

# VOTE TUESDAY NOV. 8



The  
*Saratoga  
Sun's*  
**2016**  
Election  
Section


 2016 ELECTION SECTION

C- Constitution Party; D-Democratic Party; G-Green Party  
I-Independent Party; L-Libertarian Party; R-Republican Party

Four (4) year term • Candidates in alphabetical order by last name

## U.S. PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

FOUR (4) YEAR TERM • PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

### Darrell Castle and Scott Bradley- C

If you believe those tiny people living in their mother's wombs are "persons" and therefore deserving of life, choose me. If not, any of the other candidates will do.

If you want the United States to return to being a free and independent nation able to chart its own course

in the world, choose me. If not, any of the others will do.

If you want the right to keep all your income and use it as you see fit, choose me. If not, any of the others will do.

If you want to control the education of your children, choose me. But if you want your children to remain in

the hands of federal bureaucrats, any of the others will do.

If you want limited government and personal liberty, choose me. But if not, any of the others will do.

"The people of America could rise up and effect revolution. You could, in fact,

have a bloodless revolution. There aren't many of these around. Even our own revolution was bloody, but you could effect a bloodless revolution. I could wake up on November 9th and be president of the United States and have carried your state. You could be the impetus behind that and

the world will be turned upside down. It would never be the same again. That would be an earthshaking event of such monumental proportion, it could not be over estimated. This is within the reach of every person in America, but it starts with you."

### Hillary Clinton and Tim Kaine- D

#### Economic Plan:

Invest in infrastructure, manufacturing, research and technology, clean energy, and small businesses. Hillary will strengthen trade enforcement, and say no to trade deals like TPP that don't meet a high bar of creating good-paying jobs. And she will make the U.S. the clean energy superpower—with half a billion solar panels installed by the end of her first term and enough renewable energy to power every American home within 10 years.

Make debt-free college available to all Americans and provide relief for those with existing debt by allowing them to refinance their loans.

Rewrite the rules so more companies share profits with employees—and fewer ship profits and jobs overseas. Reward companies that share profits and invest in their workers and raise the minimum wage. She will crack down on companies that shift profits overseas to avoid paying U.S. taxes, and make companies that export jobs give back tax breaks they've received. She will defend existing Wall Street reform and push for new measures.

Make certain that corporations, the wealthy, and Wall Street pay their fair share. Hillary will pay for her economic priorities and avoid adding to the national debt by ensuring the wealthiest Americans and the biggest corporations pay

their fair share. For example, she'll fight for the "Buffett Rule," close the carried interest loophole, and impose a new surcharge on multi-millionaires and billionaires.

Hillary will fight for equal pay and guarantee paid leave. And she will provide relief from the rising costs of necessities like child care and housing, while taking steps to provide Americans with greater retirement and health care security.

#### Tax Plan:

Restore basic fairness to our tax code. Hillary will implement a "fair share surcharge" on multi-millionaires and billionaires and fight for measures like the Buffett Rule to ensure the wealthiest do not pay a lower tax rate than hardworking middle-class families.

Close loopholes that reward companies for shifting profits and jobs overseas. She will charge an "exit tax" for companies leaving the U.S. to settle their untaxed foreign earnings. And she'll reward businesses that invest in good-paying jobs here in the United States.

Simplify taxes for small businesses so they can hire and grow. The smallest businesses, with one to five employees, spend 150 hours and \$1,100 per employee on federal tax compliance (more than 20 times higher than average for larger firms).

Provide tax relief to working families. For too many years, middle-class families have been

squeezed by rising costs. Hillary will offer relief from these rising costs, including tax relief for Americans facing excessive out-of-pocket health care costs and for those caring for an ill or elderly family member.

Hillary believes we can afford to pay for ambitious, progressive investments in good-paying jobs, debt-free college, and other measures to strengthen growth, broaden opportunity, and reduce inequality. Hillary will use the proceeds from ensuring the wealthiest and the largest corporations pay their fair share to pay for these investments without adding to the debt.

#### Health Care:

Defend and expand the Affordable Care Act, which covers 20 million people. Hillary will build on its success to bring affordable health care to more people and make a "public option" possible. She will also support letting people over 55 years old buy into Medicare.

Bring down out-of-pocket health care costs.

Reduce the cost of prescription drugs. Prescription drug spending accelerated from 2.5 percent in 2013 to 12.6 percent in 2014. It's no wonder that almost three-quarters of Americans believe prescription drug costs are unreasonable.

Protect consumers from unjustified prescription drug price increases. Hillary's plan includes enforcement tools that make drug alternatives avail-

able and increase competition, broaden access to high-quality treatments from countries with strong safety standards, and hold drug companies accountable for unjustified price increases with new penalties.

Fight for health insurance for low-income Americans in every state by incentivizing states to expand Medicaid—and make Medicaid enrollment easier.

Expand access to affordable health care to families regardless of immigration status.

Expand access to rural Americans.

Defend access to reproductive health care and work to ensure that all women have access to preventive care, affordable contraception, and safe and legal abortion.

Double funding for community health centers, and support the healthcare workforce.

#### National Security:

Ensure we are stronger at home. We are strongest overseas when we are strong at home.

Stick with our allies. From the Middle East and Asia to Europe and our own hemisphere, Hillary knows NATO is one of the best investments America has ever made. And she'll continue to support Israel's ability to defend itself. Hillary also will invest in partnerships in Latin America, Africa, and Asia with nations who share our vision.

Embrace the tools of Ameri-

can power, especially diplomacy and development. This includes preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon. Hillary will enforce the nuclear agreement with Iran and implement a strategy to confront bad behavior in the region.

Hillary supports re-establishing diplomatic relations with Cuba and calls on Congress to lift the embargo, while continuing to press for reforms.

Be firm but wise with our rivals. Countries like Russia and China often work against us. Hillary has gone toe-to-toe with Russia and China and many other different leaders around the world. She knows we have to be able to both stand our ground when we must, and find common ground when we can.

Stand up to Vladimir Putin. Hillary will stand with our European allies to deter Russian aggression, and increase the costs to Putin for his actions.

Hold China accountable. Hillary will work with allies to promote strong rules of the road in Asia, and press China to play by the rules—including in cyberspace, on currency, human rights, trade, territorial disputes, and climate change.

Have a real plan for confronting terrorists. Hillary has laid out a plan to defeat ISIS by: taking out ISIS's stronghold in Iraq and Syria, working with allies to dismantle global terror networks, and hardening our defenses at home.

### "Rocky" Roque De La Fuente and Michael Steinberg - I

Roque "Rocky" De La Fuente is proof that the American Dream can be achieved by those who are inspired to pursue it.

Born in 1954 in San Diego, Cali., his parents instilled a deep sense of responsibility toward others—a message reinforced by the Carmelites of the Sacred Heart, The Daughters of the Holy Spirit, Dominican Pillars, Legionaries of Christ, Marist and Jesuits, who provided his education.

He earned a bachelor's degree in Physics and Mathematics from Instituto Patria and graduated Magna Cum Laude. He then studied Business Administration/Accounting.

De La Fuente then received the title of Doctor Honoris Causa from UNESCO, the Institute of Advanced Studies Foundation Le Franc and CONALMEX.

Rocky's studies in Mexico and the United States taught him to appreciate cultural differences.

While he noticed that people's perspectives may differ based on the environments they were raised in and the opportunities presented, he realized that the differences did not matter; they simply enriched the world around him. As a result, Rocky became a "people person."

Rocky's started in the automotive industry selling Mazdas and Toyotas. Less than two years later, he became General Sales Manager of Kearny Mesa Volkswagen. He then founded American Automotive Management & Services, Inc. and acquired a new car franchise—adding 27 more in 16 years.

When Rocky wanted to explore new opportunities, he sold 27 of his automotive franchises and kept 1: Cadillac, which symbolized the best America had to offer.

Because of his heritage and deep Latino connection, Rocky reached out to Mexico during its 1992 financial crisis, when

its banks were nationalized. He opened 11 currency exchanges to allow free-flowing trade between Mexico and the United States. As part of this network, he opened seven offices in California. Over the next five years, Rocky founded three U.S. banks; one being a National Bank approved by the OCC and two State Charter Banks.

Rocky knows about our borders as well. He became the first citizen to exchange private land with the State of California; trading 787 acres to be used in the construction of a prison in return for 310 acres next to where an international border crossing was planned. He simply did not think it appropriate for someone's first glimpse of the United States to be a prison.

His real estate expertise led to appointments by the City of San Diego to the "Annexation Task Force," as well as the Otay Mesa Developing Council.

That year, he started the De La Fuente Business Park and National Enterprises Inc. Rocky also owns residential complexes in California, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Texas and Virginia.

Rocky has developed assisted living facilities in Los Angeles and Lemon Grove, Calif., to care for seniors in need. He is well-known for his support of charities and military veterans' organizations.

Rocky has been politically active for decades. He considers it his civic responsibility and a way to give a voice to Hispanic Americans and other minorities, who are too often ignored.

In 1992, Rocky was the first Hispanic American to serve as an At-Large Delegate (i.e., Superdelegate) for the State of California at the 1992 Democratic National Convention. In addition, Governor Jerry Brown, former Governor Gray Davis and former Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante

have benefited from his support and have been among his friends for over 20 years.

Rocky's greatest joy in life is his five children whom he raised with his only wife, Katayoun. He has always wanted to build a better world for them and for future generations. That desire remains as the driving force behind his campaign: To build a better world for his children and for the children of the world.

Rocky is a man of the people. He does not have to pretend to understand the perspectives of minorities because he is one.

As you come to know Rocky, you will find that his word is his bond; something unique in the political and business worlds today. His opinions are authentic and raw just like yours. When he speaks, he speaks for you; giving you a voice in the direction of our country. Join the conversation, Rocky is listening.

## 2016 ELECTION SECTION

## Gary Johnson and Bill Weld - L

In the closing weeks of this unprecedented election campaign, the Johnson-Weld ticket is poised to alter the political landscape for years to come.

A realistic analysis of polling data across the country shows that Govs. Johnson and Weld are “covering the spread” in almost 20 states. Polls in those states show the Johnson-Weld ticket with levels of support greater than the margin between the Republican and the Democrat.

What does that mean? It means 2016 is a historic opportunity. Right now, neither Hillary Clinton nor Donald Trump has a comfortable path to 270 votes in the Electoral College. One or two states could determine the outcome—or prevent either Clinton or Trump from securing that crucial 270 votes.

Conventional polling chronically “under-samples” young voters and independents. As has been widely reported, those two groups are particularly supportive of Gov. Johnson, frequently rivaling or exceeding Clinton or Trump.

