

Parade Perks



Photo by Joshua Wood

Being awarded Teacher of the Year apparently comes with perks. Saratoga Elementary School teacher Heather Stranigan got to ride near the front of the parade in a "school bus" driven by Bill Schroer during the October 18 homecoming parade.

Removing trees, amending code

Riverside Town Council discusses removal of old cottonwood trees, changes to burning ordinance

By Joshua Wood,
 Stevenson Newspapers
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Trees and fires were the hot topics discussed, though not together, during the October 17 meeting of the Riverside Town Council.

Members of the governing body discussed how and when to remove aging cottonwood trees in Rick Martin Memorial Park and whether to plant new trees before or after the older trees were removed. They also discussed changes to Ordinance No. 106, which covers the burning of waste within town limits.

Tree Removal

The discussion of the cottonwood trees in Rick Martin Memorial Park—which houses playground equipment and one of two permanent disc golf courses in the area—was started by Councilmember Ed Golden.

"I had a chance to walk around, look at the park and look at the trees," said Golden. "I'm no forester, but you've got a hell a lot of old trees there that are going to be coming down."

Within the eastern cottonwood, there are approximately three subspecies which includes the plains cottonwood which is also the state tree of Wyoming. Cottonwood trees are a common sight in Wyoming near bodies of water such as rivers and streams and have a lifespan of 70 to 100 years. As the name implies, cottonwood trees are known for the cotton-like seeds which are produced

by the female of the species in the early summer months.

According to the Great Plains Nature Center, the heartwood—the supportive part of a tree—rots from the larger limbs and trunk of the tree. If the windstorm breaks one of the hollow branches off, it can provide access to the interior of the tree and homes for squirrels, racoons or possums.

"Right now, what I see when I'm walking in the park is little trees trying to come up that cannot because of the big trees in the way. They're not going to flourish as long as the big dead trees are blocking all of their sunlight."

~ Councilmember Lisa Lorenz, on cottonwood trees in Rick Martin Memorial Park

"I think we need to put money in parks for the spring to have someone come in and trim and take out trees that are in danger of falling on equipment," said Councilmember Lisa Lorenz. "Right now, what I see when I'm walking in the park is little trees trying to come up that cannot because of the big trees in the way. They're not going to flourish as long as the big dead trees are blocking all of their sunlight."

According to information from the Oregon State University (OSU) Extension Office, cottonwood trees can reproduce through seeds

but also through vegetative means such as sprouting from roots, stumps or branches. The information from the OSU Extension Office went on to read, "It often is associated with disturbance stress caused by fire, beaver, ice scouring, animal browsing, or the burial or toppling of saplings during floods."

Mayor Leroy Stephenson said he was "an advocate" for taking care of the trees in Rick Martin Memorial Park, suggesting the Town of Riverside reach out to Gonzales Tree Service of Walden, Colorado. According to Stephenson, the company had removed a number of older cottonwoods at Lazy Acres Campground in the past.

Golden asked if there was a district forester for the Wyoming State Forestry Division who could come and examine the cottonwood trees at the park.

"The last time I contacted one, the nearest one was in Cheyenne," said Mayor Stephenson.

Lee Ann Stephenson said Gonzales Tree Service had two arborists in his company who could determine the age and health of the cottonwood trees in Rick Martin Memorial Park.

While there was some discussion on whether to remove the trees before winter or in the spring—and plant other trees in the park—Mayor Stephenson said he would start by contacting Gonzales Tree Service and ask about their availability.

Burning Discussion

During the September 19 meeting of the Riverside Town Council, it was discussed that other residents had expressed concern about a Riverside resident

Volleyball players received kudos for good sportsmanship at school board meeting

Businesses make donations to programs for students

By Liz Wood
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Several students were recognized at the Carbon County School District No. 2 (CCSD2) Board of Trustees meeting Monday night for their sportsmanship during games by the Wyoming High School Athletic Association (WHSAA).

CCSD2 Superintendent Darin Jennings told the school board of trustees he received the letters from the WHSAA and believed they should be recognized publicly.

Josie Little, who attends Saratoga Middle High School (SMHS), was recognized by a referee during the Farson-Eden volleyball game for "always being a positive influence on the floor. She was constantly praising and cheering her teammates."

The whole SMHS volleyball team was recognized at the Cokeville game for "displaying appreciation to the refs during and after the matches. They were kind to each other and trying to lift each other up during the matches. The coaches were kind and very encouraging to the players."

Isabela Vaipuna, a Hanna-Elk Mountain-Medicine Bow (HEM) volleyball player, was recognized by the referees during the Southeast game for "encouraging her teammates in a positive manner, and not getting angry or down on anyone or her self when things did not turn out the way she planned."

Samantha Anderson, an Encampment K-12 volleyball player, was recognized for "encouraging fellow teammates" during the Little Snake River Valley game.

The WHSAA promotes good sportsmanship from players and audiences alike.

Jennings praised the school board of trustees for a strong board governance of always putting kids first, which was recognized during the accreditation process. He said the process takes a lot of hours and he was appreciative of the cooperation from the CCSD2 staff and board members.

Board member Paul Clark commended HEM for the juniors required to take Post Secondary Readiness testing. College, Career or Military Readiness in students increased from 46% to 100%. Wyoming placed first in the 14 states which requires juniors to take such tests.

Six businesses were recognized for their donations to

CCSD2. Valley Foods donated \$1,417.50 for pink uniforms for the SMHS varsity volleyball team. Dario Soto Living Trust donated \$2,000 to the Elk Mountain Activities account and \$2,000 to the Medicine Bow Activities account.

The Tulsa Community Foundation (Williams) donated \$2,000 to Saratoga Elementary School for Literacy night meals and games, while HF Sinclair donated \$8,500 to District Elementary Book Clubs. Jennings said the money will be divided between Saratoga and Encampment as HEM donated their share back to the district. HEM was awarded a grant application from the CCSD2 Recreation Board for the same purpose.

Platte Valley Kiwanis donated \$750 to Saratoga Elementary School (SES) Blessings in a Bag Program, while Bridge Street Bargains donated \$1,000 to SES for the same program.

Jennings informed the board that the enrollment for CCSD2 is at 574 students.

Administrators introduced new programs to the board and the Saratoga Sun will have in depth reports on those programs in future editions.

The next meeting of the Carbon County School District No. 2 Board of Trustees is November 18 at 4 p.m. at the Encampment K-12 School.

Valley rematch comes down to the wire

Encampment Lady Tigers narrowly defeat Saratoga Lady Panthers in five sets

By Liz Wood and Joshua Wood
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The Encampment K-12 gym was filled with a raucous roar as Valley residents cheered on their favorite team: either the Encampment Lady Tigers or the Saratoga Lady Panthers.

They all had good reason to cheer as the fight for the top valley team went to five sets.

The Lady Tigers came out of the match victorious, but it wasn't without some swipes from the Lady Panthers.

1st Set

The first set began with the Tigers and Panthers tied at 4, foreshadowing how the fifth set would play out.

Both teams have their strengths, coming down to their powerful front lines. Many of the points were earned at the net often when each team would try to block out the other. The play at the net would get so competitive that sometimes it was difficult

to tell which side of the net the ball was on. Fans could hear the echoing slap of the volleyball when both teams struck it at the net, even over the cheers.

The teams would alternated points keeping the first set within 1 point until the Lady Tigers took the lead 13-9. The Lady Panthers scored 1 point to interrupt the Tigers scoring frenzy, then the Tigers scored two more. Lady Panther Sophie Diaz scored another point for the Panthers and the score was 15-11.

Diaz and Cassidy Herring teamed up to block the Tigers attempted kill by Kristie Jordan and had the Tigers scrambling to return the ball. Samantha Anderson got under the ball to set it up, but it went awry and Regis Stewart dug down to try and save the play. Pickett also tried to save the play, but the point went to Saratoga because of an error.

In the next play, Pickett once again attempted to get a kill past the Saratoga defense and Diaz blocked it. The Tigers could not recover from the block and the score tightened to 15-13.

Jordan was successful in get-

Both teams have their strengths, coming down to their powerful front lines. Many of the points were earned at the net often when each team would try to block out the other. The play at the net would get so competitive that sometimes it was difficult to tell which side of the net the ball was on.

ting the ball past the Saratoga defense and scored another point for 16-13.

Tigers Head Coach Janice Peterson was encouraging the team from the sidelines, prompting the Tigers to get a 3-point lead before Saratoga's Diaz blocked another attempted kill and the score was at 18-14.

The teams would trade points with each player showing off their ability. Maggie Elder blocked an attempted

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See the Halloween Walk Map on A8!

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OBITUARY

Clara Mae Knoell



Mountain where she remembered many happy times as a child with her grandparents John and Hilda Anderson.

In 2018 while living at Deer Trail Assisted Living in Rock Springs, Clara Mae suffered a stroke and after was a resident of Sage View Care Center until her death.

Clara Mae is survived by her daughter Ramona (Jay) Beach of Brookings Oregon, Grandchildren Griffin Beach of Rock Springs, Hayden Beach of Casper WY, Tessa Beach of Bridger MT and Andrew Apostolou (Katy) of Georgia, four great grandchildren a niece Bunny (Kevin) McComb of Cortez, CO, cousins John Anderson and Connie (Jerold) Beckham of Encampment.

She was preceded in death by her husband Bud, her daughter Sherri, her parents James Quealy and Josephine Roberts, step father Ted Roberts, sister Mary Jo Knoell, brother-in-law Ody Knoell and niece Jody Knoell.

Cremation will take place; a Memorial Service will be conducted at 2:00 P.M. Saturday, October 19, 2024 at Saint James Episcopal Church, 812 McCaffrey Avenue, Encampment, Wyoming.

Graveside Services and Inurnment will be in the Encampment Cemetery.

The family respectfully requests donations be made in Clara Mae's memory to Cathedral Home for Children, 4989 N 3rd Street, Laramie, Wyoming 82072.

Condolences may be left at www.vasefuneralhomes.com

Clara Mae Knoell, 90, passed away Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at Sage View Care Center. She was an eight year resident of Rock Springs, Wyoming and former resident of Saratoga, Wyoming. She died following a lengthy illness.

She was born in Laramie Wyoming October 28, 1933 to James and Josephine (Anderson) Quealy.

Mrs. Knoell attended schools in Carbon County for her early education, including Elk Mountain, Hanna and Saratoga Wyoming. She graduated from University Prep in Laramie, WY with the class of 1951.

After graduation she attended the University of Wyoming and worked as a dental assistant.

While visiting her parents at the A Bar A ranch near Encampment, Wyoming she met Bud (Jack T.) Knoell.

They were married October 9, 1954 at St. James Episcopal Church in Encampment and spent their early married years working on ranches in Carbon County. Two daughters were born: Ramona Dawn in 1955 and Sherri Gayle in 1960.

In 1965 they bought the Treasure Island Ranch on the North Platte River and spent the next 53 years there until Clara Mae moved to Rock Springs in 2018 to be near her daughter. Clara Mae managed the fishing cabins on the place, making many lasting friendships among the people she rented to. After closing the cabins, she worked in the office at River Street Motors until retirement.

Clara Mae was a devoted mother and took good care of her girls. She helped raise many 4H steers and

saddled horses before her daughters were tall enough to lift the saddle themselves. She breathed a sigh of relief every year when County Fair was over. She was an active member of St. James Episcopal church serving on the vestry and in the altar guild. In later years she went to monthly meetings of the "dish club" with her friends: Mary Alice, Imogene, Ardis, Elva and Merle. Clara Mae volunteered at the Thrift Store and enjoyed visiting with anyone who came in. She cared for her grandsons while her daughter went back to school. She and Bud liked watching the PBR and sometimes went to bull-riding events. They were Wyoming Cowboy fans and spent their 60th wedding anniversary at a football game in Laramie. She loved the mountains of Wyoming, especially Elk

Carolyn M. Clennon

Carolyn M. Clennon, age 86, passed away at her home on October 10, 2024, with her devoted husband by her side. She was born on March 13, 1938, to Charles H. and Helen M. Holbrook in Oklahoma City, OK.

She married Gene Brannen at a young age in 1955 and had one son, Robert. In 1958 she married Donald O'Donnell and of that marriage she had two children, Ronald Lee and Donna Carol. In April 1977 she married the love of her life, James (Jim) Clennon, and they spent 47 happy and fun-filled years together. They had no children together, but together they had six wonderful and much-loved children.

Carolyn lived a fulfilling life full of love and excitement. She traveled extensively as an Air Force dependent, not only in the United States, but also in Europe. She held a great assortment of interesting jobs throughout the years – she loved being in the workforce. She was a purchasing agent for the forest service in New Mexico and worked in secretarial positions in a number of professional offices including many doctor's offices and healthcare institutions in various states. She always preferred working in the healthcare industry. In 1983, upon Jim's retirement from the Air Force, they returned to Laramie, WY. She worked for



16 years at Iverson Memorial Hospital, first as Human Resources Assistant and then Recruiter, and retired in 2000. She and Jim moved to Tecumseh, MO to be closer to family. They planned to travel a lot and just enjoy retirement, but that did not last long. She got bored with retirement and went back to work again in 2004 at the Henry & Williams Law

Firm and worked in that office for 14 years until she retired a 2nd time at age 80. They then returned to their home in Laramie. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her throughout the years.

Carolyn is survived by her husband, Jim; daughters Donna Thomason (Allen) of Sims, IL and Carrie Infinger (Chris) of Lynn Haven, FL; sons Mark Thomas (Tina) of Cabot, AR and Bart Clennon of Georgia; brothers Leon Holbrook (Dorothy) of Enid, OK and Leonard Holbrook (Darlene) of Bradenton, FL; six grandchildren, eight great grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews, and her much loved hairy kids, Poncho and Lefty.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Helen Holbrook; sons Ronald O'Donnell and Robert Brannen; brothers Clinton Holbrook and Wilbur Holbrook; brother-in-law, Michael Clennon; sisters-in-law Betty Holbrook, Irene Holbrook, Thelma Holbrook, Sherry Clennon, and Monica Clennon; and father and mother-in-law Byron and Elsie Clennon.

Cremation has taken place and services will be announced at a later date. Visit www.montgomerystryker.com to send condolences.

VALLEY NEWS

Removing trees,...

Continued from page A1

burning grass and leaves on his property. Town Clerk Jan Cook found Ordinance No. 106—which was passed in 1972—regarding the burning of garbage and waste in municipal limits.

Under the current language of the ordinance, a resident cannot burn "garbage, waste, packing material, trash, discarded boxes or other material" without having first obtained written permission from a member of the town council.

The ordinance goes on to read that a council member must grant permission if they believe the burning of the materials listed in the

ordinance can be done so "without danger to adjoining property or undo contamination to the air in the vicinity."

Additionally, the ordinance dictates that the Town of Riverside will not be held liable if granting permission to burn materials would lead to damage to other people's property. The permission would only be valid for a 48 hour period from the time it was granted.

The second section of the ordinance reads that any person violating the ordinance would be found guilty of a misdemeanor and fined \$100.00.

A third section of the ordinance declares an emergency that "this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage."

"I pretty much removed most of the old ordinance," says Mayor Stephenson.

As the council members discussed the ordinance, they appeared to agree on removing parts of the document which dealt with a member of the council granting permission and the liability of the Town of Riverside in granting permission. They also appeared to agree on removing the third section, but adding a new section.

"I added burning of yard waste, which is limbs and leaves, and firepits will be allowed," said Mayor Stephenson. "Carbon County Sheriff's dispatch must be notified and the fire will be attended at all times."

"I added that we would follow any burning ban issued by Carbon County," said Lorenz.

Under Wyoming State Statute, the ordinance will need to be read three times before it is effective.

The next meeting of the Riverside Town Council will be at 5 p.m. on November 14 at Riverside Town Hall.

Meatball



Meatball is quite the handsome boy. Currently in training to perfect all his good qualities; he's looking forward to becoming a part of your family.

