



News Letter Journal

Weston County

December 4, 2014

Newcastle, Wyoming

Year 128 Week 49

Trees need help

Denice Piscioti
NLJ Reporter

Part of the scenery at the Weston County Fairgrounds is the large variety of beautiful trees that offer shade during summer months, many of which were planted by community

— See **Trees**, Page 6

New water

Alexis Shultz
NLJ Reporter

"It's going to be a long process," professed Bob Hartley, city engineer for Newcastle, in a city council meeting held on Nov. 17, explaining that he hopes to begin work on the city's new water well by the end of next summer. Harley attended a meeting of the

— See **Water**, Page 3



Who is that bearded man?

Riese Cummings and Owen Cummings visit with Santa at the Weston County Senior Services center Friday evening while their proud papa, Colton Cummings, takes a photo. It wasn't clear whether or not they recognized Santa's fill-in, who happened to be none other than their very own grandpa, John Riesland. See more photos from the event on Page 14. (Photo by Pam Penfield/NLJ)

State school board honors Bonnar

Denice Piscioti
NLJ Reporter

At the Wyoming School Boards Association's annual conference held Nov. 20 in Casper, Bob Bonnar, a 10-year trustee of Weston County School District #1, was named as one of five school board members in the state to receive the 2014 All Wyoming School Board award. He is one of several current board members

in the district who have received the honor in the past few years, a fact he considers to be one of the reasons for his success.

"I am the fifth of nine board members to receive this award — really, that speaks for itself. What I said in my brief acceptance speech was, when you are surrounded by people that are that good, you can't help but be successful," Bonnar told the News Letter Journal.

He was nominated by WCSD #1 Superintendent Brad LaCroix for primarily two reasons: his years of service, and for his commitment to children in the school district. LaCroix also stated that Bonnar understands the complexity of educating children, and uses his knowledge at the state level to speak with education committees.

"I nominated him for service in those areas where he very well repre-

sents education. It is a tough job, not a lot of financial rewards, and he does a good job of it," complimented the superintendent.

Throughout the state, WCSD #1 is known for working hard for children and educational issues, which has made the board well received at gatherings of both the Association of Superintendents and the school board association, stated Bonnar.

"I think it is widely acknowledged

that we are an active and knowledgeable board. We 'get it' is what I kept hearing from people," he said.

As a WCSD #1 trustee, his role is staying abreast of education issues that Wyoming lawmakers are looking at, which is an area he is good at. As the publisher and editor of the News Letter Journal and with other organizations, Bonnar has an active

— See **Bonnar**, Page 10

Hope for a normal life

Story & Photo
By Denice Piscioti
NLJ Reporter

In November of 2010, Stephanie Walden spoke to the News Letter Journal about her experience with polycystic kidney disease and being put on the transplant list for a donor kidney, along with her hopes and dreams of good health in the future. Six weeks ago, however, her kidneys were removed because they were so large they were jeopardizing her health. The search is still on for a donor kidney, with a friend, Kim Kern, currently waiting to see if she is a match.

"They thought it would be better for me because I had a huge hernia, it was pressing on my lungs and I couldn't eat very well," she said last week. "I feel a lot better with them out! I can breathe better."

Every month, Walden would visit Dr. Lewis Raymond, her nephrologist in Rapid City, S.D., who referred her to Dr. John Rabets, a urologist in Cleveland, Ohio, because that facility has the largest urology department.

On Oct. 14, he removed both of her kidneys because, between the two of them they weighed 12 pounds, and were pressing on other organs. In a photograph taken after they were removed, Rabets held both of her kidneys in his arms, each resembling the size of a newborn baby.

"When I saw it, I said to the doctor, 'You look like a proud papa holding twins!'" Walden told the NLJ in a telephone interview last week. "Probably once a week I look at the picture and think, 'oh my goodness, those were in me?'"

After consulting with three doctors in the area, she discovered they were not comfortable with the risk of her bleeding to death. Rabets had performed the operation before many times, in one case removing kidneys weighing 85 pounds.

Now she is grateful she can bend over and tie her shoe without having to lift her leg up and bend her knee. Before the surgery, she was often asked if she was pregnant because her kidneys were so large it was

— See **Hope**, Page 11



Be the tortoise

Alexis Shultz
NLJ Reporter

When it comes to winter driving, slow and steady keeps you safer — and oftentimes out of the ditch or worse yet, having a collision with another vehicle.

"It's a lot like that," professed Kelly Stith, owner of Black Hills Auto Salvage, explaining that traveling on icy roads is a lot like the story of "The Tortoise and The Hare."

Stith used the analogy of the race between the quick and agile hare, and the slow but continuous tortoise who wins the race, to describe the best way to stay out of trouble during wintry weather.

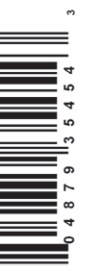
"Slow and steady is the best when roads are icy," reported Stith, explaining that, like the tortoise, a vehicle that goes at a slow and steady pace is going to reach their destination in a safer manner than those who drive quick, like the hare.

"Speed is the foremost thing. No one slows down until they've been in the ditch," stated Stith, adding that so far this season weather has not attributed to a large number of collisions, as yet. He added that, usually, there are more collisions due to distracted drivers.

The Wyoming Department of Transportation issued a press release on Nov. 25 warning drivers of dangerous driving conditions created

— See **Driving**, Page 8

WEATHER FORECAST	Thursday Mostly Sunny Hi 44 Lo 27	Friday Sunny Hi 42 Lo 26	Saturday Mostly Sunny Hi 45 Lo 27	Sunday Sunny Hi 43, Lo 26	Monday Mostly Sunny Hi 38 Lo 26	Tuesday Partly Cloudy Hi 42, Lo 30	Wednesday Mostly Sunny Hi 42 Lo 29	INSIDE • Be kind, Page 3 • RER, Page 6 • Fix it, Page 7 • Music, Page 12



Be kind to your barista!

Jessalynn Centifanto
Summer Solace

Recently, there have been a number of articles and videos circulating in the online world that tell of barista's assaults on the common coffee junky, which has caused fear and trepidation among even the most loyal coffee patrons.

There have been suggestions that baristas deliberately give people decaf when they want caffeine, and vice versa, or that they deliberately spell customers' names wrong — and any number of defiant acts. As a barista myself, let me put your mind at ease: these are mostly intended to be humorous anecdotes to make light of the frustrations of baristas, and do not actually represent reality the majority of the time. However, let me illuminate the realities of what does happen at your local coffee shop.

Let me set a scene for you. On any given day you can walk into almost any corporate-run coffee shop and have what you may consider not the most ideal, but at least standard, barista-customer interaction. You may or may not think too much about it unless said barista is grossly rude and go about your day like most Americans, sipping your Joe with satisfaction. But have you ever wondered what that barista may be thinking or what they may have encountered that day? Most likely not, but I would like to suggest that even the slightest consideration to this will have a drastic effect on your morning coffee runs.

Before I tell you how, let me give you a peek into this barista's day. Most baristas are students and often have second jobs in addition to being a barista, as they make minimum wage or very little above. So, they are over-tired and stressed. And, on any given day, they are probably overworked because they are understaffed (even according to corporate numbers). Because of these factors, baristas often are sick but unlike many people are unable to call-in, because they need the money and most likely can't find a replacement even if they could afford it.

As a barista I once contacted more than 10 people and posted to online message boards trying to get a replacement

over 24 hours in advance, and couldn't get a replacement even though I had the flu and was vomiting. So I had to come into work anyway. So, it's pretty safe to say your barista is pretty burnt out upon arrival to work solely based on income bracket, if not many other personal things.

After coming into work they are immediately greeted with the non-stop rotation of customers, which will continue for the next eight or nine hours of their shift. During their shift the barista will be required to be working on a minimum of three custom-made drinks at a time and getting orders out in drive-through within a minute of the order being placed — as well as other routine cleaning and maintaining tasks they have to accomplish by the end of their shift between customers.

Among the customers they will most likely encounter, the majority will verbally assault them and degrade them for things that are most likely not their fault, out of their control, or just because they know the barista can't say anything. Baristas are required under customer service policies to "always say 'yes,'" even if that means catering to ridiculous requests like re-making someone's drink seven times (I have personally had this happen numerous times) because they claim you are not doing it right, or call you too stupid or ignorant to do your job (even as a veteran, certified barista and certified barista trainer and manager) or insult you in any number of ways.

On a regular basis people require the barista to compensate for their own mistakes or ignorance and demand refunds, free drinks, and drinks being re-made based on something the customer did wrong or forgot to order, not based on the barista doing their job wrong. This may not seem like a big deal, but when that barista is making hundreds of drinks an hour, having to remake them not only slows the entire line, throws off beverage sequencing and routine, but also gets extremely frustrating to have rude and insulting customers demand to have the barista compensate for their mistakes. If you order the wrong thing, that is your own fault and responsibility.

An example of the people your barista will encounter in their day includes people like the woman who refused

to pay her bill, and then when the barista paid for it, called the barista a "racist b****" and accused her of thinking she was too poor to pay for her own bill — the same one she refused to pay. The woman would then continue to accuse the barista of throwing spoons at her, screaming and demanding that she get fired. And, as a barista, good customer service requires the barista to apologize, but the customer, of course, will never be confronted but rather catered to. This is just one of many experiences I have had personally with customers, and though many think it is the minority of interactions, it seems it is becoming more and more the majority of my experiences in this business.

If you want to be treated with respect, respect the people that are sincerely working hard to do a good job and give you good service, and don't abuse it. Don't talk on the phone the whole transaction, don't blow smoke in their face, or ask for extra things after you've already placed your order (use the system in place, it's there for a reason) and don't try to hassle them for free stuff.

What you don't see are the many baristas that go home and cry at night, or the ones in the back room losing it because of all of the abuse. So if your barista seems a little less friendly, a little raw on the edges or a little frazzled and short, maybe take a minute to think about what they've gone through in their day and be the one in a million that actually ask how they are doing or just smile and not be one more person to abuse them. The smallest gesture of kindness, even just a smile, a kind look, and not hassling your barista at every turn of the interaction will go a long way — and you might notice your baristas actually smiling and looking forward to you coming in and going out of their way to help you, because they can trust you're not just another jerk trying to scam their way into free stuff.

There is a saying among baristas that, "bitter baristas make better coffee," which means that if you've been a barista long enough to make good coffee, you've probably been abused enough to be bitter. The truth is, most baristas are kind-hearted, hard-working people that are just waiting for you to prove that wrong. Take it from a barista.

Our Appreciation to our Customers and Community



Please join us for our Annual Customer Appreciation Day. Good fortune comes from having good customers like you. Thank you for your business throughout the year. Join us for snacks beverages, and a small token of our appreciation.

