December 6, 2018 Newcastle, Wyoming Year 132

# Strategic plans help entities prepare

While the purpose of a strategic plan may vary depending on the entity, the overall idea is to outline the overall

For the city of Newcastle, the strategic plan acts as a strategy for the entity moving forward, to provide direction and help allocate funds, according to Clerk-Treasurer Greg

James. Weston County School District No. 1 on the other hand, uses a stra-tegic plan to remain focused on its overall goal, while using maintenance and facility plans to outline where purchases and projects may come from.

One thing that both entities have in common when it comes to strategic plans is that they are all forward the community, in this case." thinking.

"In other words, our strategic plan is looking ahead to the future,"

The reason the strategic plan is

# Tipping off the season



Dylon Tidyman (in white) and Cade Ostenson (in black) unofficially tipped off the Dogies' 2018-2019 season Saturday in the annual Meet the Dogies preseason scrimmage. The White team ended up with the win on the night, and fans got a glimpse of the exciting season in store when this team plays together instead of against each other. Read more on Page 11. (Photo by Sonja Karp/NLI)

# School report issued by state

Newcastle students per-formed well in most categories of last year's WY-TOPP state assessments according to a report presented to the Weston County School District #1 Board of Trustees last Wednesday, and Curriculum Coordinator Sonja Tysdal told

In many areas we were above the state average all the way across, some fairly significantly."

> — Sonja Tysdal, Curriculum Coordinato WCSD #1

# Mammograms offered soon

The mammography machine that will be leased by Weston County Health Services should be delivered the first week of December, according to CEO Maureen Cadwell. Cadwell reported during the Nov. 15 hospital board meeting that the mammography machine was being built for delivery in December.

Cadwell said she estimates that appointments will begin being scheduled in January, although she did not want to announce an exact date.

"We will let people know and start scheduling when we are

closer to a ready date," Cadwell said.

The machine was authorized by the board for lease on Aug. 15 for a cost of \$252,000. The mammography machine will provide

- See Mammography, Page 2

# Shop with a cop

#### ■ Peace officers group launches new program

Alexis Barker NLJ Reporter

Fifty kids from throughout Weston County will have the opportunity to Shop with a Cop thanks to a new program from the Weston County Peace Officers Association. The group was recently selected to benefit from the Pinnacle Bank Festival of Trees, and money from the

money will be put into the Shop money will be put into the Shop with a Cop account. We believe that this year, being our startup year, that we will have unfore-seen expenses," said Melissa Stubbs, a spokesperson for the association. "We have a little bit of money left over from Operation Santa, and we will

## Search and rescue to benefit from Festival of Trees

The Weston County Sheriff's Search and Rescue organization was recently selected as one of the beneficiaries of funds donated through the Pinnacle Bank Festival of Trees on Friday. The nonprofit organi-zation hopes to use the funds received from the fundraiser to

help purchase necessary gear.
The search and rescue team
in Weston County has more than
30 volunteers who are dedicated to locating and rescuing lost and/ or injured people and supporting other emergency response pro-fessionals in the county and sur-

"We are not looking for money as much as we are looking for capabilities," said Michael Tooman, the group's sergeant-at-arms.

sergeant-at-arms.

Tooman elaborated, saying that any monies received beyond the minimal operational costs will go toward the purchase of items that will give the organization the ability to do more.

"We have a lot of capabili-ties, but we always need more," said Connie Tooman, wife of Michael and a spokesperson for the organization

Items or capabilities on their highest-priority list, according to the Toomans, are communi-

cation equipment, drones with thermal capability, computer hardware and software, and first aid kits.

According to Michael, basic operational costs for the group run about \$10,000 a year. The county contributes \$4,000 from

- See SAR, Page 2

Lynn Busskohl lowers cadet Austen Kinney over the cliffs at White Rocks last summer as part of the ongoing training undertaken by the Weston County Sheriff's





















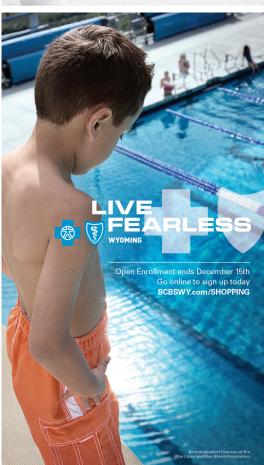
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## Mammography from Page 1.

early detection opportunities without travel in a county that has one of the highest breast cancer

rates in Wyoming, according to Cadwell.

Although the 3-D mammography machine will be delivered in December, Cadwell said, an accreditation process to certify the machine must first be completed. The process begins with an inspection of the machine by a physician who will review the machine and make sure it is operational.

At that point, according to Cadwell, the

machine will be used for "phantom" studies with different models to ensure that it is picking up

what it is supposed to.

Michelle Garhart, the hospital's radiology department manager, said the accreditation process will give the hospital a Mammography Quality Standards Act certificate that will allow

"There are a lot of steps in the process and hurdles to get over before we can say we are ready to go," Cadwell said.

to go," Cadwell said.

According to Cadwell and Garhart, several steps in that process have been completed, including the training of the technician who will run the machine. Garhart said that the technician will be training with Dakota Radiology, with the contraction of the con scans being reviewed before patients in Weston

Once the machine is ready for use, Weston Once the macnine is ready for use, wescoin County Health Services will continue to work with Dakota Radiology, which will receive the scans done in Newcastle digitally and radiologists there will read them.

"What we are able to do here is a screening "What we have been to be to be the company of the

mammography. If something shows up in those scans and a radiologist feels more testing is needed, they will have to go to a radiologist," Cadwell explained. "They will then determine what else is needed and do a diagnostic study."

Prices for scans at the local facility have not been set yet, but Cadwell estimates they will run between \$100 and \$200. According to Cadwell, most insurances cover screenings without a deductible or co-insurance. She noted that reimbursement to the facility is less than the

Garhart added that programs are available in Wyoming to help women without health insurance to receive mammography scans and that Weston County Health Services will offer that information

"We see such a prevalence of breast cancer in our area, and the (hospital) board fell strongly that this is a much needed service in our community," Cadwell said.

#### SAR from Page 1.

l percent funds, an amount that Tooman says barely pays the annual fuel costs.

The basic operation budget of \$6,000 goes toward maintaining equipment. This money does not purchase additional needed capabilities, Michael

said.
"WCSSR funding comes from private businesses and individual citizens," Connie said. "It receives no state or

Connie Tooman noted that donations are not always money. She said that companies money. She said that companies often elect to purchase a specific item for team. Some entities will earmark the money for specific items, she said. This money is known as "colored" money to the group because it is committed to a certain project, according to Connie.

The group also holds a fun

draiser to augment the funds for operations. The search and ie team held a dinner and

"We worked really hard this year to get ourselves out there year to get ourselves out there and let the people know what we are doing," Tooman said. "We made the effort to get out and talk to people." She noted that the effort to

let people know what search and rescue does has been important and essential to the continuation of the volunteer program.
"We have become a more

community-oriented organiza-tion at the direction of Bryan (Sheriff Bryan Colvard)," Michael said. "We have taken

According to information provided by the Toomans, key vision elements of the organization include enhanced collaboration between search and rescue and the county, a focus on continual training to promote safety and having trusted agents to rescue lost, missing and/or injured persons.

The Toomans said that a major aspect of the organiza-

#### Festival of Trees

The 16th Pinnacle Bank Festival of Trees will be held on Dec. 7 at the Weston County Senior Center. The evening senior Center. The evening will begin at 6 p.m. with drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Music for the evening will be played by Al & Brenda Costello and Company followed by the auctioning off of several wreaths and trees. The auction will begin at 7:30 p.m. and begin at 7:30 p.m. and funds from the event will benefit the Weston County Children's Center, Weston County Sheriff's Search and Rescue, Weston County Peace Officers Association and the American Legion

Annua

tion is continued training for its members and other responders and emergency per-sonnel in the area.

On Nov. 27, search and rescue hosted an electrical

safety training at the Newcastle Fire Hall for local emergency personnel. Powder River Energy Corp. led the training.

"If there is electricity on the ground, you don't have to touch the wires to have prob-lems," Michael said. "There are more casualties amongst first responders than anyone else

A total of 35 first responders and emergency personnel attended the training and Tooman thinks this training and is something everyone, even an everyday citizen, should

"It goes back to safety — first responders have to be responsible for themselves first, or they can't take care of anyone" Michael said "It is need to understand and be able to take care of the situation.

Weston County Sheriff's

Search and Rescue will hold search and Rescue will hold another training on Dec. 12. This session will involve mass casualty training, specifically triage and gun safety. "There are two things that

go on that you have to deal with in a mass casualty situation,"
Michael said.
The first of these is triage,

or dealing with the most severe situations first before moving on to the less dire sit-uations. The second aspect of the training involves dealing with guns and how to make them safe.

"The other thing with mass casualty, in Wyoming or any gun-carrying state specifically, is you have to know how to is you have to know how to make them safe," Michael said. "There is going to be someone carrying them, and you have to know how to clear and make the gun safe."

The Toomans emphasized that ongoing training and continued funding from local, national and international business and corporations are crucial to the continuation of their program.



# Opinion News Letter Journal

#### Our View

## For your own good

The Joint Education Committee of the Wyoming State Legislature moved forward what is being called a 'comprehensive safety plan' for schools last week, and in the process they took a stab at deterring the number of Wyoming drivers who pass stopped school busses. Unfortunately, the legislation approved by the committee wort do anything to make students safer in Newcastle, and really only proves that the biggest threat to our schools is the Wyoming State Legislature's constant desire to eliminate local control entirely to create a level playing field for education in Wyoming — even if that level is going to be set to the lowest

common denominator.

When it comes to passing school busses, the proposed bill sets a fine for passing a stopped When it comes to passing school busses, the proposed bill sets a fine for passing a stopped school bus with red lights flashing and a stop sign extended at \$100, and establishes that videos taken by cameras (both internal and external) on school busses are not public records. The biggest problem with this piece of legislation is that courts in Weston County are already charging a penalty of \$435 for passing a stopped bus, and any video taken of an offender by the camera mounted on the bus would be considered a public record under current law. In other words, in a so-called effort to protect students, the state legislature is lowering the fine that can be assessed for endangering children getting on and off a school bus in Weston County and ensuring that violators will never have to worry about any public embarrassment that may occur if video footage of the infractions is ever released.

Casper school officials have refused to release bus camera footage to the public in response to a reported bullying incident, and the director of the Wyoming School Boards Association headquartered in Cheyenne has applauded the secrecy provision in the legislation, but we don't think a bill that is supposedly intended to create a greater deterrent to those who endanger children by passing stopped school busses is the appropriate place to settle a long-running dispute over the lack of transparency in one of the state's large school districts.

As such, it is hard to imagine how passage of this legislation is anything but a step backward for student safety in Newcastle and Weston County, but we assume it must be exactly what they're looking for in Casper, Laramie or Cheyenne.

they're looking for in Casper, Laramie or Cheyenne.

That appears to be the case with the school safety plans addressed in the draft legislation as well. The primary thrust of the language is to spell out the type of training schools must undertake to prepare for an attack by an active shooter, and to ensure that the training is delivered by a "nationally recognized organization in school safety and security training" — in other words, a high-priced out-of-state consultant.

We agree that schools should go beyond the traditional "lockdown" type of training that has

We agree that schools should go beyond the traditional "lockdown" type of training that has been a staple in schools for decades in favor of a strategy that teaches students and teachers how to proactively react to a dangerous situation to protect themselves and others, but local schools have already undergone that kind of training and did it without the help of the state legislature. If experience is any indicator, the ability of local education leaders to access the training they desire for our schools and students will be decreased — not enhanced — as they will have to jump through a new set of bureaucratic hoops and work with somebody on an approved list of consultants at the Wyoming Department of Education for this training in the future.

The section of the bill that pertains to the school safety plans themselves also dictates that those plans — which must be submitted to the Department of Education — are not public records either. So the bill is stating that school districts have to be accountable for how they are protecting students, but that accountability is to Cheyenne, not their own community members — who are apparently not entitled to seeing how schools will respond in emergencies.

There was no real reason given for increasing the level of secrecy regarding how a school responds to an active shooter, but bill drafters may be falling back on a belief that would be attackers would use the knowledge of school security to create a plan that would allow them to get around those measures.

get around those measures.

The problem with that kind of thinking is that active shooter incidents aren't well-planned

get around those measures.

The problem with that kind of thinking is that active shooter incidents aren't well-planned terrorist attacks and the murderers who attack schools aren't employing strategies they learned from watching Ocean's Eleven or Mission. Minossible. They are sick individuals who are shooting up schools because they are soft targets, and that's why so many are calling for the presence of armed police officers — and even teachers — to discourage attacks.