This historic situation presents a clear and realistic strategy by which to prevent either Clinton or Trump from reaching 270 votes in the Electoral College—thus sending the election to the House of Representatives. It’s an eventuality that is very possible.

When this occurs the US House membership will vote by state to choose the next President. The current House when assembled by state is strongly Republican. This will prevent a Clinton win in the House from occurring. Given the dissatis-

faction and lack of support for the Trump candidacy shown by members of the Republican House and Republican House leadership any willingness to vote for Trump is now questionable.

Former two-term Republican Governor Gary Johnson, who has shown an ability to work with both Republicans and Democrats, will become the compromise candidate. The House is only allowed to choose from the top three electoral vote earners in making their Presidential decision. No other candidates are allowed. With Clinton not having enough Democratic congressional support and Trump wounded and unable to gain the backing of his own party, a compromise candidate such as Gov. Gary Johnson may very well have an

advantage.

Given the resources the campaign expects to have available between now and Election Day, the strategy is to focus on winning key states fitting certain criteria: Current polling, recent voting trends, media markets and demographics.

While the campaign will continue to reach out across the nation, resources will be particularly focused on these key states, where affordable media markets and organizational infrastructure put victory within reach—As two experienced, credible and serious former Governors, the Johnson-Weld ticket is committed to this victory.

The future needs to be determined today.

Achieving just 5% of the popular vote nationwide will

achieve “major party” status for a third party for the first time ever. This will allow a new player in the game for the future ... and is extremely important. The future for all generations can only be made better with the inclusion of more ideas and more candidates. With that status comes tens of millions of dollars in federal funding and ballot access across the nation. This will completely change the political landscape for the 2020 election. Now is our time to change history.

Bringing another party to major party status alone would constitute a worthwhile and long-overdue “positive disruption” of a failing and corrupt system. Elections will look entirely different in the years to come.

## Jill Stein and Ajamu Baraka - G

**Climate action: Protecting Mother Earth and humanity**

Initiate a WWII-scale national mobilization to halt climate change, the greatest threat to humanity in our history. Create 20 million jobs by transitioning to 100% clean renewable energy by 2030.

Implement a transition that empowers communities and workers impacted by climate change and the transition to a green economy. Ensure displaced workers receive full income and benefits as they transition.

Build a nationwide smart grid to pool and store power, giving the nation clean energy.

End destructive energy extraction: fracking, tar sands, offshore drilling, oil trains, mountaintop removal, natural gas pipelines, and uranium mines.

Protect our public lands, water supplies, biological diversity, parks, and pollinators..

Label GMOs, and put a moratorium on GMOs and pesticides until proven safe.

Support organic and regenerative agriculture, permaculture, and sustainable forestry.

**Clean up America**

Enact stronger environmental justice laws and measures.

Support conversion to sustainable, nontoxic materials.

**Jobs as a right**

Create living-wage jobs for every American who needs work. Create direct public employment, as the Works Progress Administration did.

Advance workers’ rights to form unions and keep a fair share of wealth they create.

Enact the Green Deal full employment program to create 20 million green jobs.

Provide grants and low-interest loans to green businesses.

Replace NAFTA and corporate free trade agreements to control our own economy and political choices.

**End poverty**

Guarantee economic human rights.

Establish the right to a living wage job.

Reform public assistance to be a safety net that empowers participants.

**Health care as a right**

Establish a “Medicare for All” single-payer public health program to provide quality health

care, at huge savings by eliminating the \$400 billion annually spent on the paperwork and bureaucracy of health insurance. No co-pays, premiums or deductibles. Access to all health care services, including mental health, dental, and vision. Include everyone, period.

Eliminate the cancer of health insurance, which adds costs while reducing access.

Allow full access to contraceptive and reproductive care.

Expand women’s access to “morning after” contraception.

Avoid chronic diseases by investing in essential community health infrastructure.

Ensure that consumers have essential information for making informed food choices.

Prioritize preventive health care, including physical activity, healthy nutrition and pollution prevention.

**Education as a right**

Guarantee tuition-free, world-class public education from pre-school to university.

Abolish student debt.

Protect our public school systems from privatization.

Evaluate teacher performance through assessment by

fellow professionals.

Replace Common Core with curriculum developed by educators with input from parents/communities.

Restore arts, music and recreation to school curricula.

Recognize poverty as the key obstacle to learning. Ensure that kids come to school ready to learn: healthy, nourished, secure and free from violence.

Increase federal funding of public schools.

**A just economy**

Guarantee a living wage job.

Set a \$15/hour federal minimum wage, with indexing.

Break up “too-big-to-fail” banks and democratize the Federal Reserve.

Support community cooperatives and small businesses.

Make Wall Street, big corporations, and the rich pay their fair share of taxes.

Create democratically-run public banks and utilities.

Provide full protection for workplace rights, including the right to a safe workplace and the right to organize by passing the Employee Free Choice Act.

Enact paid sick leave and

overtime protections.

**Freedom and equality**

Expand women’s rights, including equal pay and reproductive freedom. Pass the ERA (Equal Rights Amendment).

Protect the free Internet. Oppose the Online Piracy Act and all other legislation that would undermine freedom and equality on the Internet.

**A just immigration system**

Support immigrants’ rights. Create a welcoming path to citizenship for immigrants.

Halt deportations and detentions of law-abiding undocumented immigrants.

End contracts with private prison corporations.

Expand categories of immigrants eligible for residency and temporary protective status.

Make more aggressive use of executive authority to provide relief for refugees fleeing extreme violence.

**Criminal justice reforms**

End the failed war on drugs. Replace drug prohibition with harm reduction. Legalize marijuana/hemp. Treat substance abuse as a health problem, not a criminal offense.

## Donald J. Trump and Michael R. Pence - R

**Rebuild the American Economy**

Withdraw from the Trans-Pacific Partnership, which has not yet been ratified.

Appoint negotiators to fight on behalf of American workers.

Direct the Secretary of Commerce to identify every violation of trade agreements a foreign country is currently using to harm our workers, and direct all appropriate agencies to use every lawful tool to end these abuses.

Tell NAFTA partners we intend to renegotiate the terms of that agreement to get a better deal for our workers. If they don’t agree, we submit notice that the U.S. intends to withdraw from the deal. Eliminate Mexico’s one-side tariff and end sweatshops in Mexico that undercut U.S. workers.

Instruct the Treasury Secretary to label China a currency manipulator.

Instruct the U.S. Trade Representative to bring trade cases against China, both in this country and at the WTO. China’s unfair subsidy behavior is prohibited by the terms of its entrance to the WTO.

Use every lawful presidential power to remedy trade disputes with China.

**Tax Plan**

Reduce taxes across-the-board, especially for working and middle-income Americans who will receive a massive tax reduction.

Ensure the rich will pay their fair share, but no one will pay so much that it destroys jobs or undermines our ability to compete.

Eliminate special interest loopholes, make our business tax rate more competitive to keep jobs in America, create new opportunities and revitalize our economy.

Reduce the cost of childcare by allowing families to fully deduct the average cost of childcare from their taxes, including stay-at-home parents.

**Health Care**

Repeal and replace Obamacare with Health Savings Accounts (HSAs).

Work with Congress to create a patient-centered health care system that promotes choice, quality, and affordability.

Work with states to establish high-risk pools to ensure access to coverage for individuals who have not maintained continuous coverage.

Allow people to purchase insurance across state lines, in all 50 states, creating a dynamic

market.

Maximize flexibility for states via block grants so that local leaders can design innovative Medicaid programs that will better serve their low-income citizens.

**Energy**

Make America energy independent, create millions of new jobs, and protect clean air and clean water. We will unleash an energy revolution that will bring vast new wealth to our country.

Declare American energy dominance a strategic economic and foreign policy goal of the United States.

Unleash America’s untapped shale, oil, and natural gas reserves, plus hundreds of years in coal reserves.

Become, and stay, totally independent of any need to import energy from OPEC or nations hostile to our interests.

Open on- and offshore leasing on federal lands, eliminate moratorium on coal leasing, and open shale deposits.

Encourage the use of natural gas and other American energy resources that will both reduce emissions but also reduce the price of energy and increase our economic output.

Rescind all job-destroying

Obama executive actions. Mr. Trump will reduce and eliminate all barriers to responsible energy production, creating at least a half million jobs a year, \$30 billion in higher wages, and cheaper energy.

**Immigration**

Prioritize the jobs, wages and security of the American people.

Establish new immigration controls to boost wages and to ensure open jobs are offered to American workers first.

Protect the economic well-being of the lawful immigrants already living here by curbing uncontrolled foreign worker admissions

Select immigrants based on their likelihood of success in the U.S. and their ability to be financially self-sufficient.

Vet applicants to ensure they support America’s values, institutions and people, and temporarily suspend immigration from regions that export terrorism and where safe vetting cannot presently be ensured.

Enforce the immigration laws of the United States and restore the Constitutional rule of law upon which America’s prosperity and security depend.

**Education**

Immediately add an additional federal investment of \$20 bil-

lion towards school choice. This will be done by reprioritizing existing federal dollars.

Give states the option to allow these funds to follow the student to the public or private school they attend. Distribution of this grant will favor states that have private school choice, magnet schools and charter laws, encouraging them to participate.

Establish the national goal of providing school choice to every one of the 11 million school-aged children living in poverty.

If the states collectively contribute another \$110 billion of their own education budgets toward school choice, on top of the \$20 billion in federal dollars, that could provide \$12,000 in school choice funds to every K-12 student who today lives in poverty.

Work with Congress on reforms to ensure universities are making a good faith effort to reduce the cost of college and student debt in exchange for the federal tax breaks and tax dollars.

Ensure the opportunity to attend a two or four-year college, or to pursue a trade or a skill set through vocational and technical education that will be easier to access, pay for, and finish.

# U.S. REPRESENTATIVE CANDIDATES

Two year term • One (1) position open

## Liz Cheney - R

Liz Cheney, age 50, is the Republican candidate for Wyoming's one seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. Cheney's run this year is not her first foray into Wyoming politics; in 2014, she mounted an unsuccessful primary challenge to Senator Mike Enzi.

Cheney has a law degree from the University of Chicago and also took coursework in Middle Eastern history at the University's prestigious Oriental Institute. In an email to the *Saratoga Sun*, Cheney cites her previous experiences inside and outside Wyoming—both in government and the private sectors—as key qualifications

to be Wyoming's next member of congress. Cheney has worked in the private sector as a lawyer specializing in international law, and has served in various roles in the U.S. State Department, including her time as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern affairs. She has also worked as a Fox News contributor.