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Beware of the evil doctors & nurses!



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HAUNTED ASYLUM & HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL

Parco/Sinclair Historical Theatre
502 Lincoln Ave., Sinclair, WY

Halloween Night Only

Thursday, Oct. 31st

5:30-8:30pm



Prizes & Candy



Creepy cakewalks

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Town of Sinclair & HF Sinclair Refinery

For more information call Monte at 321-8694



Halloween Party

Saturday, October 26

Jason & Mary will be playing music from 8pm - Midnight

Start planning your costume for the Costume Contest \$\$\$

We hope to see you there!



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VALLEY NEWS

Progress Made with Penny Tax

Department of Public Works Has Been Working Overtime to Spruce up the Streets of Saratoga

by D'Ron Campbell
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Department of Public Works (DPW) director Emery Penner and his streets department were heralded throughout the Saratoga Town Council meeting October 15 for their recent efforts all over town.

According to Penner, on two projects alone — Greater Road and South River Street — his team and contractors put in 1,400 feet of 12-inch water line, chip sealed four miles of roads and mended 9,000 feet of streets with mill and overlay to the tune of \$4 million of work.

"We [streets department] dug up roads and put in roads and came in 3/4 of one percent over budget," said Penner. "We did not have to reduce the scope of work and got everything done that we wanted to. [We're] pretty happy with the way everything went on those two projects."

These projects are tied to those that were listed on the ballot for the 2019 One Percent Specific Purpose Sales and Use Tax (6th penny tax). Saratoga planned to replace several streets within town including Spring Avenue from River Street to 4th Street and 13th Street from Bridge Avenue to the town limits.

\$2.5 million of the 6th penny tax, \$700,00 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds,



Photo by Joshua Wood

The Town of Saratoga streets department works on a water leak works at the intersection of 2nd and Main streets to repair a water main recently.

and \$800,000 in Impact Funds (Ekola Flats and TB Flats, Gateway West) were utilized according to Penner.

Longtime Saratoga resident Sally Patton lauded the work done on the streets all over town as she is an avid walker.

"Thank you all for going after the ARPA money and fixing Spring Street," said Patton. "That I can walk around and not fall in a hole is amazing to me. Thanks needs to go to the staff (DPW)."

Stacy Crimmins from the Never Forget Park committee also chimed in with praise for the DPW and town council.

"I want to thank town staff, department heads, streets crew, and everyone involved in Phase One construction with the curb and gutter and

parking lot pad [at Never Forget Park]," said Crimmins. "Exciting to see how far we have gotten and we appreciate all of the in-kind work from the town on behalf of the community."

According to Crimmins, Phase One of Never Forget Park is complete and more work will be forthcoming. Action around the park will include landscaping, flag poles, benches, sidewalks, sod, amenities and the parking lot.

"I (Crimmins) am pleased to announce the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant we've been working on for two years has been granted," said Crimmins. "\$556,400 has been received as a 50/50 match and we will hold a public meeting to get feedback and plan work days for in-kind support.

Thanks to all of the town crew because it is looking really nice over there."

The next projects around Saratoga involve large sewer rehabilitation and continued street hot spot repairs.

"The next battle (for DPW) involves replacing sewer lines under the river in two places," said Penner. "The first sewer line will be near the First Street Bridge and the second will be from the hot pool to the Saratoga Hot Springs Resort."

The DPW and the town council and staff will continue to work on funding and improvements in the upcoming months.

The next Saratoga Town Council meeting will be at 6 pm November 5 at Saratoga Town Hall.

Carbon County Wyoming Republican Party 

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING
October 30th 2024 | 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM

The Cowboy Inn
210 Penland St #490, Baggs, WY 82321

Building sold.
We invite you to come check out remaining inventory. Everything must go!
117 E. Bridge
Next to Shively Hardware
9:30 am - 6:pm
Monday - Saturday

The family of Don Ellis would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to all those who sent cards and online condolences, brought food, flowers, and visited us in the loss of our dad and grandfather. We would also like to express our appreciation to the SCWEMS crew and especially the staff at the North Platte Valley Medical Center for the professional and kind care they provided. Also, a huge thank you to Steve Martin, PA_C, who went above and beyond the call to assist. You will always have a special place in our hearts. Thank you Ray Ravenscroft for being a part of a beautiful celebration of life well lived. This place we call "home" is truly special and we are blessed to live here.

Sue Jones Sam & Lilly Platts
Linda & Scott Platts Emily Ellis
Mike & Rita Ellis John & Katelyn Ellis
Joe Ellis Jake Ellis
Max & Tobie Platts Patrick Ellis
Liz Ellis

BRIEFLY SPEAKING

News Briefs from Across the Cowboy State

Fire at Overlook Park being investigated as arson

GILLETTE (WNE) — Police are investigating a fire that was started at Overlook Park early Thursday morning.

Officers were in the area of Wagonwheel Elementary at 2:15 a.m. when they heard an explosion to the west. Shortly after, multiple calls about a fire in Overlook Park started coming in, said Police Deputy Chief Brent Wasson.

There were high winds fueling the fire, which prompted residents in nearby homes to evacuate. The Campbell County Fire Department responded and put out the fire, which had burned about 0.5 acres, Wasson said.

There are no suspects, and the fire is being investigated as arson, Wasson said.

Gordon responds to Supreme Court order on power plant rule

CHEYENNE (WNE) — Gov. Mark Gordon has responded to an announcement that the U.S. Supreme Court has declined to issue an emergency stay of the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan 2.0 rule.

In May, Wyoming and 23 other states challenged the power plant regulations, which target Wyoming's coal and natural-gas fired power plants.

In the court's order, Justice Brett Kavanaugh and Justice Neil Gorsuch stated, "The applicants have shown a strong likelihood of success on the merits as to at least some of their challenges to the Environmental Protection Agency's rule."

Weekend weather keeps Elk Fire in check

SHERIDAN (WNE) — Moisture persisted over the Elk Fire through the afternoon and into the evening Thursday, resulting in no fire activity, according to Incident Command officials.

The Elk Fire has consumed 96,179 acres since starting by lightning Sept. 27 and is 44% contained as of 2 a.m. Friday, according to InciWeb.

Cold temperatures, high relative humidity, and precipitation Thursday and through the night resulted in minimal fire behavior and no growth, inci-

dent command reported in its daily update Friday morning.

The northern portion of the fire received approximately 1 inch of rain, and the southern side 0.7 inches. Areas above 7,000 feet in elevation received between 5 and 10 inches of snow.

The soaking rain penetrated soils and vegetation, reducing fire behavior immediately and likely for several days; however, stumps and large pockets of dead and down trees will continue to produce smoke.

Firefighters also focused on winterizing almost 250 portable pumps but were pulled off the line early Thursday due to safety concerns regarding the weather.

U.S. Department of Energy Announces the Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for Activities in Support of Commercial HALEU Production

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) released the final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) evaluating the potential impacts of the Department's Proposed Action to acquire, through procurement from commercial sources, high-assay low-enriched uranium (HALEU) and to facilitate the establishment of commercial HALEU fuel production.

HALEU is a crucial material required by most U.S. advanced reactors to achieve smaller designs, longer operating cycles, and increased efficiencies over current nuclear energy technologies. HALEU is not currently available in sufficient amounts from domestic suppliers. The lack of an adequate domestic, commercial HALEU fuel supply could impede both reactor demonstrations and the development of future advanced reactor technologies.

The final EIS follows the Notice of Availability of the Draft HALEU EIS on March 8, 2024. DOE formally accepted comments on the draft through April 22, 2024, but accepted comments received beyond that date to the extent practicable. During the review and comment period, DOE held two virtual Tribal listening sessions, one in-person Tribal listening session, and three virtual public hearings. DOE received a total of 223 comment submissions on the draft EIS from Tribes, Federal and state agencies, industry, nonprofit organizations, and the public. In preparing the final HALEU EIS, DOE considered and responded to all comments. The responses can be found in Volume 3 of the final HALEU EIS.

The Final EIS is available on the project website at <https://www.energy.gov/ne/haleu-environmental-impact-statement>.

Requests for physical copies of the final HALEU EIS can be made through email to HALEU-EIS@nuclear.energy.gov or U.S. mail to, Mr. James Lovejoy, DOE EIS Document Manager, U.S. Department of Energy, Idaho Operations Office, 1955 Fremont Avenue, MS 1235, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83415.

DOE will issue a Record of Decision for the final HALEU EIS no sooner than 30 days after the publication of the Notice of Availability of the final HALEU EIS by the Environmental Protection Agency on October 18, 2024. The Record of Decision will be available in the Federal Register and on the project website.

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Platte Valley's community bank
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Thursday October 24th

6:00 to 7:00 am Strength Training
6:30 - 8:30 pm Open Gym
11 am - 6 pm Saratoga Library Open
11 am - 4 pm Encampment Library Open

Friday October 25th

6:00 to 6:30 am Morning Mash up
6:00 to 7:00 am Strength Training
4:00 to 5:00 pm Yoga
7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous @ PV Assembly of God basement
4:30 pm Spinning
11 am - 3 pm Saratoga Library Open
Encampment Library Closed

Saturday October 26th

Gym Closed
Weight Room Closed

Sunday October 27th

Gym Closed
Weight Room Closed

Monday October 28th

6:00 to 6:30 am Morning Mash up
6:00 to 7:00 am Strength Training
4:00 to 5:00 pm Yoga
4:30 pm Spinning
7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous @ PV Assembly of God basement
2 pm Story Time @ Saratoga Library
6:30 - 8:30 pm Open Gym
10 am - 6 pm Saratoga Library Open
11 am - 4 pm Encampment Library Open

Tuesday October 29th

6:00 to 7:00 am Strength Training
6:30 - 8:30 pm Open Gym
11 am - 6 pm Saratoga Library Open
Noon - 5 pm Encampment Library Open

Wednesday October 30th

6:30 - 8:30 pm Open Gym
11 am - 3 pm Saratoga Library Open
Noon - 5 pm Encampment Library Open

OPINION/EDITORIAL

Why isn't all news free?

WYOMING EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

The Sheridan Press, Oct. 19

As the Elk Fire continues to rage and the situation changes daily, if not hourly, you've likely spent some time on The Sheridan Press' social media pages. During your time there, you've likely seen a recurring question, or even asked the question yourself: Why do we have to subscribe for this content? Why can't it be available for free to the community?

The reason is simple: The Press fully functions as a private business like any other in downtown Sheridan. Our business has revenue and expenditures. We pay wages and taxes and property taxes and material costs and insurance premiums.

Calling out our budget line items may seem elementary, but the understanding of operations and what content should and shouldn't be free during Elk Fire coverage has certainly been confusing for some.

That's fair — why should we expect you to know and understand our business model if we don't tell you about it?

From a newsroom perspective, The Sheridan Press employs three editors, four reporters and one photo-journalist as full-time employees. Full time means 40 hours a week plus overtime wages plus insurance costs plus travel and other expenses reimbursed.

es reimbursed.

Tack on a contract designer and carriers, production staff and marketing specialists for the creation of the print edition, and you have yourself a full-blown business with expenses associated with providing a service to its customers.

The critical updates for the Elk Fire that impact public safety remain free of charge to everyone — including evacuations, information from incident command, road closures, health impacts and more.

Content that remains behind the paywall regarding the Elk Fire include those community stories of how things work, people who've helped and other stories documenting the history of this unfortunate event.

Content produced by The Sheridan Press staff is a blend of accountability, public safety and entertainment, all of which remain critical to a functioning community.

We believe the content produced by the eight journalists in the newsroom is exceptional and one of a kind, and must come at a cost.

We take seriously the role we play in disseminating critical information for the safety of our community. Although some consumers do not agree with the cost of business while simultaneously desiring to interact with the content, we know our ethical standards remain strong, and our commitment to reflecting the community we serve remains just as strong.

Finally and most importantly, thank you for reading our content, trusting us as a source. We appreciate your partnership and business.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Proposes 'Common Sense' Prop Tax Solution

Dear Editor,
Thank you for the invitation to submit opinions in last week's paper. Appropriate discussion during the political decisions should be part of every voter's day.

One hot button is property tax increases. The only way to be fair to the taxpayers is cap the annual increase to the rate of inflation. As it is, the increase or decrease in valuation is driven

by the boom of the recent real estate market. Consequently, that sector of property tax has risen at the rate of the percent increase in values.

Every government entity that derives revenues from property tax has had a windfall of much more than inflation rate in revenue received. Look at the mills for municipalities, schools and the state, plus all the special

districts to see how your tax dollar is divided.

Common sense would be to cap every property tax at the rate of inflation. Easy solution that is fair, easy to calculate for the assessor and doesn't contribute to excess inflation consumers are plagued with.

Thank you for your time,
Scott Kerbs
Saratoga, Wyoming

In Favor of Amendment A

Dear Editor,
People have asked why the Wyoming REALTORS are backing Amendment A. The answer is straightforward: We believe in homeownership and will always support any effort to keep people in their homes.

Our Wyoming Constitution currently has three classes of property for the purpose of property taxation. First is Minerals, second is Industrial, and the third class is "all other." All other encompasses Residential, Commercial, Agricultural, and personal property. Our constitution says that "all properties shall be taxed

uniformly in each class." In the simplest terms, you can't give Grandma a break on her property tax without giving the same break to the mega-corporations, i.e., big box stores. This amendment creates a fourth class, Residential, and allows the legislature to create a subcategory of owner-occupied primary residences. That's it. No hidden agendas, no deception. A separate class for residential.

There has been misinformation that this amendment will raise your taxes. That is not true. This Amendment simply creates a 4th class, so our elected representatives

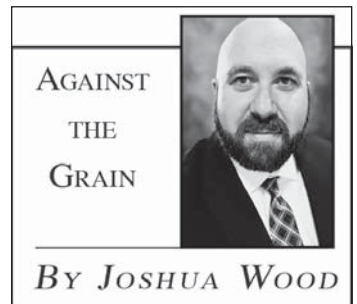
can tax residential differently than commercial. Does that mean they will raise commercial taxes? I believe that is a scare tactic. The Wyoming legislature, dominated by very conservative Republicans, is not going to raise anyone's taxes! It is a red herring at best and a scare tactic at worst.

Two-thirds of the elected members of each house voted in support of Amendment A. They weren't afraid of it then; why are they now? Vote yes on Amendment A.

Sincerely,
Shelby McGuire, President
Carbon County Board of REALTORS



Youth and Newspapers



I recently had the opportunity to welcome the Encampment K-12 School 3rd grade class at the Saratoga Sun office and I can't speak highly enough of these young students.

At the beginning of this school year, Rayna Greenwood—who is the new 3rd grade teacher—had emailed me about a field trip to the Saratoga Sun. I was ecstatic as I've always welcomed the opportunity to talk about this newspaper and the industry itself. I've given tours of the office to people just coming through the Valley on vacation and the 8th grade students who participate in the Saratoga/Platte Valley Chamber of Commerce's annual Career Day. Giving a tour

to primary school students, however, was new to me.

Rayna and I briefly discussed the best approach for the field trip. I offered to give the students as much of a history lesson as I could on the Saratoga Sun and a tour of our newspaper archives. She suggested the students interview each other before they came to the office and I could edit their writing as a small example of what it's like to work for the newspaper.

I loved the idea. So, on October 16, the 3rd grade class came filing into our office as we were preparing to send off that week's edition of the Saratoga Sun. Again, I cannot say enough about how well behaved and respectful they were. They were full of questions. Perhaps one of my favorite parts was when I was explaining to them the concept of an editorial.

An editorial, I told them, is the opinion of the newspaper. I asked the students if they thought Jake Johnston—or Mr. J—was doing a good job as principal. All their

hands went in the air, most of them even put both hands up to show their appreciation of their principal. I explained to the students an editorial, if they were running a newspaper, would explain why they felt Mr. J was doing a great job as principal and would provide specific examples.

