to achieving that goal.

Well-meaning as they may be, little Johnny may simply not be at the level the kids who play above him are, and he may not be ready for the level of play that is happening on the court.

With all that coaches must put up with, it is no wonder that there isn't a line of people around the block vying for open coaching positions.

The problem is that, without coaches, seasons simply won't happen.

Right now, Newcastle High School is looking for an assistant girls' basketball coach as well as a coach for boys' soccer in the spring, and there is not a big rush to apply.

Perhaps some of those who like to add their two cents regarding what coaches should be doing might want to get certified and step into those vacant positions so our sports' programs won't be in jeopardy of fading into nothingness.

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# NHS swimmers continue working to improve times

Sonja Karp  
NLJ Sports Editor

The Lady Dogie Swim Team had a light week of competition, with only one meet on Saturday in Douglas. Five teams competed at the invitational, and head coach Doug Scribner felt good about the way his team performed in the longer meter pool, especially considering the swimmers are feeling some fatigue at this point in the season.

“For being tired, I think we had a pretty good day,” Scribner began. “Also, we changed things up with the relays, which was a fun way to motivate the girls a little bit.”

For the relays, Scribner named two captains, Raeligh Shipp and Lydia Anderson, and had them put together two teams for the 200 Medley and 400 Free Relays. He also entered them with no times so they would be able to swim in adjacent lanes where they would be able to compete against

each other.

“They only scored one of the teams, because the other swam exhibition,” Scribner explained. “But it was fun to have them race each other and I sweetened the deal by letting them know that whoever won between the two teams got to run a set this week in practice.”

After converting from meter to yard time, there were four swimmers who swam personal bests in six different races.

Anderson improved in the 50 Freestyle and 100 Breaststroke, Shipp was faster in the 50 and 100 Freestyle, Jaydenn Nelson was faster in the 100 Breaststroke and Veronica Ayers improved in the 100 Freestyle.

“I don’t think the girls thought they swam as well as they did,” Scribner said. “I think it surprised Lydia that she PR’d in her two races because she said she felt tired.”

Scribner noted that all his swimmers have been working on some

NHS Ladies' Swimming		
<b>Newcastle @ Douglas Invite 10/1/22</b>	Kyah Miller, Lydia Anderson	400 Free:
<b>Team:</b>	200 IM:	10. Rebekah Olson 6:22.82
1. Powell 154	9. Jaydenn Nelson 3:43.03	100 Breaststroke:
2. Douglas 98	50 Free:	11. Hailey Beastrom 1:41.32
3. Cheyenne East 87	4. Lydia Anderson 30.84 PR	13. Lydia Anderson 1:44.46 PR
4. Buffalo 52	8. Raeligh Shipp 33.19 PR	14. Kyah Miller 1:44.50 PR
5. Newcastle 19	16. Rebekah Olson 37.73	16. Ruth Rose 1:56.95
Results in Meters:	23. Veronica Ayers 55.93	18. Jaydenn Nelson 2:18.85
200 Medley Relay: A. 3:30.67; B. 3:20.54	100 Butterfly:	400 Free Relay: A. 7:15.65; B. 6:18.35
5. Hailey Beastrom, Raeligh Shipp, Rebekah Olson, Jaydenn Nelson	10. Hailey Beastrom 1:46.11	5. Jaydenn Nelson, Rebekah Olson, Kyah Miller, Raeligh Shipp
NS. Veronica Ayers, Ruth Rose,	100 Free:	NS. Hailey Beastrom, Ruth Rose, Veronica Ayers, Lydia Anderson
	5. Raeligh Shipp 1:12.10 PR	
	12. Kyah Miller 1:30.04	
	18. Veronica Ayers 2:05.68 PR	

technique in the freestyle.

“We’re trying to adjust some posturing to get faster,” he reported. “We’ve been using a lot of parachutes to get stronger, so now we are just trying to cut time with some technique tweaks.”

The work appears to be paying off as 50 Freestyle times are improving weekly.

“These are the fastest times we’ve put up in a long time, and we have

improved in our 200 Freestyle Relay for the past three weeks,” Scribner noted. “The girls were giving me a hard time about the 2 Free relay being my favorite now, after the 400 has always been in the past.”

Unfortunately, it’s not just the Lady Dogies who are speedy in that short sprint. Across the board in 3A, everyone is swimming fast in the 50 Freestyle, so Scribner’s crew still has to cut time to prevail over other

schools.