In the email, Cheney claims that no state has been hurt more by the Obama administration's policies than Wyoming, and Cheney says her primary focus will be to "...significantly reduce the size, scope and authority of the federal government." Specifically, Cheney says

the administration's policies have "targeted" the state's energy industry, and says she believes that reducing federal regulations will help Wyoming's economy.

If elected, Cheney says she will work to get rid of federal regulations she claims impose an undue burden on private industry, and says she would work to reduce the powers of, and possibly dismantle federal regulatory agencies such as the EPA. Cheney also says she would work to repeal the Affordable Care Act which insures over 22,000 people in Wyoming, and would also work to balance the Federal budget. Cheney also says she

would work to simplify the tax system and would repeal the estate tax which taxes estates worth \$5,450,000 or more, according to the IRS.

Cheney also says she will work in Washington to preserve, "First Amendment freedom of conscience," and the Second Amendment individual right to keep and bear arms. Cheney also says she would work to pass federal government regulations on women's health issues.

Despite allegations by her Democratic opponent regarding what he sees as Cheney's tenuous connections as a Wyoming resident, Cheney claims to have "deep Wyoming roots," and a "dedi-

cation to the Wyoming values on which I was raised." Cheney was born in Wisconsin, and spent part of sixth and seventh grade in Casper. She graduated high school in McLean, Virginia and moved back to Wyoming in fall 2012.

"I have a proven record of fighting on behalf of conservative values and constitutional rights on a national stage," Cheney says in her email to the *Saratoga Sun*. "In Congress, I will lead a national effort to restore Wyoming freedoms and defend our way of life.

"I will be the strongest conservative voice for Wyoming in Congress."

## Daniel Clyde Cummings - C

Daniel Clyde Cummings is running as the Constitution Party's candidate to be U.S. Representative for Wyoming. Cummings is a Utah native who was raised in Salt Lake City and graduated from the University of Utah with a bachelor's degree in mathematics and a medical degree.

Cummings refused to accept publicly-financed loans to pay for his studies, opting to work his way through school and only accept private loans. He has served in the "House of Delegates" for three different state medical associations. Such bodies

write policies and set governing principles for doctors practicing in a state. Cummings has never held elected office.

Cummings' platform includes several provisions meant to reel in the deficit, and eliminate the national debt within 50 years. "I favor a constitutional amendment to repeal the authority of Congress to borrow money on the credit of the United States," he writes. Cummings lays blame for the debt at the feet of both major political partys, and says the nation is on a "suicide course" that

"will lead us to ruin and poverty."

Cummings likewise supports "the restoration of gold and silver as an alternative federal legal tender." He says he favors an audit of the Federal Reserve System dating back to 1913, when the institution was formed. Ron Paul, Cummings says, should be put in charge of such an audit.

Cummings supports defunding and reducing the size of government dramatically. He would dismantle the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Homeland Security, Health

and Human Services, Transportation, Energy, Commerce, Labor, and Housing and Urban Development. He also supports the abolition of the federal income tax, and the federal inheritance tax. That tax is currently levied only on those who give more than \$5.45 million to their heirs.

"I abhor and detest the present ongoing transformation of our prior constitutional republic into a fascist control freak police state and mobocratic democracy by our present corrupt political system," Cummings writes.

Cummings says he sup-

ports "the recriminalization of abortion in the District of Columbia," which he says is the only place where Congress has legitimate jurisdiction over "criminal homicide." Cummings also says he would support "congressional action to remove all state heterosexual marriage and adoption laws from the appellate jurisdiction of the federal judiciary."

When asked if he would support parental leave policies for new parents, Cummings said, "Parental leave is not among Congress' designated authorities."

## Ryan Greene - D

Ryan Greene is a thirty-three year-old Rock Springs business man running as a Democrat to be Wyoming's next U.S. Representative. Greene has never before held elected office, and this is his inaugural political campaign.

Greene cites extensive experience working in oil fields and natural gas plants as having given him insight into what Wyoming's extractive industries need to succeed. He has worked as a roustabout, a welder and a crew foreman, and today he is the operations director for a 250-employee energy services business that operates in three states.

Greene calls himself a "Wy-

oming Democrat" with an independent streak, and says he is willing to work with both parties in order to accomplish things in Washington. "We've lost dialogue, we've lost our ability to compromise," Greene says of the current state of politics. Greene says he would buck his national party by opposing new coal regulations and supporting the Second Amendment.

One of the main planks of Greene's platform is a commitment to maintaining public access to federal lands. He frequently references a proposal supported by his opponent, Liz Cheney, that would transfer control of federal lands to the state of

Wyoming. Greene worries such a move would lead to the sale of vast tracts to private owners, and result in the loss of hunting grounds for Wyoming sportsmen. "We work hard in Wyoming but we also play hard, and we do so on our public lands," he says.

Greene's economic strategy revolves around protecting extractive industries while working to develop infrastructure within the state that could promote different sorts of businesses. "Inside the energy industry, that means we have an opportunity to be the nation's battery. We can power the nation. But we have to sell them what they're buying," he says. This

includes renewable energy like wind and solar, as well as traditional Wyoming economic power houses like coal, oil and natural gas.

Greene says developing partnerships between federal, state and local governments could allow Wyoming to get more back from Washington. Such a partnership, he says, could widen Interstate 80 or get more money for rural hospitals.

He also says he would pursue a variety of different grants and small loans on the state's behalf. According to him, "Big promises out on the trail are not good for Wyoming," meaning he will not promise more than he

can deliver as a freshman Congressman.

Greene has frequently complained that Cheney, his opponent in the race, is a carpet-bagger who moved to the area from Northern Virginia only recently and is not committed to Wyoming. According to the most recent Federal Elections Commission filings, Cheney had raise over \$2 million by Oct. 19, where Greene had drawn less than a tenth of that.

Talking about his ten-year-old son and seven year old daughter, Greene says "I don't want them to get a degree from the University of Wyoming and then have to leave the state to find a job."

## Lawrence Gerard Struempf - L

Lawrence Struempf is the Libertarian Party candidate for Wyoming's at-large seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Struempf was raised on a cattle ranch in Fremont County and graduated from the University of Wyoming, according to information on

Struempf's website. He is an active Cowboy Joe member and member of the National Rifle Association according to the website.

Struempf says on his website that he would like to be Wyoming's representative in congress to work hard for the citizens of Wyoming and the

United States. He says he wants to protect rights and freedoms, including the Second Amendment right to bear arms and the rights of people to have access to public lands. Struempf says he wants to improve the American education system, by "protect(ing) the quality of the teachers and the

schools." He also says on his website that he wants to work to improve the economy by "protecting existing industry and exploring new markets and opportunities."

Struempf says he wants to "promote the application of higher social, business and professional standards," and

"Develop by precept and example a more intelligent and serviceable citizenship."

For his final reason he wants to be Wyoming's representative in Congress, he says, "I want to put service above self and build goodwill with all Americans for a strong and healthier country."

# VOTING ASSISTANCE

Any elector who requires assistance to vote because of blindness, disability or inability to read or write, may be given assistance by a person of the elector's choice, other than the elector's employer or an agent of that employer or an officer or agent of the elector's union (W.S. 22-13-113 (a)).

There will be an accessible touch screen voting machine available at every polling place.

If you have any questions regarding the accessibility of your polling place, please contact the County Clerk's Election office at (307) 328-2650 or call toll free 1-800-250-9812

2016 ELECTION SECTION

# JUDICIAL RETENTION

**A simple "Yes" or "No" vote on retaining these supreme court judges for eight (8) year terms.**

## Catherine M. Fox

In January of 2014, Kate M. Fox was appointed to the Wyoming Supreme Court by Governor Matt Mead. This is the first retention vote for Fox, who will serve until 2024 if voters elect to retain her as a justice.

According to a website maintained by the Wyoming Judicial Branch, Fox was in private practice with Davis & Cannon, LLP prior to her appointment to the court by Mead. Davis & Cannon LLP practices law in a broad

range of areas, ranging from employment law to oil gas and mineral law and personal injury litigation, according to the firm's website.

Fox served as a law clerk to Federal District Court Judge Clarence A. Brimmer for one year. She got her bachelor's degree from the University of Wyoming (UW) in 1976, and her law degree from the UW college of law in 1989. Fox is the second woman to have served on the Wyoming Supreme Court.

## William U. Hill

According a State of Wyoming website, Justice William U. Hill has served on the court since November of 1998, when he was appointed to his seat by Governor Jim Geringer. Hill faced a retention vote in 2000, the first general election year following his appointment, and then again in 2008 after the expiration of his first eight year term. If retained, Hill will not serve a full eight year term, because of age restrictions that require Wyoming Justices on

the Supreme Court to retire after they reach the age of 70.

Johnson served as Chief Justice of the Wyoming Supreme Court from 2002 to 2006. Hill was also formerly the Attorney General for Wyoming from 1995 to 1998, and served as chief counsel for U.S. Senator Malcom Wallop (R-WY). Hill graduated with a bachelor's degree from the University of Wyoming (UW) in 1970 and was awarded his law degree from UW in 1974.

## Keith G. Kautz

A website maintained by the Wyoming Judicial Branch states that Keith G. Kautz was appointed to the Wyoming Supreme Court in August of 2015 by Governor Matt Mead. This is Kautz's first retention vote, and if voters elect to keep him on the bench, he will serve until his eight-year term expires in 2024.

From 1993 until his 2015 appointment to the Wyoming Supreme Court, Kautz served

as a district judge in the Eighth Judicial District of Wyoming, which encompasses Converse, Niobrara, Platte and Goshen Counties. Before that, Kautz practiced with the firm of Sawyer, Warren and Kautz in Torrington from 1979 to 1993.

Kautz received his bachelor's degree from the University of Wyoming (UW) in 1975 and got his law degree from the UW College of Law in 1978.

# VOTE Tuesday, Nov. 8

# CONSTITUTIONAL AMMENDMENT

**A simple "Yes" or "No" vote.**

In order for a Wyoming Constitutional Amendment to pass, a majority of Wyoming voters who cast a ballot must approve the measure. If a voter does not indicate whether or not he or she approves the proposed amendment, that effectively counts as a no vote. Constitutional Amendment A would change the State Constitution as follows:

"Currently, the Wyoming Constitution allows the legislature to authorize the investment of public employee retirement systems funds

and permanent state funds in equities, such as stock or shares in private or public companies. Permanent funds of the state include funds designated as permanent funds by Constitution. The Wyoming Constitution does not allow the state to invest in any other funds in equities.

