



News Letter Journal

Weston County

December 19, 2013

Newcastle, Wyoming

Year 127 Week 51

District grapples with pool issues

By Todd Bennington of NLJ

The boards of Weston County School District #1 and the Eastern Weston County Recreation District debated at their regular meetings

last Wednesday evening how to best address the issue of a leaking water line that has resulted in the closure of the Kozisek Aquatic Center.

All school board members in attendance at their Wednesday meeting

voted to accept a bid of approximately \$30,000 by Ohio-based Enviro-Flow to reline about 100 feet of 10-inch PVC pipe, the same portion of pipe which had needed repair two years previously. The relining process con-

sists of the insertion of a balloon-like liner into the pipe, which is then hardened by way of a resin.

The bid, which had actually come a day late, was the only one received by the school district, with maintenance

director Greg Gregory describing the process of trying to garner interest in the project from those companies capable of doing the work as a

— See Pool, Page 9

City prepares to fill position

By Todd Bennington of NLJ

The City of Newcastle has scheduled a public candidate forum for Monday, Jan. 13, at 6 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, where those who have expressed interest in being appointed to the position vacated by Jim Bunch will field questions from sitting council members.

According to Mayor Greg James, the application period for the position has now closed, with the council having received written expressions of interest in the council seat — which Bunch resigned from on Oct. 31 due to out of state relocation — from five or six individuals. Sitting council members are currently in the process of finalizing sample questions, which will be sent to the candidates prior to the forum.

James, who since 1991 has been involved in city government in Newcastle in a variety of positions, and was himself initially appointed to fill an unexpired term on the city council, discussed with the News Letter Journal last Thursday what the council is seeking in a prospective appointee and the realities, as he sees them, of serving in public office in Newcastle.

“We try to encourage well-meaning, thoughtful individuals to become involved,” he told the News Letter Journal of the qualities necessary for long-term success on the council, “those who do not have any particular axe to grind or any particular issue that they want to push forward or deal with. It doesn’t work well for that ... In order to get a motion passed

What:
Public Candidate Forum for Newcastle City Council Position

Where:
City Council Chambers

When:
Monday, Jan. 13, 6 p.m.

you need at least four people to [vote for it].”

“One of the things that you have to be able to do,” James continued, “is back away from the personal agenda and look at the large, global issue. What’s good for the city, not necessarily what’s good for you personally or for your business or for your particular group or constituency ... You need to be able to step back and say, ‘ok, what’s good long term for the community,’ not short term.”

Asked why someone would seek to serve in such a position given the inevitable frustrations and polarizing tendencies of public office, James again answered that interested candidates need to be able to look beyond their own interests to those of the public they’ve been elected to serve.

“There’s got to be, in my opinion, an honest concern for the community as a whole, [a desire] to see measured progress, to see things positively go forward. There are certainly headaches, and if you’re looking to do this to build friends, don’t do [it]. I would hope there would not be enemies created by it, but there are certainly going to be dis-

— See Council, Page 8



Bob Bonnar/NLJ

A Friday fire on Williams Avenue consumed a garage owned by John and Amy Hawley, but there were no injuries.

Fires claim two structures

By Denice Piscioti of NLJ

This month two fires, both believed to have been caused by wood-burning devices, have affected community members. The first, on Cheyenne River Road on Dec. 5, was a complete loss, and on Friday a garage on Williams Drive went up in flames, which is still under investigation.

Niobrara County’s fire chief out of Lusk, John Eddy, told the News Letter Journal they responded to the Cheyenne River Road fire. Initially

they were told the fire was on Morrissey Road and Weston County Volunteer Fire Department was called, he reported, but that unit returned home when the correct location of the fire was learned.

Neither fire department was in close proximity to the blaze just across the Niobrara County line. Eddy stated the house was 56 or 57 miles from Lusk, about dead center between there and Newcastle.

“When we got there all that was left was the floor and the contents of the basement,” he

recalled. “It was a bad deal, especially this time of year, but luckily no one was hurt.”

The one-story home was located on a ranch owned by Claude and Annette Smith. It was occupied by their ranch hand, Lucas Stolhammer and his wife Melinda, and their three children, Connor, Carli and Waylon.

On Friday, Newcastle Volunteer Fire Department was dispatched to extinguish a fire at 527 Williams Avenue, owned by John and Amy Hawley. Fortunately, although

the garage was a total loss, the house was far enough away that it was spared any damage.

The response was quick with a great response of manpower, including several young Explorer firefighters. The page came out about 9:30 a.m., reported NVFD Chief Donny Munger. The department put out the fire, did mop-up and began the first part of the investigation, leaving the scene about 12:30 p.m.

“The Explorers got to come

— See Fire, Page 3

Legislators, public invited to discussion

By Denice Piscioti of NLJ

Weston County School District #1 will be holding a roundtable discussion for Wyoming legislators to speak to the community about educational issues, Superintendent Brad LaCroix told the News Letter Journal last week. It will take place on Tuesday, Jan. 7, at the Newcastle Country Club, starting at 5 p.m.

“It is a special board meeting open to the public. We have invited senators and representatives for our area to have the opportunity to sit down face to face,” he explained.

Because he will not be able to attend the roundtable, Sen. Ogden Driskill, R-Devils Tower, visited the WCSD #1 board meeting on Dec. 11 to speak to the board regarding issues that will be discussed at the Wyoming Legislative Session next year. The board members shared with Driskill topics of importance, then thanked the senator for coming and added that they look forward to the discussions at the meeting in January.

The WCSD #1 Board of Directors is striving to stay actively involved with the state’s lawmakers about issues that concern the student population in the county, LaCroix said. The district, he explained, takes the job of providing opportunities for

— See Roundtable, Page 3



Starry, starry night

At Crouch Auditorium on Sunday afternoon spectators enjoy beautiful music when the Community Cantata Choir presented “One Starry Night,” directed by Stephen West, with piano accompanist Kristin Wilkes. Prior to the singing performance, the Newcastle Bell Choir delighted the audience with several Christmas tunes. Following the entertainment delicious refreshments were enjoyed in the Commons area. Pictured is Norma Lease. (Photo by Denice Piscioti/NLJ)

Death ruled a suicide

By Todd Bennington of NLJ

An elderly Newcastle resident died Dec. 13 of a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head, according to reports obtained by the News Letter Journal on Monday from the Newcastle Police Department and Weston County Coroner Roger Hespe.

According to the police report’s narrative, Chief Jim Owens and Officer Peg Miles responded Friday at 3:54 p.m. to a 911 call placed from 411 Walker Avenue. They were met at the door of the residence by a woman who indicated to them that her husband, Max John Pollat, 89, had shot himself, the narrative went on.

The deceased was found by officers, seated on a chair in a bedroom. Hespe, who entered the bedroom after the officers, declared the time of death to be 4:06 p.m. A .38-caliber Smith and Wesson revolver found under the chair, just behind the feet of the deceased, was taken into evidence, the police narrative concluded.

The incident adds to what is already the highest number of suicides in a single year recorded in Weston County.

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| WEATHER FORECAST | Thursday Light Snow Hi 26, Lo 6 | Friday Partly Cloudy Hi 29 Lo 17 | Saturday Mostly Cloudy Hi 31 Lo 11 | Sunday Partly Cloudy Hi 31, Lo 21 | Monday Partly Cloudy Hi 39 Lo 21 | Tuesday Mostly Cloudy Hi 34, Lo 22 | Wednesday Partly Cloudy Hi 34 Lo 23 | INSIDE: • Christmas, Page 7 • Hungry, Page 10 • No Team, Page 11 • History, Page 12 |
| | | | | | | | | |



Opinion

News Letter Journal

Our View

The roses

The leaders and tireless volunteers in Newcastle have again this year gone above and beyond to make sure there is no better place to be during the holidays than right here.

Unfortunately, the holidays are busy for everyone, and many citizens have been consumed enough by their own preparation that they haven't been able to take advantage of the wealth of concerts, benefits, events and gatherings offered to them.

The good news is that Newcastle is the best place in the world to spend the holidays— with or without all of the fanfare — and with less than a week to go until Christmas, now is the perfect time for everybody to stop and smell the roses — or make a snow angel if you think that's more seasonally appropriate.

It appears that the numbing cold temperatures have left the area for the time-being, and conditions will mostly be perfect for families to get out and enjoy the simple pleasures available to those of who call Weston County home at this time of year.

The majority of roads through the Black Hills and outlying areas of the county are open, and the countryside never looks more beautiful than it does in December, when the branches of the pine trees are heavy with snow, crystal clear blue skies contrast with the blanket of white that covers the horizon and you're able to appreciate it all in the crisp silence that falls over non-populated areas at this time of year.

Although town doesn't offer the natural wonders of rural Weston County, it possesses a beauty of its own in days before Christmas, from the brightly lit and artfully decorated homes to the businesses that without fail spruce themselves up and put their best foot forward at this time every year. The sight of families — freed from the demands of work and school for a few days — spending time in the community together is to be appreciated as well, because at the end of the day that is what the holidays are really supposed to be all about.

So take some time in the week we have left to enjoy these simple things. Be one of those families that gets out to look at Christmas lights and Nativity scenes. Take a drive through the countryside right outside of town, but save yourself the time and hassle of a trip to Rapid City and do your last minute shopping here in town.

This is especially true for those of you who have labored so hard to make the holidays special for others in the community. Your work is done, and it's time to enjoy the reward you so richly deserve. Stop and smell the roses — or drop and make that snow angel!

Letters to the Editor

Louder voices aren't always stronger

Dear Editor,

In response to Gillian Sears' letter, "Conservatives need a stronger voice," December 4, 2013, I agree the Republican party has to change, but how it changes is important.

The Democratic Party changed by becoming more to the left, but that is not working very well either. The idea that we need young aggressive people is valid, but not practical. The system of government is supposed to work on the idea of cooperation and negotiation. The present problem has been aggravated by the belligerence of the Democrats, who have the majority and the presidency, and have decided not to negotiate. Ted Cruz and Rand Paul are powerless, as are the rest of the Republicans, even though they make a lot of good speeches.

There is a procedure in the Senate to get anything done, and that is to get a committee chairman to agree to your idea. Then the committee has to approve the issue. The next thing is that

the majority leader has to agree to put it on the docket for discussion. Unless a person is successful in these steps, he can not accomplish anything. Mike Enzi is in a position to accomplish these things if the Republicans can regain the Senate. He would be chairman of one of the largest committees, which also gives him priority with other chairmen to pass bills. Mike has had over 100 bills signed by a president.



Mike is very aware of the problems we have in Wyoming, having been a businessman and a State senator. Liz Cheney has spent very little time in Wyoming, and her experience in government has been with the State Department, which really does not benefit Wyoming very much. Dick Cheney was a very good representative for the state, and was probably the best vice president the country has had, but that does not mean that Liz should replace Mike Enzi.

The advocates of the Tea Party have some good ideas, but they cannot gain acceptance of the majority of the voters so they also need to negotiate with the rest of the Republicans.

—Don Thorson

Need to talk to a public servant?

Contact information for State Legislators:

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Senator Ogden Driskill | (307)680-5555 |
| Representative Hans Hunt | (307)746-8899 |
| Representative Mark Semlek | (307)756-2336 |

Spurned sophs prove doubters wrong

Two years ago a story was told, a story that defamed and degraded the class of 2014. This story claimed that the class of 2014 was immature and incapable of giving respect.

Now the class of 2014 has something to restore. We have waited two years for our side of the story to be told, and this is the story that should have been written. The current seniors, the Class of 2014, have proven to be an intelligent, mature, and responsible class.

The number of class leaders has increased. We have shown hard work and dedication. This year's seniors have four students that will be the valedictorians. They have had a perfect 4.0 GPA for four years, which include the freshman year that was claimed to be so awful, not to mention a list of extra-curricular activities that could have taken away time from school work.

These students have displayed nothing but the definition of hard work and maturity, but to quote from the column that appeared in the News Letter Journal two years ago, The Short End of the Stick, "they were severely stunted in their capacity to mature. They did not learn the respect that high school demands, and the school itself lost what

once a well established and long standing hierarchy." Disrespectful students do not get A's and B's, they do not turn in their homework, and they do not try to overcome the overwhelming workload that high school has to offer. Many people's thoughts on this have been proven wrong, and we have grown even more. If this is us being "stunted," then just imagine what we could have done if we were not "stunted." No one can deny the class of 2014 the right to brag about having four valedictorians.

We will continue being awesome, and our ACT scores are a great example. As a requirement, at the end of our junior year, every student must take the ACT (an overall test that covers all subjects). Although it is a requirement to take the ACT, it is not a requirement to do as well as we did, but we did it the right way. We gained respect from other classes and teachers by our smarts, not through the "hazing" the author from the past column claimed was needed.

We do not haze as "upperclassmen have in the past," and that should be respected as well. We did not wait three years to become seniors, just to get the right to haze and be at the top of the heap. Freshmen should not flee in fear of the seniors walking down

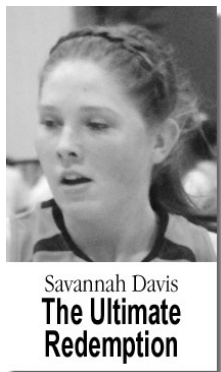
the hall, but they should respect and admire the work we have done. We will fight for what is right, and what we know we can achieve, all while reaching for above and beyond.

Besides helping our own futures, we have helped others too. Several students ended their junior year last year with over 70 hours of community service. This is us respecting our elders, peers, and community members — showing them the respect they deserve. We also respect underclassmen, because they are people. Of course, upperclassmen have rights and deserve certain respect, but we do not have the right to "haze" even though it is part of a high school "ritual." As a senior I have not seen the "chaos" that the past writer claimed would occur if the power and greed of seniors was not present. We do not force underclassmen to respect us. They choose to, and they do because we respect them. We did it the right way, and will continue that pattern.

There are a lot of people that have given us the short end of the stick, but we have shown those people what we are really made of. We have proven them wrong, and now say what we have waited two years to say — "We are a great class."

Unlike the one written two years ago, this is not a trash and bash story.

This is simply the ultimate redemption.



Savannah Davis
The Ultimate Redemption

A guide for families dividing estates

When planning the transfer of personal property during estate planning, determine which rules you will follow for deciding who receives which items.

Both the person(s) who presently owns the personal items and the person(s) who would potentially receive the items should review these rules and discuss which would be most appropriate in their situation. The final decision for the rules used and the disposition of the property rests with the owner of the property as long as they are alive and of sound mind.

Here are various rules which could be used and which place emphasis on different values, according to "Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate? A Guide to Passing on Personal Possessions," published by the University of Minnesota.

It is up to the family to decide which rules will be used.

Should Family Members Be Recognized For Their Differences?

1. Will specific items go to persons in certain birth order (oldest, youngest)?
2. Will the designation of specific items be influenced by current age of recipients?
3. Will gender influence what they receive?
4. Will marriage status (married, widowed, divorced, or never married) influence what they receive?
5. Will birth status (children by

birth, adoption, or remarriage) influence what they receive?

6. Will distance from home influence what family members receive?
7. Does having a personal interest in the item influence what members receive?

Should Everyone Be Treated Equally?