As the end of the season is growing near, Scribner noted that Shipp, who has been working toward qualifying in the 200 Freestyle, has a plan to accomplish that goal.

“Raeleigh is looking to qualify in Laramie in two weeks,” he explained. “She’s going to try it again this weekend in Buffalo, and if she doesn’t make it, she’ll plan to wear her racing suit to give herself a slight advantage in Laramie.”

Scribner went on to explain that Shipp’s biggest hurdle this season has been getting in the proper mind-set to reach the 3A qualifying time.

“Last year when we went to Gillette, she had determined that she was going to qualify so she just needs to adopt that mentality, and I’m confident she will get it done this year too,” he nodded.

This week is another solo competition for the team as they travel to Buffalo for a quad on Friday.

## Football

from Page 9



Photo by Hannah Gross/NLJ

Connor Stolhammer keeps his eyes up field as he fights for yardage against the Upton/Sundance Patriots Friday.

tough and they got a stop right away, so that was a great way to get things rolling.”

The Dogie offense then took the field and on their first possession drove the ball down the field and punched it in the end zone on a quarterback sneak with Quint Perino.

“We were trying to attack their outsiders and Holden [McConkey] and Connor [Stolhammer] were really successful on the perimeter picking up first downs,”

Conzelman began. “Then we got close and Quint got in the end zone.”

Dylan McFarlin stepped in and put the ball straight through the uprights for the PAT, so the Dogies took the lead 7-0.

Upton/Sundance was able to get on the board before the first quarter ran out when they got around the left side of the Dogie defense and were off to the races with a 50-yard touchdown run. Defense thwarted

their two-point conversion attempt however, so Newcastle held on to a slim 7-6 lead.

The next scoring opportunity for the Dogies came as a result of a mishap on the part of the Patriots in the second quarter. They were punting on fourth down, and one of their own players got in the way of the ball, so the Dogies took possession of the ball with excellent field position.

Despite the advantageous start to the drive, Newcastle

found themselves in a fourth down situation and opted to go for the field goal. Once again, McFarlin was right on the money with his kick attempt from 20 yards out to push the team to a 10-6 lead.

Dogie D then went back to work and recovered a fumble in Patriot territory, which set up touchdown number two for the squad. Perino connected on a 15-yard pass to Colton Vanderpool Mobley in the right corner of the end zone,

and McFarlin was once again good with his PAT.

Upton scored again before the end of the first half on a pass play, and this time were good on their two-point conversion attempt to close the gap to 17-14 in the Dogies’ favor as the two teams went into the halftime break.

Unfortunately, adversity presented itself when Perino was sidelined with a concussion during the third quarter, so McConkey took over in that position.

The Dogies adjusted quickly, however, and right after Perino went down, Connor Stolhammer scored on a five- or six-yard scamper into the end zone.

“What was really cool was I sent the play in for Holden, but when Quint went out, he switched it up for Connor,” Conzelman said.

This time, a bad snap and hold thwarted McFarlin’s PAT attempt, so the Dogies closed out the third frame up 23-14.

McConkey then took over, driving his team down the field in the fourth and final frame, and got into the end zone for a touchdown of his own. The PAT was good, which expanded Newcastle’s lead to 30-14.

“Holden went to work and he was pretty winded by the end of the game,” Conzelman chuckled. “He would have been close to 200 yards had a couple of the plays not been called back, so he had a nice game.”

Finally, the Dogies were awarded a safety when the Patriots snapped the ball over

NHS Football	
<b>Newcastle v. Upton/Sundance 9/29/22: 32-14</b>	
<b>212 yards rushing, 86 yards passing</b>	
Quint Perino: 1 TD, 7-9 pass completions for 76 yards, 11 carries for 53 yards, 1 punt return for 4 yards, 3 tackle ast.	
Holden McConkey: 1 TD, 20 carries for 93 yards, 1-1 pass completion for 10 yards, 1 reception for 3 yards, 2 kick returns for 45 yards, 1 fumble recovery, 3 tackles, 4 tackle ast., 2 tackles for loss	
Heath Henkle: 3 tackle ast.	
Jacob Prell: 1 fumble recovery, 3 tackles, 3 tackle ast., 2 tackles for loss	
Dylan McFarlin: 1 FG, 3-4 PATs, 1 punt for 25 yards, 1 kickoff for 22 yards	
Finn Gerlag: 1 PAT, 4 kickoffs for 65 yards	
Colton Vanderpool Mobley: 1 TD, 1 carry for 5 yards, 3 receptions for 43 yards, 1 sack, 1 pass breakup, 4 tackles, 3 tackle ast., 1 tackle for loss	
Connor Stolhammer: 1 TD, 11 carries for 70 yards, 0-1 pass completions, 1 reception for 1 yard, 1 kickoff return for 10 yards, 4 tackles, 4 tackle ast.	
Thomas Prell: 1 carry for 1 yard, 1 reception for 40 yards, 1 tackle ast.	
Jonathon Anderson: 1 sack, 3 tackle ast.	
Skyler Cummings: 1 reception for 29 yards, 1 pass breakup, 1 tackle, 2 tackle ast.	
Will Beastrom: 1 reception for 10 yards	
Jace Rich: 5 tackle ast., 1 tackle for loss	
Cole Erb: 1 tackle, 1 tackle ast.	
Cort Perino: 1 interception, 1 tackle	
Aidan Butler: 1 tackle ast.	
Collin McConkey: 1 carry for -10 yards, 1 tackle, 2 tackle ast.	