The adoption of this amendment would allow the legislature, by two-thirds vote of the members of both houses, to authorize the investment of additional specified state funds in equities."



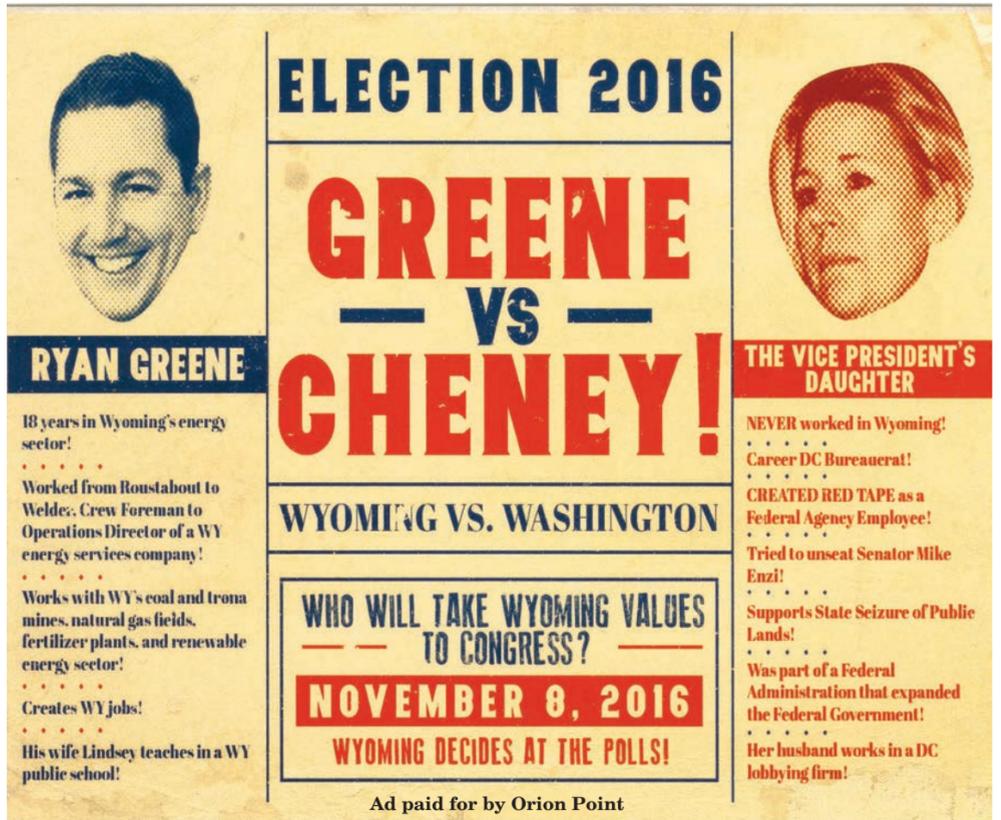
✓ **VOTE**  
Tuesday - November 8

Your continued support is very much appreciated.

## Mara Sanger

Clerk of District Court

Paid for by Mara Sanger



**ELECTION 2016**

**GREENE VS CHENEY!**

**RYAN GREENE**

18 years in Wyoming's energy sector!

Worked from Roustabout to Welder, Crew Foreman to Operations Director of a WY energy services company!

Works with WY's coal and trona mines, natural gas fields, fertilizer plants, and renewable energy sector!

Creates WY jobs!

His wife Lindsey teaches in a WY public school!

**THE VICE PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTER**

NEVER worked in Wyoming!

Career DC Bureaucrat!

CREATED RED TAPE as a Federal Agency Employee!

Tried to unseat Senator Mike Enzi!

Supports State Seizure of Public Lands!

Was part of a Federal Administration that expanded the Federal Government!

Her husband works in a DC lobbying firm!

**WYOMING VS. WASHINGTON**

**WHO WILL TAKE WYOMING VALUES TO CONGRESS?**

**NOVEMBER 8, 2016**

**WYOMING DECIDES AT THE POLLS!**

Ad paid for by Orion Point

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE WYOMING CONSTITUTION TO BE VOTED ON AT THE GENERAL ELECTION NOV. 8, 2016**

*Underlined words would be added to existing law. Words stricken through will be removed.*

Currently, the Wyoming Constitution allows the legislature to authorize the investment of public employee retirement systems funds and permanent state funds in equities, such as stock or shares in private or public companies. Permanent funds of the state include funds designated as permanent funds by the Constitution. The Wyoming Constitution does not allow the state to invest any other funds in equities. The adoption of this amendment would allow the legislature, by two-thirds vote of the members of both houses, to authorize the investment of additional specified state funds in equities.

**Article 16, Section 6. Loan of credit; donations prohibited; works of internal improvement.**

(a) Neither the state nor any county, city, township, town, school district, or any other political subdivision, shall:

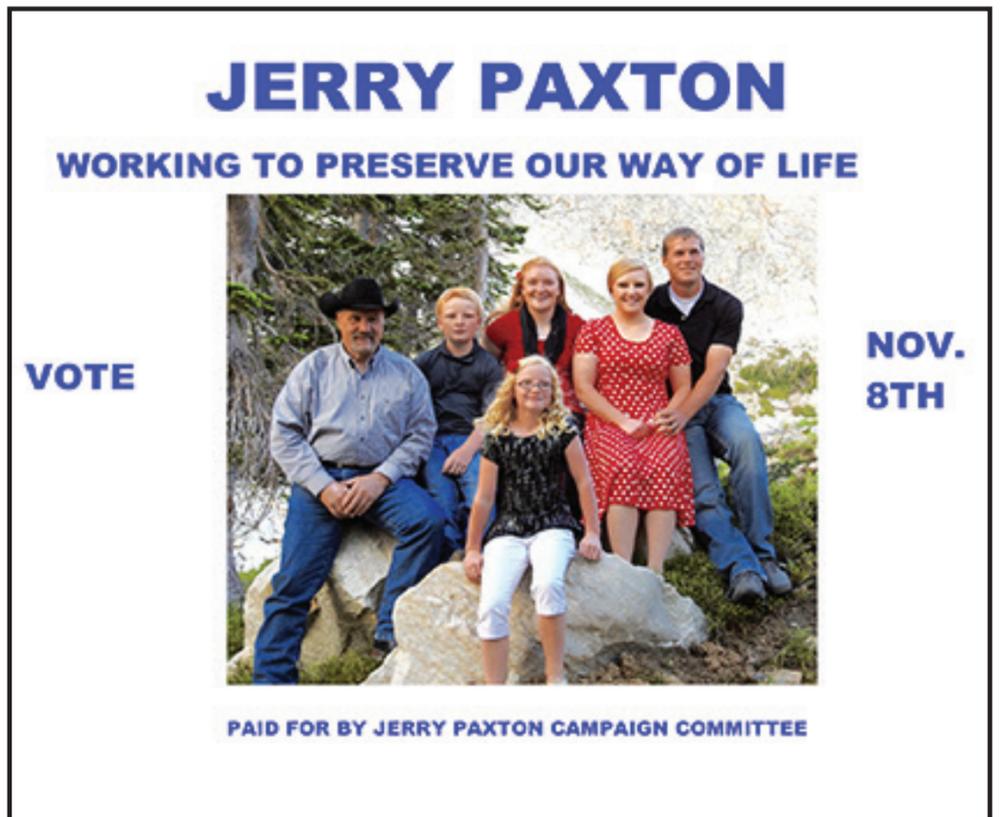
(i) Loan or give its credit or make donations to or in aid of any individual, association or corporation, except for necessary support of the poor; ~~nor~~ ~~or~~

(ii) Subscribe to or become the owner of the capital stock of any association or corporation, except that:

(A) Funds of public employee retirement systems and the permanent funds of the state of Wyoming may be invested in such stock under conditions the legislature prescribes;:

(B) The legislature may provide by law for the investment of funds not designated as permanent funds of the state in the capital stock of any association or corporation and may designate which of these funds may be invested. The legislature may prescribe different investment conditions for each fund. Any legislation establishing or increasing the percentage of any fund that may be invested under this subparagraph shall be passed only by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all the members of each of the two (2) houses voting separately.

(b) The state shall not engage in any work of internal improvement unless authorized by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the people.



**JERRY PAXTON**

**WORKING TO PRESERVE OUR WAY OF LIFE**

**VOTE**

**NOV. 8TH**

**PAID FOR BY JERRY PAXTON CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE**

## 2016 ELECTION SECTION

## STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 47

Two (2) year term • One (1) position open

## Jerry Paxton - R

Jerry Paxton is the Republican who has served as Representative for House District 47 since 2013, when he won a seat vacated by retired Representative Jeb Steward. Before serving as a State Representative, Paxton served as vice chair of Carbon County Commissioners between 2007 and 2013.

Prior to his political career, Paxton received a Master's Degree in Vocational Education from the University of

Wyoming (UW) in 1983. With that degree, Paxton spent 34 years working as a teacher, then a principal, at the Encampment School. While working in the South Valley, Paxton served stints as mayor and on the town council in Riverside and Encampment.

In his capacity as a representative, Paxton has seats on several committees, including on education, capital financing and investments, education accountability and

natural resource funding.

Paxton has supported legislation increasing the speed limit on state highways to 70 miles per hour. Paxton has likewise devoted much of his time in office to developing and implementing statewide educational standards.

Earlier this year, Paxton helped mobilize opposition to an increase in the wind energy production tax. Paxton and others feared that the tax hike could prompt backers

to pull out of a wind-farm planned for an area south of Rawlins, resulting in a big loss of future tax revenue for Carbon County and some municipalities.

Another major plank of Paxton's platform is channeling money towards studying efforts to use woody biomass for power generation. Paxton expressed frustration with how a forest fire near the Colorado border was managed over the summer, and

has suggested that the area's beetle-killed timber could be a powerful source of energy and an economic booster.

Paxton is also receptive to a proposal to transfer control of federal land to the State of Wyoming. "I can't say that I really believe that the BLM Forest Service and other agencies that are responsible for managing our public lands have done a great job," Paxton says.

## Ken Casner - D

Ken Casner is the owner of the Elk Mountain Trading Company and has also served in the Wyoming National Guard and in the U.S. Army, where he fought in the Vietnam War. He calls himself "a fifth generation blue-collar worker," and frequently talks about pursuing an independent education as did one of his heroes, President Harry Truman.