We all went into the back of the Saratoga Sun, then, where I went over the history of the newspaper beginning with how it was owned by J.F. Crawford—the second owner—and the rivalry between the Sun and the Platte Valley Lyre. For those who may not know, the Platte Valley Lyre boasts some of the first women newspaper editors in Gertrude and Laura Huntington. They were also the first women newspaper owners in Wyoming.

Very carefully, I showed them a bound copy of the 1892 to 1893 edition of the Sun and compared it to one of our recent issues. The students seemed very interested in the differences between newspapers of the late 1800s and those of today. As they

looked at the historic newspapers, I explained to them the process of setting type, where the terms uppercase and lowercase come from and why there is a difference in the industry between the words lead and lede.

For those who don't know, we use lede in the industry to discuss the opening of an article. The reason for this is because the spacing between sentences is known as leading because of the lead used to separate the type in the old printing presses.

We also briefly went over coverage in the Saratoga Sun. I was amazed at how astute these students were when we went over why it would be important for the newspaper to cover something like an increase in water rates.

Finally, it was time to edit the 3rd grade students' writing. I pulled out my trusty red pen and worked with each student on their writing and how we would approach their writing if they were working for the newspaper. It didn't take long before the students, almost in unison,

would point out what changes would need to be made to each other's small articles. They were patient, gracious and understanding of the changes we made. What they really seemed to enjoy, however, was when it came time for me to edit Rayna's writing.

It gave them some enjoyment to see that even their teacher needed her writing edited.

To say I enjoyed having the 3rd grade class from Encampment K-12 School in the office would be an understatement.

I encourage all teachers in Carbon County School District No. 2 to reach out if they would be interested in doing a similar field trip to the Saratoga Sun. We would love to have you in the office and talk to your students. Just email editor.saratogasun@gmail.com and we'll find a day, that isn't Monday or Tuesday, to welcome you for a field trip.

Kudos to Rayna Greenwood for coming up with the idea, her students for taking such an interest in their local newspaper.



Established 1888



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

We welcome your letters. Letters should be timely, local, brief and contain no libelous statements. The Saratoga Sun reserves the right to edit or reject any letter for brevity, content and/or clarity. Anonymous letters will never be considered for publication. Thank you letters, political endorsement letters or political campaign letters will not be included in letters to the editor. All letters must be signed and include complete contact information. Three ways to get your letter in. • Drop off: Saratoga Sun at 116 E. Bridge Ave., Saratoga, WY 82331 • Mail: Box 489 Saratoga, WY 82331 • Email: editor.saratogasun@gmail.com

THE FAITH PAGE

Living On Purpose: Oh how we ignore our need to change

by Dr. William F. Holland, Jr.

Transformation is a word used to explain what happens when someone is saved. It's the theme of the Christian faith, but what about the daily progression of our relationship with God? Many today think the idea of changing into the image of Jesus no longer applies to them because they go to church and listen to Christian songs on the radio. This is good, but our relationship with God is not contained within a couple of hours per week. Do we only think about Jesus when we take communion? Are we convinced that however we act is alright with God because we have accepted Him? What does this mean to me? Did I accept that He is

real, or that my responsibility is to allow Him to control me as the Lord of my life?

Much like the frog who comfortably sits in the pot that eventually comes to a boil, it's disturbing how many within our religious culture are suffering from spiritual starvation. Today the Bible is being dissected by scholars, but the difficult commands are being ignored by the average Christian. Some Bible teachers are hesitant to speak the hard truths of self-discipline and moral purity, while church members applaud when feel-good devotions are filled with blessings and happiness. One of the principles of church growth today is to keep the people happy. Pastors are like coaches, they must keep pleasing their fans or they will be

replaced. However, from God's perspective, His uncomfortable, and sacrificial demands are the most important.

The time has come for a revival that strengthens homes, families, and churches. I'm not just talking about an evangelist coming to church with a fiery sermon. This is good and people enjoy it, but often in a couple of weeks the excitement fades and most return back to their lukewarmness. True revival is a personal revelation that quickens the mind and heart with a deep sorrow and brokenness that we have offended God with our lethargic carnal attitudes. If there is not a deep grieving and repentance for the way we are living, and a sacred vow to God to never fall into

this state of coldness again, then a rededication has not happened. The Kingdom of God is not going to be advanced by our churches becoming filled with people but by people in our churches becoming filled with God.

The term revival must be understood as not something new, but it's a way of thinking and acting that is being restored. There is no such thing as rekindling a fire that was never started. Revival is rarely mentioned in the seeker-friendly movement because it would reveal there must be a change in the way we think and live, not to mention scaring some of the new converts away. The concept of becoming aware of God's presence is one of the most powerful realities within the

Christian faith because it has everything to do with personal transformation. Surrendering our will to King Jesus is how we serve and obey Him. I've been teaching this revelation for years but rarely does anyone want to discuss it. Why not? Is it a case of not being able to comprehend it, or is it just too painful for our flesh? Probably both. As a weekly faith columnist, I'm experienced with delivering positive and inspiring messages, but God's sword of truth has a double edge. Let us not ignore the balance and supernatural power of the full gospel that is described in Hebrews 4:12.

The constant awareness of God is similar to the idea of starting a strict diet. Those becoming serious about losing weight realize very quickly

this is not for the faint of heart and it will demand total concentration and painful sacrifice. The idea is to watch every bite that we eat, but how much more of a life-changing experience is deciding to draw near to God? In the same way that we become aware of carbohydrates and count calories, followers of Jesus are to develop a reverential sensitivity about what God is saying to turn away from and what He demands we do. If we do not care about what we eat and become obese it will be obvious to everyone. The same is true if we do not care about being a remnant warrior in God's army and allow intentional sin to control us. This will not only be evident to God but also to everyone around us.

When You Lose, You Win (In Football and In Faith)

By Pastor Vince Vannett
Saratoga Alliance Church

For many in this community, I am known as "Pastor Vince", but for a small, special group, I am known as "Coach Vannett". It has been my privilege to help coach our local high school football team for a few years now. These young men are near to my heart, and I love the opportunity to be a part of their life, their growth as athletes, but more important their growth as young men of great character.

The Panthers Made The Playoffs!!!! This is the first time the football team has made the post season in a long time. Coach Mason and Wright are doing a great job, along with Coach Keel, also our "doc". The young men have played hard, endured injuries, trials, disappointments, and challenges. Let me tell you about how it happened and how it might

relate to all of us.

This past Friday we hosted Southeast for our homecoming game. They have beat us every year I have been a part of the team. We had previously beat Lusk and Wright this year and thought we would make the playoffs, but then Lusk beat Southeast (creating a 3 way tie for 2 spots). So the scenario was laid out – beat SE and we are in, or - we could lose to SE, but only by 2 points and still make it. (the point system is complicated, so I won't share all details).

Our young men played so hard. We had one, HJ, who separated his shoulder on the third play and played the rest of the 1st half until the doc checked him out. It was a hard-fought contest. In the 4th quarter we had the game in control. Up 24-20, just converted a 4th down, and the ball on their 2 yard line, ready to put the game away. But, then made a mistake,

we turned the ball over and then numerous mistakes and they proceeded to beat us, one play at a time. The game ended 24-35.

We were crushed. All our effort, all our striving, all our trying to be perfect, ended in a loss. There were tears, yes, even these tough, strong, athletes broke down when the realization set in, our mistakes outweighed our good efforts, we were not good enough, and did not win the prize.

As a Pastor, I always look for the spiritual meaning in everything. On Saturday morning, as WYPreps was determining standings, we learned WE MADE THE PLAYOFFS! What? How? It is a long story, but SE beat us by 11 so they are in 3rd and then the tie breaker for 4th we won head-to-head because we beat Lusk. The scenario we thought would get us "In" turned out to be wrong. By losing by 11,

instead of 1 or 2, we made it in. By losing big, we actually won. We were counting on all our great effort, but we made too many mistakes.

This situation, though not exact, reminds me of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Church in Ephesus. "For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift – not from works, so that no one can boast" (2:8-9). Our eternal security, far better than playoffs or championship, was secured, not because of our efforts, our striving, our wins and losses, but because Jesus Christ was victorious over sin and death.

Paul wrote to the Church in Corinth about a surprise exchange: His "game" for your "game". "God made the One who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Cor 5:20). Jesus willingly ex-

changed His life for yours. All our mistakes, all our efforts that don't measure up, Jesus takes those and exchanges them for His perfect life. God now views us as victorious, as champions, not because of what we did, but because of what Christ did. Jesus said in Matthew 16:25, "whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life because of me will find it." When we lose, we win. When we give our life to God, we receive the life of Christ. What a win!

What does this mean for us? For those who believe Jesus is the Messiah, the Son

of God, you have won the Championship (eternal life). This was not based on how good you were, how perfect, how many mistakes, and not based on wins and losses. Your prize was won when Jesus won. When Jesus was victorious, He won for you. He secured your place in eternity. For those who don't believe, those who are still striving so hard, those who are keeping track of wins and losses and are not enough; Christ offers His victory to you. Jesus offers His "perfect life" to you. He is willing to exchange with you, will you accept it?

DO YOU KNOW HOW YOUR GOVERNMENT IS SPENDING YOUR MONEY?



READ PUBLIC NOTICES IN YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER AND ONLINE AT WYOPUBLICNOTICES.COM

Notice of Director Election
Highline Watershed Improvement District

The Saratoga-Encampment-Rawlins Conservation District (SERCD) will conduct an election for two (2) Directors for the Highline Watershed Improvement District on November 5, 2024. This election will be conducted by mail ballot, there will be no polling locations. Mail ballots must be received by SERCD by 5:00PM on November 5, 2024. All landowners within the Highline Watershed Improvement District and qualified electors are eligible to vote. The following candidates have filed and are qualified for the position of Director: John Bucholz and Greg Ryan.

Senior Center Menu

THURSDAY Chili, Cheese & Onion, Mixed Green Salad, Fluffy Fruit Cup, Cinnamon Roll, Milk

FRIDAY Crab Cake, Macaroni & Cheese, Broccoli Craisin Salad, Wheat Bread, 1/2 banana, Milk

MONDAY Broccoli Cheese Soup, Turkey Sandwich, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle, Peaches, Milk

TUESDAY Chicken & Dumplings, Tossed Salad, Peas & Carrots, Strawberries, Milk

WEDNESDAY Beef Fajita, Steamed Rice, Broccoli, Tropical Fruit, Milk

<p>Church Calendar</p> <p>Alison's Pantry with Sally 329-5329 Encampment and Saratoga whisper@carbonpower.net www.alisonspantry.com</p> <p>CUSTOM BUILDERS 326-8341</p> <p>Aid to stranded motorists and travelers 307-321-6688</p>	<p>Church of Christ 2nd & McCaffrey Ave., Encampment 327-5682</p> <p>Sunday worship - 11 a.m. Bible Study - 10 a.m.</p>	<p>Ride on Faith Ministries 7 mi. S of Saratoga - Cornell Place Les Barkhurst 329-7183</p> <p>Worship Sunday 10 a.m.</p>	<p>St. Barnabas Episcopal Church 106 W. Main, Saratoga The Rev. Dr. Peggy Hotchkiss 329-3060</p> <p>Holy Eucharist Sundays at 9 a.m. Followed by Fellowship Time- Agape House The Journey Labyrinth & Meditation Garden are always open for prayer and meditation</p>	<p>St. James Episcopal Church 812 McCaffrey, Encampment 327-5558</p> <p>Holy Eucharist 10 a.m.</p>	
	<p>Saratoga Alliance Church 1302 S. River St., Saratoga. 326-8307 Pastor Vince Vannett</p> <p>Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Morning service - 9:30 a.m. AWANA - Mon. 5:30 to 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Platte Valley Lutheran Church Pastor Randolph Schnack 326-5449</p> <p>514 S. 1st Street, Saratoga. Sunday school - 9 a.m. Sunday worship - 9 a.m.</p>	<p>Christian Community Church 3.5 miles North of Encampment on Hwy 230 Pastor Tom Crowe 307-329-3316</p> <p>Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship - 10:45 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Saratoga Church Friday: 6:00 pm Tuesday: 6:30 pm 108 West Spring Ave Saratoga, Wyoming 307-329-7240 http://www.saratogachurch.org</p>	<p>St. Ann's Catholic Church Father Bruce Clapham 326-5461 stannwy.org 218 W. Spring, Saratoga</p> <p>Saratoga Masses Sat. Confession 4 p.m. Sat. - 5:30 p.m. Sun. - 9 a.m. St. Joseph - Hanna Mass Sunday 11:30</p>
	<p>Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints 9th & Hugus, 307-260-7882 Saratoga. Bishop, Bob Keel</p> <p>Sunday Sacrament - 10 a.m. Primary - 11:15 a.m. Melchizedek and Aaronic Priesthood/Young Women Relief Society and Primary - 11:05 a.m.</p>	<p>First Presbyterian Church 3rd and Bridge, Saratoga. 326-5337 - 326-3163</p> <p>Pastor David Cole Sunday: Adult Bible Study - TBA. Morning Worship - 8:30 a.m. Fellowship time - 9:30 a.m. Wednesday: Prayer Shawl Ministry - 9:30 a.m. Presbyterian Women - 1:30 p.m. - 3rd Thursday of the month</p>	<p>Platte Valley Christian Center Assembly of God 111 N 7th, Saratoga Pastor Gene Smith 326-5520</p> <p>7th and Main, Saratoga Sunday school - 10 a.m. Sunday worship and Children's Church - 11 a.m. Evening worship - 6 p.m. Wednesday Adventure Club Children's Ministry 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>St. Ann's Catholic Church Father Bruce Clapham 326-5461 stannwy.org 218 W. Spring, Saratoga</p> <p>Saratoga Masses Sat. Confession 4 p.m. Sat. - 5:30 p.m. Sun. - 9 a.m. St. Joseph - Hanna Mass Sunday 11:30</p>	
	<p>Encampment Presbyterian Church 918 Rankin, Encampment Pastor David Cole 327-5331 Food Pantry available to those in need Sunday Worship - 10:30 a.m. Presbyterian Women 3rd Thursday - 1:30 p.m. Mariner's 2nd Wednesday - 6 p.m.</p>	<p>Sponsor the Church Calendar, only \$5 per week. Call 307-326-8311</p>	<p>First Baptist Church 802 W. Main, Saratoga Pastor Greg Snell 307-329-3371</p> <p>Bible Study- 9:45 a.m. Worship - 11 a.m. Bible Study - 6 p.m. Wednesday evening prayer meeting - 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Chapel on the Plains 220 Pine St. Medicine Bow Rev. Bobbe Fitzhugh 307-359-3311</p> <p>Worship Service Sun. 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist 3rd Sunday Call for Wed. Zoom link</p>	

WYOMING NEWS

Case, press association react to proposed media restrictions

By Marit Gookin
The Ranger

Via Wyoming News Exchange

RIVERTON — Last year, Karen Wetzel was removed from a Fremont County Commissioners' meeting, and footage of the incident was briefly taken offline. People who were in the room knew what had happened; anyone who was absent and counting on the recording, including this newspaper, could only try to piece together the puzzle by asking people who were there or waiting for the video to be restored.

While more and more government meetings are recorded and even conducted partially or wholly online, there are circumstances in which technology fails — and others in which it's simply no replacement for journalists actually being in the room.

Outside of extreme circumstances, the Wyoming State Legislature is careful about making sure its meetings are being recorded before proceeding, which has helped increase transparency in some ways — but the question is whether it is really the same as having the press on the floor, in the room, at eye level with legislators.

"I just think there's a lot to be said for having that intimate eye," remarked Sen. Cale Case (R-Lander). "Going back to when the press was on the floor, there's a collegiality."

In September, the Select Committee on Legislative Facilities, Technology and Process moved forward to the Media Credentialing Criteria and Conditions a revision to policy which would completely remove the provisions allowing photojournalists and TV crews to access the side corridors of the House and Senate cham-

bers and document the floor from certain doorways.