1. Should family members be treated the same regardless of what they may have contributed to the family over the years?
2. Regardless of differences in needs, should family members be treated the same?
3. Regardless of differences (such as birth order, gender, or marital status), should family members be treated the same?
4. Regardless of sentimental meaning, should family members receive equal numbers of items?
5. Regardless of the sentimental meaning to them, should family members receive equal numbers of items?
6. Should family members receive equal dollar value of appraised items?
7. When more than one might want an item, should all have an equal chance of getting items regardless of financial resources (drawing names, lottery system, taking turns at selecting, using chips or pretend money)?

Is It Important That Recognition Be Made For Different Needs?

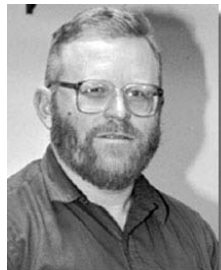
1. Does financial need dictate that family members will receive more?
2. Does physical or disability needs dictate that family members will receive more?
3. Does greater emotional need dictate that family members will receive more?

Should Different Contributions Be Recognized?

1. Should items received as gifts from family members be given back to the same giver?
2. Should rewards be provided for family members who have helped do work around the home or business?
3. Will rewards be provided to family members who have helped financially?
4. Will those who have helped provide care and support over the years be rewarded?
5. Should family members who have shown the most love be rewarded?
6. Should organizations or individuals outside the family be rewarded?

HOW TO DECIDE

Once agreement has been reached concerning which values are important in deciding who receives which items of personal property, the family needs to discuss when decisions will be made and who will be involved in making them.



Bill Taylor
Growing Wyo

Who is Involved in the Decisions?

1. Are children asked what they would like to receive?
2. Are spouses of children asked what they would like to receive?
3. Are grandchildren asked what they would like to receive?
4. Should an appraisal be obtained for items of financial value?
5. Which family members will be informed of decisions the owners have made?
6. Do we wait for all to be present to make decisions?

When Will Decisions be Made?

1. While owners are able to make decisions, should they make determinations of who gets what now?
 2. Should owners give selected items away before they die?
 3. Should owners mention their wishes in their wills?
 4. Should the executor decide what happens to belongings at death?
 5. Should surviving family members decide what happens to belongings at death?
 6. Do family members need to be prevented from taking items without others knowing?
 7. Should family members be allowed to make requests for items from the owners now?
- Agreeing on which rules to use ahead of time can save the family much anguish later, according to www.yellowpieplate.umn.edu.

Who

Bob Bonnar
Publisher and Editor

Tom Mullen
Co-Owner

Becky Vodopich
Office Manager

Rob Hicks
Co-Owner

Stephanie Bonnar
Graphic Artist/Advertising

Kim Dean
Circulation/Accounts Manager/Reporter

Amy Meneroy
Graphic Designer/Copy Editor

Stacy Haggerty
Ad Sales

Richard Tallman
Circulation

Denise Piscioti
Reporter/Photographer

Todd Bennington
Reporter

With News or to Advertise

307-746-2777

FAX: 307-746-2660
E-mail: editor@newslj.com

What

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

Where

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| | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
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When

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Why

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

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PRECorp retires \$2 million

Just in time for the holidays, Powder River Energy will retire nearly \$2 million in capital credits to its cooperative member-owners.

Powder River Energy's board of directors authorized the payment at its October meeting based on the sound financial condition of the cooperative.

Capital credits are a major benefit of being a member of an electric cooperative. At the close of each fiscal year, all revenue received in excess of expenses is allocated back to the membership in the form of capital credits. The amount of capital credits assigned to a member's account is based on the amount of electricity purchased during the year. The total amount in a member's capital credit account represents the value of ownership in the Cooperative.

"Sharing is part of our electric cooperative values. Members share their opinions on how the cooperative should be run, and they share in the cooperative's financial success. Returning capital credits puts money back into communities," said Board President Walt Christensen.

This year's capital credit retirement is being paid to approximately 14,600 customers who were members of the cooperative and received

electric service in 1983 and 2012.

Capital credit checks in excess of \$20 will be mailed in mid-December. Members who have capital credits less than \$20 will see the dollars applied as a credit on their December bill.

Any former member who has less than \$20 in their capital credit account will receive a full refund in December.

Letters will accompany the checks, offering the members an opportunity to donate their capital credits to the Powder River Energy Foundation. The Foundation supports youth education and arts programs, community development, and other community charities.

Members with address changes or questions regarding their refund or capital credit account should call Member Services at Powder River Energy, 1-800-442-3630.

Powder River Energy Corporation is a customer-owned, nonprofit electric cooperative headquartered in Sundance, serving approximately 11,900 members at residences, ranches, coal mines, oil and gas wells, businesses, and industry in Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Sheridan, and Weston counties in northeastern Wyoming.

Roundtable

from page 1.....

schoolchildren and their parents seriously.

LaCroix reported he has strong viewpoints on accountability, especially the possibility that data gathered from elementary school will stay with a student after graduation from public school, possibly even following them into the workforce. Another concern, he said, is the possibility of additional math classes for Newcastle High School students, which would mean all students could be required to do higher levels of mathematics such as pre-calculus, advanced algebra and trigonometry.

WCSD #1 Chairman of the Board Bill Lambert reported he is also appreciative that

the board's voices will be heard by Wyoming lawmakers next month, as well as those of community members interested in speaking to the state's leaders about education issues.

Lambert offered that it is of utmost importance that the duties and functions of school boards in each county is defined. He is interested in hearing any input from the people of Weston County, and hopes they will attend the special roundtable discussion to voice those concerns.

"We are serious about identifying the roles and responsibilities of the local control of the school board. We need the public's input," Lambert urged.



Bob Bonnar/NLJ

Taylor Hespe and Police Chief Jim Owens survey the situation during Friday's fire in Newcastle.

Fire

from page 1.....

down — they were a lot of help as far as filling bottles and helping with rehab, changing out fireman's bottles and checking to make sure everybody is okay," noted Munger.

This time of year, with cold weather and Christmas decorations the norm, it is important to take precautions, the chief warned. Make sure a live Christmas tree is well watered, that all Christmas lights have good wiring, both inside and outside the home, and don't use several extension cords, he reminded.

"Christmas decorations are wonderful — some of the places around here go all out and put out a lot of lights, decorating the whole house. But man, the worst thing we can do

is go to a fire because the lights caught the house or roof on fire," Munger said. "They have to have good wiring."

Oftentimes, when temperatures drop, wood stoves are the cause of house fires, so it is also imperative that chimneys are cleaned out before the cold sets in, the chief added.

Munger acknowledged that the manpower to fight fires would not be possible if not for employers of the volunteers allowing them to leave in times of emergencies.

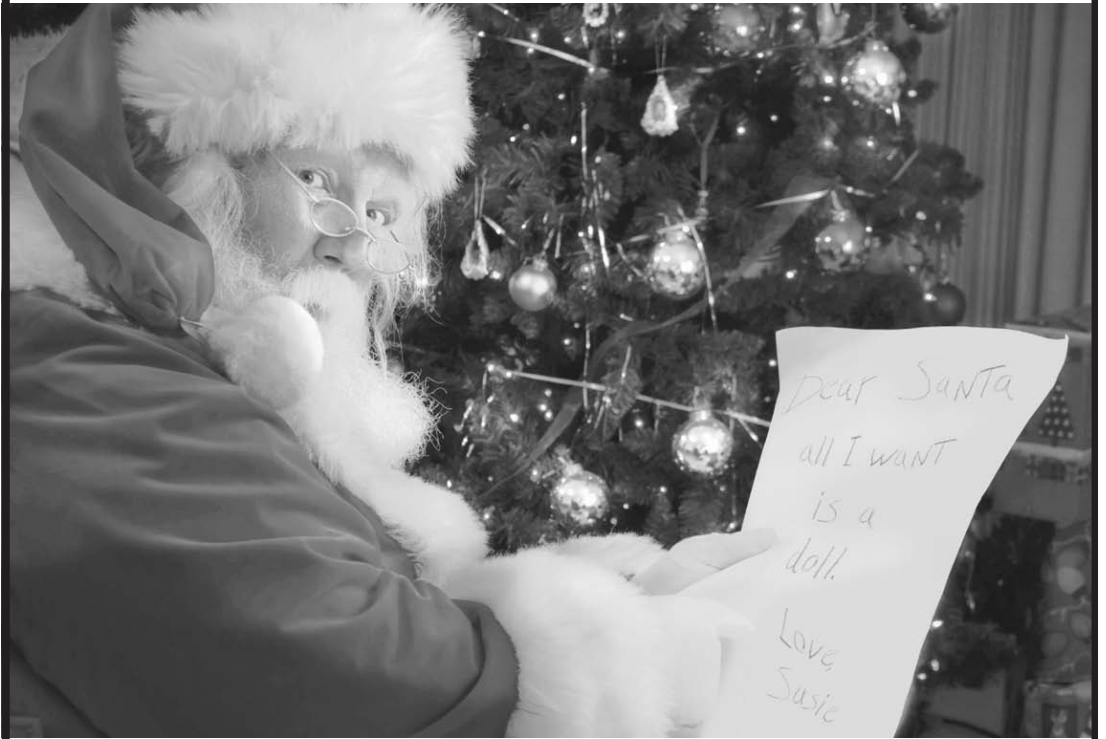
"We had multiple employers that released their employees to come to this garage fire because they could see the smoke and knew it was bad, and they thought we would need the help," the fire chief

acknowledged. "The Wyoming Refining Company and Weston County School District #1 let multiple people go, including Explorers. Source Gas had both of their employees there. In Newcastle we are pretty fortunate the businesses support the local fire department. We would like to say thanks!"

CLARIFICATION:

The photo accompanying the story "Gray Ladies and Candy Strippers celebrated," on Page 4 of the Dec. 12 edition, was submitted by Mike Jording but courtesy of the Anna Miller Museum.

The Season of Wonder



The splendor of the season is all around us, from the snow-topped mountains to the festive decorations in the windows to the holiday spirit in the air. May it embrace you with all of its warmth and wonder.

To celebrate Christmas, First State Bank will close at noon on Tuesday, December 24 and will remain closed on Wednesday, December 25.



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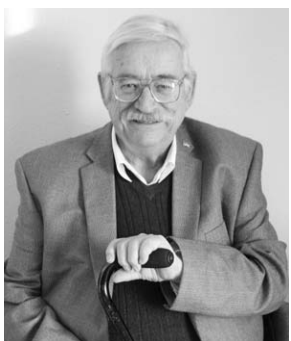


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LIFELINE

Please Help Others Stay Safe In Their Homes



Please support the *Tree of Love* with a donation made in Memory or Honor of a loved one. Donations are needed for our local Lifeline program to subsidize those who want to stay at home alone, too.


Send your loved ones name with a \$25 or more donation to Weston County Lifeline, 1124 Washington Blvd. and place an angel on our tree in memory or honor of your loved one. The Tree of Love will be on display in the court house lobby throughout the holidays. Your loved one will be remembered in the special newspaper ad Dec 25. After Jan 2nd an angel is yours to keep.



A Time to Reflect

Join us in celebrating the Reason for the Season
December 24 at 5 & 7 p.m.

Remember the miracle and rejoice in His name!



Christ the King Lutheran Church
 224 West Rd. 746-2415

Obituaries

RACHEL LYNN FOOTE
April 2, 2013-Dec. 12, 2013

Rachel Lynn Foote was only 8 months old on Dec. 12, 2013, when the angels unexpectedly transported her from her mother's arms straight to the arms of Jesus. She was a special delivery straight from Heaven delivered April 2, 2013.



Rachel Foote

She will be missed by her parents, Roger and Tanya-Marie Foote of Osage; her sisters and brothers, Tabitha-Marie, Rodney, Nathan, Benjamin, Hannah, Daniel, Elizabeth and Sarah Foote, all of Osage; her grandmother, Wanda Foote of Newcastle; her grandparents, Nathan and Harriet Locke of Osage; her aunt and uncle, Michelle and Brian Dandurand; three boy cousins of Casper; and Aunt Peggy, Aunt Cindy, and two girl cousins, all of Lander. She is now riding horses with her Grandpa Rodney Foote, and being spoiled by all who went before her.

Rachel's burial will be private. Memorial services were planned for 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 17, at Worden Chapel, with Rev. Grandpa Nathan Locke officiating. Her Grandma Harriet Locke will play the music to comfort our hearts. Pallbearers will be her four brothers, Rodney, Nathan, Benjii and Danny Foote. They may have carried her little body around here on earth for a short time, but they will carry her in their hearts forever.

Following services a gathering of friends and family will be held at the Wyoming Refining Training Center (formerly Covenant Saddle and Tack store).

JEAN L. FRANZ
Nov. 13, 1921-Dec. 14, 2013

Jean L. Franz, 92, of Newcastle, died Dec. 14, 2013, at Weston County Health Services, of cancer and heart failure.



Jean Franz

Jean was born Nov. 13, 1921, in Roseau, Minn., to John O. and Edna (Bushnell) Lindahl. Her early education was in Crosby, Minn., where the family had a lakeshore home. She graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1944 with Registered Nurse and Bachelor of Science degrees in nursing education.

In January 1943 she met medical student Willis Franz. They were married Aug. 29, 1943, and on Aug. 29, 2013, celebrated 70 years together. They lived and worked in Minneapolis and St. Paul, San Antonio, Texas, West Point, N.Y., Mountain Lake, Minn., and in 1950 moved to Newcastle, their home for the rest of their years.

Jean worked as a nurse in St. Mary's

Hospital, Minneapolis, and Weston County Memorial Hospital in Newcastle. She was a loving and dedicated mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She loved children and spent much time with them teaching songs, skits, flowers, insects, fish, rocks, birds, astronomy, and other things in nature. She was actively involved in Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Cub Scouts, 4-H, Girl Scouts, Jobs Daughters and other children's activities.

Jean had a special interest in horticulture: flower gardening, flower arranging, indoor and outdoor plants, trees, shrubs and weeds. She was a Master Gardener for many years. She was active in First United Methodist Church, Dirt Daubers Garden Club, P.E.O., 21st Century Club, Eastern Star and United Methodist Women. She was involved in numerous boards and committees. Other interests and activities included landscaping, rock collecting, fishing, elk hunting, downhill skiing (until the age of 80), water skiing, camping, bee keeping, pottery and collecting mushrooms.

Survivors include her husband, Willis, of Newcastle; son, David Bruce (Aurora) of Newcastle; daughters, Barbara (Pat) Crow of Newcastle, Carol (Jeff) Gulbransen, Keystone, S.D., and Nancy (Mike) McFarland, Newcastle; grandchildren, Rebecca (Jonathan) Tinsley, Aladdin, Peter McFarland, Newcastle, Christopher (Cayce) Gulbransen, Lakewood, Colo., Brian (Rebecca) Gulbransen, Okemos, Mich., Ellen Crow, Augusta, Ga., and David Crow, Augusta, Ga.; great-grandchildren, Emma, Will and Ben Tinsley, and Gabriel and Annika Gulbransen. She is also survived by her brother, Bruce Lindahl, St. Paul, Minn.; sister, Lois Kern, Loveland, Colo.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, James, of Tucson, Ariz.