Friday, December 5
8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



First State Bank
OF NEWCASTLE

FDIC

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Be a part of our Community Calendar

Get 6 Free listings with purchase of a Lion's Club Community Calendar for \$6. Additional listings for 50 cents. Birthdays, anniversaries, or upcoming events! Listings will be published in the News Letter Journal every week and announced weekdays on KASL. Join in and help support your local Lions Club and your community. Individual listings without calendar purchase are \$6. Deadline for inclusion is December 16, 2014.



Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Mail to: Newcastle Lions

PO Box 123
Newcastle, Wyoming 82701

Name	LISTINGS	Event	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

YES I would like to support the Newcastle Lions Club & buy a calendar for only \$6.00

Visit us online at www.news1j.com!

NO HEALTH INSURANCE?

Don't let medical costs beat you up



ENROLL WYOMING NAVIGATOR PRESENTATIONS

Monday, December 8
WCHS Board Room
11 a.m. - 3 p.m. & 5 - 8 p.m.

Tuesday, December 9
Upton Library at 12 - 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 10
Newcastle Library at 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Weston County Health Services would like to remind you that **Open Enrollment ends February 15, 2015.**

Please bring a personal e-mail account; birth dates; social security numbers; W-2, pay stub, or wage and tax statement; current policy number; job coverage information



CALL 2-1-1

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Water

from page 1

Agriculture, State and Public Lands and Water Resources Committee on Nov. 8 to begin the process, the Wyoming Select Water Committee was also in attendance. He explained that this provided a great opportunity to receive recommendation for funding from both parties at once.

Originally, Hartley was applying for grants and loans for the well, with the well being priced at \$968,000. The Water Development Commission recommended the cost of the well be raised to \$1,450,000, with application for grants and loans in the amount of \$1,776,350.

"They suggested we go to a level two," reported Hartley, explaining that originally the well was at a level three, which means the city would have been responsible for the well from beginning to end. With the well being a level

two, the Water Development Commission would be responsible for the well until it is completely developed. For example, if it ends up being a dry well, it's all on them, stated Hartley. This is the reasoning for the initial price change for the well.

"[I'd] rather have too much rather than not enough," professed Hartley, explaining that the roughly extra \$300,000 is for just that. According to Hartley, they wanted to put the additional money in the grants and loans just in case it is needed to do anything extra to develop the well.

"The end result was, we were recommended for funding for the well as well as funding for other water improvement projects," reported Hartley, adding that the city is now over the first hurdle and now they have to get it to the legislature.

Newcastle Fall Guys



REGISTRATION

Friday, December 12th

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

High School Commons Area

Any child, boy or girl. Must be 4 years old.

Please Bring a copy of birth certificate.

Club fees: AAU or USA - \$50 for 1 child - \$35 for additional children

Uniform Deposit: \$70, Checks returned upon return of uniform.

Obits continued.....

and then in 1998 he transferred to Croell Redi-Mix. A few of his proudest moments as a tremendous worker were being known as a concrete man, batching AND completing the 'airport job' for Lee's Ready Mix, which involved hundreds upon hundreds of yards of concrete per day, and helping to successfully set up and establish Croell Redi-Mix in Newcastle. He proudly retired from Croell Redi-Mix in 2006.

Joseph is survived by his brother, Lee Wood of Denver; his sisters, Bobbie (Eddie) Minkler of Pahrump, Nev., and Fleta (Chuck) Zamora of Arvada, Colo.; his children, Debra Kennedy Wood of Worland, Dale Wood of Osage, Joseph Wood Jr. of Osage, Candy Wood of Osage, and Mike (Lisa) Wood of Cody; 20 grandchildren; and 30 great-grandchildren.

Joseph was preceded in death by his wife, Marjorie; his parents, Roy and Virginia Wood; his sister, Zaida Ipsen; grandson, Chance Sears; and granddaughter, Carrie Sullivan.

The funeral service for Joseph was held at 2 p.m. on Nov. 22 in Osage. Burial was at Garhart Cemetery.

Engagement



LAYHER-HIMRICH

The parents of Kourtney Ranae Layher of Glenrock and Adam John Himrich of Casper are proud to announce the upcoming wedding of the couple on Dec. 13.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Jeff and Ranae Layher of Glenrock. She is a graduate of Glenrock High School, and currently attending Casper College, where the two met.

The groom-to-be is a Newcastle High School graduate, currently employed at North Antelope Rochelle Mine outside of Wright. His parents are Troy and Tamera Allen, and the late Matthew Himrich, of Newcastle.

The wedding will take place at the Hilton Garden Inn in Casper. From this date on, Kourtney and Adam will share their lives together living in Wyoming, with a friendship and love that will grow stronger each day.

From the Vault of the Anna Miller Museum:

A team of horses sits outside the old Horton Post Office and Store.



Join us in
Celebrating Retirement

Donald Hansen
Sandra Walford
Lenard Seeley
Jerry Shepperson

Friday, December 12
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Weston County Courthouse
1 W. Main, Newcastle, WY

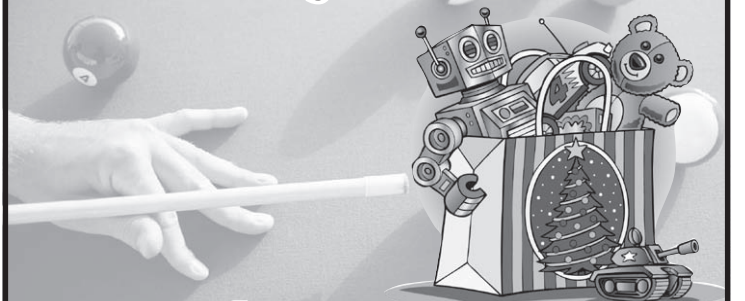
Saturday, Dec. 6th
Custer Holiday Parade
5:30 p.m.

The Parade Route will begin on 7th St. and move west on Mt. Rushmore ending in Way Park on 4th St. for the Memorial Tree Lighting Ceremony and parade award presentations.

Santa's Village Gift & Craft Sale
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Custer High School
Santa & Mrs. Claus from 1 to 3 p.m.
Raffle Drawings at 4 p.m.

Proceeds benefit the Custer YMCA Child Development Center
For more information go to www.custersd.com

Ron's Toys for Tots



Pool Tournament

Saturday, December 6
bring a child's Christmas gift

FOUNTAIN INN
Winter Restaurant Hours:
Mon - Sat 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. • Closed Sunday
Lounge:
Mon - Sat 1 p.m. to close • Sun 11:00 a.m. to close
746-2921 • 2 Fountain Plaza • Newcastle, WY

WHAT'S UP

Meetings & Events Calendar

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Dec. 4	10 a.m.	Chamber Coffee	Frontier Home Ranch Hardware
	10 a.m.	Holiday Open House	The Wedding Closet
	Noon	Chamber Board Meeting	Fountain Inn
	4 p.m.	VFW Ladies Auxiliary	WC Senior Services
	7 p.m.	Salt Creek Water District Meeting	District Office
Dec. 5	7 p.m.	WC Museum District	Anna Miller Museum
	7:30 p.m.	Masons	Masonic Lodge
	8:30 a.m.	Customer Appreciation	First State Bank
	10 a.m.	Open House	Modern Cleaners & Laundry
	10 a.m.	Customer Appreciation	Serendipity Boutique
Dec. 6	10 a.m.	Customer Appreciation	Toe-tally Groomin' Tanz
	10 a.m.	Encore Open House	Treasured Florals and Gifts
	11 a.m.	Edward Jones Open House	2013 W. Main Street
	11 a.m.	Christmas Tea	Christ The King Lutheran Church
	6 p.m.	Pinnacle Bank Festival Of Trees	WC Senior Services
	7 p.m.	Bingo	VFW Hall
	7 p.m.	Square Dancing	Newcastle Elementary School
	9 a.m.	Free shopping for Children	First United Methodist Church
	9 a.m.	Holiday Bazaar	WC Fairgrounds
	10 a.m.	Encore Open House	Treasured Florals and Gifts
Dec. 7	11 a.m.	Story Time with Santa	The Wedding Closet
	1 p.m.	Christmas Movie	Dogie Theatre
	8 p.m.	Adult Prom	Perkin's Tavern
	1 p.m.	Mini Bazaar & Pie Sale	WC Manor
	6 p.m.	Ministerial Assoc. Christmas Program	First United Methodist Church
Dec. 8	2 p.m.	Bingo	Corpus Christi Church
	7 p.m.	AA Meeting	Corpus Christi Church
	11 a.m.	Wyoming Marketplace Enrollment	WC Health Services Board Room
	11 a.m.	WC Blood Drive	WC Senior Services
	1 p.m.	AARP	WC Senior Services
Dec. 9	5 p.m.	Wyoming Marketplace Enrollment	WC Health Services Board Room
	Noon	Dirt Daubers	1621 Gray Blvd
	1 p.m.	Artful Gals	Senior Housing
	6:30 p.m.	WC Fair Board Meeting	WC Fair Office
	7 p.m.	American Legion Geo. Monroe Post 3	Armory
Dec. 10	7:30 p.m.	Eastern Star	Masonic Lodge
	6:30 a.m.	Wellness Wednesday Blood Draw	WC Health Services
	12:30 p.m.	Flowering Fingers Garden Club	Dana Tysdal's house
	3 p.m.	WC Natural Resource District	USDA Building
	7 p.m.	Lady's Firearm Safety	WC Sportsman Club
	7 p.m.	Mallo Camp Board Meeting	Public Health Building

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Dec. 5:**
Mackenzie Butts
- Dec. 7:**
Annica Dixon, Jenna Dixon, Molly McColley
- Dec. 8:**
Shawna Praeuner, Duane Ottema, David Kachelhoffer
- Dec. 9:**
Paul Piana

Getting married?
Have a baby?
Do you have an event coming up?
Send your notices to news @newsjlj.com

Customer Appreciation Day

Friday, December 5
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Stop in and meet our new cosmetologist, Karlie Sanders. She is available for weekend appointments!

Toe-tally Groom n' Tanz
721 Washington Blvd. • 746-9904



The Weston County Library Board of Trustees has moved their regularly scheduled meeting of Friday, December 26, 2014 to Friday, December 19, 2014.



NEWCASTLE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Ticket does not guarantee seat availability. Adults who wish to attend the movie are asked to bring a donation for the BREAD Office to the theater.

Holiday Movie

sponsored by
First State Bank of Newcastle
and Weston County Title

Saturday, December 6
1:00 p.m.
The Dogie Theater

Tickets for kids to see
Disney's Big Hero 6
available at these local merchants

- Wedding Closet
- Lunatics
- Isabella's
- Donna's Diner
- Newcastle Hardware
- First State Bank
- Round Up Feed & Ranch
- Frontier Home, Ranch & Hardware
- News Letter Journal

Hope

Raffle Basket for Jodene

Black Hills Dental is raffling off a basket full of wonderful items anyone would love to have! Tickets can be purchased at Black Hills Dental. Drawing will be held Tuesday, December 23. Basket has a retail value of over \$1,000.00

**1 ticket for \$5
5 tickets for \$20
30 tickets for \$100**

Thank you for your help!