It would be far better to broadcast a comprehensive safety and protection plan to discourage somebody from targeting a school because broadcasting the plan announces that the target is prepared and not as 'soft' as it may appear.

Community members also have a right to know what the school district is doing to prepare for this type of attack, and it is unfair to expect school officials to simply tell concerned parents, "We are prepared and will keep your children safe. You just have to trust us on that."

That is particularly true in Newcastle, where the superintendent and school board have long responded to threats and other safety issues by immediately alerting the public and providing assurance by letting them know what steps are going to be taken when danger does present itself. The school safety legislation makes it clear that sharing such information with the public is discouraged in Cheyenne, and may not be possible anymore in Newcastle.

When it comes to school safety, the state legislature is again ensuring a level playing field in education by bringing us down to the level of schools in Wyoming who aren't being as proactive or transparent with their communities as we are, and that is just plain wrong.

As we read through the draft of the proposed bill and news accounts of the meeting in which it was approved, we couldn't help but remember Ronald Reagans joke that the scariest phrase in the English language is, "We're from the government, and we're here to help."

the English language is, "We're from the government, and we're here to help."

Unfortunately, when it comes to the safety of our schools and children, there's nothing

funny about another heavy-handed effort from the legislature and the Wyoming Department of Education to do a job we're already doing ourselves — and doing better.

#### Angels we have heard

Tradelines

The Christmas Tea is a community tradition that the churches in town keep alive every year. The gathering is a time for all local churches to help spread the word about the true reason for the season.

The reason the angels sing.

Each church is asked to decorate a table in the year's chosen theme. The theme for the 2018 Christmas Tea is "Angels We Have Heard. Those words of course bring the traditional Christmas hymn to mind, and I'm excited to see a lot of angels as centerpieces this

Area churches also bring sand-wiches and cookies to share with

attendees. Having fellow ship that extends beyond your own church walls is truly amazing because in our small town, some

of the congregations are not very big. Getting together with other believers and pre-paring for the celebration of the birth of Christ is the most beautiful showing of love and compassion for our neighbors that I can think of, and it is the perfect remote for those of us who are looking for issome peace during this hectic holiday season.

The event moves every year to give each church a chance to host, and a chance to share their space with other Christians, and this year's tea will be hosted by Gateway Fellowship Church. the birth of Christ is the most

Fellowship Church.
It is also usually held on the first Friday in December, but due to other activities being held on that day the Tea was moved to Friday, December 14, starting at 11:00 a.m. and going through 1:00 p.m. in Michael's Room at the Senior Center. Within e couple of hours there

will be many people coming and going, catching some time with God and fellow Christians on their lunch

Christians on their funch break.

There are some who will be in attendance the whole time, just waiting for the next group to come in and visit, and I've found that those are the people who truly possess a servant's heart. They are present at every service and every event, and they are what keeps our local churches going. These are the people that keep showing up, no matter what, and that consis-

matter what, and that consis-tency is what keeps faith alive for our community.

These folks are ready and willing to share the love, peace and grace that comes from knowing our Lord and Savior, and there is no better there is no better time to get to know the community's most humble and

benevolent citizens than during the Christmas season. There's no better place to meet a bunch of them than at the Christmas Tea!

All are invited to share in the what is being offered at the Christmas Fea gathering, and I would like to personally invite you to come out and enjoy this special and festive time of celebration and fellowship.

Families are encouraged to come join the event and see what friends you might find there.

You will be glad you stopped by to check it out for yourself, but your presence will also help make this a All are invited to share in

will also help make this a special and memorable time for community Christian fellowship in the midst of a Christmas season that is far too often cluttered with dis-tractions that make us forget what we're supposed to be celebrating in the first place.

#### **Deadline for Letters** is noon on Friday

"The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right; and ere it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

Not sure if the sun shines brighter in Newcastle than in other parts of the state — but that town's newspaper publisher Bob Bonnar is all about bringing public activities and expenditures into the

newspape publics activities and expenditures into the light of day.

As a journalist in Wyoming for almost half a century, I can attest that reporters have been battling some public officials nonstop to make their meetings, their activities and their expenditures public. It has been a long, grueling battle but there is now some hope.

Bonnar heaps credit on a joint legislative committee that recently passed a bill 8-4, which offers sweeping new ideas for shining public light on public activities. My hometown representative, Sen. Cale Case (R-Lander) was chair.

Usually the fights over exposing public activities concern money. My first serious fight was with the local school district over releasing test scores way back in 1981.

Here in Lander, we thought we had the

My Wyoming Here in Lander, we thought we had the best school in the state with highly paid teachers and outstanding facilities. The high school was famous for its open campus and its 18-credit minimum for graduation. Kids were enjoying it and

everybody else was too.

My kid brother, Ron Sniffin, who now lives in

My kid brother, Kon Sniftm, who now lives in Cheyenne and is executive director of the Wyoming Education Association, took advantage of it.
At age 16, he graduated early from the Lander high school and we promptly hired him as Ad Director to sell advertising for the Greybull Standard. (Pretty amazing story – ask him about it some time.)

Indalu. (I.C.)
But I digress.
Then we tried to find out our school's cumula-

It is time to shine a little light on government tive test scores were in the lowa Tests of Basic Skills, a national academic test comparing our schools with other schools in the country.

I had been looking over our daughters' test scores at home one night and it made me wonder how our school did, as a whole.

I was stonewalled by the school administration,

I was stonewalled by the school administration, which certainly me wonder what they were trying to hide. They truly circled the wagons and my only source of information was the school attorney.

We finally got the information after hiring our own lawyer to force the school to release the scores. We broke the story that our high school and junior high were in the bottom 25 percent of the country! The stories created a sensation.

Pretty soon the Superintendent (who was a very good friend) and the principals were gone. School board members were replaced. Graduation requirements went up to 24 credit hours and the campus was closed.

ming The parents were irate to read about the horrible scores, as they should have been.

And this episode surely showed the importance of

At one point that superintendent complained at a At one point that superintendent companies as a Rotary meeting, which I was attending, that he was a victim of "the power of the press."

I had to stand up and explain that, "No, he was incorrect. What was happening here was the 'power of information."

incorrect. What was happening here was the 'power of information.'"

And that is what is being discussed right now as this tentative bill goes forward.

Although the state's economy is improving, one of our biggest problems is that the people do not know where the tax money that is already being collected is being spent.

With transparency and open records, the "power of information" will be given to concerned citizens and groups, which will make all our governmental agencies more accountable.

Publisher Bonnar wrote a fine editorial about the proposed bill, part of which is as follows:

"Passage of this bill should provide that motivation, as it allows public officials to be charged with a misdemeanor if they fail to produce requested records within the allotted time out of negligency will records are knowingly or intentionally withheld from the public.

if records are 'knowingly or intentionally' withheld from the public.

"Legislators will be hearing how 'concerned' government officials are about that provision, and that is exactly why they need to pass the bill. If officials aren't concerned about what happens when they don't allow access to public documents, citizens won't ever have the access they are entitled to. It is time to let the sun shine on public business in Wyoming, and the best way to accomplish that is to go after the officials who deliberately try to keep us in the dark."

us in the dark."

Wyoming is loaded with public agencies at all levels that are spending the public's money. And let's assume that dedicated and honest public servants operate most of them. This bill can help shed needed light on all of them

It is long overdue

Bill Sniffin is a retired newspaper publisher who has penned a number of books about Wyoning. He appeared for author's receptions at both the Weston County Library and News Letter Journal last December. Check out additional columns written by Bill at www. billsniffin.com. and find volumes from his coffee table book series, which have sold over 30,000 copies, for sale at the News Letter Journal.

















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



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# Where

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life. He retired in December 2017 and pursued a passion of his, building toy barns. Steve Lesmeister, 67, died on Saturday,
Dec. 1, 2018, at his home in Newcastle,
Linda (Ed) Mathews; father-in-law

Obituaries.....



Wyo. Steve is survived Steve is survived by his wife of 31 years, Sheryl; five sons, Jim (Peter), Craig (Esper), Jason (Sarah), Cody, and Jesse (Amanda); eight grandchildren, Tanner, Marc, Mariah,

Maegan, Victoria, Devon, Katie, and Laurel; five great-grandchildren; sister,

Marlin Ingalls; two sisters-in-law, Debbie (Paul Delbridge) and Marla Griffith; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews,

cousins, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Arnie and Joan Lesmeister; mother-in-law, Ethel Ingalls; and a stillborn daughter.

born daughter.

A time for sharing will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 10, at Newcastle Lodge & Convention Center in Newcastle.

Condolences may be sent to the family

at www.kinkadefunerals.com

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Dec 7 Annica Quintana

Dec 8 Allie Sylte

Dec 10 Colby Rich

Kylee Bonnema Riese Cummings

Jimmy Dixon Robert Paterson

Aspen Eatherton Molly McColley

David Kachelhoffer Duane Ottema Dec 9 Paul Piana



Let Advent transform "Bah humbug" into "God bless us, every one



#### **Advocates Needed**

CASA Volunteers are ordinary but extraordinary people who are committed to doing what is best for a child in the court system. As an Advocate you will be able to work with confidence. All of our volunteers are thoroughly trained in courtroom procedure, social services, the juvenile system, and the special needs of abused and neglected children.

For more information please call the Visitation and Advocacy Center for the Sixth Judicial District

(307) 687-9440



# WHAT'S UP

			December 2	2018	
V	Vest	on (	County Meetings & E	vents Calen	dar
	TIME		EVENT	LOCATION	
	11:45 : 5:30 p 7:00 p 7:00 p 7:00 p 7:30 p	.m. .m. .m. .m.	WCHS Foundation Board Meeting Newcastle Planning & Zoning AA Meeting Salt Creek Water District Meeting WC Museum District Meeting Masons #13	WCHS City Council Chamber WC Senior Center For Salt Creek District Of Anna Miller Museum Masonic Lodge	amily Room ffice
	8:30 a 9:00 a 9:00 a 6:00 p	.m. .m.	Customer Appreciation Day Holiday Open House Cinnamon Roll Friday Pinnacle Bank's Festival of Trees	First State Bank Something Healthy WC Senior Center WC Senior Center	
	10:00 2:00 p 5:30 p 8:00 p	.m. .m.	Kids Shopping Toys for Tots Pool Tournament Bingo The Stacy Block Band	First United Methodi Perkins Tavern VFW Hall The Fountain Inn	st Church
	1:00 p 6:30 p 7:00 p 7:00 p	.m. .m.	AARP Meeting WC Fair Board Meeting WC Sportsman Club Meeting AA Meeting	WC Senior Center WC Fairgrounds Shooting Range WC Senior Center Fa	amily Room
	12:00 12:00 1:00 p 3:00 p 6:00 p 6:00 p 6:30 p 6:30 p	p.m. .m. .m. .m. .m. .m.	Dirt Daubers Christmas Luncheon Alzheimers/Dementia Support Group Artful Gals WCNRD Meeting American Legion WC Humane Society Meeting WC Search & Rescue Grades 3-5 Christmas Concert	Hosted by Betty Han WC Senior Center Senior Housing USDA Service Center Armory Shelter Fire Hall Crouch Auditorium	
	1:00 p 2:00 p 7:00 p 7:00 p	.m. .m.	Creative Handicraft Group Flowering Fingers Garden Club Meeting Mallo Camp Board Meeting WCSD#1 Board Meeting	WC Senior Center TBA Public Health Meetin Admin Building	g Room
3	12:00 5:30 p 5:30 p 7:00 p	.m. .m.	Upton Chamber Meeting City Planning Commission Christmas Thieves WC Arts Council AA Meeting	TBA City Hall WC Events Center WC Senior Center Fa	amily Room





Sat 8

Mon 10

Tues 11

Wed 12

Newcastle Lodge No. 13, A.F. & A.M. Meetings are held the First and Third Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend meetings Lynn Moller, Worshipful Master • Mike Hutchinson, Secretar





**Daily Devotional Reading** 

December 9

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH: Rev. Norm Brotzman, 216 S. Seneca, 746-2249.
 Call to Worship 9:30 am; Children's Church during Call to Worship; Faith Rally

· BAHA'I FAITH: Firesides (Open to All) 1st & 3rd Fridays 7:30 pm at 15 Skyview

- CAMBRIA COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH: 19 Stampede St. 746-2321. Sunday School 915, am: Worship 10:30 am: Youth (6:12 grades) and Adulti Bible Study Sunday Evening 500-750 pm: Wednesday Night Youth and Adult Bible Study 6:00 pm. Life Recovery Bible Study Sunday Night 7:00 pm.

CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL: Deacon Wendy Owens, S. Summit & Winthrop Streets. 746-9684. haydishall@hotmail.com. Service times: Sunday 10 a.m.

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH: Pastor Tsena Dinssa, 224 West Road, West of Dow Park, 746-2415. Sunday Worship 9:00 am.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS: Bishop Greg James, 120
 Ash, 746-4131. Sunday Sacrament Mtg g.oo am; Sunday School 1020 am; Relief Society & Priesthood Mtg 1115 am.

CHURCH ON THE HILL: Wayne Wilson, 301 Delaware, 746-5542. Sunday School 9:30 am: Prayer Service 10:15 am; Worship 10:45 am; Youth Group Wednesday 6:30 pm.

· CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH: Father Tim Martinson, 19 W. Winthrop · COUNTRY CHURCH: Four Corners, Pastor Bill Haley and Micah Popma,

• FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH: Pastor Gary Anderson, 903 S. Summit, 746-2188 Sunday School 9:15 am; Worship Service 10:30 am; Evening Service 6 pm; AWANA Clubs 6:30 pm.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: Pastor Brenda Torrie, 23 N. Senecz 746-4119. Adult Bible Study 8:45 am; Traditional Church Services 10:00 am; am Children's Church; Youth Group Sunday evenings 5:30-7:00 p.m.

GATEWAY FELLOWSHIP. Pastor Jon Andersen. Evangelical Free Church meets at the Weston County Senior Services: Sunday School 9:45 am: Worship 11 am. Call 949-0869.

746-4517. Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Congregation Bible Study, Theocratic Ministry School and Service Meeting. Sunday Public Talk 10:00 am; Watchtower 11:00 am

• NEWCASTLE FOURSQUARE CHURCH: Pastor Mick Bohn, 1525 S. Summit, ip 10:00 am; Wed. Night Pray

OSAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH: 348 Sheridan St. in Osage, 465-2341. Sundar

• OUR SAVIOR CHURCH: Pastors Doug and Frezil Westerlund, Weston County Fairgrounds, Service Sundays 9:30 am. 605-515-3058.

• SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST: Pastor Chuck Gadway 303-229-3103, 78 Old Hwy 85 and Pastoral Assistant Matt Dooley 949-0831. Saturday Sabbath School 9:30 am; Worship 11:00 am.

· ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH: Father Tim Martinson, Upton. Sunday

· UPTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: Rev. Sharee Johnson, 834 Pine Upton, 468-9302. Bible Study and Sunday School 9:00 am: Worship 1:00 am: Fellowship 1:00 am: Last Sunday of August no church in Upton; Worship at 1:00 am at Rev. Johnson's home in Custer.

· VICTORY NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH: Rev. Theodore L. Halls, 414 Pine,

And the heavens proclaim his righteousness, for he is a God of justice. ~ Psalms 50:6



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## Awarding historical preservation present and prepare for the future." Several of the society's awards came

Newcastle's corner of the Black Hills is rich with history, dating back to Cambria and Newcastle's beginnings in the late 1800s. Retelling timelines of the past makes the area's stories timeless, yet those retellings don't necessarily come easily. Many hours of preparation, work and

and information. In an effort to recognize

and information. In an effort to recognize historical preservation, the Wyoming State Historical Society awards such study. The Wyoming State Historical Society's mission reads, "The Wyoming State Historical Society, a non-profit membership driven organization, encourages the study of Wyoming history. We believe to study the past is to understand the

Several of the society's awards came home to Weston County this year. Dr. Mike Jording, second vice-president of the Weston County Historical Society and chairman of the state awards program, sat down with the News Letter Journal to explain the awards process and to con-

gratulate this year's recipients.

"It's a great opportunity to give acknowledgment to people and children from our area that do good work," said Jording, who has participated in the awards

Jording, who has participated in the awards program for 20-plus years.

Jording said the awards program is not a one-person job. Nominations from each county must be submitted to the state level. Each county, he said, has a historical society chapter, most of which are active. Several additional societies are also scattered throughout the state, such as the chapter in Fort Bridger. Jording said the success of a chapter depends on the interest of the people who live there, and Weston County typically represents well.

Weston County typically represents well. Jording laughed. "We like to win awards," he said. "You can't win if you don't have nominations." This year, Weston County earned 12 awards, including awards to elementary students for their work in the classroom. Each award focused on preserving, interpreting or supporting Wyomig history, Jording said he is proud to consistently

See Awards, Page 6



From left to right: Leonard Cash, Aby Bock, Alice Tretabas, and Madison Hespe take a moment to pose with their awards after being honored at the Weston County Historical Society's annual recognition luncheon last month. (Submitted photos)

# Kecapture A PIECE OF HISTORY

December 9, 1993

Max and Dan Decker of Newcastle have sold the Git 'n Go convenience store to Automatic Gas Distributors, Inc. of Englewood, Colo. The Deckers had owned the store since it was built in 1976. The sale was finalized Dec. 1

Ed and Twyla Burr of Unton ad Michael Farnsworth or Newcastle are pleased to announce the engagement of their children, Staci Burr and

Michael Farnsworth, Jr., A may wedding is being planned. Ben Hoxie, 15, shot his first buck Sunday, Nov. 28, and what a shot it was. It's a first that will probably long remain his best. The 5 x 5 whitetail was taken in northeast Wyoming. A total of 44 students from this area are included in the 27th Annual Edition of Who's Who Among American High School Students, 1992-93.

Dogie wrestlers opened their season by hosting the annual Wyoming-South Dakota clash last Saturday. Sturgis came away the overall winner and South Dakota champion-ship team. Torrington, placing third overall, was the winning Wyoming team. Varsity and junior varsity performances

junior varsity performances were both counted in deter-mining overall winners. The Gene Briggs and Christ Briggs spent Thanksgiving with the Charles Claar family in Moorcroft. Vi Coutant was a guest at the Neil Thompson a guest at the Neil Thompson home for Thanksgiving dinner. Sunday Petersons worked sheep in preparation for grading wool. The Blotter – Dec. 3 – A

The Blotter – Dec. 3 – A black mutt with one eye was impounded. Dec. 4 – Someone cut Christmas lights decorating a residence. Christmas lights were reported cut at another

December 5, 1968 Robert L. Allan, Robert L. Allan, Plum Creek area rancher, was struck in the head by a bullet last Saturday morning but has recuperated satisfactorily.

Allen said he was sitting under a tree Saturday about 11 a.m. while hunting when he was struck on the top of the head by a stray bullet

A 1956 Oldsmobile owned by Dave Meyer, was destroyed by fire Tuesday evening. Meyer was about 16.4 miles south of Newcastle on Highway 85 when the fire started. Highway Patrolman Guy Tolman inves-tigated the incident.

The American Association for State and Local History has this year voted a Certificate of Commendation to Mary Capps

of Newcastle.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin
Pollat, Mrs. Herb Quest, Mr.
and Mrs. Kenneth Pollat and family, Lawrence and Rick Popham helped wean calves

at the Clay George ranch Wednesday. Lynn Peterson arrived home Tuesday evening from the University to spend the Thanksgiving vacation with her family. The annual DeMolay-Job's Daughter Sno Ball has been set for December 28. The dance will be held in the Gertrude Burns all-purpose

room from 8:00 p.m. to 1 a.m. Coach "Pete" Kozisek's Dogie swimmers begin their season with a double duel swimming meet against Sheridan and University Prep sneridan and University Prep in the Newcastle pool Friday at 7 p.m. Newcastle opened its 1968 basketball season on a winning note by beating Upton 56-46 on the losers floor.

December 6, 1918

Louis Patton, on the termination of his furlough, left last Thursday for Camp Logan, where his regiment is stationed. Mr. and Mrs. Roy Mallory were paid a visit by Old Doc Stork last Thursday and he left

a little baby girl to gladden their hearts. Congratulations! C.V. Westover and I.H. Young autoed to the county capital last week on business errands. Mrs. Matt Hill was visiting in Newcastle last Friday.

Mrs. Walter Frederickson is quite ill at her home with Spanish influenza.

A pretty home wedding was solemnized at the home

of Mr and Mrs John Henry Pridgeon at high noon on Thanksgiving day, when their eldest daughter, Miss Eva Mary Anne was united in marriage to William Raymond Cummings, eldest son of James William Cummings. Henry Pridgeon took a

ow to town Wednesday. The Humphrey family heard from Paul Warner who is in France that he is in a base hospital on account of being gassed in one of the latest battles. T. Frank Cummings and Leslie King went to town Monday

King went to town Monday morning to get medicine for Grandma King.

Venda H. Hunter and family and F.C. Welsh and family autoed to Newcastle last Saturday. Louis Brown and B.D. Emily attended the auction sale at the Belshe ranch west of Sundance Wednesday

of this week. W.R. Nichols received his Grant truck Tuesday of this week which he will use on his ranch east of town. Shorty Thomas, his ranch foreman drove it thru from Omaha. Ezra E. Sims informs us that he and his son had recently purchased the Fred Lienau saw mill and grain separator. They expect to start the saw mill in a short time and will have plenty of native lumber and fire wood for sale.



Leonard Cash shared a historic post card from his collection with the News Letter Journal The image above shows workers building the structure at the top of Harney Peak, now called Black Elk Peak (Submitted Photo).









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# For the Ages

# Behind bars in Weston County, Part V

The tales of Newcastle's earliest jails and their inhabitants



By Bri Brasher with Leonard Cash NLJ Reporter

In this week's installment of the History on Main series, local historian Leonard Cash helps the News Letter Journal start to wrap up the story of Newcastle's county jails. The story continues with the first talk of a remodel to City Hall in order to accommodate the Weston County Sheriff's Department, as the county's second jail — built in the early 1930s — was quickly becoming uninhabitable.

As part of his research, Cash visited with his old friend and former Weston County sheriff, Don Howell. Howell and his wife, Carolyn, who and his wife, Carolyn, who worked in many capacities in the sheriff's office, helped to fill in a few gaps missing from Cash's records of the time. Howell told Cash that between moving out of the second county jail in the early 1970s and moving into the new joint law enforcement center in the early 1980s, the sheriff's office took up quarters at Newcastle City Hall. The Weston County Sheriff's Department rented two cells and an open room to house the rest of the office, according to Howell. Carolyn

Howell told Cash that it was quite a mess when City Hall housed the fire department, city and county law enforcement, and other city offices.

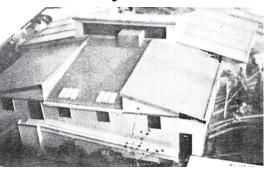
Howell shared other inter rowell stands of the inter-esting tidbits with Cash. The Howell family's involvement with local law enforcement dates back to the 1920s when ages back to the 1920s when his grandfather also served as sheriff. Howell told Cash the story of when his grandfather knew that one of his prisoners was chipping away at the rock wall to make an exercise so he stood outside of escape, so he stood outside of the jail watching to catch him in the act.

Cash chuckled at the story "Sounds like 'ole Howell let him (the prisoner) do all the work and then put him back in." Cash said.

The News Letter Journal then started to report on a merging of the Sheriff's Department to City Hall in the spring of 1977 when the city of Newcastle called for city of Newcastle called for bids to remodel the Newcastle Police Department facilities in City Hall. The paper reported that "Mayor Ralph Updike said the remodeling will provide an office for Weston County Sheriff Lewis Johnson, an interrogation room and changes in the visitation room. changes in the visitation room.

The single car garage in the
building will be used for some
of these facilities." It was also
reported that financing was to
come from a Law Enforcement Assistance Administration federal grant to provide 90 percent of the necessary funds, while the other 10 percent was to come from the city budget. Next, the News Letter Journal reported on Aug. 25,

1977, that the City Council would contribute \$40,000 from general funds for new facilities planned for a joint



The Law Enforcement Center, across the street from First State Bank, was built in the early 1980's to house all law enforcement entities in the city of Newcastle. (Submitted photo)

law enforcement facility. This \$485,000 for the law enforcemoried was separate from the City Hall remodel, according to cated that construction on the of meeting with architectural of meeting with architectural Cash. The article said the city did not receive public works funds for the project, but the county received \$485,000 worth of grant money. To accommodate limited funds, the originally planned facility needed to be reduced in size. At this time, the building was to be constructed and connected to the back of the Weston County Courthouse, and the old jail building was to be torn down. Cash said upgrades to the courthouse were also in the plans.

