

County looks at admin position

Bob Bonnar
NLJ Editor & Publisher

A discussion that stalled out a year ago regarding the Weston County Commission's inability to agree on a job description — or title — for a new full-time county employee who would oversee county infrastructure, write grants and perform a number of other duties was resurrected at the commission's regular meeting last Tuesday when Chairman Bill Lambert asked the man who is currently performing many of those tasks on an as-needed basis if he believes a full-time position is needed.

"When I first started quite a few years ago it was mostly reviewing things and signing off on it. Now a guy could probably make a full-time job of it," Weston County Contract Engineer Jerry Hunt responded when Lambert asked if he would be interested in becoming

a full-time administrator for Weston County.

The commissioners have explored the idea of creating a permanent full-time position a number of times after eliminating the County Growth and Development coordinator position held by Ray Pacheco more than two years ago, but struggled to even determine what title to give the decision. A number of options were thrown out — including project manager, administrator and engineer — but nothing was agreed upon and no salary or job description was determined either.

Lambert's query to the contract engineer who presently undertakes many of those functions for Weston County seemed to signal the beginning of another attempt to define such a position and consider it again.

"Down the road sometime, maybe that's something to entertain," Hunt nodded, noting

— See **Position**, Page 9



At the Hop!

Meadowlark Academy of Dance hosted a Sock Hop last Friday night at the Weston County Senior Services center, where Honesty Olson and Skyler Jenkins, pictured, won a dance contest. Read more on Page 8. (Photo by Bob Bonnar/NLJ)

Disappointment

■ Representative hoped to offer more opportunities for vocational education

Alexis Shultz
NLJ Reporter

Rep. Hans Hunt recently wrote an opinion piece explaining the significant bills concerning the Hathaway Scholarship as well as a bill that he co-sponsored addressing the importance of vocational education throughout Wyoming. Hunt was disappointed to report to the News Letter Journal early this week that he is almost certain that the bill is dead before it will even have a change to see the Senate floor.

Hunt professed that Phil Nichols, Senate president, dislikes bills concerning the Hathaway program, and this leads Hunt to believe that House Bill 103 will not even be seen by the Senate, and is almost surely dead. He reported that if this bill were to survive, it would create a task force dedicated to looking at how vocational, agriculture and arts could be better implemented into student schedule without

Three significant Hathaway-related bills:
• House Bill 191, which failed to pass the House Education Committee, would have increased the number of hours college students would have to take to be considered full time students.
• House Bill 192, which is currently being debated in the Senate, would allow students, after graduation, to become eligible for the next-highest level of the scholarship if they could maintain a 3.25 grade point average or better for two consecutive college semesters.
• House Bill 231, which was being heard by the Senate Education committee at press time, would allow for emancipated minors or those who are the legal guardians of a minor to qualify for a scholarship, assuming they have at least obtained a GED.

Source: Rep. Hans Hunt

them losing out on the opportunity for the highest level of the Hathaway Scholarship.

This task force would look

at the situation throughout Wyoming and report back to the capital with recommendations on how the issue could be addressed. Hunt hopes that this task force would look at promoting vocational types of opportunities for students and finding ways to provide financial assistance to pursue these avenues.

"In a state where the vast majority of the economy is fueled by the energy industry, there are many well-paying job opportunities for students wishing to pursue careers in mechanics, welding, electrical work, plumbing, and other trade crafts," Hunt opined.

He continued to explain the importance of specific certifications for these trades and the invaluable educational asset that Wyoming has with its seven community colleges.

"Wyoming's greatest export should never be its children, and our youth should be able to get the education or careers they desire here in Wyoming," he proclaimed.

— See **Bill**, Page 7

No late starts at elementary

Denice Piscioti
NLJ Reporter

At the last Weston County School District #1 meeting of the board of trustees, the new 2015-2016 school calendar was approved. The new schedule will mean Newcastle Elementary School will resume next year to attending class all day every day, with no early release or late starts for the younger students.

This year, there have been several Wednesdays each month



when all three schools in the district release students at 2 p.m. to give teachers the opportunity to work in Professional Learning Communities and offer students the chance to get extra help in the areas they need. It was decided to try early releases across the district to be consistent.

However, as reported in last week's News Letter Journal, the time allotted in the afternoons

— See **Schedule**, Page 3

OFFERING Inspiration

"I love it! Derek is such a neat young man, and he loves basketball so much! It was an awesome, heartfelt present, and I cannot find words to express my appreciation..."

— NHS Basketball Coach Allen VonEye.

Denice Piscioti • NLJ Reporter

After seeing inspirational posters at different schools around the state, Newcastle High School football and basketball coach Matt Conzelman wanted to be able to hang similar ones in the hallway of Newcastle's high school. NHS junior Derek Lewis accepted the challenge last fall

and created three posters for his coaches at the school. Last week, two were placed in the hallway near the Dogie Dome, with the third one upstairs.

"He mentioned in class he wished he had someone to make some motivational posters to put

— See **Inspiration**, Page 8



Newcastle High School junior Derek Lewis poses with one of three posters he designed. Two can be seen outside of the Dogie Dome, while the third hangs up stairs.

Votes are questioned

Bob Bonnar
NLJ Editor & Publisher

County Coroner Cyndi Crabtree approached the Weston County Commissioners at their meeting last week, but it wasn't to discuss any issues associated with the position voters elected her to in November. Rather, it was about a concern she has regarding the Osage Water District and the manner in which the last election for members of that district's board was conducted.

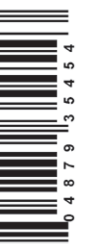
"The people who don't live in the district are voting in the elections for the special districts, but they can't," she told the commissioners.

Crabtree explained that more than a half dozen county residents who reside outside of the boundaries of the Osage Water District were allowed to vote in the last election because they own property in the district.

"These people live in Section 10 of the county, and the district is Section 9. They were told by the county clerk and two election judges for the county that they could vote," Crabtree told the News Letter Journal in a separate interview.

— See **Votes**, Page 7

WEATHER FORECAST	Thursday Partly Cloudy Hi 15 Lo 0	Friday Sunny Hi 26 Lo 9	Saturday Partly Cloudy Hi 27 Lo 8	Sunday Partly Cloudy Hi 28, Lo 11	Monday Sunny Hi 36 Lo 13	Tuesday Mostly Cloudy Hi 25, Lo 2	Wednesday Partly Sunny Hi 22 Lo 8	INSIDE • Scores, Page 3 • Field Trip, Page 6 • Legislature, Page 7 • Singing, Page 10



Opinion

News Letter Journal

Our View

The band played on

It made sense for the leadership in the Wyoming State Legislature to ask Representative Hans Hunt to pen an Op/Ed piece on education for Wyoming newspapers, which they did last week. Leaders of the majority Republican party have been issuing similar releases on a variety of subjects every week throughout the current legislative session. Hunt is still the youngest member of the legislature after two full terms in the Wyoming House, and his ability to rise to the position of Majority Whip in that body— despite his youth— speaks well not only of Hunt, but of the type of future leaders Wyoming's education system has produced in recent years.

Hunt is also the only member of the legislature young enough to have utilized the Hathaway Scholarship to attend the University of Wyoming, so he brings a unique perspective to discussions about the future of the statewide scholarship program and what it means for Wyoming's high school graduates.

Unfortunately, while leadership deferred to Hunt's experience and knowledge last week for the purpose of putting together a piece on the general sentiments of the majority party as they pertain to the issue of education, they began this week by seeming to ignore— and even oppose— the ideas and ideals he advocated for in that piece.

On Monday evening, Hunt was one of only two members of the House Education Committee who voted against this year's incarnation of the Wyoming Accountability in Education Act— a four year old behemoth that has been ravenously pursued by the leaders of the Wyoming State Legislature since 2010. They claimed then, and again this week, that the burdensome— and increasingly ineffective— piles of statute created in the name of accountability are necessary to ensure that the state gets "the biggest bang for its buck" out of an education system that the legislature has funded very well, albeit begrudgingly after being forced to in a series of court cases argued before the state Supreme Court more than a decade ago.

With the likely approval of this year's accountability bill, the legislature will continue to double down on a bet that has already cost the state tens of millions of dollars, and produced little, if any, benefit for Wyoming's students or communities. What it has produced is a costly Constitutional crisis in the form of the ill-fated Senate File 104 that saw the legislature try to wrest general supervision of schools from an elected Superintendent of Public Instruction, a set of circumstances that have resulted in annual changes to the growing number of tests they are requiring students to take, and an invasive statewide data system that has created a massive collection of digital data on Wyoming families and has already cost millions of dollars after being created through a budget footnote three years ago.

Through the accountability system that Hunt failed to defeat on Monday, the legislature has also imposed course requirements on schools and students that limit the number of elective courses— wood shop, ag, band, etc.— students can take in high school because the over-riding desire is to produce higher scores on standardized tests. There is a belief that mandating more time in Math, English and Science classes will produce that result. Few argue that course of study is appropriate for teens who plan to pursue a college degree, but it fails to acknowledge the vast number of children who have no desire or plan to attend college and wish to simply enter the workforce after high school graduation. Hunt introduced a bill this year that attempted to address that consequence (whether it was intended or unintended is open for debate) of Wyoming's education accountability system by creating a statewide scholarship program (similar to the Hathaway) for those young adults who desire to obtain a certificate or endorsement in a trade instead of investing four years or more and hundreds of thousands of dollars on a college degree. Hunt's bill sailed through three readings in the House of Representatives, but he was informed that the Republican leadership in the Senate has little intention of allowing his bill to pass— or even be heard— in that body.

A few short days ago we were glad to see that Hunt's colleagues tasked him with creating what amounts to a position paper for fellow Republicans on the issue of education, and we don't understand why their actions in the days following showed little to no support for those positions. We're hoping our readers will let Hunt know they appreciated the effort, and we encourage you to let his fellow leaders in state government know that you want them to practice what he preached.

Letters to the Editor

Rally around our soldiers and save the VA

Dear Editor,
If you weren't watching "Meet The Press" on Sunday Feb 15, 2015 you missed meeting the new Secretary of the Department of Veteran's Affairs VA Robert McDonald. You also didn't see Tom Brokaw's piece on the 300 acres in Los Angeles which was given to the Federal government in 1888. "to be permanently maintained as a National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers. The Vets get one acre and the other is Brentwood, Westwood etc. I see this as the usual disregard for our warriors for years.

Not so long ago I'm told the VA officials came to Newcastle. A "Save The VA" Representative and a few people who by accident found out about the meeting were there. Do you think it was a coincidence that neither the American Legion or VFW was notified and there was nothing in the newspaper?

Someone in my family has been going to the VA for going on 30 years. I can tell you I do not recognize the beautiful facility it is now, as to when my husband was going there. They have spent millions to update and remodel, and put in a new sewer line not so long ago. The dorm houses between 90 to 100 residents in the winter. They are building a new Soldiers' home that is at least one half again as big as the old. Someone explain to me why such a facility cannot be maintained. The caregivers are there, and as far as I've seen the Hospital is well staffed.

When I saw Robert McDonald speaking about the plight of our Veterans, I sensed a little opening to persuade him to look into this matter. I see the South Dakota delegation occasionally saying they are for keeping it open, and perhaps I just haven't seen our Wyoming delegation having any input at all. I don't think those people realize we live in a rural area and deal nicely with it. We don't need to travel farther. I challenge you 700 veterans in

this county, along with other interested individuals, to take pen and paper in hand and write to the Department Of Veterans Affairs VA, Secretary Robert McDonald, 810 Vermont St NW, Washington DC 20420.

I did and I hope you do.
Concerned for our Veterans.

—Maxine Kaul

Tax cuts are welfare for the rich people

Dear Editor,
One of our area newspapers passed on this news 'from wire reports': "House Republicans are pushing through a series of tax cuts this week affecting millions of businesses and individuals."

That sounds like welfare for the rich. Since most of the participants at the coffee shop have already expressed disapproval/disgust for any form of welfare, can we expect that same treatment for "millions of businesses and individuals?"

—Jerry Baird

Churches are coming together for prayer day

Dear Editor,
World Day of Prayer is a worldwide observance promoted locally by Christian women in our area.

This event is organized by women, but all men, women and children from all participating churches are urged to come and share in this special worship event.

The service will be held Friday, March 6, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, located on 23 North Seneca. The theme this year is "The Women of the Bahamas."

Jesus said, "Do you understand what I have done for you?" There will be a free-will offering.

For more information, contact Barb Hansen at 746-9381 or Elaine Wilcomb at 746-4899.

—Barb Hansen and Elaine Wilcomb



Need to talk to a public servant?

County Commission Members' contacts:

Bill Lambert.....	465-2268
Marty Ertman	746-2351
Randy Rossman	746-2965
Tracy Hunt	746-8898
Tony Barton	756-2561
Cheryl Kregel (County Clerk)	746-4744

Somebody please call a Waaambulance!

Growing up, I heard the saying "Only boring people get bored" constantly from my parents and grandparents.

Though this is not always seen as true, it very well could be true for the residents of my little hometown of Newcastle. We live in a town of many opportunities where most residents do not take advantage of said opportunities for a multitude of excuses.

There are groups and activities we cannot keep up with on a daily basis in this town. Add a fantastic school system on top of all of that, and put it into a little, quiet, safe town like Newcastle, and most couldn't dream of a better place to raise their children.

So why is it not good enough for us?

Our community has many groups in place for all kinds of different people that are tailored to their interests as much as a group can be.

There are groups that our school staff put together and are readily available to any willing participant. Our school has Future Business Leaders of America, Family Career and Community Leaders of America, Future Farmers of America, National Honor Society, Gear-Up, Art Student League, Science Olympiad, RISK, Impact, Student Council, yearbook, Dukes and Dazzlers, Speech and Debate, and, of course, sports.

I understand that not all are actually possible for all students to do, but that is the beauty of options. No one is limited to one activity.

Groups are even created outside of school that are not connected to the school district in any way. Granted, yes, there are fewer groups outside of school, but still they are groups that are available to any interested individual.

There are groups connected to churches of dif-

ferent religions. Some youth groups are in place as well that are not connected to churches, and we have 4-H offered. Besides that, there are activities such as dance and karate in our community.

There is no shortage of groups in this town for youth to participate in, and it would be extremely easy for any of these groups to put on events or even provide rides for those who need them in order to get to these activities or even create more.

Also, there are a lot of facilities already in place around this town that are very accessible. Some activities are designed more for daytime hours. We have multiple gyms, a pool, a weight room, and soon to be an ice skating/ fishing pond, all of which are a privilege for this community to have.

Not many other communities, especially of our size, have the luxuries that we take for granted. While there are activities for daytime, there are some definitely geared more towards nights out on the town.

