

Cody High School teacher pleads case

PERSONNEL HEARING OPEN TO PUBLIC IN RARE INSTANCE

BY BRADEN SCHILLER
Tribune features editor

The Cody school board will soon be asked to decide the fate of a high school teacher and coach, who is contesting the district's recommendation to terminate his contract.

In a rare move, Sam Buck — a special education teacher at Cody High School and assistant girls' basketball coach at the middle and high school levels — waived confidentiality and opened his termination hearing to the public. It began Monday and wrapped up on Wednesday.

While tenured employees are entitled to a termination hearing, it's rare that they request one — and even more uncommon that they opt to have the proceeding opened to the public.

Buck stands accused of misconduct under Title IX and of acting against board rules and policies. Internal investigations spanned over half a year

and Buck — who had been at the high school for five years — was placed on paid leave for nearly a year.

Park County School District 6 administrators assert that Buck engaged in a variety of misconduct — including sending 1,300 texts to his athletes from his personal device throughout the day and in the evening, with a number unrelated to athletics or academics. An internal investigation also concluded that Buck sexually harassed a student in his classroom through shoulder rubs, and comments on her clothing.

The district asserts that Buck asked students for personal favors, transported them in his personal vehicle and inappropriately posted a video of the basketball team at the Thermopolis hot springs in their sports bras and spandex. "While each of these instances alone may not be sufficient to fire a teacher besides

"We will always continue to put our students' safety first and foremost and we'll continue to do that."

Vernon Orndorff
PCSD6 superintendent

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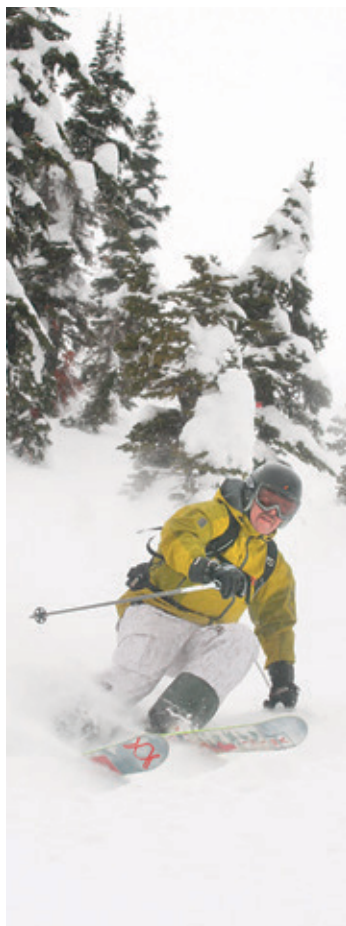


Dick Fennell, a Garland resident who owns Diamond Truss in Ralston, recently completed his goal of skiing on every continent. For Africa, he took on the Atlas Mountains of Morocco. Photos courtesy Dick Fennell

BLACK DIAMOND DICK

Area man finishes goal to ski on every continent

BY MARK DAVIS
Tribune senior reporter



Fennell skis down the slopes in Wyoming's Two Ocean Mountain, where he got caught up in an avalanche.

With a passport full of stamps and completed goals few dare to dream, a Garland resident has returned home having skied on every continent.

There's seven continents, so that works out to one continent for every decade the adventurer has lived when he celebrates his 70th birthday later this month. However, Dick Fennell completed his mission in about seven years, having started his goal in 2017 and finishing this past July. Even more impressive has been how he conquered the continents.

Fennell didn't catch a ride on helicopters to the peaks, some over 14,000 feet. Instead, he participates in ski-mountaineering.

"You really have to work at it," he said. "Your whole body gets a workout because all this stuff is back country. So you put a skin on, and you climb up and then take your skins off, ski back down and start back up again."

Ski skins are a strip of fabric



Fennell (center) stands with the Moroccan guide he used while skiing in the volatile Kashmir region of India.

that's cut to match the length and width of skis. One side has adhesive that sticks to the base of the ski while the skin side features short hairs that are angled, enabling them to "grip" the snow to keep it from sliding back down the steep pitches. It's one of the most difficult sports at any age, let alone picking up the sport at retirement age.

Ski mountaineering combines the physical endurance of long, strenuous ascents with technical climbing and skiing skills in variable, often dangerous, terrain. It requires a high level of fitness and experience, including proficiency in areas like rope work, belaying and avalanche safety, to navigate steep slopes,

rock, ice and mixed conditions. Fennell simply calls it cross-training.

But on at least one trip the elements weren't the only danger. Fennell returned from Gulmarg, Kashmir, India earlier this year as the country fended off threats from Pakistan and, to a much lesser extent, aggression by China in the north. The State Department advises avoiding travel to Kashmir due to "terrorism, violent civil unrest, and potential for conflict," including in Gulmarg, and recommends caution near the India-Pakistan border.

Fennell had already skied

"There's risk, but I would never stop him from his adventures."

Gail Fennell
Dick Fennell's wife

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May be too warm for beet harvest

Some delays in the early going of the 2025 sugar beet harvest in the Lovell factory district have been weather related.

But get ready for this. It's been conditions a little too warm and wet into mid-October that have slowed the beet harvest, rather than periods of freezing cold.

"Harvest is going as well as can be with the weather," said Ric Rodriguez, Heart Mountain grower and board member the four-state Western Sugar Cooperative. "There have been delays because of heat and excessive moisture."

That's true across the four-state region of Wyoming, Montana, Colorado and Nebraska. Area growers in the Lovell district are actually the furthest along in their harvest at 40% of planted acreage, with the Billings factory district in Montana close behind at 39%.

"The Billings area has had a lot of rain in the past two weeks so it has slowed them some,"

Rodriguez reported. "Nebraska is around 35% complete, and Colorado is even further behind because of some excessive moisture," he said.

Harvest results are encouraging. In Lovell, yields are coming in a little better than the projected 29.01 tons per acre, and sugar content is averaging 17.39%.

"Yields in all the other areas are slightly better than projected, with sugars close to projections," Rodriguez added.

Cooler weather is in the forecast, with periods of rain also likely.

"Freezing weather is always a concern," he noted. "Nothing too severe is in the forecast, but we know how the weather can change in a heartbeat. With a little luck, we should complete the harvest on time."

Sugar processing factories in all four states are operating well this year, Rodriguez reported.

— Dave Bonner

International students still flock to NWC

BY ZAC TAYLOR
Tribune editor

Northwest College has bucked the trend of declining international student enrollment this semester.

After setting a school record with 104 international students last year, there were concerns that travel and visa restrictions and the overall political climate would stifle enrollment this year.

Nationally it has, with international enrollment to the U.S. down 20%-30%, said Amanda Enriquez, International Student and Scholar Services manager at NWC.

That trend has not come to fruition in Powell, however. President Lisa Watson said the enrollment of 100 international students this fall is a testament to the international

studies team, which met with all international students last fall to prepare for potential travel home over the summer, and then held Zoom calls with each incoming international student about how to prepare to come into the country.

Enriquez said they do the best they can with all of the changes still ongoing.

"Once the dust settles, our team is ready to then see where the dust particles land, and how we can put them back together and keep moving, because I still believe that the United States is a very

viable contender for higher education," she said. "Wyoming is a special place, and so is Northwest College. And I continue to believe we have something to offer that no one else does."

NWC has even managed to deal with at least some of the issues of one of its top pipeline countries, Turkmenistan, which was put on a list by the federal government that makes it more challenging for Turkmen citizens to get a visa to study, or even

come to, the U.S.

"Wyoming is a special place, and so is Northwest College. And I continue to believe we have something to offer that no one else does."

Amanda Enriquez
NWC

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Amanda Enriquez (from left), International Student and Scholar Services manager at Northwest College, speaks about the college's work to keep international enrollment high alongside Bossan Abdyeva, interim admissions representative for recruitment outreach, and student Bibi Batyrova. Abdyeva and Batyrova are both from Turkmenistan and presented sweets to attendees at the board meeting. Tribune photo by Zac Taylor



FALL HOME IMPROVEMENT with today's Powell Tribune





Dick Fennell was even able to take out his skis in Antarctica, during a trip that also included a trip to South American slopes.

Photos courtesy Dick Fennell

Ski: Completed his mission in about 7 years, having started his goal in 2017 and finishing this past July

Continued from Page 1

in Japan, which solidly put a checkmark on the continent of Asia, but the experience was too inviting for the adventurer to miss. Fortunately, the Kashmiri and Indian military are “friendly, polite and respectful,” according to guide reports and do their best to ensure that international tourists are safe in Gulmarg and the Kashmir region.

AFRICA

The State Department also issued a strong warning about Morocco, advising terrorist groups continue plotting possible attacks in Morocco. Terrorists may attack with little or no warning. They target tourist locations, transportation hubs, markets, shopping malls and local government facilities. However, the High Atlas Mountains are great for ski mountaineering, so Fennell, unfazed, booked the trip.

In an extremely concerning twist to the trip, two Scandinavian women were savagely murdered, their beheadings documented by one of four men who were alleged to have been looking for westerners to kill. According to a New York Times report written after their trials, the killers, poor and uneducated, became absorbed in a violent Islamist universe they saw on the screens of their cellphones, then sought their own place in it.

“Their overriding aim was to impress the Islamic State, earn the status of soldiers in its apocalyptic struggle and see their own recording distributed across the group’s propaganda platforms,” the story said.

The men were later executed for their parts in the murders and the Moroccan government issued requirements that groups hire guides for their trips in an attempt to shore up security for the country’s important tourist industry. However, Fennell’s guide wasn’t much for ski mountaineering.

“The Moroccan guide was a hard smoking guy,” Fennell said, adding that it significantly slowed their progress. “He wasn’t a mountaineer. He said he was, but I don’t know many mountaineers that chain smoke.”

King Mohammed VI, in power since 1999, set a group of his personal guards to police the tourist destination. Fennell

said they were forced to check in every day and had to get his passport stamped at every stage of the climb. On the way down he failed to get a stamp and was forced to head back up hill to get the proper documentation.

On top of all the security concerns, the peak Fennell wanted to ski didn’t have enough snow, so he was forced to select an alternate route. While there were visitors at the resort, Fennell and his guide were basically alone on the mountain.

He had previously canceled his trip twice due to lack of snow, so he was intent on making the trip. His wife Gail was along for the ride and while Dick stayed in a “resort” on the mountain that smelled of “urine and feces,” Gail hired a guide to take her to the ancient district to various historical and modern sites, including the fortified Casbah of the Udayas in Rabat.

Gail has been on six continents with her husband and she loves to ski, but she said Dick is at too high of a level of skiing for her to go on many of the skiing adventures. But she has had many experiences as her husband pushed through the continents, some that few have witnessed, like the return of the penguins in Antarctica. The species’ breeding cycle is extremely difficult to predict — increasingly threatened by declining sea ice due to climate change, which can cause breeding failures and starvation. She arrived at the perfect moment and shared time on the ground with scientists and National Geographic photojournalists.

ANTARCTICA

Seen by many as the “last frontier” for skiing due to its remote location and difficulty of access, expeditions to Antarctica are life changing experiences for the few people who have traveled there. Fennell was enveloped by the sheer magnificence of the only continent without a country.

“It was unbelievable! We were all alone. There were a bunch of tours and stuff, but, you know, they didn’t want to get stuck in pack ice and things like that,” Dick said.

Despite arriving towards the end of winter on the continent, there was great snow; that is if you don’t mind an occasional avalanche.

“It was perfect timing,” he

said. “You have to let the snow settle because of avalanches. It is true of all ski mountaineering; you have to be careful where you go.”

At the same time, the skiers who were there made for fascinating conversations around the dinner table.

“One night I had dinner with a captain on a nuclear submarine. The next night I had dinner with Bob, who invented [medical machinery]. It was just this amazing, like if an atomic bomb hit and you had to have a group of people around you that were resourceful; we were on that boat.”

SOUTH AMERICA

The couple combined the skiing trip to Antarctica with another adventure in South America. There is awesome skiing in Chile and Argentina in the Patagonia region. The region provides a wide range of experiences, from large, well-equipped resorts with extensive slopes to backcountry touring and volcano skiing, especially from June to October. Of course, Dick couldn’t make it all the way to Patagonia without adventure, but this time adventure arrived at his hotel.

“I come back to my room and there’s a guy sleeping in the other bed in my room. I said, ‘What’s the deal? He says, ‘Well, I’m on my way to Antarctica, and they just put me in this room.’”

Of course, everything Fennell needed for his two-tiered adventure, much of which was irreplaceable until he returned to a big box civilization. Yet, as he shared his thoughts with management, they showed him where he signed off on sharing a room if the hotel had become overbooked. One tip for a successful trip abroad; protect your equipment. No matter where you go in life, whether it’s Kashmir or Casper, the trip will be easier with your wallet, passport, cash and cards, and the equipment you need to do what you spent a sailboat-load of money to finish your dream trip. However, sometimes it is the specialized transceivers and avalanche vests that get you in trouble.

As Fennell traveled through New Delhi, India, airport security became very suspicious of his avalanche equipment, something yet to be commonplace in the area. Despite arriving at the airport three hours early for his flight, he was pulled out of line

and told to demonstrate his vest in the busy airport.

Avalanche vests instantly deploy an airbag, instantly inflating them with a loud bang. The deployed airbag helps you rise to the top of an avalanche debris field, minimizing rescue time. However, in an airport — no matter where you are — loud bangs aren’t welcome. Fennell was able to use his phone to show how they work on the manufacturers website, but it wasn’t soon enough to catch his flight.

EUROPE

After watching the James Bond series film, “The World is Not Enough,” starring Pierce Brosnan, The Fennell’s had to ski at Chamonix, Germany. While Gail was along for the trip, the skiing was too technical for her so she found her adventure in Switzerland, France and Germany, all within an hour of each other near the skiing destination. He’s also skied in Italy, France, Slovenia and Switzerland.

In Switzerland Dick skied around the Matterhorn and down into Zermatt.

“I had this vision of this luxurious outdoor adventure and having a nice meal and Zermatt. But you can’t do that because it takes so long to get there, and the lifts are all unionized until they close at four o’clock,” he said. “So we didn’t even have time for a drink of water. We had to get to the top before we could ski back down into Italy. So yes, I have skied around the Matterhorn. I stopped in Zermatt temporarily, got on the lift and left. Well, that’s my Swiss skiing adventure.”

AUSTRALIA

As far as skiing adventure goes, Mount Hotham in Australia was by far Fennell’s least adventurous trip. The resort is at about 5,700 feet and yet it’s the second highest resort village on the continent. Due to the huge investment to get to the ski areas, Fennell decided he would ski every single run on the mountain in the four days he had at the resort.

“I did all the runs I could do, but a bunch were closed, mostly the double black diamond runs,” he said. “As I got to one, a woman asked if I was going to ski it? If you do, I want to film you.”

Fennell saved Australia for his last continent because he thought to get adventure there he’d have to do the continent “on



Fennell’s trip to Australia was far from the most dangerous, as the peak of the mountain he skied wasn’t much higher than his home in Garland.

one leg or something, so I just saved it.”

NORTH AMERICA

Of all the travels through sketchy places and dangerous ski adventures, possibly the most danger Fennell has ever experienced (on ski) was in Wyoming on Two Ocean Mountain. Fennell was nearly swept away in an avalanche, due partially to his ski partner’s worried wife making an unfortunately timed phone call.

While the partner — a surgeon he had met at Big Sky earlier that year — answered the phone, Fennell could feel the snow beneath his feet breaking away from the peak.

“We just needed to go, like, another 200 yards and we’d be OK. I couldn’t believe it. He knocked the thing loose and the slide came down at me. It got bigger and bigger. It’s all that slushy s---t and I thought, ‘oh my God, no.’”

Oddly, his first thought was, “this isn’t happening.” Then the avalanche took his feet out from underneath him and he was at the mercy of the mountain.

“I’m just riding the snow down and I think I’m going to work my way over to safety, but as it came down, it propagates, and

it gets so I’m coming down and I can see that it’s going over an edge,” he said, a fevered pitch in his voice.

He had no idea what was over the edge at the time, but he then sees a boulder the size of a dining room table. He hoped to get his skis against it.

“I just got my body positioned downhill. I put my skis against the boulder, and I’ll be damned, I was pushed against the rock, and I hung on there ‘til it was safe,” he recounted. “Then I said, we are getting the hell out of here, Buster.”

Fennell had quit racing motorcycles in his 30s because it was too dangerous. Yet he continues as a world-class competitive aerobatic pilot, an avid ski mountaineer and sailing the oceans. And he has no intention of quitting after his 70th birthday on the 27th. Gail worries, but she wouldn’t think of standing between him and his goals.

“There’s risk, but I would never stop him from his adventures,” she said Wednesday while on a romantic sailing trip with Dick off the Pacific Coast near San Diego.

His son, Chad, was the instigator of the planned adventures, he said.

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OBITUARIES

Elaine Knight Parker

(Sept. 17, 1930 - June 2, 2025)

Elaine was born in Cody, Wyoming to Marie and JL (Jack) Cathcart. She was married to Larry Knight shortly after high school graduation. They spent time in England where Larry was stationed with the USAF. The couple eventually bought a ranch in Beatty, Nevada and went into business partnership with Nick and Faye Knight, opening the Exchange Club in 1960. They became pillars of the community and were instrumental in developing and organizing, along with the Beatty Lion's Club, the Annual Wild Burro Races, which became a major fundraiser for the Lion's Club and the town. Due to its popularity, the Burro races outgrew the capacity of the town. Tragically Nick and Faye were

killed in a private plane crash in 1965. Her brother, Bud (HE) Cathcart, came to help with the business; eventually he and his wife Zoe became partners in the business. Six years after the plane crash, Larry died unexpectedly from a heart attack. Elaine's resilience allowed her to continue to run the Exchange Club with her partners, Bud and Zoe Cathcart. Elaine was known for her business acumen, unwavering strength and timeless style.