Funeral Services will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 19, at First United Methodist Church, with Rev. Paul Holland officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to FUMC or Weston County Health Services Foundation, or a charity of donor's choice.

Worden Funeral Directors of Newcastle have been entrusted with the arrangements.

ELAINE MAY LYONS
July 25, 1932-Dec. 11, 2013

Elaine Mary Lyons, 81, of Newcastle, passed into God's eternal life on Dec. 11, 2013, at Weston County Hospital.



Elaine Lyons

She was born July 25, 1932, to Louie and Erma Hanson in Staples, Minn. She was the youngest of three children, and the only girl. She grew up in Staples

and graduated from Staples High School. She was the Homecoming Queen who married her high school sweetheart, Ralph Lyons, in 1953. Elaine and Ralph were married for 56 years at the time of Ralph's death in 2009. Elaine and Ralph traveled and lived in numerous locales through the military, including three years in Germany where their first child, Susan Marie, was born in 1955. Their second child, Steven Ray, was born in Staples in 1957. Elaine, Ralph and the family lived in Cheyenne for many years before coming to Newcastle in 1975.

Elaine dearly loved her husband, her children, her friends, her church, and her town.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph; her parents; and her oldest brother, Louie Junior.

Survivors include her children, Susan (Loyal) of Fairbanks, Alaska, and Steve (Mary) of Duluth, Minn.; her brother, Ron (Carol) of Larimore, N.D.; sister-in-law, Eleanor Hanson of New Brighton, Minn., and Betty and Byron Haskin of Staples, Minn.; as well as six grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

She is also survived by Lois Johnson of Newcastle, her closet and dearest friend.

Rosary and visitation were held Friday, Dec. 13, at 7 p.m. at Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Newcastle. The funeral service was Saturday, Dec. 14, also at Corpus Christi Church, at 10 a.m., with the burial immediately following at Greenwood Cemetery in Newcastle.

Pallbearers were Rob Akers, Bill Boulden, Leroy Dummer, Tom Harder, Rick Johnson and Leonard Nack.

Memorials may be made to Corpus Christi Catholic Church, 19 West Winthrop Street, Newcastle, WY 82701.

ROSE S. RE'
June 16, 1922-Dec. 11, 2013

Rose S. Re' passed away on Dec. 11, 2013 at Primrose Retirement Community. A private family service and burial will take place at a later date.



Rose Re'

Rose S. Re' was born June 16, 1922, to Valentine and Cand'á (Tome) Sarlé in Sunnyvale, Calif. She attended school in Sunnyvale and graduated from Notre Dame High School in San Jose, Calif., at the age of 15 years old.

After graduation she married Eugene J. Ré on Oct. 11, 1939, in Truckee, Calif. Together the couple had a construction company and they were proud to have built Henry G. Kaiser's boat house and patio. They later moved to Sunnyvale where Eugene worked at Westinghouse as a machinist and Rose at Sylvania as a lead person, in Mountain

— See Obituaries, Page 5

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Regular Church Attendance



- ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH:** Rev. Norm Brotzman, 216 S. Seneca, 746-2249. Call to Worship 9:30 am; Children's Church during Call to Worship; Faith Rally Sunday 6 pm.
- BAHA'I FAITH:** Firesides (Open to All) 1st & 3rd Fridays 7:30 pm at 15 Skyview Dr; 746-3626.
- CAMBRIA COMMUNITY CHURCH:** Pastor Chris Walton, 19 Stampede St. 746-2321. Sunday School 9:15 am; Worship 10:30 am; Wednesday Bible Study 6 pm
- CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL:** Rev. Sally Boyd, S. Summit & Winthrop Streets, 746-9684. 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday, Morning Prayer 10 a.m.; 2nd & 4th Saturday 4 p.m., Holy Eucharist. haydishall@hotmail.com
- CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH:** Pastor John Hopper, 224 West Road, West of Dow Park, 746-2415. Sunday Worship 9 am.

- CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS:** Bishop Greg James, 120 Ash, 746-4131. Sunday Sacrament Meeting 9 am; Sunday School 10:20 am; Relief Society & Priesthood Mtg 11:15 am.
- CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Father Killian Muli, 19 W. Winthrop, 746-4219. Saturday Mass 5:00 pm; Weekday Mass 8 am.
- COUNTRY CHURCH:** Four Corners, Pastor Bill Haley, 746-9712, Worship 10 am.
- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH:** Pastor Gary Anderson, 903 S. Summit, 746-2188. Bible Study 9:15 am; Worship Service 10:30 am; Teaching Service 6 pm; Wednesday Service 6:30 pm.
- FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH:** Pastor Lynn Schleicher, 301 Delaware, 746-9663. Sunday School 9:45 am; Worship 10:45 am; Prayer Service 5 pm, Christian Academy.

- FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Pastor Paul Holland, 23 N. Seneca, 746-4119. Sunday School 8:45 am; Church Services 8 & 10 am; Nursery care available.
- GATEWAY FELLOWSHIP:** Pastor Jon Andersen, Evangelical Free Church meets at the Weston County Senior Services; Sunday School 9:30 am; Worship 11 am. Call 746-8091.
- KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES:** 5018 US Hwy 16, 746-2319 or 746-4517. Tuesday 7 p.m. Congregation Bible Study, Theocratic Ministry School and Service Meeting. Sunday Public Talk 10 am; Watchtower 11 am.
- NEWCASTLE FOURSQUARE CHURCH:** Pastor Mick Bohn, 1525 S. Summit, 746-3618. Sunday Worship 10 am; Wednesday Night Prayer.
- NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP:** Pastor Wayne Wilson, meets at Black Gold Realty Building, 1517 W. Main, 746-5542. Sunday Worship 10 am.

- OSAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH:** 348 Sheridan St. Osage, 465-2341. Sunday School 10 am; Worship 11 am and 6 pm.
- SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST:** Pastor Gary Force, 78 Old Hwy 85, 746-3504 or 278-0254, Pastoral Assistant Jason Logan 746-2974. Saturday Sabbath School 9:30 am; Worship 11:20 am.
- ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Father Killian Muli, Upton. Sunday Mass 11:30 a.m.
- VICTORY NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH:** Rev. Theodore L. Halls, 414 Pine, 746-4366.
- UPTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Rev. Sharee Johnson, 834 Pine, Upton, 468-9302. Sunday School 9:30 am; Worship 10:30 am; Children's Church & Nursery are available; 1st & 3rd Wed Evenings Prayer and Praise Service 7 pm.

A Christmas Tradition

It's no wonder that parties abound at Christmas when our homes are transformed with glittering decorations. It is as if we have been transported to a land of enchantment. We feel transformed...our spirits lifted with feelings of love and generosity toward all mankind. This transformation does not have to end when Christmas is over! In 2 Corinthians 5:17-18 Paul promises... "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God..." Come to know God as you worship this Christmas and throughout the year. Let God, through His Son, Jesus Christ, transform your life.

Weekly Scripture Reading

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Isaiah 60:1-22 | Isaiah 61:1-11 | Isaiah 62:1-12 | Malachi 3:1-12 | Malachi 3:13-4:6 | Mark 1:1-13 | Luke 1:1-25 |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|

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Make your light shine, so that others will see the good that you do and will praise your Father in heaven.
 — Matthew 5:16

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Obituaries continued

View, Calif. Later Rose went to work for Bakarack Instrument Company and was employed with them for more than 20 years.

In February of 1985 Rose lost the love of her life, when Eugene passed away. She moved to Wyoming to live with her daughter and son-in-law, Barbara and John, in Upton in 1998. Rose enjoyed reading and spending time with her many grandchildren. She also enjoyed baking, sports and the Denver Broncos.

Rose is survived by her daughter, Barbara Re' Ondriezek, and son-in-law, John Ondriezek, of Upton; nine grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her daughter, Jo Dee Re' Lopez of San Jose, Calif.; her son, Robert G. Re' of Livermore, Calif.; and her husband Eugene J. Re' of Sunnyvale.

Memorials and condolences can be sent to the family in

care of Walker Funeral Home, 410 Medical Arts Court, Gillette, WY 82716. Condolences may also be sent online at www.walkerfuneralgilllette.com.

MAX J. POLLAT
July 14, 1924–
Dec. 13, 2013

Max J. Pollat, 89, died Dec. 13, 2013, at home.

Max was born July 14, 1924, in Cozad, Neb., to Frank and Anna Pollat. He came to Wyoming with his parents and four siblings in 1928. He attended country school and graduated from Newcastle High School.

He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1943 and served on a destroyer in the South Pacific theater of operations. He was injured and



Max Pollat

was returned to the United States on a hospital ship.

He married his sweetheart, Carol "Corky" Spargur in 1945. There were three daughters born to this union.

He established an oil well servicing business, sold it and bought a ranch on which he raised horses. He enjoyed training, showing and trading horses.

He retired and moved with his wife to New Mexico, where they lived for 22 years before returning to Wyoming. He enjoyed going to the Weston County Senior Center and visiting with his many friends and making trips to Deadwood to play the slot machines.

He is survived by his wife, Carol; daughters, Kathie (Lloyd) Davis of Upton, and Dianne Davis of Newcastle. He is also survived by seven grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren;

two sisters, Rose Van Cleave and Carol (Virgil) Cullum, all of Newcastle; numerous nieces and nephews; and a host of friends.

He was preceded in death by his oldest daughter, Karen Ipsen; his parents; brothers, Lavern, Melvin, Wayne, Paul and Dean; sister, Helen Connor; great-grandson, Tyler Ipsen; and son-in-law, Merle Davis.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18, at Weston County Senior Center, with visitation and viewing one hour before services. Interment will follow at Greenwood Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be directed to the Weston County Senior Center.

Black Hills Funeral Home is entrusted with arrangements.

Friends and family may sign an online guest register for Max and leave condolences for the family at www.blackhillsfuneralhome.com.

Come home for the holidays!
Sunday, Dec. 22nd 10:30 a.m.
"The Sounds of Christmas"
Christmas Worship Celebration

Tuesday, Dec. 24th 5:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Service

First Baptist Church
903 S. Summit • 746-2188

Newcastle Game Room

112 W. Main St. • 746-2241
Monday-Thursday 3-9 p.m.
Friday 3-10 p.m. • Saturday Noon-10 p.m.
Sunday Noon-8 p.m.

Come Out & Play
Parties ~ \$10 per hour

Christ Church Episcopal of Newcastle, its Priest Rev. Sally Boyd and members would like to wish the community a Christ filled Christmas. As we prepare for and celebrate the birth of our Lord, may His presence be with you in the coming year and always!

Christmas Eve Service
Tuesday, December 24, 2013
4 p.m.

Dale & Theo Statler

60th

Anniversary Card Shower
Please help them celebrate!
Mr. & Mrs. Dale Statler
1122A Tennyson Dr.
Centralia, WA 98531

Sooner or later you knew this day would come. Should have known it would be Sooner!

Happy 50th Birthday

The officers & members of Newcastle Masonic Lodge #13 and Eastern Star Chapter #30 wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

NOTICE

Weston County has the following positions available:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|------------|
| Planning Board | 2 Positions | 3 Yr. Term |
| Recreation (Mallo) Board | 1 Position | 4 Yr. Term |
| Fair Board | 1 Position | 5 Yr. Term |
| Historic Preservation Board | 6 Positions | 3 Yr. Term |
| Predatory Animal Control | 1 Position | 3 Yr. Term |

Anyone wishing to submit an application for any of the above positions may contact the Weston County Clerk's Office, 1 West Main, Newcastle, WY, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Anyone wishing to apply may submit a written letter of interest. Letters need to be received by 8:00 a.m. on January 7, 2014. This matter will be considered on January 7, 2014, at 10:00 a.m.

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

100 YEARS AGO - DEC 18, 1913

The Cambria Fuel Company has recently installed a complete mine rescue outfit of the "Dreager" type. The outfit consists mainly of three of the latest improved enclosed helmets, as well as the necessary paraphernalia and tanks used in recharging the oxygen tanks, of which there is a full assortment. In addition to this equipment the company has one of the latest complete Pulmotor outfits. This outfit can be used in resuscitating persons.

Mrs. Frank Nihart and Mrs. P.M. McCoy went to Newcastle from Boyd Monday to take the train for Pringle, S.D., where their husbands are connected with the timber work going on there.

George Shellhart went to Newcastle from Boyd Sunday in order to be on hand for the laying of the cornerstone of the armory Monday afternoon. From Newcastle, Mr. Shellhart will go to his homestead in the sagebrush.

Mrs. Sam Beers near Buckhorn died Monday morning at 3 o'clock. Remains will be taken to Lead, S.D., Monday for burial.

The play given at the opera house last night, "The Maid and the Minister," was much above the average theatrical production in towns of this size. The play dealt with the divorce question and was well rendered.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Schoonmaker, accompanied by Dr. and Mrs. Bradbury, were out in the former's Hupmobile last Sunday.

B. Arnold Meadows, who has been assisting his friend J.R. Faulker at Clifton for several weeks, was a Newcastle visitor part of this week and will return to his home in Virginia about the first of the year.

Misses Rockwell, Middaugh and Kingsley, of the Cambria force of teachers, were shopping in Newcastle between trains last Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. H.C. DeVal, of the Boyd vicinity, were in town Saturday, transacting business and visiting their daughters, Ethel and Mrs. Boyer.

Mr. Mondell has introduced in Congress the following bill making an appropriation for the importation of Corridale sheep from New Zealand for breeding purposes.

75 YEARS AGO - DEC. 15, 1938

Short graveside services were held here Tuesday morning for Mrs. Georgiana LaNoue, 79, a former resident of Cambria

and Newcastle, who died at her home in Greybull Friday morning.

Bobby Thompson and Jean Summers gave their piano recital last Wednesday night at the V.C. Thompson home, at the regular meeting of the young folks music club. Mrs. P.S. Jackson was their leader. Twenty members of the club were present and three guests.

Newcastle boys and girls will have the opportunity to "brush up" on their favorite winter sport, ice skating, when workers fill the circular pond at the Schoonmaker Recreation Field. It will be 200 feet across.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Sherwin and Mr. and Mrs. Gus Sherwin entertained last Sunday at a turkey dinner at the 4-W ranch. Twenty-four guests were present and Bridge was enjoyed following the dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Grieves arrived here Saturday evening from Texas and Colorado, where they have been working. They plan to spend the holidays visiting relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Slenker entertained Tuesday evening when they had as their guests Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Bjorklund, Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Clark, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cummings.

With the thermometer failing to rise above the freezing mark two days the past week, Newcastle people have felt the first cold spell of the winter.

Frank Pollat of Fairview is getting his big crop of corn cribbed up, and it sure makes an impressive sight.

The Morrisey Busy Bee Club met at the home of Mrs. A.E. Hutt. The members of the club entertained their husbands at a Christmas party.

Red Owl Ad: Brown sugar for 5 cents a pound; raisins, 2-pound bag for 14 cents.

Mrs. Charlie Martens, of the Osage area, entertained at Sew and So Club Friday. Those attending from Osage were Mrs. James Holwell, Mrs. Tony Sable, and Mrs. L.L. Thomas of Gillette.

Lesster and Richard Updike and Elvera and Arlene Updike autoed to Sundance Sunday to visit Della Mae Henderson who is a patient at the hospital there.