It is amazing that we have so many restaurants that are not fast food chains. Besides that, we have a movie theater and a game room— both on Main Street.

Newcastle also has the Fairgrounds, with a race track connected that holds races all summer long for people to watch.

There are and always have been options for youth.

Our school system is above so many other schools. The teachers who are employed in the Newcastle school system are put down a lot for how much they do and the quality of work that they do, but it is never a surprise to me when teachers in our schools win awards because they are so good at what they do and it shows.

High school students are presented with great

opportunities from day one. There are classes to benefit all studies in high school and farther as we move through our lives. As a freshman and continuing on to every year that is attended at Newcastle, college credit classes are offered through EWC and one can even earn an Associate's Degree while still attending high school.

A special class that is offered our junior and senior year is Occupational Internship, where we are allowed to be an intern at a place we are interested in pursuing a career. This is great because it is an easy way to see if what one has been thinking about going into for a career is really a future he or she can enjoy and do for a lifetime.

With all this said, not a single person should have a complaint on our school system.

Newcastle is so much safer than other places, such as big cities. People should not worry as much as they do. Considering the fact that we do not live in even a remotely big town or city, it should not be such an issue for youth to walk from one place to the next while navigating around town.

Take comfort in the simple ideas of a small town, like how small and safe it really is.

Why would people not utilize the town that they live in and the opportunities that they have to offer?

No excuse is good enough. Instead, people of Newcastle, I encourage you to look around and realize what you have and how good you actually have it every now and then, just to remind yourself it is and always will be your choice to live here.

So, if and when you look around and decide you don't like what you see, leave. I'm sorry you do not realize when you have good surroundings and opportunities, and need to be force fed every aspect of life.

There is so much to do and it is not hard to see. With the various groups and activities, and a great school system to boot, this town is amazing.

Who



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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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Why

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

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Alexis Barker
Barking Up the Right Tree



Silent auction

Kirk and Ann Will enjoy looking at all of the baskets donated by local businesses and community members to benefit the Totes of Hope in a silent auction on Feb. 21 between Newcastle High School basketball games outside of the Dogie Dome. (Photo by Sonja Karp/NLJ)

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Best scores in five years

Denice Piscioti
NLJ Reporter

At the Feb. 11 Weston County School District #1 Board of Trustees meeting, Newcastle Elementary School Principal Brandy Holmes stated that, according to results from the recent Dibels Next and MAP test scores, it looks like the school is getting on the right track with reading.

"I wanted to point out our first grade scores are at 83 percent at or above benchmark at mid-year — that's huge! I looked back historically and it's been in the 70s and 60s for the last five years for first grade, so I was really pleased with that, and we will see if we can keep it going. But I do see us making good progress there," Holmes reported.

She continued to report that in kindergarten they have never been as high as the current scores, at 98 percent on Dibels in winter, which is quite an increase from the 38.3 percent in the fall. Overall Holmes was pleased with every grade. A couple of the grades did not show as much growth as school officials would have liked to have seen, however, every grade grew at least 5 percent at or above benchmark on both the Dibels and MAP

reading tests.

Reading has been the focus in kindergarten and first grade, and the scores show it, the principal indicated. First grade tried a new strategy that seems to be making a difference. Instead of the small pull-out groups within individual classes as all the grade levels do, the first grade team decided to think outside of the box and are collaborating as a team, with the students splitting up and going to another class to have small group time with a different teacher. Students are moved as needed so their individual needs are met with each unit.

The MAP math scores also increased for first and second grades, but in third and fourth they remained the same, with fifth grade seeing a slight increase from 55.6 percent to 59.7 percent. Kindergarten was only evaluated in the winter, not the fall.

Bob Bonnar, WCSD #1 board chairman, questioned if the struggle in math is because they have been concentrating on the reading.

"From my standpoint, that is very much what it is. Our emphasis has been really pushing on that whole literacy piece. I believe if you have to get that literacy up, to get the rest of it up, because that

is what impacts everything," Holmes replied. "Not that we are ignoring the rest of it, but that is where we are putting our main push right now."

"Did I hear you right, the thought is, if we give them the base in reading that we will see a greater growth in other content areas?" Bonnar asked.

The principal replied to the question in the affirmative.

Trustee Tom Wright inquired if they were able to pinpoint any anomalies — someone that has really good grades but still doesn't test well or vice versa.

"We probably have a handful in the building, but that hardly ever happens. Usually it shows if they are coming up low in MAP and Dibels then they are coming up low in class, too. Once we get these we sit down with all of our classroom teachers, special ed teachers, our Title teachers, Heidi [Stutzmanh, NES assistant principal], Mary Meyers comes for reading and sometimes Scott McGuire [WCSO #1 psychologist] will sit with us and we will look at all the kids that are at risk, that they are where we want them to be or making the progress that we want them to make. Those are the exact conversations that we have," she stated.

Schedule

from page 1

did not work as well as using time before school began on Wednesdays, with school starting later than the rest of the days of the week. In the 2011-2012 school year, both Newcastle High School and Newcastle Middle School began late starts on Wednesdays to give students time outside of the classroom to get work done, with NES maintaining its regular full-day schedule. This school year, all three schools had early release days.

With the new schedule for 2015-2016, NES will go back to full days, with no early releases or late starts.

Brandy Holmes, NES principal, explained to the News Letter Journal that having the early releases this year gave the entire staff at the school time to get together in the afternoon, but it was also time away from students. Another drawback was that elementary students need the structure of having the same schedule every day.

"It was hard on our kids' families. At this level, as opposed to middle and high school, you have to look at the day care options if parents work, and where are the kids going to go during that time. We did offer [after-school programs in addition to Double AACES], but still they have to think of transportation. It just ended up being real difficult for our families," Holmes stated. "It's

better for the kids to have the consistency, and it's better for our families. Honestly we are glad not to have to give up the kid time."

The NES staff will go back to scheduling PLC time during the regular school day, a practice they continued to do this year in addition to the early release days. Holmes acknowledged the staff will have to be flexible with meeting before and after school, and utilize staff development days.

"The early releases were nice in that they were able to give us opportunity to get different groups together and do some deeper collaboration building wide, but I think we can get creative without having to send kids home," she said.

Functioning together as a team and working together in PLC time is something the NES staff is good at, the principal noted, and they appreciated the early release days to get the entire building staff together. However, it will not be difficult for them to go back to working in teacher collaboration time during the school day.

"We did need that time. It was really beneficial with our curriculum stuff, but now that it is all done and we saw the impact it had on our students and their families, the trade-off wasn't worth it, it's not best for kids," Holmes concluded.

CORRECTION

The phone number listed for FOCUS with the Page 1 article "59," in the Feb. 19 News Letter Journal, was incorrect. The correct phone number for FOCUS is (307) 746-2748. FOCUS, the Foundation of Caring, Understanding and Services, provides services and advocacy for victims of abuse and educates the public about physical, emotional and sexual abuse, as well as stalking and teen dating violence.



Weston County Health Services

Specialty Clinics

March Schedule

- Orthopedics:** Dr. EckrichMarch 13
To schedule appointments call 800-446-9556
- Neurosurgery:** Dr. KarandikarMarch 3
To schedule appointments call Central Wyoming Neurosurgery (307) 266-4000 or 1-877-266-4700
- Echo:**March 4, March 18
Patient's Personal Physician must schedule (Check-in at ER/Outpatient Entrance)
1st & 3rd Wednesday of month
- Heart Doctors:** Dr. D'UrsoMarch 3
Dr. Alex SchabauerMarch 25
To schedule appt. call 800-432-7822 (Patients use North Entrance, right from the Business Office)
- Oncology/Hematology:** Dr. Keith MillsMarch 19
To schedule appointments call 307-688-1900
- VA Mental Health:** (2nd Friday of Month) March 13
- VA Clinic:**March 2, March 16
- MRI:** (Every Monday, except if a holiday) ... March 2, March 9, March 16, March 23, March 30
(Check-in at ER/Outpatient Entrance)
- Speech Therapy:** (Every Monday & Thursday, except holidays) 4-6 pm
- Upton Blood Draws:** (1st & 3rd Wednesday) March 4, March 18

Home Health/Lifeline: 746-3553

For more info call - 746-4491
1124 Washington Blvd. Newcastle, WY

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WCHS Health & Trade Fair is coming Saturday, April 18



Results from the WHF Blood Draw from March 26-28 will be available

Trade Fair Booths Available

Please contact JoAnn Farnsworth at 307.746.4491 ext 207



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Thinking OUTSIDE the Book

News Letter Journal • 14 W. Main, Newcastle • (307) 746-2777

Judy Turner

Celebration of Life

A coffee for the Celebration of Life for Judy Turner will be held in the Newcastle High School Commons on Saturday, February 28 from 2-4 p.m. Drinks will be provided, please bring a snack to share. *Please join us if you can. We hope to see you there.*



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Thank You

We would like to send this card of thanks to the City Council for the recognition award presented to us on January 15, 2015, for the work we are doing on our house at 123 Park Street. Our thanks goes to the Wyoming Refining Company as well for the nice ad placed in the paper on January 22, 2015. We are indebted to the wonderful community of Newcastle, and are glad to be a willing participant in the efforts to beautify the town.

Sincerely, Bob and Jo Williams

WHAT'S UP

Meetings & Events

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Wed	Feb. 25	7:00 p.m.	WCSD#1 Board Meeting	Administration Bldg.
		7:00 p.m.	AA Meeting (629-0211)	Corpus Christi Catholic Church
		7:00 p.m.	Lady's Firearm Safety Class (746-2822)	WC Sportsmans Club
Thurs	Feb. 26	11:45 a.m.	WC Hospital Foundation Board	CANCELLED
Fri	Feb. 27	11:30 a.m.	WC Library Board Mtg	CANCELLED
		7:00 p.m.	Western Ramblers Dance	Corpus Christi Catholic Church
		7:00 p.m.	AA Meeting (629-0211)	VFW Hall
		7:30 p.m.	Bingo	
Sat	Feb. 28	2:00 p.m.	Bingo	Corpus Christi Catholic Church
Sun	March 1	7:00 p.m.	AA Meeting (629-0211)	Corpus Christi Catholic Church
Mon	March 2	11:00 a.m.	Representative Office Hours	WC Library
		2:30 p.m.	Representative Office Hours	Upton Branch Library
		7:00 p.m.	City Council	Council Chambers
Tues	March 3	9:00 a.m.	WC Commissioners	Court House
		6:45 p.m.	ALANON Meeting (746-9791)	Mondell Heights
		7:00 p.m.	WC Travel Commission	
		7:00 p.m.	AA Meeting	WC Health Services, Downstairs
Wed	March 4	12:00 p.m.	Newcastle Lions Club	WC Senior Center
		7:00 p.m.	AA Meeting (629-0211)	Corpus Christi Catholic Church
Thurs	March 5	12:00 p.m.	Chamber Board Meeting	WC Senior Center
		4:00 p.m.	VFW Auxiliary	WC Senior Center
		7:00 p.m.	Salt Creek Water District	District Office
		7:00 p.m.	WC Museum District	
		7:30 p.m.	Mason's	Masonic Lodge
Fri	March 6	11:30 a.m.	World Day of Prayer	First United Methodist Church
		7:00 p.m.	AA Meeting (629-0211)	Corpus Christi Catholic Church

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Feb. 27: Corbin Doell
Feb. 28: Camilla Drake, Jack Holwell
March 1: Sandy Dixon, Logan Hershey
March 2: Dane Wermers, Chris Escandon
March 3: Corey Kline
March 4: Jake & Cooper Deveraux

Summer opportunity at the Capitol

U.S. Senator Mike Enzi, R-Wyoming, is encouraging Wyoming high school students to apply to be a Senate page for one of the summer sessions in Washington, D.C. The deadline for summer applications is March 5.

"Along with allowing students a front-row seat during debates in the U.S. Senate, participants will have the opportunity to explore the nation's capitol and interact with students from across the country," Enzi said. "The program provides experiences that participants will carry with them forever."

Page duties consist primarily of delivering correspondence and legislative material at the Capitol. Other duties include preparing the Senate chamber for sessions and carrying bills and amendments to the appropriate people on the Senate floor.

Summer page eligibility is limited to high school students who have completed their sophomore year and will be 16 or 17 years old on or before the date the session begins. Applicants must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0.

Pages live in Webster Hall located near

the Capitol, and receive a stipend to cover the cost of the residence. Breakfast and dinner are provided daily.

The summer session is split into two. Summer session I is from June 8 to June 26. Summer session II is from July 7 to Aug. 7. The application due date for both sessions is March 5. Applications and additional information can be found at www.enzi.senate.gov. Further questions can be directed to Dianne Kirkbride in Enzi's Cheyenne office, at (307) 772-2477 or Dianne_Kirkbride@enzi.senate.gov.

Share your notices for events, births, weddings & engagements with us



Faith and Values



- 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 CHURCH:** Pastor Todd Olson, 19 Stampede St. 746-2321. Sunday School 9:15 am; Worship 10:30 am; Youth (6-12 grades) Sunday Evening 6-7 pm; Wednesday Night Bible Study 6 pm.
- CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL:** Rev. Sally Boyd, S. Summit & Winthrop Streets, 746-9684. 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday, Morning Prayer 10 am; 2nd & 4th Saturday 4 pm, Holy Eucharist. haydishall@hotmail.com
- CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH:** 224 West Road, West of Dow Park, 746-2415. Sunday Worship 9 am.
- CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS:** Bishop Greg James, 120 Ash, 746-4131. Sunday Sacrament Mtg 9 am; Sunday School 10:20 am; Relief Society & Priesthood Mtg 11:15 am.
- CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Father Killian Muli, 19 W. Winthrop, 746-4219. Saturday Mass 5 pm; Weekday Mass 8 am.
- COUNTRY CHURCH:** Four Corners, Pastor Bill Haley, 746-9712, Worship 10 am.
- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH:** Pastor Gary Anderson, 903 S. Summit, 746-2188. Bible Study 9:15 am; Worship Service 10:30 am; Teaching Service 6 pm; Wednesday Service 6:30 pm.
- FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH:** Mike Wiles, 301 Delaware, 746-9663. Sunday School 9:45 am; Worship 10:45 am; Prayer Service 5 pm; Eita Nova Youth Group Wednesday 6:30 pm Christian Academy.

- FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Pastor Jeff Thoms, 23 N. Seneca, 746-4119. Adult Bible Study 8:45 am; Traditional Church Services 10 am; 10:15 a.m. Children's Church and 11:45 am. Contemporary Praise & Worship Service.
- GATEWAY FELLOWSHIP:** Pastor Jon Andersen, Evangelical Free Church meets at the Weston County Senior Services; Sunday School 9:30 am; Worship 11 am. Call 746-8091.
- KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES:** 5018 US Hwy 16, 746-2319 or 746-4517. Tuesday 7 p.m. 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.
- NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP:** Pastor Wayne Wilson, meets at Haydis Hall (Next to Christ Episcopal Church), 746-5542. Sunday Worship 6 pm.
- OSAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH:** 348 Sheridan St. in Osage, 465-2341. Sunday School 10 am; Worship 11 am and 6 pm.
- SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST:** Pastor Gary Force, 78 Old Hwy 85, 746-3504 or 278-0254, Pastoral Assistant Jason Logan 746-2974. Saturday Sabbath School 9:30 am; Worship 11:20 am.
- ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Father Killian Muli, Upton. Sunday Mass 11:30 a.m.
- VICTORY NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH:** Rev. Theodore L. Halls, 414 Pine, 746-4366.
- UPTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Rev. Sharee Johnson, 834 Pine, Upton, 468-9302. Worship 9 am; Fellowship 10 a.m.; Adult Study 10:30 a.m.; 1st & 3rd Wed Evenings Prayer and Praise Service 7 pm.

SANDING SMOOTH THE EDGES



Each finished piece of wood furniture began as a tree in a forest, a tree made by the Creator. As regal as that tree stood, God gave man the knowledge and skill to refine it into innumerable items of intense beauty. It's only by sawing down the tree, stripping the protective bark and sanding the rough wood that the tree is prepared for an end piece full of beauty. Sometimes, we feel cut down and stripped of our shields. As painful as that seems, God may be preparing us to be the best we can be. He may be smoothing our rough edges. Let God prepare you for greatness; visit your house of worship this week.

Weekly Scripture Reading

John 14:1-31	John 15:1-17	Mark 12:13-27	Mark 12:28-34	Deut. 6:1-25	Eph. 3:1-21	Eph. 4:1-32
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Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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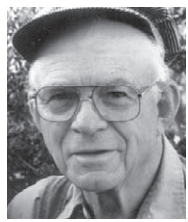
The sponsors of this feature do so with the hope that more people will attend the church or synagogue of their choice on a weekly basis



Obituaries

RICHARD JOHN 'DICK' KNIPP
March 2, 1931–Feb. 20, 2015

Richard John "Dick" Knipp was born March 2, 1931, at Newcastle, the only child of John Claude and Marie Lillian (Lang) Knipp. He died Feb. 20, 2015, at Crook County Nursing Home in Sundance, following a lengthy illness.



Dick Knipp

The family settled on the Chet Cain place. Dick started school at Fairview, when the bus was discontinued he was given isolation money and finished grade school at the Knobby Knoll school. He graduated Newcastle High School in 1949.

On Jan. 17, 1951, he married his life's sweetheart, Helen Morris. He played "You Are My Sunshine" for Helen when they were 13 years old. He played the push button accordion, as did his father and his grandfather. It was the first song he played every time he got out with his accordion.

Dick went to work for Black Hills Power Feb. 5, 1952. He worked there 41 and a half years, starting as a coal handler at \$1.10 an hour, and retired as plant operator.

Dick was an ordained Deacon and served many years, eventually becoming

a church elder. He worked his spare time for whoever needed help. He was paid in hay and grain for his horses and cattle and chickens. Dick was a member of the Gideon's International, placing many Bibles in Newcastle and Sundance. Dick and Helen had five children, Shirley Ann, Bonnie Joyce, James Richard, Linda Lou and Patty Jo.

Dick had back surgery in June of 1951. He fought pain until Dec. 1, 2009, when his legs gave out. In April 2010, he entered long-term care in Sundance and was wheelchair bound.

Dick loved wood work and they built and opened "Helen's Hobby House" in 1984. It was stocked with crafts they made. They took in many craft shows.

Dick loved the church and spent many hours in service. He is survived by his wife and five children, 15 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, one grandson and many relatives.

Visitation was Tuesday, Feb. 24, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Worden Chapel in Newcastle. Services were held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 25, at Worden Chapel. Burial followed services at Greenwood Cemetery in Newcastle.

A memorial to Gideon's International has been established. Contributions may

be mailed to 921 Mountain Meadow Lane, Apt. 8-207, Gillette, WY 82716.

MARY VIRGINA RATTS
Nov. 18, 1923–Feb. 14, 2015

Mary Virginia (Sparks) Ratts, age 92, of Newcastle, passed away on Feb. 14, 2015 at Weston County Manor.

Mary was born Nov. 18, 1923 in Fayetteville, Ark., are to Ralph and Madge Sparks. Mary and her three sisters grew up and attended school in Phoenix, Ariz.

Mary met and married Eugene Ratts in Phoenix on Jan. 11, 1945. Mary and Eugene later bought a farm and moved to Stinesville, Ind., in 1950. Mary and Eugene retired in 1986 and moved to Newcastle to be closer to their son and his family, Dr. Richard Ratts.

Mary is survived by her son, Richard (Teena) Ratts of Newcastle; her daughter, Paulette (Wayne) Ratts of Larkspur, Colo.; grandson, John (Bobbi) Gwillim of Peru, Ind.; granddaughter, Kim (Adam) Seale of Brownsberg, Ind.; three step-grandchildren, Tiffany (Greg) of Golka of Omaha, Neb., Keeara (Brian) Rhoades of Seattle, Wash., and Seth (Kristine) Rhoades of Newcastle; 12 great-grandchildren; & a sister, Alma Lang.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Eugene; her son, William; and two sisters.

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From the Vault of the

Anna Miller Museum



The Wyoming National Guard was organized in the Spring of 1869. The first company of National Guard in Newcastle was organized in 1899, with Captain Gates commanding. On Dec. 13, 1913, the corner stone for a new armory was laid. In this photo, a group of National Guardsmen, along with a goat, pose in front of the Newcastle Armory, circa 1920s. These men are unidentified. If anyone knows their identities, please contact the museum.

100 years ago – Feb. 25, 1915

About 60 people were present at the dance at Mahnke's Saturday evening, people being present from Elk Mountain, Newcastle, Dewey, Argentine and the Cheyenne River.

Axel Simonson took a load of "wimmin" folks to visit at the Lassen home recently. Axel realized what a precious load he had to haul, so drove the gentlest pair of horses he could find on the ranch. On the way this tried and true team became frightened and ran away, scattering the various members of the party along the highway without considering their wishes as to how or when or where they wished to get off of the sled. Some of them were considerably bruised and shook up, but are recovering. Better drive Old Star and Black Bess next time, Axel.

The last meeting of the Beaver Creek Club was held at the home of Mrs. R.W. Maris. A quilt was made. The ladies of the club wish to thank all those who sent blocks for this quilt.

Karl Kipping and Warren Richards of the Boyd area went to the school section Sunday on skis and came back by the way of the Door Key ranch and took dinner with Howard Pitts.

Mrs. Clarence Johnson, of the Howard vicinity, is visiting at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Elliott. Clarence was also in from the ranch part of this week.

Joe Lytle, who was enrolling clerk of the senate, arrived from Cheyenne Monday evening and visited at the home of A.M. Nichols until Tuesday morning, when he left for his home in Sundance via Upton.

Henry Hansen, A.C. McCready, H.T. Hansen, Charles Roark and P.G.

Christensen combined in a shipment of hogs to the South Omaha market last Friday. J.J. Frederickson and P. Christensen Jr. were among those who assisted in hauling in the hogs to this point.

75 years ago – Feb. 22, 1940

Paced by Dudrey, who scored 10 points, the Sundance Bulldogs moved up a notch in the conference basketball play last night when they defeated the Newcastle Dogies, 25 to 20, here in a thrilling game. The game saw the lead change hands many times, especially during the third quarter and early in the last period.

Construction of a new unit to the Consumers Oil & Refining Company's plant here will mean an increase in the number of employees by approximately 50 percent, Geo. Culver, manager, announced yesterday.

The program given by the Red Butte and Highland Park schools Friday evening at the Prairie store was well attended. After the program a dance followed. Music was furnished by the Raggy Reubens.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Sedgwick of the Fairview area spent Thursday at the Andy McKean home, the men putting up ice.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Adkins and Kenneth went to Lance Creek on Tuesday, and Mrs. Adkins stayed at the home of her daughter to help care for the twins, who were sick with colds.

Hap Metz took the orchestra to Clareton to play for the dance on Saturday night and spent Sunday at Alvin Watson's.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Patton of Red Butte attended the dance at Clareton Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence

Thompson entertained the Fiddler Creek Farm Bureau at their home Friday night. Owing to the weather and bad roads only a few attended. The next meeting is at Henry Fulton's.

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Marchant of the Cheyenne River community motored to Newcastle Tuesday and stopped at Wilson's for supper on their way home.

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Christensen of the Cheyenne River area took Carl Christensen to Mule Creek Monday to catch the bus for Scottsbluff, Neb., where he will visit his sister and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Vasey and daughter, Mary Jean, were complimented last Thursday evening at a dinner party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Howell. Appointments at the dinner were for the honored guests and Paul Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Cumming, Mrs. Dorothy E. Shank, the host and hostess and their daughters, Mary Ellen and Martha Jean.

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, the dreaded tick-borne disease, has claimed 179 lives in Wyoming during the past 12 years, nine of them in Weston County.

The Osage Girl Scouts met with Capt. Dodge Friday afternoon with 12 present. After the regular business meeting the girls joined in on a sewing contest. Patsy Chittim and Norma Jean Mangus were hostesses and served Hershey bars. Hostesses for next week are Nadine Herbison and Maxine Jackson.

That Newcastle voters will have the opportunity to elect three city councilmen and a mayor in May, it was indicated here this week, with the report that Mayor Walter Schoonmaker and Councilman



N.E. Wells will retire soon. Earl Christensen, university student from Horton, son of Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Christensen, was elected president of the University Ag club at a meeting held in Laramie last week.

50 years ago – Feb. 25, 1965

Wrestlers from 12 Wyoming class A high schools will converge on Newcastle this weekend to grapple in the state tournament.

"Bits and Pieces," a brand new magazine of western history with special interest in northeastern Wyoming and the Black Hills area, will make its debut the last week of March.

At a special meeting Tuesday evening, the Newcastle City Council voted to proceed with plans to present a revenue bond issue before the voters. The \$60,000 proposed revenue bond issue would be for drilling and completing a water well in the vicinity of the water tank.

Mrs. Lenora Coates of Vancouver, Wash., was honored Thursday afternoon at a coffee at the home of Mrs. Bill Townsend in Newcastle. Mrs. Coates was the first president of the Osage Woman's Club, and is the only charter member who kept up her membership since 1928.

The Dogie matmen closed out their regular season last week with wins over Torrington and Sheridan. The Dogies defeated Torrington 28 to 14 and overpowered Sheridan 35 to 8.



Newcastle Lodge No. 13, A.F. & A.M.
 Meetings are held the First and Third Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
 Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend meetings
 Hale Redding, Worshipful Master • Glen Gordon, Secretary



Field Trip

Last Thursday I had the opportunity to wear two hats — mom and photographer — while on a field trip with eighth grade students from Newcastle Middle School to Cheyenne. Since my four children have graduated from Newcastle High School and only my step-son, Kolby, is left in the district, I treasure the moments I can still play in both roles.



Denice Pisciotti
Miss Magnum

Shortly after 5 a.m., 45 Newcastle Middle School eighth grade students, four teachers, Jessica Troftgruben, Ashley Reed, Sheila and Robert Munger, and NMS Principal Todd Quigley and I headed out on two Weston County School District #1 buses to Cheyenne to visit the Wyoming State Capitol and Wyoming Supreme Court.

After a four-hour-long bumpy ride we arrived in Cheyenne. The first order of business was a group picture on the steps of the Capitol. Once inside the group was split into two. My group was the first to observe the House of Representatives in session and be introduced by Rep. Hans Hunt.

On our tour of the building, as the students learned some of the state's history, we had the opportunity to bump into Sen. Mike Enzi. He told the students Wyoming had earned more gold medals than any other state, and that was an actual number not based on population.

In the meantime, the other group toured the building then visited the House where Hunt introduced both Mungers as his teachers who influenced him in a career in politics.

In the legislative conference room, the students saw a chandelier which weighed 1,000 pounds. On the wall behind where the students sat was a picture painted by Mike Kopriva of various landmarks in Wyoming, including a hiker and a fisherman enjoying the outdoors.

Throughout the halls they viewed pictures of the different legislative classes throughout the years and learned that many of the tiles lining the floors had fossils embedded in them. A life-size stuffed buffalo intrigued the students, as did the tribute to America's First Responders on 911.

Both groups joined together to witness the Senate debate proposed bills. Interestingly enough, we were, in a sense, the topic of discussion as they debated whether or not to give Wyoming teachers a raise. I am sure the conversa-



On Thursday, Feb. 19, 45 Newcastle Elementary School eighth-graders visited the Wyoming State Capitol and Wyoming Supreme Court. Upon arrival the group split into two separate groups to tour the building and observe the House of Representatives, joining again later to see the Senate at work. The students visited with Sen. Mike Enzi, right, as their tour guide Lynette Wilson led them throughout building.

Photos by Denice Pisciotti/NLJ



After visiting the Capitol and seeing representatives at work, the NMS students went across the street to the Wyoming Supreme Court to hear Justice William Hill talk about the Wyoming Judicial System.



tion was more intriguing to the adults than the students!

We left before a decision was made, but it continued to be a topic among the adults in the group throughout the afternoon.

The last stop in Cheyenne was to visit the Wyoming Supreme Court where the students had the privilege of listening to Justice William Hill, who has the most seniority among the justices and served his term as chief justice from 2002-2006.

Everyone in the group was given a booklet, "Wyoming's Judicial System," which explains in detail how the state's court system works. However, Hill went into great detail with the students while he spoke to them in the courtroom.

Hill told the students they typically review five cases a day, two in the morning and three in the afternoon. He also noted there is a big difference between the Wyoming State Supreme Court and the United States Supreme Court, which picks and chooses their 75 to 80 cases each year out of more than 1,000 requests from different states.

The students had the opportunity to ask Justice Hill a few questions. Among them were, what was his oddest case and what was the scariest case. He was quick to reply with both answers. He said the oddest was a case about two people that were switched at birth but it didn't come before them until they were grown.

The scariest case was one he recalled with great detail, about a 19-year-old woman

who had been traveling across Wyoming and was brutally murdered. The man who did the crime was not found for years until technology was able to match the DNA that had been collected and stored at the crime scene. He was sentenced to death row, but that has been appealed and now they have to start over with sentencing him.