Elaine later married Wes (JW) Parker. When the Exchange Club's lease expired, she and her partners purchased the Burro Inn, Bar, Restaurant and Casino, adding a motel to the property. After retirement they enjoyed many summers near Wes's family in Idaho and on Flathead Lake, Montana. They built a home in Pahrump, Nevada.

Elaine's zest for life was evident in her passion for dance.

She joined the Silver Tappers and loved participating in the Silver Tapper's fundraiser "Dance Outs." Elaine competed in the Ms. Senior Nevada Contest and then became involved in helping with the contest for many years. She danced with the Silver Tappers well into her 80s.

A few years after Wes's passing she moved into Las Ventanas in Las Vegas, a senior living facility. Though reluctant to leave her home and friends, she embraced her new community, participating in activity, tours and performances. Elaine assisted in scheduling two at Las Ventanas of her beloved Silver Tappers.

Elaine will be laid to rest in the Cathcart family plot in Cody, Wyoming, alongside her parents, brother and sister. Her legacy of kindness, community spirit and joy will be fondly remembered by her family and all who knew her.

Edna Mae Scott

Longtime Powell resident Edna Mae Scott died Oct. 9 in Worland at the age of 109. She was a 57-year resident of Powell, and with her late husband Walt, shared a love for the outdoors, especially rock and fossil hunting.

She moved to Laurel, Montana, at age 85 and later to Worland to be closer to family. Cremation has taken place, and a celebration of life will be held at a later date. Memorial donations may be made in Edna's name to the Homesteader Museum, P.O. Box 54, Powell.

Wanda Fay (Myers) Kvia

(Nov. 13, 1934 - Oct. 4, 2025)

Wanda Fay Kvia, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, passed away in the early hours of Oct. 4, 2025, in the comfort of her home at the age of 90.

Wanda Fay (Myers) Kvia was born on Nov. 13, 1934, in Olney, Texas, to Martha Ellen (Degley) and Albert Joseph Myers. She was one of five daughters and grew up surrounded by the love of her family. At an early age, the family moved from Texas to Powell, Wyoming.

Wanda married Sigurd Kvia in 1953, and together they raised three children: Karen, Mike and Patty. Family was the center of Wanda's life, and she poured her time, energy and love into raising her children and treasuring her grandchildren.

She was a woman of faith and service, volunteering with Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts for many years. Wanda was also active in the Homemakers Club. She enjoyed sewing, arts and crafts. She spent many hours crocheting, knitting and quilting and donated many blankets to Project Linus.

She made and gifted hundreds of greeting cards and enjoyed teaching friends and family how to stamp, paint and create crafts. She had a true love of the outdoors, whether she was fishing and camping, geocaching or spending winters in Arizona. She embraced adventure and found joy in life's simple pleasures.

Those who knew Wanda will remember her kindness, creativity and devotion to her family. She never met a stranger. She

leaves behind a legacy of love, faith and cherished memories that will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her sister Vera Myers, and her grandchildren Amy Kvia and Zack deHaan. She is survived by her husband Sigurd; children Karen (Jerry) Dietrich, Mike Kvia (Karen Gee) and Patty (Jerry) Johnson, Debbie Kvia; her sisters Hel-

en Naess, Pat Little and Martha Jo Sellers; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A service to honor Wanda's life will be held at Thompson Funeral Home on Oct. 20, 2025, at 10 a.m. A reception will follow at the Powell Elks Lodge. Family and friends are invited to gather and celebrate her memory.



WANDA KVIA

Students: Currently at 100 international students

Continued from Page 1

While Turkmenistan is not one of the top three countries for international students at the college this year — that would be Japan, the United Kingdom and Honduras — the newest employee in the international department is a former student from Turkmenistan, who, along with a current Turkmen student dressed in traditional garb, handed out traditional fried dough bites known as pishme to attendees at the Oct. 13 meeting.

It's a food traditionally served for special events, and Watson made a note of just how special NWC continues

to be amongst community colleges in the region. A Turkmen delegation will be making the rounds of some colleges in Wyoming and Montana later this month to discuss educational opportunities for its students, and NWC is the only community college on the list.

The college also remains the top community college in the state for international enrollment. Watson said that success is due to the team in place, carrying on the work started by former French professor Harriet Bloom-Wilson, who had a dream to turn NWC into a haven for international students.

"And you can see as you look at our numbers from last

year, we were able to communicate clearly and effectively with those students and their families so that they felt that there was an option, that they could come and feel safe being here," Watson said. "We are Wyoming. We are different. We have an amazing experience for international students, but we also have an amazing experience for American students to learn about different countries and different experiences. I've had so many students make a comment to me about how much they enjoy the international aspect of the college, because it's like nothing they're gonna see otherwise. And I believe that's true."

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Gov. Gordon expresses disappointment over Radiant's Nuclear's recent departure

CHEYENNE (WNE) — Tuesday morning, Gov. Mark Gordon issued a statement voicing his disappointment in Radiant Nuclear's recent announcement that it will go elsewhere to establish the microreactor manufacturing facility proposed for Bar Nunn.

"It is a sad day when Wyoming loses out to Tennessee in providing energy leadership," Gordon said. "Members of the Freedom Caucus-inspired 'Club No' convinced Radiant that Wyoming isn't about leadership and problem solving. Tennessee stood ready to accept that

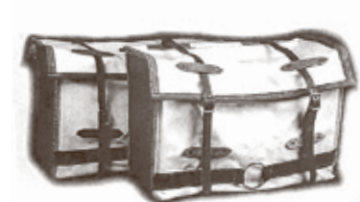
opportunity; maybe they understand how to build an economy.

"Club No' has ushered in a new culture of no matter who began or who commenced it, we're against it. That is not the way Wyoming became the great state it is," he added. "We aren't even following President Trump's lead.

"Let me say it plainly: Wyoming should not be held back by fear. We should be pioneers. We should be the first state companies turn to when they want regulatory clarity, bold infrastructure, and a partner for innovation," said Gordon. "The

Trump administration's energy agenda gave us the opening; this microreactor project fits that agenda. Given a chance, if we had been willing to work together, no problem is unsolvable for Wyoming.

"I applaud the citizens, county leaders, and those legislators who believed in opportunity over obstruction and Wyoming's legendary reputation for finding solutions. Let's work together to ensure Wyoming remains open for business," the governor wrote. "We will not let the 'Club No' crowd define our future."



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GUEST EDITORIAL

HERE WE GO AGAIN

The latest failure of the United States Congress to approve a bill funding “nonessential” government operations is yet another chapter in our country’s history of allowing politics to obstruct necessary public services.

Members of Congress have an important job to do. An obligation that directly impacts hundreds of millions of citizens, and hundreds of thousands of federal employees.

In this community surrounded by federal lands, many of our hundreds of local federal employees remember too well the 35-day shutdown of 2018-19, when their paychecks stopped and our entire community suffered.

Federal employees have already endured enough this year. In the wake of the large workforce reductions implemented earlier in 2025, the current disruption is made even more painful. With an already reduced national park and Forest Service workforce, the impacts of this interruption of valuable work will be even harder to overcome each day the government fails to operate.

We consider these local federal employees essential in every aspect. The public lands we love deserve continued staffing and management, because very simply: Our treasured land resources need stewardship. This means more than collecting trash and responding to emergencies.

It’s fortunate that the shutdown began after our busiest months of visitation had passed. Yet the cost to our precious natural resources could still be hefty if a blanket of snow and cooler temperatures don’t keep the hordes away.

The trickle-down impacts on thousands of local private sector employees are also substantial. Grand Teton National Park alone generates nearly \$1 billion in economic impact for our community. When visitors hear that their experience will be disrupted, they often cancel travel plans or schedule less time to enjoy our community.

Jackson Hole has a track record of collective “stepping up” to create a solid baseline of volunteer and nonprofit resources helping preserve and protect public lands. But we shouldn’t need to fill in the role of furloughed federal employees who want to work, and have vital jobs to do.

What makes every shutdown saga especially sad is that the loyal staff who want to do the work, and the taxpayers who pay for and rightfully expect their governmental services to function, needlessly suffer. Threats of permanent layoffs contribute additional fear and uncertainty, especially to many who live in employer-provided housing. Visitor centers and park entry gates must be staffed to provide valuable information to guests.

So, we must call our senators and congresswoman. All party affiliations are complicit in this failure of elected officials to perform their duties on behalf of their constituents. Blaming one another is just an excuse for this latest chapter in a long story of failure to reach compromise toward our country’s shared best interests.

Ultimately, our lawmakers must back legislation to prevent government shutdowns. Without appropriate action, we collectively suffer until a resolution is reached. Then the clock starts ticking again until the next fiasco of political gamesmanship. Our government workers deserve better than to be pawns in a never-ending political chess match.

By Jackson Hole News&Guide

(Editor’s note: The Tribune is periodically featuring editorials from newspapers around the state. The pieces reflect the opinion of their respective papers. This editorial was first published in the Jackson Hole News&Guide on Oct. 8.)

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Marriage and my man

This morning, I noticed Gar somberly staring at our wedding photo. I snuck up behind him and whispered, “Gazing in memory of a bad decision?”

We recently had fiber optics put in our house and subsequently, had to put a new Wi-Fi password into all the technological advances that we don’t know how to sway productively in our favor. Fairly easily, we got it in our phones and laptops, and with prayer and an abundance of frowning, I was able to figure out how to install it into the digital photo frame. I was befuddled by the Ecobee which controls the furnace, so had to get reinforcements from our oh-so-valuable electrician, who on the phone and without pay, walked me through it. God bless Tim for never mentioning how dense I am.

Next was to enter the password into our virtual assistant, Alexa, which I’m telling you right now has never assisted us in anything worthy, virtually or otherwise. She’s never done a dish, folded a washcloth, or touched the vacuum’s handle, so I’m saying the “assistant” moniker is BS. Mostly she’s there to tell jokes, “Why was the car run-

ning on fumes? Because it kept passing gas.” “The 49ers are the most successful NFL team if you just ignore the last 25 years.” I’d say don’t give up your day job, but that is her day job. She also broadcasts Mark Levine with his high-volume yelling, like a teenager told to load the dishwasher, but she was quiet as the dead and not coming to life without the new password. For quite some time everything we tried was a fail, like trying to get out of a Wisconsin corn maze. Finally, with Gar reading instructions and procedures (we got him “Hooked on Phonics for his birthday ... little joke) we were able to get her online again. Remember years ago, when the electricity went out then came back on and everything just started working? And when you got a new phone, you just unplugged the old one and plugged the new one in? Awe, the good ole days. I was grateful to get everything back on track and sincerely thought, yay us, we’re

not as dumb as our kids say. Gar wasn’t so uplifting. Turning to me he stoically voiced, “We’d have a smart home if it wasn’t for the owners.”

We are quite obviously not techy, and don’t know, or use, the internet jargon often, which is why this tickled me. We were sitting on the couch one morning, still in our night clothes, which for me is a tank and undies. When I stood up, Gar mentioned I had a little hole in my underwear. I said, “These are my night ones, they’re old so I only wear them to bed, then I have nice ones I wear for day.”

Raising his eyebrows, Gar comically quipped, “Oh my gosh, I’m getting my phone and ask if I’m the only husband or if there’s others, who provide their wife with day underwear AND night underwear. PM me.” Ha!

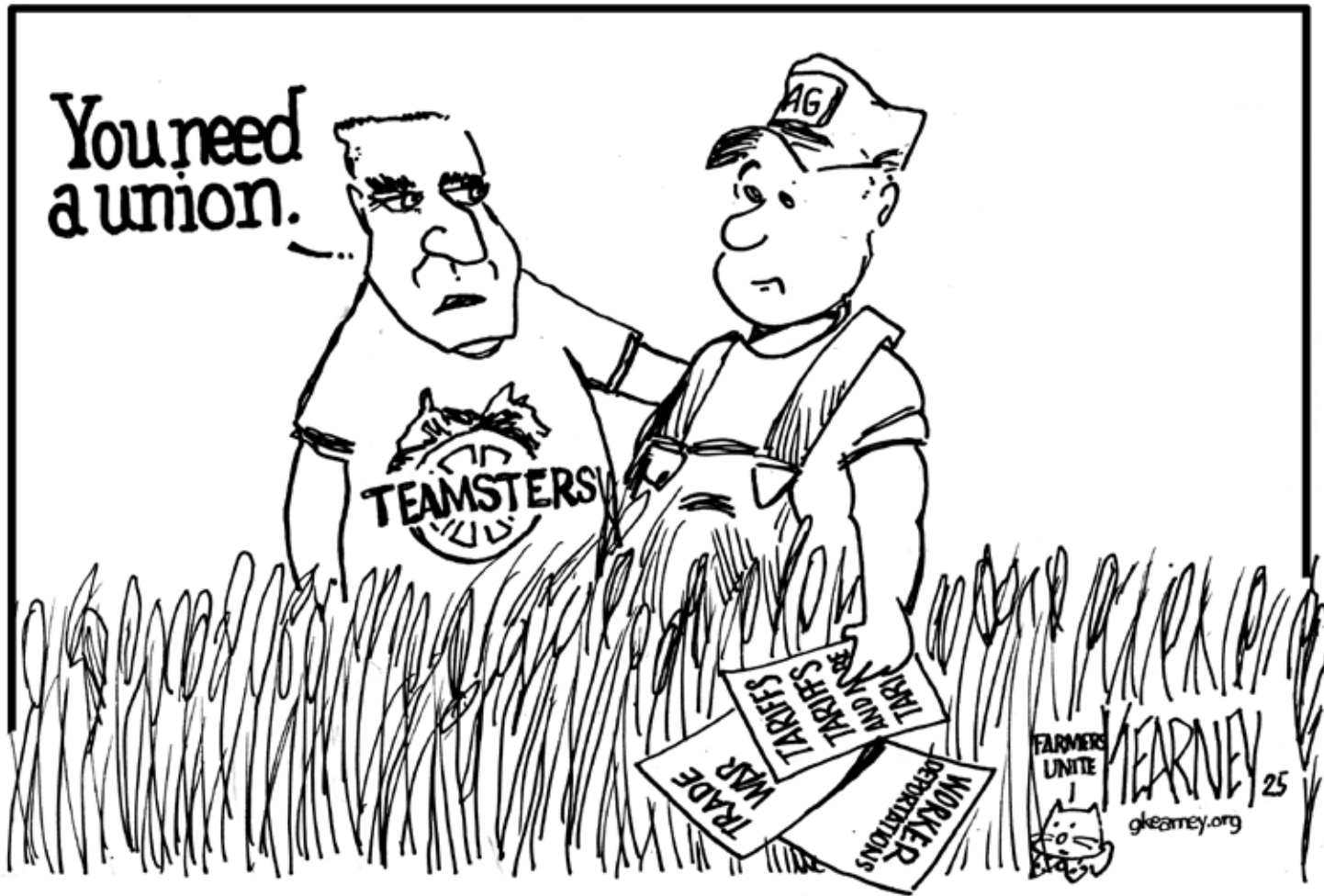
As if the fact bore repeating, Gar is quiet and reserved and doesn’t like to draw attention to himself. Heck, he won’t even take an aspirin in front of any-

one for fear he’ll be asked if he’s ill. He had an appointment with his shoulder doctor for a check-up and was asked if he could put his arm up, down and then behind his back. Yes, he could, which was a surprise since most shoulder replacement patients cannot, so his doctor heartily called him a “Rockstar.” Gar did mention that his shoulder gets stiff and he was told to keep working out and lifting in the weight room. Riding home, Gar told me that through the winter while he was building our kids’ fence and gates he didn’t go to the gym. He lamented that now that he’s back lifting, he’s a little embarrassed when other men look over and see how small of weight he can manage. I said, “Why does it matter to you what other people think?” Gar, being Gar, shrugged and softly murmured, “I dunno.” With more volume than was probably necessary, I emphatically stated, “You need to be more like me.” Gar answered, “I know, short and...” I broke in, “Chubby?” He laughed, “I was gonna say ornery.” Haha.

It’s our anniversary and my only words of wisdom today is to tell you that the first time Gar saw me without makeup was quite a surprise for him. I wouldn’t suggest this for the wedding night.



TRENA EIDEN
Remember Your Roots and Keep Them Colored



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

With sadness we say goodbye

Dear editor:

Recently we were informed of the closing of the Oncology Department at the Powell Valley Hospital because of funding issues. Our hearts sank when we heard this and we confess that we were/are disappointed at those in power who made this decision. While we understand that it was a tough decision, it is also taking away from this community one of the finest doctors along with her amazing staff that PVHC had. These people have been valuable assets and will be very difficult to replace.

Now, those with cancer or blood problems (Dr. Carletta Collins is also a hematologist) will need to go elsewhere, not always an easy proposition when you are older. On a personal note, following post operative blood clots in my lungs and an ambulance trip to Billings ICU, and subsequent release, Dr. Collins quickly recognized that the very expensive and well advertised blood thinner Eliquis was not effective for me and prescribed a very old, but highly effective blood thinner. It is quite possible that she had saved my life for which I will be forever grateful.

A huge Thank You goes out to Dr. Carletta Collins for the time she spent to explain, to console

and to treat her patients as the important people she felt they were. You will be missed as well as your wonderful staff. We have friends who feel the same way and we are sure there are many others we don’t know.

We wish all those who must move on the best of luck in their future endeavors and hope that perhaps we will see you again somewhere, not so far away.

Sincerely,
Linda and Bob Graff
 Powell

Department of Health needs to keep funding

Dear editor:

The news of Powell Valley Healthcare’s decision to close their oncology services along with their Cody Clinic reminded me of the state of health care in Wyoming, overall. Many health care facilities in Wyoming are cutting services, making it even harder for people to access the care they need. We have some great providers and clinics here, but oftentimes people have to travel to Billings for specialized care which can be prohibitively expensive and leaves important health care out of reach for many in our community.

Now, a subcommittee of the Wyoming State Legislature, including Sen. Dan Laursen of

Powell, is trying to further cut health care in Wyoming. This committee is wasting time and taxpayer dollars by combing through the State Department of Health’s budget to find ways to weaken its already streamlined budget. They are doing this in a slapdash, fast-track manner that will provide them very little understanding about what they are actually proposing to cut, and even less opportunity for members of the public to weigh in.