A cutline under a photo of

the old jail published in the News Letter Journal on Nov. 24. 1977, validated that the sheriff's residence and jail facilities were no longer in use and were to be torn down in the near future for a new law enforcement complex to be built. The article, "Bids Called For Law Enforcement Complex and Remodeling," also mentioned that the county received two grants from the Economic Development Administration - \$162,000 for courthouse alterations and

project was expected to start in the near future

A Dec 22 1977 article then ADec. 22, 1977, article their reported that the lone bid from Fred C. Hanson Construction Co., of Thermopolis, was more than \$300,000 over the engineer's estimate of cost. The commissioners rejected the original bid and called for another set of bids on the law enforcement complex in February 1978; they received an extension on the grants until March 10. The News Letter Journal reported on March 9, 1978, that the commissioners again rejected bids for the proposed law enforcement center and courthouse alterations. Another extension request was submitted to the Economic Development Administration on their two grants. The article said the plans for the project would be redesigned if the extension was granted. On March 15, 1978, it was reported that the EDA allowed the extension.

Reports on the planning continued in the March 23, 1978, News Letter Journal. An

engineers, working rapidly to meet the new EDA extension meet the new EJA extension deadline of June 10. Efforts must have failed because the newspaper reported that "County Projects Appear 'Dead' on May 4, 1978. After negotiations with two different contractors and no luck, the project hit a dead end, according to the article, which reported that "the EDA deadline for starting the project is May 10, so the grant is

is May 10, so the grant is expected to be terminated on that date."
"So 1 did some snoopin'! I figured out why we were having so much trouble following the remodels and all that," Cash said. "I called my old buddy Walter Soper, and he told me all of this. He was really involved in Newcastle."
According to Cash, Soper

According to Cash. Soper According to Cash, Soper said that if the money was not used by Weston County, then the funds were to go to the state of Georgia, which was second in line for the money. Soper also told Cash that the bids ended up being more than the grant money, so the county

Bridge Ladies Festival of Trees December 10 December 11 Dementia Suppor Dominoes December 12 Exercise
Manor Here For Lunch
Creative Handcrafts After
Bridge Group
Card Class
December 13
TOPS #218
7-7 - 10 a.m Bridge Group Dominoes 10:30 a m December 8 Name that Tune 11 a.m Hanny Hou December 9 Church December 10 10:30 a.m Wii Tai Chi 4 p.m. 6 p.m. Bingo December 11 Ceramics
Christmas Store
December 12
Mind Joggers
Senior Center 4 p.m 6:15 p.m

used the grant money for other things. On June 29, 1978, News

Letter Journal reports appear to back up Soper. The commis-sioners applied for a \$647,000 grant from the EDA for projects that included a city-county fire facility, a new building at the fairgrounds, and a new building at the airport.

#### Weston County Historical Society 2018 Awards

Individuals with a \* next to their name also won at the state leve

Judge & Mrs. Percy Metz Memorial Award: \*Alice Tratebas

Activities Award: \*Bri Brasher with Leonard Cash Activities Award: Weston County Health Service

Young Historian Grades 3 - 5: \*Spencer Lorenz Young Historian Grades 3 – 5: \*Collin McConkey Young Historian Grades 3 – 5: \*Madison Hespe

Young Historian Grades 9 – 12: Michael Troupe Young Historian Grades 9 – 12: \*Aby Bock Young Historian Grades 9 – 12: \*Shay Walker

Junior Activities Grades 3 – 5: \*Drew Conzelman Junior Activities Grades 3 – 5: Kaitlyn Blumenthal Junior Activities Grades 3 – 5: \*Jace Rich

Weston County Historical society will be celebrating Wyoming Day on Monday, Dec. 10, at the Upton Senior Center at 1 p.m. The event will honor the early homesteader Edith Miller. All are welcome.

#### Awards from Page 5...

nominate students in the local school districts. Several students also won at the state level and received monetary awards. He then specifically mentioned the Judge & Mrs. Percy Metz Memorial Award awarded to Alice Tratebas for her photography work in preserving the story of the Old Mill Inn in Newcastle.

"If you were to take all of the Percy Metz Memorial Award winners over the Metz Memorial Award Winners over the years and put them against each other, Alice would win them all for her pho-tography work on the Old Mill Inn," Jording said. "She's an archaeologist, so she knows how to preserve the story. She took pictures of how it was set up and how it was dismantled when we took it apart to preserve it. She took pictures of it all. Nothing stands greater than what she's Jording also said that Brenna Crawford and Weston County Health Services' activities award was well deserved. Pictures documenting Weston County's medical community over the years are displayed that the awards are second to the work in the hospital's new remodel. He said the images are a collection aggregated from the Weston County Historical Society, Anna Miller Museum, Leonard Cash and other private individuals.

orner private individuals.

"It just a really nice collection of pictures," Jording said.

Award winners were invited to a local luncheon to receive their congratulations and awards. Jording said that it's important to recognize the interest and passion that goes into a topic or project. The county's chapter aligns with the state historical society's vision to "ensure that Wyoming's past remains accessible to

being done in the county and state.

Looking toward the future, Jording said that the Weston County Historical Society is always looking for potential nominations for historical writing and tours. nations for historical writing and tours, building preservation and school projects. He said the deadline is in the spring, and the local chapter always appreciates a heads-up when good work is being done. "Our chapter is recognized for partici-

pating well and always competing well, so that makes all of our members extremely proud. We have good things going on in our community and a chapter that really recognizes those things," Jording said.



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Cleo Crook



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#### Candlelight Christmas



#### Plans from Page 1...

important, according to James, is that it provides direction for the city, just not for provides direction for the city, just not for the current time but "ideally the direction or plan for two to three years down the road."

For example, James said, the city's stra-tegic plan will look at potential water and

sewer lines that may need to be replaced.

what roads may need to be repaved and any other projects that may be necessary. "The city tries to look about five years down the road," James said, noting that other entities may look at different lengths of time, although most are for longer than

a year.
"In my mind, the importance of a strategic plan is the opportunity it gives an entity to plan resources. Not just money,

but personnel and time as well, although money is certainly important," James said. Weston County Health Services CEO Maureen Cadwell said that facility uses strategic plans as a "road map or guideline" of where the facility wants to go.

"The strategic plan highlights services needed, projects needed and whatever else the facility may need to look at," Cadwell said.

Cadwell said.

She explained that she was taught to prepare a strategic plan in a way that involves visiting with individuals both inside the facility and out to determine the needs and wants of the community involved in the entity.

"The more people involved in the development of the strategic plan, the more information you gather on what is needed," Cadwell said. "A lot of it starts with gathering data and information relevant to the business you are in."

Cadwell said that in the health care field

planners look at census data, including age, gender, race, industry of citizens and education level. She also uses information from the Wyoming Department of Health specific to illnesses and issues seen in

According to Cadwell, this information is the beginning backbone of the strategic plan prepared for Weston County Health Services. After gathering the data, Cadwell then does a SWOT - strength, weakness, opportunities and threat - analysis.

"Outlining all of those things gives you the opportunity to look at where services could be needed," Cadwell said. "The next step is then narrowing down the list to what you can accomplish.

The hospital, according to Cadwell, narrows its strategic plan to what the facility wants to accomplish in two years, which allows time to determine if it is something that can be accomplished.

Weston County does not currently have a strategic plan that she is aware of, according to County Clerk Jill Sellers.

"I have suggested developing one a few times over the last couple of years. In my times over the last couple of years. In my experience, strategic planning is vital in order to provide organizational direction and priorities and to best manage assets and taxpayer money," Sellers said. "It will take a combined effort of all departments, under the leadership of the Board of

Commissioners, to do it."

Sellers noted that former County
Administrator Dan Blakeman did have a complete capital asset plan for buildings and major maintenance in the county and that she believes Road and Bridge has plans for equipment replacement and road maintenance.

"The true purpose of a strategic plan is to give you and others that sense of trans-parency of where you are going," said Brad LaCroix, superintendent of Weston County School District No. 1.

He explained that this is a common He explained that this is a common denominator in strategic plans, although the school district uses its strategic plan differently than other entities use theirs.

"We put our mission statement and vision out there and sort of break it down

to who does what and how you do it,"
LaCroix said. "Ours primarily focuses
around student achievement."
According to LaCroix, the school dis-

trict staff looks at how they know the young people in the district are learning and what will be done to get those who are

struggling to a different level.

LaCroix said that the school district uses a major maintenance plan or facility

plan that includes future projects as well.

James, Cadwell and LaCroix all
admitted that a strategic plan, no matter
the entity, is a living document and has the potential for change.

LaCroix said that when school year started in 2018, it became clear that the health and safety of students within the district needed to become a priority over learning.

"To get students to learn, we had to make sure they were safe and comfort-able amongst themselves," LaCroix said. "There are things that make you adjust periodically."

As for the city and the hospital several As for the city and the hospital, several factors can play a role in whether or not an item remains in the strategic plan, including time, personnel and money.

According to Cadwell, an item may

start on the strategic plan and, after review, the venture may not be as necessary as originally believed and it is removed. "Resources are another reason for things

to get pushed off of the strategic plan. You to get pushed off of the strategic plan. You may not have the personnel to do it, the money to do it or the time to implement the project," Cadwell said, noting that a lot of resources go into implementing a project, and if any of those factors are "off," the

umay change.
"What makes a strategic plan difficult is certainly emergencies that may intervene," James said.

There may be resources allocated to There may be resources allocated to a project, for example, but then an emergency arises and those resources have to be reallocated, he said.

"Something could come up that is deemed a higher priority than an item on

the list." James said.

He noted that he can't underscore the

importance of finances in a strategic plan.
"There are lots of projects the city wants to do and have been on our strategic plan for some time, but we haven't had the money," James said.

# Celebrating Academic Excellence

WCSD#1 Honor Roll Quarter 1

#### High School - A Honor Roll Rose, Tara Grace Smith, Chloe R

Haslam, Kyle P Holmes, Reid R Houser, Alyssa R Johnson, Bryson D Liggett Paige A
Martin, Perry Wayne
Orban, Aeranda M
Ostenson, Cade M
Prel, Isaac C
Sweet, Kaylee J
Voaker, Lousz A
Wegoner, Makenzie I
Watkins, Brenna A
11th Grade
Adshouse, Avery A
Cass, Jayme M
Coy, Grace M
Dawks, Shelby L
Dawks, Oshona G
Deweraux, Cooper J
Merclania, Listwam
McColine, Hailey J
McColine, Hailey J
McColine, Hailey J
McColine, Madson M
Rechania, Justwam
Pearson, Madson M

Tidyman, Dylon J Tysdal, Davin E Tystad, Peyton R Vandersnick, Tessa M Wainscott, Gunnar F Whitney, Markie J 10th Grade Alarid, Caylee R Auch, Alexandria G Beastrom, Claire E Beastrom, Emily C Checketts, Sierra Kaye
Corley, Kaile A
Corley, Kaile A
Cox, James C
Crinklaw, Peyfon E
Deyo, Paige K
Drost, Dylan J
Frank, Isabel F
Graham, Asia R
Gross, Hannah
Gunderson, Kaeli R
Harrington, Tyrell E
Henkle, Rebecca J
Jones, Kacy R
Laurence, Alaine Emily Ramsey, Grayson W Ramsey, Gunner M Slaamot, Katelynn R Steveson, Alaina J Sweet, Morgan M Voelker, Mercedes A Wehri, Hailey Nicole Kenzie L Gorman, Aidan M Humes, Robert M Mills, Autumn M Orsborn, Zade T Perez, Angelyse L Rasmussen, Derric Roberson, Slade T Scribner, Travis J Spencer, Isabella R

#### High School - B Honor Roll

12th Gades Souther, Alaria E Brown, Maxwell L Cheshier, Halses E Brown, Maxwell L Cheshier, Halses C Corde, Rown F Corde, March C L Capta, Talien S Placeton, Asara D Hopper, Cabe L Capta, Talien S Placeton, Kelly D Plancian, Poylor R Roberton, Sawyer S Shappes, Abricane V Stevenson, Laurent M. Scass-Berger, Jacob P L L Capta, Talien S Placeton, Korden S Shappes, Abricane V Stevenson, Laurent M. Talien, M. Michael A White May March March M. March M. Marches M. Marches M. Millers, Buylon L 11th Grade Bernett, Relay L Cor, Oven A .