From there, the group headed back to the buses for the long trek home. At the rest stop outside of Lusk, the playground equipment was thoroughly enjoyed. I was grateful I missed the flying snowballs.

For 15 years, Robert Munger has been making the trip to Cheyenne with his eighth grade Social Studies class. With a planned remodel at the Capitol, he anticipates not being able to make the trip for a couple of years.

The day was long and perhaps not as exciting for the students as it was for me — it was also my first trip to visit the Capitol — but it was a joyful experience I will not soon forget. I am glad I took the journey with Kolby, his teachers and classmates.

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Legislators focus on budget

Alexis Shultz
NLJ Reporter

This week in the 2015 Wyoming Legislative Session saw the Supplemental Budget finally passing through the House and the Senate. It will now be addressed by the Joint Conference Committee to work out the differences between the budgets. By the end, the committee will come back to each governing body with one bill for them to vote on.

Second and third readings took up much of the day for representatives in the House on both Tuesday and Thursday, with Rep. Hans Hunt reporting that debate on amendments brought forth, left the representatives hashing out the issues until well after eight p.m.

"An unlimited number of budget amendments can be brought on the second reading of the budget, and more than 50 were brought today," proclaimed Hunt in regard to the second reading of the Supplemental Budget which occurred on Tuesday, Feb. 17. He said that another 43 amendments were brought forth during the third reading on Thursday.

Rep. Tyler Lindholm reported that the House passed a total of 35 of those amendments, while the Senate passed 33 amendments to the budget, with both bodies seeing a total of 166 amendments.

"This year's budget is a supplemental budget that is supposed to be entirely emergency/guaranteed situations. While a large part of the budget consisted of these appropriations for different departments, a lot of appropriations I could not justify giving approval to," professed Lindholm.

Lindholm continued to explain that he listened intently to the debate concerning the budget and also passionately participated at times, but in the end he stuck by his beliefs that they should not be funding a golf course, swimming pool or training centers during a supplemental budget, nor promising future revenue to these projects.

"Doubly true, considering the lack of revenue we've experienced at the state level. These are not supplemental items," he maintained, adding that for these reasons he had to vote 'No' on the budget. The budget passed the House with a vote of 41-18, with one person excused.

Lindholm explained that both the House and the Senate approved an increase in External Cost Adjustment funding for K-12 schools, and they approved approximately \$6 million in additional ECA funds. He noted the concerns about districts' ability to pay teacher's competitive wages.

The House also approved an addi-

Contact your Legislator

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Work - (307) 834-2344

Capitol Website <http://legisweb.state.wy.us>

Week 6 of the 63rd Wyoming Legislative Session

First Reading Bills in the House

- Senate File 10, restoring state statute to pre-SF104 language by eliminating the position of the appointed Director of Education and reinstating the state superintendent
- SF 12, making it a criminal offense for officials to trespass on private land for the reason of collecting data without permission
- SF 106, which would ban the sale of powdered alcohol
- SF 62, which would require health insurance plans to cover oral chemotherapy treatment regimens
- SF 42, creating a minerals tax task force to study whether or not to change tax rates on the energy industry
- SF 18, allowing for the expungement of certain misdemeanors from criminal records



Third Reading Bills in the House

- SF 46, amending definitions and penalties for starting "careless" fires during burn bans
- SF 63, requiring a license for owning an animal considered a predator
- SF 37, requiring state agencies to beef up their data security

Source: Wyoming Legislative Service Office



Denice Piscioti/NLJ

Speaker of the House Kermit Brown presides over Thursday's session and helps welcome students from Newcastle Middle School to the Legislature.

tional \$10 million in funding for local governments while the Senate approved \$6 million, Lindholm stated. According

to him, this was based on the premise that the best government is the one closest to the people.

Bill from page 1

Hunt proceeded to explain that students can use the scholarship to attend community colleges and enroll in these trade programs, but current high school curriculum is generally geared toward encouraging students to focus on core classes.

He went on to clarify that while these high-set requirements are a valuable tool for students interested in going to the University of Wyoming, they can discourage students whose aptitudes are geared toward vocational trade skills.

"Students who have ambitions of going into a vocational program should not be discouraged from doing so," reported Hunt. He said that arming Wyoming students with technical degrees and certificates will ensure that they can be pre-

pared for competitive trade jobs.

"Having reaped the benefits of the Hathaway Scholarship myself, I can say it is an immeasurable help in reaching your higher education goals. But higher education does not necessarily mean a four-year degree at the University. There are plenty of economically viable jobs available after earning certifications from one of Wyoming's vocational programs. It is my hope that we can continue to provide education financial assistance and keep Wyoming's best and brightest in Wyoming," Hunt concluded in his opinion piece, with a note at the bottom that Hunt is the only current member of the Wyoming Legislature to have attended college with assistance of the Hathaway Scholarship.

Tell your representatives

DeAnna Kay, Riata Little, and Matt Jones, field representatives for U.S. Senators Michael Enzi and John Barrasso and Congressman Cynthia Lummis, are scheduled to hold Office Hours in Weston County at Upton and Newcastle in early March.

The field representatives will be in Newcastle on March 2, from 11 a.m. to noon, at the Weston County Library located at 23 West Main Street. They will then meet with the public in Upton at the Upton Branch Library, 722 4th Street, from 2:30 to 3 p.m.

Area residents are encouraged to come discuss issues or views, questions or concerns with Kay, Little and Jones regarding the federal government. These comments and concerns will be relayed to Enzi, Barrasso and Lummis.

If residents are unable to attend at that time, but would like information or assistance, they can contact officials at the following numbers:

- Senator Enzi's Gillette office at 307-682-6268
- Senator Barrasso's Casper office at 307-261-6413
- Congressman Lummis' Sheridan office at 307-673-4608

Votes from page 1

She said that she had contacted an attorney to get an opinion on the issue, and was told that Wyoming State statute requires that only individuals who actually reside within a district's boundaries are qualified to vote or hold office in that district.

"He told me that nonresidents should not be able to qualify to vote in a district election. Just being a landowner does not make you a resident voter," she reported.

When she presented the same information to the commissioners, she told them that she believes the error occurred originally when votes to form districts were held in Osage.

"If you're forming a district, you can vote, but once you start voting for anything else in a district you have to live there," she said, asking the commissioners to investigate the issue and provide some clarity prior

to the next time water district members are called upon to vote.

"I just don't want it to happen again. It's not a big pressing issue until the next election," she reasoned.

She did, however, predict that the county and the district will be confronted with the same problem if the issue isn't clearly resolved prior to the next vote.

"They're going to say 'I own property, and therefore I can vote,' and then they're going to call [County Clerk] Cheryl [Kregel] and want her to give them an answer," she insisted.

Crabtree also indicated that she believes other special districts in Weston County have been faced with the same problem, and told the commissioners that she personally contacted the Wyoming Secretary of State's office to inquire about the legality of

people who reside outside of a special district voting in district elections or holding office on that district's board, but never got a clear answer.

Some of the commissioners expressed agreement with her belief that only residents of a district can vote in that district's election, but they directed County Attorney William Curley to investigate state statutes pertinent to the issue and provide an opinion to them and the county clerk regarding what constitutes a qualified elector in a special district.

"We need to help the county clerk figure out a system," Commission Chairman Bill Lambert asserted.

Crabtree suggested that if state statutes lack clarity on the issue, the commission should encourage local legislators to address the problem as well.

NOTICE

Weston County has the following positions available:

Planning Board <i>One Expires 2017</i>	2 Positions	3 Yr. Term
Solid Waste District (Osage Dump)	1 Positions	4 Yr. Term
Historic Preservation Board <i>Unexpired Term Expires 2018</i>	2 Positions	3 Yr. Term
Predatory Animal Control Board <i>1 Sportsman, 1 Public Representative</i>	2 Positions	3 Yr. Term

Anyone wishing to submit an application for any of the above positions may contact the Weston County Clerk's Office, 1 West Main, Newcastle, WY, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Anyone wishing to apply may submit a written letter of interest. Letters need to be received by 4:30 a.m. on March 13, 2015. This matter will be considered by the Board of Commissioners on March 17, 2015, at 1:00 p.m.

Weston County does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or handicapped status in employment or the provision of services.

2015 Custer City Trade Show

Sponsored by the Custer Area Chamber of Commerce
www.custersd.com

Saturday, March 7
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Custer High School
Wildcat Lane

Admission is a free-will donation, all proceeds go to the Crazy Horse Civil Air Patrol.

Winter Hours

Monday ~ Saturday
11 a.m. - 2 p.m. & 5 - 8 p.m.
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Newcastle Elementary School February Good Deed Lunchers

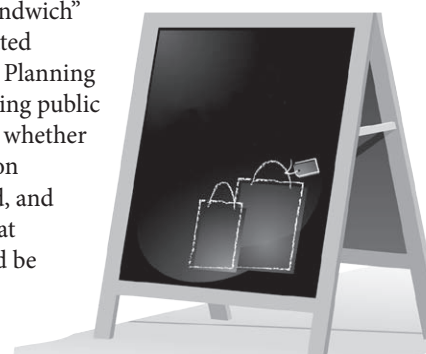


Starting from left around the table: Dave Alia, Bodey Lawler, Callie Hiser, Noelani Cole, Danyela Holguin, Trevor Wynia, Assistant Principal Heidi Stutzman.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Newcastle Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on March 12, 2015 at 5:45 p.m. in the Council Chambers located on the second floor of the City Administration Office located at 10 W. Warwick, Newcastle, Wyoming to hear public comment regarding "sandwich" signs, also known as "flip" or "A" signs. Currently, "sandwich" signs are not permitted within the City. The Planning Commission is seeking public comment regarding whether or not the prohibition should be continued, and if not continued what requirements should be imposed.



DO YOU NEED ASSISTANCE WITH LATE RENT OR UTILITIES

Do you need assistance with past due medical bills, dental work or glasses?

Contact Julie or Sara at NOWCAP, 307-347-6185, and ask about our CSBG Emergency Assistance funds.

WESTON COUNTY TRAVEL COMMISSION

BUDGET REVIEW MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2015

7:30 P.M.

AT KASL IN NEWCASTLE

Inspiration from page 1

in the Dogie Dome, in the gym and in the locker rooms. So then I said, 'I bet Derek could do that, because he loves sports, he loves to be in the gym and he needs a 20 percent project for Biology [class].'" recalled Shari Bruce, the Special Education assistant who helped Lewis with the project.

To earn credit for the science class he needed to spend 20 percent of his time doing research, learning something new while documenting the project and making a portfolio. Lewis started by making several smaller posters and worked up to the larger finished project.

"We ended up giving these three to the coaches as a thank you. Derek wrote on the back, 'Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for everything you do.' So they have them," reported his teacher.

It was quite a process, Lewis told the News Letter Journal, which involved hard work and dedication, but the reward in the end was he learned a lot. To give a local feel to the posters they decided to use pictures from NHS, which gave Lewis the opportunity to have fun dressing up in a football uniform for one of the posters.

Bruce stated he has the patience for working with the pictures on the computer, pulling them down and putting them where they needed to be.

One has the quote, "Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence," by Vince Lombardi, which is featured with a photo of the Dogie Dome. A second one with the same picture will hang in Allen Von Eye's classroom with the words, "Rock the Dome," which is his favorite poster, Lewis admitted. The third poster has a picture of Lewis wearing a football jersey and helmet in the background. All the inspirational sayings were suggested by Conzelman of his favorite quotes.

Lewis also had the chance to learn photography while

Possible quotes for future posters:

"You can make it happen or you can watch it happen."

"It's not how big you are, it's how big you play." (Derek's favorite)

"Champions are made on the practice field."

"Anything is possible when you believe in yourself."

"Don't stop when you are tired, stop when you are done."

working on the project, with the help of classmate Sierra LaCroix. Since basketball is his favorite sport to play, he wanted to use the picture of the Dome first. More of the posters are in the works to hang in other areas of the school.

"We took a whole bunch of pictures, he has them on his computer, which he can use later. It was really neat to look at those pictures afterwards, because you don't realize all this neat stuff is in this school until after you look at them. That is why I am excited for him to make more," Bruce said.

Kathleen Engle, induction facilitator for Weston County School District #1, helped Lewis in the computer lab and NHS Science instructor, Doug Scribner, assisted with printing the posters on the school's large printer.

"He had to learn how to put the picture on and put the words over it. He did all the typing and the measurements. They printed them in the science room with the big printer, then we had them framed," Bruce explained. "It took a lot of us working together to make this happen."

...

Contact reporter Denice Piscioti by calling (307) 746-2777, or email staff@newslj.com.



Back to the '50s

With a 1950s diner as the theme, Meadowlark Academy of Dance hosted a Sock Hop last Friday night at the Weston County Senior Services center for youngsters in grades 5-8. There was a dance contest held half-way through the evening, with some local senior citizens as honorary judges. Each couple donated \$20 to enter the dance competition, which is a fundraiser for the academy. Root beer floats, chips and licorice were on hand to complete the mid-century feel, with many of those in attendance sporting poodle skirts, white socks and ponytails.



Summer Bonnar and Avery Chick show off their moves, upper left. Rya Liggett and Kacy Jones take a spin on the dance floor, above. At left, a toddler can barely be seen dancing in the center of a group of dancers.

Photos by Bob Bonnar

INSURANCE *Health Care & Tax Returns*



Do you know how your 2014 taxes will be affected by the new tax rules that accompany the Affordable Care Act? The Wyoming Department of Insurance wants to give you an overview of some of the changes.

Remember, the DOI doesn't oversee taxes, so you'll want to consult with your insurance agent or tax advisor for specific information. But here are some things to keep in mind:

- Most people – about 75 percent – will just have to check a box on their tax return indicating they had health insurance coverage in 2014.
- People covered with insurance from the Marketplace or Exchange will receive a Form 1095A showing how much they received in financial assistance or subsidies.
- People who did not obtain coverage in 2014 will have additional steps to complete their tax returns and may have to pay a tax penalty or fee. However, people who could not afford insurance or couldn't get coverage for some other reason may seek an exemption.
- Millions of Americans covered through the Marketplace in 2014 received advance payments of the premium tax credit, which will be reported on the Form 1095A. That information will be used to complete a Form 8962 for your

2014 tax return to either claim the premium tax credit or report benefits already received.

- Form 1095-A and Form 8962 are being mailed to consumers.
- Health and Human Services (HHS) and Department of Internal Revenue (IRS) will launch additional resources to help consumers. General resources can be found at www.IRS.gov/ACA or <https://www.healthcare.gov/taxes/>. A sampling of some available resources include:
 - IRS: Health Care Law: What's New for Individuals & Families
 - HHS: 3 Tips About Marketplace Coverage and Your Taxes
 - HHS: No Health Coverage? What That Means for Your Taxes

Undoubtedly consumers will have questions about this new tax process. HHS and IRS are committed to providing the information and tools that tax filers need to understand the new requirements and will work with other groups to provide consumers with the information they need to prepare to file their 2014 taxes.