Our Wyoming Department of Health deals with some of our communities’ most urgent and important health care needs. The folks who run it work hard to ensure efficiency, so that every dollar goes where it’s needed most. The DOH already has a lean, efficient budget — more than 90% of the department’s funding goes directly to local programs and clinics, led by members of our own communities. More worryingly, this will impact maternity care in our state. Many hospitals around the state are terminating their maternity care, making women travel further just to deliver their baby in bad weather or emergency situations. This “maternity desert” without obstetric care or OB/GYNs currently includes nine counties across Wyoming.

Department of Health funding ensures that Wyoming communities are free to chart their

own course and stay strong and resilient. The programs and clinics supported by the Department of Health help keep us healthy, leaving us free to contribute to our communities. When people are looking to move to a new area like Powell, the first thing they look at are the local health care services that are available in their time of need. We are lucky to have the Powell Valley Healthcare system along with the Heartland Assisted Living, Oxbow Counseling Center and One Health Clinic right here.

The Department of Health helps us invest in the future of our communities by making sure that people can get through tough times, illness, and hardship to strive for a better future. The people of Wyoming want its government to provide better basic services to improve quality of life — starting with better health care access.

The legislators who have volunteered for this interim committee are Sen. Dan Laursen of Powell, Dan.Laursen@wyoleg.gov; Rep. Trey Sherwood of Laramie, trey.sherwood@wyoleg.gov; and Rep. Ken Pendergraft of Sheridan, Ken.Pendergraft@wyoleg.gov. Please contact these legislators to point out the importance of all of the Department of Health funding.

Laurie Larsen
 Wyoming Rising, Powell

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A year out, Barlow asserts conservative stripes as candidate for governor

BY DAVE BONNER
Tribune publisher

Banners, yard signs and candidate debates are a ways off, but the campaign for Wyoming's next governor is already front and center.

Veteran state legislator Sen. Eric Barlow, R-Gillette, was in Powell on Monday at a campaign event to drum up support for his bid in the 2026 Wyoming elections to succeed Mark Gordon as Wyoming's next chief executive. The 59-year-old will be on the Republican ballot for governor in the primary election on Aug. 18, 2026.

Barlow represents Senate District 23 in Campbell County. He was elected to the Senate in 2022 after serving five terms in the State House of Representatives from 2013-2022, including leading the House as speaker in the 2021-2022 session.

He is a rancher, veterinarian and a former U.S. Marine. He and his wife Kelly have a daughter, Kate, deputy director of the Office of Lands and Investments, and a son, Graham, a Sheridan contractor.

A self-proclaimed "private property activist," Barlow embraces the values of hard work, community service and private property rights.

Barlow believes people want limited government, but one that protects and delivers "in a respectful way" services that Wyoming residents need "while still living within our means."

This can be accomplished, and Wyoming can have a robust economy, he said, because of the state's wealth in core energy and mineral resources, agriculture and national parks and tourism. He also sees new opportunities in manufacturing and development of rare earth minerals.

"I want to build a Wyoming where kids choose to be, to raise families and build businesses," he added.

Barlow's announcement for



Sen. Eric Barlow, R-Gillette, (left) brought his campaign for governor to a Monday night gathering at Plaza Diane in Powell. Barlow, a state senator in Campbell County, is visiting (from left) with former state Sen. R.J. Kost, Ana and Burt Reynolds, all of Powell. Tribune photo by Toby Bonner

governor in mid-August generated pushback for what he isn't — a member of the Wyoming Freedom Caucus.

At the time, Freedom Caucus chair Rep. Rachel Rodriguez-Williams of Cody went further to say Barlow is not conservative enough to be the state's governor. Quoted in Cowboy State Daily, she said the Wyoming Freedom Caucus is confident, come 2026, the people will elect a true conservative for governor.

Barlow hit back when he was in Powell.

"I am an American in Wyoming running as a Republican, a conservative. I don't need any other group label," he said. "I've never used a label other than 'I am an American.' I try to solve

problems and make a difference in peoples' lives."

The Barlow campaign issued a further clarifying statement: "Wyoming's challenges are too important for us to get bogged down in personal attacks. The Wyomingites I am hearing from are tired of the 'us and them' debate and are ready for leadership that brings folks together. My record shows I am a conservative Republican who is committed to listening to my constituents and working on the issues that matter most to them."

Barlow cited his record over 10-plus years in the Legislature. He has sponsored 63 bills, worked them and seen 32 passed and signed into law.

Why announce a year ahead of the primary?

"It seems maybe others are waiting to see what others are going to do. I know what I want to do, and that's to be the governor of Wyoming," Barlow said.

"I've got to get around the state to learn what's on people's minds," he added.

As a sitting legislator, Barlow has the continuing responsibility of legislative meetings and the legislative session in Cheyenne early in the 2026 election year before he can campaign full-time. He called this stage in the campaign "listening and learning" to grow support across the state.

As an example, "You've got to sit and listen in Kemmerer and Rock Springs and Powell and Cody to learn and to grow support," he said.



Cody Regional Health's Home Health team recently achieved national recognition. Pictured back row, from left: Heidi Todd, RN; Faith Friend, OT; Beth Nordstrom, PT; Laura Shoopman, RN; and Crystal Balch, RN. Front row: Meagan English, office coordinator; Jeanie Delquadro, PT; Sharon Gates, RN clinical coordinator; Elizabeth Poverlein, RN Home Health and Hospice director; and Aimee Alberta, RN clinical supervisor. Courtesy photo

CODY REGIONAL HEALTH HOME HEALTH ACHIEVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

CODY — Cody Regional Health's Home Health has achieved national recognition by earning top marks in the 2025 Quality Connections program of the National Alliance for Care at Home, according to a release.

Quality Connections is structured around four fundamental pillars represented by four rings: Education, Application, Measurement and Innovation. Participants engage in activities such as quarterly data reporting and benchmarking, educational courses, case studies and engagement on emerging issues, all of which serve to promote high-quality care delivery and service excellence. Achievement in the program is mea-

sured by completing activities within each of the four foundational areas, culminating in the achievement of up to four rings.

Cody Regional Health Home Health has earned the highest achievement possible in the Quality Connections 2025 program year by earning all four rings.

"Achieving all four rings in the Quality Connections program is a reflection of our team's deep commitment to excellence in home health care," said Elizabeth Poverlein, director of Cody Regional Health Home Health, and Hospice. "Every day, our staff goes above and beyond to ensure our patients and their families receive

compassionate, high-quality care during life's most tender moments."

Quality Connections began as a program of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization which has joined together with the National Association for Home Care & Hospice to form the National Alliance for Care at Home (the Alliance). Founded as a program focusing on hospice and palliative care providers, Quality Connections is continuing to expand under the Alliance to provide quality improvement tools and support to the full care at home continuum.

"Core to the Alliance's mission is providing resources and guidance to our members

to help them deliver the highest-quality care at home. All Alliance members have signed an attestation certifying their commitment to quality," said Alliance CEO Dr. Steve Landers. "As we continue to build upon the Quality Connections program, we're excited to encourage broader participation across the care at home community and ultimately support our vision of an America where everyone has access to the highest quality, person-centered health care wherever they call home."

Learn more about Cody Regional Health Home Health at codyregionalhealth.org/our-services/home-health-hospice/home-health/.

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The helpful place.

Theft of youth hockey gear results in probation

BY CJ BAKER
Tribune staff writer

Stealing over \$1,800 worth of youth hockey gear from a Cody laundromat has netted a man over three months of jail time and three years of probation.

Terrance Schmidt, 28, took a bag of gear belonging to the Yellowstone Quake team from the Cody Laundromat in February. Schmidt was arrested and the stolen items recovered the following day.

In mid-summer, Schmidt pleaded guilty to felony counts of theft totaling \$1,000 or more and of possessing meth for a third or subsequent time. He spent 97 days in the Park County Detention Center before being released to a drug treatment program.

The Park County Attorney's Office and Schmidt's defense

attorney agreed to a deal that called for three years of supervised probation for the crimes and District Court Judge Bill Simpson approved it on Tuesday.

VALENTINE'S DAY THEFT

Charging documents say Schmidt entered the Cody Laundromat on the night of Feb. 14 and stole a Yellowstone Quake equipment bag that contained practice jerseys, socks, undershirts, neck protectors, leggings, jock shorts and a track suit.

When the business owner learned the bag had been stolen, she reviewed the surveillance footage and recognized Schmidt from a prior encounter. Cody police arrested him on the night of Feb. 15.

Schmidt reportedly told officers they'd find the gear in his Nissan Xterra, and they did. He reportedly told police that

he believed the gear had been abandoned, but Officer Trevor Budd said the surveillance footage showed him checking for witnesses before taking the bag from the laundromat.

Police also found 1.6 grams of meth in one of Schmidt's pockets. Possessing that small quantity is typically a misdemeanor crime, but because it was Schmidt's third or subsequent offense, prosecutors charged it as a felony.

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF AN OPPORTUNITY

Prior to being sentenced on Tuesday, Schmidt expressed gratitude to the judge giving him the opportunity to attend the Cedar Mountain Center while the case was pending. He said the program helped him find the coping skills he needed. "Trying to get clean on your

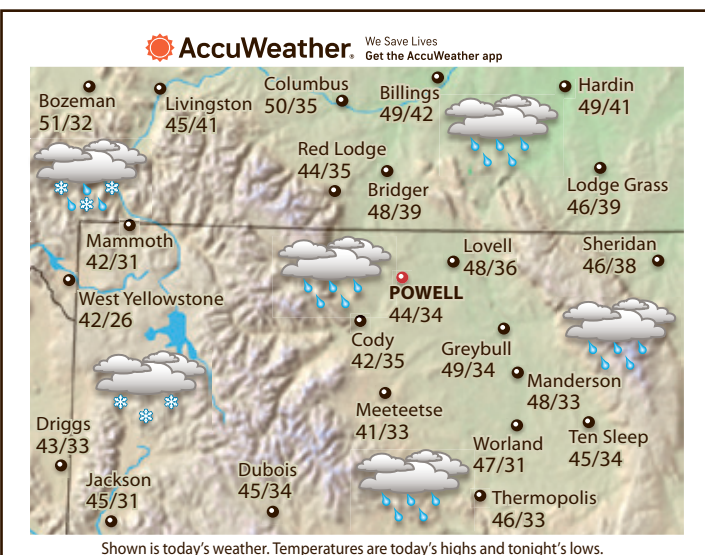
own without having those kind of tools, and that kind of knowledge, is a very hard thing to do when someone's been in an addiction for as long as I was," Schmidt said.

He's since joined the drug court program and is consistently working in construction, his attorney, Sam Krone said.

Judge Simpson noted that Schmidt is still young and has a future ahead of him.

"But as you know, that future really doesn't mean much if you continue to abuse controlled substances, particularly methamphetamine and its derivatives," Simpson said. "So I'm hopeful that you'll take advantage of this opportunity."

He said it was important that Schmidt stays clean, noting two to three years of prison time could be imposed if he falters on probation. Schmidt must also pay \$500 to the court.



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SHERIFF'S REPORT

SEPTEMBER 20

- 1:08 p.m. A single motorcycle accident was reported at MP 5 on Wyo. Highway 296 in the Cody area. Disposition: completed.
- 3:57 p.m. A driver was cited for speeding at MP 109 on Wyo. Highway 120N in the Cody area.
- 3:58 p.m. A citizen spoke to a deputy about a neighbor on a side-by-side driving towards them aggressively on Wyo. Highway 295 in the Powell area.
- 5:17 p.m. A motorcycle was reported to be speeding at Adams Lane/Cooper Lane in the Cody area.
- 6:09 p.m. A truck was reportedly driving slowly in the area of Cooper Lane in the Cody area all day. Disposition: completed.

SEPTEMBER 21

- 4:52 a.m. A Chrysler 300 reportedly crashed in a ditch at MP 11 on County Road 6WX in the Cody area. The male was reported to be OK and walking toward an address. A case was opened.
- 4:30 p.m. Deputies assisted with an out of control field fire on Hitching Post Drive in the Cody area.
- 6:18 p.m. A caller on U.S. Highway 14A in the Cody area said they pulled up a bag full of ashes while fishing and the tag says crematorium. Assistance provided.
- 8:09 p.m. A caller on County Road 3EX in the Cody area said lights are flashing into his house every night for the last six months. Assistance provided.

SEPTEMBER 22

- 7:13 a.m. A caller on Road 7 in the Powell area found a deceased male at the end of the driveway. A case was opened.
- 8:24 a.m. A residential burglary alarm on Pat O'hara Mountain Drive in the Cody area was triggered. Disposition: completed.
- 9:32 a.m. A driver was cited for speeding at MP 52 on Wyo. Highway 120S in the Meeteetse area.
- 9:35 a.m. A caller on Valley Road in Meeteetse asked for some suggestions on what to do about his wife's delusions. Deputies were unable to assist.
- 8:47 p.m. Deputies assisted on a report of two cows in the road on Lane 10 in the Powell area. Assistance provided.

SEPTEMBER 23

- 10:22 a.m. A caller at County Road 2AB/County Road 2BE in the Cody area said there is a tent near the pond at the location and he noticed a jacket in the mud near the tent as well. Disposition: completed.
- 1:38 p.m. A driver was cited for speeding 43/30 in an urban district at Blackburn/Cougar avenues in Cody.
- 2:10 p.m. A deputy assisted a motorist on U.S. Highway 14/16/20W in the Cody area.
- 3:05 p.m. A caller on Trout Peak Drive in the Cody area reportedly received a scam call and said they were out of town. The caller would like a patrol until they return to town. A case was opened.
- 6:51 p.m. A case was opened regarding trespassing on Clark Avenue in Ralston.
- 8:45 p.m. A vehicle in the North Fork Campground on County Road 6KV in the Cody area reportedly had lights on checking out the cabins on the south side of the lake. Assistance provided.
- 9:19 p.m. A caller on Cole Road in the Cody area said the same dog as prior times is chasing horses. A case was opened.

SEPTEMBER 24

- 7:03 a.m. A driver was cited for speeding 74/45 on Lane 9 in the Powell area.
- 7:46 a.m. A caller on Holland Road in the Powell area said a vehicle is in a location and a male is throwing rocks in a creek. The vehicle was gone upon deputy arrival.
- 9:35 a.m. A caller at Lane 7/Road 12 in the Powell area said there are silage trucks going too fast — for sure over 45 mph — on a dirt road. Assistance provided.
- 10:41 a.m. A rear end crash was reported at 30th Street/U.S. Highway 14/16/20E in the Cody area and deputies assisted High-

SEEKING FOREVER HOMES



Numerous dogs and cats are currently in the shelter and are looking for forever homes. If you are interested in adopting a shelter animal, call Caring for Powell Animals/Moyer Animal Shelter at 307-754-1019. Courtesy photos

- way Patrol. A case was opened.
- 12:56 p.m. A caller on Road 1 1/2 in the Powell area said he is missing multiple firearms within the last three weeks. A case was opened.
- 1:17 p.m. A driver was cited for speeding 65/45 at Road 10/Lane 9 in the Powell area.
- 7:12 p.m. A gray Jeep was reported to be heading west on Yellowstone Avenue in the Cody area, swerving across all lanes. The vehicle was not located.
- 9:20 p.m. A caller on Oak Drive in the Cody area requested his ex wife and her boyfriend be trespassed from his property. A case was opened.

SEPTEMBER 25

- 6:32 a.m. Deputies assisted on a report of multiple cows on the highway at MP 125 on Wyo. Highway 120N in the Cody area.
- 8:01 a.m. A deputy assisted with a trailer that was starting to catch fire but the driver is getting it put out at County Road 2AB/Kaleidoscope Road in the Cody area.
- 1:32 p.m. A driver on Lane 9 in the Powell area was warned for speeding, cited for expired registration on Lane 9 in the Powell area.
- 2:52 p.m. A caller on County Road 7GQ in the Cody area said there appears to be a shirt hanging from a stick. Assistance provided.
- 4:24 p.m. A caller at Lane 3/Wyo. Highway 295 in the Powell area said there is a vehicle near them with a door open. Assistance provided.
- 6:57 p.m. A 15-year-old reportedly had her foot run over by a side-by-side on Ptarmigan Drive in the Cody area and has pain in her right foot. Assistance provided.
- 8:58 p.m. A caller on Road 12 1/2 in the Powell area said she heard gunshots and people arguing. The source of the noise was not located.