Instead, the press would now only be allowed to observe what goes on in the Wyoming State Legislature from the third-floor gallery.

"The Wyoming Press Association finds it disturbing that the Selected Committee on Legislative Facilities, Technology and Process would even consider revoking access of the legislative chambers to credentialed journalists," the WPA remarked in a statement on the committee's vote to advance these restrictions.

"It has been the role of the fourth estate to report on the work being done for the people of Wyoming by their legislators," the statement read. "To limit or revoke access sets a dangerous precedent not only for the Wyoming Legislature itself, but for local government agencies to follow suit."

Case was one of just two "no" votes on the policy change.

Although the select committee moving the revisions forward doesn't necessarily mean that they will pass, it does reflect a trend in greater and greater restrictions on the press at the State Capitol in recent years.

"In defense of my colleagues," Case said, "they believe that because everything is now on the internet ... They honestly don't see a lot of purpose to having people on the ground."

There's a strong argument that this wouldn't decrease government transparency in any meaningful way, he pointed out, because the press may still access both the third floor gallery and the digital recordings.

However, that isn't Case's stance.

"It's still good for [journalists] to have that ground level access," he commented. "I think

it adds a little flavor — it kind of humanizes us a little bit."

There used to be a press table on the Senate floor, he recalled, which let the press and legislators interact one-on-one, letting them form working relationships and observe each other up close — not in a way that interfered with the integrity of either one, Case said, but in a way that let both regard each other as people.

In Case's opinion, those connections are important to communication between legislators, the press, and the public.

And, he noted, photos taken from far away are inherently much less personal than those taken up-close; it's like the difference between photos of a football or basketball game taken from the sidelines and the top of the bleachers, he described.

The photo from far away can still be good, but it will never

have the same potential for personal connection with its subject.

"The truth is, there are so few journalists down there now," Case observed. "Why would we chase them off further? ... We need more journalism, more in-depth journalism on the legislature, not less."

"The Wyoming Legislature is, and always has been, the People's House and our elected representatives are there to do the work of the people," the WPA commented. "Newspapers in print and online still serve as the best avenue for constituents to learn how their legislators are representing them in Cheyenne. Restricting access for members of the media will only serve to increase the divide between the elected and their electors."

The Wyoming State Legislature will vote on the policy change at its next session.

Wyoming lawmakers hesitate to increase major school maintenance funding ahead of projected revenue shortfalls

Hannah Shields

Wyoming Tribune Eagle

Via Wyoming News Exchange

CHEYENNE — In the face of projected revenue shortfalls, some Wyoming lawmakers are hesitant to change the state's major maintenance formula that would increase funding for school facilities projects.

Sen. Larry Hicks, R-Bags, voted against a bill draft Wednesday, during the Legislature's Select Committee on School Facilities meeting in Cheyenne, that changes how the state calculates its major maintenance funding for schools.

The bill, as written, increases the allowable square footage in the formula from 115% to 135%, which would

make 18 out of 48 school districts eligible for total coverage. However, this still leaves 1.9 million square feet unfunded, according to Legislative Service Office senior school finance analyst Matthew Willmarth. To fund all 48 school districts, the percentage needs to be raised to 235%, he said.

The bill also increases the replacement cost value mul-

tiplier from 2% to 2.5% and comes with a \$43.6 million appropriation from the Public School Foundation Program (SFP) account.

The SFP is largely funded through Wyoming's federal mineral royalties (FMRs). A Consensus Revenue Estimating Group (CREG) report in January projected a decline in FMR distributions to the SFP over the next two bienniums.

The projected \$559.1 million in FMR distributions to the SFP for the 2023-24 biennium is expected to decrease by \$144.5 million in the 2025-26 biennium, and decrease again by \$23.9 million for the 2027-28 biennium.

"When I look at this long-term fiscal profile, when I look at the SFP and the school capital construction this biennium, it's \$2.55 billion," Hicks said. "We get out to the 27-28 biennium, it's \$2.44 billion. My point being is revenues are going down, not up."

The Legislature is also still exploring property tax relief for Wyomingites, which is another source of local funding for school districts. Hicks said he didn't want to lock the state into a new, more expensive major maintenance formula if it's not certain the funds will be there.

"The reality is, when I look out two bienniums, there's not enough money to fund this," Hicks said.

Hicks proposed making the bill a one-time appropriation. The Legislature is scheduled to recalibrate its major maintenance formula in 2025, and the senator recommended visiting this topic afterward.

Sen. Bo Biteman, R-Ranchester, who shared Hicks' concerns, said the proposed 2.5% multiplier "seems to be the biggest driver of the price tag."

"Maybe we can find a compromise with the (legislative) body, maybe keep it at 135% and keep it at 2%," Biteman said. "I do like Sen. Hicks' idea of not baking this in the long term, because of all the uncertainties we have."

However, Sen. Chris Rothfuss, D-Laramie, pushed back on these arguments. He recognized that the state's projected shortfall in revenue is a legitimate concern, but also said this bill is "the most cost-effective path for the Legislature."

"That's the reason we're recommending this," Rothfuss said. "According to the analysis we've done, if we preserve the fleet (of schools), we need fewer replacements in the long run."

State Construction Department Director Del McOmie said the higher dollar investment would likely result in fewer component project requests in the future. Component-level project funding is used for schools on the

brink of shutdown due to major maintenance issues.

McOmie said component project funding requests, which are around \$30 million a year, may "ratchet down over time" if major maintenance is fully funded.

"As we take better long-term care of buildings with the higher number of the higher dollars, I would predict we're going to see less of those bigger projects, component projects, happening," McOmie said.

Sweetwater County School District 1 facilities director Dan Selleroli said new school buildings require more maintenance funding. Most of the chillers in these new systems have four compressors, he said.

"When you live in Evanston, you live in cooler climates, you don't even know that two of the four compressors are out until the third one goes down," Selleroli said. "Now, instead of looking at a \$100,000 compressor change, you're looking at a \$300,000 or \$400,000 system change. So the system's complexity really drives the cost."

The bill draft was forwarded to the Joint Appropriations Committee by the select committee on a 7-2 vote, with nay votes from Hicks and Sen. Troy McKeown, R-Gillette. Rep. Ember Oakley, R-Riverton, was absent from the meeting.

2024

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PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE WYOMING CONSTITUTION TO BE VOTED ON AT THE GENERAL ELECTION NOV. 3, 2020

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

A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing to amend the Wyoming Constitution to remove the specific limit on the amount of debt a municipality can incur for a sewer project and to allow the legislature to prescribe by law the debt limit for municipal sewer projects; and to provide a ballot statement.

Section 1. The following proposal to amend Wyoming Constitution, Article 16, Section 5 is proposed for submission to the electors of the State of Wyoming at the next general election for approval or rejection to become valid as a part of the Constitution if ratified by a majority of the electors at the election:

Article 16, Section 5. Limitation on municipal, county or school district debt.

No city or town shall in any manner create any indebtedness exceeding four per cent (4%) of the assessed value of the taxable property therein, except that ~~an additional indebtedness of four per cent (4%) of the assessed value of the taxable property therein~~ may be created for sewage disposal systems as the legislature may by law prescribe. Indebtedness created for supplying water to cities or towns is excepted from the limitation herein.

No county shall in any manner create any indebtedness exceeding two per cent (2%) of the taxable property therein.

No school district shall in any manner create any indebtedness exceeding ten per cent (10%) on the assessed value of the taxable property therein for the purpose of acquiring land, erection, enlarging and equipping of school buildings.

All limitations herein shall refer to the last preceding general assessment.

This amendment will remove the constitutionally specified limit on the amount of debt a municipality can create for sewer projects and would allow the legislature to prescribe by law the debt limit for municipal sewer projects.

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SPORTS

Saratoga suffers homecoming losses



Josie Little (6) rushes for a save during the homecoming game against the Southeast Lady Cyclones on October 18.



Allie Condict (5) jumps for a return during the October 19 game against the Cokeville Panthers.

Lady Panthers celebrate Little's 1000th dig during homecoming week

By Joshua Wood, Stevenson Newspapers editor.saratogasun@gmail.com

The Saratoga Lady Panthers are sitting at No. 4 in the 1A Southwest Conference—just ahead of Farson-Eden and Fort Washakie—following two tough losses during homecoming.

On Friday, Saratoga hosted the Southeast Lady Cyclones where they went 2-3 against the No. 1 team in the 1A Southeast. Then, on Saturday, the Lady Panthers hosted the Cokeville Lady

Panthers where they were dealt a conference loss in three sets.

Saratoga vs. Southeast

On Friday, the Lady Panther saw moments of brilliance as they hosted Southeast in the Panther Den. The Lady Cyclones brought with them a season record of 20-4 and found it difficult to sweep Saratoga on their home court.

“The Southeast game was great competition,” said Head Coach Shayley Love. “I was proud of the way our girls brought energy and consistency to the game, especially after only having one game the last couple weeks.”

Southeast took the first set by 3 points, winning over the

Lady Panthers 22-25. Saratoga fought back in the 2nd and 3rd sets, going 25-23 and 28-26. The Lady Cyclones, however, got their wind back for the final two sets as they went 13-25 and 7-15 against Saratoga.

Senior Josie Little led the Lady Panthers in attacking the net with 10 kills against the net with Addie Collins and Maggie Elder, each of whom had 6 kills. Cassidy Herring followed with 5 kills.

Senior Madi Johnson led in serve with 4 aces served against the Lady Cyclones. Little followed with 2 aces while Gillian Creed and Collins each served 1 ace. Little was the lead digger, with 31 digs against Southeast and

earning her 1,000th career dig during the match. Johnson followed with 14 digs and Elder had 10 digs.

Saratoga vs. Cokeville

Following their loss to the Lady Cyclones, Saratoga returned to the Panther Den on Saturday to host Cokeville, who have only one conference loss this season.

“I don't feel like we played to our potential,” said Love. “We didn't have the same energy from the day before and just didn't move quick enough on the floor for the caliber of team Cokeville is.”

While Saratoga toughed it out in the 3rd set, 23-25, Cokeville secured significant leads against the hosting Lady Panthers. The 1st set

went to Cokeville with a score of 17-25 and the 2nd set went 18-25 to the visiting Lady Panthers.

Attacking the net against Cokeville was a team effort, with a total of 23 kills for Saratoga. Collins led the purple-and-gold Lady Panthers with 7 kills and was followed by Little with 5 kills and Sophie Diaz with 4 kills.

Johnson was, again, the lead server with 4 aces served against Cokeville. Creed followed with 3 aces and Little served 1 ace. Little led in digging with a total of 20 digs against the visiting Lady Panthers. Johnson followed with 17 digs.

So far this season, Collins has led the Saratoga in attacking the net with 108

kills. Little follows with 98 kills and Herring has 73 kills. Johnson, meanwhile, leads in serving with 32 aces followed by Koya Roberts with 28 aces. Johnson also leads in digging this season with 310 digs, followed by Little with 231 digs.

Following their losses last week, the Saratoga Lady Panthers are 10-9-3 for the season and 3-4 for conference play.

The Lady Panthers have a week full of conference play. Saratoga will host the Little Snake River Valley (LSRV) Lady Rattlers at 4:30 p.m. on October 24 and the Farson-Eden Lady Pronghorns at 10 a.m. on October 26. These are the final games before the 1A West Regional Tournament.

Panthers Feel the Rush of the Cyclones

The Saratoga Panthers Fell to Southeast in their Homecoming Event

by D'Ron Campbell dron.saratogasun@gmail.com

As their season of firsts comes to an end, the Saratoga Panthers made it to the 9-man playoffs for the first time since 2020 under [then] Head Coach

Logan Wright.

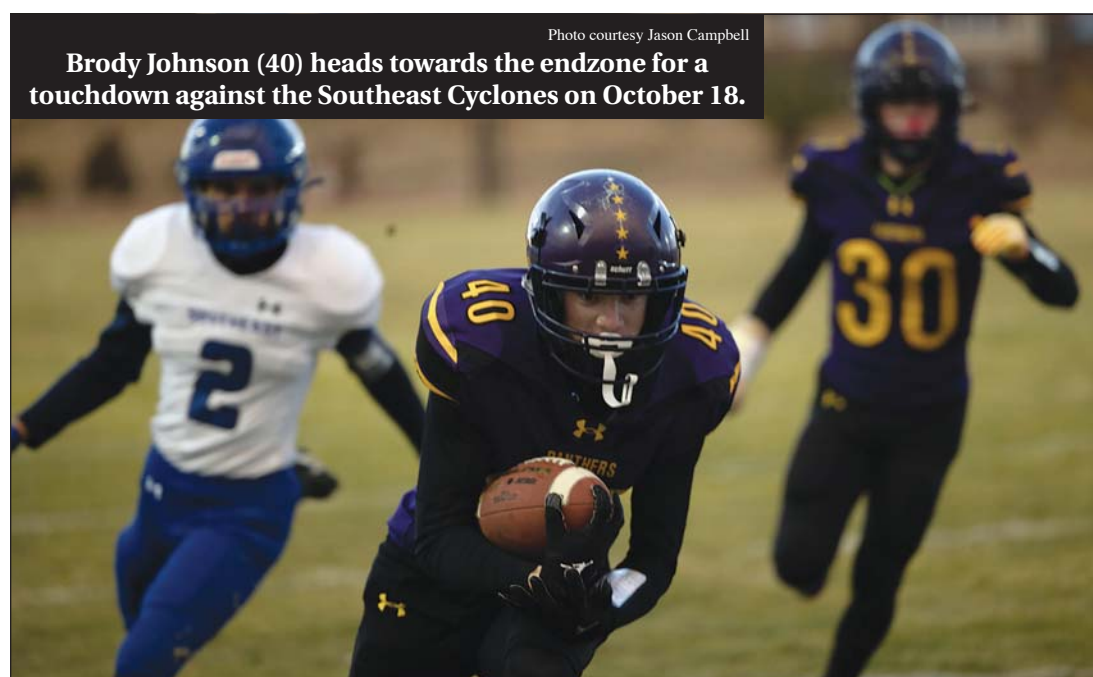
The Panthers had possibly one of their best seasons in 40 years catching a win over Lusk [first in 20 years] and a win over Wright overcoming a low scoring game battle putting double digits on the board.

The Panthers have earned a playoff berth as the 4th seed

heading into the post season prior to even competing in Lingle-Fort Laramie next Friday.

“This week we are planning to play our younger guys against Lingle-Ft. Laramie so our varsity guys can rest and heal up from all the bumps and bruises [occurring during regular season],” said Head

See “... the Rush of the Cyclones” on page B2



Brody Johnson (40) heads towards the endzone for a touchdown against the Southeast Cyclones on October 18.

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SPORTS

Tigers slash Pronghorns and challenge Panthers

Lady Tigers scratch out two winning sets against Cokeville

By Liz Wood
lizwood.saratogasun@gmail.com

The Encampment Lady Tigers pulled out two wins and one loss last week. Even with the loss against Cokeville, the Lady Tigers walked off the court Saturday afternoon knowing one thing—Cokeville can be beat.

Encampment vs. HEM

On October 15, the Lady Tigers (4-3) won three sets against the Hanna-Elk Mountain-Medicine Bow (HEM) Lady Miners (1-8) at Hanna. While the Lady Miners are not in the same conference as the Lady Tigers, they both in Carbon County School District No.2.

HEM has had a tough year in the 1A Southeast Conference with only one win and 8 losses, but it did not keep HEM from giving the Tigers some tough competition. The Lady Tigers beat the Lady Miners in three sets: 25-17, 25-23 and 25-20. The score shows how hard the Lady Miners worked toward getting a win against a district rival.

As the teams get closer to the end of the regular season, the players are more tuned into their game and it shows on the court. Each team is playing their hearts out to get a chance to perform at their regional tournaments, but only the top four in each division will be rewarded for their hard work.