Frye, Bradyn C Hadlock, Christina S Humes, Emma R Humes, Emma F King, Laila M Lee, Jae Hyun Mespelt, Brando Sweet, Sara A Wolfe, Erick J 10th Grade Bock, Carson R Fullerton, Christo Petersen, Alexander D Simmons, Samantha K 9th Grade Allard, Kenzee C Bickford, Quartney E Bonnar, Summer A

Chick, Aidan Elijah Chick, Avery Jaspar Dickinson, Taylee E Donner, Brandon D Drake, Mathew J Hadlock, Alana R Hadlock, Leah M Haugen, Emma R. Hiser, Callie A Holmes, Cael D Johnson, Tanner A Kohlbrand, Arvana N Kohlbrand, Aryana N Lewis, Rilee S Lipp, LaKacee Lvnn Lipp, Lakacee Lynn McVay, Olivia A Mefford-Owens, Keyan S Miles, Shawnee R Munoz, Kayley Quinton, Anthony K Sweet, Rachel D Tomlinson, Michael E Weeg, Nicole R Whitney, Neil T Wynia, Logan C

#### Middle School - Principal's Honor Roll

8th Grade Cass, Allyson L Conzelman, MacKe zie K zie K Henkle, Health A Hossfeld, Caleb M Jerry, Lidia J McConkey, Holden I McFarland, Hunter E Morgan, Dakota Ostenson, Jaylen D Perino, Quint M Petersen, Mia E Prell, Jacob Roland Shroyer, Trintly L

Shroyer, Trinity L Tavegie, Tell B

Tidyman, Shelby M Tupa, Storee H Tystad, Hogan E Wildermuth, Jessica 7th Grade Cass, Bailey A Cummings, Amesha D Day, Julie M Graham, Jesse Ray Graham, Jesse Ray Lipp, Jerome James Schmitz, Brooklyn Luc Tavegie, Pate J Vanderpool-Mobley, Bau, Ny L
Baus, Ny L
Bertsch, Riley Eric
Boyer, Karler L
Checketts, Tall Brice
Conklin, Taylor J
Dutcher, Raisa Grace
Esposito, Caden R
Evenson, Dayne R
Heringer, Myndy Ellise
Hoover, Caleb R
Mills, Elizabeth J
Morrill Filiah A Morrill, Elijah A Morris, Julie A Troftgruben, Thatcher W Unterseher Mischa A

#### Middle School - A Honor Roll

8th Grade
Alia, Dave Ivar S
Baeza, Ansofia
Checketts, Oakley
Brooks
Deyo, Cody C
Gravos, Jerome D
Hagge, Lillian G
Haynes, Michael J
Holguin, Danryela C
Martell, Brook L
McFarin, Dylan A
McVay, Gabrielle S
Miller, Kyah L
Sellers, Joshua R
Stanton, Tieman E
VanGundy, Kalan E
Wand, Zariah S
Th Grade
Bell, Camara R

Cobb, Chad N

Drake, Camilla J
Garcia, Andrea T
Gorman, Quinn J
Harrington, Jayde N
Huber, Kaleb Stephen
Harrington, Tachary K
Pethinger, Victoria R
Prell, Thomas L
Qualheim, Abigail M
Röse, McKenzie S
Schamlie, Aaron K
Slycord, Authriana B
Strickland, Nathaniel
Alexander

Carr, Savanah R Carter, Trinity V Conley, Heather L Corley, Jayden Lea Evick, Gracie N Fullerton, DeLaney J Olson, Logan G Parks, Triston D Smith, Chase J Stith, Cody Michael Taylor, Kendal R Tighe, Jesse E Yanchunis-Gonzale:

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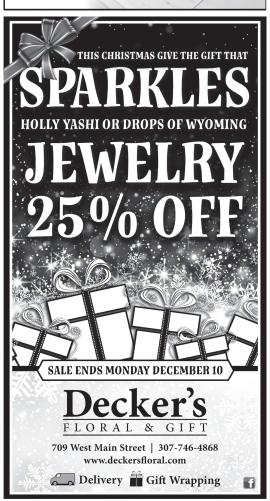
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Scheduling into next

year already?



#### Scores from Page 1.

the board that reports indicate educators enjoyed an even greater level of success when it came to demonstrating growth in students who had not performed well on the test a year prior.

"We've met expectations, for both the Wyoming accountability act and the federal accountability." Tysdal explained as she handed board members copies of the color-coded report, which was filled with green boxes that indicate the schools were "meeting targets" in the 2017-18 school year. There were also a significant number of blue boxes on the chart, which signify the district exceeded targets in those areas.
"In many areas we were

"In many areas we were above the state average all the way across, some fairly significantly," Tysdal reported. The 2017-2018 School

The 2017-2018 School Performance Reports issued by the Wyoming Department of Education indicated that Newcastle Hieldle School and Newcastle Middle School met targets and expectations in all three areas — growth, equity and achievement — based on results of last year's WY-TOPP test, and the elementary school even performed 'above average' on the achievement measure under the federal law, which reflects the percentage of students who were "proficient or above on the state test in English language arts and mathematics."

Newcastle High School met expectations for both the federal and state laws in six of the seven categories high schools are rated under, with the only blemish being a score just below the target on the "Growth" indicator for the state law, although the school met that expectation under the federal law.

The high school did exceed

The high school did exceed the target on a tro of categories pertaining to the amount of credits earned by freshmen, the four-year on-time graduation rate and the post-secondary readiness indicator. Tysdal explained that those three categories, however, are all based on data from the year prior to 2017-18.

"Those are lag indica-

"Those are lag indicators," she said, indicating that timing of the state test, when it is scored and when school ratings are compiled dictates that those measures trail the others by a year or more.

others by a year or more.
Contained within the
reports presented to the board
were more specific sets of
data that provided additional
insight into how schools and
students are performing, and
Tysdal asked board members
to look at the numbers and
discuss questions or concerns
with herself or the building
principals.

"There's huge celebrations too. There are many, many great things these School Shorts

Notes from the Nov. 28 Weston County School District No. 1 Board of Trustees Meeting

 Auditor Paul Stille presented the district's annual finan cial audit, commenting that it was "kind of an uneventful yea for the district." The board approved the report.

for the district." The board approved the report.

It was announced that the WCSD #I Board received
the Certificate of Distinction and Standard of Excellence
Awards from the Wyoming School Boards Association at
that group's state convention last month. Board Chair Tima
Chick received the WSBA Award of Distinction — Level I
Award as well.

 The board accepted the resignations of Transportation Director Mark Peterson and paraprofessionals Amber Prell and Rebecac Oobb. They also accepted the resignation of Coleton Willard as the Middle School head boys basketball coach, Jenny Willard as middle school assistant track coach and Lindsey Burling as the head speech and debate coach.

• The board approved recommendations to hire Cody Nelson as the AACES robotics coach, Jim Stith as the head speech and debate coach and Alexandria Stith as the assistant speech coach, Brooke Bowthorpe as a high school assistant westing coach, Traylon Dawson as a paraprofessional at the elementary school and Rhonda Purviance as a hus route friver.

 An agreement with Weston County Health Services to provide an athletic trainer at the schools was approved.

An additional bus stop was approved for Route 7 in town

numbers show," Tysdal said after acknowledging that district educators had identified areas where they hope to create improvement moving forward.

One area where the district performed particularly well was in the "Equity" category, which determines if students at every level are given equal opportunities to succeed. The equity score for schools is calculated by heavily weighting (80 percent) the growth of the 25 percent of students who performed the lowest on the state exam the previous year, and factoring it with the students tested (20 percent).

The elementary school exceeded the state average in this category for both English language arts and math, and the middle school exceeded the state average across the board as well, with the exception of eighth grade math. In that grade level, however, the students who didn't score in the bottom 25 percent the previous year exceeded the overall state growth average in eighth grade math by nearly five full percentage points.

The equity scores in the high school were a mixed bag, with math students who scored in the bottom 25 percent the previous year easily eclipsing the state average in math, while that subgroup of students showed growth below if the state average in English language arts. As was the case in the middle school math, I the growth rate for the students who did not score in the bottom quartile the prior year in English language arts was significantly higher than the state average.

"Most of the math and lan-

"Most of the math and language arts across the board were higher than the state average, and in some cases significantly higher than the state average," Tysdal said, giving credit to the Walk Ty Learn, Power Hour and other intervention programs put in place at local schools. "Our 'low' kids are really crowing."

place at local schools. "Our 'low' kids are really growing." While that is cause for celebration, Tysdal said educators also saw the numbers as a reminder of the need to challenge and grow children across the educational spectrum.

"Are we growing our upper level students as well?" Tysdal offered. "We put a lot of emphasis on the kids who aren't where we want them to be. How do we make sure we're getting enrichments (for kids who are already there). Those are things we are definitely considering, trying to plan and be very intentional," she told the board.

Among the highlights in the results, Newcastle Elementary School exceeded the state average in 'Achievement,' which measures the percentage of students proficient or above on the state test last year, in English language arts, math and science for both fourth and fifth grade, and were above average in English language arts in third grade. Newcastle Middle School exceeded the state average in 'Achievement' in English language arts at all three of its grade levels, and eclipsed the state mark in math and science in the eighth grade as well. At Newcastle High School, det state average was beaten across the board in both ninh and 10th grade, as local students outperformed the rest of Wyoming in English language arts, math and science.

"We're on the right path, and we're happy with what we're doing," Tysdal said.





#### Lighted Parade grows on Small Business Saturday

The Newcastle Chamber of Commerce's annual lighted parade attracted 19 entries when it was held on Saturday, November 24, and residents lined Main Street to cheer them along the route with bells provided by

organizers to help set the tone under this year's theme—the Polar Express. The parade was moved to Saturday in support of Small Business Saturday, according to Chamber Director Holly Borton, who said WC Sports and Western Wear helped set the mood with an ornament decorating event for kids, who then were able to greet Santa Claus when he brought up the rear of the parade in a vintage fire truck.

"We felt spectators were up despite the cold, windy weather," Borton said.



The for-profit business category was by far the most hotly contested, and at the end of the event Farnsworth Services was crowned the champion in that division, with Black Hills Dental and Newcastle Ambulance Service rounding out the top three.

The non-profit division was won by VFW Post #2516/American Legion Post #3, and the Newcastle Fire Department and Church on the Hill received the honorable mentions. The Newcastle Silvertip Club won the Youth Division

#### Program from Page 1.

help supplement with that. The leftover can help them pick and choose or make money from the Festival of Trees will be earmarked for the program in the future."

A total of 50 kids, from both Upton

The association went with the Shop with a Cop program at the suggestion of Susan Bridge, chief of police in Upton, who had experience with the program in a previous job.

"We felt we were not making a very good impact with the children in Weston County through the Operation Santa program," Stubbs said, noting that the association had done Operation Santa for over 20 years.

Through the Shop with a Cop program, Stubbs said, children will get more interac-

tion with officers and deputies.

"The goal is to have that interaction with children and let them know that all officers are your friends," Stubbs said. "I think it is

are your riends, Stubbs said. I tinink it is a great opportunity, and the children will be getting one-on-one time with the officers."

The day will begin with a 6 a.m. break-fast provided by the Newcastle Lodge and Convention Center for the children, officers and volunteers. After the buffet-style break-fast, and the checking-in procedures, the children and officers will load into police cars and sheriff's trucks for a parade around

cars and streints stuckes for a parace around town, according to Stubbs. "They get a little parade route with the lights and sirens," Stubbs said. "Susan said that is really the highlight for the kids." The parade will end at Shopko, where

the store will open for the officers and the children to shop

"We will pair the children up with an officer or officers, and they will get to spend up to \$50 on themselves or shop for their families," Stubbs said. "The officers

and Newcastle, will get the opportunity to and reweaste, win get the opportunity to participate in the program this year. Stubbs noted that this number is less than with the Operation Santa program, which helped close to 300

people, including whole families.

"Now, we are concentrating on the children, and with this program, there is some responsi-bility for the parents to fill out the required paperwork, get the chil-dren to the lodge by 6 a.m. for breakfast and be a.m. for breakrast and be available to pick up their child when they are fin-ished shopping," Stubbs said. "We are trying to concentrate on the chil-

dren and not so much on the family."

According to Stubbs, Shop with a Cop is not the only program the law enforcement group is instrumental in hosting for the an

"We have a lot of programs that we work throughout the year," Stubbs said. "One of those is a scholarship program for anyone interested in law enforcement careers."

The scholarship is \$400 per semester for adults or teenagers interested in law enforcement careers, she said. The money goes toward their education.

Another program is McGruff the Crime

Dog. The program, according to Stubbs, has several components involving a lot of community education.

This program involves a community presence at several events, including the Back to School Safety Bash, where the association has a booth

and provides crime education to the community. The McGruff program also assists with 911 education for youth and providing DNA and iden-

tification kits to local families.

The association is also responsible for purchasing the drug dog used by the Weston County Sheriff's Office.

Stubbs said that the association has several fundraising efforts, including its annual fishing derby and gun

Association Spokesperson

Melissa Stubbs,

W.C. Peace Officers

The goal is to have

that interaction

with children and

let them know that

all officers are your

friends."

"We have a fishing derby every year for the scholarship program," Stubbs said. "At the same time, we hold a gun raffle, usually a Henry Golden Boy. That is a big money-

a heart Golden Boy. That is a big indicy-maker for us."