SHERIFF'S INCIDENTS

OCTOBER 5-11

- Abandoned Vehicle ----- 1
- Intrusion/Holdup ----- 1
- Animal- Deceased ----- 1
- Animal-Lost ----- 2
- Animal Call-Other ----- 5
- Animals on Roadway ----- 7
- Animal-Stray ----- 2
- Assist Other Agency ----- 11
- Body Found ----- 2
- Child Welfare ----- 1
- Citizen Contact ----- 1
- Civil Attempt ----- 18
- Civil Dispute ----- 1
- Civil Standby ----- 1
- Disturbance ----- 3
- Domestic ----- 1
- Extra Patrol Request ----- 11
- Followup ----- 5
- Incorrigible Juvenile ----- 1
- Informational ----- 1
- Intoxicated Subject ----- 1
- Mental Problem ----- 1
- Miscellaneous Assistance ----- 2
- Motorist Assist ----- 4
- Motor Vehicle Crash With Injury ----- 4
- Motor Vehicle Crash With Property Damage ----- 3
- Other Law Violations ----- 1
- Parking Problem ----- 1
- Patrol-Extra Officer Initiated ----- 9
- Prisoner Transport ----- 2
- Property Damage ----- 2
- Property-Found ----- 2
- Reddi Report ----- 1
- Road Hazard/Blockage ----- 5
- Search & Rescue Call ----- 1
- Sexual Offender Record ----- 1
- Sex Offender Registration ----- 1
- Sex Offender Reporting ----- 7
- Suicide Attempt/Threat ----- 2
- Suspicious Activity ----- 4
- Theft ----- 1
- Threats ----- 1

- Traffic Complaint ----- 2
- Traffic Stop ----- 32
- Trespass Complaint ----- 1
- USFS Patrol ----- 2
- Vehicle Inspection ----- 2
- Warrant Service Attempt ----- 62
- Weapons Offense ----- 1
- Welfare Check ----- 3
- Total Calls ----- 240

POLICE REPORT

SEPTEMBER 29

- 8:04 a.m. A caller complained about a silver Dodge truck speeding at Grand Street/Avenue K that nearly hit a child. A responding officer checked the area, but did not locate the vehicle.
- 8:09 a.m. An iPhone in a white case with blue bows found at North Bernard/West First streets was brought into the law enforcement center and placed in found property.
- 10:17 a.m. A Boston terrier wearing a red collar and a blue collar was reported lost on South Hamilton Street.
- 11:09 a.m. A caller on South Hamilton Street reported the theft of a dog and the incident was placed under investigation.
- 11:22 a.m. A wallet found on East Third Street was brought into the law enforcement center and the owner was contacted to claim the item.
- 12:16 p.m. A caller on Avenue C reported a border collie/shepherd mix stray dog had been attacking other dogs in the area. The community service officer searched the area, but did not locate the dog.
- 8:35 p.m. A set of keys found on a table on North Bent Street was brought into the law enforcement center and placed in found property.
- 10:51 p.m. An officer responded to East Second Street where a caller reported someone banging on their door and would not go away. The officer advised the person to stop banging and knocking on doors.
- 11:07 p.m. Officers responded to a call about a person on South Ingalls Street having drugs, but the officers did not find or detect any drugs.

SEPTEMBER 30

- 7:41 a.m. A driver on South Bent Street was warned for speeding in a school zone.
- 10:30 a.m., 12:17 p.m. An officer assisted in checking the welfare of residents on East Second Street and East Third Street.
- 1:40 p.m. A caller on North Cheyenne Street reported a small white car had been parked for a few hours with a back door open. Before an officer could respond, the caller advised the owner responded to close the door.
- 2 p.m. A key found on North Bent Street was brought into the law enforcement center.
- 2:06 p.m. Dispatch received a report that a large porcupine had been stuck in the backyard of a caller on College Drive. A person who could assist was contacted and advised they would respond to help.
- 3:38 p.m. The community service officer responded to a complaint of a dog on South Gilbert Street barking all day. The dog owner was contacted, and warned for noisy animal.
- 7:01 p.m. After a traffic stop at West Seventh Street/Cedarwood Drive, a driver was cited for driving while suspended and failure to stop at a stop sign.
- 8:04 p.m. A caller on South Clark

Street reported an intoxicated male had passed out on the bar and the establishment wanted the person removed from the property; however, the person left before officers' arrival.

8:34 p.m. A resident on East Second Street reported harassing phone calls. An officer contacted the resident about options available on handling the situation.

OCTOBER 1

- 9:08 a.m. A bank account fraud was reported on North Clark Street and the case was put under investigation.
- 9:25 a.m. Officers responded to a domestic disturbance on North Bent Street where the disturbance was verbal and the situation was mediated.
- 9:57 a.m. After a traffic stop at East Third/North Bent streets, a driver was cited for failure to yield at a stop sign.
- 10:27 a.m. A caller on Avenue B reported a person parked in front of their house and when the caller asked them to move, the person replied they didn't have to. An officer attempted to contact the caller, but there was no answer; the officer responded to the area but did not see any violations.
- 12:37 p.m. The community service officer responded to a report that dogs were not being cared for on Avenue E. The case is under investigation. Disposition: completed.
- 1:02 p.m. A driver was warned for speeding and no proof of liability insurance after a traffic stop at South Division Street/West Coulter Avenue.
- 1:37 p.m. An officer initiated activity at Avenue B/South Edmonds Street where Chad Hill, 50, of Powell, was arrested on a Park County warrant. He was transported to the Park County Detention Center and the case is under investigation.
- 8:05 p.m. An officer found a stray tri-color cattle dog at South Day Street/East Coulter Avenue and took the dog to the animal shelter. The owner was located and received a warning for animal running at large.

OCTOBER 2

- 1:35 a.m. Officers responded to West Third Street where a resident reported someone entered their home without permission, but the person was no longer in the residence. The officers checked the area and provided extra patrol.
- 7:59 a.m. After a traffic stop at North Cheyenne/West First streets, a driver was warned for speeding in a school zone.
- 1:20 p.m. A caller reported a black and white dog wearing a red collar running around the area of East Washington/South Ingalls streets for almost an hour, and it would not come to anyone. An officer responded but did not locate the dog.
- 2:32 p.m. A small white dog and a medium-sized black dog were reported running at large at Avenue G/North Division Street. The community service officer located the owner, who received a warning for animal running at large.
- 4:28 p.m. An officer assisted a caller on North Clark Street who had questions about harassment and trespassing.
- 7:04 p.m., 7:26 p.m. Drivers were warned for driver's side headlight out and expired registration after traffic stops on East Coulter Avenue.

5-day Forecast for Powell

Today
Breezy and chilly with rain at times
44° 34°

Friday
Intervals of clouds and sunshine
56° 33°

Saturday
Partly sunny
53° 39°

Sunday
Breezy in the morning; otherwise, partly sunny
63° 37°

Monday
Cloudy and breezy
54° 34°

Weekly Almanac

Powell for the 7-day period ending Tuesday
TEMPERATURES
High/Low 72°/28°
Normal high/low 61°/31°
Average temperature 48.2°
Normal average temperature 46.2°
PRECIPITATION
Total for the week 0.16"
Month to date 0.70"
Normal month to date 0.31"
Year to date 6.80"
Snowfall for the week 0.0"
Snowfall month to date 0.0"
Snowfall season to date 0.0"

Sun and Moon
Sunrise/Sunset 7:32am/6:28pm
Moonrise/Moonset 2:24am/4:40pm

New First Full Last
Oct 21 Oct 29 Nov 5 Nov 11

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2025

The State

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W
Buffalo	45/38/r	Jeffrey City	48/35/c
Casper	50/36/s	Kirby	47/31/r
Cheyenne	59/39/sh	Laramie	52/35/pc
Gillette	48/41/r	Rawlins	45/35/sh
Green River	50/36/sh	Rock Springs	47/33/pc
Greybull	49/34/r	Shoshoni	49/36/sh

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

Eleanor the Great PG-13
After seventy years with best friend, Eleanor moves to New York City for a fresh start. Making new friends at ninety proves difficult. Longing for connection, she befriends a 19-year-old student.
Friday----- October 17 ----- 7pm
Saturday---- October 18 ----- 3pm/7pm
hyartmovies.com
\$6 Night Shows • \$5 Matinee Shows
Phone: 307.548.7021

12TH ANNUAL
Fall Festival
Saturday, October 25, 2024 | 9am-4pm
Park County Fairgrounds
Bring the kids for early trick-or-treating with the vendors!

PREP PERFORMER OF THE WEEK
Karee Cooley
Cross Country
Karee Cooley won the Pinnacle Bank/Powell Invite on Thursday, running the second fastest time in school history at 18 minutes, 34 seconds.
Pinnacle Bank
THE WAY BANKING SHOULD BE
POWELL 175 N. Evarts St.
307.754.7955
wypinbank.com

PREP PERFORMER OF THE WEEK
Lincoln Crawford
Football
Lincoln Crawford carried the ball 34 times for 180 yards for the Panthers against Green River on Friday.
POWELL FAMILY DENTAL
307.764.2378 • 136 N. Bent
www.RockHullDMD.com

CARS & COFFEE



Johnson Motorsports welcomed community members to the facility on Saturday for its first ever 'Cars & Coffee' open house and car show. Owner Rick Johnson counted 82 cars, trucks and bikes in attendance. More events are planned in the future. Tribune photos by CJ Baker

Teacher: Buck had legal counsel prior to the hearing, but represented himself due to financial constraints

Continued from Page 1

the sexual harassment finding together under the totality of the circumstances, Mr. Buck's actions towards his girl players and students are objectively unsettling," Park County School District 6 attorney Alexandria Zafonte of Vincent and Zafonte said. "Mr. Buck's unprofessionalism towards young, susceptible, innocent girls, starting in middle school and going into their high school career, creates an atmosphere where they are put at risk of being and are sexually harassed. This is grooming behavior."

When confronted, Zafonte said Buck was arrogant.

However, Buck said the district's case relies on second-hand information, hearsay and exaggeration, and he asserted there are vendettas in play.

He told the Tribune the process has been "painfully excruciating," "flawed" and should be changed.

"... this can't be the way that school districts treat their employees and students in it," Buck said.

As a part of his defense, Buck said the video from the hot springs was of an impromptu swim that followed a canceled game. It included two of Buck's own daughters, he said, and he sent it to parents. Buck also posted the video on his personal social media where one of the accusing parents liked the post.

"So those are the truths that are being manipulated," Buck said, adding, "This picture is not only false, it's insulting to everything I've ever stood for in nearly two decades of service to young people."

Buck added that many of the individuals he's been accused of harming have supported him.

"I haven't been perfect, I'm not perfect and I kind of explained that, and I've admitted to error, so definitely not arrogance there," Buck said in his closing statement, adding, "My goal in this process has been simple, to ensure that the truth is heard and fairness prevails."

However, Zafonte defended the two lengthy Title IX investigations, saying they show Buck should be terminated.

"He fabricates conspiracy theories that people are out to get him and his wife, and he maintains that that is the motivation behind the administration seeking to terminate him," she said.

Zafonte said the district has standards in place so teachers know appropriate student-teacher and student-coach relationships.

"This is especially important in a small community where people do know each other, because those lines can be easily blurred. The standard is that you cannot be the child's friend, you cannot be the fun uncle," Zafonte said.

Teachers, she added, must

be professional regardless of a relationship outside school. The district wants teachers to build healthy relationships with students, she said.

"He is insubordinate to the board and to the administration, and he has negatively affected the education of multiple girls," Zafonte said. "The superintendent and the administration cannot allow him to continue teaching and to continue to sexually harass Park 6 students."

TENSE AND CROWDED HEARING

Over 20 members of the public attended the first day of Buck's hearing in the district's West Annex. The proceedings were overseen by Brian Hunter, a senior hearings examiner for the Wyoming Office of Administrative Hearings.

Buck, who had legal counsel prior to the hearing, represented himself due to financial constraints.

The climate within the board room was at times tense and the hearing moved behind closed doors after Buck mistakenly used the name of one of the complainants on two separate occasions. At other times, hecklers could be heard complaining when Zafonte raised objections to Buck's presentation. One audience member removed himself after telling Zafonte to "shut up"; he was followed out by a Cody police officer.

The hearing followed two Title IX investigations into conduct involving Buck's athletes and one individualized education plan (IEP) student in his classroom.

'INAPPROPRIATE' CONDUCT?

The investigations reportedly began in the fall of 2024, when someone left a voicemail at the district's Student Support Services Building alleging Buck had "inappropriate relationships" with female students.

District Human Resources Director and Title IX Coordinator Chynna Singer said she then spoke with four staff members who indicated that Buck may have engaged in inappropriate conduct. She also interviewed five students, who mentioned potential concerns.

The district then brought in an independent investigator, Paul Swenson, to compile a report, which was reviewed by Cheyenne attorney O'Kelley Pearson.

The first Title IX investigation concluded that Buck, among other behaviors, exchanged text messages with his athletes, allowed students to regularly visit his classroom, and transported

female students in his personal vehicle. An independent reviewer found Buck's behavior did not constitute sexual harassment under Title IX but called his conduct "inappropriate and likely a violation of professional and ethical standards and several other board policies," according to Singer.

The second investigation concluded that Buck sexually harassed a student on an IEP by telling her to change, because her clothing was a distraction.

Buck denies harassing any student, claiming the student had issues with other teachers and would exhibit work avoidance behavior. He claimed a former compliance facilitator who was not interviewed by Swenson could corroborate this.

Sam Buck
Teacher and coach

"... I do not wish to pursue future litigation simply for the sake of it," Buck said. "However, if it becomes the only remaining path to fully declare my name and restore the truth, it must happen."

MAKING THEIR CASES

Buck admitted to texting students, but said the messages included some for coaching and others were congratulations on his recent marriage, other allegations included asking a female student to bring his son to the middle school from their shared location and allowing students to visit him in class (refuting bias

based on gender).

He told the Tribune his "minor infractions" of policy are prevalent amongst staff and should have been addressed as a problem with the system or at least with an individual plan of improvement.

Buck and the school district must submit their proposed pleadings to Hunter by Dec. 5.

Buck said he's seeking "accountability and justice," specifically asking for a positive letter of recommendation and "a reasonable compensation package that would allow my family and me to begin rebuilding our lives and allowing the district to move forward without further division."

"... I do not wish to pursue future litigation simply for the sake of it," Buck said. "However, if it becomes the only remaining path to fully declare my name and restore the truth, it must happen."

Following their submissions, Hunter will draft a recommendation on Buck's termination. The school board then has 20 days to decide Buck's status in executive session.

"Park County School District 6 will always follow federal and state law, the Department of Education rules and regulation and our school board policies, rules and regulations," Superintendent Vernon Orndorff told the Tribune, adding, "We will always continue to put our students' safety first and foremost and we'll continue to do that."

Brand Identity

The strategic process of shaping a product, company or service's perception and identity in a consumer's mind to differentiate it from competitors, build loyalty and drive growth.

DEVELOP

 brand identity.

BUILD

 customer trust.

FOCUS

 on your audience.

Let us help you develop campaigns that **Connect Your Brand** to products, missions and goals.

When it comes to marketing, your brand is everything.

Our brand strategy creative team, with more than 50 years combined experience, provides winning strategies tailored to meet the marketing needs of your company.

POWELL
TRIBUNE

Toby Bonner

Ashley Stratton
Lauritzen

Mike Voss

307.754.2221 | 128 South Bent Street
toby@powelltribune.com | ashley@powelltribune.com | mike@powelltribune.com



Cameron Low jumps over the sliding challenge of a Northeastern defender on Saturday. Low scored the first goal for the Trappers in a 3-1 win over Lamar on Friday. Tribune photo by Seth Rommsa

Men's soccer wins way to three seed

HOST WESTERN NEBRASKA

BY SETH ROMSA
Tribune sports reporter

The Northwest College men's soccer team continued its unbeaten run in October, using a 3-1 win over Lamar Community College and a 1-0 win over Northeastern Community College to secure the No. 3 seed in the postseason tournament with a little help from a pair of Central Wyoming losses.

“We need to make sure that we're not complacent just because we beat them one time at their place.”

Rob Hill
Coach

NORTHWEST 3, LAMAR 1

Returning home and needing at least one point to secure a post-season berth, the Trappers (9-4-1 overall, 5-3-1 Region IX) welcomed in the Runnin' Lopes (1-15 overall, 1-8 Region IX) on Friday.

Northwest started on the front foot and got the first goal after a Sora Taenaka shot was saved but deflected right into the path of Cameron Low who tapped it home and made it 1-0 at the 22 minute mark.

Lamar had an answer just before the break, scoring on a cross that was headed to the near post, as the Trapper keeper was unable to keep it out and the Lopes tied the game 1-1 at the break.

“I thought we were quite comfortable, and they scored a goal that we should have defended

See Men's Soccer, Page 10 >

Trappers earn first conference win

HOST CASPER, GILLETTE THIS WEEKEND

BY SETH ROMSA
Tribune sports reporter

An extremely busy midseason week saw the Northwest College volleyball team playing three matches in six days, losing 3-1 to Central Wyoming College on Wednesday, Oct. 8, sweeping Western Wyoming Community College on Friday before losing to the Rocky Mountain College JV 3-0 on Tuesday night.

CENTRAL WYOMING 3, NORTHWEST 1

Still searching for their first win in Region IX on Wednesday the Trappers (9-10 overall, 1-5 Region IX North) welcomed in the Rustlers (10-15 overall, 4-2 Region IX North).

Both teams went point for point early in the match, as the Trappers and Rustlers were deadlocked at 10.

Central started pulling away late in the set as frantic play by the Trappers allowed the Rustlers to take a 19-16 and 22-18 advantage, with Northwest calling timeouts after both scorelines.

The Rustlers finished out the first set with a 25-21 win.

Central led early in the second 13-8 before Northwest brought it back to 13-12.

Northwest eventually tied it at 15 after the Rustlers couldn't handle Nevaeh Bell's serving, but Central regained its advantage and made it 18-15 and forced a Trapper timeout.

Northwest was down 21-15, but cut it to 21-18 after an Aidann Mottishaw ace.

The Trappers kept pushing and eventually had a chance to tie it at 23, but a hit just too long

See Volleyball, Page 11 >



Rylee Arnold sets the ball for the Trappers during their match against Central Wyoming. The Trappers earned their first Region IX win of the season on Friday in Rock Springs. Tribune photo by Seth Rommsa



Katelyn Dandridge (left) maneuvers her way around a Northeastern defender on Saturday. Dandridge scored her first goal of the year on Friday against Lamar as the Trappers continued to roll through October. Tribune photo by Seth Rommsa

WOMEN'S SOCCER CONTINUES WIN STREAK

HEAD TO CENTRAL WYOMING SATURDAY

BY SETH ROMSA
Tribune sports reporter

October has been just what the Northwest College women's soccer team needed, as the Trappers continued their undefeated run with another pair of shutout wins, defeating Lamar Community College 6-0 and Northeastern Junior College 5-0 to earn a spot in the postseason.

NORTHWEST 6, LAMAR 0

Wins were needed by the Trappers (7-5-1 overall, 6-4 Region IX) to ensure a spot in the postseason, starting with a game against the Runnin' Lopes (1-13 overall, 1-9 Region IX).

Northwest got the scoring started early, when Nayeli Aguayo fired home a shot after a bouncing ball found its way to Aguayo from Bailey Wright to make it 1-0 just nine minutes in.