the head of the QB and it rolled out the back of the end zone for the last two points of the contest.

This week the Dogies have a challenge as they host the Big Horn Rams on Friday, who are currently ranked fifth in 2A.

“You want a challenge?” asked Conzelman. “Well, we’re going to see it this week. I would guess that they are more like a two or three team in reality. But, if we can keep it close and give ourselves a chance in the fourth quarter, it could be good.”

Kickoff is scheduled for 6 p.m., and this contest is also the annual Pink Game for cancer awareness.

# CONGRATS Graduates!



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## Runners

from Page 9

finisher. Between the next four, however, there was also just a minute and a half difference in their times.

Sam Scribner was 43rd in 20:05.15, Wyatt Cole finished 46th in 20:08.79, Lopez was just two places and four seconds behind Cole, and Olson came in 67th in 21:24.16.

In the junior varsity race, Ben Carter finished 43rd in 23:12.40 while Hoover was 51st with a time of 24:04.40.

Two runners competed for the Lady Dogies. Aspen Bloom crossed the finish line in 19th place in the varsity race with a time of 22:28.13, while Taylor Conklin competed in the JV division finishing 39th in 33:11.29.

The Dogies will travel to Glenrock for their meet on Friday. It’s been awhile since Newcastle has competed on that course, and Beehler said she is looking forward to having the opportunity to do so again.

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# Cambria String Band to play here

**Walter Sprague**  
Art and Culture Reporter

The second program for the 31st season of the Weston County Concert Association will be on Sunday, Oct. 9, at 2 p.m. in Crouch Auditorium. The Cambria String Band will take the stage, giving the audience a taste of music with roots in both Wyoming and South Dakota.

Larry Roetzel, the founder of the band and a self-taught banjo player, was the Newcastle High School woodshop teacher for 31 years. For the past 45 years, he has played in various bands, and the association's chairperson, Jan Ellis, chairman of WCCA, wants the public to know that this will be a special occasion as it will be the second to the last performance for Roetzel and the band. That's why non-members are being given the rare opportunity to attend an association event.

"This concert will be open to purchase tickets at the door for one night," Ellis said.

The ability to purchase a single concert ticket instead of for the whole season, Ellis said, is because Roetzel is a local celebrity. However, season memberships will also be sold at the door.

Roetzel said he finds it challenging working with musicians who know all the music rules, and the 2007 Wyoming State Banjo Champion says he can't wait to show off his talented band.

According to the website Pegie Douglas Events ([pegiedouglas.com/cambria-string-band](http://pegiedouglas.com/cambria-string-band)), "Cambria String Band is the Black Hill's own contemporary bluegrass band. They play a mix of anything from Top 40 to folk music. They are a high-energy band and feature great vocals with harmony and outstanding musicianship. Each one of the members has a long list of credits. They agree that they are playing songs that an audience will appreciate, not just what the band wants to play. This makes them a highly sought-after band in the Black Hills."

"This concert is very special to me," Roetzel said, "And I am looking forward to playing pop, country, and bluegrass music for the people of Newcastle."

The next concert in the 2022-23 association's season is coming up quickly. The classic-folk-pop group Empire Wild will play at the Crouch Auditorium on Friday, Oct. 28, at 7 p.m.