Though his resumé includes several different runs

for statewide positions, including a 2002 bid for governor and runs for Wyoming State Senate District 11 in 2006 and 2010, Casner has not held major elected office. The businessman has, however, served on a landfill joint powers board and been appointed to the Carbon County Economic Development Board. Casner was also an Elk Mountain City Council Man for two years.

Casner has made keeping

federal lands open and accessible to the public a major part of his campaign. "I want you and your grandchildren to go see the Wyoming that I had the opportunity to see," he says. Casner adds that he worries a proposal to transfer federal lands to state control would result in sell-offs to private developers and loss of access for area hunters and fishermen.

Casner has also proposed piping natural gas to the com-

munities of Dixon, Encampment, Elk Mountain, Riverside and Savery. Another infrastructure project Casner has suggested is a widening of HWY 30 between Walcott Junction and Laramie.

One of the topics most likely to arouse Casner's passion is Wyoming's refusal to accept federal Medicaid expansion money. Noting that there are over 600 children in Carbon County who do not have health insurance

because the state refused those monies, Casner says "I want those clinics and I want that hospital in Rawlins to be fully functional."

Casner says that identifying as a Democrat does not make him a liberal, and that he has also called himself a Republican and an Independent over the years.

"(If elected) I will honor your home, your race, your job (and) your health. I'm a statesman, not a politician," he says.

## CARBON COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Four (4) year term • Three (3) positions open

## Kenda J. Colman - D

Kenda Colman is a Democrat running for a position on the Board of Carbon County Commissioners. Colman is the only Democrat and the only non-incumbent in the race.

Colman lives in Medicine Bow—where her son is the mayor—and has been on that town council for 16 years and counting. Additionally, Colman was Vice Chair of the Carbon County Council of Governments for two terms. Colman calls herself "the new kid on the block," and says

she helped bring high-speed internet to Medicine Bow by working with Governor Matt Mead.

At one forum, Colman laid a number of county hardships at the commissioners' feet, forcing the incumbents to defend decreases in funding and services. "We asked (the commissioners) for \$65,000 for our little clinic and they gave us \$20,000 and told (Medicine Bow) don't come back (next year) 'cause there won't be a dime," Colman said.

Colman described the county as reaping benefits from taxes levied on wind installations around Medicine Bow, but not sharing enough of that revenue with residents directly impacted by the wind farm. She complains of construction traffic, increases in crime and barred access to hunting grounds around Medicine Bow wind farms, but says the town sees only a tiny part of the money generated.

Colman likewise took issue with hardships imposed on

county employees as the budget crisis deepened. "You have to look at how a budget effects the people," Colman says.

The Medicine Bow challenger said the county had also cut resources for emergency management and failed to notify municipalities they were doing so.

"Jobs are the answer. If we have good jobs here we'll have families stay here," Colman says. Her ideas for the county include increasing access to natural gas and recruiting

specialists to practice at the Rawlins Hospital.

Colman would also like to see the implementation of a "State of the County" address by the commissioners, and for the commissioners to release their budget to municipalities earlier.

"(Commissioners) are the voice of the State to the people and the voice of the people back to the State," Colman says. "I think during hard economic times, this is the time when the voice really needs to speak."

## John Espy - R

John Espy is a fifth-generation rancher from the Rawlins area, running for re-election to the Board of Carbon County Commissioners. Espy has served as chair of the commissioners since he was first elected, in 2012.

In addition to his four years as a commissioner, Espy has served on state and national boards and committees, including a local predator district board, a sage grouse local working group and the

Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board. Espy is awaiting confirmation to a Bureau of Land Management Resource Advisory Committee.

Espy calls himself "somebody that's lived through the bust of the eighties and the rebuild of the nineties," and touts having stymied a proposed increase in the tax on wind energy as a significant accomplishment of his time in office. Espy (and the other

incumbent commissioners) traveled to Buffalo for a meeting of the revenue committee to oppose the tax uptick. Wind farm boosters said the uptick may have scuttled a large wind farm set to be constructed south of Rawlins, and in doing so endangered millions in future revenue to Carbon County.

"One of our greatest exports is our youth," Espy says. He says the wind farm can be a job-creator for the county in

the future, and that another potential revenue source is woody biomass in the sparsely populated forest lands in the south of the county.

A sharp decline in revenues for the county and subsequent cuts to many budgets defined Espy's term on the board. "It's tough when you're sitting there dealing with people's lives," he says of the hard decisions he faced over the last four years. Espy says his own ranching business has been

impacted by the hardships facing the county, and calls diversifying the economy "the dream of this state since its inception."

As a rancher, Espy is a strong supporter of multiple uses for government lands. "Once they start coming after oil and gas developers, then they start going after the outfitters, then they start coming after the ranchers, then they start coming after the loggers," he warns.

## Lindy Glode - R

Lindy Glode is a Republican running for a second four-year term on the Board of Carbon County Commissioners. Before her time as a commissioner, Glode spent 20 years as Clerk of District Court for Carbon County. In 2010, Glode was awarded the Larry L. Lehman Award by the Carbon County Bar for making "a positive difference in the judicial system." That same year, the National Association of Professional Women named Glode Woman

of the Year, "for demonstrating excellence and dedication within her profession."

Glode touts tourism and infrastructure improvements as ways to boost Carbon County's economy, saying people from far and wide will come to visit sites such as "beautiful Elk Mountain," the Rawlins Uplift, Kenneday Peak and the Red Desert. These sites, Glode says, should be promoted as much as the Rawlins Frontier Prison, one of the ar-

ea's traditional tourist draws.

Like the other incumbent commissioners, Glode traveled to Buffalo for a meeting of the Joint Revenue Committee to oppose increasing a tax on wind energy. "I believe in diversifying energy. Renewable energy is the future," Glode says.

"First of all, we need to work on our present infrastructure and we need to maintain it and advance it," Glode says. She has not said exactly what

projects she would embark on to improve the county's infrastructure but has mentioned that area roads could be improved.

One specific idea Glode has promoted is to hire a human resources director for the county. Glode describes such a director as "a dream of (hers)," and says that the director would be "an unbiased position which works under the direction of the commissioners."

Like the other incumbents,

Glode was put in the position of defending deep cuts to many county services and budgets to bring them in line with decreased revenues. "The county commissioners have saved around \$2 million in health care costs. This was one area that had to be cut. It was hard for the employees and not fun to make the decisions that had to be made but it had to be done, financially," she writes of that choice.

GET INFORMED • GET OUT AND VOTE!

2016 ELECTION SECTION

**CARBON COUNTY COMMISSIONER**

**Sue Jones - R**

Sue Jones, a Republican running for re-election to the Board of Carbon County Commissioners says she has "lived here in Carbon County all of my 57 years." Jones currently serves on a landfill board, and also owns a waste disposal business.

Jones says her political career began in 1983, when she was elected to the Saratoga Town Council as a 23-year-old. Jones served on that council for the next eight years and says she's "been involved in some kind of public service ever since."

Jones was a steadfast defender of budget cuts to many boards and agencies that have typically depended on Carbon County for financial support. These include the library system, the museum, senior centers, the hospital in Rawlins and a medical clinic in Medicine Bow. "We cut \$3 million from last year's budget and had to find another \$3 million this year. We could not cut the full \$3 million and had to go into our reserves to balance the budget," Jones writes.

Like the other incumbents, Jones traveled to Buffalo over the summer in opposition to an increase in the tax on wind energy. Wyoming is currently the only state to levy a tax specifically on wind energy, and investors on a wind farm slated to be constructed south of Rawlins warned that additional tax could cause them to pull out from the project, cutting future revenue for Carbon County. The defeat of the tax increase is championed by Jones and other commissioners as an in-

stance where the commissioners prevented an exodus of future dollars from county coffers.

Jones also speaks of the need to help small business owners thrive, and take more advantage of the tourism sector. Jones says bringing high speed internet to rural communities and getting more housing options in the area could also benefit the county.

One success story from Jones' tenure as commissioner, she says, is increased cooperation with the towns that make up the county. "We all need to work

together," Jones says, noting projects in which various municipalities and the county have combined forces.

Jones says that transferring federal lands to Wyoming would be a mistake, and that giving commissioners authority over special districts would be a huge overreach. "Nothing can replace the large money of oil, gas and coal," Jones writes. The commissioner does think, however, that "we can do a little better with what we have."

**CARBON COUNTY CLERK**

Two (2) year term • One (1) position open

**Mara M. Sanger - R**

Mara Sanger, the current Clerk of District Court for Carbon County, is running unopposed for another two year term in the clerkship. Sanger is running as a Republican and describes herself as "a local business owner with 20 years of business management experience and years of District Court experience."

Sanger speaks of long family

ties to Carbon county and also a commitment to serving the people of Carbon County. "Providing good quality customer service is my top priority," Sanger writes. She says she can continue to provide this quality of service even with a smaller budget and less staff than the clerk has had in the past.

Sanger frequently cites her ability to form strong, profes-

sional bonds as an asset. In particular, Sanger says she will work closely with the county commissioners, who control the clerk's yearly budget. Sanger also says she enjoys good relations with judges and attorneys in the court system.

"I enjoy working with people and take pride in helping people through their dealings with the court," she writes.

**CARBON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2**

Applies to Elk Mountain, Encampment, Hanna, Riverside and Saratoga voters

**Area 1**

Four (4) year term • One (1) position open

**Paul R. Clark**

Mr. Clark did not return a request for interview.

**Area 2**

Four (4) year term • One (1) position open

**James L. Hinkle**

Mr. Hinkle did not return a request for interview.

**Area 3**

Four (4) year term • One (1) position open

**Joseph Gaspari**

Joe Gaspari, a longtime resident of Saratoga, local business owner and incumbent CCSD#2 Board Member is running again for the CCSD #2 board. Gaspari's family moved here in 1970—his senior year in high school—and he says he has been here "pretty much every year since."

Gaspari has four daughters who went through Saratoga schools, and six grandchildren who are in, or will soon be in, Saratoga schools. He has been a member of the school board for six years.

Gaspari says the biggest is-

ssue facing CCSD #2 is the issue of local control of the school board. Speaking of Common Core, Gaspari said, "The less central focus of the authority on the school itself, the better we can adjust our school to meet our needs. Not that all of it is bad, it's just who is in control."

"We as school board members need to be almost lobbying at the state and federal level to make sure that we can keep as much control as we can," he says.

Gaspari said that he likes the strides made by the school board, specifically pointing out

the successes of the Professional Learning Community, which has made it easier for teachers district wide to work together to find pedagogical approaches that work best for students. The program, he says, has been successful, and he'd like to continue the focus on learning quality.