Wyoming Day: Several years ago, when Wyoming was still a territory, the first legislative assembly met in Cheyenne Dec. 10, 1869. At this meeting the bill of Woman Suffrage was inaugurated and was signed by John A. Campbell, the first territorial governor of Wyoming.



Frank White, Harry Meici, Bill and June Gallamore, Mr. and Mrs. John Novak, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Currey, Daniel Patton and George DeBow were callers at the Gold Eagle Refinery, by Red Butte, Sunday.

50 YEARS AGO - DEC. 19, 1963

Funeral services for Clinton Robert Sweet of Upton were held in Newcastle. Mr. Sweet was born April 16, 1919, at Upton

The Auto Mart of Newcastle announced this week that the firm has been appointed the Rambler dealer franchise in this area. Fred Stoecker is operator of the Auto Mart.

The Newcastle Dogies met the Lusk Tigers in the high school gym Friday evening. The Dogies edged by the fourth-rated team by a score of 24 to 23.

Newcastle's snowfall since Dec. 1 now totals six inches. Frigid temperatures dominated the weather picture during the past week with a low of -13 recorded Saturday, Dec. 14.

Red Owl Ad: Brown sugar, two one-pound cartons for 25 cents; two stalks celery for 29 cents.

The Osage Volunteer Fire Department was called out late Wednesday afternoon to put out a fire in the Orren Clyde home.

Mr. and Mrs. Royal Bock and children, of Osage, were Sunday evening supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Dale Bock of Newcastle.

Employees of the First State Bank of Newcastle and their husbands and wives were entertained at Gulleys' Restaurant Saturday evening.

A new addition to the high school has been planned. The addition will extend out over the swimming pool and will have seven new classrooms plus some basement space for future classroom needs. The entire addition will cost \$125,000.

Tice Fowler helped Lloyd Tysdal move cattle to the Laris Tysdal ranch Monday.

| WHAT'S UP | | Meetings & Events Calendar | |
|----------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| DATE | TIME | EVENT | LOCATION |
| Dec. 19 | 10 a.m. | Holiday Open House | USDA Building |
| | 12:30 p.m. | Good Citizen Awards | Newcastle Elementary |
| | 1 p.m. | Christmas Open House | Red Onion Museum |
| | 6 p.m. | W.C. Health Services Meeting | Board Room |
| | 7:30 p.m. | Newcastle Masons Meeting | Masonic Lodge |
| Dec. 20 | 7 p.m. | AA Meeting | Corpus Christi Church |
| | 7:30 p.m. | Square Dancing | Newcastle Elementary |
| | 7:30 p.m. | Bingo | VFW Hall |
| Dec. 21 | 3 p.m. | Downtown Merchants Sleigh Drawing | Lunatic's |
| Dec. 22 | 2 p.m. | Bingo | Corpus Christi Church |
| | 7 p.m. | AA Meeting | Corpus Christi Church |
| Dec. 23 | 1 p.m. | Low Vision Support Group | W.C. Senior Center |
| | 7 p.m. | Square Dance Lessons | Newcastle Elementary |
| Dec. 24 | 4 p.m. | Christmas Eve Service | Christ Church Episcopal |
| | 5 p.m. | Christmas Eve Service | First Baptist Church |
| | | Christmas Eve Service | Christ the King Church |
| | 6:45 p.m. | ALANON (746-9791) | Mondell Heights |
| Dec. 25 | 7 p.m. | Ladies Firearms Safety & Self Defense | Indoor Range |
| | 7 p.m. | AA Meeting | Corpus Christi Church |
| Dec. 26 | 7:30 p.m. | Eastern Star Meeting | Masonic Lodge |
| Dec. 27 | 11:30 a.m. | W.C. Library Board Meeting | Newcastle Library |
| | 7 p.m. | AA Meeting | Corpus Christi Church |
| | 7:30 p.m. | Square Dancing | Newcastle Elementary |
| | 7:30 p.m. | Bingo | VFW Hall |

Do you need assistance with late rent or utilities?

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

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

The Weston County Courthouse will be closed at noon on Tuesday, December 24 as an employee appreciation day and Wednesday, December 25 in observance of Christmas.

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Closed Sunday & Monday



Christmas Cuties

"Dreaming of a White Christmas" was the theme of the Weston County Children's Center/Region III Developmental Services Preschool Program held at Crouch Auditorium Thursday, Dec. 5. Some of the songs performed by the youngsters included "Jingle Bells," "I'm a Little Christmas Tree," "Five Little Stockings" and "Sprinkle Little Snow."

Clockwise from above: Tanner Baird, Madison Armstrong, Josie Smith, Kaliana Moren, Heidi Sanford and Arianna Burke; Weston McKonkey; Leah Walton, Adalyn Mielke and Emily McMaster; Atrayewe Brown, Kristi Krogman and Lily Patterson.

Photos by Denice Piscioti/NLJ



TOPS for BREAD



In the spirit of the season, Wyoming Take Off Pounds Sensibly —TOPS No. 218 — collected 113 pounds of food to give to the BREAD office in Newcastle. Pictured are Shelly Diaz, Ellen Butts, John Butts, Mary McQuin, Barb Gould, Jane Capps, Jo Ann Dunn, Lois Lucas, Galen Stafford, Eva Lynn Stafford and Freida Lincoln. The group meets on Thursday mornings in the Craft Room at the Weston County Senior Services center. The group's weight loss goal for the year was 100 pounds, which they surpassed by losing a total of 152 and a half pounds. Anyone interested in joining the group can call Ellen Butts at 746-4251. Another TOPS group meets on Tuesday evenings at the First United Methodist Church; for information contact Norma Lease at 746-4568. (Photo by Denice Piscioti/NLJ)

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Christmas in the County



Free tickets, free birds

Becky Vodopich and Susan Love (standing behind her) of the Newcastle Area Chamber of Commerce take tickets at the Dogie Theater on Saturday from Paul Holland and his children, Kristofer Blaisdel and Christa Holland. The theater was offering a free screening of the animated film "Free Birds" to local children as a means of giving parents a chance to do some Christmas shopping. Event sponsors included the Chamber, First State Bank, Weston County Title LLC, and Wyoming Refining Company. (Photo by Denice Piscioti/NLJ)



Thank you for your business and friendship this past year. We wish all of you good health, peace, joy and prosperity.

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Being together is what's important

This year, for the first time, I have turned my Pandora station to Christmas music. It definitely has put me in the spirit of the season. After spending a couple of years as a representative of Disney, spending hours in stores being forced to listen to the music which was just plain annoying by December, I was surprised by how much I now enjoy it.



Denice Piscioti
Miss Magnum

But it has made me realize that having the Christmas Spirit is an attitude. I hope mine is contagious. Having spent 10 years not celebrating Christmas, it became my favorite holiday because I appreciate what I did not have for many years.

When I was 7, for religious reasons, my parents ceased celebrating holidays completely. At the age of 18 I chose to begin observing religious festivities again. So I did not have Christmas traditions to pass on to my family except one — a birthday cake for Jesus.

As a young child, the last Christmas we celebrated as a family, I remember being with my Grandmother and singing, "Happy Birthday" to the Christ as someone held a cake. Years later, I enjoyed baking the dessert to enjoy on Christmas after we sang to Jesus.

I wanted my children — Stephanie, Brooke, Jennie and Justin — to know the reason for the season, the birth of Christ

the King. We even had a wooden nativity set for them to play with. I encouraged giving by having them shop for their siblings, which is one thing I still see them enjoy doing, even though most of them are grown and on their own.

Since I am divorced from my children's father they have to divide their time between both households during the holidays. Family traditions do not give much time for my children and my step-children to be together on Christmas, which has bothered me in the past.

This year, however, I have learned to appreciate the times that are not holidays that we spend together. Every

Wednesday night, whoever can make it comes to our house for a "family dinner." When I stopped and thought about the times we are all together on those nights, I realized they far outweigh the Christmas dinners we do not spend together.

As my children grew — I would say their ages but that might get me lumps of coal this year — traditions have changed. We don't always have a birthday cake like we did when they were younger, but we are together, which is what counts.

It dawned on me this year, with my oldest granddaughter, 3-year-old NovaLee, that many of the traditions will soon be revised. She is enjoying playing with the manger scene and hanging ornaments on the tree — I found six all on one branch!

And seeing Christmas through her eyes is such a joy! Visiting Jolly Ol' Saint Nick has been a treat during the holidays this year. At the Weston County Senior Services Center on Nov. 29, NovaLee proudly sat on Santa's lap, telling him she wanted a big horse — with gestures of how big the horse should be. The following day, at Sol Shine Photography, she hugged Santa like he was her long-lost best friend.

She was pretty shy at the Wedding Closet's coloring day on the first Saturday in December, though, when Santa asked her what she wanted for Christmas. By the time we left she was asking him what he wanted to eat and drink when he visited her house on Christmas Eve. Days later, she would tell everyone Santa wanted to drink hot chocolate and sugar cookies when he visited her house.

This year also marks the first Christmas for my second granddaughter, Caprice, born in August. The day after Christmas, ironically the day we learned of her arrival last year, she will be 4 months old. She was not sure what to think of the jolly man — her eyes were caught very wide in pictures — but fortunately she was not afraid of him.

This year, I am very excited for Dec. 24 and 25 to arrive, not for what is under the tree, but for those whom I will have the privilege of sharing those days.

I wish everyone joy, peace and happiness during the 2013 holiday season and a happy New Year!



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Plenty of goodies

Archie Callandar and Joe Miglia chat during Black Hills Power's Open House Friday morning, where guests to the business enjoyed snacks and an opportunity to learn about the company. (Photo by Todd Bennington/NLJ)

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Council

from page 1

agreements as you try to balance the views, ideas, and thought processes [of various constituents] ... with what we're trying to do for the community [as a whole]."

"Overall," he continued, "you ought to be involved if you're looking to serve, looking to benefit the community and bring a rational ... thought process to what we're doing ... Temper that always with 'can we afford to do it or should we afford to do it?' I don't mean just financially."

James added that he feels smaller communities such as Newcastle actually afford elected officials more chances to make positive changes given their closer proximity to the public.

"I think there [are more opportunities], because it's around you every single day," he explained. "You're not removed from it here. You're always in [immediate contact with community members], unlike some big cities where you're typically removed many layers from those whom you're serving. You don't see them day to day."

In response to the News Letter Journal's observation that neither he nor Jim Bunch were originally from the Newcastle area, James was ambivalent about whether or not this was a desirable quality for a city councilman, supposing it probably depends on the attitude a given individual brings to the position.

"It can provide some outside views," he reasoned. "It can provide different points of view, different experiences that may lend [themselves] well to living and serving in a community like this. In Jim's case, [and] in mine, neither of us came in and tried to remake the community. We settled in and became involved. 'How do we go about helping?' It's those who come in from the outside and are unwilling to understand that things are a little different here, that difference isn't bad, it's just different ... It seems at times that [there are those who] want to remake [Newcastle in the mode of] where they came from. Now, there are positives from [other places] that I think it's appropriate to begin to introduce into any community."

Addressing another question from the News Letter Journal, James agreed that Bunch's appointed replacement — as an incumbent — would naturally have an advantage should they choose to run for public office, and transparency is the best defense against cronyism or nepotism in the appointment process.

"That's why these things should be appropriately done in public," he responded. "We can legally, if we wanted to, do all of it in closed session, except the actual appointment itself must be made in open meeting ...

There were some specific reasons why we did it [on one occasion in the past in a closed session] ... Looking back on it, I think it probably should have been handled a little bit differently ..."

"There's always the possibility, big city or small," James went on, "of cronyism or the old boy system. There's always that potential ... We hope to be far more transparent than that in what we do, so that it doesn't create the appearance that something like that is happening. I know there are some who would disagree with me, but I can't say that's ever been [a factor] in any appointments that we've [made]."

Faced with the question of what kind of personality the council is seeking, someone who will mesh easily with the existing council or, conversely, a person who might bring a different, perhaps contrasting, perspective, James thought the answer might be a little of both, so long as an individual doesn't intend to gain a position on the council only to obstruct the workings of the city.

"There are multiple ways of looking at that," James reflected. "Of course you hope that whomever you choose, as far as meshing well, will at least get along well ... I'm not challenged by different points of view and other ideas. [As far as] individuals who may have an agenda towards disassembling municipal government or stopping things ... I find that disturbing, because that can really create almost a gridlock and a really unpleasant environment to work in. If that's a person's view or idea about municipal government, they don't belong on the city council. That isn't where they need to be."

James made clear that he was speaking from personal experience.

"Some of my first experiences as a city council member were with a couple of those individuals, and it was not very pleasant ... There's no 'how can we come together to resolve the differences' or maybe never resolve the differences, but [at least achieve an] understanding that some of these things [to which a person may have personal objections] are going to have to happen anyway ... That's one of the things a lot of people need to understand on a board like this. When I'm sitting out there, I can pick and choose my issues. When I'm sitting up here I don't have that luxury. I need to deal with whatever's coming across the table. Too often it seems those individuals are unwilling to take that global view of things and continue to pound that single key on the piano."

As for the time commitment a new council member should expect to have to make, James didn't seem to believe it's an

altogether unreasonable one.

"I would say as a council member, probably 10 to 12 hours a month," he estimated. "If you figure a couple of hours on first and third Mondays for city council meeting ... and then for other committee meetings and other things they may be assigned to do or have an interest in."

Asked his thoughts about someone coming on to the council without any political experience or much knowledge of city government, and how they should equip themselves for success, James answered, "I can just base it on my own experience and those who have been fairly successful in the past: listen, watch, read the newspaper, pay attention to what's going on in the community. If there are questions, regardless of how silly they may seem, ask questions. We have not had any formal council training, and it's something I've thought ... might be of value"

James related how he has dealt with issues in the past, and what a potential council member might expect.

"As the mayor, I've taken the opportunity to sit down and visit with some people about what you might call courtesies. In other words, the very first time a department head or the city council hears about an issue should not be at the city council meeting. Give the courtesy to the department heads, if there's an issue, go visit with them first. That's what they're hired to do, [to] go take care of those sorts of things. In short, don't blindsides anybody. That's one of the big ones ... It doesn't have to be done in the first three or four days, but over time, acquaint yourself with the process of how things run."

All told, James said he believes city government provides the most satisfaction to those who are willing to take the long view and moderate their immediate goals.

"I find it very rewarding, and I think most people who have been involved do," he said, summing up. "It can be frustrating at times. It can be upsetting. It can be irritating. But generally, since I've been involved ... my view is that the community has progressed forward in lots of ways, maybe not as fast as some have wanted, maybe not in certain areas as others may have wanted, but generally it's been positive progress."

The actual appointment of the new council member will take place at the next council meeting following the Jan. 13 candidate forum, which is scheduled for Jan. 21 at 7 p.m. Should the appointee choose to run for election, he or she will need to file with the city in May of 2014, with the primary and then general elections to take place in August and November.

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Open house visitors

Retired teacher Sue Jones says hello to happy baby Spencer Virchow as mom Kati introduces the two. The meeting occurred at an open house held by Edward Jones at its West Main Street office last Friday afternoon. (Photo by Denice Piscioti/NLJ)

Pool

from page 1.....

frustrating one.