She noted that members of the asso-ciation sell tickets for the month leading up to the fishing derby and the name of the winner of the gun is drawn at the derby.

The Weston County Peace Officers Association also benefits from the United Fund of Weston County and receives funds from the annual pie auction.







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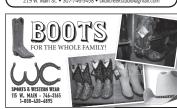


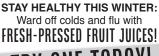


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# Generations News Letter Journal

# Wayback and FOCUS partner for toy drive

Wayback Burgers and FOCUS have partnered once again to bring the Weston County Toy Drive to the area during the holiday season. The two entities hope to bring Christmas cheer to children by providing holiday gifts and other items to families in need.

lies in need.

"From the day I got into this franchise, Wayback has been very community oriented," said Bar. Loebs, owner of Wayback Burgers in Newcastle. "I was born and raised not only holiday gifts but hats, in the lies of the lies in Newcastle, and wanted to be community-oriented too. I am happy that I now have a vehicle and the oppor-

tunity to help out my community."

Loebs recalled that just over a year ago he received a mass email from the Wayback franchise suggesting that the business try to partner with a local entity to provide a need to the comm with a local entity to provide a need to the community over the holiday season. Originally, Loebs said, he had wanted to become involved with Toys for Tots, but found that no local entity was doing the toy drive.

scarves, and coats to families in need. According to Loebs, the toy drive will also collect outdoor gear,

kids, Loebs said, and he believes they could have helped more.

"If we would have had more names last year, we could have helped a lot more kids," Loebs said.
"It was pretty amazing for the first year."

The toy drive officially began on Dec. 1 – Loebs said that toys had already been donated before the official start date - and will end on Dec. 19, with delivery scheduled to begin on Dec. 20. Anyone who takes

such as coats and scarves, that will be a new toy or outdoor gear worth \$5' enjeven to Operation Santa, which is a service project of the fourth-graders at Newcastle Elementary School.

Last year the Weston County Toy Drive provided holiday gifs to 48 kids, Loebs said, and he believes they will be a look of the such as the such

wrapped or unwrapped, according to the donor's preference. Wrapped gifts should be labeled with the intended recipient's age and gender. "FOCUS has purchased a bunch of gifts bags, and I will donate wrap-ping paper," Loebs said. "Anything that does not get donated wrapped will be wrapped." Families can be signed up for he toy drive anonymously at either

the toy drive anonymously at either Wayback or the FOCUS office.

"If anyone knows any families or

because of hard times, that is what we are here for," Loebs said. "We want to help these kids get Christmas."

The age and gender of each child whose name has been submitted will

be placed on a tree at Shopko, where people can see them and know what kind of gifts to purchase. The pur-chaser can then bring the donated items to Wayback to receive a free

"That is the nice thing about our "That is the nice thing about our community. If there is a crisis, emergency or someone down on their luck we come together," Loebs said. "That is one thing I love about living here. People are very good about lending a helping hand."



#### Merry tunes ...

Ally Cass and MacKenzie Conzelman, above, smile during one of the breaks at the Newcastle Middle School choir and band concert held Monday night at the Crouch Auditorium. Below, Abi Elliott, Heath Henkle, and Hogan Tystad play the horns during the concert. (Photos by



# Lessons in government

Kalen Koch participates in the Newcastle High School Congressional Hearings Nov. 20. Students in American Government class participate in the mock hearings to better understand this country's constitution, and government procedure. (Photo by Bob Bonnar/NLJ)

#### Accomplishments

BHSU fall commencement this week

Nearly 180 candidates for graduation will be rec-ognized during the 176th Black Hills State University commencement ceremony, and a pair of Newcastle students will be among those who claim their degrees.

students will be among mose who ciaim their degrees.

The fall commencement ceremony begins at 10
am. Saturday, Dec. 8 at the Donald E. Young Sports
and Fitness Center on the BHSU campus. The public
is invited to attend and celebrate the students' achievements. Degrees to be awarded include 6 master's degrees, 156 bachelor's degrees, and 16 associate's

Newcastle's David Christiansen will receive a Bachelor of Science in Education for Physical Education, and Philip Jagelski has earned a Bachelor of Science in Exer

ucation, and Philip Jagelski has earned a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science.

The fall 2018 commencement ceremony will be broadcast live at BHSU.edu/Classof2018 for those who are unable to attend.



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# ort News Letter Journal

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12/10	9	Sundance	Н	4PM	
12/13-15	VJ	State Line Shootout	Α	TBA	

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#### NMS SCORES

NMS Girls Basketball
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Newcastle 34 Sage Valley 41
7th Grade
Newcastle 30 Sage Valley 32 OT
"8" Team
Newcastle 16 Gillette Rec. Red 12
Newcastle 17 Gillette Rec. Black 21
3A Conference Tournament
8th Grade



defender Cooper Deveraux when the junior varsity squad split up and squared off to launch this year's Meet the Dogies scrimmage event at the Dogie Dome on Saturday night. (Photo by Bob Bonnar/NLJ)

# Season starts with high expectations

The Dogies will start their hoops season with a target on their backs, given Wyopreps announced the results of the preseason polls last week with Newcastle in the 5th spot in 3A.

"Coming off of last year we kind

of anticipated that we would come in with some preseason expectations.
That's good, but it is what it is," head coach Allen Von Eye cautioned. "It's neat and it's cool, but it doesn't mean a dang thing unless you're willing to a dang thing unless you're willing to work toward that because everybody and their dog is wanting to make it to that state tournament. They feel like they can make it this time of the year, and are working really hard toward

Von Eye went on to say that he doesn't worry that his team has been lulled into a false sense of security due to the early rankings, and are working very hard to prove they deserve the

very hard to prove they deserve the recognition.

"It's nice that people respect your program and your kids, and people were pretty blown away across the state with how hard our kids work." and how fun they were to watch," he smiled. "But, if you think that preseason rankings crown you, it's not good. I don't worry about that with this group because we've been blessed with kids who work their tails off!"

The Dogies will be running very fast-paced offensive and defensive systems once again this season, so Von Eye pointed out that practices are very intense right from the start in order to get his players in the kind of shape necessary to go hard for 32 minutes.

'We get up and down the court with our drills from the start of practice. so by the middle the guys are usually fatigued, which is to be expected at this time of the season," he explained. "One negative by-product of that early



Dylon Tidyman reminded the fans why he is one of his team's leading scorers as he went hard to the rack for two in the Meet the Dogies scrimmage on Saturday. (Photo by Sonja Karp/NLJ)

solid and high energy to start, but by the middle they are tuckered because they've gone hard. But Wednesday we started to see that shift showing our conditioning is there. For the entire duration of practice, the energy was as high across the board as I've ever had it in that gym."

The Dogies have great numbers again this season with 37 out for the sport – the most ever in Von Eye's tenure as head coach. Of those, there are seven seniors and seven juniors, 11 sophomores and 12 freshmen.

sophomores and 12 freshmen.

"We've got a ton of bodies, which
is a good problem to have as long as
they're competitive and want to work
hard, which they do," Von Eye nodded.

"We get a lot accomplished in practice and we have a lot of competition. Guys can see that if they don't work hard someone else will be, so they have to get after it all the time."

get after it all the time."

The Dogies lost four players from last season's squad, leaving some pretty big shoes to fill this year. Cam Quigley, Lyle Whitney and Bryson Tidyman graduated, while Jake Lacey

moved away.
"When you lose players like that, it's difficult to replace them because of everything they brought to the court," Von Eye began. "Though we don't have single players who will encompass everything, we have several guys who will give us pieces of what we

Returning this season are the squad's leading scorers from last season, senior Cade Ostenson and junior Dylon Tidyman. Other key players include seniors Sawyer Roberson, Dylan Talley and Kyle "Scrappy" Haslam, as well as junior Isaiah Brooks.

"Cade and Dylon have really matured over the last year and each have been working hard on improving

# Dogies dive right in to the season

taking off right where they left off last year as they graduated on one from last season's squad. While last season was some-what of a rebuilding year, head coach Doug Scribner noted that the experience his team built over the last 12 months is already revealing itself in a positive manner. "We lost a couple of strong

swimmers two years ago, and last year we really solidified as a team," he nodded. "That has carried over to this year, so we've had a really strong start. Everyone is excited, they know what their goals are and have been working hard at achieving

those goals."

An added element that has created an optimal practice environment for the men is that several members of the Lady Dogies team have been in the pool practicing as well, as they will be competing at the Gillette Invitational in the women's category.
"It's great to have the girls

there because they really help with motivation for the boys," Scribner smiled. "They push each other and it gives them more people to swim against, so that has really added to

Back in the pool again this year are seniors Zach Benshoof, Kaden Curren, Garrett Merchen

- See Swimmers, Page 12



Conrad Prell works on perfecting his Breaststroke as he and his team prepare for the opening weekend of their season this Friday in Powell. (Photo by Sonja Karp/NLJ)





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#### Hoping to build off last year's success

The combined Newcastle/Upton wrestling team is poised to get off to a busy start this season, and head coach Lee McCoy noted there will be some chal-McCoy noted there will be some chal-lenges facing the squad, which is largely comprised of athletes who are relatively young or inexperienced. The Dogies graduated Trayton Dawson, Wyatt Corley, Teigen Marchant and Alan Baker (Upton) from last year's

squad. The first three were state runners-up, while Baker finished fourth at the

The team is returning sophomore Kale Corley, who was the state champion at 120 as only a freshmen. McCoy confirmed that with that win Corley, who will begin the season at 138 and then drop to 132, has set a goal to become a four-year state champ, but he also cautioned that it will be no easy task to achieve

"Classes from 120-160 are historically very competitive, so it will be a tough go for him," Lee began. "Kale knows he's got a target on his back, and we've been got a target on his back, and we've been talking about the fact that just because you win one, doesn't mean they're going to give you the other three. He has to take it one at a time and work extra hard because now people know who he is, and they want to beat him. He could fly under the radar last year as a freshman, but that's not the case now."

Also returning for the Dogies is

senior Reid Holmes, who missed the state tournament last year due to illness. As a sophomore, he was a state finalist, however, and Lee expects him to make a run at returning in his final season if he can remain healthy.

Jory McFarland and Skylar Jenkins

also earned their way to the state tourney last year and come back this season as a junior and sophomore respectively, vying for another go at the title. Senior Gavin Durfee of Upton is the only other wrestler

"We aren't returning very many, and we have a lot of freshmen and first-year kids who have moved in," Lee began.



Reid Holmes (top) and Kale Corley (bottom) take turns executing take down drills. Both are coming into this season with State Tournament berth potential, and are working hard to achieve that goal. (Photo by Sonja Karp/NLJ)

"We're young but the kids are coachable and have great attitudes. They are going to take their knocks as a team this year for sure though, because they are pretty

New to the team this year are Nate King and Dylan Drost, and the rest are freshmen. Between the returning and new guys, the team has 17 total, which is up one from last year.

Though only increasing by a minimal Inough only increasing by a minimal number, an advantage this crew has this season is that they are able to fill more weight classes than before. While the Dogies gave up four or five open weight classes at duals in 2017-18, this year McCoy anticipates they will only have to forfeit two or three each time.

"For duals, I anticipate being able to

bump people around so we will only have to give up a couple of weight classes, which is much better than last year," he predicted. "This year we're spread out pretty well, and should be able to move some people around better.

McCov is pleased with how his squad has jumped right into the season, despite their youth and inexperience.

"This is a great group of kids who all have great attitudes," he nodded. "We had our lock-in following our weight assessment last Friday into Saturday, and the kids did a phenomenal job through that — which is basically 12 hours of workouts - so that's awesome.

The lock-in consists of three separate wrestling practices, as well as a weight-lifting, a conditioning and a swimming workout. Between each workout, the athletes had time to rest and recover.

letes had time to rest and recover.

The Dogies will begin their season this
Thursday in Custer where they will dual
the Wildcats, Newell and Bennett County,
and then on Friday the team will split.
Some will head to Lusk for a one-day invitational, while six others will roll to Rapid City for a two-day invitational. Competing in Rapid are Corley, Holmes, Blake Durfee, Gavin Durfee, McFarland

#### Swimmers from Page 11 ....

James Cox and Conrad Prell, and new to the team this year are freshmen Robert Humes and

Merchen, Kenney and Cox return as the squad's state quali-fiers in the 100 Breaststroke, 100 Freestyle and 100 Backstroke respectively and Scribner feels respectively and scrioner reess confident they will repeat this season with another appearance at the State Meet in February. Though he missed quali-fying for state in the 500 Free

by a mere one second, Prell is poised to get under the 3A time early this year, according to

'Conrad worked a great deal of last season trying to come

and Dalton Parsons. They are back from a knee injury, and 500 Free. Parsons' strength joined by juniors Austen Kenney he only missed the mark by a and Jae Hyun Lee, sophomores second," he explained. "He's coming off of a good cross country season this year and is back to 100 percent, so I expect to see him qualify right out of

the gate."
Prell is also interested in diving, which he began to work on at the end of last year, but didn't have enough dives ready in order to compete. However, Scribner and he have been working on more dives and are planning on debuting at the home meet on the 14th and 15th of this month.

of this month.