Just five minutes later Aguayo got a second, after a cross from Elli Lewis was tapped up by Aguayo who out-

raced the visiting keeper and headed it home and made it 2-0.

That score helped going into the break, before the Trappers put the game even further away early in the second half.

Amelia Grace Franklin made it 3-0 just 10 minutes into the second half, firing home a shot from the edge of the box, hitting down off the crossbar and in off a pass from Emma Vaughan.

Katelyn Dandridge added a fourth with 10 minutes left, putting home a corner kick from Savannah Morton.

Brooke Travers fired home a first time shot from just outside the 18-yard box to make it 5-0 and Lewis finished the scoreline after weaving her way 50 yards through the defense and firing it home near post to make it 6-0.

“That's the best possession I've seen them play (this weekend), and it's very easy

to play down as well,” coach Rob Hill said. “We were up at the half and then we came in (second half) and it just kind of dropped off a little bit. They try and keep motivated, but when you're three up and the other team is not trying that much, you kind of just see out the minutes.”

“In the month of October we haven't conceded a goal.”

Rob Hill, Coach

NORTHWEST 5, NORTHEASTERN 0

The win Friday meant that the Trappers needed at least a tie against the Plainswomen (4-7 overall, 3-5 Region IX) on Saturday to ensure they made the postseason.

Travers started early for the Trappers, putting home a corner that was passed back across the frame of goal by Josephine Etheridge to make it 1-0 just 2:23 into the game.

Aguayo helped the cause with a little help from the Plainswomen, as her cross was deflected into the net by a visiting defender to double the lead 21 minutes into the game.

Grace Franklin added to the lead 12 minutes before the break, weaving her way through the Plainswomen defense and curling home a shot at the far post to make it 3-0 at the half.

“I thought we started the game again very well,” Hill said. “Everyone's used to Elli scoring, and we've had several different people score. From Brooke to Amelia to Nayeli, it's been very good to share the goals as well because we often rely on Elli too much. But over the last few weeks I think the pressure has been relieved off her because we've had other people getting in good scoring positions.”

Aguayo got her goal after receiving a ball at the edge of the box from Riley Noles, dribbling to the penalty spot and firing it into the bottom corner to make it 4-0 with 15 minutes remaining.

Travers capped off Northwest's scoring, putting in a long range effort from more than 30 yards out to make it 5-0 with

See Women's Soccer, Page 10 >



Josh Hatton (right) heads the ball out of the Trapper defense while fellow defender Georg Wissler looks on as Northwest continued its strong run of form in October. Tribune photos by Seth Romasa

Men's Soccer: Winner will face Thunderbirds on Oct. 25

Continued from Page 9

better," coach Rob Hill said. Northwest immediately took the lead in the second half, as just two minutes into the frame Shay Lonergan fired home a shot after a switch in play by Taenaka.

"But then we took control of the game again," Hill said. The Trappers got the game-sealing goal late on in the second half, as Mateo De Souza snuck in behind the line at the edge of the box and fired home to make it 3-1 with 12:36 left.

That win secured a postseason berth for the Trappers, with a win on Saturday ensuring a first round match at home.

"It was nice to see a lot of players get in that game, because from here on out it's really tight with single games on the weekend, but it was nice to see some of those guys come in and get some playing time," Hill said. "People are coming back into form again. We had a little blip midseason

but people have started to show the form that they were showing early on in the season that got us ranked 12th. I thought that game was a well deserved win."

NORTHWEST 1, NORTHEASTERN 0

Heading into Saturday everything was there to play for both teams, as a tie or win for the Plainsmen (4-7-2 overall, 3-5-1 Region IX) ensured a spot in the postseason and a Northwest win guaranteed a home game in the first round.

"They'd (Northeastern) come off the back of a 6-0 win against Central, which was very surprising. So they were coming in with bags of confidence and that was a really tight game," Hill said.

Both teams fought in a rainy first half to find a goal and take the lead, and it took until 1:49 remaining in the first half for the Trappers to get their goal.

A counter attack by the Trappers was finished off by Lonergan at the far post and made it

1-0 just before the break. "It was a very well taken goal between Josh (Hatton) and Shay," Hill said.

Northwest gained an advantage early in the second half, when a second yellow card was shown to a Northeastern player, resulting in a red card and a man advantage for the Trappers for the final 32 minutes of the match.

The Trappers did not capitalize on their advantage, as it was the Plainsmen who found the back of the net late in the second half.

A corner kick found its way into the back of the net after a scramble in the box, but the goal was called back after an infraction to keep the score at 1-0 with just 2:27 remaining.

Northwest finished the final two minutes and earned the win, and after a pair of losses by Central Wyoming the Trappers leapfrogged to the No. 3 seed.

"The second half when they got the red card, which often happens, is that they actually



Axel Lopez (left) challenges for a header against Northeastern on Saturday. Northwest hosts Western Nebraska Community College in the first round of the Region IX playoffs on Saturday morning.

upped their game and started playing a lot harder. We kind of dropped off and didn't take care (of the ball) or take advantage of the spare man," Hill said. "At times we looked like we had 10 men and they looked like they had 11. So it was a bit unsettling that we didn't manage that game better."

HOME GAME SATURDAY

The Trappers now host No. 6 seed Western Nebraska (3-6-5 overall, 3-4-2 Region IX), which has been idle since the Trappers defeated them in Scottsbluff 3-0 on Oct. 4.

"I'm happy that we're home,

whether we were third or fourth didn't matter to me," Hill said. "We played them at their place, I thought it was a good battle 3-0. Maybe it was a bit generous on our part ... Everything goes out the window in postseason play, so they'll be tough. They have everything to play for just as we do ... We need to make sure that we're not complacent just because we beat them one time at their place."

The winner of that game heads on the road to Casper next weekend, taking on the No. 2 seeded Thunderbirds (10-2-2 overall, 8-1 Region IX).

REGION IX TOURNAMENT

Every game at the higher seed

FIRST ROUND

(Both games Saturday, Oct. 18)
GAME 1 — 10 a.m. No. 3 Northwest vs. No. 6 Western Nebraska
GAME 2 — 1 p.m. No. 4 Central Wyoming vs. No. 5 LCCC

SEMIFINALS

(Scheduled for Oct. 25, times TBD)
GAME 3 — TBD Winner Game 1 at No. 2 Casper College
GAME 4 — TBD Winner Game 2 at No. 1 Otero College

CHAMPIONSHIP

(Scheduled for Nov. 1, time TBD)
GAME 5 — TBD Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4

Women's Soccer: 'Defensively we've had a lot of changes in there because of injuries'

Continued from Page 9

2:22 left.

The win ensured the Trappers made it to the postseason, and guaranteed the five seed in the first round.

FIRST ROUND ROAD GAME

Northwest will likely be on the road for the entire postseason barring a strong run from Gillette College at the No. 6 seed, starting with a road game at No. 4 Central Wyoming College (8-5 overall, 7-3 Region IX) at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday.

The Rustlers were the last team to defeat the Trappers in a 2-1 game on Sept. 27, before the Trappers went on their current four game winning streak, scoring 16 goals and conceding none in October, including a win over No. 1 seeded Laramie County Community College.

"Defensively we've had a lot of change in there because of injuries ... I think we've got a lot to prove going down there," Hill said. "It's different conditions, it's a different environment being in the postseason. I expect the girls to compete a

lot harder than what they did the first time we played them."

The winner of Northwest vs. Central will head to Cheyenne the weekend of Oct. 25, taking on No. 1 LCCC (8-3-2 overall, 8-1-1 Region IX). LCCC was awarded the No. 1 seed after Casper College had to forfeit an earlier game this season against Gillette, resulting in LCCC and Western Wyoming moving up a seed and Casper dropping to the No. 3 seed.

REGION IX TOURNAMENT

Every game at the higher seed

FIRST ROUND

(Both games Saturday, Oct. 18)
GAME 1 — Noon: No. 3 Casper College vs. No. 6 Gillette
GAME 2 — 3:30 p.m. No. 4 Central Wyoming vs. No. 5 Northwest

SEMIFINALS

(Scheduled for Oct. 25, times TBD)
GAME 3 — TBD Winner Game 1 at No. 2 Western Wyoming
GAME 4 — TBD Winner Game 2 at No. 1 LCCC

CHAMPIONSHIP

(Scheduled for Nov. 1, time TBD)
GAME 5 — TBD Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4



Honey Murphy fires in a shot from the edge of the box against Northeastern Junior College on Saturday. Murphy and the Trappers head to Riverton on Saturday afternoon for the first round of postseason action. Tribune photo by Seth Romasa

THE LINEUP

This Week in Sports

*Home games in bold

THURSDAY, OCT. 16

1 p.m. PHS cross country at conference meet in Lander
4 p.m. PHS freshman volleyball vs. Worland
5 p.m. PHS JV volleyball vs. Worland
6 p.m. PHS volleyball vs. Worland

FRIDAY, OCT. 17

TBD NWC women's basketball at Salt Lake Community College
 1:30 p.m. PHS freshman football at Jackson
4 p.m. PHS swimming home quad
 5 p.m. PHS football at Jackson
6 p.m. NWC volleyball vs. Casper College

SATURDAY, OCT. 18

10 a.m. NWC men's soccer vs. Western Nebraska
2 p.m. NWC volleyball vs. Gillette
 3:30 p.m. NWC women's soccer at Central Wyoming

MONDAY, OCT. 20

5 p.m. PHS freshman volleyball vs. Greybull

TUESDAY, OCT. 21

4 p.m. PHS freshman volleyball at Cody
 5 p.m. PHS JV volleyball at Cody
 6 p.m. PHS volleyball at Cody

PUBLIC NOTICES

"Because the people must know"

Notice of suit

STATE OF WYOMING)
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT) ss.
 COUNTY OF PARK)
 FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT)
 Civil Action No. CV-2025-193COD)
 ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES,)
 Plaintiff,)
 vs.)
 DUSTIN GRAVATT,)
 Defendant.)
 NOTICE OF SUIT)
 TO: Dustin Gravatt)
 YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action has)
 been filed against you in the Circuit Court, Fifth Judicial District, Park County, Wyoming, Civil Action No.)

CV-2025-193COD, and that this notice by publication is made due to the fact that your present address cannot be ascertained after reasonable diligence. This notice is given pursuant to the provisions of Rule 4(k)(4)(F) of the Wyoming Rules of Civil Procedure. This notice by publication shall be made for four consecutive weeks on the dates indicated below*, and you are required to answer this Complaint on or before the thirtieth (30th) day following the last date of publication, or else Judgment by default may be rendered against you.

You are hereby notified that the substance of the Complaint is for breach of contract.
 SARAH ZISKA
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 By Jacque Boone, Deputy

First Publ., Thurs., Oct. 9, 2025
 Final Publ., Thurs., Oct. 30, 2025

Final payment

NOTICE OF FINAL PAYMENT TO CONTRACTOR
 NOTICE OF FINAL PAYMENT TO CONTRAC-

TOR NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Northwest College, Powell, Wyoming, has accepted work as substantially completed according to the plans, specifications and rules set forth in the contract between Northwest College and Big Horn Roofing, Inc. pursuant to Northwest College, Big Horn Roofing, Inc. is entitled to settlement therefore. On the 26th day of November, being Forty-One days after the first publication of this Notice, Northwest College, Powell Wyoming, will pay Big Horn Roofing, Inc. the

full amount due under said contract. All persons having claims for labor and material furnished to or on behalf of the above stated Contractor shall present them to Northwest College prior to the date specified above that payment will be made to said Contractor.

First Publ., Thurs., Oct. 16, 2025
 Final Publ., Thurs., Oct. 23, 2025

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SIGNUP TODAY BY CALLING 307-754-2221



The Trappers celebrate a kill by Lexie Arnold during their match against Central Wyoming on Wednesday. From left: Lexie Arnold, Eva Murray, Aidann Mottishaw, Rylee Arnold, Shilah Arnold and McKinlee Scammon. Tribune photo by Seth Romasa

Volleyball: Play Casper College at 6 p.m. on Friday

Continued from Page 9

gave Central a 24-22 advantage and the Rustlers finished with a 25-22 win.

Northwest came out strong in the third, using strong blocking to help build a 15-10 lead.

The Trappers built that lead further before the Rustlers applied pressure at 18-14 and forced a Northwest timeout.

Northwest made it 23-16 after a hit out by Central, and saw out the final points for a 25-19 set win.

After the strong set the Trappers were unable to carry their momentum, trailing early and often in the fourth set.

The Trappers cut the lead down to five after it reached eight, but the Rustlers finished strong late and earned the 25-15 win to take the match 3-1.

"I was really proud of the girls during the Central game," coach Nicole Buck said. "Not only because they competed well, even taking a set. But especially because they played with great energy and togetherness, something we've been working extra hard on."

McKinlee Scammon led with eight kills, Mottishaw led with 22 assists, Shilah Arnold had 17 digs, Ellianna Baumstarck had six blocks, all solo, while Lexie Arnold added four aces and 10 digs.

NORTHWEST 3, WESTERN WYOMING 0

Heading to Rock Springs on Friday the Trappers came up against the other wireless team in the Region IX North, looking for a win against the Mustangs (2-22 overall, 0-6 Region IX North).

A close set throughout was just squeezed out by the Trappers in the end, taking it 26-24 for a 1-0 lead.

After the win in the first set, the Trappers came out stronger in the second and third sets and controlled throughout, earning 25-13 and 25-12 wins to complete the sweep of the Mustangs.

Taylee Carlson led with 10 kills, Mottishaw had 18 assists while Rylee Arnold added 15, Scammon had 11 digs, four Trappers recorded one block and Shilah Arnold had five aces.

"It was wonderful getting that win against Western Wyoming — especially because the first set was hard-fought and the next two were very commanding wins," Buck said. "The girls did a fantastic job of taking care of our side of the court. They hustled for every ball, covered very well for hitters and served the ball extremely well."

ROCKY MOUNTAIN JV 3, NORTHWEST 0

The Trappers made a quick trip to Billings on Tuesday, taking on the Battlin Bears JV.

Northwest was shorthanded and unable to come away with the win.

Stats from the match were unavailable as of press time.

HOME GAMES

Northwest returns home this weekend to start the second half of Region IX action, needing wins in order to make a run at a postseason spot.

The Trappers start by welcoming in NJCAA No. 15 ranked Casper College (18-7 overall, 6-0 Region IX North) at 6 p.m. on Friday.

Northwest follows that up with a match against Gillette College (16-5 overall, 2-4 Region IX North) at 2 p.m. on Saturday.

"I'm really hoping to take a huge step forward in this second round of conference," Buck said. "Struggling through some losses hasn't been easy but if we can show that we're improving, learning and becoming more competitive, then we can rest knowing that we're taking steps toward the team and program we want to be."

CENTRAL WYOMING 3, NORTHWEST 1

(25-21, 25-22, 19-25, 25-15)

Total blocks then solo blocks in () Kills — McKinlee Scammon 8, Lexie Arnold 6, Ellianna Baumstarck 6, Aidann Mottishaw 4, Eva Murray 3, Vinaya Vanderploeg 1, Natalee Hayder 1

Assists — Aidann Mottishaw 22, Shilah Arnold 4, Lexie Arnold 1

Digs — Shilah Arnold 17, Lexie Arnold 10, McKinlee Scammon 9, Aidann Mottishaw 8, Trinity Frank 4, Natalee Hayder 1, Rylee Arnold 1

Blocks — Ellianna Baumstarck 6 (6), McKinlee Scammon 2 (2), Taylee Carlson 2, Lexie Arnold 1 (1), Vinaya Vanderploeg 1 (1), Aidann Mottishaw 1 (1)

Aces — Lexie Arnold 4, Aidann Mottishaw 2, Nevaeh Bell 2

NORTHWEST 3, WESTERN WYOMING 0

(26-24, 25-13, 25-12)

Kills — Taylee Carlson 10, McKinlee Scammon 7, Eva Murray 6, Lexie Arnold 5, Aidann Mottishaw 5, Natalee Hayder 4, Nevaeh Bell 1

Assists — Aidann Mottishaw 18, Rylee Arnold 15, Shilah Arnold 4

Digs — McKinlee Scammon 11, Shilah Arnold 9, Aidann Mottishaw 8, Lexie Arnold 7, Trinity Frank 5, Rylee Arnold 3, Eva Murray 1, Vinaya Vanderploeg 1, Natalee Hayder 1, Taylee Carlson 1

Blocks — Eva Murray 1, McKinlee Scammon 1 (1), Natalee Hayder 1, Taylee Carlson 1, Lexie Arnold .5, Aidann Mottishaw .5

Aces — Shilah Arnold 5, Aidann Mottishaw 2, Lexie Arnold 1, McKinlee Scammon 1



Panther golfers show off their new gear at the state tournament in Cody in September. From left: Emery Hernandez, Cody Fisher and Coy Erickson. Photo courtesy Troy Hildebrand

New gear donated to PHS golf team

The Powell High School golf team received new gear for the 2025 season, after new team specific bags and new shirts were purchased for the team through local community donations.

Powell had the team bags donated via Dave Wyman and Adam Teten through Specialty Electrics, Inc. as well as a donation by Jael Fisher and First Choice Imaging allowing the team to purchase new team shirts this season.

"We are really fortunate in Powell to have the school take

care of the essentials each year for our program but sometimes the uniform rotation and things like team bags are out of the scope of what fits within our golf budget," coach Troy Hildebrand said. "We have been very fortunate to have a couple of local Powell businesses step up for us and make donations that allowed the team to have new bags for 2025 and two sets of team shirts over the past two years."

Hildebrand said that the process with Wyman to create the

14 bags that were donated to the program started last spring. The bags were designed by Sun Mountain Golf, allowing for every varsity golfer for the boys or girls to have a team bag for the season.

"These will last us anywhere from eight to 10 seasons," Hildebrand said, adding, "It is really nice to look out on the course and easily be able to identify our players with the matching team shirts and bags, both of which got numerous compliments throughout the fall."