"I've talked to a total of nine companies that say they do this pool lining, but after explaining what we've got, they won't even return my calls," he told the board, though he mentioned the representative of Enviro-Flow had been very responsive to his questions.

School Board member Tom Wright speculated that the pool isn't a large enough job to attract many of the companies in question, which would have to mobilize their personnel and equipment from out of state.

Local contractor Black Hills Plumbing & Heating, Gregory added, had provided a figure of \$84,000 to replace, rather than reline, the damaged portion of pipe, though technically this wasn't a bid proposal but a budget estimate. He suggested that Black Hills might be placed on standby to assist in digging down to pipes, a process he described as "pot-holing," should Enviro-Flow personnel find more areas in need of repair with their advanced camera equipment.

Attorney Don Hansen initially objected to the board's move to accept the Enviro-Flow bid, but eventually relented, acknowledging, "If nobody else bid I guess there's not much of a complaint they could have I suppose ... I guess, under the circumstance, you have no other choice."

School Board Superintendent Brad LaCroix commented that he thought rebidding the project would simply function to further delay repairs, a sentiment with which Gregory expressed his agreement.

"I don't think we would even get any other bids, because I'm pretty sure I've talked to every one of these companies from the West Coast to the East Coast," Gregory explained, "and none of them are interested in it. Obviously they're not even returning my calls ... I'm not opposed to going out to bid again, but I think Brad [LaCroix] is right ... I have a suspicion we're going to end up with the same results."

Regardless of the board's decision, Gregory said he hopes to get a representative of Associated Pools, the company that originally designed and built the now 20-year-old pool, to give their opinion on the what repairs are needed before work commences.

Asked why that hadn't yet happened, Gregory explained, "We haven't been able to get them here ... They were the first ones we called. They said maybe they could have someone here by the first of the year. Maybe I was wrong, but I chose not to just sit there and do nothing until they got here. I started looking for some other fixes. With that being said ... I'm probably going to [put these other contractors on hold provided Associated Pools can get here Monday]. I would like to see what they have to say."

Gregory went on to note that Associated Pools had quoted him a figure of \$65 per hour for consulting work, and he hopes to have a representative of the company on site by the beginning of this week.

As they mulled over the various ramifications of the project, financial and otherwise, a number of board members voiced apprehension that the repair work might quickly spiral into a money pit for the school district.

"Really, when we think about it," commented Chairman Bill Lambert, "we could be looking at a way bigger thing. This \$30,000 might not even touch what we're looking at, and we might flat out not have the money."

"That is a possibility, to be fair, I think that is a very real possibility," LaCroix responded.

There was general agreement among the board that a comprehensive, long-term fix for the pool will probably be needed, one that addresses more than just the immediate leak. Still, Gregory clarified that only the section of pipe now in question is as yet known to have problems.

"We've got another three or four hundred feet of pipe that we could still have problems with, [but] this pipe we're

dealing with now is the only pipe we've had issues with up to this point," he said.

Vice Chair Bob Bonnar emphasized the urgency of seeing the pool up and running again and suggested that thorough planning should be undertaken before embarking on and committing money to a long-term fix.

"My feeling is we [should] approve the motion to accept the bid to fix the immediate problem we've got now, and, yes, investigate the possibility of putting another set of bids out to completely ... address this problem long term. [But] right now we've got a facility that's down completely. We've got grade school kids waiting on it. We've already scrapped the high school season ... We advertised for bids. We got one. I say we accept the bid and fix the immediate problem, and then don't forget about it afterwards but really investigate long-term fixes to this to avoid future problems," Bonnar said.

As indicated, the school board eventually voted in favor of allocating \$30,000 from the state-funded Major Maintenance account, of which 10 percent is set aside for discretionary applications such as the pool, leaving a balance of \$13,427 for discretionary use this fiscal year.

Later in the evening, the same individuals, meeting as the Recreation Board, debated the merits of putting out another bid proposal for as-needed work, to be paid for out of the Rec Board's coffers, should the money provided by the school board prove inadequate in case substantial additional repairs are found to be needed. The board voted 4-2 in favor of doing so, but the absence of three board members raised questions regarding the number of votes needed to approve a motion — a majority of members present, or a majority of the membership in total.

LaCroix confirmed with NLJ on Monday morning that he expected a representative of Associated Pools to meet with school district officials that afternoon.



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On the morning of June 3, 2011, the body of Katherine Grace Coffee, also known as Katy Coffee, age 35, was discovered in her home in Newcastle, the victim of an apparent homicide. Her death is being investigated by the Newcastle Police Department and the Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation.

Anyone with information about the crime or knowledge of Coffee's whereabouts on the evening and night-time hours of Thursday, June 2, 2011, are asked to please call the Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation at (307) 682-1796, or the Newcastle Police Department at (307) 746-4486.

Coffee's family has offered a \$50,000 reward to anyone that can provide information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person/s involved in this crime.



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Generations

News Letter Journal



'50s Day

In celebration of the 50th day of school, Newcastle Christian Academy held a 50s Day Sock Hop on Dec. 2. At right, Phil Thurman teaches granddaughter Asia Graham some moves. Above, Asia Graham boogies with classmate Holly Peterson. (Photos by Todd Bennington/NLJ)



Totes of Hope program helps feed the hungry

By Denice Piscioti of NLJ

Being hungry is a miserable feeling, especially for a child. Three years ago next month, Newcastle Middle School Counselor Eileen Vickers, along with former Newcastle Elementary School Physical Education instructor Sue Simon, designed a way for students to receive a bag of food for their families on the last day of the school week through Totes of Hope.

Since the conception of the program in January 2011, the program has grown to not only include giving nourishment to students at the middle school but when school resumed in the fall of the same year elementary school students benefitted also.

Food for 48 families at NMS and NES is purchased from the Wyoming

Food Bank of the Rockies through monetary donations in the community. The past two years the local organization has also benefitted from donations through the Festival of Trees.

"The \$5,700 we received this year will help a lot!" proclaimed Vickers. She calculated they spend \$300 to \$600 each month purchasing food to send home with the students.

The First United Methodist Church has also been generous in helping raise money to purchase food from the Food Bank. Groceries are less expensive when purchased through the Food Bank, explained Vickers, making monetary donations go farther.

"We have some community members that help. It is just awesome! It makes me want to cry when I see the generosity of the

community," she admitted.

In addition to Simon, Chris and Herb French help each week put the food into bags and deliver them to the students at the elementary school.

Additionally, the Future Business Leaders of America Newcastle High School Chapter has adopted the organization as a service project. Three members help assemble the bags on the last school day before the weekend. They began collecting items for Totes of Hope on Halloween by trick-or-treating for food in the community.

"We have a food drive every year. When we heard about the Totes of Hope and how it was directly involved with the student body, we decided we would make it a service project," explained FBLA advisor Alysha Engle.

Seven teams collected a good

amount of food during the outing. They also teamed up with the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America to collect more, by asking for canned goods as entrance fee to a dance held at the school.

Once a month food arrives from the Food Bank and is stored at Weston County School District #1 Maintenance building in a small area, explained Vickers. However, last month there was a mix up with the truck and it did not arrive when it was supposed to.

"The FBLA trick-or-treating was perfect timing! Without it we would not have been able to survive a week without the truck. The community saved us when the truck didn't make it," Vickers smiled.

Usually the students all receive the same items in their bags, she added,

but that week they got a variety.

After Christmas there will be a food drive at the middle and high schools. Engle is hoping to make it a contest between the classes.

"The teachers have been good about offering extra credit when the students bring food into class," she offered.

In a desire to do more, the FBLA students are also gathering new clothes and toys to give to the Totes of Hope students for Christmas.

"Only Eileen knows their names — we are just collecting them and wrapping them next week," Engle explained of the process.

FCCLA is also contributing to the gifts by making a fleece tied blanket for each family.

"We want each family to receive a special tote for Christmas," she said.



Fun lessons

As a part of Life Skills instruction, eighth-graders from Newcastle Middle School accompanied Physical Education teacher Nate Smith to the Game Room on Main Street last week. On the school outing the eight students, Cody Allard, Joe Guse, Shelton Boone-Kirby, Jaden Douglas, Russell Carlson, Murray Hebbing, Ramey Lake and Pedro Mercado, divided in two groups to enjoy a lesson in how to correctly play billiards. Eric Nelson and business owner Bruce Perkins volunteered to help the group during their excursion.

Photo by Denice Piscioti/NLJ

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Sports

News Letter Journal

Schedule

Newcastle

| | | | |
|-----------------|----|-------------------------------|--------|
| Boys Basketball | | | |
| 12/19 | VJ | Sundance Bulldogs | H 4PM |
| 12/20 | VJ | State Line Shootout @Sundance | A 2PM |
| 12/21 | VJ | State Line Shootout @Sundance | A 10AM |
| 01/04 | V9 | Lusk Tigers | A 3PM |

| | | | |
|------------------|----|-------------------------------|--------|
| Girls Basketball | | | |
| 12/19 | VJ | Sundance Bulldogs | H 4PM |
| 12/20 | VJ | State Line Shootout @Sundance | A 2PM |
| 12/21 | VJ | State Line Shootout @Sundance | A 10AM |
| 01/04 | V9 | Lusk Tigers | A 3PM |

| | | | |
|-----------|----|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Wrestling | | | |
| 12/19 | VJ | *Buffalo Bison | A 5PM |
| 12/20 | VJ | Battle in the Bighorns at Worland | A 9AM |
| 12/21 | VJ | Battle in the Bighorns at Worland | A 9AM |
| 01/07 | VJ | Lusk Tigers | H 5PM |

Upton

| | | | |
|-----------------|--|----------------------------|--------|
| Boys Basketball | | | |
| 12/20-21 | | Shoshoni @Shoshoni | TBA |
| 1/10 | | Avada/Clearmont @Clearmont | 5:30PM |
| 1/11 | | NSI @Sheridan | 2:30PM |

| | | | |
|------------------|--|----------------------------|-----|
| Girls Basketball | | | |
| 12/20-21 | | Shoshoni | TBA |
| 1/10 | | Avada/Clearmont @Clearmont | 4PM |
| 1/11 | | NSI @Sheridan | 1PM |

Cancer Benefit

Reminder: The annual Sundance vs. Newcastle Basketball Benefit for Cancer Research will be held Thursday, Dec. 19, at the Dogie Dome.

The Score

7th Grade "A" Girls Basketball

Dec. 10
Newcastle 12, Hulet 10
Dec. 12
Newcastle 16, Lead 14
Dec. 14
Newcastle 19, Wheatland 22
Newcastle 8, Glenrock 55

8th Grade "A" Girls Basketball

Newcastle 26, Hulet 39
Newcastle 10, Lead 28
Newcastle 8, Wheatland 51
Newcastle 11, Glenrock 26

"B" Girls Basketball

Newcastle 6, Wheatland 40
Newcastle 8, Douglas 26

Calves Wrestling

Dec. 14
Newcastle 30, Douglas 52

Kids can enter new fishing challenge

With the holidays coming up, school is out and the Wyoming Game and Fish suggests one way to fill kids' free time is to take them fishing and try for the Wyoming Youth Fish Challenge.

Fishing with kids is often thought of as a warm weather activity, but the recent cold snap has created excellent ice conditions

— See **Derby**, Page 18

Wrestlers finish fifth at Lusk

By Todd Bennington of NLJ

The Newcastle grapplers took fifth place as a team at the Lusk Invitational Friday and Saturday, though a number of individual wrestlers placed much higher than that within their respective weight classes.

"We took eight wrestlers and we were competing against teams that had a full squad," commented Newcastle Coach Sean Crabtree, who explained that his undermanned squad was the result of injuries and ineligibilities due to grades, which were in the process of being addressed.

"Overall I was very happy and pleased with our wrestlers," he added.

Interestingly enough, two of the Dogies ended up battling each other, with Merritt Crabtree defeating Jake Villanueva 31-19 in the 182-pound finals.

"I was glad they met in the finals," said Coach Crabtree, who also happens to be Merritt's father. "Jake would be at 170 but weight certification [rules] won't allow him to drop until this Friday, so Jake's giving up [a lot of size in the 182-pound class]. He's a light 182-pounder, but you've got to follow the rules and regulations of wrestling ..."

"I didn't want them to go out and hurt each other," Crabtree explained of the match's high score, which owed to takedowns in the first period. "I told them to go out and drill the first period, and then after that it was fair game the second and third periods."



NLJ File Photo

Nick Bock and Braden Rushton during a recent wrestling practice.

Crabtree said he was pleased at how his team was progressing, based on what he saw at Lusk, and his wrestlers are beginning to show signs of development.

"They're coming [along]," he said. "I'll tell you I was really happy

with this tournament. The kids were starting to work stuff and starting to shoot [takedowns]. It takes time, but I have a lot of faith in these kids ... I think by the end of January we're going to see a heck of an improvement in these kids ... We need to work on

shooting more and working more off the bottom. [Additionally], some of us have some problems riding."

Upton Coach Lee McCoy, whose wrestlers have combined with the Dogies this season, chimed in to add chain wrestling and finishing matches as among those skills the two teams need to work on.

Next up on the agenda for the Dogies is rival Buffalo, who they will face on the road in a meet this Thursday, a team that Crabtree noted features last year's 106-pound state champ who has since moved to 113.

"In years past there's been a pretty good rivalry between Newcastle and Buffalo and hopefully we'll renew it," added McCoy. "Their coach is a former Newcastle wrestler, Mitch Johnson, so that should be fun. In fact, I coached [Johnson] when he was a freshman. He's a former state champion from Newcastle, so we're going to go up there and give him a hard time," McCoy laughed.

An undoubtedly tougher test for the Dogies will come this weekend at the Pat Weede Invitational in Gillette, an invite tournament where Newcastle will participate in four duels on Friday, followed by three on Saturday.

"This is a nationally known tournament," said McCoy of the grueling test the Dogies will face. "They get teams from all over the region — North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Colorado. They try to bring

— See **Wrestlers**, Page 18

Boys swim season cancelled

By Todd Bennington of NLJ

The recent closure of the Kozisek Aquatic Center due to leakage from a pipe that supplies water to the pool, combined with limited interest from potential swimmers, has necessitated the cancellation of the boys high school swim season at Newcastle High School this year.

"You can run track without having a track," Athletic Director Todd Quigley lamented of the cancellation, "[but] it's tough to train for swimming when your lakes are frozen over, when you

don't have a facility, and the closest one is 80 miles away. That's discouraging."

The current uncertainty regarding when the pool will be reopened has compounded already limited participation in the program, which Quigley, a former swim coach who led the Dogie girls to four consecutive state championships and boys teams to three consecutive second-place finishes, characterized as an ongoing issue, albeit one that is not confined to Newcastle.

"In the 25 years that I've been here," he recalled, "the boys numbers have been his-

torically less than the girls swim team numbers. My first year I was here ... I had two boys. The second year we lost the program, because we had no interest. Since then, we've fluctuated from four kids to a high of maybe the high teens ... Usually it's around the eight to 12 range for the boys. Never large but enough to field a full lineup at a swim meet."

Though Quigley had not expected a high turnout this year, for a time the season seemed to be shaping up to be a more promising one than he had initially anticipated.