Encampment vs. Farson-Eden

Friday, the Lady Tigers hosted the Farson-Eden Lady Pronghorns (1-6) and it didn't look good for the Lady Tigers in the first few volleys as the Lady Pronghorns left them scoreless for the first four points. Eckerley Pickett earned the first point for the Tigers with a kill to get them on the board. The next few volleys, the Lady Tigers outscored the Lady Pronghorns to close in on the Pronghorns.

Sami Anderson was on fire with her kills and tied the score with two consecutive kills 10-10. That action set the other girls on fire and they were hitting kills against the Pronghorns one after another and the Tigers finally took the lead for the first time in the set.

Regin Stewart blocked a kill and Farson couldn't recover - giving the Tigers a 6-point lead 16-10.

The Lady Tigers were showing their excitement with chatter on the floor. Setters Anderson and Kristie Jordan setup Stewart for a kill and she scored another point for the Tigers. Anderson scored

the next point and the Lady Tigers had a solid lead 18-10. Stewart tried to go for 19 and she hit the ball out of bounds. The Lady Tigers worked hard in a volley with several impressive plays, but an error at the net cost the Lady Tigers another point.

Pickett dug for the serve from the Pronghorns allowing Anderson to set the ball for Jackson who performed a perfect kill to get the ball back on the Tiger side. Pickett hit the next kill right in the middle of the Pronghorns defense and the score was 20-12. Stewart scored the next point for the Tigers. A failed block by Pickett and Stewart gave the Pronghorns another point with the score 21-13.

Pickett hit a kill attempt that was returned by the Pronghorns, then Pickett blocked it and the ball went over the net. The Pronghorns failed to hit it as they were expecting a hard kill.

Pickett's skill to tip the ball over the net continued to escape the Pronghorns defense and the Lady Tigers were 24-13.

The Lady Pronghorns scored one more point before being defeated by the Lady Tigers 25-14 with a final kill by Jordan.

The second set started as fiercely as the first one ended. The ball passed the Tiger defense and Pickett went in for a dig - Jordan set the ball from the dig and Savannah Fagan got in a kill. The Tigers were still behind 5-7. The Pronghorns scored 3 more points before the Tigers came back with 1 point with the Tigers still trailing 7-11. Every kill the Tigers attempted, the opponents returned. Stewart got a kill past the defense and the Tigers dug in and tied the score at 11. For the next several minutes, the Tigers and Pronghorns alternated points keeping the game tied. Both teams put in a lot of effort to keep the ball in play before a point was scored making it a very exciting set. The pattern continued until Jackson was able to get in two consecutive kills for the Tigers to finally take the lead 18-16.

The front line of the Tigers is very strong - sometimes too strong. When in the heat of the game, they go in for a kill and it goes past the back line. It was a strong hit like this that let the Pronghorns tie the game 20-20.

The Tigers scored 2 points to the Pronghorns 4 points and the game seemed to be lost, when the Lady Tigers roared back to life, like they do so many times, and the Tigers scored 2 points - one of them was a kill by Jordan and the score was 23-24.

Fagan blocked the ball to tie the score 24-24, followed by a kill by Jackson brought the score to 25-24. The Pronghorns got another point to tie the score 25-25. The winning



Kyenna Jackson (4) blocks a volley from the Cokeville Panthers on the morning of October 19.

Photo by Liz Wood

point seemed to be escaping the Tigers when the ball went awry with a hit, but because of the Tigers quick thinking, they brought it back into play and Jackson tipped it over the net for the win 27-25.

In the third set, the Lady Tigers came in hot and kept the lead for several points. At the first timeout, the score was 11-5. The Pronghorns stepped up their play and closed in on the Tiger 11-10, when a timeout was called.

The Pronghorns took the lead, but not for long when the Tigers stepped up the heat and tied the set with two kills by Pickett putting the score at 16-16. The Pronghorns moved ahead again, but the Tigers tied the score again at 19. The score stayed tied until the Lady Tigers got the lead 23-21. This was a battle for both teams as they were fighting to stay in play. The Lady Tigers pulled out the win with a dig from Jackson and a hit from Pickett. The final score was 25-22.

"Coach [Annie] Jordan and I are so incredibly proud of our team being Farson on Friday," said Head Coach Janice Peterson. "We had an incredible kill percentage with Jordan and Jackson shining with kills."

Peterson said the team served 90% with Fagan, Stewart and Gentry Meyer serving 100%. Meyer, a junior varsity player who steps in as a server, has shown a lot of growth in her serving skills through the season.

Jackson, Stewart and Pickett had the most digs while

Anderson led the team with 19 assists, Peterson said.

Encampment vs. Cokeville

Saturday morning, the Lady Tigers hosted Conference foe Cokeville Panthers (5-1). The Cokeville Panthers are the strongest team in the 1A Southwest conference and had just come off a win from the Little Snake River Rattlers the night before.

In a surprising turn of events, the Lady Tigers had a strong lead against the Lady Panthers in the first set. The Tigers, sporting pink jerseys for Breast Cancer Awareness Month, seemed to have a new energy wearing the bright pink uniforms.

The Tigers offense battered the Lady Panthers. Perfectly timed kills by the Tigers were bogging down the Panthers defense. The Lady Tigers kept a 5 point lead through much of the game. Whether it was the adrenaline from the win against Farson-Eden the night before, or the team being ready to show Cokeville what they were made of, it worked, because they were outplaying Cokeville like never before. The Tigers beat the Panthers 25-17 in the first set.

The second set proved a little more difficult for the Lady Tigers as the Lady Panthers took the lead early on. The Tigers worked hard and tied the score at 5 points and tied it again at 6-6 when Jordan surprised them with a kill. The Tigers took the lead for just a second at 7-6, before the Panthers tested the skills

of the Tigers defense. The Tigers fought hard in volleys to keep the score close and to let the Cokeville Panthers they were there to win. By the first time out, the score was 10-12.

The Panthers could not get more than 2 or 3 points ahead before the Lady Tigers stepped up their defense. Unfortunately that changed when the Panthers took a 5 point lead before a second timeout was called 14-19. Lady Tigers Head Coach Janice Peterson was down on one knee talking to the girls to help get their head back in the game. Volleyball is very much a head game, as team members tend to let their mistakes take their focus off the game. When one starts to become frustrated in her play it can affect the whole team.

Whatever Peterson said during the timeout but their head back in the game and the team bounced back and closed the score 16-19.

Jackson and Stewart each got in a kill to tighten the score to 18-20. Despite the efforts of the Lady Tigers to keep the ball in play, the Panthers won 21-25.

In the beginning of the third set, it was obvious the Lady Tigers were frustrated. It not only showed in their faces, but in the play. An early timeout was called with the score 2-7.

It didn't seem to help. No matter what the Tigers threw at the Panthers, it wasn't enough. The Panthers were out powering the Tigers. Kills that were getting past the

Panther defense were no longer happening and the Tigers were frustrated. Long volleys took place with the Panthers always getting the point. The score was 4-16 before the Tigers got a break and Jackson sent a kill past the Panther defense. The Tigers scored 4 more points to the Panthers 2, but they were still behind 10 points with a score of 8-18. For every point the Tigers scored, the Panthers answered with 2 points until the set ended 14-25.

The beginning of the fourth set didn't start well for the Tigers as the Panthers scored 5 points before Tigers scored 1 point. It took some time and several volleys until the Tigers closed in the score and tied it at 11. After that, the Tigers continued to trail behind the Panthers, and the set seemed to be lost when the score was 18-24. Then those mighty, mighty Tigers did it again - they roared to life and went on a scoring spree to tie the game 24-24. A timeout was called and the Tigers returned to the floor to score another point with a kill by Pickett. Pickett also scored the winning point pushing the ball past the Panther defense 26-24.

"The girls definitely fought hard for the win and showed they can compete with the best teams when they work together," Peterson said. "Our conference is really tough and 1A is extremely competitive this year."

With this win, the match went into a fifth match between the Tigers and the Panthers. Everything is at stake for both teams. The teams start with a tie of 2 and 2, before the Panthers score 3 more points and a timeout is called at 2-5. Tensions are high and the Tigers were making mistakes. They are in the fifth set with the number one team in their division. Even though the Panthers keep the lead, the Tigers give them a fight with very good volleys. The Panthers had to earn those points. The final volley was probably the best of the match, but the Tigers lost 10-15. "It was truly a battle and we simply made a few mistakes at a critical point in the match resulting in the loss," Peterson said.

From the fan perspective, this was a remarkable match, because it proved to the Tigers and their fans that when they play their best, they can beat the number one team in their division.

"We played and overcame a few challenges in the five game match up," Peterson said.

Fagan, Meyer, Anderson, Pickett and Jackson all had over 90% serving accuracy according to Peterson. Jackson and Stewart led in digs.

The team is preparing for one more game before regionals and they plan to bring everything together next week, Peterson said.

... the Rush of the Cyclones Continued from page B1

Coach Jared Mason. Saratoga lost their homecoming game against the Southeast Cyclones 24-35 on Friday, October 20.

Quarterback Jace Westring was ready to compete with an impressive 190 passing yards, 2 passing touchdowns and only 1 interception.

The hard fought game saw standouts in Hazen

Williams with 42 yards rushing, 38 yards receiving and 7 solo defensive tackles. Griffin Bartlett received for 87 yards, made 1 touchdown and left it on the field." Injuries occurred during the game sidelining Hunter Johnston and Douglas Anderson.

"We lost a couple more players due to injuries in the game, which I felt was the dif-

ference between us winning and losing as we struggled to stop the Southeast running game in the second half," said Mason.

The varsity team will take the next week off in preparation for the playoffs — dates and times to be announced.

The Junior Varsity will play on October 25 in Lingle-Fort Laramie at 6 pm.

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See More Sports on B7, B8

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Sample Ballots can be viewed at the following locations:

The Carbon Building – Courthouse Annex, 215 West Buffalo, Room 240D, on the county website at www.carboncountywy.gov and at all polling locations on Election Day. A copy can be requested by calling the Election’s Office at 307-328-2650 or 1-800-250-9812 or emailing to elections@carboncountywy.gov.

You may vote if you are:

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- 18 years of age on Election Day
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02-02 Jeffrey Center	315 W. Pine Street, Rawlins
03-01 Jeffrey Center	315 W. Pine Street, Rawlins
03-02 Jeffrey Center	315 W. Pine Street, Rawlins
04-01 Jeffrey Center (Muddy Gap)	315 W. Pine Street, Rawlins
05-01 Jeffrey Center (Sinclair)	315 W. Pine Street, Rawlins
06-01 Hanna Recreation Center (Leo)	8000 WY Highway 72, Hanna
07-01 Medicine Bow Community Center	221 Pine Street, Medicine Bow
08-01 Hanna Recreation Center	8000 WY Highway 72, Hanna
09-01 Elk Mountain Senior Center	208 Bridge Street, Elk Mountain
10-01 Elk Mountain Senior Center (McFadden)	208 Bridge Street, Elk Mountain
11-01 Platte Valley Community Center	210 Elm Street, Saratoga
11-02 Platte Valley Community Center	210 Elm Street, Saratoga
12-01 Encampment Opera House (Encampment)	622 Rankin, Encampment
13-01 Encampment Opera House (Riverside)	622 Rankin, Encampment
14-01 Valley Community Center (Dixon)	255 W. Osborne, Baggs
15-01 Valley Community Center (Baggs)	255 W. Osborne, Baggs

Instructions to Voters

To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, mark the oval immediately adjacent to the name of the person for who you desire to vote. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write their name on the blank space provided for that purpose **AND** mark the oval immediately adjacent to the name of the person.

Vote like this: 

The names of the candidates will be rotated on the official ballots by precinct and will not necessarily appear in the order indicated on the Sample Ballot. The official ballots will also have an oval next to each candidate’s name on the paper ballots and on the Express Vote ADA ballot marking device. The official ballots will not contain all races, only those for your district/precinct will appear.

PARTISAN CANDIDATES

United State President/Vice President - Four Year Term, Vote for One

- Donald J. Trump/JD Vance - Republican
- Kamala D. Harris/Tim Walz - Democratic
- Chase Oliver/Mike ter Maat - Libertarian

United States Senator – Six Year Term, Vote for One

- John Barrasso - Republican
- Scott D Morrow - Democratic

United States Representative – Two Year Term, Vote for One

- Harriet Hageman - Republican
- Kyle G. Cameron - Democratic
- Richard Brubaker - Libertarian
- Jeffrey Haggit - Constitution

State House District 15 – Two Year Term, Vote for One

- Pamela Thayer - Republican

State House District 47 – Two Year Term, Vote for One

- Bob Davis - Republican
- James A Wilson - Democratic

County Commissioner – Four Year Term, Vote for Not More Than Three (3)

- Gwynn G. Bartlett - Republican
- John Espy - Republican
- Sue Jones - Republican

NONPARTISAN CANDIDATES

Town of Baggs Council – Four Year Term, Vote for Two

- Michael A McAllister

Town of Baggs Council – Unexpired Term Two Years, Vote for One

- *No Candidate Filed

Town of Dixon Council – Four Year Term, Vote for Two

- Ryanne Mikesell
- Caleb Owens

Town of Elk Mountain Council – Four Year Term, Vote for Two

- Angie Hobbs
- Brett Larson
- Joseph Neel

Town of Encampment Council – Four Year Term, Vote for Two

- Stas Banach
- Susan Munson
- Dale Davis

Town of Hanna Mayor – Unexpired Term Two Years, Vote for One

- Orville ‘Oats’ Briggs
- Charlie T. George

Town of Hanna Council – Four Year Term, Vote for Two

- Paul Cruz
- Donna J Pipher
- Nathan Seegmiller
- Ellen Works-Feeman

Town of Medicine Bow Mayor – Unexpired Term Two Years, Vote for One

- Justin George
- Troy W. Maddox Sr

Town of Medicine Bow Council – Four Year Term, Vote for Two

- Lee Cook
- Lucinda L. Schofield
- Kristi Wickizer

Town of Medicine Bow Council – Unexpired Term Two Years, Vote for Two

- Crystal Mayfield
- Trevor Strauch

City of Rawlins Ward One Council – Four Year Term, Vote for One

- Derek Elliott
- De Shann B. Schinkel

City of Rawlins Ward Two Council – Four Year Term, Vote for One

- Stanley Bugg
- Darril Garner

City of Rawlins Ward Three Council – Four Year Term, Vote for One

- Patrick Gonzales
- Terry B Patterson

Town of Riverside Council – Four Year Term, Vote for Two

- Linda Brown
- Mark Helwick

Town of Riverside Council – Unexpired Term Two Years, Vote for One

- Lisa Lorenz

Town of Saratoga Council – Four Year Term, Vote for Two

- Michael E. Cooley
- Cory Oxford
- Nanette “Chia” Valdez

Town of Saratoga Council – Unexpired Term Two Years, Vote for One

- Bub Barkhurst
- Sophia Borg

Town Sinclair Council – Four Year Term, Vote for Two

- Brennan Dunlap
- Michelle Serres

Town of Sinclair Council – Unexpired Term Two Years, Vote for One

- Nancy Sanders

Carbon County School District 1 Trustee - Four Year Term, Vote for Not More Than Four

- Cheryl Engstrom
- Matt Feldmann
- Rick Greene

Carbon County School District 1 Trustee - Unexpired Term Two

Years, Vote for One

- Randy Flamig

Carbon County School District 2 Area 1 Trustee - Four Year Term, Vote for One

- Paul Clark
- Aubrey Maughan

Carbon County School District 2 Area 2 Trustee - Four Year Term, Vote for One

- Georgia Miller

Carbon County School District 2 Area 3 Trustee - Four year Term, Vote for One

- Joe Gaspari

Carbon County School District 2 Area 4 Trustee - Four Year Term, Vote for One

- Nick Wamsley

Little Snake River Conservation District Rural - Four Year Term, Vote for One

- Meghan Lally

Little Snake River Conservation District Urban - Four Year Term, Vote for One

- Trent Arnell

Little Snake River Conservation District At-Large - Four Year Term, Vote for One

- Jenna Larson

Medicine Bow Conservation District Rural - Four Year Term, Vote for One

- Ralph D. Brokaw

Medicine Bow Conservation District Urban - Four Year Term, Vote for One

- Kay Schrock

Medicine Bow Conservation District At-Large - Four Year Term, Vote for One

- Timothy Heward

Saratoga Encampment Rawlins Conservation District Rural - Four Year Term, Vote for One