Wyomingites are reminded that the IRS handles tax matters, not the DOI. If you have questions about tax forms and filings, you should contact your tax consultant or the IRS. Please contact your insurance agent with questions about your health care coverage and insurance plans.



Wyoming Insurance Department
<http://doi.wyo.gov>
1 (800) 438-5768

This public service announcement is presented and paid for by the insurance companies licensed to do business in Wyoming in cooperation with the Wyoming Insurance Department. For more information on the state's insurance companies, including financial information, visit the Insurance Department website's "Company Financial Information" section.

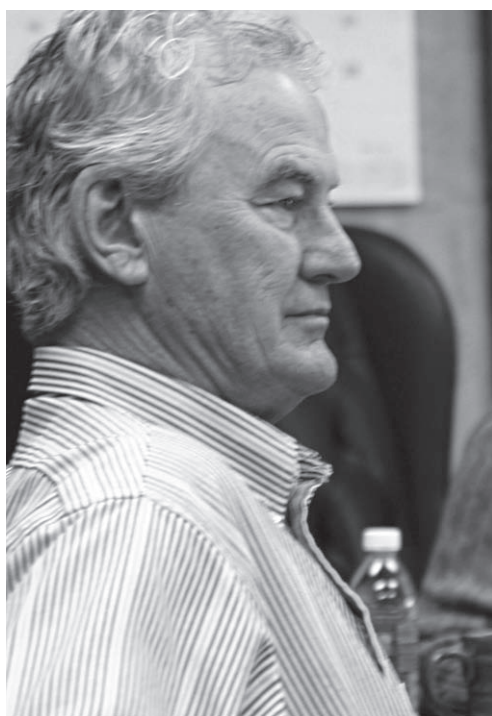
RER still on track

By Bob Bonnar
NLJ Editor & Publisher

"Rumors of our demise have been greatly exaggerated," Rare Element Resources local representative Mike Finn reported to the Weston County Commission at the start of their meeting on Feb. 17.

County Clerk Cheryl Kregel took notes as Finn told the commission that the company's stock prices had risen 56 percent by the end of last week, and that RER is still on schedule for a startup of operations in February of 2017.

He told the commissioners that the Wyoming House of Representatives passed a resolution encouraging the Department of Agriculture and the Forest Service to take steps to complete the Environmental Impact Statement in an expedient manner, and asked the group to pen their own letter to the supervisor of the Black Hills National Forest in Custer, S.D., encouraging that agency to streamline and accel-



RER's Mike Finn sits before the Weston County Commissioners on Feb. 17.

erate the EIS process. Commissioner Tony Barton agreed to write a draft on behalf of the commission.

Position

from page 1

that his duties have increased significantly in recent months.

"My contract was based on about 10 hours a month, and I've been doing way more than that. That's fine, because it is set up so we can go extra," he explained, referring to a stipulation in the contract that provides additional payment when he exceeds the 10 hours per month originally anticipated.

Lambert acknowledged the increase in responsibilities and amount of time required from Hunt, and expressed concern that Hunt was being asked to do more than anticipated when he agreed to serve as the county's part-time expert.

"I don't know how much of this burden to put on you," Lambert said.

"We did increase the budget last year to reflect how much he does work," Commissioner Marty Ertman responded, reminding the group that the county set aside more money for the current fiscal year to reflect the increased need for Hunt's services.

The discussion then turned to the fact that Hunt — as a part-time contract employee — has no real position in the chain of command in county government, and he agreed that the lack of a defined position may hinder him at times.

"I don't have the authority to say 'yay' or 'nay,'" he acknowledged, adding that he sometimes wonders if he is acting within his authority or if he should be doing more.

"If I am stepping over, I need to know that," Hunt reasoned.

He is presently providing guidance for the county on a number of issues, including future plans for area landfills, the ongoing effort to repair and reopen the Weston County Event Center and a number of repairs needed in both the courthouse and Law Enforcement Center.

"It keeps becoming more and more all of the time, and I know there are other projects coming," Hunt nodded.

Commissioner Tracy Hunt said he understood Hunt's hesitance to take on more responsibility, and suggested that he has performed as well as could be expected because

Commission Quips

- County GIS coordinator Fran Lehman reported to the commission that she has now obtained a total of 71 easements on state property in Weston County, and is awaiting final approval on a new easement form for private landowners in the county, at which point they will be sent to landowners.
- The commission voted unanimously to approve Chairman Bill Lambert's signature on a Mineral Royalty Capital Construction Account Grant Application that is being submitted by Weston County Health Services for an addition they hope to build on the nursing home that will serve as an additional dementia unit. The Newcastle City Council voted that evening to support the application as well.
- Vicki Hayman and Stacy Buchholz from UW Extension approached the commissioners about the possibility of the county agreeing to consider funding for them to attend trainings outside of Wyoming.
- It was revealed that the county missed the deadline for a state audit, but is being given until April 30 to complete that work. According to Commissioner Marty Ertman, at that time the state will conduct the audit itself and deduct the fees from the direct funding the county receives from the state.
- Dave Spencer, the northeast region director for the Wyoming Business Council, reported that he is interested in pursuing ideas for use of the site of the former power plant in Osage, noting that it is "a fairly infrastructure rich location," and may prove suitable for a "rather large industrial project."
- The commissioners discussed with County Attorney William Curley the process they would like to develop for removal of members they have appointed to various county boards.
- Sheriff Bryan Colvard discussed repairs needed at the Law Enforcement Center, and how that relates to any potential renovation of the structure. The commission is considering the possibility of doing a feasibility study to determine if repairs are going to prove costly enough to warrant looking at other options for future housing of law enforcement, courts and a county jail.

the commission has, to this point, created his sometimes tentative approach to the position by not providing clear direction to him.

"I genuinely appreciate your approach to these problems," he said, adding that he also thinks Hunt has characteristically done more than the county has paid him to do when he has been asked to provide input on projects and issues.

"I don't think you take very good care of yourself," Commissioner Hunt said, indicating that he, too, favors the commission exploring the option of creating a full-time position.

"I think we ought to entertain that discussion," he affirmed.

The county's contract engineer agreed.

"There is definitely a place somewhere in the county for some kind of role," Engineer Hunt nodded.

Commissioner Hunt acknowledged that the creation of a position could well represent growth of government, but suggested that the county may be losing revenue and spending

more in some instances due to the fact that there isn't a full-time employee overseeing things.

"It seems like not having somebody in that position is penny-wise and pound foolish," he offered.

"Trying to do things on too skinny of a budget doesn't work sometimes either," Engineer Hunt agreed, adding that he believes that the county has at times asked for too little in grant applications because the expertise hasn't been in place to clearly identify the county's needs.

"So are you interested in some more hours?" Chairman Lambert asked again.

"I think so," Hunt responded.

Lambert asked him to prepare a proposal for the commission, and suggested that a discussion on that proposal tentatively be scheduled for the commission's March 3 meeting.

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NLJ Publisher and Editor Bob Bonnar can be reached by calling (307) 746-2777, or email at editor@newsli.com.

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Newcastle Elementary School Good Citizen Awards for February

3rd Grade - Brooklyn Schmitz



Have you ever been so excited you want to dance around and jump up and down? That is how I feel today. You ask why? Before I tell you, let me ask you another question....have you ever met someone you instantly like? Someone that is fun to be around, has a special spark to their personality that makes you smile when they talk and, someone that you want to spend your time with because they make you laugh? Well, today I have the opportunity to tell you about just such a person, and that makes me feel like dancing.

Our third grade good citizen is truly one of a kind. As a class we are all drawn to her wonderful personality. She is quick witted and always has a clever comment for our discussions. I am constantly impressed with her ability to make connections to the things we are learning about in class, then, sharing her knowledge with those around her. She is extremely kind hearted. Watching her work with other students is such a pleasure. She makes everyone feel comfortable with learning and helps them understand tough concepts.

I believe one of the most remarkable qualities about this good citizen is her exceptional work ethic. I have rarely seen a student that is so dedicated to her learning. She excels in her grades, not because everything comes easy to her, but rather, because she is willing to take her time and demand that she understands each skill. She is determined to do her absolute best in everything she does. Whether it is using her try sheet, grammar book, scratch paper, or teacher, she is unwavering about her need to understand. This young lady is not only remarkable to have in class, but is also a wonderful model for my other students to be around. Most of all I would like to take this opportunity to thank... Brooklyn Schmitz... for being such a wonderful student and GREAT citizen.

4th Grade - Jessica Wildermuth



It is with great pleasure I could select the 4th grade good citizen for the month of February. This good citizen is someone who displays great responsibility for her work, respect towards others, and is very considerate. Each day she greets us with a warm smile and a cheerful hello. She comes to school ready to learn, and is dedicated to achieving her highest potential as a learner. She demonstrates this by: completing all of her work on time, asking questions to better understand a concept, and displaying good listening skills. Furthermore, she assists her fellow classmates, and is always eager to participate in classroom activities. Her greatest quality, however, is she is an excellent role model for others, and is willing to offer friendship to everyone. She is great at carrying on conversations, values other students' viewpoints, and shows a sincere interest in the wellbeing of her classmates. Additionally, she believes in the success of her peers and is quick to praise others for their accomplishments. She does all that is asked of her and more, without any expectation of reward or honor. I'm sure she will be excited to receive this award, but she will also be the first to tell you, "Anyone can be a good citizen. It takes courage and kindness, and everyone has it in them. They just have to be willing to go deeper than they've ever gone before." Congratulations, Jessica Wildermuth!

5th Grade - Olivia McVay



Over the past few months I've observed students in my class and throughout the school in hopes of identifying the behaviors and characteristics inherent to a Good Citizen. In other words, what traits should I be looking for in my Good Citizen? I came up with the following:

- First, Good Citizens are TRUSTWORTHY. I don't have to worry about these students misbehaving in the hall, or at recess, or in specials. These are people who I can count on — people who give me honest answers. If there is something important to do, my Good Citizens are my first choice.
 - Next, they are RESPONSIBLE and HARD WORKING. Good Citizens aren't lazy. They are more than willing to do their part and they never complain about the work they have to do. They also take ownership in their work. That means they do their best on every task set before them. And if something isn't up to a high enough standard, they don't give excuses; they accept the consequences and work to rectify the error.
 - Lastly, Good Citizens are RESPECTFUL. Not only are these students polite to teachers and adults, they respect other students' rights and boundaries. A Good Citizen would never disrupt class or distract another student because they respect other people's time and learning.
- Choosing this month's Good Citizen was a difficult task. There are many students in Room 150 who display a few of these traits a lot of the time. However, as I made my decision, there was one student who stood out from the rest; one student who possesses all of these traits almost all of the time. This student is honest and trustworthy. I can count on her to do anything. In fact, everyone in class could count on her because she is so reliable. She rarely forgets her homework or her planner and she always remembers to do her classroom job. Best of all, she is an active participant in class and loves new learning, working hard on everything she does.

It is my honor to name our February Good Citizen: Olivia McVay.

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NHS students sing their hearts out

Denice Piscioti
NLJ Reporter

After months of practicing, five Newcastle High School students auditioned in October and were accepted into the 2015 Wyoming All-State Honor Choir presented by the Wyoming High School Activities Association and Wyoming Music Educators Association Jan. 17 to 19 in Sheridan.

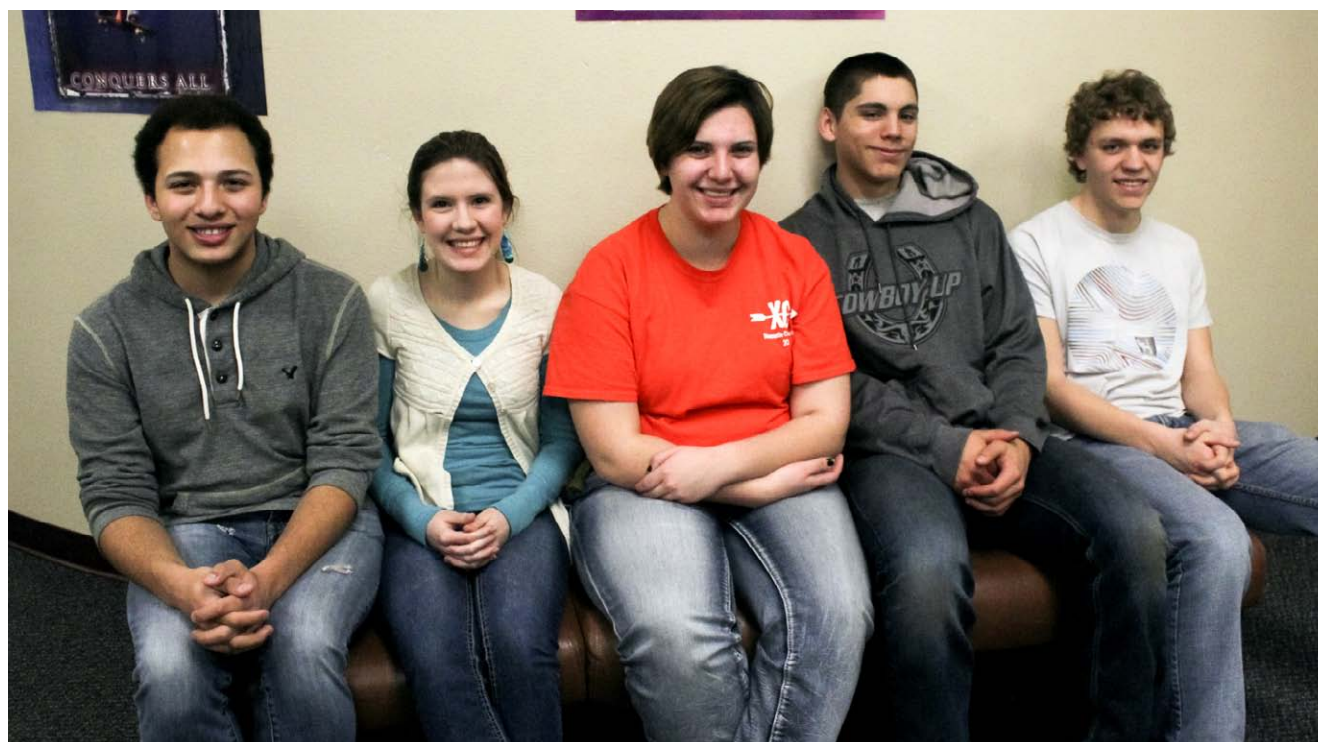
As an Alto II, Carissa Deming attended for the third year and Daniel Caress, Tenor II, went for the second time while Heather Donner, Alto II, Collin Heaton, Bass II, and Dawson Norton, Bass I, went for the first time with choir director Jan Ellis.