All proceeds will be given to Jodene Branscom for medical expenses.

Support

Making tech advances

Alexis Shultz
NLJ Reporter

“This company seems to be right on the cutting edge for this stuff,” professed Charita Brunner, Newcastle’s city clerk and treasurer at a Newcastle City Council meeting on Nov. 17. Brunner was referring to a press release, released on Nov. 4, from Rare Element Resources that explains the company’s successfully complete bench-scale testing on enhancements to its existing patent-pending thorium extraction technology.

Rare Element Resources Ltd. is a mineral resource company focusing on development and exploration of rare-earth deposits, specifically those with significant distribution of critical rare earths. Rare earth elements are a set of 17 chemical elements in the periodic table, and they make the high-tech world we live in today possible, according to the company’s website. These elements are used for everything from miniaturization of electronics to the enabling of green energy and medical technologies. The elements have become irreplaceable to a world of technology.

According to the press release, this technology now allows for the selective precipitation of 100 percent of the thorium as well as removing 85 percent of the cerium, the lowest value rare earth element.

“I did some research after I got those and it’s pretty exciting,” reported Brunner, explaining that from the research she did, the thorium is kind of a problem element, one that is difficult to separate from the other elements.

“This advancement significantly reduces the concentrate mass of material subject to further separation, thereby

reeducating costs, and results in an upgraded product that is nearly 40 percent by weight critical rare earths and 99.999 percent pure rare earth oxide,” stated the press release.

There is a second stage in which a two-contact solvent extraction process is used to separate the contained rare earths into heavy rare earths and light rare earths, which simplifies the separation process and further reduces costs, according to the company.

“Our decision to capture additional value for our shareholders by investigating elemental separation has led to significant improvement in our thorium removal process that now allows us to also remove the majority of the cerium in a single contact solvent extraction step. By removing this lower value rare earth, we can reduce the mass that goes through separation, significantly reducing costs,” reported Jaye Pickarts, chief operating officer for Rare Element Resources, in the press release.

“We then use solvent extraction to achieve high separation factors for heavy and light rare earths. This represents a significant first step and will give us a great amount of flexibility, as we continue to investigate the next steps of separation and how to capture more value by generating the products our customers’ need,” he continued.

On Nov. 3, according to the release, Rare Element Resources filed an application for a Provisional U.S. Patent on this technology. The company is continuing its work with potential customers to identify the most attractive and sale-able end products for the market.

“They also completed their trenching program,” stated

Brunner, explaining that, as they get through these steps, the closer they are to putting in an much-talked-about plant in Upton.

According to the Rare Element Resource release of Nov. 6, the company completed a trenching program at the Bear Lodge Critical Rare Earth Project located in northeast Wyoming. This trenching program confirmed geology, structure, and grade of the near-surface, high-grade zone and the Bull Hill deposit. Along with confirming these things, studies are underway to confirm detailed mineralogy.

This area is the anticipated site of initial mining as contemplated in the recently released Preliminary Feasibility Study.

“The results of the trenching and bulk sample program were positive on multiple levels,” said Pickarts. Approximately 1,000 tons of mineralized material were taken from the trench in this process. “This work allowed us to collect valuable data that will be incorporated into detailed engineering. Most importantly, we excavated a large mineralized sample that we plan to use in a demonstration plant to confirm on a larger scale our process flow sheet, including recently announced separation technology.”

In the release, Pickarts indicated RER’s plans for the future are on track as anticipated.

“Pending financing and the successful completion of additional bench-scale testing of the company’s recently announced separation technology, the company plans to construct in 2015, and then operate a larger-scaled, continuous-run demonstration plant to confirm its process flow sheet from physical upgrade to separated rare earth oxide products,” he stated.

Newcastle Elementary School Good Citizen Awards for November

3rd Grade - Sidney Garcia

The good citizen for the third grade this month is a perfect example of what one should be. This student displays all of the qualities of a good citizen every single day. This student is consistently on task making sure her work is up to the highest of standards, never having sloppy hand writing and never missing a period or capital letter. She is eager to learn and when she has finished a task is looking for the next thing to do, asking politely what I should do now. This student strives to get the best possible grades on every single task. Now I have had parents ask me what else their student could do in order to receive the good citizen award, they get good grades. Well this student is a perfect example of the, what else question. She is willing and even eager to work with all students, not just her friends. Her homework, planner, and anything else that needs to be turned in are here prompt and on time every day. She comes in with a smile on her face and is ready to greet everyone on a daily basis. While other students will stand around at the end of the day waiting the last few minutes for the bell to ring this student can be found picking trash up from the floor, or tiding up her desk. She is not scared to answer questions that may be asked even if she is unsure that her answer is correct. She is one of the most polite young ladies that I have had the opportunity to teach and is this way with adults and peers alike. These are some of those, what else, reasons as how to achieve a good citizen award, and this student goes above and beyond them every day that is why I am proud to give the good citizen award from Mr. Marty’s third grade class to Sidney Garcia.

4th Grade - Caleb Hossfeld

It is with great pleasure I could select the fourth grade Good Citizen for November. The citizenship award is being given to a student that exhibits many qualities of an outstanding individual of both our class and school. This young man demonstrates a dedication to his responsibilities by: working to his highest potential every day, actively participating in class discussions, completing all assignments on time, and doing what is expected without any anticipation of reward or honor. He is precise in his work, he is a good listener, and he doesn’t hesitate to ask questions to better understand the concepts of a lesson. Furthermore, he demonstrates respect towards the students around him by: offering support to students when needed, praising his peers’ success, and being consciously aware of differing viewpoints. As a first rate citizen, he demonstrates these qualities often and without prompting. His knowledge, effort, and respect for others will take him far in life! We are fortunate to have him in our classroom this year, and I am excited to work with him the rest of the year! Congratulations to Caleb Hossfeld!

5th Grade - Aidan Gorman

Usually when teachers have to be gone from school, they get very stressed. Questions fly through their minds: Were my plans clear enough? Did I get everything prepared and laid out? What if this happens? What if that happens? But mostly we worry that our students will behave themselves while we are gone. Sometimes it can be very suspenseful to read the notes that the substitute teachers have left for us. This was the case on the morning after my first absence. I raced to school that morning, hoping the room was still intact. When I got there, I sped through the hall thinking to myself, “I hope it went okay yesterday...” As I entered the room I was relieved to find everything clean and in order. However, looks can be deceiving, so I slowly walked over to my desk, suddenly dreading what I would find. I could see the note lying on top of a pile of papers. My heart began to flutter as I stepped closer and closer. Finally I reached down with shaking hands to grab hold of the document. I swallowed hard as I brought the paper up and began reading: “Mr. Soriano... what a special class you have this year. Good listeners, hard, quiet workers, and especially good helpers for a substitute... I really enjoyed my time with your class...”

The corners of my mouth began to creep upward and my heart filled with pride as I read the kind words about our class. I was so happy to have such a dependable class. Needless to say, it was difficult to find only one Good Citizen out of this room of exceptional individuals; there are many good listeners, many well-behaved children, and even some very hard workers. But we needed one student to represent us as Good Citizen – one student to represent all of the values we hold so dear in our school. Luckily, one young man stood out among the others. First of all, he is respectful. He never talks back or gives me any attitude. He never complains about work, but rather looks forward to new learning. He is kind to his classmates and when he is in the wrong, he’s the first to apologize. He is also responsible. He doesn’t make excuses, he doesn’t point fingers. He takes ownership in his actions and in his work. He never has missing assignments and when he’s absent, his work is turned in immediately. Finally, he is trustworthy. If there is one person I can count on, this is the man. Whether it’s helping a fellow student with a problem or filling out our lunch count, this young man gets the job done without even having to be asked. He represents hard-work, efficiency, and above all, good citizenship. Congratulations Aidan Gorman!

This ad brought to you by the News Letter Journal

Trees

from page 1.....

volunteers. However, the Weston County Fair Board has noted that some of the trees are in poor health, but the upkeep of the trees is expensive. They have been in discussions for several months with two different businesses — Acorn Tree Service and The Tree Doc — regarding their care.

“If we don’t take care of the trees, pretty soon we will be out there planting new ones,” Bill Lunney, owner of The Tree Doc, announced to the WCFB at their Nov. 18 board meeting. “I am here to give you a sales pitch, because I would like to get part of the work — but it is not as important to me as taking care of these trees, because if something is not done, we are going to lose a bunch of them. I think you will see that, in the spring, there are going to be quite a few bare branches. My request is for you to find money in your budget for tree care.”

Each company has a different approach to caring for the trees, however. Travis Peterson with Acorn Tree Service — who has not attended a meeting of the WCFB — would like to make a plan to see what is needed by creating an inventory of the approximately 82 trees on the grounds. He would then categorize each one, creating a database listing what kind the tree is, how big it is, its value and what is needed. A comprehensive arbor management plan would be created, with priorities for treating the infected trees and fertilizing them as needed — steps to be taken in the next few years. Acorn Tree Service’s plan, not including actual treatment to the trees, is estimated at about \$3,000 to \$4,000.

“The suggestion is putting us under the same management plan as the City of Newcastle,” informed Tom Streeter, Weston County Fairgrounds manager, indicating he has been the person in contact with Acorn Tree Service.

The Tree Doc gave an estimate of \$7,350 for fertilizing and treating all of the trees. The plan would include treating for disease in the fall, and fertilizing in the spring.

Lunney noted the chemical is expensive and labor intensive to apply.

Both companies agree that several of the trees need immediate care due to heavy infection of oystershell scale. The problem the Fair Board faces, though, is that they cannot choose either company to deal with the trees, because there is no money allotted in the budget. The issue will come before the board once again during their December meeting, scheduled for Tuesday.

“It is going to have to be something that will have to wait. Our budget runs from June to June, just like the rest of the county. Maybe we could get money for tree care then, I don’t know,” stated WCFB Chairman Curtis Rankin. “My opinion is we need to do a little bit more investigating and see what Acorn Tree Service will do.”

Regional Health

Newcastle Regional Medical Clinic Monthly Visiting Physician Schedule

Heith Waddell, MD Tiffany Bee, MD Terry Altstiel, MD Todd Anderson, MD Tara Ulmer, MD

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General Surgery	Tiffany Bee, MD Terry Altstiel, MD (605) 644-4170	2nd Monday 4th Monday
Orthopedics	Todd Anderson, MD (605) 644-4460	2nd & 4th Tuesday
Pediatrics	Tara Ulmer, MD (605) 644-4170	4th Thursday

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Keeping them running

Denice Piscioti
NLJ Reporter

Nine miles east of Newcastle, at 5 Ferguson Canyon, is the location for the community's newest auto body shop, Mac's Auto Repair. Following in his father's footsteps, Mac Magnuson finally opened his own mechanic business three months ago.