"We're moving in the right direction but we can't rest on our laurels, either," Gaspari says. "If 75 percent of the students are doing well—proficient or advanced—that means the other 25 percent we still got to bring them up."

**Area 4**

Four (4) year term • One (1) position open

**Daniel M. Butler**

Mr. Butler did not return a request for interview.

**POLLING PLACES**

**ELK MOUNTAIN (09-01)**  
Elk Mountain Senior Center  
208 Bridge St., Elk Mountain, WY 82324

**ENCAMPMENT, RIVERSIDE (12-01, 13-01)**  
Encampment Opera House  
614 McCaffrey, Encampment, WY 82325

**HANNA (06-01, 08-01)**  
Hanna Town Hall  
301 S. Adams St., Hanna, WY 82327

**MEDICINE BOW (07-01)**  
Medicine Bow Senior Center  
520 Utah St., Medicine Bow, WY 82329

**SARATOGA (11-01, 11-02)**  
Platte Valley Community Center,  
210 Elm Street, Saratoga, WY 82331

**POLLS OPEN 7:00 A.M.**  
**POLLS CLOSE 7:00 P.M.**



**Lindy Glode**  
for  
County Commissioner

It has been my pleasure serving the people of Carbon County. I am still up to the challenge to help provide services to county residents.

Through this economic downturn the current board of county commissioners is doing whatever it takes to ensure that services are maintained for our citizenry.

I recognize agriculture, oil, gas, minerals and renewable resources and as vital components of our heritage, culture, economic viability and social stability.

It would be an honor to serve another term as your county commissioner.

*Respectfully, Lindy Glode*

I serve on the following boards/committees to advocate and learn for you:

- Wyoming County Commissioners Association Board of Directors
- Wyoming County Commissioners Association Energy & Environment Committee
- National Association of Counties Justice & Public Safety Committee

Ad paid for by Lindy Glode  
Republican for Carbon County County Commissioner

2016 ELECTION SECTION

MEDICINE BOW CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Applies to Elk Mountain, Hanna and Medicine Bow voters

Rural

Four (4) year term • One (1) position open

Ralph D. Brokaw

Mr. Brokaw did not return a request for interview.

Urban

Four (4) year term • One (1) position open

Eli Hobbs

Mr. Hobbs did not return a request for interview.

At Large

Four (4) year term • One (1) position open

Todd G. Heward

Mr. Heward did not return a request for interview.

saratogasun.com

SARATOGA-ENCAMPMENT-RAWLINS CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Applies to Encampment, Riverside and Saratoga voters

Rural

Four (4) year term • One (1) position open

Chris Williams

Mr. Williams did not return a request for interview.

Urban

Four (4) year term • One (1) position open

Daniel J. Mika

Mr. Mika did not return a request for interview.

At Large

Four (4) year term • One (1) position open

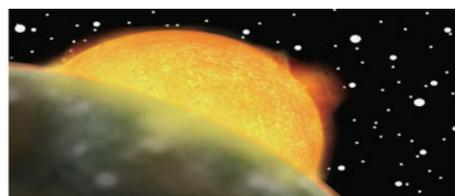
Randy Arnold

Mr. Arnold did not return a request for interview.

2015 WYOMING MARKET RESEARCH SHOWS:

MORE WYOMING VOTERS GO TO NEWSPAPERS FOR ELECTION ADS THAN ANY OTHER SOURCE

- 40% - NEWSPAPERS
- 16% - INTERNET (EXCLUDING SOCIAL MEDIA)
- 13% - LOCAL TV
- 8% - LOCAL RADIO
- 4% - DIRECT MAIL
- 2% - POLITICAL SITES
- 1% - FACEBOOK
- 8% - ALL OTHER



SARATOGA Sun





# ELK MOUNTAIN TOWN COUNCIL

Four (4) year term • Two (2) positions open

## Shelly Bradford

Mr. Bradford did not return a request for interview.

## Cody W. Jones

Mr. Jones did not return a request for interview.

## Dawn Kennada

Ms. Kennada did not return a request for interview.

# ENCAMPMENT TOWN COUNCIL

Four (4) year term • Two (2) positions open

## Bill Craig

Bill Craig is running for Encampment Town Council. According to his interview with the *Saratoga Sun*, he is a longtime Valley resident who has lived here about 33 years and worked for the town for 27 years. Craig says he changed jobs six years ago, but thought running for council would be a good way to get involved with the town.

“I’m pretty familiar with a lot of the things they have going on (because of my ex-

perience),” Craig said. “I’m familiar with the ordinances and the operations of the town and would like to help out if I could.”

Overall, Craig says he doesn’t see any critical issues in the town, but instead sees running for town council as an opportunity to serve the community. “Things are pretty good in Encampment,” he says. “I know they’ve been working on street drainage; with gravel streets you’ve

always got the problem of bumpy streets and things like that.”

Craig says the town has been working hard to make a lot of improvements to the sewer system and would like to see the town continue doing so.

“I would like to see some continued progress on our sewer system.” He says. “I would like to see the infrastructure keep building in a good way.” Craig says the

town has seen a lot of improvements in infrastructure—especially the sewer system—and he would like to help the town continue with those improvements.

“They got a lot of new stuff up here and I’d like to see them be able to get some more stuff repaired and replaced,” he says.

Overall, Craig says he is happy with the direction the town is taking, and says that the council and town work-

ers are doing a good job. He looks at working on the town council as a way to give back to the town.

“I’ve been thinking about this for several years and this would be a good opportunity for me to throw my hat in the ring,” He says. “And I just think it’s a community service everybody should try to do for the town.”

“I don’t see any big challenges or changes or anything like that.”

## Kimberly Loftice

The *Saratoga Sun* was unable to coordinate an interview with Ms. Loftice.

# Next week in the *Sun*: Election results and the Veterans Section

# HANNA TOWN COUNCIL

Four (4) year term • Two (2) positions open

## Craig O. Christie

Craig Christie is running for town council in Hanna. A four-year resident of Wyoming, Christie is a sergeant at the Wyoming State Penitentiary, a volunteer firefighter and a volunteer for South Central Wyoming Emergency Medical Services (SCWEMS). Christie is running for council because he is concerned about a lack of job opportunities in town, and has a strong desire to protect the town’s recreational center which he sees as a key component to preventing juvenile crime and drug abuse.

Christie says he has heard rumors that the rec center will close, and says it is im-

portant to him to keep the rec center open.

“I didn’t want to see that happen (the rec center close),” Christie says. “I wanted to see that the youth will still have an opportunity to be employed part time that people of all ages will be able to participate, and have a center point of recreation for the town.”

“That’s one of the primary reasons I’m running.”

Other issues that Christie is concerned about is the lack of jobs in Hanna. “The fact that we have more liquor stores in town than jobs is concerning,” he says.

As a worker in the criminal

justice system, Christie also says he is concerned about some issues of criminality he has seen in the town, and hopes he can help nip those problems in the bud before they become more serious issues for the town.

Just recently, Christie said, he has noticed tags in the town for the gang MS-13. MS-13, or Mara Salvatrucha, is a criminal street gang that began in Los Angeles and has spread across the nation and even to foreign countries, according to the FBI who says the gang is infamously violent.

“Considering that I work in the criminal justice system that was alarming to me,”

Christie says. Christie says he is not convinced there are active MS-13 members in Hanna, but is still concerned since sympathies toward the gang may be a way for it to expand into the territory.

As a former resident of Chicago, Christie says this concerns him. “Wyoming is a nice, safe place,” he says, but adds that communities must step up and address problems before they become more serious.

“Because of the lack of involvement in the community when it comes to parents, the children seem to be getting in trouble, there seems to be a small drug issue out there

and there seems to be some misconduct of a criminal nature from what I see,” Christie says. “That can be fixed if we have more participation in the community as far as the adults helping out the youth.”

Christie says that the rec center is important to the community as a way to dissuade youths from such behavior, but that parents and the community must get involved. He would like to see things such as Boys’ and Girls’ clubs in town, he said.

He would also work on how the town’s funds are allocated to meet town services and would try to find ways to raise more funds for the town.

## Bob (Robert) Patton

Mr. Patton did not return a request for interview.

## Linda L. Schisel

Ms. Schisel did not return a request for interview.

## Charlyn Tanner

Ms. Tanner did not return a request for interview.

# MEDICINE BOW TOWN COUNCIL

Four (4) year term • Two (2) positions open

## Cynthia A. Chace

Mr. Chace did not return a request for interview.

## Sharon Kahl

Ms. Kahl did not return a request for interview.

## Sheila McCleary

Ms. McCleary did not return a request for interview.

## Sharon Sullivan

Ms. Sullivan did not return a request for interview.

# Paxton and Casner debate at House District 47 candidate forum in Saratoga

SHS students moderate on wide range of topics at the community center

By Max Miller

The evening of Oct. 18, a group of precocious pupils from Saratoga High School got a chance to quiz a former principal, and the small-business owner running against him. It was the students' stage at a Platte Valley Community Center (PVCC) debate between the candidates for House District 47: incumbent Republican Jerry Paxton (the former principal) and his Democratic challenger Ken Casner (the owner of Elk Mountain's Trading Post).

The kids weren't pitching softballs. Over the course of 70 minutes and in front of an audience of about 10, the students asked the candidates a series of hard-hitting questions on a variety of topics. The candidates each had three minutes to respond to each question.

The debate format allowed for some interaction between Casner and Paxton, but despite some wide gulfs between their policy positions, both candidates comported themselves with dignity and mutual respect.

### Medicaid Expansion

A question about whether Wyoming should have rejected Medicaid expansion money drew some of the sharpest contrasts of the evening. As the economic downturn has worsened, area clinics and hospitals have struggled to stay solvent. During the last

legislative session, however, a Wyoming State Senate committee voted to turn down, for a fourth consecutive year, nearly \$270 million in federal funding that could have increased patient numbers at such hospitals by providing a path to coverage for over 20,000 struggling residents.

Paxton got first crack at the dilemma facing the state. "(Representatives) didn't even get to vote on Medicaid Expansion," Paxton pointed out. Then he defended the rejection, arguing that the arrangement could result in Wyoming being left to foot the bill for the program in the future. "We've got to be careful about taking a short-term gain for a long-term liability," he said.

Casner framed his response in terms of the concrete good that he said could be achieved by such a windfall. The money could have subsidized the rural clinic in Medicine Bow and provided trainings for EMTs, Casner stated. Citing statistics compiled by the state, Casner said Carbon County alone had more than 650 uninsured children and he said that turning down the cash meant that "We're left out in no-man's land right now."