Free concert



Weston County Library in Newcastle presented Celtic guitarist and storyteller Jerry Barlow on Thursday, Sept. 29. The conference room was filled to capacity for the free event. Barlow started in country music, writing songs and playing in recording sessions, with some of his songs recorded by Conway Twitty, Eddie Arnold, and Genie Fruit. While in Gatlinberg, Tenn., he was exposed to a heavy Celtic influence and started focusing on that style, and for the last 50 years he has been doing concerts with the Irish, Scottish, Welsh, and English sound. Above, Barlow plays for the crowd, pictured at left.

Photos by Walter Sprague/NLJ

## Let's use the beer tax for intervention and education measures

As our long hot summer of holidays, barbecues, beaches and lake time comes to its dreaded close, I was left pondering that beloved drink, beer.

It was recently pointed out to me by an old friend that Wyoming has a beer tax. Who knew there was a tax specifically targeted for beer?

Now before you get out the pitchforks, torches and polearms to raid your local liquor store and take the beer and dump it in the LAK in a modern day Boston Tea Party, the tax is only \$0.02 per gallon. To put that into perspective it is roughly 1 penny per six pack, or just slightly more as a half gallon is 64 ounces and a six

pack is 72.

A price you will admit you would not notice one way or another.

So a bit further research on the subject showed me that in the fiscal year 2008 the revenue from this tax was \$260,000 into the state general fund. Not a lot, but do the math on that will ya!

That is revenue from roughly 13 million gallons of beer. For perspective on that, there are roughly 590,000 humans and 400,000 antelope living in Wyoming by 2022 estimates. A little

more math shows that is just over 13 gallons for every man, woman, child, and speed goat in the state. That's a lot of barley hops, and water going down.

Switching gears for just a sec to tie some things together. Wyoming sits middle of the pack in education, by most measures we are mid twenties as a whole. So let's say instead of that beer tax going to a general fund — to be used for whatever whims the state so decides — it were to go into the education fund?

I can hear you now, "Dustin, \$260K does not even make a dent in what our schools need." Yes, I get that, but say the tax was raised to \$0.50 per gallon. Then you are talking real money at \$6.5 million dollars or more per year, because let's face it, no matter the economy the beer gets drank in celebration or misery.

Another side of the coin that I read was why not abolish the tax altogether? This tax was put in place at this amount in 1935. A dollar in 1935

compared to today based on inflation calculators is \$21.62, so this tax has most certainly not kept up with the times.

The argument for getting rid of the tax has some very strong points. Between beer, wine and liquor taxes the revenue is \$1.7 million dollars. By way of comparison, the state of Wyoming lays out \$27.6 million to combat alcohol abuse and its related offenses. A totally untenable situation.

Personally, I say use that inflation and raise the tax by 25 times the amount that it is at current, if not more. (Let's be honest again, a quarter or so added on to your favorite six-pack isn't going to put you off.) Then take that revenue and plow it back into the education system for alcohol and substance abuse classes and intervention mea-

asures. Maybe help curb some of that \$27.6 million before it gets out of hand.

If you are interested in a state by state breakdown of beer taxes, try [foundation.org/state-beer-taxes-2022/](http://foundation.org/state-beer-taxes-2022/). It lists a breakdown of taxes on the golden nectar by state. You will see that Wyoming far and away is the lowest.

As I said this is just some beer, er, food for thought, enjoy the research if you are so inclined. Sometimes the interwebs can provide a bit of fun that is also eye opening and educational. I hope you have found this educational and entertaining. I will be back on occasion to dazzle you with useless knowledge, fun facts, and things to make you stretch your mind.

You are welcome to come along for the ride if you want.