SHIFT INTO Winter Gear

POWELL TRIBUNE THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2024 SUPPLEMENT TO THE POWELL TRIBUNE A GUIDE TO CAR CARE

BOYS & THEIR TOYS

Tate McCoy's collection of rideable and reliable Honda 50cc and 70cc bikes from the 60s and 70s was built with the help of his father, Jeff, who passed in 2021. Now Tate shares his collection with his 6-year-old grandson, Asher Desjarlais. See story on Page 2. Photo by Seth Romasa

Bringing back the past

POWELL MAN RESTORES 1942 BUICK, A WARTIME NOVELTY

BY BRADEN SCHILLER Tribune staff writer

After a decade of hard, meticulous work, Larry Parker's 1942 Buick Special is finally back to looking just like it did rolling off the factory floor.

When Parker first laid eyes on the vehicle, it was abandoned in a farm field. The lines of the car, including its fawn body (a sloped roof in the back), caught his attention.

"Even though it was sitting in the ground, the body was in fairly good shape from the standpoint of rust," Parker said.

When he later attended a vehicle auction at the farm, the time-worn car came home with him.

Back began making the 1942 Specials amid World War II, shortly before the United States joined the global conflict. Around that time, Buick had taken on the task of producing more immediate engines.

But a company may not be able to continue to accommodate national defense needs, they would also "continue to supply for the car owners of America, the finest motor cars we can build."

"That always is in the first rule of the Buick publication read, "Circumstances sometimes require that two or more things be done at once, and a viable organization is always ready to meet such a situation."

The piece went on to explain there had been changes to the model, largely improvements, including softer coil springs and stronger connecting rods (discovered through their airplane work). On Feb. 3, 1942, the last Buick model was produced.

Larry Parker stands next to the body of the car in the early stages of the project. It is in Betty, Montana, for the time being where it is being reupholstered. Photo by Seth Romasa

POWELL TRIBUNE Page 5

Thursday, November 7, 2024

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Shift into Winter Gear

A guide to Car Care | Ad deadline Oct. 29 | Published Nov. 6

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Toby Bonner Ashley Stratton Lauritzen Mike Voss

Living in the expectation of Christ's sure return

A few weeks ago, someone asked if I'd heard about all the people who had gotten stirred up by a prophecy of Jesus' coming. Apparently, some pastor in South Africa had posted on a social media site that Jesus was going to return at the end of September this year. Of course, his dates had already slipped, but the return date had been revised to early October, which has now passed without the Lord's return. That this man was wrong about the day of Christ's return wasn't surprising to me in the least. However, it was a bit surprising that the post went viral because so many were willing to believe he knew the day of Christ's return.



SHANE LEGLER
Perspectives

The Scripture is clear about this. Our Lord Jesus has told us "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man," reads Matthew 24:36-39.

Therefore, if anyone should ever come along saying that they know the day or the hour of Jesus' return, do not believe them. Is it not arrogance for anyone to say that the father has revealed to him what he did not reveal to either the angels of heaven or to the son himself? When anyone is willing to believe something flatly contrary to the Scripture, which cannot be broken, he is needlessly setting him-

self up for failure. This is exactly what our first mother did when she listened to the old serpent, who got her to question God's word.

With that understood, there have been a multitude of Christians from the Ascension of Christ until now who have expected that Christ would come in their lifetimes, and that, in this pastor's opinion, is as it should be. Only the father knows the day and the hour of the Lord's return, but every Christian knows that he is coming again to judge the living and the dead. The last thing the Lord Jesus says to his bride in the Scripture is "Surely I am coming soon," as stated in Revelation 22:20. Therefore, every single believer should live daily in the hope and sure expectation of the Lord Jesus' sure return.

That was the Lord's intent for us, regardless of how much distance may be between us and the resurrection on the timeline. Of course, there are many worldlings that chuckle and laugh when a prophecy that was never true in the first place doesn't come to be. There are many who mock Christ and the church saying, "where is he? When is he coming?" I pity those who speak this way. They know neither the Scripture nor the power of God.

The Lord has already spoken of them saying, "scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. They will say, 'Where is the promise of his coming?' For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation ... But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years

as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed," reads 2 Peter 3:3-4, 8-10.

If you are not in Christ Jesus, it is for you that he carries. On the day that he comes, the wicked will remain wicked, and the righteous will remain righteous. The time for repentance and forgiveness will be over. That day will be pure joy for Christ's own, but it will be a day of reckoning for all who refused to have peace with God through repentance and faith in Christ. Nonetheless, God's people should yearn for that day. We should live in the hope that every day will be the day.

The Lord has admonished us to always live in the expectation of his swift return saying, "Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes," says Matthew 24:45-46. If we are truly loving Christ and keeping his commandments, our hearts cry will be that of the bride of Christ in every age "Come, Lord Jesus!" And if we should find that we do not welcome his coming, then let us turn from our sin and seek his face while it is yet called today, for it is the father's heart that we might be able to yearn for the day of Jesus' sure return rather than tremble at it.

(Shane Legler is the pastor of Powell Church of God.)

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

THURSDAY, OCT. 16

- **TODDLER TIME** will be at 10:30 a.m. at Homesteader Hall at the Park County Fairgrounds.
- ***AN IPHONE FUNDAMENTALS CLASS** will be 10-11 a.m. at the Powell CTD Building at 1102 E. 7th Street. Registration is \$10 for more information or to register visit nwc.edu/pvce/classes/iPhone-Fundamentals.html.
- **HOMESCHOOL HOUR** will be at 2 p.m. at Homesteader Hall at the Park County Fairgrounds. Participants will be reading chapter books, crafting and enjoying other activities.
- **ADULT CRAFT NIGHT** will be at 6 p.m. at the Elk's Lodge. This month's craft is canning jar ring pumpkins, snowmen and other creations; supplies will be provided, bring old canning jar rings if possible.
- **THE SHOSHONE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN** monthly/potluck meeting will be at 6 p.m. at the Park County Weed & Pest building. For more information visit shoshonebch.org.
- **A DRIVER EDUCATION ORIENTATION** will be 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Powell CTD Building at 1102 E. Seventh Street. The informational meeting is for students and parents. For more information visit nwc.edu/pvce/classes/Driver-Education-Orientation-October.html
- ***MAKE A DIY PUMPKIN WREATH** 6-8 p.m. at the Powell CTD Building at 1102 E. 7th Street. Registration is \$35. To register or learn more visit nwc.edu/pvce/classes/DYI-Pumpkin-Wreath.html.

FRIDAY, OCT. 17

- **FITNESS CLASS** will be from 10-11 a.m. at the Powell Senior Citizens Center. For more information, call 307-754-4223.
- **AGES 10 AND UP CRAFTERNOON:** Ghosts in a jar will be at 1 p.m. at Homesteader Hall at the Park County Fairgrounds.
- **THE FUTURE OF COMEDY SHOW** is hosted by the Eagles Club 2426. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the show starts at 8. Contact 307-754-4242 for tickets.

SATURDAY, OCT. 18

- **COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTION** will be held at the American Legion Hall, 143 S. Clark St., from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. This event is open to low-income individuals and families from Cody to Powell to Lovell and places in between. Commodities are first come, first served, while supplies last.
- ***REBUILDING A RECIPROCAL RELATIONSHIP WITH RELATIVES:** Buffalo Restoration on the Wind River Indian Reservation" with speaker Jason Baldes will be 2-4 p.m. at the Grizzly Room at the Park County Library in Cody.

MONDAY, OCT. 20

- **FITNESS CLASS** will be from 10-11 a.m. at the Powell Senior Citizens Center. For more information, call 307-754-4223.
- **PAPER AIRPLANE MAKING AND LAUNCHING** is 3-5 p.m. at Homesteader Hall at the Park County Fairgrounds. The event is for ages 10 and up and free supplies are provided.
- **POWELL WINTER FARMERS MARKET** is 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge.
- **POST 26 BIG HORN BASIN BOXING CLUB** will hold class every Monday from 4:45-6:30 p.m. at 555 S. Fair St. Class is free for K-12 students. Adults pay \$6 per class. For more information contact David at 505-385-5623 or email Post26boxing@gmail.com.

TUESDAY, OCT. 21

- **TECH TUESDAY WITH CHRIS** will be at 9 a.m. in the Powell Library. Sign up at the adult desk for a free one-on-one session for help with your tech problems. Bring your charged device.
- **TODDLER TIME** will be at 10:30 a.m. at Homesteader Hall at the Park County Fairgrounds.
- **WHAT'S THE TEA,** a tea time exploring popular teas in different nations, will be 2-3 p.m. at the NWC student center.
- **TACO TUESDAY** will be at the American Legion on 143 S. Clark St. from 5-7 p.m. Everyone is welcome for free tacos every Tuesday.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 22

- **FITNESS CLASS** will be from 10-11 a.m. at the Powell Senior Citizens Center. For more information, call 307-754-4223.
- ***WEDNESDAYS AROUND THE WORLD** will be 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the NWC Student Center. Admission is \$10.
- **THE ROTARY CLUB OF POWELL** meets every Wednesday at noon in the NWC Nelson House on 550 College Drive; visitors are welcome.
- **CRAFTS WITH JULIANA** will be at 1 p.m. at the Powell Senior Center. Registration is required. For more information or to register call 307-754-4223.
- **BRING YOUR OWN CRAFTERNOON** will be 1-3 p.m. in the meeting room of Homesteader Hall at the Park County Fairgrounds. Bring crafting, sewing, painting, drawings and any other crafts or artwork to work on. The program is open to all ages.
- **STORY TIME** will be at 1:30 p.m. at Homesteader Hall at the Park County Fairgrounds.
- **FALL CUSTOMER APPRECIATION PARTY** is 2-5 p.m. at Pinnacle Bank at 175 N. Everts St. There will be appetizers and sweet treats, as well as a chance to win a grill, corn maze tickets and more.

Assembly of God

Lovell, 310 Idaho; Rev. Daniel R. Jarvis; 9:45 am Sunday school 11 am & 6:30 pm Sun., Wed., 10 a.m. & 7 p.m. Bible Study.

Baha'i' Faith

For info, write to: National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States, 536 Sheridan Rd, Wilmette, IL 60091.

Bennett Creek Baptist Church

11 Road 8WC, Clark, Wyo.; 10 a.m. Bible study; 11:15 a.m. Kids' Church, 11:15 a.m. Worship.

Charity Baptist Church

Pastor Kevin Schmidt, 754-8095, <http://kcschmidt.wix.com/charitybaptistchurch>, 176 N. Day St. Sunday: 9 a.m. Sunday school, 10 a.m. morning service, 6 pm evening service. **Live Stream access also available through the webpage.

Church of Christ

1/10th mile east of Hwy 14A. Sunday Services at 9:30 a.m. Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study at 7 p.m. If we can help, call 754-7250.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Powell 1st Ward 1026 Ave. E
Steven Hultgren, Bishop 307-272-0356. Sacramento, 11 a.m.; Sunday School, 1st & 3rd Sundays, noon; Primary, noon; Priesthood, 2nd & 4th Sundays, noon; Young Women's, 2nd & 4th Sun., noon; Relief Society, 2nd & 4th Sundays; Wednesday: Mutual, 7 p.m.

Powell 2nd Ward 525 W. 7th St.

Neil Waite, Bishop 307-254-5293 Sacramento, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 1st & 3rd Sundays, 10 a.m.; Primary 10 a.m.; Priesthood, 2nd & 4th Sundays 10 a.m.; Young Women's, 2nd & 4th Sun. 10 a.m.; Relief Society, 2nd & 4th Sundays 10 a.m.; Wednesday: Mutual 7 p.m. Family Search Center, 525 West 7th Street. Hours of Operation: Tuesday 10 a.m. - noon, Thursday 1 p.m. -3 p.m.



Powell 3rd Ward 1026 Ave. E.

Waleryan Wisniewski, Bishop 307-922-2757. Sacramento, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 1st & 3rd Sundays, 10 a.m.; Primary 10 a.m.; Priesthood, 2nd & 4th Sundays 10 a.m.; Young Women's, 2nd & 4th Sun. 10 a.m.; Relief Society, 2nd & 4th Sundays 10 a.m.; Wednesday: Mutual 7 p.m.

Powell 4th Ward 525 W. 7th St.

Shane Shoopman, Bishop 307-320-8735 Sacramento 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 1st & 3rd Sundays, 11:30 a.m.; Primary, 11:30 a.m.; Priesthood, 2nd & 4th Sundays, 11:30 a.m.; Young Women's, 2nd & 4th Sun. 11:30 a.m.; Relief Society, 2nd & 4th Sundays 11:30 a.m.; Wednesday: Mutual 7 p.m. Family Search Center, 525 West 7th Street. Hours of Operation: Tuesday 10 a.m. - noon, Thursday 1 p.m. -3 p.m.

Heart Mountain Young Single Adult Ward 525 W. 7th St.

Barry Welch, Bishop 307-587-9683 Sacramento, noon; Sunday School, 1st & 3rd Sundays, 1 p.m.; Priesthood, 2nd & 4th Sundays, 1 p.m.; Relief Society, 2nd & 4th Sundays, 1 p.m. Family Search Center, 525 West 7th Street. Hours of Operation: Tuesday 10 a.m. - noon, Thursday 1 p.m. -3 p.m.

Deaver United Methodist

Regular worship, first and third Sundays at 9 a.m. 380 First Street, Deaver.

Faith Community Church

"Love God - Love Others" 1267 Road 18 (Hwy 294), Powell - Church located 3 miles SW of Ralston, 1/2 Mile N off 14A, Pastor Dave Seratt 307-272-7655. Sunday Services at 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. Faith Kids Church will be during the 9:30 a.m. service. Services available at: www.faith-community-church.org, Powellfaithcommunitychurch@gmail.com

Victory Baptist Church

700 E. Madison St., 307-754-3990. Pastor Bill Harvison Pastor@victorypowell.org www.VictoryPowell.org Sundays: Bible study for all ages at 10 a.m. Worship at 11 a.m.

Grace Point

Growing in Grace - Standing on Truth - Bringing Hope to the World. Senior Pastor, David Pool, 550 Kattenhorn Drive, 754-3639. Sunday school for all ages at 9:00am. Sunday Worship at 10:30am. Children's church available during the sermon. Nursery is always available for birth to 3 years. Our calendar is available at www.gracepoint-powell.org for up-to-date info. Worship service is livestreamed & recorded on our website, Facebook and YouTube. All are welcome. Contact us for more information: office@gracepointpowell.org

Glad Tidings

Assembly of God

Gilbert & 7th St. East, 754-2333, Mike Walsh, pastor. **Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., Worship service at 10:45 a.m. Everyone Welcome!

Harvest Community Church of the Nazarene

Pastor: Jeriah Horsley, 364 W. Park St. (behind Blair's); 754-4842. www.harvestcomchurch.net **Facebook Live Sundays at 11 a.m. Like us on Facebook: Harvest Community Church (HCC).

Hope Lutheran (ELCA)

588 Ave. H (corner of Cary & Ave H) 307-754-4040 www.hopelutheranpowell.org Worship is at 9:30 with a fellowship time immediately following. Worship is livestreamed on our facebook page: Hope Lutheran Church as well as YouTube. Contact the church office for information on Bible Studies and youth opportunities. All are welcome.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

(Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.) 754-3168, Daniel Harrington, Pastor, 675 Ave. D. Sunday, morning services, 9 a.m. Adult Bible Study at 10:15 a.m. Sunday Bible School 10:15 a.m. (when in session)

Jehovah's Witnesses

Cody - 2702 Cougar Ave. - Sunday, 10 a.m.; 10:40 a.m. Watchtower study; Midweek meeting, Thurs., 7:30 p.m.

New Life Church

185 S. Tower Blvd.; Tim Morrow, Pastor, 754-0424. ** Sunday Worship, 8 a.m., and 9:30 a.m. Livestream access at newlifepowell.com

Powell Church of God

137 W. 2nd Street. Sunday school at 9:30 a.m., Worship at 10:30 a.m. For information, visit powellcog.org or contact Pastor Shane Legler at 254-423-2213.

St. Barbara's Catholic Church

Fr. James Schumacher, Pastor, 3rd Street & N. Absaroka, 307-754-2480 Mass Schedule: Sat., 5:45 p.m., Sun., 9 a.m. & 5 p.m., Daily Mass: Mon., 7:30 a.m., Tues., noon, Thu. & Fri., 7:30 a.m., Sat., 8 a.m. Parish Office 115 E. Third St., Office Hours: Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Check stbarbaracatholic.org for bulletins and more details.

St. John's Episcopal Church

Megan Nickles and Susan McEvoy, priests: 754-4000, Ave. E & Mountain View. Sunday school and child care available. **Sunday morning services, 10 a.m.

Seventh-day Adventist

1350 N. Gilbert; 754-2129. Saturday. Everyone welcome. Worship Service **Contact the church for more info.

Trinity Bible Church

Brian Onstead, pastor, 535 S. Everts, 754-2660 www.tbccwyoing.com, bonstead@tbccwyoing.com, **Sunday school, 9 a.m., morning worship service 10:30 a.m., evening service 4 p.m.

United Pentecostal Church

Kaleb Wheeler, Pastor, 307-250-7443. Meeting at the intersection of the Powell Hwy & Nez Perce Dr. 7 miles from Cody. **Contact the church for more info.

United Church of Powell

All are welcome! Located at 329 N. Bent Street. Sunday School for all ages at 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship begins at 10:45 a.m., led by Reverend Janita Krayniak. For information, contact the church at 754-2491 or by email at unit-edchurchofpowell@gmail.com.

Water of Life Church

312 South 3rd Street, PO Box 633, Cowley, WY 82420. Pastor Johannes Slabbert. 307-271-1113. Sunday service, 10:30 a.m.

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SUPER CLASSIFIEDS

Thursday, October 16, 2025

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ALL FOUR PAPERS — ONE AD PRICE! The Lovell Chronicle • 307-548-2217 — Basin Republican Rustler • 307-568-2458 — Greybull Standard • 307-765-4485 — Powell Tribune • 307-754-2221

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(8/7ftnB)
GREYBULL STORAGE UNIT for rent. 10x10. \$50 per month. 307-899-0796.