### A Fissure on Public Lands

Paxton and Casner also locked horns on a proposal that would transfer control

of federal lands to the state of Wyoming. According to *Time*, over 48 percent of land in Wyoming is currently managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and other federal agencies, so the U.S. government pays to staff those areas and fight wildfires there.

Casner said that with lands under federal control, Wyoming residents enjoy access to prime hunting and fishing grounds without having to pay for expensive firefighting operations. Residents could lose access to those areas if the state sells the land to private developers to pay its bills, he argued.

Contrary to popular representations of the agency, Casner said a BLM supervisor he knew is "a local girl who grew up, went through the University of Wyoming (UW) and (now) she's back here being the steward of your artifacts, your history." He was less sure-footed when citing a confusing tangle of statistics about grazing permits, surface impact and leasable land, however.

"The best decisions are made closest to where they're implemented," Paxton said. He pointed to what he described as a cumbersome process for obtaining mineral exploration permits and three wildfires that burned over 67 square miles this summer as ways in which federal tracts were being mismanaged. Paxton said he would only support such a transfer if the lands in question were to be held by Wyoming in perpetuity, however.

"We would have a net gain of money if we were actually able to retain all the revenues that are generated through the BLM's public lands in Wyoming," Paxton said. A recent study commissioned by the Wyoming Legislature projected that transferring land to state control would not create additional revenue for the state.

### Pot and Prisons

Both candidates seemed somewhat surprised to be answering questions about marijuana and the corrections system. On the prison issue, a student asked why a "mother-child-unit" at the

prison in Lusk had been built but never staffed or used.

Paxton said that with state budgets in such distress, "There are other things that have to come first (like education)." Later, he praised a GED program at the prison in Rawlins, but he never addressed the mother-child unit. "I wish they were still making license plates up there (in Rawlins), to be honest with you," he said.

Casner took a more aspirational approach to the issue but was also light on specifics. "(Prisoners) have to have the opportunity to change their lives, and one of the ways to change their lives is through education," he said. "We have to make it so when (a prisoner) comes out, she never returns," he concluded.

Asked if they would support a change in the legal status of marijuana, both candidates offered vague responses. Of recreational marijuana, Paxton said "I would never support that," but he said he would respect the will of the voters if they passed a ballot initiative. He said he could also possibly support a strictly-administered medical marijuana program, but only under tight restrictions.

"We've got to look at other states," Casner said, defending medical marijuana. He told the room a story about a friend of his in Arizona who has spina bifida and relieves his suffering with medical marijuana. On the recreational side, though, Casner offered no firm answer: "We have to look at it, We have to study it. I think we have to be wise," he said.

### Making Good Cowboys and Cowgirls

Both Casner and Paxton seemed more comfortable fielding questions about education in the state. When talk pivoted to that arena, Paxton quickly reminded the crowd of his 34 years spent as a teacher and principal, and Casner alluded to a dozen years he spent conducting trainings in the military.

Casner stressed the importance of vocational programs, saying, "It's the hands, it's the eyes." He noted that Wyoming spends \$16,699 per student each year and

said of this figure, "We're not getting the bangs, we're not getting the bucks." Casner said he would work to get rid of PAWS (Proficiency Assessments for Wyoming Students), pay teachers more and give them more latitude in how they run their classrooms.

"It was \$3,000 to go to the University of Wyoming when I was in school. What's it cost now?" he asked rhetorically.

A member of the education committee and the education accountability committee, Paxton seemed in his element while responding. He noted that, "There's an economy of size issue" in Wyoming schools that inflates costs in a way that's difficult to control. "If you think education is expensive, try ignorance," he continued.

Paxton's plan for improving schools revolves around finding quality administrators. He said finding "home-grown" principals who have at least a decade's worth of teaching experience and come from the area will lead to principals that "hire better teachers and create a culture of learning in the school."

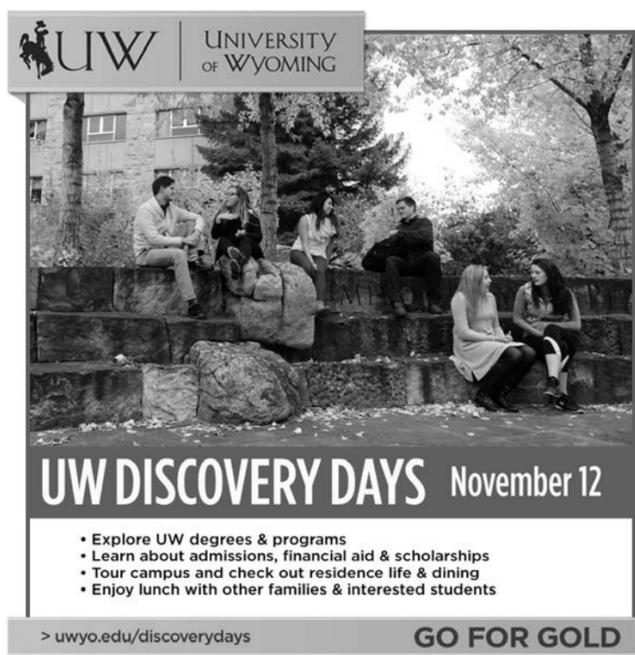
Directing scholarship money to programs that teach skills relevant to the state is also important, he said: "A degree in underwater basket-weaving is probably not going to help the people of Wyoming a whole lot."

### Amending Our Ways and Means

A question about a proposed Constitutional Amendment also seemed to be in Paxton's wheelhouse. Constitutional Amendment A would allow legislators to invest more state funds in the stock market, a proposal Paxton supports and seemed familiar with from his time on the finance and capital investments committee.

Low interest rates have meant that "What looked like a safe investment years ago is no longer a safe investment," Paxton explained. Paxton said he wanted more investment done in-house by the legislature instead of through contracted outside agencies. He said the amend-

See "Debate" on page 25



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# RIVERSIDE TOWN COUNCIL

Four (4) year term • Two (2) positions open

## Katie Cheesbrough

Katie Cheesbrough, a Wyoming native from Laramie who moved to Riverside two-and-a-half-years ago didn't actually intend to run for Riverside Town Council, but was written in as a candidate during the primary after Margaret Weber, former owner of the Bear Trap, resigned her seat on the council after selling the business and moving out of town limits.

Cheesbrough, a habitat biologist at Wyoming Game and Fish in Saratoga, moved to the town two-and-a-half years ago with her husband. After a while in Walden, Colorado, the native Wyomingites moved back to Wyoming and settled in Riverside, which Cheesbrough said they were "pretty excited about."

Cheesbrough had not planned on running, but after being written in, gladly accepted as a token of thanks to repay the residents of the

town who had made her and her family feel so welcome.

"I was written in and I accepted because I feel like this is such a wonderful community and they've accepted us with open arms and we really enjoy living here," Cheesbrough says. "I just really want to be of service to a community we've really grown to love."

When speaking about her best attributes for office, Cheesbrough says she has never been really politically active, but that her job at Game and Fish as a biologist involves a lot of collaboration with others.

"I would say that's my best attribute is just being able to collaborate with people," Cheesbrough says.

Cheesbrough is also the first to admit she's a bit of a neophyte to politics. "I'm not super familiar with all the issues affecting the town and

that's why I'm excited to be a part of things a little more, just to be better informed," she says.

Cheesbrough says that a goal of hers would be to make sure that things are more accessible so people in the town can have a better understanding of what is happening. She went to the town's website to study previous meeting minutes she said, and only found one set of minutes that was several years old, highlighting what she considered a lack of information for town residents.

Other than that, Cheesbrough says she has no concrete plans for projects or anything else in mind for her time on council, but simply stresses that she is ready collaborate with other members of the council and do her part to make Riverside an even better place to live.

## Liz Swynarczuk

Liz Swynarczuk, a 21-year resident of Riverside and an incumbent councilperson is running again for town council for the town. Swynarczuk is one of two candidates running for two seats, one of which became empty when Council Member Margaret Weber had to resign her position after moving outside town limits.

Swynarczuk has had plenty of experience in Riverside politics, she says, starting with filling an empty position on the council just a short while after moving to the town over 20 years ago. From there, she became mayor pro-tempore and then later mayor. She took a bit of a break from politics for a few years, but got back into them.

"A lot of things have happened in between that time, and now that things have settled back down I decided it's time to get re-involved in the town council and what's going on with the town," Swynarczuk says.

Swynarczuk says that small towns like Riverside tend to run in cycles because

of the transient nature of such places. "What it was 20 years ago is actually quite different than it is today, in another 10 years it may be back to where it was 20 years ago," she says.

For her qualifications, Swynarczuk points to her years of experience and time living in the town as a strong qualification. She says she has good understanding of the history of the town, why things are the way they are, why things are where they are and an excellent understanding of the town's ordinances.

Swynarczuk also says she has a good understanding of legal issues, even though she is not a lawyer. That, she says, helps her make sure that the town's business is conducted in a manner that is compliant with the law.

Issues that Swynarczuk sees as important to the town are businesses. The town itself doesn't want to grow too quickly, she says.

"As I recall when I was mayor and having seen the survey results from about seven years ago when they

did the survey for the town plan, people here don't want fast growth and they don't want growth that obscures the natural quaintness of the area," Swynarczuk says.

But businesses have come and gone, Swynarczuk says, and getting business in the town back to previous levels is something she feels is important.

"The Mangy Moose closed down. The Bear Trap, I'm happy to see, has new owners and we do have residents moving in and building," Swynarczuk says. "But I think getting the business, the business that was, back up (is an important issue for the town)."

If elected, Swynarczuk says she would like the town to start rewriting the plan that was previously approved, and that it be updated.

"It's a rather general plan, but in order to get it started, we felt it was important to approve it so that we could start making changes and I think it's a good time."

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To register to vote you must produce **ONE** of the following types of identification:

- Driver's License
- Identification card
- Birth Certificate
- Social Security card
- Passport

If you do not have one of these identification documents, call the elections office for assistance (307) 328-2668

You may register to vote if you are:

- United States citizen
- Resident of the State of Wyoming
- 18 years of age on election day
- Not a felon or if you have had your civil rights restored
- Not currently mentally incompetent

# VOTE Nov. 8

## Debate ... Continued from page 24

ment would let the legislature be more "nimble" as an investor and bring back greater returns from state holdings.

Casner sounded a little more reticent to embrace the measure and ill-at-ease discussing finance and investment. "I don't really play the stock market," he said.

"Are we going to take the risks? If it's done wisely, I'll support it," he said. Ultimately the question is one for voters to decide though, he cautioned.