Dustin Bergstrom  
**Dusty Mind**

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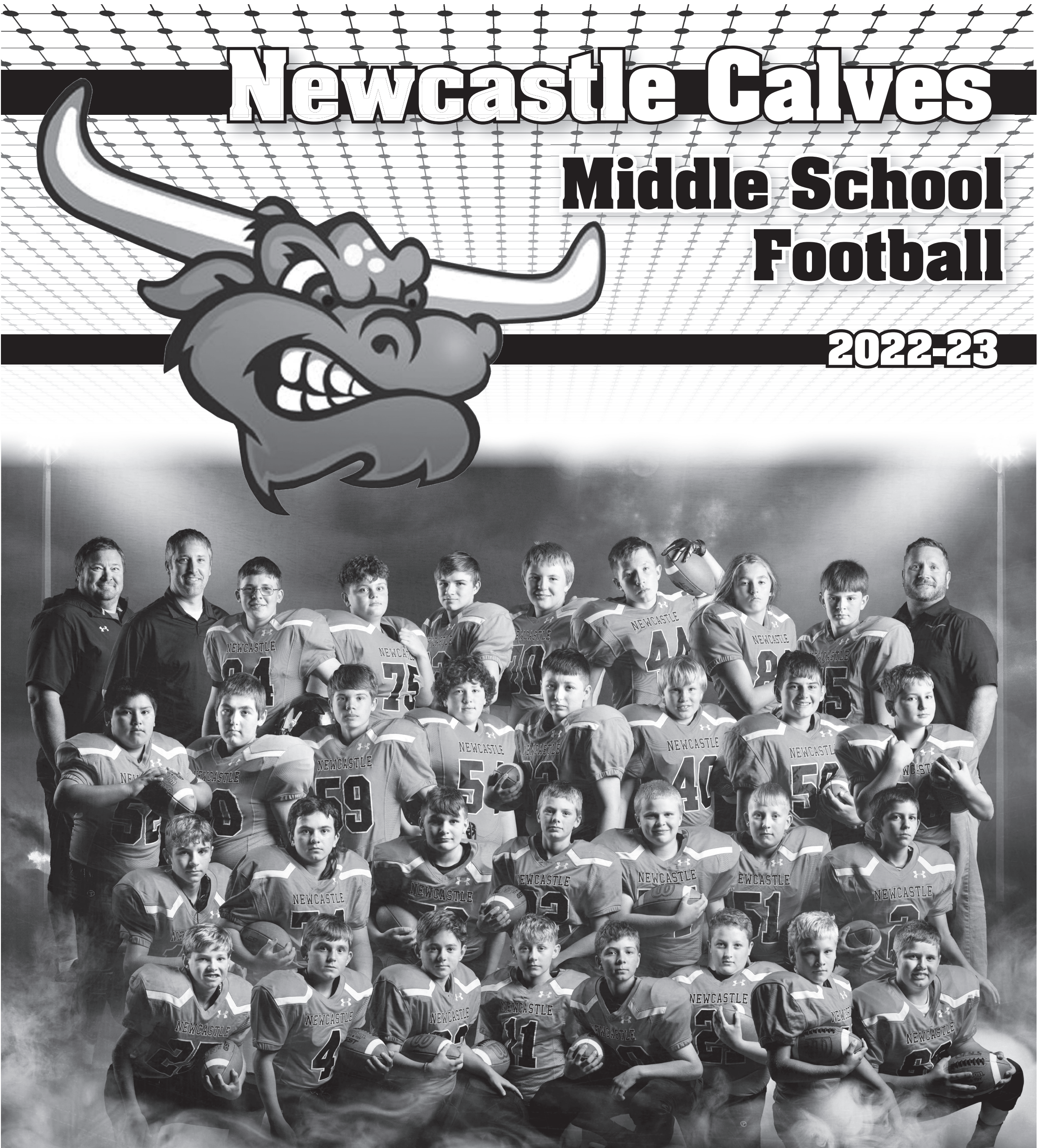
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# Newcastle Calves

## Middle School Football

2022-23

Front row: Gabe Hoover, Adryan Wolfe, Davin Hoffman, Lukas Kitch, Coen Tavegie, Carson Leonard, Nolan Gregory, Ridge Checketts. Second row: Coleton Hatheway, Vincent Stanton, Braylon Gregory, Troy Christensen, Owen Evenson, TJ Harrington, Bridger Hill. Third row: Gustavo Munoz, Carter Farella, Adam Butler, Lukas Benshoof, Justin Malone, Corbin Blake, Mason Rawhouser, Dylan Hespe. Back row: Coach Beau Gregory, Coach Allen Von Eye, Isaiah Anderson, Conner Kitch, Landon Hatheway, Dagan Thompson, Dane Crabtree, Dustin McCarthy, Kaden Hall, Coach Mike Pederson

*Photo by Emily Hartinger/Skull Creek Photography*

**#GoDogies**

**#HornsUp**

**#Football**

**#JoinTheRide**

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# Weather Vane

DATE	HI	LO
S-25	73	43
M-26	81	46
T-27	75	45
W-28	88	52
T-29	90	55
F-30	79	52
S-01	68	55

### Legal Notice

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: Probate No: PR-8283 LOUISE ROBERTS, Deceased**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR DECREE OF SUMMARY DISTRIBUTION OF PROPERTY**

To: All persons interested in the Estate of Louise Roberts:

You are hereby notified that on the 11th day of August, 2022, Stacey Sieber, Lloyd Roberts, and Shelly Roberts filed an application in the Sixth Judicial District Court in and for the County of Weston, State of Wyoming, stating that Louise Roberts died on April 29, 2021; that she was a resident of Newcastle, Weston County, Wyoming; and that at the time of her death she owned a parcel of real property located in Weston County, Wyoming, more particularly described as follows:  
 LOTS 6 AND 7 OF BLOCK 2 IN GREENWOOD ADDITION TO THE CITY OF NEWCASTLE,

WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING.