The Breaststroke and Freestyle are the strongest strokes for Benshoof, and he has established the goal of qualifying in the 200 and the sharp of the stronger of the stronger

and focus is the Backstroke, Lee's is the Breaststroke, while Humes and Scribner are strong in the Freestyle. Scribner is also strong in the Breaststroke so coach Scribner anticipates he will make a good sprinting

partner for Kenney.

Curren suffered an injury over the weekend, so it is unclear when or if he will return to competition.

return to competition.

"Austen managed for the girls this year, so he has been working on his Freestyle for a while now," Scribner began.

"He also attended a camp last

breaststrokers, so with that I think we have a pretty good chance at having a strong medley relay which I'm excited about," Scribner exclaimed. "We should also have several for the 200 and 400 Free relays. My challenge for the guys to think about is that we need four people at 26 seconds and four at 1:00 for each so they know that and will be working toward

There has been a schedule There has been a schedule change for the first weekend of competition. The team was going to be in Gillette, but they have opted not to host the meet. As such, the squad will instead go to Powell for a quadrangular on Friday and on to Cody for an invitational on Saturday.

#### Boys from Page 11....

their game, so I think they are going to be men gaine, so I min they are going to be really exciting to watch this year," Von Eye predicted. "Sawyer is just so strong and has a great perimeter shot. Dylon does so much for us in every aspect of the game, and Kyle continues to prove he comes by his nickname naturally

"Isaiah is just an exciting player to

ZX.

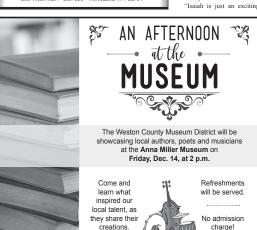
watch," he continued. "I've never had watch, lie commund. I've never had someone with the handles he has and the vision he has. He just has this innate ability to find people and get them the ball — sometimes when they aren't ready for it. The guys' heads have to be on a swivel because if they're open, he's getting them the dang basketball!"

The Dogie coaching staff of Von Eye, Matt Conzelman and Scott Beehler are ioined this season by former Dogie players

Joined this season by former Dogic players.

Dave Christianson and Derek Lewis.

The Dogies will tip off their season at home this Friday against the Custer Wildcats at 7:30 p.m., or following the conclusion of the Lady Dogies' contest.



23





## SOS takes on new meaning after exercise

veryone knows that S.O.S is the global signal for distress, but those letters have taken on a new meaning for me as I see them now forming the acronym SOS, which stands

For Sources of Strength.

Sadly, it has become apparent in the last few years that our young people are experiencing more and more difficulty

Karpe Dogie

dealing with the pressures that life deals out. We see negativity

everywhere, and as adults we know that can be emotionally wearing. For young people, who are just

beginning to figure out who they are as people, it can become overwhelming.

They see tragedy, anger, evil, hopelessness and despair all over social media, on television and in the movies, and many see it in their own

movies, and many see it in their own lives as well.

With all of this as a frame of reference, you may be thinking that SOS as a distress signal may be more appropriate.

At Newcastle High School, we as a

staff have been looking for answers and techniques to try to help our students who are at risk. We know some of our kids are living in challenging environ-

nents or situations, but we feel power-less to help them find their way out. In a training I attended last week for a new program being instituted at NHS called Sources of Strength, I began to see a possible light at the end of the tunnel through which these young people are

traveling.

Everyone faces hard times, and when they do we have a tendency to com-miserate or dwell on the drama that is miserate or dwell on the drama that is surrounding them. The stories we tell amongst ourselves focus on sadness, shock and trauma. In doing so we unin-tentionally perpetuate negativity, which impedes our ability to heal and move

What I learned in the two days of training is that the way to change this harmful and emotionally debilitating cycle is to focus instead on hope, help and strength.

The mission of the Sources of Strength program is "to spread hope, help and strength into every corner of our community. [It] recognizes that our voice has great power and we use it to break the silence when someone is strug

break the silence when someone is struggling, and to connect them to the help
they need and deserve."

The goal is to "spread hope by
focusing on stories of strength, rather
than on stories of trauma."

Not only does the mission of SOS
inspire me to believe that having a positive impact on the lives of kids in distress is possible, but the implementation
of the commander gives no great hose

of the program also gives me great hope
As adult leaders, we certainly have
our role, but the bulk of the work is in
the hands of students at NHS. Students



Top of page, Markie Whitney and Gaven Lamb battle each other in the Roshambo challenge last Wednesday at the Peer Leadership training for Sources of Strength. Savannah Davis cheers Whitney on in her quest to the finals. Above, Asia Graham (left) and Markie Whitney (right) display the Wheel of Strengths, while Austyn Vaughn (middle) holds up the SOS mission brochure. These students and about 25 others received training to be peer leaders for the program last Wednesday, Below, Peer leader Shelby Davis adds her ideas of how to utilize healthy activities as a strength in sour life (Phonos to Markis Barker/VLI). strength in your life. (Photos by Alexis Barker/NLJ)



who represent all peer groups in the

who represent all peer groups in the school have accepted a role as a peer leader, and it is they who will be the face of this program.

It was exciting to watch these kids, in only one day of training, not only embrace the mission of SOS, but uninhibitedly grab the reins to begin to make the goals of the program a reality.

I will admit that I consider myself a cynic when it comes to these tymes of

cynic when it comes to these types of programs, but I find myself believing that this one has the potential to make a difference in the lives of our young people. It has already had a positive impact on me, and I know that the very little that I have learned so far will have a permanent, positive impact on

my life. While it is true that as individuals we While it is true that as individuals we do not have the power to change society, we do have the power to change how we engage as part of our society. Deciding to make a concerted effort at approaching life's challenges from the perspective of Hope, Help and Strength will certainly result in a more positive and happy personal life experience. And, as a by-product, may just help change the society in which we live.



Main St., Ste. 3, Newo 746-4349 • 746-5015

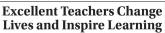


Michael Freeman 128 W. Main St, Ste. 1 | Cell: (307) 281-6310 | Office: (307) 746-2700

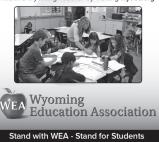








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#### WCSD #1 Warrants

WESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1 GENERAL FUND WARRANTS OVER \$500

NOVEMBER 2018	LII \$500
AL CORNELLA	\$2,985.00
BBY PUBLICATIONS,UWA	\$1,139.00
CITY OF NEWCASTLE	\$3,789.61
CUMMINS ROCKY MOUNTAIN LLC	\$6,259.68
DALE'S TIRE AND RETREADING, IN	
	\$1,334.36
EASTERN WYOMING EQUIPMENT	COMPANY \$622.35
ELDER EQUIPMENT LEASING OF V	
ELDETT EGOTI METT ELFORITO OT 1	\$524.28
HAMPTON BUFFALO	\$680.00
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS	\$651.00
HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT	\$882.90
HURRICANE SERVICES LLC	\$555.00
MID AMERICAN RESEARCH CHEMI	CAL
	\$1,646.71
NEWSLETTER JOURNAL	\$2,129.00
NEWSLETTER JOURNAL	\$661.54
NORCO LLC	\$1,114.83
QUALITY INN & SUITES	\$588.00
RT COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$1,331.73
STERN OIL COMPANY	\$1,303.58
SUNDANCE EQUIPMENT CO.	\$702.67
TIRE-RAMA	\$5,392.26
WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF WORK	KFORCE
	\$7,680.28
UNIVERSAL ATHLETIC	\$2,065.00
WCSD-Food Service	\$25,000.00
WESTON COUNTY HEALTH SERVICE	ES
	\$3,733.80
WYOMING ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION	
WYOMING SCHOOL BOARDS ASS'	
WESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DIST -	\$3,215.00
	\$994,402.58
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	\$13,074.07
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	\$22,394.79
BLACK HILLS PLUMBING & HEATIN	
	\$1,227.70
CDW GOVERNMENT,INC	\$846.45
DECKER'S MARKET	\$628.68
FAIRFIELD INN	\$1,194.00
GOLDEN WEST TECHNOLOGIES &	\$2,765.00
HOBART SALES & SERVICE	\$1,494.10
KONE INC	\$1,519.57
MARCO	\$2,936.14
MARCO TECHNOLOGIES LLC	\$4,036.20
MASTERCARD	\$532.69
MASTERCARD	\$1,051.18
MASTERCARD	\$655.00
MASTERCARD	\$2,671.22
MIDWEST VACUUMS	\$616.28
POWDER RIVER ENERGY CORP	\$6,583.44
RAMKOTA HOTEL CASPER	\$1,961.24
SCHOOL NURSE SUPPLY, INC	\$1,412.86
SYSCO MONTANA INC	\$1,884.57
WESTON COUNTY HEALTH SERVICE	
MANAGEMENT DEFINITION COMPANY	\$930.00
WYOMING REFINING COMPANY	\$26,471.84
WYOMING SCHOOL BOARDS ASS'	
Observation Assessed Total	\$2,600.00
	1,170,687.18
GILLETTE STEEL CENTER	\$717.15
NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION	\$605.00
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR-13	\$1,340.47

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR-13 UNIVERSAL ATHLETIC ARTIST TRAVEL CONSULTANTS LLC \$4.800.00 LISA BAKER \$3,456.00 \$1,000.80 \$701.98 \$1,088.66 BAREFOOT MASTERCARD MASTERCARD MASTERCARD
WESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTWOODWORKER'S SUPPLY
Checking Account Total:
BLACK HILLS ENERGY
BLACK HILLS ENERGY
WESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTChecking Account Total:
DEAN FOODS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTCHECKING ACCOUNTY SCHOOL
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 PROGUARD
 Sb2L/L3

 SYSCO MONTANA INC
 \$7,790.41

 WESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DIST - \$1,012.35
 \$1,012.35

 WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
 \$2,942.12

 DEAN FOODS NC
 \$819.00

DEAN FOODS NO. \$819.00 \$879.00 \$979.00 MONTANA INC \$5,043.23 \$5,043.23 \$WESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DIST - \$17,008.91 \$0.00 \$0. \$31,091.00 CLT FLOORING & FURNISHINGS, INC.

Checking Account Total: BLACK HILLS ENERGY Checking Account Total: Grand Total:

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#### Public Notice

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT SPECTRUM TV SERVICE

Effective on or after January 8, 2019, EPIX will be available for subscription only as an a la carte service. For more information, or to add EPIX as an a la carte service, call 1-855-70-Spectrum. To view a current Spectrum channel lineup visit www.spectrum.com/channels. To view this notice online visit www.spectrum.net/programmingnotices.