### Closing Remarks

At the end of the evening, each candidate got an opportunity to share some final thoughts with the assembled crowd.

Calling himself a statesman and not a politician, Casner promised, "I will treat your vote with respect—your vote. I will not tell you what to do, I will ask you what my representation should be." He added that he has not received any outside funding from interest groups or got-

ten any endorsements that would make him beholden to anyone other than voters.

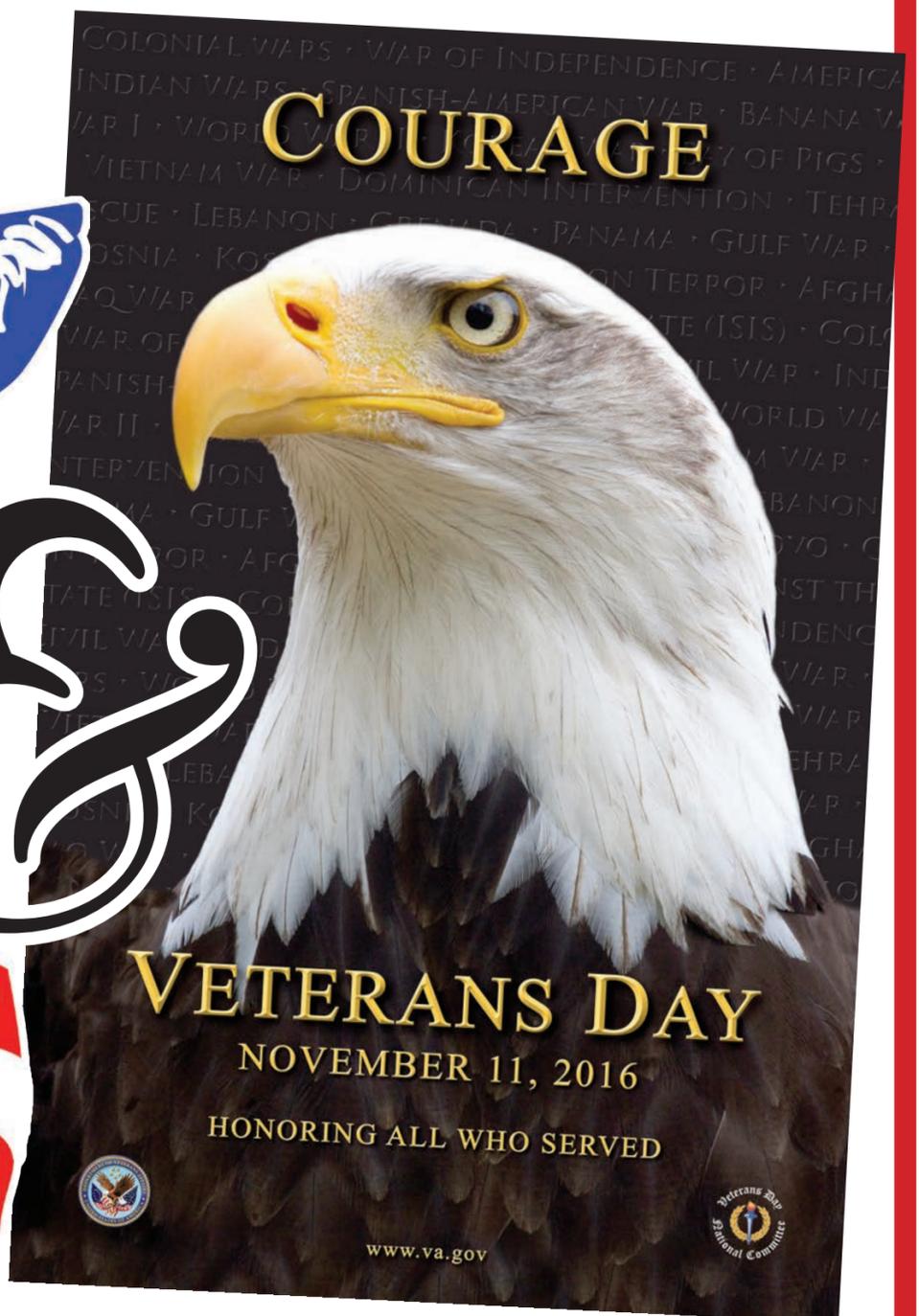
Paxton was a little more succinct in his remarks. "Look at what you can do to make the system work," Paxton advised the youngsters in attendance. "Run for office some time, some place, when the time is appropriate," he continued.

Both candidates asked those assembled to cast their votes at the polls Nov. 8.

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# SARATOGA TOWN COUNCIL

Four (4) year term • Two (2) positions open

## JennieLou Ivory

Jennie Lou Ivory is a relative newcomer to Saratoga, but that has not dissuaded her from jumping into the local politics scene with both feet, as she is running for Saratoga Town Council. Ivory says she moved here about year ago June after a life-changing event.

“When we chose a place to start over, we chose here,” she says. “It’s a great town to raise kids.”

Ivory now works at Saratoga Elementary school in the special education department. Her best attribute for office, she says, is that she is new to town and will approach her duties on the council with a level of objective detachment that she says some long-term residents may not be able to match.

“I don’t have the history (in Saratoga) everyone else does,” Ivory says. “I don’t have all the gunk that comes with that, I can look at everything pretty straightforward and make decisions based on that, not on prejudices.”

Ivory says that in her run for town council, she has been exposed to a couple issues facing the town that potential voters have brought to her attention. “Most people that have been coming to me have been coming to me on two things, town cleanup and the river,” she said.

The river is a big issue for the town residents that have talked to her, Ivory said, adding that she thinks the issue is one that the council needs to focus intently on.

Town cleanup is another issue that has been a con-

tentious issue in Saratoga in the past, and Ivory said a lot of citizens have brought the issue up with her. In her estimation, most people she has spoken with over the course of the campaign have been in support of town cleanup measures, she said.

“They want the ordinances that are apparently on the books enforced, they want it cleaned up,” She said. “We all want good property values, we all want to be looked at as a nice town and clean town, which we are.”

Despite that, Ivory says she will not be entering office with any preconceived notions. She says she is looking forward to learning about all the issues facing the town and working to resolve them in the best possible way, while working with all sorts

of people along the way. “I think I’m going to be pretty fair, and I want to hear both sides,” Ivory says. “I want to know both (sides) before I make a decision.”

## Glee Johnson

Glee Johnson, a 20-year resident of Saratoga, is running for town council after she was written in during the primary earlier this year. She has lived in Carbon County for 50 years and was once mayor of Sinclair. Eventually she and her husband retired to Saratoga about 20 years ago. “It’s just where we wanted to be,” Johnson said.

Johnson did not plan on running this year, but accepted after she was successfully written in during the primary. “I had had people ask me if it was OK to write my name in,” she says. “At that point there was the only one, so I thought there ought to be a choice.”

When asked her best attributes for office, she said her best attributes were her desire to make well-informed decisions, her mastery of

procedure and her desire that town business be conducted within the letter of the law.

“I feel a little disappointed when elected officials don’t do their background check,” she says. “It’s important that you know the ordinances, and if you don’t know them say, ‘Wait a minute, let’s look into this and decide next week.’”

Johnson explains that is how she plans to conduct business if elected. As a skilled parliamentarian, she would insist that rules and bylaws be followed when conducting council business.

“I like it when things go as they’re supposed to go,” Johnson says. “It’s bad to fall back on the attitude of ‘this is how we’ve always done it.’”

One of the biggest issues facing Saratoga is a demographic shift, Johnson says, with an increasingly younger

crowd moving into the town. This demographic shift will be a challenge for the town, she said, but already the town has been adapting to the change.

“When you get away from the age bracket where you don’t have to worry about babysitters and things like that you don’t always think that’s really important,” Johnson says. “But it is when you have a population like we are growing more toward.”

Johnson also said that such changes do not have to mean difficulties for the town, in fact they can be opportunities, she says. Johnson says that a changing population can mean more opportunities for private business to serve new needs, and that she believes it is important to always look for new business opportunities in the town.

Johnson also says the river project is of particular importance to her. “I am intrigued with our river project, and that’s something that I think should be really well researched and needs to be at least come up with some type of solution,” Johnson says. “I know that it’s been traditional to do what they’re doing as far as dredging the river, but I’m not sure that the right way to go.”

Johnson says that if elected, she will keep an open mind and will always work with others to discover and implement the best solutions possible. “It makes you a little short sighted if you look at one thing you want to fix,” Johnson says. “I don’t know if that’s the best way to start out in politics. If you fix one thing, then what happens? Are you not interested in the rest of it?”

“Before you make decisions, make sure you know what you’re talking about.”

## Steven Wilcoxson

Steven Wilcoxson is running for a four-year term on the Saratoga Town Council. It would be Wilcoxson’s third tour on the council, where he previously served for eight years: between 2000 and 2004, and between 2008 and 2012.

Prior to his time in municipal government, Wilcoxson served in the U.S. Marine and then spent more than a decade in the 1970s and 80s as a union organizer at three mines run by Arch Mineral Corporation. Wilcoxson estimates his union represented over 1,200 workers at one point, and (with help from a lawyer) he brought two

cases before the Wyoming Supreme Court on behalf of those workers.

In 1989, Wilcoxson was laid off from Arch Mineral, but a back injury soon took him out of mining for good. After surgery for the injury took him out of the workforce, Wilcoxson trained for hundreds of hours to be a volunteer for a domestic violence and sexual assault coalition and to be a counselor for a men’s anger-management group.

Wilcoxson has spoken of two plans he would like to implement in Saratoga, if elected. He says the town’s storm sewer system should be upgraded so that it can deal

with heavy precipitation, a possibility he started worrying about after his mom’s house flooded several years ago in Cheyenne. “We need to start the discussion to evaluate where the weaknesses are in our system,” he says.

Wilcoxson would also like to see progress made on renovating Tyler Pickett Park, a park named after a soldier from Carbon County who was killed in the Iraq war in 2008. Following a 2010-2011 flood, the idea fell to the back-burner, but Wilcoxson says he would like to see it prioritized again.

“I always tell everybody: If you want to talk to me,

give me a call or stop by my house,” Wilcoxson says.

He declines to say what he thought the biggest issue facing the town was, but says, “It won’t take too long to be brought up to speed, I don’t believe.”

“I speak my piece and don’t worry about the fallout,” Wil-

coxson says, adding that “there should be very little that goes on behind closed doors.”

Wilcoxson says if he’s elected, this will likely be his last stint in office, and continues, “I’ll do it just like I do everything else: I’ll give it my best shot and I’m not afraid to say when I’m wrong.”

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