Since he has been big enough to be under the hood of a vehicle, he has spent as much time fixing a little bit of everything from tractors to snow blowers and everything in between. The challenge of taking something apart and making it work again intrigues the mechanic. If parts cannot be found, he will do his best to rebuild it.

"I've fixed everything in 30 years. I couldn't stop trying to figure out how to fix things after my dad was a mechanic and showed me the tricks of the trade," he admitted.

His father, Terry Magnuson, and his uncle, Larry Magnuson, owned Magnuson's Machine Shop in South Dakota, where he is from. He recalls there was nothing they couldn't do, and he is proud to have learned the trade from family.

Knowing the shop is out of town, he offers to take the vehicle to his shop, repair what needs to be done, then bring it back to the owner. He has a truck and trailer prepared to offer the service when needed.

Throughout the years, he has worked at several different garages in the area and in the oil field as well. In 1993, he started working on diesel machines at Gene Mills Sioux Truck Service for three years, and more recently at Newcastle Motors.

He has the use of two bays to work on vehicles. Charlie Gerke, a friend he grew up with, assists him when the workload is heavy. His family even gets down and dirty when needed. He made sure his daughter, Jessica Phillips, knows how to take care of her



Denice Piscioti/NLJ

Mac Magnuson opened Mac's Auto Repair east of Newcastle, where he offers a wide variety of repair work. He says he'd rather see a person repair an older car than junk it to buy a new one. Broken vehicles are 'a challenge' to the Magnuson, who comes from a line of mechanics.

“ I've fixed everything in 30 years. I couldn't stop trying to figure out how to fix things ... ”

— Mac Magnuson, Mac-s Auto Repair

vehicle, too. Her son, Ayden Phillips, at the age of 7 has already begun watching his grandfather work on vehicles.

"He's pretty interested and wants to know, asks a lot of questions. He thinks it's neat to get something running that hasn't been running," Magnuson recalled with a smile.

He has a lot of experience with older vehicles, and willingly admits he needs to learn more about the newer ones. To gain the knowledge he needs to work on them, he plans to take online classes.

Knowing how tough it is to buy a new vehicle, he suggests fixing the older ones, which, he says, can be just as good as a new one. One thing he doesn't like seeing is a vehicle sitting, unused, in the trees,

because it doesn't work. To Magnuson, that is a challenge to repair it.

Sometimes finding parts for the older vehicles is tough, but he says he is ready for the task.

"If I'm able to keep my business local, then I am going to do that. [The community has] been treating me really good, and [that] helps me staying busy," he added.

As for winterizing vehicles, he offered the advice of checking the radiator levels regularly. Sometimes it needs to be drained and redone for the winter months, he added.

Keeping up with it could prevent expensive problems. Having a good battery is also extremely important, especially during the colder months, he noted, because if it isn't in good working order

the engine won't turn over during the low temperatures. He also recommends making sure the belts are in good shape and there are no major leaks anywhere.

Since having a running vehicle is important to everyone, Mac's will be offering gift certificates during the holiday season. Magnuson is also running a special until the first of the year: buy your own oil and filter, and he will inspect the car and change the oil for \$10. The same deal is also available for trucks, for a fee of \$20. He plans to get a landline soon, but until then customers can call him on his cellular phone at (307) 941-2517, or leave a message at (307) 629-0029. There is not cell phone service at the shop, but he will return calls as soon as possible.

"I have always wanted to have my own business — it worked out perfect! If it wasn't for Nellie and Willard Hieb offering me this shop three months ago it wouldn't be possible. It has worked out really well!" he proclaimed.

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Holiday joy

Rose VanCleave shares a laugh with Marissa Sweet during Treasured Floral and Gift's first holiday open house last week. The owner of Treasured Floral, Jeri Tapp, enjoyed the open house so much she's decided to do it again this weekend, both Friday and Saturday. Those that visit can win door prizes too! (Photo by Pam Penfield/NLJ)

Attention All Weston County Residents!

Weston County Peace Officers Operation Santa is in full swing. If you are in need or know of a family in need please fill out a form at the following places.

Newcastle Police Department
Newcastle BREAD Office
DFS Office
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For more information please call Tracie Haynes, 746-4253 or 629-0233, or a Peace Officer member at 746-4486.



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Be safe with your 'nog

With the holidays come many traditional dishes to eat or drink. One of those traditions is drinking eggnog. Eggnog is a drink made of eggs, sugar, milk or cream, spirit (if desired) and topped with nutmeg. It originated in England as a drink for the upper class in the early 17th century. Due to the scarcity of eggs and dairy products, this drink was reserved for those who could afford it. The drink became popular in the Americas in the 18th century due to the high availability of eggs, milk and rum.



Vicki Hayman
Extension Notes

While you can buy eggnog already made in stores, many choose to make homemade nog to celebrate the holidays. Eggs are a standard ingredient in most homemade eggnog recipes, giving the beverage its characteristic frothy texture. The University of Wyoming Extension reminds you that homemade eggnog can hold a potential danger of a food-borne illness if not properly made, because eggs may contain salmonella, a bacterium that causes food-borne illness. While only one in every 20,000 eggs contains salmonella, no one wants to spend their holiday in the hospital.

The concern is that family eggnog recipes might not be considered safe anymore. Go ahead and use the eggnog recipe, but make a few changes so that the tradition can continue safely.

To avoid getting sick from salmonella when consuming homemade goodies, the Egg Safety Center and FDA recommends using a cooked egg base. It turns out that as long as the right precautions are taken, raw eggs can be used safely in liquid form. The key is to heat raw eggs to 160°F in order to kill all bacteria. Eggs harden when their proteins coagulate, so in order for them to stay runny, their proteins must remain separate. This can be achieved by diluting the egg with a substance like milk or sugar.

To make a cooked egg base:

1. Combine eggs and half the milk as indicated in the recipe. (Other ingredients, such as sugar may be added at this step.)
2. Cook the mixture gently to an internal temperature of 160°F, stirring constantly. The cooking will destroy salmonella, if present.
3. After cooking, chill the mixture before adding the rest of the milk and other ingredients.

Some people think that adding alcohol to the recipe will make the eggnog safe. Alcohol will not kill the salmonella — only heat can kill it!

Another way to make your eggnog is to use pasteurized eggs. Pasteurized eggs are eggs in shells that have been heat treated to kill salmonella if it is present. These eggs may cost a

bit more, but the flavor and texture are generally the same as regular, unpasteurized eggs. If you use pasteurized eggs then you will not have to go through the cooking process above. For those who don't feel the need to use fresh eggs, but still want to make safe food, use liquid, frozen, or dried egg products, which are required by law to be pasteurized. Another alternative is to find a recipe without eggs.

Regardless of how you make your eggnog, keep it cold so that you and your family and friends can enjoy a safe holiday tradition. Not surprisingly, this food-safety method is effective beyond its use in custards and holiday pies. It can be used year-round when making ice cream, Caesar salad dressing, or any other food containing raw eggs. The necessary step is adding the recipe's liquid or sugar ingredients (at least ¼ cup for every egg) to the raw eggs and heating the mixture to 160°F before adding it to cooked or solid ingredients.

Therefore, by following these safe handling and proper cooking practices, you can enjoy delicious, creamy homemade eggnog without worrying about making anyone sick!

Cooked Eggnog

Combine and set aside:

- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 12 egg yolks
- 1 1/3 cups sugar
- 1 teaspoon freshly grated or ground nutmeg
- 2 cups milk
- 2 cups heavy cream

Whisk in a medium bowl just until blended: Heat in a large saucepan over medium-low heat:

Remove from heat and immediately stir in an additional cup of milk and another cup of heavy cream. Pour through a fine mesh strainer into a storage container. Chill thoroughly, uncovered.

Once chilled, stir in 2 cups of brandy, Cognac, dark rum, or bourbon. For a non-alcoholic alternative, 2 tablespoons vanilla or 1½ cups strong coffee can replace the spirits. Cover and refrigerate for at least three hours, or up to three days.

Serve sprinkled with freshly grated nutmeg. Makes 16 servings.

(Sources: American Egg Board, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, FDA, www.foodsafety.gov)

Quality Care, Right Here


Celebrate

Please celebrate with us the employees of Weston County Health Services who work hard throughout the year to provide *Quality Care* to their patients, *Right Here* in Weston County.

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Paige Patik	Erica Hokanson		Lynda Nelson
	Kristen Kohlbrand		

Dr. Thorpe Caring for Mankind Award: Michael Evenson, Physical Therapy
Mission Medal Award: Angela Stanton, Pharmacy
Community Service Award: LeAnn Kenagy, Home Health
Merit Award: Billie Dodd, Dietary

WESTON COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES
 1124 Washington Blvd. Newcastle WY 82701 | www.wchs-wy.org
 Hospital 746-4491 | Manor 746-2793 | Home Health 746-3553 | Therapy Services 746-3720



Driving from page 1

by the onset of winter weather conditions. WYDOT explained in the release that drivers need to adjust their driving habits to fit road conditions.

WYDOT offers the following tips to all drivers:

- Turn off cruise control
- Slow down in advance of shaded areas
- Increase following distance to allow more time to stop
- If you lose traction and feel like your vehicle is floating, gradually slow down, don't slam on the brakes

WYDOT notes that bridges

are the first to freeze and become slippery when temperatures drop, so drivers need to use caution when approaching all bridges. Also, drivers should be mindful of machinery attempting to clear snow and spread dirt.

"WYDOT is asking motorists to be watchful for our snow plows and slow down when they see the flashing lights," said Ronda Holwell, public involvement specialist for District 4, adding that the plows are clearing the roads to make it safer for all.


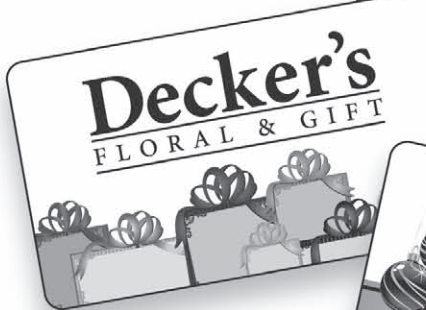
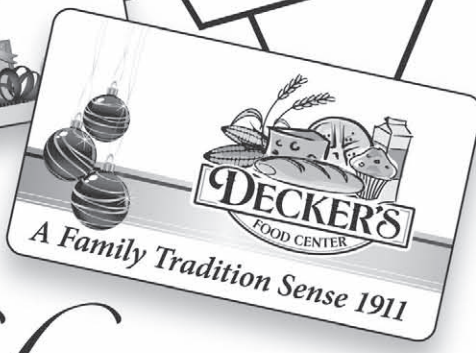
WYDOT crews will be

plowing the snow during and after snowstorms, as well as sanding slick areas and attempting to keep the highways in Wyoming open to the traveling public.