"The week prior to Thanksgiving we had six

kids expressing interest," he said. "At that time we were unaware of how long the fix for the facility was going to be. We were guesstimating it could be back up online as early as Christmas break — again, that was just a guess — I was optimistic that we were going to have more kids than I had initially told the [school] board in early November. [When it] came to the actual practice date, we had two young men show up the first night ... The second and third nights we had just one young man show up."

Quigley readily admitted that the situation with the

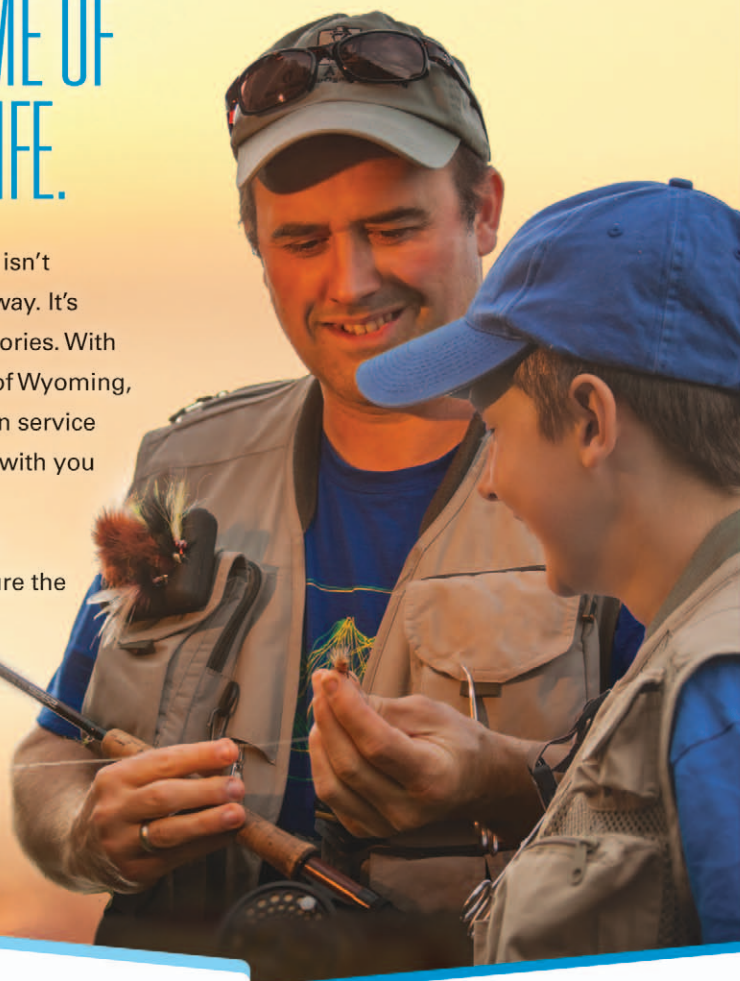
pool undoubtedly contributed in no small part to this acute decline in interest, with swimmers facing, at best, only a partial season of competition.

"We had explained to the ... students that we would be cancelling the first portion of the season because of our lack of a facility. Putting kids on the road daily to Gillette, even though that was an option, it's another three hours out of their day. [Instead] we thought maybe we could get by the first two to three weeks with the weight room, track workouts — dry-land training, if

— See **Swimmers**, Page 18

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Denice Piscioti/NLJ

The old Ted Nicolls home, on Streets Drive east of Newcastle, has been abandoned and is on property now owned by Jim Whetsell. Anyone interested in the building can contact Whetsell.

A piece of local history

By Denice Piscioti of NLJ

Located on Streets Drive, east of Newcastle on U.S. Highway 16, sits a piece of Nicolls family history, a log house that once was on the family homestead in Meade County in South Dakota. Ted Nicolls relocated the home log by log to preserve his childhood home, and although the building is now deteriorating and is not in use by the current landowner, Jim Whetsell, it is a legacy left behind that recalls earlier times in Weston County's history.

"He rebuilt it and decorated it exactly as it was on the homestead," recalled Nicolls' great-niece, Tammy Habeck, who once owned the property.

According to Nicolls' obituary in the Dec. 12, 1985, News Letter Journal, his family moved to the homestead in Meade County in 1909 when he was 3 years old. He graduated from high school in Rapid City, S.D., serving in the United States Army during World War II from 1942 to 1945. He moved to Newcastle in the early 1950s where he worked for many years in the construction field and as a stone mason.

His nephew, Corbin Nicolls, and great-nephew, Bruce Grummons, remember he moved the house log by log, numbering them to rebuild it at its current location in the late 1960s, after their uncle learned the Forest Service was making plans to burn down the old house.

"He restored it back log for log just exactly how it was," Grummons added.

Corbin's wife, Helen, remembers the elder Nicolls hauling new logs to replace the rotting ones. He also gathered needed materials from other old buildings to restore the beloved house.

She told the News Letter Journal there were 10 children in the family. Another relative, Gloria Bennett, his great-niece, commented on how small the house was for a large family.

As a stone mason, Nicolls built retaining walls and fireplaces in the area, including at his own property on Streets Drive. He did not live in the house after he built it, his relatives recalled, but lived in a house a few feet from where he



rebuilt the log home.

Ruthie Spence fondly told the NLJ about Nicolls building the retaining wall on her property. He worked diligently in the heat, enjoying refreshing lemonade she prepared for him.

Unfortunately, he was in a car accident on Jan. 13, 1985, in Hill City, S.D., spending the remainder of his days at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Hot Springs, S.D. He was laid to rest in December 1985 in the Black Hills National Cemetery near Sturgis, S.D.

"He was always the first one to do dishes. He was quite an uncle and he could eat, too!" declared Grummons' wife, Gloria.

Reading program starts soon

Starting in January, the Weston County Library Foundation will host "Family Photographs," a reading and discussion series in the Wyoming Humanities Council's Reading Wyoming program. The discussion group will meet at 7 p.m. in the Weston County Library meeting room on Jan. 15, Feb. 19, March 19 and April 16. The program is free and open to the public. To register and borrow books, contact the library or call 746-2206 for more information. Participants will read and

discuss "Betsey Brown" by Ntozake Shange, "Bone" by Fae Myenne Ng, "A Yellow Raft in Blue Water" by Michael Dorris and "Montana 1948" by Larry Watson. All are novels that center on the drama of family life and relationships among the generations.

Phyl Sundstrom returns to lead the discussions.

"I'm particularly looking forward to this series, as the inter-relationships of family members across the generations are always interesting. I'm

also looking forward to seeing familiar faces at our discussions as well as a few new members this year," Sundstrom said.

The program is offered by the Wyoming Humanities Council. Reading Wyoming provides reading and discussion series to nonprofit organizations around the state and is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. For more information on the council's programs, call 307-721-9243 or visit the council's website at thinkwy.org.

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NOTICE

The first half of the 2013 property taxes became delinquent November 10, 2013. If you pay the **FULL TAXES** by December 31, 2013, no interest will be charged.

Susan Overman, Weston County Treasurer

Publish: December 12, 19 & 26, 2013

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Maxine Kaul, who, along with Mike Jording, gave a presentation on Weston County's Gray Ladies and Candy Strippers, gathers with former hospital volunteers Grace Davis, Ruth Richards, Sandi Shook, Anna White, Carol Sylte and Janice Dummer for a photo to be taken by Betty Petranek, at right.

Taking note of service

Story & Photos
By Amy Menerey of NLJ

In celebration of Wyoming Day, the Weston County Historical Society offered a presentation Saturday afternoon at the Weston County Senior Services Center highlighting the service of Gray Ladies and Candy Strippers that volunteered in the community under the auspices of the American Red Cross, as well as a brief history of the origins of the service.

Special attendees at the presentation included seven volunteers that served as Gray Ladies or Candy Strippers at either Weston County Memorial Hospital or the "new" hospital, Martha Rich, Carol Decker Sylte, Anna White, Ruth Richards, Grace Davis Sandi Shook and Janice Dummer.

Following a PowerPoint presentation by Mike Jording, and a brief history by Maxine Kaul, who did extensive research on the subject, the ladies were asked questions about their volunteer days, their uniforms and any special memories they had of that time.

White said she put in 37 years volunteering at the hospital, and she, along with Richards, who spent "quite a few years" in service as well, wore their blue and white pin-striped uniform tops, adorned with Red Cross badges and pins indicating years of service.

The ladies all expressed how rewarding the volunteer work had been, which included comfort gestures such as bringing water and juice to patients, providing patients with reading material or reading to them, and bringing in and taking care of flowers.

In response to Jording's question about special memories, Davis recalled, "I remember one time I watered artificial flowers!"

Davis' answer brought laughter from the crowd, but one of White's memories reminded everyone of the realities of working with ill and injured people.

"We had to keep the hall cleared when there was a death, so the mortician could get the body out," White recalled, as others nodded at the recollection of shielding other patients from the morbid truth of life's fragility.

Jording gave special credit to Kaul — who has collected many of the uniforms worn by previous Weston County Gray Ladies who have passed on — with gathering the information presented.

"Maxine was a pioneer of this research," Jording told the crowd of approximately three dozen people. "There wasn't much in the state archives, or the Anna Miller



Above, Maxine Kaul describes the uniform of the Gray Ladies, pointing out a bar that indicated years of service. Also in attendance at the presentation was 99-year-old Gen Roan, described by Jording as "the matriarch of nursing in Weston County." Roan served 43 years as a nurse, and brought along a doll to the presentation which was given to her by her granddaughter. The doll is dressed in a uniform very similar to the one Roan wore during her nursing career. "Except I wore a skirt," Roan said, as she told the group that the black stripe on the cap signified a registered nurse.



Museum about them."

The presentation, Jording said, was held to both inform and to gather information.

The Weston County Historical Society is a chapter of the Wyoming State Historical

Society, and offers frequent presentations for the public. For more information about upcoming presentations or membership, contact the chapter's president, Betty Petranek, at 746-9622.

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Blotter

December 8, 2013
 Report of a dog at large. Report of a cat at large. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Traffic hazard reported. 911 hang up. Traffic stop, Verbal Warning issued. Stabbing reported. Minor accident reported. Traffic stop, Equipment Repair Order issued.

December 9
 Minor accident reported. Phone fraud reported. Three VIN inspections. Traffic stop, Citation issued. Traffic stop, Citation issued. Minor accident reported. Report of a cat at large. Report of a dog at large. 911 hang up. Civil problem reported. 911 hang up. Disturbance reported.

December 10
 Vehicle burglary reported. Drunk driver reported, one arrest. Report of a dog at large. Civil problem reported. Two VIN inspections. Mountain lion reported. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Report of a dog at large.

December 11
 Extra patrol requested. Traffic complaint. VIN inspection. Report of a dog at large. Theft reported. Unattended child reported. Domestic reported, one arrest. 911 hang up. Civil assist.

December 12
 Cat impounded. Found property reported. Assault reported. Two VIN inspections. Show

cause order issued. 911 hang up. Traffic stop, Verbal Warning issued. Drunk driver reported. Assist other agency. Noise complaint.

December 13
 Vehicle unlock requested. Civil standby requested. Structure fire reported. Report of a dog at large. Abandoned vehicle reported. VIN inspection. Suicide reported. Report of a dog at large. Civil problem reported. Protection Order issued. Traffic stop, Verbal Warning issued. Suspicious activity reported. Domestic violence reported.

Traffic stop, Equipment Repair Order issued.

December 14
 Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Traffic complaint. Hazard reported. Suspicious activity reported. Funeral escort requested. Civil standby requested. Report of a dog at large. Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Civil standby requested.



Deadline for Legals noon on Friday

Utility Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Wyoming Public Service Commission (Commission) has authorized SourceGas Distribution LLC (SourceGas) to pass on to its Pass-On Rate [Regulated Rate] customers in the Gillette Division an increase of \$0.05842 per therm, effective December 1, 2013. The proposed increase is attributed to [i] a projected wholesale gas cost decrease of \$0.00055 per therm for the period of December 1, 2013, through May 31, 2014; and [ii] an increase of \$0.05897 per therm in the CBA surcharge based on a projected under-collected balance of \$115,913. The Company estimates that this application will increase revenues by approximately \$17,846 through May 31, 2014. This approval is subject to notice, protest, investigation, opportunity for hearing, change, refund and such other orders as the Commission may deem appropriate.

The average Pass-On Rate [Regulated Rate] residential customer in the Gillette Division using approximately 102 therms per month may expect a monthly gas bill increase, before taxes, of approximately \$6.35 or about 8.78%. Actual bills will vary with usage.

Sections 249 and 250 of the Commission's Rules allow a utility to pass on to its customers known or prospective wholesale commodity cost increases or decreases, subject to public notice, opportunity for hearing and refund.

SourceGas's application is available for inspection by any interested person during regular business hours at the Commission's offices in Cheyenne and in the Company's office in Gillette, Wyoming.

Anyone who wants to file an intervention petition, request for a hearing, or a statement, protest, or public comment in this matter must file in writing with the Commission on or before January 9, 2014. Please mention Docket No. 30022-221-GP-13 when you call or write. Intervention petitions and requests for a hearing must state the position and interest of the person so filing.

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

Dated: December 9, 2013.

(Publish December 19 and 26, 2013)

Warrants

WESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1 WARRANTS OVER \$500 NOVEMBER 2013

| Vendor/Payee | Amount |
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| S.P.E.C.I.A.L.S.LLC | \$2,523.70 |
| WCSD #1-TRANSPORTATION | \$1,538.43 |
| BBY PUBLICATIONS | \$7,200.00 |
| VISA | \$4,534.22 |
| WCSD#1 GENERAL FUND | \$15,964.05 |
| Checking Account Total: | \$31,760.40 |
| Grand Total: | \$31,760.40 |

(Publish December 19, 2013)

Meeting Notice

NOTICE OF EASTERN WESTON COUNTY PUBLIC RECREATION BOARD MEETINGS

Notice is hereby given that regular meetings of the Eastern Weston County Public Recreation Board, State of Wyoming, are held each month following the regular scheduled school board meetings on the second and last Wednesday of each month. There are a few exceptions to that rule: The following months will have only one monthly meeting: June (fourth Wednesday), July (third Wednesday), November (second Wednesday), and December (second Wednesday). Meetings will be held in the board room at the Administration Building at 116 Casper Avenue, Newcastle, Wyoming, unless otherwise notified and such meetings are open to the public.

Notice is also given that official minutes of the Eastern Weston County Public Recreation Board meeting of such board, including a record of all official acts and of all warrants issued, are available for inspection by any citizen during regular office hours, at the office of the clerk of said district, at 116 Casper Avenue, Newcastle, Wyoming. Official minutes are also available for inspection on the Weston County School District # 1 school website at: weston1.k12.wy.us

(Publish December 19, 2013)

Meeting Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Weston County School District #1 Board of Trustees will have a special board meeting on January 7, 2014 at 5:00 pm (location to be determined) with area policy makers to discuss educational issues. This will be an informational meeting only.

The Weston County School District #1 Board of Trustees will also be attending a Legislative Dinner on January 15, 2014 in Douglas, WY.