(Publish December 6, 2018)

#### Court Report.

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 6TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, WESTON COUNTY JUDGE MATTHEW F.G. CASTANO

JUDGE MATTHEW F.G. CASTANO

Nicholas T. Wempen, Unauthorized Use of
Vehicle, Jail: 30 Days, Suspended: 27 Days,
Unsupervised Probation: 6 Months, Fees and
Fines: \$405
David E. Bond, Vehicle Exceed 70 MPH on
Primary/Secondary Highway (6+ MPH Over),
Fees and Fines: \$110
Primary/Secondary Highway (6+ MPH Over),
Fees and Fines: \$125
Jerod A. Farella, Vehicle Exceed 70 MPH on
Primary/Secondary Highway (6+ MPH Over),
Fees and Fines: \$190
Wyatt A. Hines, Vehicle Exceed 70 MPH on
Primary/Secondary Highway (6+ MPH Over),
Fees and Fines: \$190
Wyatt A. Hines, Vehicle Exceed 70 MPH on
Primary/Secondary Highway (6+ MPH Over),
Fees and Fines: \$145
William M. Jackson, Vehicle Exceed 70 MPH
William M. Jackson, Vehicle Exceed 70 MPH

Fees and Fines: \$145
William M. Jackson, Vehicle Exceed 70 MPH
on Primary/Secondary Highway (6+ MPH Over),
Fees and Fines: \$135
Sean L. Merchen, Vehicle Exceed 70 MPH
on Primary/Secondary Highway (6+ MPH Over),
Fees and Fines: \$100
Dwayne J. Bridges, Vehicle Exceed 70 MPH
on Primary/Secondary Highway (6+ MPH Over),
Fees and Fines: \$100
Fine

Preston C. Seamands, Fall to Tag Big or Trophy Game Animal. Fees and Fines; \$235 Nicholas T. Wempen, Fail to Provide Proof of Liability Insurance, Fees and Fines; \$555 Jerard W. Brown, Vehicle Exceed 70 MPH on Primary/Secondary Highway (6- MPH Over), Fees and Fines; \$950 Sean L Merchen, Valid Certificate of Title, Certificate of Registration, and License Plates/ Temporary Permit Required, Fees and Fines; \$125 Stanley W. Jasinski, Seat Belt: Passenger Over 12 Years, Fees and Fines; \$10 Fyra Williams, Driw While License Cancelled, Suspended, or Revoked if not Suspended for 41-529 or 31-5230, January 10-10 Jenys, Williams, Driw While License Cancelled, Suspended, or Revoked if not 30 Jenys, Suspended: 29 Days, Unsupervised Suspended for 41-529 or 51-523, January 10-10 Jenys, Press and Fines; \$110 Andrew L. Garland, Hunt, Trap, Fish or Collect Antlers/Horns on Private Land Without Permission, Fees and Fines; \$435 Nathan D. Williamson, Vehicle Exceed 70 MPH on Primary/Secondary Highway (6+ MPH Over), Fees and Fines S10 Nathan D. Williamson, Vehicle Exceed 70 MPH on Primary/Secondary Highway (6+ MPH Over), Fees and Fines; \$435 Nathan D. Williamson, Vehicle Exceed 70 MPH on Primary/Secondary Highway (6+ MPH Over), Fees and Fines; \$90 Total Paid: \$6,629

Total Paid: \$6.629

The Police Blotter)

#### Blotter

\$1,297,207.21

November 25, 2018
Traffic stop, Written Warning issued. Report
of dog at large, Impounded. Traffic stop, Written
Warning issued. Welfare check requested. Drunk
driver reported. Traffic stop, Written Warning
issued. Traffic stop, Written Warning
issued. Traffic stop, Written Warning

In the State of th

Warrant arrest. Minor accident reported.

Warrant arrest. Minor accident reported.
Commercial alarm reported. Win inspection
requested. Minor accident reported. Parking
complaint. Assist other agency. Unlawful dumping reported. Commercial alarm reported. Drunk
driver reported.
November 29
Trespass Order requestd. Medical assist. Assist
other agency. Missing dog
reported. Report of a dog at
large reported. Written
Wormant issued.
November 30
Open door discovered.
November 10
Open door discovered.
Report of dog at large,

Open door discovered.
Report of dog at large,
Impounded. Two VIN
inspections requested.
Assist other agency. Report
of a dog at large. Report of
a dog at large.

December 1
Traffic hazard reported. Suspicious activity reported. Warrant arrest. Domestic problem reported. Lost property reported. Medical assist Juvenile problem reported. Juvenile problem

For news from across Wyoming and the Black Hills 'Like' the NLJ on FaceBook!



Send nominee's name, contact information and a brief explanation of why this person deserves nomination to: News Letter Journal, PO Box 40, Newcastle WY 82701, email to the editor@newslj.com, or drop off at 14 W. Main Street. Please include your name and phone number as well.

#### Christmas crafts



Newcastle Elementary School students brought a little Christmas cheer to The Newcastle Lodge and Convention Center on Friday, when they took over the new hotel's large meeting room and used it to create dozens of Christmas ornaments with some help from a crew of Newcastle High School art students. The youngsters all received candy canes and gathered around the tree for a group photo before making their way back to school. (Photo by Bob Bonnar/NLJ)

Due to technical difficulties, the Weather Vane is not available this week. We will resume printing the **Weather Vane** when data again becomes available. Thank you for your patience.

#### Public Notice

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

Notice is hereby given that the State ansportation Commission of Wyoming Notice is hereby given that the State Transportation Commission of Wyoming has accepted as completed according to plans, specifications and rules governing the same work performed under that certain contract between the State of Wyoming, acting through said Commission, and Traffic Safety Services, Inc. The Contractor, on Highway Project Number B184021 in Gillette, Newcastle, Sheridan, and Sundance Counties, consisting of chevron sign-ing and miscellaneous work, and the Contractor is entitled to final settlement therefore; that the Director of the Department of Transportation will cause said Contractor to be paid the full amount due him under said contract on January 9, 2019. The date of the first publication of this Notice is November 29, 2018.

STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF WYOMING By: Caryn Erickson Senior Budget Analyst Budget Program

(Publish November 29, December 6 and 23, 2018)

**Public Notice** 

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE AND FINAL SETTLEMENT FOR THE NEWCASTLE BIKE PATH 2018 PROJECT AT NEWCASTLE, WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING

Notice is hereby given that work by S&S Builders, LLC, PO Box 1867, Gillette, WY 82717, for the Newcastle Bike Path 2018 project for the City of Newcastle has been accepted and the final settlement for payment is to be made per WS 16-8-116 in consideration of any outstanding financial obligations. Concerned parties may contact the City Engineer, City of Newcastle, 10 West Warwick, Newcastle, WY 82701. Full amount due will be paid on January 9, 2019. The date of first Publication is November 29, 2018.

Michael Moore, P.E.

City Engineer City of Newcastle

(Publish November 29, December 6 and 23, 2018)

#### Deadline for Legals is noon on Friday

#### by JaNel M. Farnsworth



#### Public Notice

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
TRANSFER OF RETAIL LIQUOR LICENSE #5

Notice is hereby given that on the 27th day of November 2018, the following filed an application for Transfer of Ownership (Retail Liquor License #5) from HRS LLC, dba Antler's Lounge to B&D Holdings, 701 Washington BW, Newcastle, Wyoming Protests, if there be any, against the transfer of this License, will be heard at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, December 17, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. in the Newcastle City Council Chambers in City Hall, 10 W. Warwick St., Newcastle, WY 82701.

Dated This 27th Day of November, 2018

Gregory H. James, City Clerk/Treasurer

(Publish December 6 and 13, 2018)

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#### **Fun and Games**

POPULAR PASTIMES

- ACROSS
  1. Smoothing tool
  5. Fireplace mess
  8. \*Make a scarf, then a sweat-
- er
  12. Nasal input
  13. Crunched info
  14. Like a snicker
  15. Cautionary offering
  16. 'Caddie's offering
  17. Ringworm
  18. 'Current game
  20. Bookkeeping entry
  21. Express November sentiments

- 22. Big bang maker 23. Beach Boys: "Be True to
- Your \_\_\_\_"
  26. Deducible
  30. COI, OSS, SSU, CIG,
  31. \*Interlocking challenge

- 25. Desourchie
  26. O. CSS, SSU, CIG,
  31. "Interlocking challenge
  and the game
  31. September of the game
  37. Acorn maker
  38. Poet Nase
  39. Spanish surrealist Joan
  40. Tolkiens' "The Two "
  42. Denotes financial loss
  43. Kickback
  45. Ducks with valued down
  47. Ornamental carp
  48. Harvest helper
  50. Chalupa alternative
  52. Virginia Silin, e.g.
  56. "What tootball and baseball have in common, pl. "
  58. "He give go with the grown or online"
  59. September of the grown or online
  59. September of the grown or online
  59. September of the grown or online
  59. Lock horns

- 58. "nating out or size on line online 59. Lock horns 60. Eyeball 61. Hissy fit 62. Michael Myers' move 63. "To Kill a Mockingbird" author
- 64. Thanksgiving tubers

- Campus drillers
   Month before Nisan
   Stag
   Faster than allegro
   Hammerin' Hank
   Calings hinds

- 6. Delivery bird?
  7. 3rd H in 4-H, sing.
  8. \*Needlecraft

- 7. 3rd h in 4-H, sing.
  8. Needlecraft
  9. 'Half a round
  10. Footnote word
  11. 'Afternoon's high
  13. 'Hindu Festival of Lights
  14. The Police lead singer
  19. Japanese room divider
  12. Little rascal
  12. Locomotive hair
  12. Core of personnel
  12. Nove so helping hand
  12. Messy substances
  13. Hotepondent African ruler
  13. Wessy substances
  13. Horror movie franchise
  13. William of the size of t
- \*\_\_\_Chi
  Make a connection
  Opposite of tea bag
  Black-tie
  \*Watch a season in a week,

- e.g.
  49. Catlike
  50. Queen of Hearts' pastry
  51. Aquatic plant
  52. Fairly cold
  53. Blackfin or Yellowfin
  54. Barbershop request
- Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box in

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#### Last week's answers

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"Many a small thing has been made large by the right kind of advertising."

- Mark Twain

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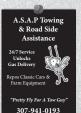
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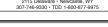
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Position St	tatus
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d applications/resume packets to 307-7 or email JSindlinger@wchs-wy.org. WCHS performs post offer, f

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Weston County Health Services has the following positions open

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/eston County Health Services has the following positions open. Please see our website at www.wchs-wy.org for more details.

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## Ladies ready to start their season

Sonja Karp NLJ Sports Reporter

After some early preseason uncertainty, the Lady Dogies Basketball team has settled in and the squad is focused on getting their 2018-2019 season underway.

Former assistant coach Chad Ostenson has moved into the head coach posi-tion after the recent resignation of Tyler Bartlett, while Coleton Willard has filled the vacancy left by Ostenson.

Numbers were a little worrisome early on with only 10 girls expressing interest. However, by the time practice began 19 girls had laced up their kicks. "The girls are working hard and are

being very coachable," Ostenson nodded. "They try to take all the information in and get things done. We've worked on a lot, and it's been good, and I've been happy with the effort we're seeing.

The Lady Dogies are adjusting to not only the leadership change, but also to the loss of some key players from last year's squad.

Though only Sarah Henkle was lost to

Inougn only Saran Henkie was lost to graduation, starting point guard Lauren Lacey and the sixth "man" Carson Quigley each moved away over the course of the summer, while Madi Pearson is recovering from an injury that will have her sidelined all season.

The team is returning seniors Lexus Voelker, Makenzie Wagoner, Kaylee Sweet and Lauren Steveson and they are joined by juniors Grace Coy, Sara Sweet and Avery Alicehouse. Sophomores Mercedes Voelker, Claire Beastrom, Isabel Frank Voelker, Claire Beastrom, Isabel Frank and Becky Lorenzen will also be wearing the uniform, as well as freshmen Shawnee Miles, Rachel Sweet, Summer Bonnar, Taylee Dickinson, Bailey Benshoof, Jonnaye Rosenau, Nicole Weeg and Calla

While nearly half of the squad are freshmen, the Lady Dogies will not be playing at that level this season due to the playing at that level this season due to the shortage of players in the upper grades. Rather, the team will fill junior varsity and varsity rosters only. "We will be putting together a mixed team for the JV squad this year, and are

working on getting the freshmen up to speed given it's a pretty big jump to go from middle school to junior varsity ball in the 3A conference," Ostenson admitted. "But, they're doing really well so far and it's also really helpful to have Cami



Claire Beastrom found her way to the hoop for a bucket several times last Saturday as the Lady Dogies went head-to-head in the annual Meet the Dogies preseason scrimmage. (Photo by Sonja Karp/NLJ)

Willyard [former high school assistant coach] coaching them at the middle school and running our offensive sets, so they come to us with the basic principles."

To help with the transition, Ostenson also scheduled the freshmen to go in the morning for the first eight days of practice. By doing so, the newcomers were able to learn the drills at a speed that was comfortable for them, rather than at the older players' speed. When the youngsters joined the rest of the team, they were able to hop right into the drills with the knowledge and skill set necessary to keep practice moving along seamlessly

The Lady Dogies made their preseason debut last Saturday at the annual Meet the Dogies night, so fans got a sneak peek at the squad. Going into the scrimmage, Ostenson was pleased at the progress the team was making, but admitted there was still work to be done.

"I'm really pretty pleased with where

the girls are at and how things are going," he declared. "We definitely have a lot of

things we need to work on, but it's early. We will have what we need by the first game, and hopefully have everything in by Regionals.'

According to Ostenson, fans can expect According to Ostenson, tans can expect to see the same man-to-man principles from previous years, but the Lady Dogies will probably be playing a little more zone on defense. Offensively, the squad will continue the same system. However, the coach plans to incorporate a few more set plays so that if the team needs to score, they will have something in their wheel-house in order to make that happen.

"We will also be running as much as we can, because we don't have size," Ostenson stated. "We've really been talking about pushing the ball between the three point lines and then if we have the numbers, go to the rack, but if we don't, we'll set up

the play."

The Lady Dogies get their season underway this Friday as they host the Lady Wildcats of Custer with tip-off scheduled