Patience is a necessity for motorists this time of year, Holwell reminded in the release. Remember to stay with the flow of traffic, even if traffic is only going 40 mph. This will make it safer for the public as well as WYDOT plows, Holwell added.

Holwell, adding to Stith's advice, urges drivers to "slow down, slow down, slow down!"

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Betty Quick

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Send your classified ads to classifieds@newslij.com. Deadline is Friday at 5 p.m.



Parade of lights

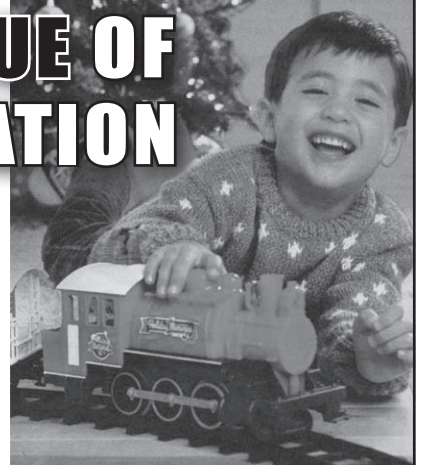
The annual Lighted Parade, sponsored by Black Hills Power, was held Friday evening on Newcastle's Main Street, ending at Weston County Senior Services center, where folks gathered for hot chili and kids could visit with Santa, who was escorted to the senior center by the Newcastle Volunteer Fire Department. The theme of this year's Lighted Parade was 125 Years Of Energy. Winners of the parade are as follows: Youth Category, Borderline Bandits, whose float represented every source of energy Weston County produces; Non Profit Category, Cambria Bowhunters, (pictured) with a life-size reindeer (winnings donated to Toys for Tots); and Profit Category, Wyoming Refining Company, represented by their signature white storage tanks (winnings donated to the Ministerial Association). The Newcastle Area Chamber of Commerce, that organizes the event, thanks Tom and Susanne Voss for judging the floats. (Photo by Denice Piscioti/NLJ)

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'Tis the season for giving life

Alexis Shultz
NLJ Reporter

"I've given 11 gallons so far," professed Ellen Butts, site coordinator for the United Blood Services blood draw in Newcastle, adding that her reason for donating blood is personal. Butts explained that she was afraid of needles as a child, but when her brother was diagnosed with a disease that required him to receive blood, she started donating.

"It's all about saving lives," reported Butts, and with Christmas being the season for giving, there is no better way to give something to someone in need. Butts stated that for many of the people who receive donated blood from these drives, that blood means the difference between life or death. Many of these people need

gallons of blood, and those who donate have the opportunity to receive e-mails of the stories about the lives they've saved by donating.

Butts explained that the blood donated in Newcastle does stay local, but is sent to Rapid City, S.D., to the United Blood Services location where it is tested and prepared for distribution within the Wyoming/South Dakota area. She has no personal knowledge of anyone from Newcastle being saved by blood donated, but does recall two cases in which Rapid City called needing specific blood types.

"You've heard it dozens of times. We don't take enough time for ourselves, to be able to relax and enjoy some quiet time. It's difficult, with school and work schedules — and now holiday shopping and preparation. United Blood Services

offers a way to kick back for an hour and give someone the best gift of all, by donating blood. While you are donating life-saving blood, you can review your shopping list, plan a holiday meal, or just plain relax!" stated Angle Pillet, donor recruitment director for UBS in Rapid City.

"It's all about saving lives," proclaimed Butts.

To give this gift, Butts said Newcastle will be hosting a blood draw on Monday, Dec. 8, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Weston County Senior Services center. Anyone with questions or for appointments is encouraged to call Butts at (307) 746-4251.

She also expressed her need for someone to help as site coordinator, or take the position over due to an illness that doesn't allow her to keep up with the job.

Learning lessons through song

Denice Piscioti
NLJ Reporter

To enhance their singing skills, six Newcastle High School students attended the Festival of Voices at the University of Wyoming from Nov. 13-15. Seniors Alex Henkle and Layne Crisman, along with juniors Cooper Karp, Dawson Norton, Jenna Holmes, Ashlyn Dollison and Carissa Deming, attended the event with NHS Choir Director Jan Ellis.

"Well, this time of year was really nice. Usually it is in February — it was between sports, so it was the first time Cooper and Dawson could actually attend. It was a very good experience! They were very excited to do this and be able to attend," acknowledged Ellis. "Carissa and Jenna were the only ones who attended last year, so this was a new experience for most of them."

Not only do the students have the opportunity to learn at the Festival of Voices, but it has been adapted to be a leadership conference. They have the choice to learn vocal performance, or choral leadership.

Students who choose the first area meet with diction coaches, learn better singing techniques with different

body poses, and work with the UW choir group, "Opera in the Gym."

In the second choice, students study with the choral jazz group, learning how to run sectionals, direct, and how to be leaders in their choir in the absence of a choir director.

"The other thing that is really cool, they learn music right along with the two gender-based groups at UW: Bel Canto, the women's choir, and the Statesman, the men's choir. So that is an added benefit. They get [to hear a] more mature sound and they step up to the more mature sound, and they learn their music from them," Ellis explained.

For the few days the high school students are visiting the university, Ellis stated, they experience what college life is like, such as eating on campus and attending classes in the music wing, except they stay in a hotel instead of the dorms.

If they have worked on a festival type song, the students also have the opportunity to take a 20-minute lesson with one of the professors. The top four are chosen to do a master class, which is held in front of everyone on stage so everyone can benefit.

"Carissa was selected for the master class this year. She

performed a piece in Italian that she has been working on. She said it was very worthwhile and fun to do," added the proud instructor.

Karp told the News Letter Journal he learned a lot during the experience — not necessarily new information, but lessons that gave him a more elaborate understanding of the things Ellis had been teaching during the four years he has been in choir. He was happy he had the opportunity to attend.

"I learned a couple new things that went in-depth about the teaching aspect of choir that all future music educators will want to know, such as all the business concepts of being a director and qualities of a good director," he explained.

Dollison does not like to leave the comforts of home, however she was glad she went because she had a great time and enjoyed the experience. Both juniors attended the Choral Leadership classes.

"I think everyone who is in high school choir that has a high interest in making themselves better, or going into something chorally in college, should go. [What they] taught was really fun, because we got to see an international a cappella group, and they worked with the group, giving us

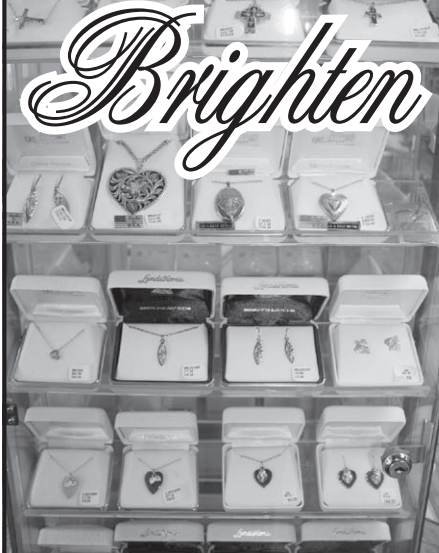
lessons on how we could make a cappella sounds," Dollison recalled.

She appreciated the experience and said she would recommend other choir members to go, if given the opportunity. At first, Dollison said, she was intimidated being around the college students, but they made everyone welcome and soon they were all caught up on the same level.

"I also feel that it strengthened my voice and gave me a better outlook on what choir is really about. I learned how to better my voice and the production and articulation of it. They also did classes for being a better leader within our own choirs, and I found that very beneficial as well. Overall, I thought it was a very exciting and fun experience as a very involved choir student," added Dollison.

Karp also said he would recommend the experience for anyone in choir or who enjoys singing.

"It was very beneficial because it has rekindled a flame in my vocal cords for singing, and maybe even got me to think about maybe being a music educator when I'm older. This is my favorite choir event I have ever attended," he admitted.



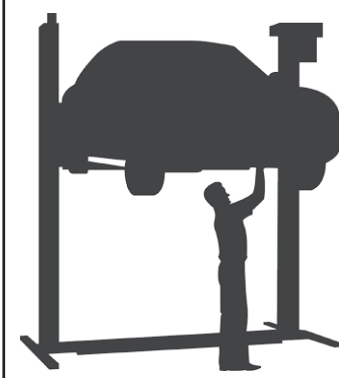
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Newcastle Elementary School November Good Deed Winners



Pictured left to right: Gavin Day, Rachel Sweet, Thomas Prell, Julie Day

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Reading treat

The pre-schoolers at Weston County Children's Center received an early Thanksgiving treat last Tuesday afternoon when Jessica Troftgruben's sixth grade English class delighted the children with original creative fiction stories they had written this past fall. Troftgruben stated she wanted her students to have a real-world experience in sharing their stories with an actual audience. The sixth-graders brought animal puppets related to their stories to share with the pre-schoolers as they read their original works. Above, Westin LaPierre, Kayne Hinshaw and Conrad Prell share a story with James Brown. (Photo by Pam Penfield/NLJ)

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Bonnar

from page 1

relationship with the legislature, which aids him in that department.

Being a good team means utilizing everyone's strong points, he explained. When it comes to school boards, John Riesland has been a large part of the Wyoming School Boards Association, knowledgeable about board trainings and board governance, which he uses to train other school boards — making him the man with answers. Tom Wright has a vast and valuable grasp of history, and, as the board treasurer, when it comes spending money Wright is the one Bonnar looks to for answers. Bill Lambert's leadership as chairman of the board throughout the last 10 years has been exemplary, opined Bonnar. Ronnie Mills is the expertise on transportation and is full of compassion. Tina Chick offers a voice for early childhood education and development.

"The reason our board has been recognized so frequently is because we do play to each other's strengths. We recognize the strengths other people bring to the board. We are not territorial, we bring that to the board. We are a strong unit because we bring the ability to respect the strengths and utilize them," Bonnar offered.

New board members Joe Corley, Dana Gordon, Dean Johnson and Melissa Stalder will begin their terms this month, making the incoming board the largest percentage of trustees who still have children attending school in the district since 2004.

"I am excited about the new people coming on [the school board], and what they are going to bring," he said, adding that, not for a second should anyone think that those without current students in the Newcastle schools don't bring something to the table. The board of WCSD #1 doesn't just represent parents of school-age children, he took care to note, they have a responsibility to all the taxpayers in Weston County.

"Educating our children should ultimately make our community better. Most of us who get on a school board do it because we are passionate about children, but at the same time we have a responsibility to our community. We don't just have a responsibility to those children and their parents, we have a responsibility to represent our entire district — because those are the people who support us with their tax dollars by attending functions or



Pam Penfield/NLJ

Bob Bonnar, with his wife, Stephanie, at the Newcastle Area Chamber of Commerce annual banquet, was named last week to the 2014 All Wyoming School Board, an honor shared by many of his colleagues on the Weston County School District #1 Board.

events. We represent all of them," Bonnar acknowledged.