- Chris Williams

Saratoga Encampment Rawlins Conservation District Urban - Four year Term, Vote for One

- Jenita Calton
- Shannon Fagan

Saratoga Encampment Rawlins Conservation District At Large - Four Year Term, Vote for One

- Randy Arnold

Baggs Cemetery District - Four Year Term, Vote for Not More Than Three

- Virginia Sue Lee
- Bill Orchard
- Dale Willie

Reader Cemetery District - Four Year Term, Vote for Not More Than Three

- *No Candidate Filed

Saratoga Cemetery District - Four Year Term, Vote for Not More Than Three

- Suzie Cox
- Susan Howe
- Charles McVey

Little Snake River Museum District - Four Year Term, Vote for Not More Than Three

- Joe Jussila
- Susan E. Leonhardt
- James N Roberts

Saratoga-Ryan park Museum District - Four Year Term, Vote for Not More Than Three

- Carol Ann Beach
- Connie Patterson
- Roger Snell

Little Snake River Rural Health Care District - Four Year Term, Vote for Not More Than Two

- Darcy Kaiser
- Brian Lally

Medicine Bow Rural Health Care District - Four Year Term, Vote

for Not More Than Two

- Verna Cook
- Cynthia Culver
- Amy Smith

Carbon County Fire Protection District - Four Year Term, Vote for Not More Than Two

- Cory M. Nuhn
- Pat Waliser

Proposed Special Hospital District - Four Year Term, Vote for Not More Than Two

- Stephanie Chiu
- Mark Kostovny
- Vanessa Petersen
- Rod Waecklerlin

Proposed Special Hospital District - Two Year Term, Vote for Not More Than Three

- David Gier
- Garry L. Goergen
- Mike Lujan
- Jerry Steele

Judicial Retentions

For Justice of the Supreme Court - Regular Eight year Term, Vote Yes or No

- Shall Justice John G. Fenn be retained in office?

For Justice of the Supreme Court - Regular Eight Year Term, Vote Yes or No

- Shall Justice Kate M Fox be retained in office?

For Judge A of the District Court of the Second Judicial District - Regular Six Year Term, Vote Yes or No

- Shall Justice Dawnnessa A. Snyder be retained in office?

For Judge B of the District Court of the Second Judicial District - Regular Six Year Term, Vote Yes or No

- Shall Justice Melissa Westby be retained in office?

For Circuit Court Judge of the Second Judicial District - Regular Four Year Term, Vote Yes or No

- Shall Judge Susan K. Stipe be retained in office?

Constitutional Amendments

Constitutional Amendment A

The adoption of this amendment would separate residential real property into its own class of property for purposes of property tax assessments. The amendment would authorize the legislature to create a subclass of owner occupied primary residences.

- For**
- Against**

Tax Questions

Carbon County School District No. 1 Question to Continue Additional Special School District Levy

Shall the additional special school district levy in the amount of one-half (1/2) mill upon each dollar of assessed valuation within Carbon County School District One (not to exceed two (2) mills) be continued for the maintenance of post-secondary education services offered by the Carbon County Board of Cooperative Higher Educational Services, doing business as Carbon County Higher Education Center?

For continuing the one-half (1/2) mill upon each dollar of assessed valuation within Carbon County School District One (not to exceed two (2) mills) be continued for the maintenance of post-secondary education services offered by the Carbon County Board of Cooperative Higher Educational Services.

Against continuing the one-half (1/2) mill upon each dollar of assessed valuation within Carbon County School District One (not to exceed two (2) mills) be continued for the maintenance of post-secondary education services offered by the Carbon County Board of Cooperative Higher Educational Services.

Special Hospital District Formation

Formation of Special Hospital District in Carbon County - Shall the proposed Special Hospital District within Carbon County be established to operate pursuant to Wyo.Stat. Ann. 35-2-401 through 438 upon taxable property within the district not to exceed three (3) mills?

- For** the establishment of the special hospital district.
- Against** the establishment of the special hospital district.

PUBLIC NOTICES

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CARBON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, October 1, 2024, 9:00 a.m.
Carbon Building- Courthouse Annex,
215 W. Buffalo Street, Second Floor, Rawlins, WY

A regular meeting of the Board of Carbon County Commissioners (BOCC) commenced Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Carbon Building-Courthouse Annex in Rawlins, WY. Attending the meeting were Chairman, Sue Jones, Vice Chairman Travis Moore, Commissioners John Johnson, John Espy and Garrett Irene.

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. **ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS**
 Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Irene seconded and the motion passed unanimously. **VOUCHERS**

Vice Chairman Moore moved to approve the report of expenditures in the amount of \$378,009.99. Commissioner Johnson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
 Abels, Duane E. - County Health Services \$1,633.00; Advanced Network Mgmt., Inc. - Smart Net Renewal & Email Sec. \$47,728.63; Amazon Capital Services - Wall Clock, Light & Tank Cleaner \$305.53; Apex Communications - Radio Contract Services \$4,000.00; Archuleta, Janell - Electronic Monitor Deposit Refund \$875.00; Ardurra - Dixon Airport Hangar Acquisition \$8,775.70; Artistic Custom Badges & Coins LLC - Sheriff Buckles \$698.70; AT&T Mobility - CCSO MDT Service \$1,678.60; Baggs, Town of - Sheriff Office Space Rent \$150.00; Bank of Montreal - Mastercard - 3 New Registrations \$35,660.59; Big Bale Company - Mount & Balance Tires \$70.00; Black Hills Energy - Heating \$5,267.09; Blue Knight Security LLC - Jail Extraditions \$4,925.00; Buchanan, Karen - Mileage \$66.00; Buchanan, Lois - Mileage \$63.80; Camarillo, Amanda - Fuel/Lodging \$218.21; Carbon County Fair Board - Monthly Agency Payment \$2,725.00; Carbon Co. Fire Protection District - Install Deck Beds/Oil Changes \$192.50; Carbon County Library - Monthly Agency Payment \$29,247.00; Carbon County Museum - Monthly Agency Payment \$18,995.00; Carbon County Senior Services - Monthly Outside Agency Payment \$72,850.00; Casper Winnelson Co. - Valves \$727.20; Charm-Tex, Inc. - Jail Inmate Uniforms \$424.00; Clegg Barbara A. - Meals \$18.66; Clerk of Dist. Court (Jurors) - Juror Payments \$5,479.22; Cook, Edith - Mileage \$24.20; Core Legal, LLC - Legal Services \$128.00; Culligan Water Conditioning - Water Softener \$625.00; Daily Times - Jail Newspapers \$187.92; Dixon, Town of - Water Services \$308.00; Dynamic Controls Inc. - Door Card Reader & Repairs at Jail \$14,019.12; Erickson & Roberts - Legal Services \$151.75; ETG Systems, Inc. - Annual Fire Inspections \$5,125.00; Fatbeam LLC - Fiber & Internet \$4,590.00; Further - Participant Fees & Health Reimb. \$3,632.58; Fusible - Online Blue Book Subscription \$1,239.95; Galls/Quartermaster - Nameplates \$14.54; Goodman, John W. - Electronic Monitor Deposit Refund \$820.00; Goodman, Kevin - Electronic Monitor Deposit Refund \$51.00; Grainger - Vacuum Cleaner \$286.05; Gulbrandson, Kimberly A. - Mileage \$39.05; Hahn Construction - Fair Week Help \$1,075.00; Hays, Patricia - Mileage \$89.10; High Plains Power - Electric Services \$400.06; Iacovetto, Karon - Carbon Bldg. Contract Custodial \$8,230.00; Imprivata, Inc. - Imprivata Readers & Licenses \$20,995.60; Jack's Body & Fender Repair - Abandoned Vehicle Tow Charges \$388.00; K2 Towers III, LLC - Radio Site Rent \$2,318.54; Kaluzny, Emily - Personal Phone Usage September \$30.00; Kilburn Tire Company - 5 Blade Tires \$8,126.00; KTGA/KBDY - Radio Ads \$99.00; Lawson Products Inc. - Hex Cap Screws \$36.70; Lifetime Benefit Solutions, Inc. - Cobra Fee \$35.00; Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp. - Vaccines \$2,817.99; Miller, Ken - Mileage \$84.70; Morse, Kimberley - Meals & Mileage \$29.03; Moss, Barbara - Mileage \$50.60; Napa - Saratoga - Fluid Filter & Def Filter \$98.81; Nation, Leslie H. - Mileage \$93.50; Norco, Inc. - Misc. Supplies \$2,685.09; Nugent, Mark - Reimbursement For Training \$190.32; Offender Watch - Sex Offender Notifications \$55.48; O'Reilly Auto Parts - Clevis Pin/Wipes/Hand Towels \$53.45; Parker, Elizabeth - Mileage \$13.59; Personnel Evaluation, Inc. - Pre-Employment Evaluations \$250.00; Pinnacle Public Finance, Inc - Lease Remaining Balance \$598.07; Quill Corporation - Batteries \$39.78; R.P. Lumber Company, Inc. - Misc. Building Supplies \$318.81; Rawlins Automotive - Misc. Auto Supplies \$392.12; Rawlins Hardware - 5410 - Misc. Parts and Supplies \$392.76; Rawlins Pack and Ship

LLC - FedEx Shipping Label \$47.08; RDO Equipment Co. - Maint & Repair John Deere Trans. \$5,265.06; Shippy Solutions LLC - Interpretation Services \$20.00; Shively Hardware - Misc. Parts & Supplies \$370.97; Slow and Steady Law Office, PLLC - Legal Services \$7,480.00; Smith Psychological Services - Employee Eval \$400.00; Smith, Chelsy - Ee Year of Service Jacket \$64.00; Snake River Press - Candidate Filing Ad \$72.00; Spaulding, Dawnette - Mileage & Meal Reimbursement \$234.18; Staples Advantage - Misc. Office Supplies \$369.94; State of Wyoming DCI - Sex Offender Fees \$50.00; Stericycle, Inc. - Safe Budget Subscription \$50.80; Stinker Stores Inc. - Fuel \$3,822.02; Summit Food Service - Jail Meals \$13,890.99; Swanson Services Corporation - Jail Commissary \$1,438.60; Swanson, Rachel A. - Meal \$25.44; Tin Boy Garage - Tire Repair, Fuel Filter & Repair \$114.34; Trevathan, Sabrina RDR - Transcription Services \$26.25; Tyler Technologies, Inc. - Software Support & Web Hosting \$3,743.79; UPRSWDD - Trash Services \$152.00; Van Pelt, Rubi L - Mileage \$133.10; Wilson, Karon - Mileage \$82.06; Wohl, Judith - Mileage \$88.00; WY Dept of Health - State Vehicle Usage \$295.63; WY Machinery Company - Supply Parts \$19.69; Wyoming Cleaning & Solutions LLC - Ch Monthly Janitorial Services \$6,583.33; Wyoming Law, PC - Legal Services \$1,710.00; Y2 Consultants, LLC - Chokeycherry P&Z Land Use Plan \$4,687.50; Zumbrennen Electric Inc. - Run Conduit/Install ESD Box \$2,769.53

CONSENT AGENDA
 Commissioner Espy moved to approve the consent agenda noting any item could be removed for separate action. Clerk Bartlett noted the consent agenda includes the September 17, 2024, regular meeting minutes; a Continuation Certificate for Lori Smith, Treasurer for the Carbon County Museum in the amount of \$1,000.00; Bonds for Wade R. Nelson, Council Member for the Town of Elk Mountain in the amount of \$25,000.00 and Travis Harding, Treasurer for the Baggs Solid Waste Disposal District in the amount of \$10,000.00; and monthly receipts from the Planning and Development Department in the amount of \$19,340.00. Commissioner Johnson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

UW EXTENSION – NATIONAL 4-H WEEK PROCLAMATION
 Commissioner Espy moved to declare October 6-12, 2024, National 4-H Week and to authorize the Chairman's signature on the Proclamation for National 4-H Week. Commissioner Irene seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS Certification of Recommended Action

Commissioner Irene moved to accept the Certification of Recommended Action from the Carbon County Planning & Zoning Commission concerning the following case file: C.U. Case #2024-03 (IL ZONE) "MT Fleet Service" - Jane Tierras LLC's request for a Conditional Use Permit in the Limited Industrial (IL) Zone to permit and operate an auto wrecker service and schedule a public hearing for November 12, 2024, at 11:30 a.m. at the Carbon Building – Courthouse Annex in Rawlins, Wyoming. Commissioner Espy seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Vice Chairman Moore moved to accept the Certification of Recommended Action from the Carbon County Planning & Zoning Commission concerning the Carbon County Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance and schedule a public hearing for December 3, 2024, at 11:30 a.m. at the Carbon Building – Courthouse Annex in Rawlins, Wyoming. Commissioner seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Clerk
 Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the BCBSWY ASO Group Reopening Request and ASO Group Plan Changes. Commissioner Espy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
 Commissioner Espy moved to go into executive session at 10:40 a.m. with Clerk Bartlett and Ashley Mayfield Davis to discuss personnel, potential litigation and other matters considered confidential by law. Vice Chairman Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Espy moved to come out of executive session at 11:20 a.m. noting no action was taken and that the minutes be signed and sealed. Vice Chairman Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

C.U.W. Case #2012-01 – AMENDED - Power Company of Wyoming, LLC - Conditional Use Permit Wind - "Chokeycherry and Sierra Madre Wind Energy Project"

Chairman Jones opened a public hearing at 1:30 p.m. to hear Planning & Zoning C.U.W. Case #2012-01-AMENDED, Power

Company of Wyoming, LLC (Applicant) and Various Land Owners (Federal, State, and Private) request to allow the applicant (Power Company of Wyoming) to amend the Conditional Use Permit-Wind for a Commercial Wind Energy Facility in a Ranching, Agriculture, Mining (RAM) Zone from their original Conditional Use Permit-Wind Application which was to install, construct, operate, and maintain the "Chokeycherry and Sierra Madre Wind Energy Project". The original CUP was approved by Resolution No. 2012-43, on October 2, 2012, for C.U. Case File #2012-01 - Power Company of Wyoming, LLC - Conditional Use Permit Wind - Permit Extension Request for the "Chokeycherry and Sierra Madre Wind Energy Project" and later extended. The project is located south of Rawlins and South of Sinclair within the "checkerboard" of alternating private lands and public lands managed by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management. Lands managed by the State of Wyoming are also included within the project area. The Application Area is located almost entirely on The Overland Trail Ranch, an approximately 320,000-acre cattle ranch (The Ranch). The Ranch is owned and operated by The Overland Trail Cattle Company LLC (TOTCO), an affiliate of PCW. The Application Area includes two wind turbine development areas: "Chokeycherry" is the northern development area, and the "Sierra Madre" is the southern development area. The Project facilities that will be located outside of those two development areas include a rail unloading facility, operations and maintenance facility, interconnection substation(s), and main haul road. Likely access points: Approximately 17 miles south of Rawlins on Carbon County Road #401 (western and southern access into the project); south of Sinclair at I-80 Exit 221, the CIG Plant Road (northern access into the project).

Kristy Rowan, Planning & Development Coordinator and Zoning Administrator presented the case file. Chairman Jones called for comments for or against the case. There being no comments, Chairman Jones closed the hearing at 2:17 p.m.