(2/20ftnB)
STORAGE UNITS FOR RENT in Greybull. 10x20, \$100/month, outside storage available for RVs and trailers. 307-212-0092.

(5/18ftnB)
GREYBULL: THE STORAGE SHED has units available by the day, week, month or year. 1417 N. Seventh St. Call 307-568-2795.

(ftnB)
BASIN: STORAGE UNITS AVAILABLE at The Storage Shed - by the day, week, month or year. 307-568-2795.

(ftnB)
COMMERCIAL BUILDING FOR RENT in Powell close to downtown with good parking. It includes lobby, 2 offices and bathroom with many very large storage rooms also available. Can rent from 800-3500 square feet. Price is depending on your needs. Utilities included, 424 E. North Street, Powell. Call 307-921-9324.

(73TFTCT)
GREEN ACRES MOBILE Park. Lot available for a mobile 2015 or newer. 307-587-3738.

(46TFTCT)
POWELL: 1 BED TO 4 BEDS, in town, out of town, pets maybe, \$500 and up, Wyoming Real Estate Network, Call Larry Hedderman 307-754-5500.

(20TFTCT)

Pets

FRENCH BULLDOGS, BOSTON TERRIERS, Pomeranians. Free, two older French females. Newcastle, 307-365-3739. (83-83W)

For Lease

PARK COUNTY WYOMING RANCH near Cody is available for a long-term lease.

The ranch has over 50,000 acres and supports an irrigated hay base with BOR water rights. Carrying capacity is 700 animal units year-round with hay production. Willing to split the hay ground and grazing. Please email Honora Beirne (hbeirne@acpg.com) and Melanie Giliati (mgiliati@acpg.com) for details.

(9/103thursCT)

Veterans Banquet
November 8, 2025 @ 4 pm
Heart Mountain Building, Powell
Live/Silent Auction, Games, Cash Bar,
Guest Speaker, Dinner and more

Single Ticket \$50
Sponsor Table \$500

Call/Text
Wes 307-272-0453
Kaycie 307-272-8405

"Spring Lives One Dog At A Time"

Services Offered

NEED YOUR ROOF repaired or replaced? Stellar Roofing is licensed & insured. Free Estimates! You have options, so be sure to get a second bid. Call Tom at 307-431-9188.

(6/12ftnB)
GRIZZLY WOODWORKS, LLC. Carpentry, decks, remodels, built-ins, furniture, framing & trim. Over 25 years experience. Jon Roufs, 307-271-1816.

(76-83PT)
HANDYMAN SERVICES, fall projects — call Dick at 307-250-0430.

(80-89PT)
RALSTON APPLIANCE - WE OFFER repair of all appliances - 307-202-1551.

(13TFTCT)
EVERGREEN SMALL ENGINE Repair. Repair and service lawn and garden equipment. Call 307-431-4299.

(4/10-12/25pL)
LOVELL GARAGE DOOR. Serving all of the Big Horn Basin. Call Ryan, 307-548-2900 or 307-259-3448.

(6/16ftnL)
Digitize Your Photos & Old Movies — NOW DOING 8MM! Professional digitizing services for photos, polaroids, VHS tapes and 8mm reels. Choose a digital copy of your photos or order professional quality prints from me. Call or text 307-272-0795 (leave voicemail), or shoot me an email at wensky.jor@gmail.com.

(19TFTCT)
IF YOU HAD KNEE OR HIP REPLACEMENT SURGERY and suffered an infection between 2022 and the present time, you may be entitled to compensation. Call Attorney Charles H. Johnson 1-800-535-5727

(83-83W)
WE BUY HOUSES FOR CASH AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-866-759-0710.

(83-83W)
WE BUY 8,000 CARS A WEEK. Sell your old, busted or junk car with no hoops, haggles or headaches. Sell your car to Peddle. Easy three step process. Instant offer. Free pickup. Fast payment. Call 1-877-582-0070.

(83-83W)

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(83-83W)

For Lease

(08TFFT)
DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP - Demential specialists lend an experienced ear to offer you hope, humor, validation and coping strategies for living or working with someone with memory loss. Caregivers, family and friends are welcome! Third Tuesday of every month at 1 p.m. at the Park County Library, 1500 Heart Mountain St, Cody. For more information and to RSVP call 406-281-8455.

(41TFFT)

For Sale

Turn-key restaurant on wheels! \$45,000 GREAT CONDITION.
1995 Ford International. New appliances, awning, new water tank. Propane in place. In Buffalo. 970-819-9134

ECO BRIQ FIREWOOD sold by the pallet. 1 pallet = 1.5 cords. Introductory price - \$200. Call John at 307-219-1488.

(79-95PT)
WHY PAY MORE for your new floor? John's Carpet has the lowest prices on carpet, LVT and more. Call Ryan at 307-548-7233 for a free quote.

(3/19ftnL)

Announcements

THOUGHT IGNORANT BY SMARTER FRIENDS? Make Amends! MikesNewsNet.com (83-83PT)

NA MEETS WEDNESDAYS from 7 to 9 p.m., Grace Fellowship Church, Greybull. Every week.

(ftnB)
AL-ANON IS A fellowship for the family and friends of alcoholics. Greybull Al-Anon meets every Monday, noon, at Grace Fellowship Church, 425 S. 5th St. Greybull. We can open the meeting virtually if necessary. If you are in need of what we offer but unable to attend in-person, please call Charlotte at 307-272-7029 and she will give you the Zoom log-on information.

(9/29ftnB)
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT Group. Starting Sept. 16 at 7 p.m. and will continue to meet every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month. Crisis Intervention Services, 335 N. Gilbert St. For more information or to sign up, please email emily@cis-park.org or call 307-754-7959.

(73TFT)
CODY OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS meets Thursdays at 11 a.m. at 725 19th Street, Cody. 12 step meeting for food addiction. Call 307-272-7211.

(22TFFT)
FAMILIES LIVING WITH PARKINSON'S will be meeting at 10 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at Rocky Mountain Manor basement, elevator available. Caregivers and patients are both welcome. Coffee and refreshments served. For information call 307-899-6093.

(83-83W)

(83-83W)

(83-83W)

(83-83W)

(83-83W)

Help Wanted

1 Full-Time and 1 Part-Time LEGAL SECRETARY/ ASSISTANT

Powell law firm of Copenhaver, Kitchen & Kolpitke, LLC

General secretarial duties
Computer skills required
Legal assistant skills preferred
\$14-\$16/hour DOE

Send letter of application, resume, and references to:
jan@ckattorneys.net or
Box 839, Powell, WY 82435

APPLICATION DEADLINE: October 24, 2025

For Sale

BUYING SCRAP VEHICLES with clear titles. Pete Smet Recycling, 342 HWY 20 North, Worland. 307-347-2528. (5/10ftnB)

Personals

THE MOST HANDSOME & DEBONAIR, Get News Right There! MikesNewsNet.com (83-83PT)

Feed & Seed

1ST CUTTING WEED seed free grass hay. Small squares. \$100 per ton. 307-431-6650 or 307-548-2606. (10/2-30pL)

Recreational

2010 DAMON TUSCANY Model 4078. 84000 miles One owner, upgrades. In good condition. \$65,000 will negotiate. Selling due to owner's ill health. 307-413-0207. (83-83W)

To Give Away

FREE COAT GIVEAWAY — Friday, Oct. 17, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., New Life Church, 185 S. Tower Blvd., Powell. (82-83PT)

Lost & Found

STRAY STEER FOUND at 1254 Lane 9. Contact Brand Inspector to identify, 307-240-0417. (83-84FT)

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AGRI INDUSTRIES - POWELL, WY — Field Technician Responsible for irrigation construction & maintenance; No minimum education; Minimum 24 months experience irrigation worker; travel 1-2 days/week within 50 mile radius. Mail resume: Resume, Attn: J Young, PO Box 1166, Williston, ND 58801. (80-83PT)

MANDERSON (WY) POLICE DEPARTMENT seeks full-time patrol officer for small, professional department with focus on community-oriented policing. Certification preferred but not required. Salary plus generous benefits, including medical/dental/visual, state LE retirement, & up-to-date equipment. Details at www.mandersonpd.org or email jobs@mandersonpd.org. (3/13ctfnB)

RECYCLE this newspaper

Help Wanted

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Greybull Public Works has the position of Public Works Foreman currently open. This job provides full-time employment with retirement, medical insurance and paid time off. Wage depends on experience (DOE). Requirements are a minimum of a High School diploma or GED, ability to lift 75 pounds, must have Public Works experience, must have or be able to obtain a Class "A" CDL driver's license with air brakes endorsement within six months of employment and must have or be able to obtain water and wastewater licenses within one year.

Previous supervisory experience is required. Previous Public Works experience and mechanical skills are a plus. A preemployment drug screen and background check will be required.

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Cars & Trucks

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Help Wanted

Visual and Performing Arts and Humanities Program Specialist Northwest College Join our team! This position provides comprehensive program support for college and community programs, activities, performances, and events. Also manages databases, monitors budgets, and maintains websites and social media platforms. This role emphasizes collaboration, creativity, and teamwork to ensure departmental activities are successfully supported. Wage is \$19.38/hour with competitive benefits. For more information and to apply: https://nwc.edu/jobs EOE

Help Wanted

The City of Cody is seeking to fill the full-time position of Administrative Services Officer/City Clerk

Applications available at City Hall (1338 Rumsey Ave), codywy.gov or by emailing dscheumaker@codywy.gov. Please call 307-527-3468 with any questions.

Health insurance, retirement, paid holidays, vacation leave, and sick leave
 Wage range \$43.72-\$45.93 DOE

The City of Cody is an Equal Opportunity Employer

BHB(82-85CT)

PART-TIME/YEAR-ROUND SECURITY OFFICER — The Center is seeking candidates for a part-time, year-round position as a Security Officer. The work schedule varies and may include weekends. The job requires standing and walking, and a pleasant demeanor for interacting with employees and visitors. Some previous security experience is desirable but not required. Successful candidates must pass a criminal and employment background check. To apply, complete an application on our website: http://centerofthewest.org/about-us/employment/, or come in and complete an application at the Center. EOE.

(82,83,85CT)

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Powell law firm of Copenhaver, Kitchen & Kolpitke, LLC

General secretarial duties
Computer skills required
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BHB(82-85CT)

Join Our Team!

North Big Horn Hospital District has multiple career opportunities available. Please visit our website to apply. www.nbhh.com

EOE

FAIRGROUNDS PART-TIME CUSTODIAL POSITION AVAILABLE

Applications are being accepted for a **PART-TIME CUSTODIAN** for Park County Events Department, Powell, Wyoming.

Benefits include, holiday pay, and Paid time off. Applicants must be able to pass a background check and drug and alcohol test. 25 hours a week starting wage is \$16.00/hr.

Please submit an employment application to **Park County Commissioner's Office, 1002 Sheridan Ave. Cody Wyoming 82414** or E-mail to: william.wood@parkcounty-wy.gov

Position will remain open until filled. Park County is an equal opportunity employer.

Help Wanted

The Powell Tribune is seeking a COMMUNITY JOURNALIST

Wanting to join a winning team and have opportunity for advancement?

Located near Yellowstone National Park, the Powell Tribune in Powell, Wyoming, has an immediate opening for a dedicated general news reporter to join its staff of award-winning writers. The Tribune is a family-owned semi-weekly newspaper known for quality journalism. This position also includes the opportunity for advancement to a news leadership role. Preferred candidates must have a strong desire to report the news important to readers of a community newspaper, ranging from city council meetings to multicultural showcases at Northwest College. Reporters on a community newspaper staff are asked to juggle multiple beats and to assist with editing copy from staff and other sources. A knowledge of AP style would be helpful and photography skills are also preferred.

Beginning salary range — \$32K to \$35K d.o.e. Health and retirement benefits package included.

Send resume, clippings and photo portfolio to General Manager Toby Bonner at toby@powelltribune.com.

POWELL TRIBUNE

128 S. Bent Street, Powell, WY • 307-754-2221

Help Wanted

Full-Time | Year-Round | Leadership Opportunity

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Are you a natural leader with a passion for keeping things running smoothly behind the scenes? Ready to make a significant impact at one of the most iconic museums in the country? The Center is looking for a driven, detail-oriented, and visionary individual to take the reins as our new Director of Operations!

What You'll Do:

- Lead and inspire teams across multiple departments
- Drive major facility upgrades, maintenance, and project planning
- Oversee budgets, contracts, and bids with precision
- Navigate architectural and engineering schematics like a pro
- Be the go-to problem solver in urgent situations
- Collaborate across departments to keep operations running like clockwork

What You Bring:

- Proven leadership and team-building experience
- Strong multitasking and emergency management skills
- Expertise in budgeting, project management, and contract review
- Excellent organizational, verbal, and written communication skills
- A sharp eye for detail and a strategic mindset

Why Join Us?

At the Buffalo Bill Center of the West, you'll be part of a passionate team that brings the spirit of the American West to life. This is more than just a job — it's a chance to shape the future of a world-class institution while working in a dynamic and inspiring environment.

Full job description available at: www.buffalobillcenter.org/employment-opportunities - Buffalo Bill Center of the West. To apply, send your cover letter and resume to the attention of Terryh@centerofthewest.org. EOE

BUFFALO BILL CENTER OF THE WEST

128 S. Bent Street, Powell, WY • 307-754-2221

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Powell law firm of Copenhaver, Kitchen & Kolpitke, LLC

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FALL Home Improvement

Supplement to the Powell Tribune • Thursday, October 16, 2025



Roger and Nora Blankenship share a happy moment on their ranch while leading a tour of their cordwood home. The couple spent five years building the unique home and landscaping the property, all with a sense of humor. The cordwood home was built with several additional features, like pressing rhubarb leaves into the cement for a cool texture, hanging paintings by Roger along with western-themed accoutrements, leaving barbed wire and other inclusions (like a hammer) on the special wood and including soft drink and alcohol bottles in the cordwood construction.

Tribune photos by Mark Davis

CORDWOOD HOME MEANS CHARM PLUS SUPER LOW UTILITY BILLS

BY MARK DAVIS
Tribune senior reporter

When Powell's Roger and Nora Blankenship decided to build their dream house, they didn't intend on hiring a construction crew. The couple wanted to get their hands dirty, knowing they would save money, yet also wanting the build materials and personal touches to make a novel look in the area. The couple gets an A for originality.

“Every time something new would come up, he'd just read another book. 'Oh, it's time to do the electric? Oh, well, time to read another book.'”

Nora Blankenship
Homeowner

Their cordwood home is the only free-standing house using cut logs and mortar in a five state area, according to the Blankenships. Most will use post and beam construction as a way to frame the walls. Roger isn't afraid of doing things the hard way. Despite a wonderful yard with sculptural installations, the first thing you notice is the beautiful, 16-inch walls of the northwest Powell home, rich in wood textures and filled with surprises.

The wood itself had to be drier than a three-day-old biscuit. They brought in redwood fencing posts used in the 40s from Texas for most of their wood. They also added seasoned cedar and pine logs, gathered from

Stacked FOR SUCCESS

a fence under deconstruction along the Chief Joseph Scenic Highway, to honor the western landscape.

After two years of planning and five years of hard labor — through all four seasons — Roger and Nora built their home one 16-inch log and a sizable glob of mortar at a time.

“It's pretty difficult to use mortar in the winter because you're in it with your hands. And of course we had gloves on, but it's cold,” Nora said.

When they got to a point that they couldn't figure something out, Roger would head for the library.

“Every time something new would come up, he'd just read another book,” Nora said. “Oh, it's time to do the electric? Oh, well, time to read another book,” she said with a laugh.

When they needed a special tool, Roger would build it. For example, the two had

a difficult time carrying in large slabs of interior drywall for the ceilings. So Roger handmade simple totes with handles to hold the drywall and make transporting it easier.

They also kept the costs down on tools by using antiques. Their main saw was a tractor-powered, monster-sized buzz or cordwood saw with a blade straight out of your nightmares. Actually, this fairly dangerous, but effective, saw was constructed on Nora's parents' farm.

“We had to borrow the neighbor's tractor because it runs on a PTO (power take-off),” Nora said. “I think my dad and [brother] Lee made it.”

The build was dragging on and, as is true with most families, finances dictated their effort. It was a true test of their relationship, shaking the very foundation of their marriage.

“There were so many challenges. And then when somebody comes over and they get so excited looking at it and everything, I'd say, ‘stop and look at your marriage first and see how strong it is.’ And then I'd say, ‘and then look at it again, because this project was a lot of stress,’” she said.

One of the top challenges was providing local authorities with plans. When Roger found out it would cost thousands to hire a pro, he sat down and read a couple books. Then he went out and bought the proper paper and supplies and planned out every detail of the home.

“I did drafting and stuff in high school, but that's it,” Roger confessed.

He still has the old school composition book he filled with plans prior to starting construction. The book is filled with notes, drawings and quite a few rings of dried coffee stains. If you've ever seen a fat wallet — maybe someone that collects coupons and random notes — you can accurately imagine Roger's project notebook. Nora loves her “Renaissance man.”

The couple will have been married 55 years this coming December. They met while working a dude ranch on the North Fork. She was a cabin girl and he was a dude. When asked how they fell in love, Roger said with a prideful grin, “she picked me.”

“The best woman you can get is the one

See Cordwood, Page 6 >

New subdivisions pushing Powell to the south

BY CJ BAKER
Tribune staff writer

Powell is expanding to the south, with a pair of new subdivisions being built south of Monroe Street.

On the city's eastern end, two new homes are currently being constructed within the Shoopman 5 Subdivision while plans are advancing to create the new Autumn Grove Subdivision just east of Southside Elementary School.

Powell officials approved the initial 30-lot phase of the Shoopman 5 develop-

ment last year, annexing 5.77 acres into the city. They're now being asked to bring another 13.68 acres into the city to cover the first two phases and 69 lots of Autumn Grove.