(Publish December 19, 2013)

Meeting Notice

NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Notice is hereby given that regular meetings of the Board of Trustees of Weston County School District # 1, State of Wyoming, are held each month at 7:00 p.m. on the second and last Wednesday of each month. There are a few exceptions to that rule: The following months will have only one monthly meeting: June (fourth Wednesday), July (third Wednesday), November (second Wednesday) and December (second Wednesday). Meetings will be held in the board room at the Administration Building at 116 Casper Avenue, Newcastle, Wyoming, unless otherwise notified and such meetings are open to the public.

Notice is also given that official minutes of each regular or special meeting of such board, including a record of all official acts and of all warrants issued, are available for inspection by any citizen during regular office hours, at the office of the clerk of said district, at 116 Casper Avenue, Newcastle, Wyoming. Official minutes are also available for inspection on the Weston County School District # 1 school website at: weston1.k12.wy.us

(Publish December 19, 2013)

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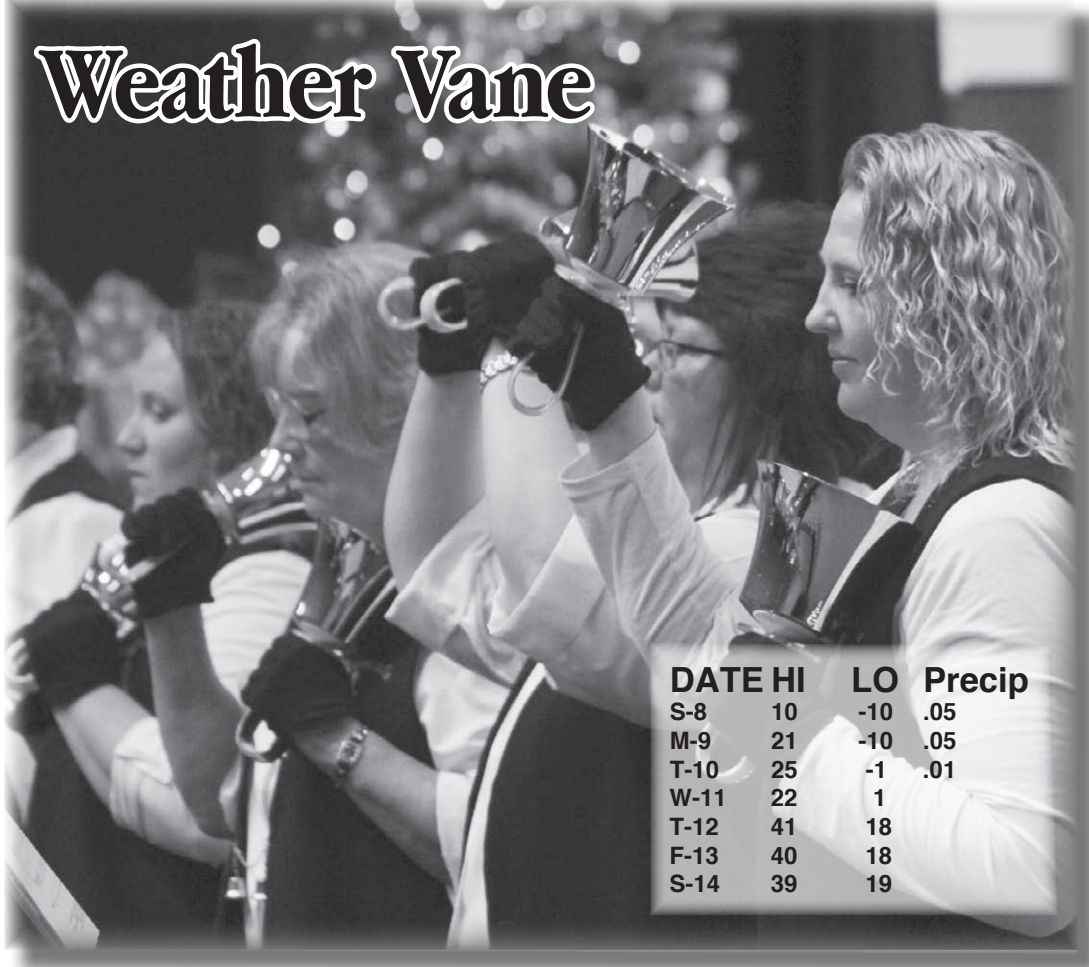
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| W-11 | 22 | 1 | |
| T-12 | 41 | 18 | |
| F-13 | 40 | 18 | |
| S-14 | 39 | 19 | |

Foreclosure Notice

FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE

WHEREAS, default in the payment of principal and interest has occurred under the terms of a promissory note ("Note") and real estate mortgage ("Mortgage"). The Mortgage dated March 22, 2013, was executed and delivered by Bret L. Rasmussen ("Mortgagor(s)") to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Ally Bank, its successors and assigns, as security for the Note of the same date, and said Mortgage was recorded on April 8, 2013, at Reception No. 742718 in Book 344 at Page 210 in the records of the office of the County Clerk and ex-officio Register of Deeds in and for Weston County, State of Wyoming; and

WHEREAS, the mortgage was assigned for value as follows:

Assignee: Ocwen Loan Servicing, LLC
 Assignment dated: September 20, 2013
 Assignment recorded: September 27, 2013
 Assignment recording information: at Reception No. 746814 in Book 347 at Page 905

All in the records of the County Clerk and ex-officio Register of Deeds in and for Weston County, Wyoming.

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

WHEREAS, written notice of intent to foreclose the Mortgage by advertisement and sale has been served upon the record owner and the party in possession of the mortgaged premises at least ten (10) days prior to the commencement of this publication, and the amount due upon the Mortgage on the date of first publication of this notice of sale being the total sum of \$218,833.19 which sum consists of the unpaid principal balance of \$214,093.04 plus interest accrued to the date of the first publication of this notice in the amount of \$4,119.27, plus other costs in the amount of \$620.88, plus attorneys' fees, costs expended, and accruing interest and late charges after the date of first publication of this notice of sale;

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

NOW, THEREFORE Ocwen Loan Servicing, LLC, as the Mortgagee, will have the Mortgage foreclosed as by law provided by causing the mortgaged property to be sold at public venue by the Sheriff or Deputy Sheriff in and for Weston County, Wyoming to the highest bidder for cash at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon on January 7, 2014 at the front door of the Weston County Courthouse located at 1 West Main, Newcastle, WY, Weston County, for application on the above-described amounts secured by the Mortgage, said mortgaged property being described as follows, to-wit:

LOT 30, BLOCK 3, WEST SADDLE SUBDIVISION OF ARNOLD 1ST EXTENSION TO THE CITY OF NEWCASTLE, WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED SEPTEMBER 21, 1977 AS INSTRUMENT NUMBER 423398

with an address of 3353 Stirrup St, Newcastle, WY 82701.

Together with all improvements thereon situated and all fixtures and appurtenances thereto.

Ocwen Loan Servicing, LLC
 By: The Castle Law Group, LLC
 123 West 1st Street, Ste. 400
 Casper, WY 82601-0000
 (307) 333-5379

(Publish December 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2013)

News Letter Journal

14 W. Main Street,
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Bid Notice

INVITATION TO BID

WESTON COUNTY OLD SHOP ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Sealed bids will be received by the Weston County Board of Commissioners until 4:30 p.m. on Monday, January 6, 2014 at the Weston County Clerk's Office, Weston County Courthouse, 1 West Main, Newcastle, Wyoming 82701, for the Weston County Old Shop Roof Replacement Project. The Weston County Old Shop Roof Replacement Project consists of one schedule. Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope with statement thereon, "BID ENCLOSED, Weston County Old Shop Roof Replacement Project" and submitted to the Weston County Clerk's Office at or before the stated time. Said bids will be publicly opened and read aloud on January 7, 2014 beginning at 2:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Room of the Weston County Courthouse, 1 West Main, Newcastle, WY 82701. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days after the date set for opening thereof. The Weston County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities or technicalities in the bidding; provided, however, that any bid received after the time specified or without accompanying Bid Guarantee, as stated below, will not be considered.

Bidding documents, including technical specifications, may be obtained from the Weston County Clerk's Office, Weston County Courthouse, 1 West Main, Newcastle, Wyoming 82701.

A bid guarantee in the form of a properly executed Bid Bond payable to Weston County in the amount of not less than 5% of the total base bid amount, for each bid schedule bid upon, shall be submitted with each bid. The successful Bidder for each bid schedule will be required to execute an Agreement with Weston County, in the form supplied in the Bidding Documents within thirty (30) days after the Notice of Award is issued. The Notice of Award shall serve as notice that the Agreement is ready for execution. The Bid Guarantee shall be forfeited as liquidated damages if the Bidder fails to execute the Agreement within thirty (30) days after the Notice of Award is issued, or fails to provide proper Bond or other form of Guarantee, as approved.

(Publish December 12, 19 and 26, 2013)

Public Notice

120(A)-13 NOTICE OF FINAL PAYMENT

Pursuant to Section 16-6-116, Wyoming Statutes, 1982, republished edition as amended, notice is hereby given that the Weston County and The City of Newcastle has accepted the work on the Mondell Field Airport Construct Runway 13-31 Extension Project, as substantially completed according to the plans and specifications and rules set forth in the Contract and that DRM, Inc. is entitled to final settlement therefore. Upon the 41st day, January 16, 2014, after the first publication of this notice, the Weston County and The City of Newcastle, under whose direction of supervision the work has been carried out will pay to DRM, Inc. the full amount due under the Contract. All persons, firms, or corporations who have any claims for work done or materials furnished on said public work are hereby notified that final payment will be made to DRM, Inc. in accordance with the terms of the Contract dated September 5, 2012. This section does not relieve DRM, Inc. and the sureties on his/her bond from any claims of work or labor done or materials or supplies furnished in the execution of the Contract.

(Publish December 5, 12 and 19, 2013)

Public Notice

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF LOCATION FOR A RETAIL LIQUOR LICENSE

Notice is hereby given that on December 4, 2013 application for the Transfer of Ownership for a Restaurant License #2 was made at the City of Newcastle. The application is for transfer from Kenneth and Debra McKee, dba: Isabella's to Hattie L. Conley, dba Isabella's. Protests against this transfer, if there be any, will be heard at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, January 6, 2013 in the Newcastle City Council Chambers at City Hall, Newcastle, Wyoming.

Dated: December 4, 2013

Charita Brunner
 Clerk/Treasurer City of Newcastle

(Publish December 12, 19, 26, 2013 and January 2, 2014)

Fun and Games

2013 IN REVIEW

ACROSS

- Fancy tie
- *Amanda Bynes wore a blue one in court
- A woman at Harvard after 1977
- Star Wars attacker
- Big time
- Artillery burst
- Rhino relative
- Brit. fliers
- E.T., e.g.
- *New prince of Cambridge
- *Leno's successor
- And not
- Dispatched
- What hernias do
- Yamaguchi's court
- *Football HOFer, _____ Jones, died
- Web _____
- Butcher's cut
- Eye _____
- Truth alternative
- One affected by Hansen's disease
- Deuce topper
- Be in harmony
- Urban legends, e.g.
- Kitten's plaything
- *Kind of care
- Rich soil
- French "lake"
- Place to moor a boat
- Gourmet mushroom
- Female peafowl
- Jewish village, historical
- Elks' hangout
- Augment
- Fear-inspiring
- MPH
- Bull's mate
- Sheep-like
- Hibernation stations
- *Kourtney and Kim
- Cause aversion

DOWN

- *Jennifer Lawrence won for doing it
- Smelting waste
- Endure
- *Satire newspaper that stopped printing
- Reign of _____
- "The Way We _____"
- Gershwin or Levin
- Blooper
- "_____ Me Maybe"
- Assortment
- Fifty-fifty
- *_____ Draper of "Mad Men" went to L.A.
- Some chips are this, some are not
- Done on a barbie
- Plus
- Biathlete's equipment
- Jerusalem's ancient land
- Cell phone bill item
- It's firma
- Season to be jolly
- Bohemian
- Reef constructor
- Met's offering
- *Boy group, reunited
- Movie _____
- Agrippina's slayer
- Boxer's stat
- Engraved
- Clod chopper
- *Cause of Chelyabinsk's disaster
- Sweater style
- Pet annoyance
- *The new one is from Argentina
- "I Dream of Jeannie" star

- Long, long time
- Tailored
- *Artist Banksy took one to New York
- Country dance formation
- a.k.a. acid
- Ornamental carp
- Unagi

CROSSWORD

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| 48 | | | | | 49 | | 50 | | | 51 | | 52 | |
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| 63 | | | | | 64 | 65 | | | 66 | | | | 67 |
| 68 | | | | | 69 | | | | 70 | | | | |
| 71 | | | | | | 72 | | | | 73 | | | |

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

Last week's answers

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

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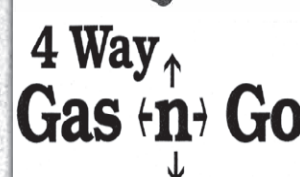
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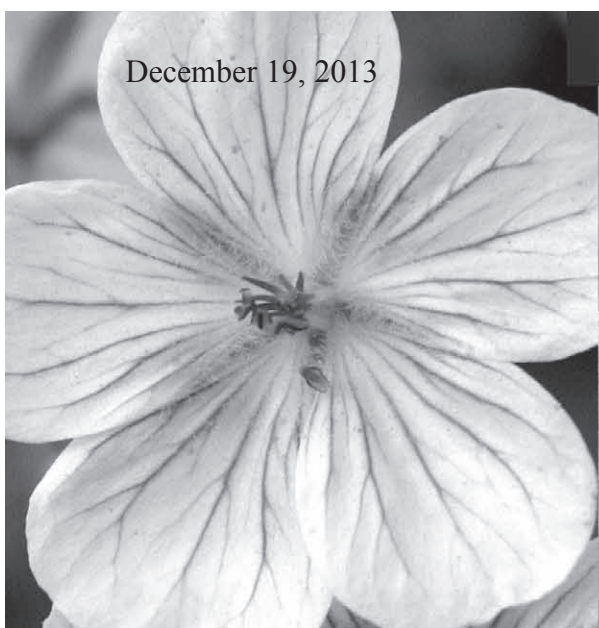
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Classifieds

news letter journal

Card of Thanks

Bonnie Fried suffered a broken hip and is currently here in the hospital - 1121 Washington Blvd. To help Mom during this difficult time, she would love a visit, card or note from her Newcastle friends and neighbors. I will thank each of you ahead of time for thinking of her, and helping her make a speedy recovery.

Thank you,
Barb Murphy

Card of Thanks

We would like to thank all who attended our 50th Anniversary Party. What a success it was! Also, thanks for all the cards, phone calls and gifts. It was very much appreciated and we had such a wonderful time. God couldn't have granted us a better life together.

Bless All of you,
Gerldine & Bill

Card of Thanks

Totes of Hope extends its most heartfelt appreciation to Pinnacle Bank for sponsoring the Festival of the Trees to benefit nonprofit organizations in our community! We appreciate individuals groups and companies who made the beautiful wreaths, trees, and baskets for tis even as well as all those who made salads on our behalf. Thank you so much to the individuals and companies who made this event a success! Your support of our organizations efforts to make a difference in our community is most appreciated! Wishing everyone a blessed holiday season!