As a former student of the district, he feels it is more rewarding to give back to WCSD #1, where he graduated from Newcastle High School. He fondly recalls Wright being the chairman of the board in 1986 who handed Bonnar his diploma.

Currently he plans to keep serving as long as he thinks he is bringing something to the table and helping the students and district succeed. He added that he will also continue to serve on the board as long as his family can handle the burden.

Through the Wyoming School Board Association, he says, he has learned a vast amount from the keynote speakers they bring in each year for the convention, applying that knowledge to the school board and as a business man as well.

In his ambition to be a life-long learner, he values what he has learned during the last decade on the school board — namely communication and how to get things done as one board.

"If you stop learning, you better get off the school board," he admitted.

During the weekend, Mills and Lambert received the Wyoming School Board Association Hall of Fame, which is a reflection on how many trainings they have attended throughout the years.

"Not a lot of people reach the mark they have. It will be two to four years before I reach that mark, even with as active as I am," he added.

Tyler Bartlett was also recognized the same day as Bonnar, as 2014 Teacher of the Year. LaCroix was Superintendent of the Year last year. Angie Back was named Paraprofessional of the year and Scott Shoop was honored as Principal of the Year in prior years.

"This is the best school district in Wyoming, and if there is an honor or anything that I am most excited about, it is that my award is just one more award to show how truly awesome it is to live here and to be a part of this school district, and to have kids attending these schools. Yep, we have our problems and we have things we need to get better at just like everybody else, but there is no place I'd rather be. And I am sure we will get better," Bonnar concluded.

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Hope

from page 1

noticeable by looking at her.

"It squished everything, that is why I didn't eat very much. Before, I ate a banana and a sandwich — that was it for the day. Now I can eat a bowl of cereal, a sandwich at lunch and eat dinner and be okay," she acknowledged.

When her kidneys were removed, the physicians stitched her on the inside with dissolvable stitches. Her scar is visible from her sternum to her pubic bone, and glue was used, not staples. A week after surgery she was able to head back home.

The last three years Walden's body has been able to function without healthy kidneys through dialysis. It removes the waste, salt and extra water to prevent them from building up in the body, keeping a safe level of certain chemicals in the body, such as potassium, sodium and bicarbonate, which helps control blood pressure, according to the National Kidney Foundation website.

Prior to the removal of her kidneys, every day for three years Walden did dialysis in her home with a dialysis machine attached to her for eight hours at night or during the day, changing the fluid every three to four hours.

Since the removal of her kidneys six weeks ago, Walden has been going to Rapid City three times a week for hemodialysis. Now she has to watch the fluid she puts into her body because she no longer has the ability to urinate. All the fluid she intakes goes into her muscles, she explained, which is why she must go to hemodialysis to remove the fluid.

"We are getting ready to have the catheter put back in [to be able to do home dialysis], because it is just too expensive to have to run to Rapid three days a week. I'm in dialysis for three and a half hours, so whoever takes me has to find something to do during that time. Doing it at home every day is better anyway, because then I am not as limited on what I can eat and drink, because then the fluid is not sitting in my muscles, it is getting extracted every night," she explained.

Watching what she eats has been a part of her life since Walden learned at the age of 10 she had the same disease as her grandfather and father, both of whom had to be on dialysis. PKD

“ It squished everything, that is why I didn't eat that much . . . I am grateful to be alive!**”**

— Stephanie Walden

is inherited, but she is thankful that currently both of her children, Samantha and Bobby Walden, do not have the ailment.

Her siblings, however, have had their share of experiences with the disease, although none have been the same. At the age of 20, her brother Billy Gray lost a kidney because it died. Her older sister, Melanie Gray, has had a couple of cysts removed, and her younger sister, Misty Chatt, has high blood pressure.

"We are all really close," Walden shared. One benefit of having the surgery in Cleveland was that her family in Pennsylvania was not far away.

She is still on the transplant list and hoping for a kidney and a 'normal' life, with her friend in the process of seeing if one of her kidneys might be a match for Walden. Even one kidney would mean no more dialysis.

"I will get to live a normal life. There are a lot of doctor appointments in the beginning. The only downfall is you are on a lot of anti-rejection medicines. Those can cause issues," Walden added.

The procedure would take place in Sioux Falls, S.D., or Denver, Colo. Within a couple weeks, they will know if Kern's kidney will work for Walden. If it's not compatible, Walden will continue to wait for a cadaver kidney — from someone who has passed away — which is a phone call that can happen at any time, she reported.

Kern had to make the initial call to donate, then wait for a call back from a psychologist and be cleared from them before she was able to get the blood work completed. So now they are just waiting to hear the results.

Life continues with three weekly trips to Rapid City for medical treatment, but without it, Walden knows, she would not be here.

"I am grateful to be alive!" she proclaimed.

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Ellis honored for years of 'note'worthy service

“Mrs. Ellis gave 100 percent to everyone she ever worked with. Newcastle is very lucky to have a teacher that is making music alive and well in Wyoming.”

— Kristina Mireles, 2012 NHS graduate



Sonja Karp/NLJ

Tracy Ragland, principal of Newcastle High School, recognizes Janelle Ellis during the school's Excellence Awards last week. Ellis has been named the 2014 Weiss Outstanding Wyoming Choral Music Educator.

Denice Pisciotti
NLJ Reporter

For 32 years, Weston County School District #1 has had the privilege of utilizing the services of Janelle Ellis to direct and instruct Newcastle Middle School and Newcastle High School students. Because of her dedication, many of those students have been named to honor choirs throughout the country. The tables turned last month, though, with Ellis being given an honor of distinction.

Ellis was awarded 2014 Weiss Outstanding Wyoming Choral Music Educator for the state of Wyoming, at the University of Wyoming, by Dr. Nicole Lamartine on behalf of the University of Wyoming Choral Foundation. Surprising her at the ceremony were two of Ellis' former students, Kristina Mireles and Elias Hutchinson, who had the privilege of attending and speaking on her behalf.

“It was incredibly humbling! When the kids talked I had tears in my eyes and Dr. Lamartine said she had tears in her eyes, too. They were very sweet. In this perspective, I hadn't ever had them talk after being away for a few years [about] what it means for them now — it was totally from their heart,” Ellis recalled.

The first to speak, Hutchinson, said that choir wasn't a choice for him at first, since his mother made him attend, but he stayed in the class because of Ellis. He continued to say his choir instructor was like a mother — yelling, but loving you just the same. He recalled the extra time she would spend helping students prepare for special choir auditions, even if it meant getting up early in the morning because that is often the only time a student has to rehearse.

“I remember in middle school, she always gave us the talk that music is so important, but you don't realize that until you get to college. I was in Statesmen for two years, just sitting here listening to the Collegiate [Choir], it's amazing what you feel when you hear it, and I attribute all of

that to Mrs. Ellis,” Hutchinson stated during the ceremony.

Mireles, who also has continued studying music at the university, spoke next, talking about two important things she learned from her former instructor: first, never hide gum from the director because they always know, and secondly, your hard work is for everyone.

“Mrs. Ellis always taught me that when you give your best, you give it to everyone, not just the people who are the best — for everyone. Mrs. Ellis worked the hardest not just for the best people in our choir, but for the people who didn't like choir very much — and even for the people who didn't want to be in choir but had to take it because their moms made them,” Mireles told the auditorium filled with people. “Mrs. Ellis worked the hardest for every one of us. She was there early and stayed late. Mrs. Ellis believes that her best is for everyone. She changed my life in so many positive ways. So, thank you very much, Mrs. Ellis, for giving me your best and giving all of us your best!”

Raised in South Dakota, Ellis graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Vocal Music from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, S.D. She taught choirs in Martin, S.D., Sundance and Gillette before moving to Newcastle to teach.

In addition to working with the school choirs, she also serves as a clinician for area choirs, adjudicates festivals, helps out with the music at Corpus Christi Catholic Church and assists the Newcastle Concert Association, of which she is one of the founders.

Her students participate in clinics and festivals, sing the National Anthem at every local school activity and many regional and state sports events, as well as participating in All-State Choir, ACDA and NAfME Northwest Choirs, and ACDA National Choirs.

Ellis has been awarded the Northeast District Music Educator

More music on tap for the holidays

Christmas concerts

Since this is the season for spreading cheer, let us brighten your holiday spirit with music, express the choir directors of Newcastle's middle and high schools. The public is invited to the annual Middle School Christmas Concert to be held at 7 p.m. on Dec. 8, at Crouch Auditorium. The middle school bands will delight with many well-known carols of the season, while the second half of the program will feature the choirs. Each choir will add to the festivities with a wide variety of holiday selections.

Make plans to return to Crouch Auditorium the next night, Tuesday, Dec. 9, to hear the wonderful Christmas music prepared by the high school students. Their concert will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Starting off the evening

will be the vocal ensembles — New Horizons, Gemtonz and Troubadours — warming up the audience with their energetic sounds. Following their selections, you will hear the gorgeous blend of the Concert Choir.

After intermission, the Concert Band will entertain with their exciting versions of old favorite carols. The vocal groups are led by Janelle Ellis, accompanied by Kristin Wilkes, and the band is directed by Ryan Whipple.

“Both concerts are free and open to the public so we hope you will join us to listen to the accomplishments of these wonderful musicians,” Whipple urged.

Kids will be caroling

Remember days of old, when Christmas carolers would kick off the holiday season? Well, the

Treble Tones Children's Choir will be going caroling on Dec. 19 to bring Christmas cheer to the community.

They will start by making a loop through the school, then will load the busses and head to Weston County Manor to carol for the residents and staff. After that, the choir will head to the Weston County Children's Center, at approximately 9:30 a.m. The choir will be wearing their black uniforms with orange scarves and ties for this event.

In addition, on Thursday, Dec. 11, Newcastle Elementary School grades three through five will hold their winter concert at 7 p.m. at the Crouch Auditorium. The following Monday, Dec. 15, grades kindergarten through second grade will have their opportunity to sing for the community at 7 p.m., also at the Crouch Auditorium.

of the Year twice, and has also been the Wyoming recipient of the Outstanding Music Educator through the National Federation of High School Music Associations. For the past three years, she has served as the Wyoming Choral vice president in charge of the all-state choir, listening to hundreds of auditions every year.

For Ellis, the best part of the honor is what it will give her students, giving them the opportunity to sing with outstanding musicians.

“What it does afford my choir next year will [be the opportunity to] go to Laramie during the Festival of Voices and sing with the Collegiate Choral one number when I direct them. I am

kinda of nervous about that. This is an audition choir. I mean, they are top notch, they are just impeccable, just phenomenal! I don't know if I get to take the whole choir, but I will definitely take the ones who put forth the effort to learn the piece I get to select,” Ellis told the News Letter Journal after receiving the award.