Commissioner Johnson moved that based on the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission and staff to approve Resolution No. 2024-24, A Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Carbon County, Wyoming adopting the recommendation of the Carbon County Planning and Zoning Commission regarding C.U.W. Case #2012-01-AMENDED, Power Company of Wyoming, LLC (Applicant) and Various Land Owners (Federal, State, and Private) request to allow the applicant (Power Company of Wyoming) to amend the Conditional Use Permit-Wind for a Commercial Wind Energy Facility in a Ranching, Agriculture, Mining (RAM) Zone from their original Conditional Use Permit-Wind Application to install, construct, operate, and maintain the "Chokeycherry and Sierra Madre Wind Energy Project" and located south of Rawlins and South of Sinclair within the "checkerboard" of alternating private lands and public lands managed by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management. Vice Chairman Moore seconded and the motion passed with all voting for the motion except Commissioner Espy who abstained due to conflict.

ADJOURNMENT
 Commissioner Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:29 p.m. Commissioner Espy seconded and the motion passed unanimously. A budget workshop will be held Wednesday, October 30, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. and regular meeting of this Board will be held Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., both at the Carbon Building – Courthouse Annex located at 215 W. Buffalo St., Rawlins, WY. The public is invited to attend, or you can listen online at the website listed below. To get on the agenda, call the Clerk's Office by the Thursday before the meeting. Per Wyo. Stat. §18-3-516(f), access to county information can be obtained at www.carboncountywyo.gov or by calling the Clerk's Office at (307) 328-2668 or 1-800-250-9812.

-s- Gwynn G. Bartlett, Carbon County Clerk

Approved this 15th day of October 2024
 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
 CARBON COUNTY, WYOMING

-s- Sue Jones, Chairman

Legal #9023
Published in
The Saratoga Sun
October 24, 2024

Town Council Regular Meeting
October 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
Saratoga Town Hall
110 E. Spring Ave
Saratoga, WY 82331
Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Opening Ceremony

Mayor Chuck Davis called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Roll Call: Mayor Chuck Davis, Councilman Cooley, Councilwoman Beck, Councilman Fluty, Councilman Barkhurst
 Councilman Cooley was absent all other members of council were present

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion was made to approve agenda for October 1, 2024 by Councilman Barkhurst, second by Councilman Fluty. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes from September 17, 2024 Meeting
 Motion was made to approve minutes from September 17, 2024 meeting by Councilman Barkhurst, second by Councilman Fluty. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Motion was made to approve financials for October 1, 2024 by Councilman Barkhurst, second by Councilman Fluty. Motion carried.

Deposits - \$142,441.99
Accounts Payable - \$716,032.11
Transmittals - \$30,272.20
Payroll - \$46,533.82

CORRESPONDENCE

21st Annual Festival of Trees Gala and Auction
 Evangelical Free Church of Alliance

ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Union Telephone - Gail Johnson - Broadband Update
 Tessa Barnes with Union Wireless gave an update on the progress of Fiber Installation for internet services.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

Town Hall
 Transfer of accounts from Wyo Star to Wyoming Class
 Motion was made to approve the transition of accounts from Wyo Star to Wyoming Class by Councilman Fluty, second by Councilman Barkhurst. Motion carried.
 Mountain West Franchise Agreement - Ordinance 871
 Motion to approve Ordinance 871 - Franchise Agreement with Mountain West Technologies on first reading by Councilwoman Beck second by Councilman Fluty. Motion carried.
 Revision of Ordinance No. 2.16.010.B
 Motion to approve Revision of Ordinance No. 2.16.010.B on

the first reading made by Councilman Barkhurst, second by Councilman Fluty. Motion carried.

Revision of Ordinance No. 14.08.020.A and B
 Motion to approve Revision of Ordinance No. 14.08.020.A and B on the first reading made by Councilman Barkhurst, second by Councilman Fluty. Motion carried.

Police Department

Motorola Service Agreement
 Motion was made to table discussion for the Motorola Service Agreement until next meeting by Councilman Barkhurst, second by Councilman Fluty. Motion carried.
 Saltus (Digiticket) Agreement
 Motion to approve agreement with Saltus for Digiticket by Councilwoman Beck, second by Councilman Fluty. Motion carried.

Fire Department

Pat Waliser reported, the Ladder Truck should be finished as of today, will be going to pick it up this week. Responded to a brush fire out at Big Creek as well as a shed fire on Blackhall. Fire Dept radios have been programmed correctly and can now communicate with dispatch.

Recreation Department

Next meeting is October 7, 2024 at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall Council Chambers
 Kim Hemenway - Yoga Classes

Motion to approve contract with Kim Hemenway to instruct yoga classes made by Councilman Barkhurst, second by Councilman Fluty. Motion carried.

Department of Public Works

Resolution 2024-08 - Submission of an application to the State Loan and Investment Board Motion to approve Resolution 2024-08 made by Councilwoman Beck, second by Councilman Fluty. Motion carried.

Rocky Mountain Sand & Gravel - Change Order 1
 Motion to approve Change Order #1 from Rocky Mountain Sand & Gravel to amend the completion date from 10/31/2024 to 6/30/2025 made by Councilwoman Beck, second by Councilman Barkhurst. Motion carried.

Streets Foreman Hiring and Wage
 Motion to approve Eugene Stubbs as Streets Foreman with a wage on the pay scale at G7 step 1 \$26.50/hr., made by Councilman Barkhurst, second by Councilman Fluty. Motion carried. Motion to approve wage increase of Chuck McVey from G7 step 4 to G7 step 7 \$28.98/hr., made by Councilman Barkhurst, second by Councilwoman Beck. Motion carried.
 Rocky Mountain Sand & Gravel Invoices 2309, 2310, 2311
 Motion to approve Rocky Mtn Sand & Gravel invoices in the amounts of INV-2310 \$45,270.00, INV-2311 \$38,976.00, INV-2309 \$21,582.00 made by Councilman Barkhurst, second by Councilwoman Beck. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Planning Commission

Next meeting is October 8, 2024 at 5:30 PM at the Town Hall Council Chambers

Termination and Release of Restrictive Covenant
 Motion to approve the Termination and Release of Restrictive Covenant made by Councilman Fluty, second by Councilwoman Beck. Motion carried.

STAMP Plan - Resolution 2024-7

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-07 adopting the 2024 Amendment to the 2016 Comprehensive Master Plan made by Councilwoman Beck, second by Councilman Beck, second by Councilman Barkhurst. Motion carried.

Zone Change Request - Rousa

Motion was made to deny Zone Change Application for David Rousa by Councilman Barkhurst, second by Councilman Fluty. Motion carried.

Zoning Verification Letter

Motion was made to accept Zoning Verification Letter from Brush Creek LLC made by Councilman Barkhurst second by Councilman Fluty. Motion carried.

Water and Sewer Joint Power Board

Next meeting is October 9, 2024 at 6:00 PM at the PVCC

Community Center Joint Powers Board

Next meeting is October 14, 2024 at 4:30 PM at the PVCC

Recreation Commission

Next meeting is October 7, 2024 at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall Council Chambers

Saratoga Airport Advisory Board

Next meeting is October 14, 2024 at 3:30 PM at the Town Hall Council Chambers

South Central Wyoming Emergency Medical Services Board

Next meeting is October 21, 2024 at 6:00 PM in Hanna Meeting Minutes from September 11, 2024

Meeting Minutes from August 15, 2024

Special Meeting Minutes from August 12, 2024

NEW BUSINESS

Richard Hodges brought forward the suggestion to put signage on the public bathrooms by the Town Hall parking lot.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

FURTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:27 PM by Councilman Fluty, second by Councilman Barkhurst. Motion carried.

THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024 AT 6:00 PM.

Legal #9025
Published in
The Saratoga Sun
October 24, 2024

Town of Saratoga
Manual Checks 10-15-2024

Accounts Payable	\$348,211.19
Transmittals	\$46,513.61
Payroll	\$46,273.70

Legal #9027
Published in
The Saratoga Sun
October 24, 2024

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SPORTS

Valley rematch comes...

kill earning another point for Saratoga. With the score at 19-15, a very long volley took place with the girls returning the ball to their opponents before Savannah Fagan and Kyenna Jackson blocked the ball leaving the score 20-15.

Addie Collins hit a kill and scored another point for Saratoga, followed by a kill by Elder. The Saratoga Lady Panthers closed the score by 2 points 20-18. The Tigers scored 2 more points before Saratoga's Collins hit another kill and the score was 22-19. Diaz and Pickett battled it out at the net with the Panthers scoring 1 point and the Tigers scoring 2 points. The Tigers needed 1 point to win the set and were successful, ending it 25-20.

2nd Set

The second set started with intensity as the Panthers scored the first point followed by a spirited volley. Both teams were quick on their feet during the volley, and the Tigers tied the score 1-1.

The Tigers went on a scoring spree and scored 9 more points before the Panthers were able to answer with a kill by Herring. Not to be deterred, the Tigers continued to score after several volleys while Saratoga struggled. By this time, the Tigers had a 10-point lead 14-4.

The Panthers shook off the lead and gave the Tigers a

workout. When a timeout was called the score was 15-8.

The Panthers have several secret weapons - one is their serving record. They are very good at placing their serves and are consistent in getting the ball over the net. The other is their Libero, Madi Johnson, who can dig for almost anything that comes her way. It took those forces working together that allowed the Panthers to catch up the score 16-12 before a timeout was called.

Despite the Panthers determination, they could not catch up to the Tigers and the score was soon 20-15. The Panthers could not compete with the Tigers quick thinking and the end score was 25-15.

3rd Set

Just as one thought the match would be over, the Lady Panthers got a second wind and started out scoring the Lady Tigers after a tie of 4-4. For the first time in the match, the Panthers had the lead and they showed no mercy against the Tigers. Despite closing in on the score, the Tigers could not get ahead of the Panthers and soon the score was 8-12.

The Panthers capitalized on the lead, with Saratoga Panthers Head Coach Shy-ley Love encouraging them from the side lines, and soon had a 6-point lead with the score 9-15.



Encampment Tiger Eckerly Pickett prepares to block an attempted kill by Saratoga Lady Panther's Sophie Diaz. The ball ended up going over Pickett's hands and Kyenna Jackson was there to back her up.

Photo by Liz Wood

Buzzed by adrenaline, the Panthers continued to out-score the Tigers with kills by Josie Little and Collins. Little was fired up and celebrated every kill with her teammates. The Panthers now

had a 11-point lead on the Tigers, 11-22. With the score at 12-24, Allie Condict came in behind the Panthers front line, who missed a block, and scored the winning point for the Panthers 12-25. Condict

was rewarded with hugs by her teammates.

4th Set

The Panthers continued their winning streak in the fourth set by scoring 3 points before the Tigers got on the board.

It didn't take long for the Tigers to shake off their loss and tie the game at 4 points and then take the lead 6-4. The Panthers weren't going to take the lead laying down and tied the score at 7. Jackson hit the ball over the Panthers defense, and Johnson went to the floor to get a dig, but came up short and the score was 8-7.

The Panthers tied the score again and Collins hit a kill to score another point for the Panthers. The battle at the net had begun and each team would attempt a kill keeping the score tied. The last tie was at 13-13 when the Panthers started to pick up their game and took a 6-point lead before the Tigers were able to score again. The score was 15-20 and the Panthers continued their scoring streak. Encampment got in 2 more points, but the gap was now 17-23. The Tigers got in 1 more point before succumbing to Saratoga, 18-25.

5th Set

Much like the first set, the final set in the match was a tied game and it was a contest of

who wanted the win more. The score was 10-9 when a timeout was called. The next few plays would be crucial as the fifth match only goes to 15 points, and at this point in the game, it was anyone's guess who would come out ahead.

Many times, it can be the inspiration the team gets from their coach during the timeout. At this point, the cheers were coming out of the fans in the stands screaming out chants to encourage their team and they were loud.

The score was tied at 11 when another timeout was called. Neither team was letting up.

The Tigers scored 2 points to lead 13-11 when the Panthers went in for a kill. As Pickett went in for the block, the ball hit the Panthers side of the net and the Tigers were within 1 point for a win. The Panthers interrupted that with a point and then another, tying the score 14-14.

Jackson scored the next 2 points to win the game 16-14 for Encampment.

The Encampment Lady Tigers' final game before regionals in Lander is tonight in Rock River at 5 p.m.

The Saratoga Lady Panthers host the Little Snake River Valley (LSRV) Lady Rattlers tonight at 4:30 p.m. and the Farson-Eden Lady Pronghorns at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Town of Saratoga
Cash Requirements 10-15-2024

71 Construction - \$1,882.50; American Express (Adobe Subscription - Water) - \$21,191; American Express (Canva Subscription - Water) - \$15.00; American Express (Indeed - PD) - \$159.69; American Express (Sewer Equipment Co. - \$1,840.27; American Express (Survey Monkey) - \$99.00; BCN - \$109.01; Carbon Power & Light - \$14,603.34; Carter Edwards - \$81.10; Caselle, Inc. - \$1,347.00; Cogent, Inc. - \$288.70; Crimmins Associates LLC - \$155.88; Dana Kepner - \$112.50; Dana Kepner - \$1,019.42; Dana Kepner - \$2,250.04; Dana Kepner - \$935.00; DBT Transportation Services - \$1,184.00; Econo Sign & Barricade LLC - \$236.48; Engineering Associates - \$11,193.33; Engineering Associates - \$2,949.98; Engineering Associates - \$2,223.35; Engineering Associates - \$1,524.81; Ferguson WaterWorks No. 1116 - \$6,104.55; Kylie Waldrip, P.C. - \$2,902.56; MPM Corp - \$650.00; NAPA Auto Parts Saratoga - \$1,341.36; NAPA Auto Parts Saratoga - \$19.28; Norco, Inc. - \$42.30; One-Call of Wyoming, Inc - \$19.50; Perue Printing - \$203.90; Pine Cove Consulting LLC - \$346.57; Pine Cove Consulting LLC - \$1,170.20; Pine Cove Consulting LLC - \$1,882.44; Platte Valley Community Center - \$15,000.00; Platte Valley Foods LLC - \$72.92; Platte Valley Porta Pots, Inc. - \$300.00; Plattoga Holdings, LLC - \$2,893.74; Plattoga Holdings, LLC - \$98.40; Rocky Mountain Battery LLC - \$303.90; Rocky Mountain Sand & Gravel - \$21,582.00; Rocky Mountain Sand & Gravel - \$45,270.00; Rocky Mountain Sand & Gravel - \$38,976.00; Saltus Technologies LLC - \$3,535.00; Saratoga-Carbon County JPB - \$24,915.30; Saratoga-Carbon County JPB - \$108,676.97; Shively Hardware (Town) - \$2,342.36; South Central Wyoming EMS - \$14,467.00; Stinker Stores, Inc. - \$2,057.89; Upper Platte River Solid Waste Disposal District - \$10.00; Valley Oil Company - \$1,350.96; WLC - \$1,233.50; WYDOT - \$986.39; Wyoming Apparatus LLC - \$1,000.00; Wyoming Retirement - \$562.50

Legal #9026
Published in
The Saratoga Sun
October 24, 2024

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE AND PARTIAL RELEASE OF
RETAINAGE
FOR THE TOWN OF SARATOGA
SOUTH RIVER STREET WATERLINE REPLACEMENTS
SARATOGA, CARBON COUNTY, WYOMING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Wyoming State Statute §16-6-116, notice is hereby given that the Town of Saratoga has accepted as substantially complete according to plans, specifications and rules governing the same, the work performed, materials, equipment or tools furnished or used and services rendered under that certain contract dated April 10, 2024, between the Town of Saratoga, the Owner, and Rocky Mountain Sand and Gravel, LLC, the Contractor, for the South River Street Waterline Replacements, Saratoga, Carbon County, Wyoming and the Contractor is entitled to final payment thereof. **You are further notified that the Town of Saratoga will cause Rocky Mountain Sand and Gravel, LLC, to be partially compensated, according to the terms of said Contract on or after December 4, 2024, being the 41st day after the first publication notice of October 24, 2024.** All corporations, firms or persons having claims against this contract are hereby notified to file and present them to the Town of Saratoga prior to the date specified at the address below and any failure to file and present claims prior to the payment date shall be waived.