Said application prays that the Court enter a decree establishing right and title to the above-described parcel of real property, and setting over decedent's interest therein to Stacey Sieber.

You are hereby further notified that if no objection to the application has been filed within thirty (30) days after the first date of publication of this notice, the court shall enter a decree establishing the right and title to the property located in Wyoming to the Applicants as stated above. If an objection to the application is filed within thirty (30) days of the first date of publication, the court shall set the matter for a hearing, after which the court shall enter an order either denying or granting the application.

Dated this 11th day of August, 2022  
 Tina Cote, Clerk of District Court

Michael Stulken, Attorney at Law  
 15 S. Sumner Avenue  
 Newcastle, Wyoming 82701  
 (307) 871-0348

(Publish September 29 and October 6, 2022)

### WCSD#1 Warrants

**WESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1 FEDERAL FUND WARRANTS OVER \$500 SEPTEMBER 2022**

Amazon Capital Services	\$768.24
Carnegie Learning	\$13,565.54
Carnegie Learning	\$4,434.46
Instructure, Inc.	\$2,997.12
Lexia Learning Systems LLC	\$1,832.00
Little Bit of Guidance	\$800.00
Pine Cove Consulting, LLC	\$627,303.59
Pingora Consulting LLC	\$2,881.23
Toolbox Project	\$14,664.60
Bridges Transitions Co.	\$736.00
Carnegie Learning	\$33,750.00

Exceptional Minds	\$1,534.50
Institute for Multi-Sensory	\$968.30
LRP Publications	\$595.00
Mastercard	\$2,170.53
WCSD#1 General Fund	\$9,599.71
WCSD#1 General Fund	\$1,307.44
WCSD#1 General Fund	\$30,044.86
WCSD#1 General Fund	\$4,988.94
WCSD#1 General Fund	\$13,454.20
WCSD#1 General Fund	\$15,194.74
Checking Account Total:	\$783,591.02

Grant Total

\$783,591.02

(Publish October 6, 2022)

### Legal Notice

**WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CHEYENNE, WYOMING NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF AND FINAL SETTLEMENT FOR HIGHWAY WORK**

Notice is hereby given that the State Transportation Commission of Wyoming has accepted as completed according to plans, specifications and rules governing the same work performed under that certain contract between the State of Wyoming, acting through said Commission, and Northern Improvement Company, The Contractor, on Highway Project Number 2303017 in Weston County, consisting of grading, milling, asphalt widening and asphalt

paving, and the Contractor is entitled to final settlement therefore; that the Director of the Department of Transportation will cause said Contractor to be paid the full amount due him under said contract on November 16, 2022. The date of the first publication of this Notice is October 6, 2022.

STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF WYOMING

Pam Fredrick  
 Senior Budget Analyst  
 Budget Program

(Publish October 6, 13 and 20, 2022)

## DEADLINE FOR LEGALS IS FRIDAY

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#### GREEK MYTHOLOGY

**ACROSS**

- Food-contaminating bacteria
- \*Meliae are nymphs of the \_\_\_\_ tree in Greek mythology
- Chris Hemsworth's superhero role
- Come by without warning (2 words)
- Type of patrol
- You are
- "That is," Latin
- \*Half man, half goat
- German surrealist Max
- \*One-eyed giants
- \*One part human, part divine
- Eastward compass bearing
- Gauche or Droite, in Paris
- Bar bill
- Convenience
- "Stop right there!"
- 15th of March
- Loot
- State indirectly
- \*Collected by the mythological ferryman at the River Styx
- \*Winged symbol of Zeus
- Copied
- Give or take
- Indian Lilac tree
- Close by
- Inexperienced newcomer

**DOWN**

- "Beowulf," e.g.
- Buffalo Bill's last name
- Petroleum exporters' org.
- Type of cotton thread
- Chant
- Pharaohs' vipers
- Reggae's cousin
- Indic vernacular
- Actress Spelling
- Like undecided jury
- Approximately (2 words)
- Retired, shortened
- Saudi's southern neighbor
- Peas, in Middle English

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

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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

S	C	A	M		R	P	M		Y	O	K	E		
O	R	S	O		C	A	R	E		P	O	S	E	R
N	A	T	O		O	D	O	R		R	U	L	E	R
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6	8	9	2	7	5	3	1	4
3	1	2	4	8	6	5	7	9
7	5	1	6	9	4	2	8	3
2	6	3	8	5	7	4	9	1
8	9	4	3	1	2	6	5	7
1	7	6	5	2	3	9	4	8
9	2	5	7	4	8	1	3	6
4	3	8	1	6	9	7	2	5

#### Gwamma by JaNel M. Farnsworth

Panel 1: A boy points at a dog. "Hey Mutsy, check out my Boomerang!"