"Everything went well! The kids worked hard. They were well prepared from all over the state," Ellis reported.

As vice president of the WYMEA, Ellis, for the third year in a row, was in charge of making the selections for the choir out of about 650 auditions. It was her last year as the vice president, she said, and she is looking forward to being able to spend more time with her own students and enjoy more of the WYMEA conference next year.

The 180 choir students from around the state worked with conductor Dr. Nicole Lamartine all day Monday and Tuesday in preparation for the concert on Tuesday evening.

Lamartine directs several choirs



Denice Piscioti/NLJ

Newcastle High School students Daniel Caress, Carissa Deming, Heather Donner, Dawson Norton and Collin Heaton were chosen to attend the 2015 Wyoming All-State Honor Choir in Sheridan last month.

at the University of Wyoming and the UW Vocal Jazz ensemble, which performed with the acclaimed New York Voices in October of 2009, and the Collegiate Chorale, which worked with Stephen Jackson, the choral director of the BBC Symphony Chorus.

Later that same year she brought

the UW male a cappella group, The Happy Jacks, to Shanghai, China. The following year the Singing Statesmen performed the Mozart Vespers in Carnegie Hall. She has visited Newcastle to work with the students several times.

"I used a Wyoming person, I thought that was important for our

kids to make that connection that we have great things going on here in Wyoming," Ellis said.

Using technology by video conferencing the students through the internet, Lamartine set up time with the students for them to sing to her, giving her a chance to know them before the honor choir began

rehearsal. Two-thirds of the students across the state took advantage of the opportunity.

Ellis doesn't listen to all the auditions alone. She appreciated the assistance of screeners in listening to the auditions. She admitted she was harder on her own students who were selected by other people. The students had one shot to record their auditions live on the internet.

"It's all anonymous when they are auditioning. There isn't a name, there isn't a town, there aren't any initials even to identify them," she explained. "They only get to do it once, it is recorded live — no do-overs. So if they are sick, they are sick. Or if they had a bad day. The auditions were all done the last part of October, so we had all September and October to work on it."

Unique this year was the music piece accompanied by a 31-piece orchestra. It was a fun and interesting experience for Ellis to gather the musicians and meet them. Because the musicians were experienced adults they didn't require a lot of practice. They practiced with Lamartine Sunday, then with the students for dress rehearsal on Tuesday before the final performance that evening.

"Their first run-through, I couldn't hear any mistakes. It was amazing! Many of the kids had never sung with an orchestra. It was pretty cool!" Ellis proclaimed.

Check out history!

By Wade Merchen

Has anyone ever wondered what brought Newcastle along this far and how we got where we are now? Come on down to the Newcastle High School Commons to find out about local history. This is an annual event the students put on to show what they have learned about Newcastle's history.

On Monday, March 16, from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Newcastle High School Commons, the high school students in Mrs. Sweet's Writing Skills class is putting on a local history research project exhibit for the public to show how the small community got to where it is now. All of this research that the students have done came from the local Anna Miller Museum. Students then wrote papers and created PowerPoint presentations or poster boards to show the public their work.

The students would like to say thanks in advance for the public's attendance to this event. The students have put in a lot of hard work to succeed in this project. They hope for a big turnout for this event by a large portion of the community coming to see how they did on this project.



Reading together

Photos by Denice Piscioti/NLJ

As part of Weston County School District #1's goal to garner proficient readers, a mini grant was written to buy every student at Newcastle Middle School the same book to read at the same time with their teachers, that they could also take home to share with their family. Working together, English teachers at the middle school have the students read a book for two weeks during class, then each grade joins together during FLEX time at the end of the day to all read together.

At left, seventh-graders Payton Parks, Jory McFarland, JJ Stalder, Davin Tysdal and Dylon Tidyman read the book "Counting by 7s," by Holly Goldberg Sloan. NMS guidance counselor Eileen Vickers said the best-seller centers on Willow Chance, a bright young girl who, after the death of her adoptive parents, is taken in by an unlikely surrogate family and an unfit guidance counselor, and in the wake of tremendous loss she rises to build a community that she heals and that heals her.

The book was chosen to help teach students learn empathy and acceptance of differences, as well as the idea of never giving up.

Accomplishments

Jones named to Dean's List at Creighton University

Ryan Jones of Newcastle, a senior in the College of Arts and Sciences, was named to the Creighton University Dean's List for fall 2014.

Full-time students who earn a 3.5 grade-point average or better on a 4.0 scale are eligible for the Dean's List.

Creighton University in Omaha, Neb., enrolls 4,000 undergraduates and 4,200 graduate and professional students among nine schools and colleges. Jesuit and Catholic, it affords incomparable inter-professional education, bridging health professions programs with law, business and arts and sciences — all on one walk-

able campus, according to their press release. For more information, visit our website at: www.creighton.edu.

Silbaugh receives four scholarships to CSC

Savannah Silbaugh of Upton, daughter of Derek and April Silbaugh, received four scholarships to Chadron State College. Savannah received the Eagle Presidential scholarship for \$2,352, the Leadership Room Waiver for \$800, the Academic Achievement Award for \$800 and the Kline Trask, Matalica Sides Memorial scholarship for \$400. Savannah is a high school senior and will be studying biology at Chadron State College in the fall.

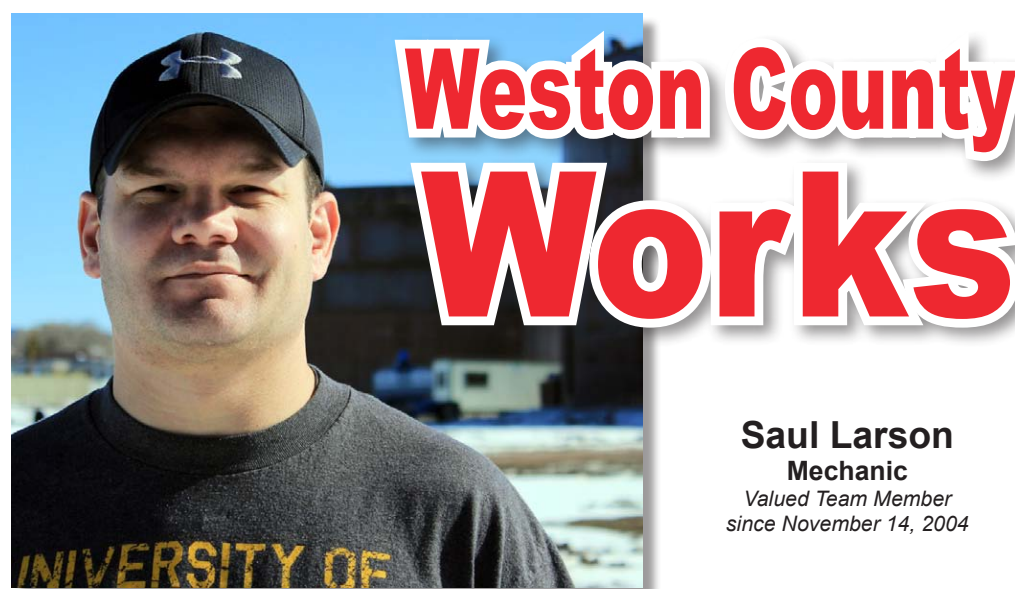


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Sports

News Letter Journal

Schedule

Wrestling
2/27-28 3A State Championships, Casper TBA

Boys Basketball
2/27 V9 Douglas Bearcats H 4PM
3/5-7 3A East Regionals, Rawlins TBA
3/12-14 3A State Championships TBA

Girls Basketball
2/27 V9 Douglas Bearcats H 4PM
3/5-7 3A East Regionals, Rawlins
3/12-14 3A State Championships, Casper

The Score

8th Grade 'A' Team
Newcastle 54, Sundance 30
3A Championship
Newcastle 49, Douglas 38
Newcastle 47, Glenrock 38
Newcastle 45, Torrington 61 Championship

8th Grade 'B' Team
Upton A 38, Newcastle 10
Newcastle 24, Gillette Rec. 15
Buffalo B 39, Newcastle 10

7th Grade 'A' Team
Newcastle 49, Glenrock 13
Newcastle 26, Douglas 29
Newcastle 36, Wheatland 38

Time flies when you're having fun

When basketball season begins in the middle of November, it feels like it is a long road to the culmination of the season in March, however, the final regular season game is upon us already.



Sonja Karp
Karpe Dogie

I knew going in that with this being my oldest child's last year the time would fly by, but I just can't believe that it is nearly over.

Basketball has been an ever-present part of our family's lives for as long as I've been living in Newcastle, and it has required the devotion of each member of the household.

As an assistant coach for the first seven years, I devoted four and a half months of every school year, and one month of every summer to the game, and my kids were right there with me.

As a head coach for three years, the kids and I devoted the entire year to the game. Between the summer program, preparation for the season, open gyms, practice planning, game planning, game analyzing, scouting opponents, stat taking and reporting, post-season preparation, fundraising, coach's clinics and the many fitful nights thinking and dreaming about the game, it really was always an integral part of our lives.

As a parent of players for the last six years, it has also been the center of our lives. We still had the summer program, open gyms, season and post-season preparations, stat taking, game

— See Karp, Page 13



Ladies stand tall

Sonja Karp
NLJ Sports Reporter

With only one weekend left of regular season play, the Lady Dogies hosted the No. 4 and No. 1 teams from the Southeast Quadrant this weekend, the Glenrock Lady Herders on Feb. 20, and the Rawlins Lady Outlaws on Feb. 21.

The Lady Outlaws are not only No. 1 in the Southeast quad, but are also ranked No. 1 in the state.

"I thought it was as good a weekend as we've had in a long time," nodded head coach Tyler Bartlett. "I was really pleased with the defensive effort we put forth in both games."

When the Herders came to town, the Lady Dogies were looking to bounce back from their losses against Buffalo and Worland the week before.

Though the first quarter started a little slow for Newcastle, the home team was able to hold their opponent scoreless for the first five and a half minutes of the game, and finish the quarter up 12-6.

The Lady Dogies continued to outscore the Lady Herders in the second quarter to go into the half up, 23-14.

In the third quarter, Glenrock made a run at the home team, but Newcastle stayed one step ahead, and powered back in the fourth to defeat the Lady Herders definitively, 49-31.

"We came out and controlled the game right from the start and we really had pretty consistent scoring, getting into double figures in each quarter, and I think that a lot of that success was built on our defense," reasoned Bartlett. "We got out and pressured the ball pretty much the entire game making it difficult for the Herders to score, and then getting some easy buckets for ourselves."

Sonja Karp/NLJ

Senior Bailey Karp squares up to the basket, determined to make a difference in the game against the Rawlins Outlaws.

Bartlett also added that he was glad to see the team get back to the pressure and running game that defined the girls at the beginning of the season.

Alyssa Dawson led the Lady Dogies with 16 points and seven rebounds, followed by Abby Gray with 14 points and eight rebounds. Scottlyn Wiggins contributed eight points and four rebounds, Abi Deveraux had five points and two rebounds, Rachel Henkle added four points and seven rebounds, and Bailey Karp rounded out the scoring with two points and two rebounds.

Saturday posed a bit more of a challenge for the Lady Dogies. Rawlins is overwhelmingly voted as the No. 1 team in the state in 3A, and two of their players are the No. 1 and 2 scorers in 3A East as well.

Granted, Newcastle boasts the No. 3 scorer in 3A East in Dawson, so the contest promised to be a good one for the fans.

The game started out as a battle, but the Lady Outlaws finished the first quarter up 15-22 over the Lady Dogies.

Rawlins extended their lead to 15 midway through the second, but Newcastle turned it on as the clock counted down to cut it to 10 to go into the locker room down, 22-32.

"I really think we did a nice job of building on our win from Friday night going up against the No. 1 team in the state that has only one loss on the year. We were right there with them for the majority of the game," Bartlett commented. "It did start to get away from us a little bit there in the second quarter, but we went on a run right at the end and even had a buzzer beater bucket to cut the lead from 15 to 10 going into the half, which gave us some momentum."

As the teams took the court in the second half, the Lady Dogies looked determined to make a run. An aggressive move to the hoop by Karp drew a fourth foul from Quiriss Romero, the leading scorer in the state, to put her on the bench early in the third quarter.

Newcastle used her absence, and some

— See Ladies, Page 12

Basketball season is winding down

Sonja Karp
NLJ Sports Reporter

It was another tough weekend for the Dogies as they faced the No. 2 and No. 3 teams in 3A when they travelled to Glenrock on Feb. 20 to face the Herders, then hosted the Rawlins Outlaws on Feb. 21.

Last week, head coach Allen Von Eye acknowledged that the Dogies had a rough schedule over that last couple of weekends, facing the No. 1, 2 and 3 in the state back-to-back-to-back, and this past weekend they were coming off a loss to the No. 1 Worland Warriors on Feb. 14.

On Friday, the team headed out to take on the No. 2 Herders who have two players that appear in the top 10 in multiple categories in the state.

According to Von Eye, Glenrock is an extremely disciplined team who present some problems for the Dogies. They have a very good point guard and a big and versatile post who is a threat from

— See Men's Basketball, Page 13

Sonja Karp/NLJ

Senior Paul Lambert fights for the ball against the Rawlins Outlaws last Saturday afternoon in the Dogie Dome.



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Nine moving up

Sonja Karp
NLJ Sports Reporter

The Newcastle/Upton wrestlers have faced some adversity this season between illness and injuries, but the team was back to full force as they competed in the 3A East Regional Wrestling Tournament in Douglas on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 20 and 21.

The last few weeks have been a struggle for the Dogies as they faced several of their final opponents with far less than their full squad.

there were some really close matches that several Dogies had a good shot at placing even higher than they did, so those are things that the boys can learn from as they head into state competition.

Dennon Parks (120) brought home second, which was the highest place finish for the Dogies/Bobcat team.

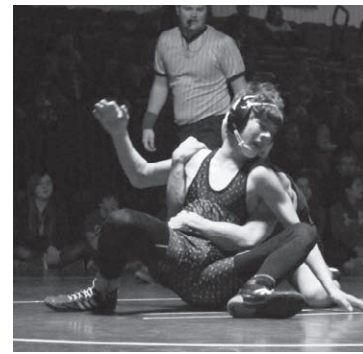
Ricky Larson (138), Wyatt Corley (145) and Bryce Womack (285) each placed third, and Trayton Dawson (106) and Bradon Rushton (145) rounded out the placing for the team with fourth.