Town of Saratoga
Attention: South River Street Waterline Replacements (Claims)
PO Box 486
Saratoga, WY 82331

Legal #9021
Published in
The Saratoga Sun
October 24, 31 & November 7, 2024

Your For Sale Post Getting Buried on Social Media?
Give it some Sun!

THE SARATOGA SUN 307-326-8311 or ads.saratogasun@gmail.com

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed bids are being requested by the Board of Carbon County Commissioners for the following five projects: Fairgrounds Multiplex LED Upgrade; Rawlins Senior Center LED Upgrade; Medicine Bow Senior Center Replace Two Furnaces; Fairgrounds Caretaker Residence Replace One Furnace; Jeffrey Center Variable Frequency Drive Replacement. Contractors may bid any combination of projects or all projects and bids must be submitted on the form provided.

A complete list of specifications for each project is available at www.carboncountywyo.gov or by request from Jeff Askins, Carbon County Buildings Manager at 307-401-4024 or jeffaskins@carboncountywyo.gov. Questions or clarifications can also be addressed to Mr. Askins.

Compliance and weekly reporting pursuant to the Davis-Bacon Act applies to all five projects.

Please send sealed bids to: Carbon County Clerk's Office, PO Box 6 or 215 W. Buffalo St. Rawlins, WY 82301. The sealed envelope must be clearly marked with the words "EECBG Bid".

Bids must be received no later than Thursday, November 7 at 3:00 p.m. and will be opened at Clerk's Office at that time with the bid planned to be awarded no later than November 12, 2024.

The Board of Carbon County Commissioners reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive informalities in the bidding or negotiate any items that may be in the best interest of the county.

-s- Gwynn Bartlett, County Clerk

Legal #9024
Published in
The Saratoga Sun
October 24, 2024

State Engineer's Office Announces the Granting of the HF
Sinclair Exchange Petition, S.E. Docket No. 2023-6-01, Carbon
County, Wyoming

HF Sinclair Parco Refining LLC filed an exchange petition with the State Engineer's Office on May 15, 2023, to allow continued diversion under the water rights associated with their refinery located at Sinclair, Wyoming while out of priority during an allocation priority call on the North Platte River in exchange for replacement water provided by stopping all irrigation diversion and beneficial use therefrom under water rights attached to the Encampment River Ranch, a separate property owned by HF Sinclair Parco Refining LLC located near Encampment, Wyoming. An amended petition was filed on February 15, 2024. The State Engineer's Office reviewed and considered this exchange petition as directed by Wyoming Statute § 41-3-106. Further, the State Engineer's Office held a public meeting at the Platte Valley Community Center in Saratoga Wyoming on June 4, 2024 and accepted written comments regarding the petition until June 14, 2024.

Following a thorough and thoughtful review of the petition and the public comments that were received, the State Engineer granted this petition on October 14, 2024 and issued an open letter summarizing some of the reasoning and basis for his decision. Copies of the petition, order granting the petition, and the open letter are available on the State Engineer's Office website @ <https://seo.wyo.gov/home/news-press-releases>.

Legal #9028
Published in
The Saratoga Sun
October 24, 31, November 7 & 14, 2024

Saratoga Police
DepartmentReport from October
14, 2024 through
October 20, 2024

CAD Calls

Alarms (2); Animal Complaints (7); Assist Other Agency (5); Business Checks (34); Citi-

zens Assists (17); Civil Dispute (1); Found Property (1); Hit and Run Crash (1); Larceny (1); Noise Complaints (2); Property Checks (3); Public Relations (2); Suspicious (2); Threat (1); Traffic Complaints (2); Vandalism (1); Welfare Check (1)

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE AND FINAL PAYMENT
FOR THE TOWN OF SARATOGA
GREATER ROAD PROJECT
SARATOGA, CARBON COUNTY, WYOMING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Wyoming State Statute §16-6-116, notice is hereby given that the Town of Saratoga has accepted as substantially complete according to plans, specifications and rules governing the same, the work performed, materials, equipment or tools furnished or used and services rendered under that certain contract dated May 29, 2024, between the Town of Saratoga, the Owner, and 71 Construction, the Contractor, for the Greater Road Project, Saratoga, Carbon County, Wyoming and the Contractor is entitled to final payment thereof. **You are further notified that the Town of Saratoga will cause 71 Construction, to be compensated in full, according to the terms of said Contract on or after December 4, 2024, being the 41st day after the first publication notice of October 24, 2024.** All corporations, firms or persons having claims against this contract are hereby notified to file and present them to the Town of Saratoga prior to the date specified at the address below and any failure to file and present claims prior to the payment date shall be waived.

Town of Saratoga
Attention: Greater Road Project (Claims)
PO Box 486
Saratoga, WY 82331

Legal #9022
Published in
The Saratoga Sun
October 24, 31 & November 7, 2024

Carbon County Sheriff's
Office Arrest RecordOctober 11, 2024 to
October 17, 2024

October 11
• Patrick Towne Jr. of Lake-
way, Texas on a warrant.

October 13

• Scott Birkmire of Saratoga, Wyoming was arrested for DUI due to being incapable of safely driving from alcohol, careless driving - 1st offense, and vehicle 6+ MPH over in a superintendent speed zone.
• Prince Griffin of Rawlins, Wyoming was arrested for interfering with a public official, and interfering with a public official by threat.

• Timothy McMaken of Rawlins, Wyoming was arrested for failure to pay.

October 14

• Jose Arredondo Felix of Thorton, Colorado was arrested for interference with a peace officer, DUI - 1st offense within 10 years, failure to yield to approaching emergency vehicle, open container of alcohol in a moving vehicle - 1st offense and a felony arrest warrant.

• Adam Brown of Rawlins, Wyoming was arrested on a warrant.
• Morgan Galloway of Po-catello, Idaho was arrested

for a felony warrant.

• Mario Mendez of Round Rock, Texas was arrested for DUI from alcohol - 1st offense within 10 years, speeding 1-9 MPH over in a superintendent speed zone.

October 16

• Ronald Pederson of Rawlins Wyoming was arrested on a warrant and for possession of drugs in plant form 3 oz or less.

• Oswaldo Saenz Flores of Rawlins, Wyoming was arrested as a sentenced inmate.

• Patrick Spomer of Rawlins, Wyoming was arrested for a probation/parole jail sanction.

October 17

• Jaden Davis of Vernon, Connecticut was arrested for possession of drugs in plant form - 3 oz or less, and interference with a peace officer.

• Isaac Garcia Arriaga of Rawlins, Wyoming was arrested for a DUI from alcohol - 2nd offense offense within 10 years, driving while license canceled/suspended/revoked, and parallel parking within 18 inches of right hand curb.

• Ryan Tsosie of Tuba City, Arizona was arrested for fraud by using another's credit card under \$1,000.

SPORTS

Encampment buries Miners

Tigers deal homecoming heartbreaker to HEM footballers

By Joshua Wood, Stevenson Newspapers editor.saratogasun@gmail.com

The Encampment Tigers kept their winning streak going on October 18, dealing a nearly 50-point homecoming loss to the Hanna, Elk Mountain, Medicine Bow (HEM) Miners.

The victory over the Miners adds yet another conference win for Encampment, who has sat all season at the top of the 1A South Six-Man Conference with the Little Snake River Valley (LSRV) Rattlers. HEM, meanwhile, is near the bottom of the conference with a narrow conference win against Casper Christian.

"I thought the team played well against HEM," said Head Coach Kegan Willford. "We are still looking to improve each week and I thought that this was a step in the right direction."

Throughout all four quarters, the Tigers appeared to have no difficulty scoring—putting up double digits—while keeping HEM to one touchdown each quarter. It was the Miners who drew first blood as the game began, scoring a touchdown follow-

ing a 21-yard rush.

Gunner Knotwell answered back for Encampment, scoring a touchdown following a 53-yard rush. This was followed by a 1-point conversion by Raden Miller receiving a pass from Knotwell, giving the Tigers an early lead of 7-6. Kannon Gilbert scored another touchdown for Encampment following an 8-yard rush further increasing the lead 13-6. A 6-point conversion following a 34-yard pass from Knotwell to Gilbert further increased the lead. As the 1st quarter came to a close, Korbyn Barkhurst also put points on the board with another 6-point conversion following a 9-yard pass from Knotwell.

Encampment went into the 2nd quarter leading 25-6.

Knotwell continued the scoring in the next quarter, securing a touchdown following a 25-yard rush and putting the Tigers up 31-6 over HEM. Baylin Sifford followed with a 6-point conversion following a 37-yard pass from Knotwell and pushing the score to 37-6.

The Miners were able to answer back with one touchdown following a 4-yard rush.

Galloway O'Leary scored a touchdown for Encampment following a 5-yard rush. Barkhurst followed with a 6-point conversion with a

3-yard pass from Knotwell.

Going into halftime, Encampment had already put up 44 points compared to just 12 from the Miners.

As both teams returned to the gridiron, the Tigers continued their scoring domination as Knotwell scored a touchdown for Encampment and extended the lead 50-12. Dashaal Baysinger followed with a point-after-touchdown (PAT) which gave Encampment a 40-point lead, 52-12, early in the second half. The Miners scored a touchdown of their own, running 60 yards after a kick-off return.

Encampment answered back with two touchdowns, one from Sifford following an 8-yard rush and one from Gilbert following a 1-yard rush. As the game entered the final quarter, the Tigers led 64-18 over HEM.

In the 4th quarter, the Miners secured their fourth touchdown of the match with a 44-yard rush. Encampment followed with a six-point conversion as O'Leary received an 18-yard pass from Chase Brown. Tate Zeller provided the final score for the Tiger with a 3-yard rush for a 1-point conversion.

The final score was 71-24.

Knotwell was the rushing leader with 141 yards against the Miners. He was also the passing leader, pass-

ing for 176 yards. Gilbert led in receptions, receiving for 73 yards.

Following their win against the HEM Miners, the Encampment Tigers are 6-0 for the season and 4-0 for conference play. The Tigers have the same record as the LSRV Rattlers, who will come into Tiger Nation on October 26.

"We are looking forward to our game against Snake River on Saturday," said Willford. "It will be a good measuring stick for our team going up against the number one team in six-man."

Coached by Jack Cobb since 2017, the Rattlers have been 1A Six-Man State Champions three times since 2019, were

back-to-back champions for 2021 and 2022 and had a 30-game winning streak from 2021 to 2023. The two teams last faced off on October 7, 2023 just before the 1A Six-Man Playoffs.

Kickoff for the Encampment Tigers against the LSRV Rattlers will be at 2 p.m. on October 26.

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THE **SARATOGA SUN**

The Saratoga Sun will have early submission deadlines for the following editions:

- ✓ November 28, 2024
- ✓ December 26, 2024
- ✓ January 2, 2025

DEADLINES WILL BE NOON ON:

- ✓ November 22, 2024
- ✓ December 20, 2024
- ✓ December 27, 2024

We apologize for any inconvenience.

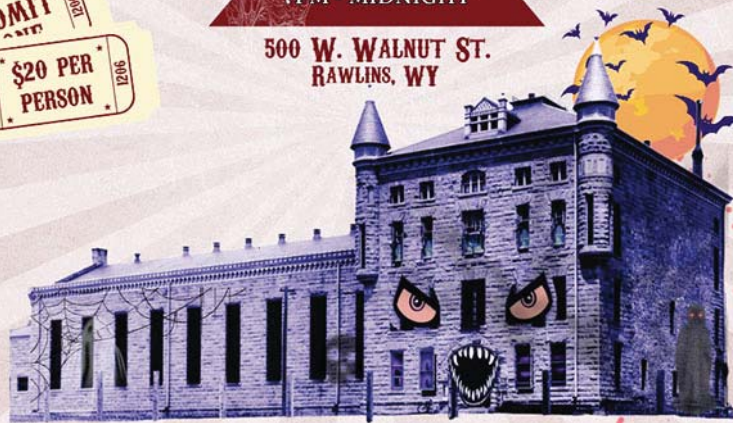
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RAWLINS, WY



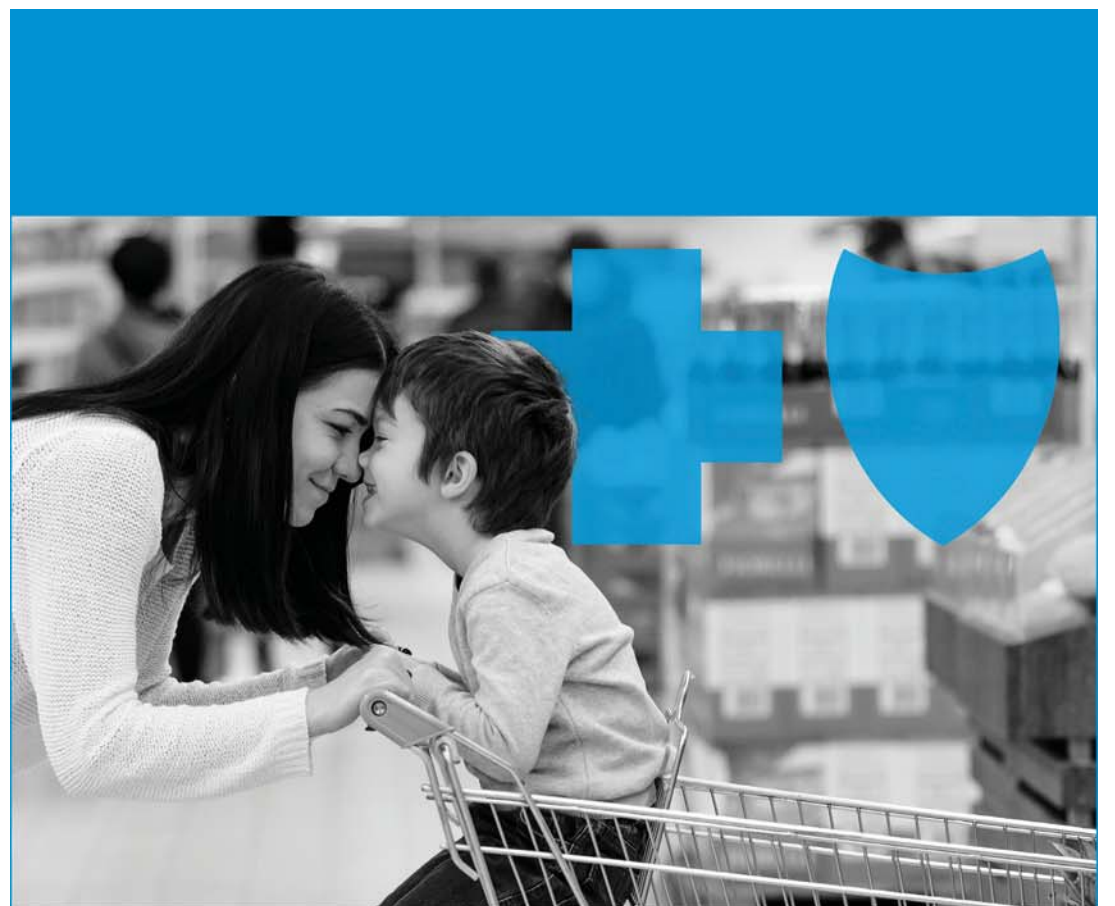
Online Reservations Required at **WyomingFrontierPrison.org**
More Info: 307-324-4422



Tickets are non-refundable after 5:00 p.m. October 18.

Ages 12+ only, no exceptions. Please be aware this tour has steep stairs and is not handicapped accessible. This tour features lighting displays, loud noises, and other situations that some individuals may be sensitive to. Bring your own life jacket. This tour is fast paced -- you will be asked to keep up. You may be touched. If you are pregnant, elderly, or recovering from any type of injury please use extreme caution.

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