Panel 2: The dog barks. "Arf! Arf!"

Panel 3: The dog barks. "Arf! Arf!"

Panel 4: The boy looks confused. "Cool, huh Mutsy? Errr... Grrr..."

FIND THE SOLUTIONS IN NEXT WEEK'S PAPER

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a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
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(3)	Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®	530	537
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c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		1519	1517
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f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		1618	1616
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		282	284
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		1900	1900
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		93.88	93.87

16. Electronic Copy Circulation			
a. Paid Electronic Copies		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
94		94	97
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d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c x 100)		94.2	94.2
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18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner <i>Kim Dean Managing Editor</i>		Date 09/26/2022	

(Publish October 6, 2022)

# Cowboy State Look-In

Courtesy of the Wyoming News Exchange



## Gas prices fall in October

CHEYENNE (WNE) — Average gasoline prices in Wyoming have fallen 6.7 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.76 per gallon Monday, according to GasBuddy.com's survey of 494 stations in the state. Prices in Wyoming are 6.3 cents per gallon lower than a month ago, and stand 32.4 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has declined 2.9 cents in the last week, and stands at \$4.86 per gallon. According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Wyoming was \$3.19 per gallon on Sunday, while the most expensive was \$4.79. That is a difference of \$1.60 per gallon. The national average price of gasoline has risen 11.1 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.78 per gallon Monday. The national average is down 0.4 cents per gallon from a month ago, and stands 59.8 cents per gallon higher than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data. The data is compiled from more weekly price reports covering over 150,000 U.S. gas stations. *This story was published on Oct. 3, 2022.*

## Daniels Scholarship app opens

SHERIDAN (WNE) — Wyoming high school seniors can now apply to become a 2023 Daniels Scholar and receive up to \$100,000 toward their college degree. Interested students must apply at DanielsFund.org/Scholarships by 4 p.m. Oct. 15 to be considered for the scholarship. The Daniels Scholarship Program provides the opportunity for motivated students to attend the college of their choice. The scholarship, based on financial need, provides up to \$100,000 to attend any two- or four-year nonprofit, accredited college or university in the United States. To be eligible for the scholarship, students must meet the following requirements:
 

- Be a graduating high school senior.
- Be a resident of Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico or Utah.
- Be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States.
- Earn a minimum grade point average of 3.0 in high school (on an unweighted 4.0 scale).
- Earn a minimum SAT math score of 490 and a minimum evidence-based reading and writing score of 490, or a minimum ACT score of 18 in each category (writing score not required).

 The applicant's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) must have an adjusted gross income of \$85,000 or less on their 2021 tax return on which the applicant is claimed as a dependent. Additional income is allowed for additional dependents. Daniels Scholars receive \$5,000 to \$25,000 annually, depending on financial need. Funds can be used toward the following:
 

- Tuition and fees at any accredited non profit college or university in the U.S.
- Room and board
- Books and supplies
- Other educational experiences

 All Daniels Scholars also receive a laptop computer, networking opportunities, leadership development opportunities and career development. 2023 Daniels Scholars will be announced in March 2023. To learn more about the Daniels Scholarship Program or to apply, see DanielsFund.org/Scholarships. *This story was published on Sept. 28, 2022.*