Alan Baker (106) placed sixth, Donovan Prell (113) placed seventh and Bryson Tidyman (113) placed eighth.

"I was very pleased with our efforts this weekend, and I think that we are finally hitting our stride and peaking at just the right time," smiled head coach Lee McCoy. "We are closing the gap in a lot of the matches and now it's a matter of fixing some minor things this week in preparation for the State Tournament."

McCoy noted that Parks, Larson, Corley and Womack all wrestled particularly well and beat some tough opponents on their way to the podium.

"I feel like we've got an excellent chance to place five or six kids in the state meet if



Cody Tucker/Douglas Budget
Dennon Parks was the highest ranked Dogie at Regionals last weekend, finishing second.

we stay focused, keep wrestling hard, and eliminate some minor mistakes," McCoy predicted.

Though the team had a few tough draws for the state tournament, coaches and wrestlers are feeling confident as they head into their final competition of the season.

"The Wyoming State Wrestling Tournament starts on Friday in Casper, and I hope we can get as many fans as possible there to cheer on our kids," McCoy smiled.

On Friday, Feb. 27, the tournament will run through to the semi-finals and will probably get through a couple of rounds of wrestle-backs. On Saturday, Feb. 28, the day will be dominated by wrestle-backs, then the finals matches will commence in the evening.

The Stats	
Newcastle/Upton @ 3A East Regional Tournament	
Feb. 20-21, 2015	
Team Place: Sixth	
106:	Alan Baker: 6
106:	Trayton Dawson: 4
113:	Donovan Prell: 7
113:	Bryson Tidyman: 8
120:	Dennon Parks: 2
126:	Zach Schuessler: 7
138:	Ricky Larson: 3
145:	Wyatt Corley: 3
145:	Bradon Rushton: 4
285:	Bryce Womack: 3

Seniors Bradon Rushton and Nick Bock were sidelined because of shoulder injuries, while sophomores Zach Schuessler and Bryce Womack suffered from illness which kept them off the mat. These wrestlers were back in action just in time for the first round of post-season competition.

As a team, the Newcastle/Upton wrestlers placed sixth at the regional tournament, accumulating 93 points. Individually, the squad had six placers and three who, though they did not place, will advance to the state tournament because they finished in the top eight at Regionals.

"Having nine of the 13 wrestlers qualify for the state tournament is pretty great," smiled assistant coach Alex Schanemen. "We scored 21 points higher than we did last year at the regional tournament, so that was also a significant improvement."

Schanemen added that



Cody Tucker/Douglas Budget
Bryce Womack added to the team's success at Regionals with his third place finish in his weight class.

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Ladies

great defense by Kendra Back on Bailey Forney, the second leading scorer in 3A East, to cut the lead to only two with seven minutes remaining in the fourth.

Unfortunately, the home team was unable to continue their offensive run and ended up dropping the game to the Lady Outlaws, 38-56.

"I thought we did a really good job on Forney in the second half holding her to only four points, and the girls did a great job drawing fouls from Romero. We did what we had to do, and what is nice is that now we have a blueprint going into Regionals of how to play them," Bartlett explained.

Dawson led the team again with 18 points and 11 rebounds, and Gray had 13 points and five rebounds. Karp had three points and 11 rebounds, while Deveraux and Wiggins each had two points and six and five rebounds, respectively.

Next Friday, Feb. 27, the Lady Dogies are hoping to build on their success this weekend as they compete in their final regular season game, hosting the Lady Bearcats from Douglas. In their first meeting Douglas came out on top, so Newcastle will be looking for redemption.

The final home game will also be the senior night recognition for both the Lady Dogies and the Dogies.



Sonja Karp/NLJ
Senior Scottlyn Wiggins brings the ball down the court looking for open teammates.

The Stats	
Newcastle v. Buffalo	
Feb. 20, 2015 Final Score: 38-56	
Alyssa Dawson:	16 points, 7 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals
Scottlyn Wiggins:	8 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists
Kendra Back:	1 assist, 1 steal
Abby Gray:	14 points, 8 rebounds, 3 assists, 5 steals
Bailey Karp:	2 points, 2 rebounds, 1 assist
Abi Deveraux:	5 points, 2 rebounds, 2 assists
Rachel Henkle:	4 points, 7 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 block
Kaprina Jones:	1 rebound
Newcastle v. Rawlins	
Feb. 21, 2015 Final Score: 38-56	
Alyssa Dawson:	18 points, 11 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal
Scottlyn Wiggins:	2 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal
Kendra Back:	4 rebounds
Abby Gray:	13 points, 5 rebound, 2 assists, 1 steal
Bailey Karp:	3 points, 11 rebounds, 3 assists
Abi Deveraux:	2 points, 6 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal
Rachel Henkle:	4 rebounds

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Men's Basketball



Sonja Karp/NLJ

Senior Alec Walker looks to move the ball inside.

anywhere on the court. The Herders also shoot the ball well, so the coach was hesitant to try to defend them with a zone.

The Herders displayed their disciplined playing style, taking 30 or 40 seconds off the clock on most of their offensive sets, which made them difficult for the Dogies to defend because with those long possessions keeping contact with shooters becomes challenging.

Glenrock also shot the ball extremely well in their home gym, hitting 12 shots from beyond the arc, which was one more three-pointer made than Newcastle had two-pointers made.

"I was happy to see that we came out with some pretty good fight right off the bat," commented Von Eye. "We battled them pretty hard from the onset of the game, which is good since we've had some issues with that in the last few games, starting out on our heels and digging ourselves a hole."

Unfortunately, the Dogies had a hard time getting shots to fall early. Von Eye acknowledged that was a little frustrating for the team after they had worked so hard to get themselves in a position to score, then had those opportunities be off the mark.

In the second half, the boys continued to battle hard and were able to cut down their opponent's three-point shooting percentage and, according to Von Eye, freshman Cam Quigley was to be commended for doing a great job defending Glenrock's senior point guard after Colton Sweet got into some foul trouble.

"There were a lot of positives in the game," nodded Von Eye. "There are just some really tough match-ups with these teams that we have played over the last two weekends. In my opinion, Worland, Glenrock, Rawlins and Buffalo are the

best-of-the-best-of-the-best right now."

Despite the positives, the Dogies were not able to overcome Glenrock's disciplined offensive game and were defeated by a score of 33-79.

Leading the Dogies in scoring was Quigley, who had 11 points and one rebound. Dillon Ehlers added eight points and seven rebounds, Sweet had five points and two rebounds, Mason Piscioti contributed four points and two rebounds, Cooper Karp had three points and one assist, and Chandler Burd and Dawson Norton rounded out the scoring with one point and one rebound each.

On Saturday, the No. 3 Rawlins Outlaws came to town with more players who rank in the top 10 in the stats for 3A.

"They have what I consider to be one of the top players in the state in Jalen Krening, who is a crafty player and is tough to defend everywhere on the court," Von Eye noted.

The Outlaws came out firing, hitting three-pointers against some great Dogie defense and just seemed to be in sync as a team. At the end of the first eight minutes, Newcastle found themselves in an 8-26 point deficit.

Though the home team made a little run in the second, Rawlins was able to extend their lead to 28 to go into the locker room up 49-21 over the Dogies to end the half.

The second half was much the same, with the Outlaws putting on an offensive and defensive show, and with four minutes left in the game extended their lead over the Dogies to 40 points. At that point the mercy rule kicked in, which meant that there was a running clock for the remainder of the contest, and as time ticked down the Dogies found themselves down 39-77.

"I thought we did a great job han-

The Stats

Newcastle @ Glenrock
Feb. 21, 2015 Final Score: 33-79
Dillon Ehlers: 8 points, 7 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal, 1 block
Colton Sweet: 5 points, 2 rebounds, 1 assist
Cam Quigley: 11 points, 1 rebound, 2 assists, 1 steal
Triston Roberson: 2 rebounds, 3 steals
Cooper Karp: 3 points, 1 assist
Dawson Norton: 1 point, 1 rebound
Mason Piscioti: 4 points, 2 rebounds, 1 assist
Chandler Burd: 1 point, 1 rebound
Alec Walker: 1 rebound

Newcastle v. Rawlins
Feb. 21, 2015 Final Score: 39-77
Dillon Ehlers: 14 points, 8 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal
Colton Sweet: 2 points, 4 rebounds, 3 assists
Cam Quigley: 8 points, 3 rebounds, 4 assists, 1 steal
Triston Roberson: 2 rebounds
Cooper Karp: 7 points, 3 rebounds
Dawson Norton: 1 rebound, 1 assist, 1 steal
Mason Piscioti: 4 points, 4 rebounds, 1 assist
Alec Walker: 2 rebounds, 1 assist
Chandler Burd: 2 points
Kaulien Sundstrom: 2 points
Vincent Oedekoven: 1 rebound

dling their half-court press. We were very patient and did not give them the opportunities they were looking for to force bad passes. However, once we had the ball in the half court, their swarming amoeba defense took us out of our game," Von Eye analyzed.

Ehlers led the Dogies in scoring with 14 points and eight rebounds. Quigley added eight points and three rebounds and was followed closely by Karp, who had seven points and three rebounds. Piscioti once again had four points and four rebounds, Sweet had two points and four rebounds, and Burd and Kaulien Sundstrom added two points each.

Friday, Feb. 27, will be the last regular season game for the Dogies as they host the Douglas Bearcats.

Friday night the team will also honor the seniors for their dedication to the program.

Accomplishments

Gettinger and Upton recognized

The University of Wyoming lists two students from Weston County on the 2014 fall semester Provost's Honor Roll, Adam M. Gettinger of Newcastle and Dustin David Upton of Upton.

The Provost's Honor Roll consists of undergraduates who have completed at least six but fewer than 12 hours with a minimum 3.5 grade point average for the semester.

For more information about

the University of Wyoming visit www.uwyo.edu.

EWC recognizes Weston County students

Eastern Wyoming College recently announced a list of students who have been included on the President's and Dean's Honor Rolls for the Fall 2014 semester.

Of the 356 students receiving recognition for achieving high scholastic grades, 45 Weston County students were named to

the Associate Dean's List, eight to the Dean's Honor Roll and four to the President's Honor Roll.

The President's Honor Roll recognizes students that are full time (12 or more credit hours) and achieve a 4.0 grade point average. To qualify for the Dean's Honor Roll, students must also be full time and achieve a grade point average of 3.5, but less than 4.0. The Associate Dean's Honor Roll recognizes those students who

have at least six credit hours but not more than twelve with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

Earning President's Honor Roll status are Jordan Brooks, Shaylee Curren, Angela Holliday and Scottlyn Wiggins of Newcastle.

Summer Cole, Marni Hossfeld, Tanya Jingleski, Vincent Oedekoven, Jessica Pastor, Amelia Stewart, Josie Tracy and Hannah Williams, all of Newcastle, were named to

the Dean's Honor Roll.

Jenna Piper of Osage and Loreana Rhoden of Upton were named to the Associate Dean's Honor Roll, as were Newcastle students Calbi Ausmann, Kendra Back, Henry Basuki, Kenneth Blakeney, Jacob Brown, Katara Cade, Hannah Cass, Madison Crawford, Layne Crisman, Alyssa Dawson, Abigail Deveraux, Ashlyn Dollison, Ashton Farnsworth, Abigail Gettinger, Abby Gray, Jade Haggerty, Colin Heaton,

Alexander Henkle, Jenna Holmes, Kalyn Houser, Melissa Houser, Brandon Jenkins, Jason Johnson, Ronald Kammerer, Bailey Karp, Cooper Karp, Sierra LaCroix, Paul Lambert, Richard Yeager-Larson, Jeremiah Leach, Brandon Leddy, Alec Martinez, Cassandra Munoz, Revon O'Rourke, Triston Roberson, Bradon Rushton, Taylor Small, McKaylia Stevenson, Melissa Stubbs, Nocona Toth, Rebecca Wolfe and Kelsey Wood.

Karp

from page 11

analyzing, and nights dreaming about the game. It was just on a different level with less responsibility — but no less love.

This week as we prepare for Bailey's senior night, her last ever game that she will play in the Dogie Dome, I find myself wondering where all the time has gone. This season — heck the last six years — has gone by in the blink of an eye, and I'm not sure if I'm ready for it to be done.

Granted, there isn't a thing I can do to slow it down or keep it from ending, but I know that I will miss watching her play.

It's strange to think she has a maximum of eight games left to play in her high school career, and it's possible that it could be only three, though I am certainly hoping for the higher number.

I am very grateful that my son still has one year left to play, because I'm pretty sure I would be at a loss of what to do with myself if this was it for me. This sport has been such a huge part of my life since I was a little girl, from watching my brothers play to my own years on the court, to what it is for me today.

It's not like I didn't know this day was coming, but for some reason I don't feel prepared for the finality of it. Hopefully, I'll get myself acclimated to the eventuality before I find myself at this time next year preparing for Cooper's senior night, because I know it will be here before I know it.

Time certainly does fly when you're having fun, and I have had a blast watching my kids play the game that we all love.

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T-19	40	24	.01
F-20	26	0	
S-21	18	-1	

Blotter

February 8, 2015
 Traffic stop, Citation issued. Traffic stop, Warrant arrest. Suspicious activity reported. Report of a dog at large. Report of a dog at large. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Report of a dog at large. Motorist assist. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Traffic stop, Equipment Repair Order issued. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Traffic hazard reported. Medical assist. Burglary reported. Traffic stop, No action reported.

February 9
 Assist other agency, Warrant arrest. Medical assist. Commercial fire alarm reported. Drug possession arrest. Drug possession arrest. Civil standby requested. Assist other agency. Medical assist. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued.

February 10
 Open door discovered. Fraud reported. Minor accident reported. Traffic stop, Citation issued. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Assist other agency. Abandon vehicle reported, towed. Commercial alarm reported. Arrest Warrant issued.

February 11
 Traffic stop, DUI arrest. Funeral escort requested. Funeral escort requested. Suspicious activity reported. Commercial fire reported. Medical assist. Traffic complaint. Report of a dog at large.

February 12
 Missing dog reported. Traffic complaint. Lost property reported. Civil standby requested.

February 13
 VIN inspection requested. 911 hang up. Trespassing reported. Littering reported. Report of a dog at large. Impounded. Traffic complaint. Traffic contact, Citation issued. Domestic problem reported. Vehicle fire reported. Warrant arrest. Drug possession, One arrest. Harassment reported. Welfare check requested. Traffic stop,

Equipment Repair Order issued. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued.

February 14
 Report of a dog at large. Suspicious activity reported. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Drunk pedestrians reported. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. VIN inspection requested. Missing dog reported. Assist other agency. Disturbance reported. Suspicious activity reported.