EWC seeking ed students in Crook and Weston counties

Eastern Wyoming College is looking to gather a cohort of students from Crook and Weston counties who would be interested in earning the first two years, or an Associate of Arts degree, in elementary education. EWC offers the full program through

distance education.

“We have found that students working on a degree together are more likely to persist and complete the degree together,” shared Dee Ludwig, EWC vice president for learning. “The program faculty have developed a rota-

tion of courses that articulate well with our receiving colleges.”

EWC is now registering students for the spring 2015 semester. Students interested in this degree program or others offered through Eastern Wyoming College should contact the outreach

coordinator in their community, as follows:

- Hulett, Jennifer Jolley, (307) 467-5477
- Moorcroft, Melissa Buckmiller, (307) 756-9800
- Newcastle, Kim Conzelman, (307) 746-3603
- Sundance, Brittany Lenz, (307) 282-0769
- Upton, Brandy Donner, (307) 468-2495

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Sports

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Schedule

Coming up:

12/5	V	Weight Assessment	A	TBA
12/11	VJ	Belle Fourche Triangular	A	4PM

Meet the Dogies

12/6		Boys & Girls Basketball		6 p.m.
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Boys Basketball

12/12	VJ	E/W Challenge @Buffalo	A	Noon
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Girls Basketball

12/12	VJ	E/W Challenge @Cody	A	Noon
12/13	VJ	E/W Challenge @Cody	A	Noon

Boys Swimming

12/13	V	Gillette Pentathlon	A	9AM
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The Score

NMS Girls 8th Grade A Team
Nov. 22, 2014
Newcastle 19, Wheatland 22 Overtime
Newcastle Loss, Douglas Won

NMS Girls 8th Grade A Team
Nov. 24, 2014
Newcastle 9, Moorcroft 17

NMS Girls 7th Grade A Team
Nov. 24, 2014
Newcastle 15, Moorcroft 25

Giving thanks

In this season of giving thanks, it is only fitting that I take the opportunity to do so. However, rather than expressing my undying gratitude for the best kids, family and friends that one could ever ask for — I have the absolute best, hands-down — I'm going to give thanks for the things that I tend to take for granted. Because I am a history teacher, I'm going to relate all of them, directly or indirectly, to the Second Industrial Revolution.

I am thankful for Thomas Edison who worked tirelessly to figure out that carbonized bamboo would work for a filament for the



Sonja Karp
Karpe Dogie

light bulb, and the guys at Menlo Park who developed a system for the delivery and distribution of electricity.

I take that for granted most of the time, but then I think about everything in my life that requires electricity to work. I can't imagine what I would do without my refrigerator, air conditioner, hot water heater, washer and dryer, dishwasher, television, satellite, computer, cell phone, lights, and the list goes on.

I am thankful for Edwin Drake, who thought of using a steam engine to drill for oil. Developing the means for extracting large amounts of crude oil led to the refining process which now allows me to heat my home and drive my car.

I am thankful for compulsory education and child labor laws. The Progressives battled huge corporations and a reluctant government to ensure that children attended school. Without their efforts, my life would be unimaginably different.

I am thankful for Samuel Morse and Alexander Graham Bell, who invented the telegraph and the telephone. Advances in communication have allowed me

— See Karp, Page 14

Come out and meet the Dogies!

Sonja Karp
NLJ Sports Reporter

The squeak of shoes on the floor, the thump of a ball hitting the floor, the swish of the net as a ball goes through the hoop all mean that basketball season is upon us at last.

The Newcastle High School's Dogie and Lady Dogie basketball teams are hard at work getting ready for their first contest of the 2014-2015 season.

Dogie fans will have an opportunity to get an early glimpse of what the ladies' and men's teams have to offer, as the annual Meet the Dogies public scrimmage is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 6, beginning at 5 p.m.

Allen Von Eye and Tyler Bartlett each return to the head coach position of the Dogies and Lady Dogies, respectively.

According to Von Eye, the 2014-2015 Newcastle Dogies have a good mixture of experience and youth. They return two full-time starters in Dillon Ehlers and Colton Sweet along with Taylor Allen, who began starting at the end of his sophomore season. These three players will provide an experienced backcourt.

This squad also returns Triston Roberson, who played key minutes throughout the season last year and will act as a very versatile player.

An extra year of maturity should have Cooper Karp, Alec Walker, Chandler Burd, Dawson Norton, Vincent Oedekoven and Paul Lambert all ready to play a significant role on this year's team, especially as interior defenders.



NLJ File Photo

Break into your happy dance — it's time to Meet the Dogies, this Saturday at the Dogie Dome. Meet the players who will be representing Newcastle High School on the basketball court, starting at 5 p.m.

Von Eye anticipates that this year's squad should bring a sense of excitement to the floor as they push the ball and play full court pressure defense.

Bartlett is excited to get started with the season, and he's looking forward to working in the young up-and-coming players with the returning Varsity letter winners.

The team is not at full strength this year after the injury to Hannah Cass, but he's confident that the team

— See Dogies, Page 15



Sonja Karp/NLJ

NHS Football Coach Matt Conzelman recognizes his players during the Excellence Awards ceremony last week at the high school.

Boys of fall recognized

Sonja Karp
NLJ Sports Reporter

The Boys of fall have left the field, but they certainly gave their fans many great memories this season. The team was one win away from the championship game, but ran into a juggernaut of a team in the Mountain View Rams, who would go on to take home the state title.

The members of the 2014 Dogie football team brought home several individual honors at the end of the season.

Seniors Dillon Ehlers, Johnny Walker, Bradon Rushton, Mason Piscioti, Nick Bock, Colton Sweet, Trayton Farnsworth and junior Ricky Larson were named to the 2A East All-Conference team.

Sweet and Bock were named to the second team All-State team, and Ehlers, Walker, Rushton and Piscioti earned first team All-State honors.

Ehlers was the top performing Dogie offensively and defensively over the course of the 10-game season. He was second in the state and first on the team in rushing, accumulating 1,275 yards, second on the team in receiving, with 211 yards, seventh in the state in passing, with 679 yards, second in the state and first on the team in all purpose offense, racking up 2,312 total yards, 10th in the state in kick returns, third in the state in scoring, running in 19 touchdowns for 116 points, and 35 in the state and first on the team in defensive points, putting up 113 with 26 tackle assists, 28 solo tackles, five tackles for loss, three sacks and one blocked kick.

"Ehlers showed a strong commitment to the football program both in-season and off-

— See Football, Page 15

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Visiting **SANTA**



Youngsters were both delighted and frightened when visiting Santa Claus, who welcomed them at Weston County Senior Services center Friday evening, following the annual Lighted Parade in downtown Newcastle. Macy Steiber, above, tells Santa a secret, but Asic Dawson, upper left, was comforted by Robin Larson, as he seemed unsure of the prospect of sitting on the bearded man's lap. At left, a cheerful Madison Leighton, dressed for the season, shares a friendly chat. (Photos by Denice Piscioti and Pam Penfield/NLJ)

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Karp

from page 13

to carry a smart phone with which I have access to the world.

I am thankful for the Wright brothers, who were the first to publicly prove that heavier-than-air machines could fly. They, and others like them, have made it possible for me to see the eastern and western coasts of the United States, Germany, Italy, Hawaii, Las Vegas and many other places that I would never have had the opportunity to experience were it not for flight.

I am thankful for the women's suffrage movement. Brave women risked everything to fight for the right to vote, which eventually evolved into equal rights for women. Without them, I would not have had all the wonderful opportunities that I have today. I would not have the job that I love, the years of education that has given me such joy, the independence to raise my children on my own, the ability to travel to the places that I have, and the freedom to be the person that I am without fear of persecution.

I am thankful for the high-speed printing press and creation of paper that is strong enough to withstand it. Without

those things, I would not have the opportunity to be writing, and you would not have the ability to be reading this right now. On a broader scope, none of us would have access to the news that goes on in the world around us.

I am thankful for the muckrakers who exposed the corruption in business and government during the latter half of the 19th century and the earlier part of the 20th century. One of the results of their writing is the food and drug administration, who ensures that the food we eat is safe for consumption.

We are also protected from political machines who controlled government at every level, because muckrakers and Progressives made sure that our voices were heard at the polls.

Truly, the list of my gratitude for the people who changed life as we know it during the Second Industrial Revolution could go on for a very long time. Suffice it to say that I am eternally grateful for all that they did back then, and for all of those who continued the fight to today. I truly appreciate the life that their foresight and their efforts allows me to enjoy.

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Dogies

from page 13

has talented and hardworking players who can step up and lead the team.

Bartlett anticipates that the 3A East and the Northeast in particular will be tough and competitive as usual, and he's looking forward to the challenge.

"It's always fun to kick things off with Meet the Dogies," Bartlett smiled. "There's no better place to play in Wyoming than the Dogie Dome, and our kids are excited to get their first taste of that exciting atmosphere. We're looking forward to seeing everyone Saturday night to cheer our teams on."

The evening will begin with the ladies' Varsity scrimmage followed by the men's Varsity scrimmage. After both teams play, there will be the three point shooting contest and the team shooting competition.

The night will wrap up with an opportunity for all kids to meet their favorite players and

get autographs.

Meet the Dogies will also provide a chance to donate to the local food drive this holiday season, as Von Eye and Bartlett each request that fans bring in non-perishable food items for donation.

Both teams start their seasons on the road with tournaments in Buffalo and Cody the first weekend, and then the Stateline Shootout in Sundance and Belle Fourche the second weekend. The teams will not have a home competition until Jan. 6, however.

The schedule this season is one that is very accommodating for fans who want to watch both the Lady Dogies and the Dogies play, as nearly every contest is a double-header.

While that means that there won't be as many nights where at least one of the teams plays at home, it offers fans the opportunity to see both teams in action more often than in the past.

Football

from page 13

season. He was a major play-maker for us offensively and defensively this season. His 'never say die' attitude showed in every game, as he led our team and produced huge rushing yards. He is a good role model and leader for the NHS football program," said head coach Matt Conzelman. "With the drive and commitment he has shown, I am confident he will be successful in whatever he pursues and I wish him the best."

Rushton put up some great numbers as well this season. He tops the list of peak performances in all of 2A, rushing for 252 yards in a single game. He was fourth in the state and second on the team in rushing, gaining 1,040 yards, fourth on the team in receiving with 73 yards, second on the team in all purpose offense, accumulating 1,222 yards, and second on the team in scoring, with 11 touchdowns for 66 points. Defensively, Rushton added 73 points with 22 tackle assists, 24 solo tackles and one tackle for loss.

"Rushton has been one of our most dedicated athletes. He is a prime example of what off-season weightlifting and speed training can produce. The coaching staff is so impressed with how he matured and excelled in his role as a football player this season. He was a positive influence for the team, always challenging them to be the best that they can be," smiled Conzelman.