Totes of Hope-
Eileen Vickers
Sue Simon
Chris French

Deadline-Fridays!!!

Card of Thanks

We have all received great consolation and comfort in the help and understanding of our friends in our loss of Ole. Thank you all so much.

Sincerely,
Martha Hokanson & Family

Help Wanted

NEEDED A WELDER'S HELPER. Local work in Newcastle. Please call 307-320-5708. 51-1tp

Retail Merchandiser

AMERICAN GREETINGS is looking for Retail Greeting Card Merchandisers in Newcastle, WY. As a member of our team, you will ensure the greeting card department is merchandised and maintained to provide customers the best selection of cards and product to celebrate life's events. Join the American Greetings family today by applying online at: WorkatAG.com or call 1.888.323.4192. 51-2tp

Seamstress

Seamstress will do mending and alterations for jeans, slacks and suits; curtains, zippers and new construction. Please call Betty Jensen at 746-3137. 49-3tp

Will Do Odd Jobs

Odd Jobs Wanted: Will do painting, yard work, tree trimming, gutter cleaning, etc. Call Leonard Lang, 746-2999. 42-3tp

Cliff's Tree Service

Corrective pruning, crown cleaning, removal, fertilizing. Local references available. Insured, ISA member. Am willing to barter. Money's tight why not trade. We accept almost anything of value. 629-1813.45-

Public Notary

Newspaper is on Fridays!

Wanted To Rent

Wanted House to Rent in the country near Newcastle. Please call 605-840-8574. 49-3tp

Rentals

HOUSE FOR RENT: Two bedroom with full basement, big yard, \$700 per month. Available Jan. 1. Call 307-746-4379 or 307-746-5078. 50-3tp

FOR RENT: Large 2 Bedroom Mobile Home on Wood Street. Includes water, sewer and garbage. Good condition-\$565 per month. 605-673-3048 or 605-673-1600. 49-3p

FOR RENT: Clean, 3 BDR, 1 BA, Double Wide W/Carport. NO PETS-NON-SMOKER. Central Air, W/D. \$750/Month \$600 Deposit +Propane and Electricity. Looking for a Clean Responsible, Trustworthy Tenant. Please call to view 307-746-5918. 47-6tp

FOR RENT: Three Bedroom Mobile Home on private lot. 746-9446. 01-tfc

Land For Sale

LAND FOR SALE: 3 miles North on 85, 3/4 mile off Highway. Overlooks Cambria Canyon. \$6000/Acre-20 or 40 Acres. 746-5337. 34-tfc

Vehicle For Sale

FOR SALE: 2007 Two Wheel Drive Ford Ranger-\$10,200. Less than 12,000 miles, like new, excellent shape. Please call 307-281-2867. 50-2tp

Redwing Shoes

Redwing Shoes available at Cambria Supply, 2891 West Main-Newcastle-746-2763. 50-3tc

Deadline

Deadline for the newspaper is on Fridays! 746-2777, details.

For Sale

Wife Says--Must Go!! Super Swampers 35x12x15 on 6-Hole Chevy Aluminum Rims, Chrome Grill guard for 2003 Chevy, 7-Drawer Roll around Tool Box, Blue Point, Sell or Trade. Call 307-299-0476. 51-4tf

FOR SALE: Whirlpool Washing Machine in good working condition. Asking \$250. 746-4089. 51-1t

Self-Help

BIBLE STUDY-Non-denominational. Thursdays 10 a.m. Senior Citizen's Dining Room. More info call 629-0211 or 629-1472. 45-tfc

AL-ANON (help for family and friends of alcoholics) meets every Tuesday night at 6:45 p.m. Mondell Heights.

Open Door AA Meetings, Sunday, and Fridays at 7 p.m. Wednesday meeting at 8 p.m. at the Catholic Church Basement (Back Entrance). Contact, 629-0211 for more information. 3-tfc

AA Meetings-Weston County Hospital on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. 23-tfc

HELPING HANDS Foundation of Weston County. Applications are now available to help. Please contact Rita Conklin at 307-629-0627 for information.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Meeting on Tuesdays at 4:45 p.m. at First United Methodist Church upstairs. Contact Norma Lease 746-4568.

Need a gift that will last the whole year? A subscription to the News Letter Journal. Stop in today, 14 West Main. 746-2777.

Self-Help

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Club Meeting every Thursday morning at the Weston County Senior Center. Contact Grace Davis, 746-4531.

Recovery of HOPE-N.A.

1124 Washington-Newcastle, WY. Downstairs in the Board Room at Weston County Health Services. Every Monday at 7 p.m. For information contact Bobby 307-315-1000 or Russ 307-949-0823.

Art Work/Crafts

Can be seen and bought at the News Letter Journal, 14 W. Main, Newcastle. Stop in and see our local talent!!

Wy-Cans

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HEALTHCARE JOBS. Now hiring: RNs, LPNs/LVNs, CNAs, Med Aides. \$2,000 Bonus - Free gas. Call AACO at 1-800-656-4414 Ext. 21.

WHAT'S YOUR GOVERNMENT UP TO? Find out for yourself! Review public notices printed in all of Wyoming's newspapers! Visit www.wypublicnotices.com or www.publicnoticeads.com/wy

OVER 380,550 WYOMING PEOPLE will read your classified ad if you place it in WYCAN. Sell, buy, announce. \$135 for 25 words. Contact this newspaper for details.

Gift Giving

We have a nice selection of pen and pencil sets for you to chose from for a great gift giving idea for someone on your list!!

Copy Paper

Need a case of copy paper? We have them!! And we will deliver them to your office at no additional charge. 746-2777. 14 W. Main in Newcastle.

Great gift giving ideas at the News Letter Journal, stop in 14 West Main and just check it out!!!

Job Printing

Need forms custom printed just for your business? We can do it!! Whether you need one copy or a thousand copies we can do that too! Stop in for details today!!

Subscriptions

Want a great gift giving idea, treat your friends and relatives with their hometown news, The News Letter Journal. Call 746-2777 for more details. Happy Holidays!!

Services

Public Fax, Copier and Notary Services at the News Letter Journal, 14 West Main, 746-2777.

News Letter Journal has a great selection of calculator ribbons for many different brands, stop in at the News Letter Monday-Friday, 8:30 to 5 p.m. 14 West Main-Newcastle. 47-tf

Electric Pencil Sharpeners available at the News Letter. Several selections to choose from. Great gift giving idea!! 14 West Main-Newcastle. 746-2777.

COLOR Copies now available at the News Letter, stop in today and have your Christmas letter done before the rush!!! 14 West Main, Newcastle. 746-2777.

Deadlines are on Fridays!!! 746-2777!

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Please remember deadline for Classified ads are Friday by 5:00 p.m. If you are unable to bring in your classified call: 746-2777 or email: office@news1j.com

Rare Element Resources
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PHONE: 307-283-3500
For updates and current information, please go to:
www.bearlodgeproject.com

Special Education Paraprofessional Position
Weston County School District #1 has an opening for an elementary special education paraprofessional. Applications are available at the Administration Office, 116 Casper Avenue, Newcastle, WY., during normal office hours (7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) or on the district website at www.weston1.k12.wy.us. Positions will be open until filled. EOE

Are you interested in upgrading your skills or need a career change?
Do you enjoy working with people?
If so, register today for the Certified Nurse Assistant course in Newcastle
Eastern Wyoming College Newcastle Outreach center is now accepting registrations for an upcoming CNA class. Workforce training grants are available and you may call Marilyn Cotant at 307.532.8365 to determine if you qualify.
The course will be held January 16-February 20. The registration deadline is January 9. Contact the EWC Newcastle Outreach center today to register at 746.3603.
This training brought to you in part by the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services.

CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS
The WY Honor Conservation Camp is recruiting correctional officers. Starting pay is \$2,735 per month with excellent benefits. We provide comprehensive training and stable work environment.
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Wyoming Refining Company Temporary Relief Pumper
Wyoming Refining Company has an opening for a temporary Relief Pumper at their refinery in Newcastle, Wyoming. The Relief Pumper position is a starting operational position and will be responsible for covering full-time pumper's positions when needed for vacations and when permanent pumpers have moved up for cross training on different positions in operations. Candidates for this position must have the ability to work rotating shifts, have a valid driver's license to drive company vehicles, be dependable and have adequate math skills. This job has the ability to turn into permanent position if the applicant shows the ability, drive and desire to join our operation team.
Applications are available at:
Wyoming Refining Company
10 Stampede St.
Newcastle, WY 82701
Or email: jshuck@wyref.com
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Wrestling from page 11

teams from all over to make the toughest tournament that they can in this region. It's funded through a memorial fund for Pat Weede. He was a former wrestling coach at Gillette and longtime referee ...

Asked about Newcastle's prospects this weekend, McCoy pulled no punches.

"Realistically, we're going to get our butts kicked," he stated. "It's good for our kids to see that, because that's motivation. We use that as motivation that we're not there yet ... We have a pretty young team. Even our seniors haven't experienced competition at [the] level ... they're going to see [this weekend]."

As for this year's arrangement between Upton and Newcastle, McCoy, a former Newcastle wrestler who was state champion at 119 pounds in 1989, was enthusiastic.

"It's working great. I've got three young freshmen. Being

Stats

Newcastle @ Lusk Invite 12/13-14/2013

Newcastle placed 5th as a team. Ricky Larson 3rd, Phil Jagelski 2nd, Jake Villanueva 2nd, Merritt Crabtree 1st, and Garrett Liggett 1st. Jacob Hobbs (0-3) 126: lost by pin 1:00; lost by pin 2:00; lost by pin 2:00 Ricky Larson (1-1) 126: won by decision 6-0; lost by major decision 12-1 Richard Yeager (2-0) 126: won by pin 2:59; won by pin 3:22 Cameron Hando (1-1) 145: lost by pin 1:16; won by pin 4:00 James Moberly (2-4) lost by pin 2:00; lost by pin 1:24; lost by pin 0:27; lost by disqualification; won by pin 3:12; won by decision 7-4 Phillip Jagelski (3-1) 160: won by pin 1:39; won by decision 3-2; won by decision 5-2; lost by pin 1:56 Merritt Crabtree (3-0) 182: won by major decision; won by pin 1:30; won by pin 2:10 Jake Villanueva (3-1) 182: won by pin 0:20; won by pin 0:54; won by pin 0:19; lost by major decision 31-19 Garrett Liggett (2-0) 285: won by pin 5:22; won by pin 4:43

around a full team and having to compete for a Varsity spot, having plenty of practice partners, benefits us in the long run. For the last three years at Upton we've only had a handful of kids, so they don't get to experience the whole

team aspect of wrestling, what it's like to compete for a spot on the Varsity team, to have multiple practice partners."

"There are certain things we can do with 20 kids in the wrestling room that we can't do with three kids in the wrestling room," McCoy went on. "I think it's great for the Upton kids to have that experience of being on a bigger team. I've [even] got a new, refreshed outlook on coaching just because I get to coach more than just a handful of kids ..."

As for what New Year's resolutions the Dogie faithful might expect to see from his team, Crabtree said he is going to make things even tougher and more competitive on his wrestlers come January.

"After the first of the year, we're going to get more serious and practices are going to get a little more intense," he promised.

Swimmers from page 11

you will. [Head Coach] Jenny [Pederson] did make contact with the majority of the young men who were interested. Most of them, due [to a variety of reasons] declined to be involved this year — and I do think the pool situation did [greatly] contribute to that."

Asked whether they had opted to pursue other activities, Quigley indicated that is what they had been encouraged to do.

"Some have. The young man who did [show up to the three practices] ... we gave him the option of doing a combination agreement with Gillette, but he would have had to travel to Gillette daily. That's an expensive option ... I think he has chosen not to do that. I've encouraged him to go out for other winter sports at this time. He's a member of the cross country and track teams, and [as I understand it], he's decided to do some training on his own ... I do think he'll be back next year if we're up and running, which I do anticipate."

"We're still a minimum of three weeks away [from getting the pool up and running]," Quigley continued. "That's over half the season. [Ideally], the kids would go to other activities, whether it's speech and debate, wrestling, or basketball. I've spoken with those coaches, and they were willing to allow the kids to turn out late because of what has happened."

Quigley, who emphasized that the closure of the pool was due to unavoidable circumstances, also expressed concern for the general public,

who have come to enjoy the use of the aquatic center, and how they might perceive the closure.

"Kathy Beehler, our pool manager, has done a great job of marketing the pool the last few years she's taken over," he said. "Our usage has been way up, not only as far as the swim teams but our patrons from the community and fitness swimmers. We were really seeing good usage from the facility. [Unfortunately], over the last five or six years we've seen several setbacks [that have brought] the pool down for extended periods of time, and I'm sure the trust from the community has been compromised."

All considered, the pool closure, Quigley said, represents a blow, not just for the Dogies, but also for the Stingray youth swim team and the community as a whole.

"As a former swimmer and coach, [when] you lose a season it's tough to recover. The interest level of the kids wanes a little bit. You look at the developmental kids, the Stingray group ... the [opportunity] to see improvement [from one year to the next isn't there]. They [will] have to back up and start over again when things get going again. It affects more than just the high school swim team. It affects the entire community. This is a facility that's probably open the most of any in our district. It's just a really unfortunate situation right now. We know that losing a season ... it can be done, but ... it takes more time and effort to get things back to where they were," he concluded.

Derby from page 11

on many waters, and fishing is good.

"This is a great time to take kids fishing and try for the youth fish challenge," said Casper region information specialist Janet Milek "Our goal is to provide youth with angling challenges to expand their fishing skills."

Kids under the age of 18 can complete up to 10 challenges. One of the challenges is the Trout Trio. To complete the Trout Trio, participants are required to catch any three separate species of trout found in Wyoming, including brook, brown, rainbow, cutthroats, kokanee, tiger, splake, lake or golden.

In addition to the Trout Trio, there is the Cool Catch, Wyoming's Wild One, Pan Pair, Habitat Counts, Percid Prize, Bass Battle, and the Hatchery Hop. If kids complete five or more challenges, Game and

Fish will recognize them as a Master Angler. The program is based on the Cutt-Slam, a Game and Fish program started in the 1990s.

Participants who successfully complete any category will receive a collectable certificate featuring the fish they caught and recognizing them for their efforts.

Program rules are as follows:

- Open to any youth (resident or nonresident, 18 years of age and under)
- All fish must be caught in Wyoming
- Photos must be taken with the youth and the fish at the body of water of capture
- Fish can be caught over multiple years, prior to the 19th birthday
- Native fish do not have to be taken from their native range, unless it is for the Cutt-Slam
- Verification sheet must be submitted to Casper Game and

Fish office for authorization

Verification sheets and a description of the program are available at the Casper Game and Fish office, online at wgfd.wyo.gov or by calling Janet Milek at 307-233-6404.

Only a few months old, the program is growing in popularity.

"A number of kids have already completed challenges and there seems to be a great deal of interest in the program," said Milek.

Youth completing the challenge should send in the verification sheet along with photos and all other information requested on the sheet to Janet Milek in the Casper Region office of Game and Fish.

This program is a collaboration of the Wyoming Game and Fish, North Platte Walleyes, Trout Unlimited, 4-H Sportfishing and the Wyoming Fly Casters.

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