February 15
 Traffic contact, three citations issued, MIP and Possession. Domestic reported, One arrest. 911 hang up. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. 911 hang up. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Drugs reported.

February 16
 Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Injured deer reported. Traffic stop, Citation issued. Civil standby requested. Assist other agency. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. 911 hang up. Traffic hazard reported. Report of a dog at large. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Traffic hazard reported. Traffic stop, Equipment Repair Order issued.

February 17
 Parking complaint. VIN inspection requested. Assist other agency. Vehicle inspection requested. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Report of a dog at large.

February 18
 Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Traffic stop, DUI arrest. Civil standby requested. VIN inspection requested. Assist other agency. Trespassing reported. Assist other agency. Suspicious activity reported, One arrest.

February 19
 Assist other agency. Assist other agency. Found property reported. Motorist assist. Barking dog complaint. Residential alarm reported. Traffic stop, Equipment Repair Order issued.

February 20
 Suspicious activity reported. Commercial alarm reported. 12 Arrest Warrants issued. 911 hang up. Two VIN inspections requested. Found property reported. Found property reported.

February 21
 Domestic problem reported. Welfare check requested. Domestic problem reported. Assist other agency. Report of a dog at large. Trespass reported. Found property reported. Traffic stop, Citation issued.



standby requested. Assist other agency. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. 911 hang up. Traffic hazard reported. Report of a dog at large. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Traffic hazard reported. Traffic stop, Equipment Repair Order issued.

February 17
 Parking complaint. VIN inspection requested. Assist other agency. Vehicle inspection requested. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Report of a dog at large.

February 18
 Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Traffic stop, DUI arrest. Civil standby requested. VIN inspection requested. Assist other agency. Trespassing reported. Assist other agency. Suspicious activity reported, One arrest.

February 19
 Assist other agency. Assist other agency. Found property reported. Motorist assist. Barking dog complaint. Residential alarm reported. Traffic stop, Equipment Repair Order issued.

February 20
 Suspicious activity reported. Commercial alarm reported. 12 Arrest Warrants issued. 911 hang up. Two VIN inspections requested. Found property reported. Found property reported.

February 21
 Domestic problem reported. Welfare check requested. Domestic problem reported. Assist other agency. Report of a dog at large. Trespass reported. Found property reported. Traffic stop, Citation issued.

Deadline for Legals is noon on Friday

Public Notice

NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR TAX DEED

To: Callier Richard Dale & Mary
 320 Friendship Road
 Waldoboro, ME 04572-000

To all owners possessors or occupants of the real property described as: The South 1/2 of Tract 34, Hillview Heights Subdivision, Weston County, Wyoming**Callier Richard Dale & Mary

Be advised that:
 William G. Ingalls purchased the above described property at a tax sale on August 30, 2010 in Newcastle Wyoming from the Weston County Treasurers and is in possession of certificate of purchase No. 4754. The property was taxed or assessed in the name/names of Callier Richard Dale & Mary.

For the year 2010 at this time there are no special assessments for local or public improvements on this property and the owner cannot be found in Weston County, Wyo.

In accordance with Wyoming law, the property may be redeemed by the legal owner after the date of sale but before a valid tax deed application has been filed and accepted by the county treasurer. Take note that William G. Ingalls will apply for a tax deed on or after August 30, 2014.

Any persons holding an interest in this property or otherwise interested in application for tax deed may contact the applicant William G. Ingalls 835 W. Hill Street, Spearfish, South Dakota or contact the Weston County Treasurer, 1 West Main, Newcastle, Wyoming 82701. Regarding the petitioners intent to apply for a tax deed.

Dated this Day of February 19, 2015
 William G. Ingalls
 835 W. Hill Street Apt. 206
 Spearfish, South Dakota 57783
 (605) 631-0014

(Publish February 19, 26 and March 5, 2015)

Bid Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Weston County Fair Board is seeking bids from licensed Weston County alcohol vendors for an exclusive Beer Garden during the Weston County Fair, July 25 through August 2, 2015. Bids must be submitted to Fairgrounds office no later than 4:00 pm May 11, 2015 to be reviewed and a vendor selected at the open general monthly meeting, 6:30pm May 12. Bid criteria is outlined on the bid forms available from the Fairgrounds business office, 24 Fairgrounds Rd Newcastle, WY 82701 (307) 746-9906.

(Publish February 26, March 5, 26, April 2, 23 and 30, 2015)

News Letter Journal
 14 W. Main Street,
 Newcastle

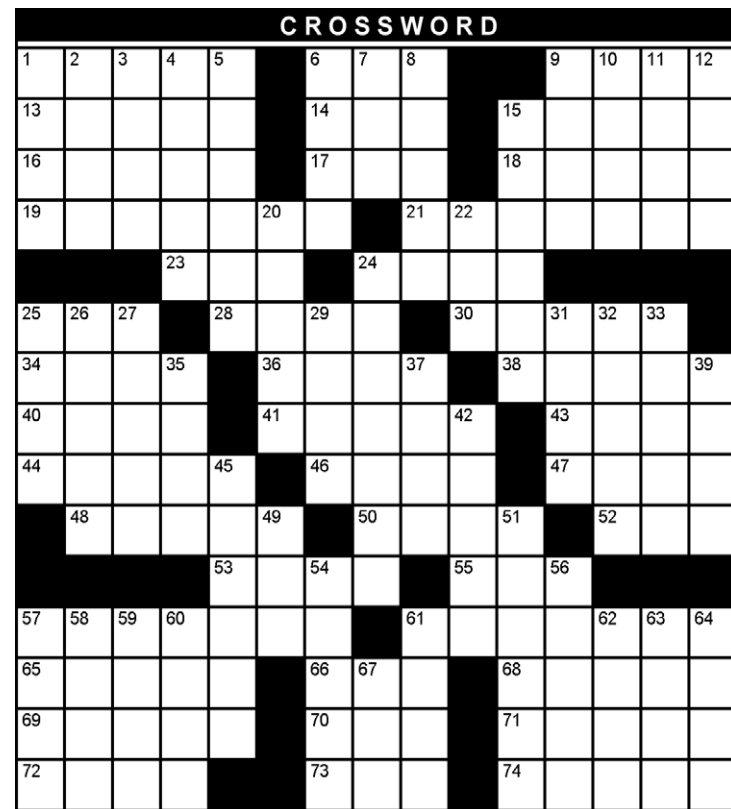
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63. *Sugar, waffle or cake
 64. Droops
 67. *Yule
- ACROSS**
- Face fringe
 - Like a wallflower
 - Something that happened too fast?
 - One hipbone
 - Romanian money
 - Sheep's clothing, e.g.
 - Bassos, alternative spelling
 - Middle-earth creature
 - Balance sheet item
 - *Peanut
 - *Popular pastry center
 - Exclamation of surprise
 - Duds
 - Tapped at parties
 - Two-masted vessel
 - Orient's bigwig
 - Misfortunes
 - Not that
 - Australian cockatoo
 - Done after shuffling
 - Popular garden perennial
 - Triathlon ride
 - Part of surgeon's prep
 - Rudolph, e.g.
 - Affirm
 - Austrian province
 - Ogler
 - Former name of Tokyo
 - Give notice
 - Clinton ____ Rodham
 - *Dessert in honor of a dancer
 - Text treatment
 - French farewell
 - Labour group
 - Kind of salami
 - House coat
 - Little squirt
 - In the company of
 - Bone-dry
 - ____ Khan
 - "Dressed to the ____"

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DOWN

- Kind of lettuce
- Having wings
- Not final or absolute
- Vigorous enjoyment
- Blacksmith shop
- * ____ gin
- Part of H.M.S.
- New Mexico's state flower
- Portrait sculpture
- Mona ____
- One who uses something
- Short for "retired"
- Pompous windbag
- Strongly opposed
- Funerary vase
- Shiny from moisture
- *Sour Patch ____
- Choose by vote
- Dazzling
- " ____ Afraid of Virginia Wolf?"
- *Rum ____
- Martini garnish
- *Alaska's state
- Hurtful remark
- Dog command
- Parade honoree
- ____ provocateur
- Back down
- Head or john
- 40th President
- *Indian yogurt staple that can be sweet or salty
- Fragrant resin
- Hemmingway nickname
- Jewish month
- Henry ____
- " ____ your hand"
- Tiny bit
- Involved in a secret

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

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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

B	A	L	E	R	W	A	N	N	A	Y	S			
A	L	I	N	E	I	L	O	F	E	M	M	E		
A	T	E	U	P	L	E	V	E	X	A	C	T		
L	O	U	R	E	E	D	A	R	E	T	H	A		
		E	A	R	W	E	E	D						
A	B	A	L	I	R	A	M	E	S	C	A	L		
R	E	D	S	C	U	R	T	R	A	I	T	A		
I	L	I	A	A	S	H	E	N	C	L	O	Y		
A	L	E	P	H	E	R	A	K	I	L	L			
N	A	U	S	E	A	A	N	T	E	A	L	A		
		A	V	I	D	A	D	S						
		T	R	I	V	E	T	I	L	I	K	E	I	T
A	S	I	D	E	A	L	B	C	I	R	C	E		
H	A	L	E	N	L	E	I	T	R	I	B	E		
A	R	E	S		Y	E	S	S	T	E	M	S		

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

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Joan Rivers

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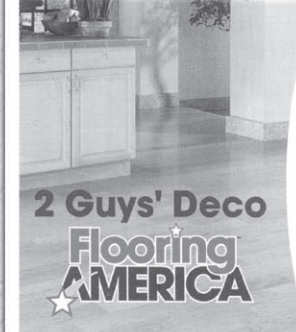
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Hearts of love

Breeklee Loebs, a student from the Cookie Monster class at Weston County Children's Center, gives Pam Penfield a Valentine at the News Letter Journal while her teacher, Paige Penfield, looks surprised. WCCC students visited downtown businesses during the week of Valentine's Day to give away hand-made Valentines and sing songs (at right) for the recipients. (Photo by Stephanie Bonnar/NLJ)



Plan ahead for less stress, better meals

Busy families are always on the lookout for ways to simplify their lives and spend more quality time together. For many of us, cooking dinner every night is a frustrating, time-consuming process, even if you know your way around a kitchen.

Menu planning is a great way to make sure you're eating a balanced diet and meeting your nutritional needs. In addition, as every frugal cook knows, menu planning can save you time and money.

Planning meals ahead



Vicki Hayman
Extension
Notes

requires a small investment of time, but can reap great rewards.

- A menu plan saves money. Reducing trips to the supermarket, a menu plan reduces impulse spending. Using leftovers efficiently cuts food waste.

- A menu plan saves time. No dashing to the neighbor for a missing ingredient and no waiting for food to thaw for dinner.

- A menu plan improves nutrition. Without the daily dash to the supermarket, there's time to prepare side

dishes and salads to complement the main dish, increasing the family's consumption of fruits and vegetables.

It has been said that for every hour you spend in planning, you save four hours in your actual day. That's a pretty impressive return!

Many people don't quite know how to get started, or they think it will be restrictive. I'm going to share my method for realistic meal planning. This is how I turned cooking from a time-consuming task into a quick, easy, and delicious process. Follow these tips to put the power of meal planning to work for you:

- Plan a week of meals at a time. Be sure to include side dishes as well as entrees and

some healthy desserts, too. Some things to consider as you contemplate menu options:

- Look for sales. Scan the food ads for specials and sales. Look for meat, poultry, or fish on sale and any produce bargains to give inspiration to your meal planning.

- Shop your pantry, refrigerator, and freezer. Look for items that could be the starting point for any number of healthy meals.

- Think seasonal. You'll be rewarded with high quality produce, packed with nutrition, at a lower cost.

- Picture the plate. As you plan each meal, fill your plate with a little more than ¼ vegetables, a little less than ¼ fruit, ¼ grains (make at least half

of them "whole"), and ¼ lean protein. Include a serving of low-fat or non-fat dairy.

- Follow daily themes. For example, designate Monday as pasta day, Tuesday, casserole, Wednesday, soup or salad and sandwich, Thursday, leftovers, Friday, ethnic, Saturday, family favorite, Sunday, something new.

- Alternate new recipes and old favorites. Don't try to pack in too many new recipes into the week's plan, especially if you are a novice in the kitchen or are strapped for time.

- Think about how much time you actually have to cook. When planning meals, take into consideration how much time you will have to cook. You may want to use the slow cooker and plan speedy meals for midweek dinners and leave roasts and long-cooking recipes for the weekend when you have more time to spend in the kitchen.

- Turn leftovers into plan-overs. Find recipes that will yield leftovers that can be used in other meals. Sunday's leftover roast chicken can become Wednesday's soup.

- Cook once, eat twice. Cooking enough for two meals can cut your work in half. Place half the meal in the freezer for next month.

- Designate a leftover or going out night. Choose one night per week that involves having a buffet of all the leftovers. Occasionally, designate a day to go out for dinner.

- Recycle your menus. Keep your menu plan and grocery list to reuse later.

- Using a menu planning worksheet or calendar, decide which meal you're going to cook on which day. After it is filled in, post the menu plan on

the refrigerator door. Refer to it during the coming week as you prepare meals.

- Create a shopping list of ingredients. Look through your pantry, fridge, and freezer to cross off items already on hand. A shopping list categorized by section (produce, dairy, etc.) will help cut down on time spent at the grocery store, and will ensure you don't forget things.

I'm trying to get more in the habit of prepping most of the food as soon as I am back from shopping (i.e., shredding blocks of cheese, slicing or chopping veggies, browning hamburger, etc.), which makes cooking a lot quicker.

Last-minute schedule changes happen. With meals planned and ingredients on hand, it's easy to juggle the menu plan when circumstances require. Staying flexible, while being prepared, brings calmness to the kitchen!

After you've made menu plans for a few weeks, the beauty of the activity shines through: recycle them! Over time, the menu-planning process will become second nature and by saving your menu plans and shopping list, you can easily rotate them and save even more time.

With a little planning and teamwork, dinner can go from being a headache to being a time to bond with the family over a nutritious meal. A menu plan won't help you if you don't make one. Take the vow. "I, [state your name], hereby promise not to visit the supermarket again until I've made a menu plan!"

Sources: www.choosemyplate.gov; www.nutrition.gov; <http://snap.nal.usda.gov>

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Preschool Scholarships Available

Weston County Children's Centers in Newcastle & Upton are enrolling children ages 2 through 5 for preschool, which will include summer preschool enrichment.

Applications may be picked up at 104 Stampede in Newcastle and 629 Sheridan in Upton.

Scholarships are available for income eligible families.

For more information, contact Jane at 746-4560