Sweet was fourth in the state and first on the team in punt returns, running back nine punts and gaining 101 yards, third on the team in rushing with 353 yards, third on the team in receiving, with 205 yards, first on the team in kick returns, with 15 for a total of 261 yards, third on the team in all purpose offense, with 920 total yards, and fourth on the team in scoring, with five touchdowns for 32 points. Sweet put up 97 defensive points with 18 tackle assists, 35 solo tackles, two pass breakups and one fumble recovery.

"Sweet was a very strong asset for the team this season. As a player, he never came off the field offensively, defensively or on special teams. As a coach, I enjoyed coaching him over the last four years and watching him grow into a respectable young man. A leader by example, he showed

Walker has been our main leader on the line this season. He has shown drive and effort both on and off the field. He turned into an exceptional football player and a fine young man who all of the high school students look up to."

—Football Coach Matt Conzelman

the underclassmen how Dogie football needs to be played. I thank him for all of the memories that he created for his fellow players, coaches and fans," commented Conzelman.

Farnsworth was sixth in the state and first on the team in receiving, grabbing 16 passes for 486 total yards, fourth on the team in all purpose offense, with 496 total yards, and fifth on the team in scoring, with four touchdowns totaling 26 points. Defensively, he contributed 91 points with 13 tackle assists, 27 solo tackles, seven pass breakups, one fumble recovery and one interception.

"Farnsworth really stepped up to the challenge, as I knew he would, and became the player I knew he could be. He had a great season as a wide receiver and defensive back. He had some great catches offensively and some huge tackles on defense. I wish him luck in all of his future endeavors and send a big thanks for all that he has done for Dogie football," Conzelman grinned.

Bock racked up 72 defensive points for the Dogies with 23 tackle assists, 15 solo tackles, three tackles for loss, two sacks and two pass breakups.

"Bock had a great off-season at camps and in the weight room. He has been one of the toughest athletes this year who fought through a knee injury. I always knew he would turn into a great football player, and he did. He played a huge role offensively at pulling guard and defensively at defensive end, and did a great job at both. I thank him for all of his hard work, determination and commitment to Dogie football," bragged Conzelman.

Walker added 39.5 defensive points with 14 tackle assists, six solo tackles, and 4.5 tackles for loss.

"Walker has been our main leader on the line this season. He has shown drive and effort both on and off the

field. He turned into an exceptional football player and a fine young man who all of the high school students look up to. With his determination and drive, he will be successful in life and I wish him the best," Conzelman predicted.

Pisciotti scored 20 defensive points with nine tackle assists, one solo tackle, two tackles for loss and one sack.

"Pisciotti has been a great leader for our offensive and defensive line. He was one of the biggest linemen in the state of Wyoming and contributed to a lot of our rushing yards. His positive attitude has influenced our players to work hard. I have enjoyed seeing him grow into a fine young man these past 4 years," stated Conzelman.

Larson, the sole junior earning post season honors was seventh on the team in rushing with 25 yards, fifth on the team in receiving with 41 yards, fifth on the team in kick returns, eighth on the team in all purpose offense with 68 total yards, seventh on the team in scoring with two touchdowns for 12 points, and second on the team in defense, adding 112 defensive points by bringing down the most opponents with 36 tackle assists, 34 solo tackles, two tackles for loss and one pass breakup.

"Larson made some huge plays for us offensively and defensively this season. When I think about him, the first thing I think about is this quote: 'It's not the size of the dog in the fight, but the fight inside the dog.' He was a fighter when the opponent was bigger or faster, and he didn't care. He just made the play. I am excited to have him back as a player next year," concluded Conzelman.

It certainly was a season to remember, and one to build on for the future of the Dogie football program. The seniors will be missed, but the coaches are optimistic about the talents of the upcoming Dogie players.

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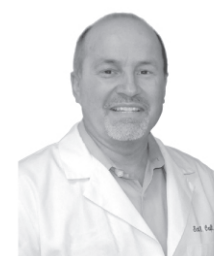
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The bids will be opened on December 22, 2014 at the regular business meeting.

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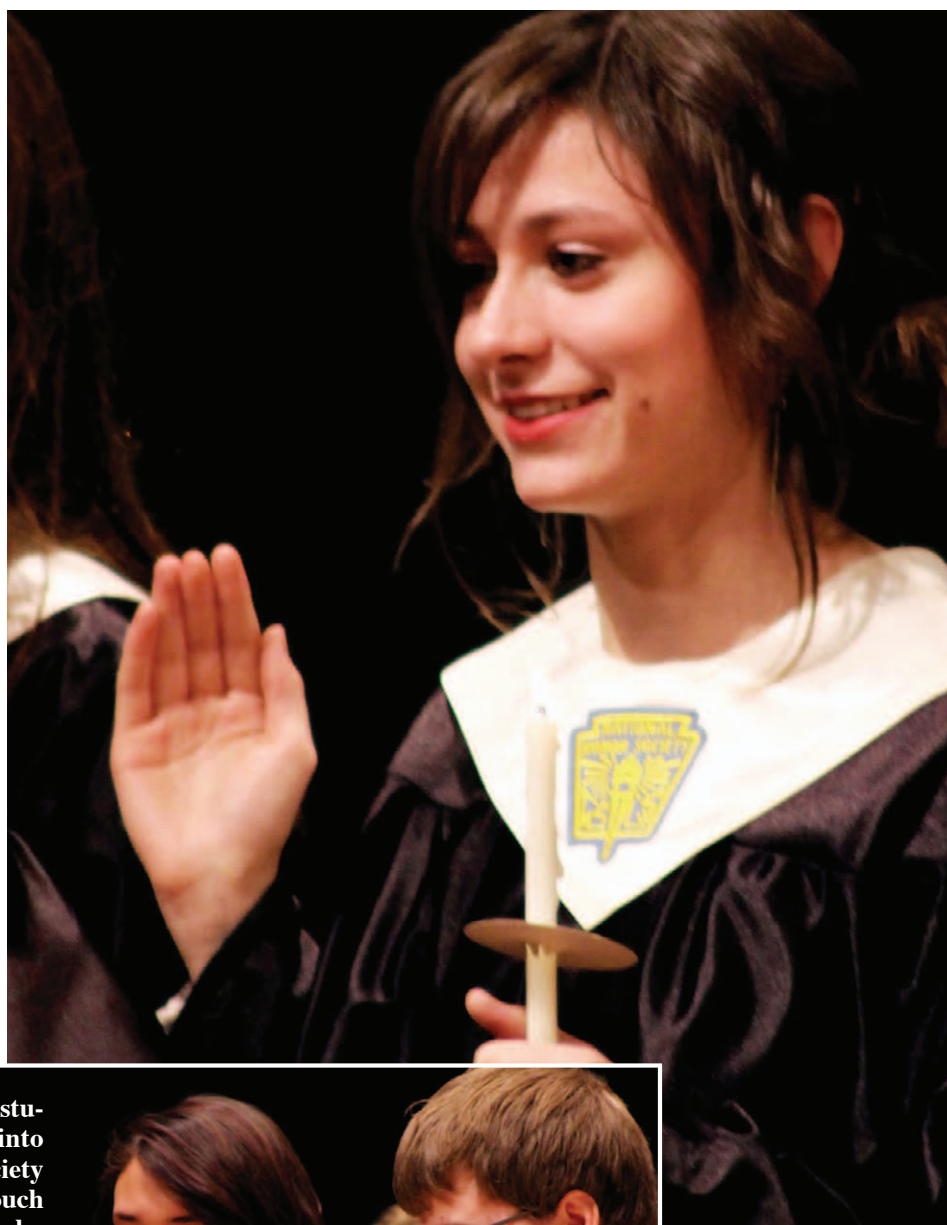
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Inducted NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY



Above, Scottlyn Wiggins and Kalyn Houser walk new member Alyssa Dawson to the stage for her induction into the National Honor Society. (Photos by Denice Piscioti/NLJ)



Newcastle High School students were inducted into the National Honor Society on Nov. 26, at the Crouch Auditorium, escorted by existing members of the Society.

Calbi Ausmann, above, recites her oath. At left, new members Abby Gray and Nolan Behnke light their candles. Other new inductees were Abi Deveraux, Abby Gettinger, Cassie Munoz, Cooper Karp, Hannah Cass, Catara Cade, Nathina Crabtree, Kendra Back, Kelsey Wood and Sierra LaCroix.

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Accomplishment

Ayres continues success
Jess Ayres, a Newcastle senior at Hastings College in Nebraska, placed fourth in Extemporaneous Speaking, and fifth in Impromptu Speaking, at the 2014 Broncolope Swing, co-hosted by Hastings College and University of Nebraska-Kearney, Nov. 15-16.

The team saw great success on its home turf, finishing first on Sunday and picking up two new qualifications for the national tournament in April. They also won the top three positions in individual event sweepstakes on the second day of competition, and witnessed several first-year students advance to final rounds for the very first time at the collegiate level.

The team will finish out the first semester of competition on Dec. 6-7, at the Outer Limits Swing in Kearney, Neb., co-hosted by University of Nebraska-Kearney and Concordia College-Moorhead.

Founded in 1882, Hastings College is a private, four-year liberal arts institution located in Hastings, that focuses on student academic and extracurricular achievement. Visit Hastings.edu for more information.

There's No Place Like Home for the HOLIDAYS

<p>DECEMBER 4 <i>Frontier Home, Ranch & Hardware Chamber Coffee</i> 10 a.m. - noon <i>Wedding Closet Open House</i> 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.</p>	<p>DECEMBER 6 <i>Kids Free Shopping</i> 8: 30 a.m. - 4 p.m. First United Methodist Church <i>Holiday Bazaar</i> 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. WC Fairgrounds <i>Treasured Florals & Gifts Open House Encore</i> 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. <i>Storytime with Santa & Coloring Contest</i> 11 a.m. Wedding Closet <i>Holiday Movie</i> 1 p.m. Dogie Theater <i>Adult Prom</i> 8 p.m. Perkins Tavern</p>
<p>DECEMBER 5 <i>Block Party First State Bank Customer Appreciation</i> 8: 30 a.m. - 4 p.m. <i>Modern Cleaners Open House</i> 10 a.m. <i>Wedding Closet Open House</i> 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. <i>Serendipity Nails by Sherry & Boutique Open House</i> 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. <i>Toe-Tally Groom n' Tanz Customer Appreciation</i> 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. <i>Treasured Florals & Gifts Open House Encore</i> 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. <i>Christmas Tea</i> 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Christ the King Lutheran Church <i>Edward Jones Open House</i> 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. <i>Pinnacle Bank's Festival of Trees</i> 6 p.m. Senior Center</p>	<p>DECEMBER 7 <i>Mini Bazaar and Pie Sale</i> 1 - 4 p.m. Weston County Manor <i>Ministerial Association Christmas Program</i> 6 p.m. First United Methodist Church</p>

SHOP WESTON COUNTY

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