## Seal of Biliteracy on CC diplomas

GILLETTE (WNE) — High school students in Campbell County may now receive up to two seals of biliteracy on their diplomas: a state seal and a district seal. In January, Campbell County School District implemented its own Seal of Biliteracy, which shows that students are fluent and functional in at least two languages. In February, state legislators passed the language proficiency-seal of biliteracy bill and Tuesday, the state seal was approved for use within the district. The state offers two options for seals, one called the State of Wyoming Seal of Biliteracy and the other is the Seal of Biliteracy with distinction, said Bertine Bahige, principal of Stocktrail Elementary School. Stocktrail is a dual language immersion school where Spanish is taught and integrated within daily lessons. "The Wyoming Department of Education did a good job incorporating what we've done in Campbell County, what Natrona has done as well as Teton County and also involved foreign language teachers to be able to put together a comprehensive structure," Bahige said of the different pathways and assessments students can take to prove language proficiency. He said that some of the hesitancy in the state revolved around how to meet indigenous languages within the seal's documentation, which has now been handled. Wyoming was one of the last states in the country to approve the state seal, which is now commonly looked for in college admissions and by employers, said Sen. Affie Ellis, R-Cheyenne, who sponsored the bill earlier this year. It can also be referenced when students look at scholarship opportunities. *This story was published on Sept. 29, 2022.*

## Electric vehicle infrastructure plan approved

LYMAN (WNE) — The Federal Highway Administration announced Tuesday that Wyoming's National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure plan has been approved and Fiscal Year 2022 funding has been released. The state will now begin the process as outlined in the plan for year one of the program, which will involve a request for proposal process for the installation of charging stations within the towns of Pine Bluffs, Laramie, Wheatland, Douglas, Buffalo, Sheridan, and Sundance. The exact locations of these chargers will be determined as part of the RFP process. While the overall plan was approved, the FHWA denied eight of the state's key exception requests. Wyoming was seeking a series of 11 exceptions to federal requirements that the stations be placed every 50 miles and a maximum of one mile from an interstate exit. The only approved exception request for the 50 mile requirement was the section of Interstate 90 between Gillette and Buffalo, while two 1-mile exceptions were granted for existing charging stations in Rawlins and Cheyenne. "Wyoming will continue to work with the FHWA and other partners to try to find a common sense solution for the denied exception requests to ensure the stations are economically viable and a good use of taxpayer resources," said Luke Reiner, Wyoming Department of Transportation director. Wyoming is allocated almost \$24 million over five years for EV charging infrastructure along its federally designated alternative fuel corridors: I-80, I-25 and I-90. Once the federal government has certified the EV infrastructure buildout along the interstates, any remaining funding can be spent in areas outside of the interstates. No state funding will be used to install, operate or maintain the NEVI EV chargers. *This story was published on Sept. 30, 2022.*

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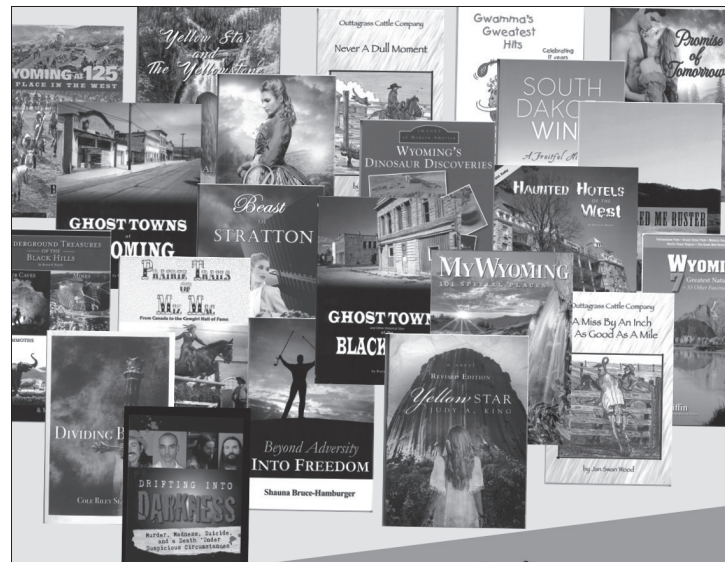
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Back-tracking



The 2022-23 season of the Weston County Concert Association was kicked off by Backtrack Vocals in the Crouch Auditorium at Newcastle High School on Monday, Sept. 26. The five-piece a cappella group, from New York City, provided songs ranging from pop to classical, from show tunes to standards, but always with their own twists and humor. After the hour-and-a-half concert they received a standing ovation and sung an encore. Above, Boston native Xander Teplansky sings tenor while Craig Simonetti provides beat box in the energetic “Stayin’ Alive” by The Bee Gees. At left, providing beat box and sometimes bass, Simonetti, Backtrack Vocals’ music director and arranger, displays his talents to the crowd. Below left, Teplansky, Melissa Jordano, Chrissy Aloisio, Mike Hinkle, and Simonetti. Below, Aloisio, a New Jersey native, sings with emotion.



Photos by Alexis Barker and Walter Sprague/NLJ

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