By building to the south, both developers are following what's available. For example, the elevation of the land makes it particularly difficult to expand the city any further to the east.

Both subdivisions are also taking advantage of recent ordinance changes the Powell City Council made to encourage development.

AUTUMN GROVE

Developer Erik Petersen has said Autumn Grove could eventually grow to include 200 houses, as he owns more land further to the south that remains in the county. However, he guessed it could take as long as 40 years to fully build out the subdivision.

Petersen plans to start by building 25 homes along the south side of Monroe Street, between Day Street and County Road 8H.

That first phase will only use about a third of the land he's seeking to annex.

DEVELOPERS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF RECENT ORDINANCE CHANGES

The remaining two-thirds of the property to the south — which could eventually house another 44 residences and a new street — will remain in agricultural production for the time being.

The name of that future street has yet to be determined.

Many of Powell's east-west streets on the south side of town bear the names of America's Founding Fathers (Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison and Monroe). At last month's commission meeting, Petersen said he'd given some consideration to the name

“Trump Boulevard.”

“... I thought that would eliminate a few people out of the pool that would live there, ... so I thought I might lose some sales,” he said. “And then I thought, it might be alright.”

Ultimately, Petersen decided to recommend using the name Lincoln, though no final decisions have been made.

SHOOPMAN 5

Several blocks to the east, Scott and

See Subdivisions, Page 4 >

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307-202-1008

TREC
THE REAL ESTATE CONNECTION



Big Horn County assessor: Phone 'ringing off hook' since property tax notices sent out

BY AVERY HOWE
Greybull Standard
Via Wyoming News Exchange

Homeowners in Big Horn County recently received a notice with their property tax statement that they may be eligible for further exemptions in 2026.

"Oh boy... The phone's been ringing off the hook since everyone got their tax notices," County Assessor Gina Anderson said in late September.

Property tax cuts for long-term homeowners aged 65 and up were first established in 2024 and are in their second year of implementation for the 2026 tax season. This will be their last year in effect unless lawmakers choose to re-up or change the legislation.

"The Legislature could change everything," Anderson noted.

Those who received the long-term homeowner cuts last year with no ownership or residency changes may simply complete an affidavit with the county assessor's office to re-up. Surviving spouses of 2025 recipients may also qualify.

New applicants must be either a homeowner or have a spouse aged 65 and older and have paid Wyoming property tax for 25 years, residing at the property at least eight months of the year

and should contact the county assessor's office to apply.

Anderson explained that the initial cuts had a large impact on the county. For the 2025 tax season, the assessor's office received about 600 applications.

In 2025, SF69 added a 25% property tax cut for single-family residences off the first \$1 million fair market value of their home.

“When we began budget work this year, based on budget requests submitted, we were looking at needing to make \$4 million in cuts.”

— Lori Smallwood
County clerk

For the 2026 cuts, an additional requirement that the homeowner must reside in the residence for eight months of the year was applied.

This reduction must be applied for annually, accessible at ptd.wyo.gov/OWN-EROCC. The 25% cut is not available to homeowners who qualify for the long-term exemption.

Valuations for 2026 are still in progress, and the assessor's office won't know how much cuts affect the county until the filing deadline. Earlier this year, the assessor's office reported the 2025 valuation for the county dropped \$297,024,366 after exemptions. The local assessed value dropped \$19 million from 2024 to 2025.

"When we began budget work this year, based on budget requests submitted, we were looking at needing to make \$4 million in cuts," county clerk Lori Smallwood shared in a

memo this August.

County entities were initially asked to cut 10% from their budget from what they had been awarded in the 2024-25 season for this year. An immediate salary freeze and hiring freeze were put in place.

Among the highest percentage cuts, elections took a 59% hit, emergency management was down 55% and local emergency planning down 30%.

Two Big Horn County libraries were shuttered following a 20% cut to their budget.

After cuts, \$400,000 was still needed from the county general reserve fund to balance the 2025-26 budget.

Commissioners have predicted further property tax cuts will continue to impact the operation of various county services in 2026 during their meetings.

Anderson reported that a taxpayer recently shared with her that he qualified for the long-term homeowner cuts.

"He was reluctant to do it because he had read and he knew how bad it was hurting the county, the cemeteries, the tax districts, the schools. He wasn't going to do it, but he saved over \$800 in taxes," she said. "I have heard that from a few taxpayers that will not sign up for it because they are not happy about it."

The filing period for both exemptions opened Oct. 1. The deadline for the 25% homeowner exemption is Feb. 1, 2026. Applications are due May 26, 2026 for the long-term homeowner exemption.

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Long time craftsman opens business

Levi Johnson to provide clean and accurate shower door and glass work

Levi Johnson has been installing glass for over two decades, getting his start right out of high school in Teton County.

For the past 18 years Johnson has been working in Park County carrying out installations for most types of flat glass and specializing in shower doors — now he's going out on his own with Levi's Shower Doors and Glass.

When someone hires Johnson, they're hiring him to take on the job from start to finish.

"I mean doing 100% everything," customers won't have to deal with salesmen or other people, he said.

"I'm not really a salesman, I'm just a glass guy, I'll put in what you need and try to get you what you want rather than selling you something," Johnson said.

He has gathered a reputation as the "glass guy in

Powell," thanks to his years of expertise. One of the hallmarks of a door installed by Johnson is accurate, clean work. He installs a lot of frameless shower doors and quipped he could have them outfitted with solid gold framework if the owner desired.

"You've got to be very, very accurate to get these [doors] to fit, to get this glass to fit like you want it to," Johnson said, adding, "It's got to be perfect and right the first time or it's not going to look right."

Johnson enjoys doing custom glass work and anything out of the ordinary, he said, including fancier shower doors or glass deck railings — he's done a few in Cody.

Bathroom remodels, along with kitchen remodels are one of the best ways to raise your home's value. If a homeowner has spent

large sums to have intricate tilework put in, a clear frameless door can help show it off.

"I try to fill the space with as much glass and as little metal and hardware as possible," Johnson said. "It just makes the room look bigger I think, if you use clear glass, and a lot of times people spend a lot of money on their tile work and they got this fancy, fancy tile and a nice clear glass door really brings out the tile and makes everything look nice."

Johnson draws up the plans for the doors based on customer specifications and works with companies in Billings who can supply shower doors and tempered glass for faster turnaround times.

Right now meeting with Johnson is by appointment only, and can be reached at 307-254-6035 or through his website Levisglass.com.

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Upgrade your home this fall

WHY NOW IS THE TIME TO REPLACE AN AGING HVAC SYSTEM

(Family Features) As cooler weather sets in, households across the country face a tough question. Should they keep repairing their old heating and cooling systems or finally replace them with new ones?

While squeezing every penny out of an old unit might seem like a way to save money, experts caution that waiting can lead to higher costs, less comfort and missed opportunities for major savings.

The hidden cost of "just one more repair"

Older HVAC systems often need frequent service and those repair bills can add up. Bandage-type repairs on current units could lead to more surprise bills from repair people who don't usually offer financing plans. With contractor schedules filling up during peak seasons, a breakdown at the wrong time could mean long delays for repairs or replacements — leaving your home uncomfortable when you need it most.

Beyond the financial drain, there is the stress of dealing with an unexpected breakdown during extreme weather. Having to replace an HVAC system in the middle of a breakdown denies you the opportunity to shop around and purchase a system that best fits your home and needs. Similarly, replacing an unreliable system with a newer model can provide consistent comfort, improved efficiency and financial predictability.

Fall is the ideal time for replacement

Fall is considered the "shoulder season" in the HVAC industry. Contractors generally have more availability than during the busy summer and winter months, which makes scheduling easier. With the more moderate weather conditions during fall, you may be more comfortable without heating or cooling while the new system is being installed. Acting in fall also avoids the risk of facing a system failure in the middle of a cold snap when demand is high and options may be limited.

Incentives can make upgrading more affordable

For a limited time, programs are available to help homeowners manage the cost of replacement. This fall, certain high-efficiency systems from Carrier qualify for rebates of up to \$2,100 and financing plans with 0% APR for 60 months, giving families the ability to spread out payments without extra interest.

In addition, federal incentives under the Inflation Reduction Act offer homeowners tax credits — such as up to \$2,000 back for installing a qualifying high-efficiency heat pump — further lowering the net cost. These IRA incentives are set to expire at the end of the year, making this fall the perfect time to upgrade.



Ensure comfort and efficiency during the holidays

The holiday season is a busy time and usually includes hosting loved ones. Guarantee your celebrations go off without a hitch and your guests stay warm and comfortable by replacing your old unit during the fall months.

Modern HVAC systems do more than heat and cool; they can help maintain balanced humidity, reduce drafts, improve air quality and eliminate uneven hot or cold spots throughout your home. Plus, the energy efficiency of your new heating

and cooling system may help you save on monthly utility bills; savings you can put toward holiday shopping.

While it may be tempting to prolong the life of an old HVAC system, delaying replacement can end up being more expensive and stressful. With incentives, financing and tax credits available this fall, planning ahead can help you save money and enjoy year-round comfort.

Learn more about rebates and financing plans by contacting your local, trusted expert at carrier.com/residential/en/us/find-a-dealer.

Source: Carrier

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Subdivisions: Half streets, small corner lots approved by city officials

Continued from Page 1

Shane Shoopman have created Reagan Street within their Shoopman 5 Subdivision.

The street is accessed off Jones Street, which the Shoopmans and their company, Smooth Edge Custom Construction, extended to the south. They were the first to capitalize on a city ordinance change from last year that allows developers to only build "half-streets" when certain conditions are met.

Though the new portion of Jones Street is roughly half the width of a regular roadway, it's still wide enough to accommodate two lanes of traffic. Such half-streets are only allowed when the property across the road is undeveloped and owned by someone else. The intent is to avoid a situation where the first landowner to develop bears all the costs of building a new street.

It's also a temporary situation, as the developer must secure the full right-of-way from the owner on the other side of the street to ensure it will eventually be expanded to the standard width. (Reagan Street within the subdivision is full size.)

City officials permitted half-streets to encourage development. They believed multiple entrepreneurs had balked at paying for an entire street that would benefit an adjoining landowner who would share none of the costs.

Even with just a half-street, the Shoopmans expected to spend roughly \$650,000 on infrastructure for the first phase of their subdivision, city documents say.

The city had previously made an exception and allowed Park County School District 1 to build



The first two homes along the newly constructed Reagan Street are now being built within the Shoopman 5 Subdivision. The development is near the City of Powell's southeastern edge, with most of the 30 lots south of Monroe Street. Tribune photo by CJ Baker

a half-street when Southside Elementary School was constructed. While it might look like a driveway, the road that accesses the parking lot on the eastern side of the property is actually half of Day Street.

Petersen will be responsible for expanding the street into a full-fledged roadway whenever he develops his Autumn Grove subdivision alongside the school.

AFFORDABLE SMALL LOTS

Petersen is also planning to use a brand new city ordinance that allows smaller corner lots in newer parts of Powell. The

"affordable small lot exemption" allows for lots to be as small as 3,500 square feet, but used to be limited to land within the city's "original townsites."

The council recently expanded the exception to other parts of the city, giving its third and final approval to the change on Oct. 6.

Councilman Tim Sapp cast the lone vote against the measure, believing it would create too much density without meaningfully helping provide affordable housing.

Petersen plans to include smaller corner lots within the first phase of his subdivision

and it's allowing him to fit in two extra homes. He's guessed those lots will sell for about \$15,000 less than those on the regular parcels.

Petersen is hoping to start construction in the spring, but that hinges on council approval and how quickly the city installs a new sewer main in the area.

A formal public hearing on the Autumn Grove annexation will be held in the near future.

The Shoopmans intend to eventually extend their development further south as well, but that timeline will hinge on how quickly the initial phase progresses.



Erik Petersen plans to begin building his Autumn Grove Subdivision next year. The first phase will include 25 homes on the south side of Monroe Street, east of Southside Elementary School. Courtesy image

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Caring for indoor plants

(Family Features) Transforming your indoor space into a lush, green sanctuary starts with bringing in a bit of the outdoors by introducing houseplants to your living area. Once inside, though, it's important to properly care for them to keep your indoor garden thriving.

Understand light requirements

Light is a crucial element for indoor plant health. Different plants have varying light needs, and understanding these requirements is key to their survival. Low-light plants, such as snake plants and cast-iron plants, can thrive in areas with minimal natural light. Medium-light plants, like spider plants and ferns, prefer indirect sunlight and can be placed near windows with sheer curtains. High-light plants, including succulents and cacti, need direct sunlight for

optimal growth.

Water indoor plants correctly

It's important to understand the specific watering needs of each plant. Typically, it's best to let the top inch of soil dry out between waterings. Remember, it's better to under-water than overwater, as most plants can recover more easily from slight dehydration than root rot. Consider using a moisture meter to accurately assess when your plants need water.

Choose the right pot and soil

When choosing a pot, ensure it's slightly larger than the plant's current root system to allow for growth and has drainage holes to allow excess water to escape. Most indoor

plants thrive in a well-draining potting mix that retains some moisture but doesn't become waterlogged. Specialty mixes are also available for specific plant types and can provide the ideal growing environment.

Deal with common problems

Even with the best care, plants can encounter problems. Common issues include pests like spider mites and aphids, which can be managed with natural insecticidal soap or neem oil. Yellowing leaves can indicate over-watering while brown leaf tips often signal under watering or low humidity.

Research the specific needs of your plant species for best results and visit eLivingtoday.com for additional guidance.

Source: eLivingtoday.com

Weston County tops state in home ownership, but lags in education

BY BOB BONNAR
News Letter Journal
Via Wyoming News Exchange

The 2024 Wyoming and County Profiles, released by the State of Wyoming Economic Analysis Division, compares demographic, social and economic conditions across all 23 counties.

The 2024 profiles place Weston County at both ends of the spectrum: leading the state in home ownership and household income but reporting the widest gender pay gap and among the lowest levels of higher educational attainment.

Housing and commuting

Weston County leads Wyoming in home ownership. Nearly nine out of 10 households, or 89%, own their homes. That is the highest rate in the state and well above the statewide average of 71.9%.

Crook County also reports a high rate, while Albany County, the home of the University of Wyoming, ranks last at just 49.4%.

Despite its stability in housing, Weston residents travel farther than most for work. The average commute for those not working at home is 26.6 minutes, one of the longest in Wyoming. The statewide average is 18.5 minutes, while Washakie County has the shortest average at just 12.7 minutes.

Nearby Crook County reports shorter travel times, while Campbell County has a mix of shorter local commutes and longer distance workers.

Income and poverty

The county's median household income stands at \$87,545, well above the statewide figure of \$74,815. Mean household income is also higher at \$98,625. Per capita personal income is \$54,380, placing Weston County close to the Wyoming average.

About 111 households in the county received food stamp, or SNAP, benefits, a relatively small number compared with counties such as Goshen or Niobrara.

Weston's residents receiving Social Security average \$25,658 annually, while those with retirement income average \$31,941.

Workforce and earnings

While household income is strong, Weston ranks lowest statewide in pay equity between men and women.

Median earnings for full-time workers are \$79,821 for men and \$40,931 for women, meaning women earn just 51 cents for every dollar earned by men. The statewide average is 70 cents, and Johnson County reports the narrowest gap at 89 cents. Campbell County, just to the west, falls closer to the state norm.

Education

Only 18% of adults in Weston County hold a bachelor's degree or higher. This places the county among the bottom five in Wyoming and well below the statewide average of 29.9%.

Campbell County shows a slightly stronger rate at 22.2%, while Teton County leads the state with more than 60% of adults holding a degree.

Health and insurance

Weston County reported 5,487 residents with health insurance coverage and 962 without in 2023. Its uninsured rate is above Crook County's 6.2% but below Platte County's 22.5%.

A total of 1,016 Weston residents were Medicaid beneficiaries, a share that is far smaller than Fremont County, where more than a quarter of the population receives Medicaid, but larger than in Teton County, where fewer than 6% of residents are enrolled.

The complete Wyoming and County Profiles 2024 report is available from the Wyoming Department of Administration & Information, Economic Analysis Division at: ai.wyo.gov/divisions/economic-analysis/demographic-information/county-profiles.

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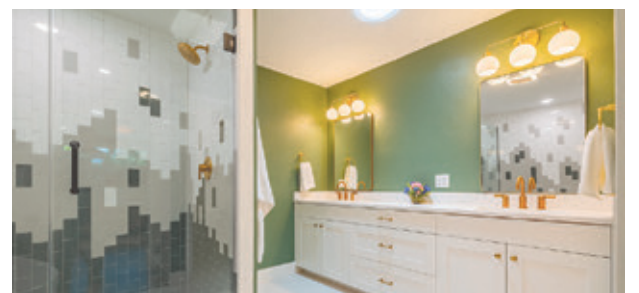
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Nora and Roger Blankenship are seen playing with their dogs framed through a recycled gate in their backyard.

Cordwood: Repurposing old, discarded items a fun project

Continued from Page 3 >

that don't need you," Roger advises.

Despite the stress of a long project, the cordwood construction offers something typical construction doesn't; giving the imagination a chance to play.

The fun-loving way they added superfluous materials to the wide walls, like glass soft drink and alcohol bottles, a spoon, hammer and old rusty stirrups. As they built, they kept their sense of humor. When the tight couple tried to explain the spoon in the wall, Roger simply said, "I think we stopped for lunch or something."

The stirrups were also unplanned. What you might want to call the fun wall is in the back of the property. Like a mullet, it is all business up front with a party in the back. They also sprinkled glass "bricks" made from soft drink and alcohol bottles for special splashes of bright red, blue and white light. As the light hits the bottles, they twinkle like Christmas lights, helping to turn the walls into art — like they live their lives. Roger also shares his talents on canvas with oil and acrylic paints and Nora is obsessed with quilting.

You can see the persistence of the sculptors in every corner of the house. The handmade cabinets fit perfectly in the home. When Roger saw the price of pre-constructed Lazy Susans that Nora had wanted, he read another book, studied the finished products and then built his own for pennies on the dollar.

"All I have to do is say Honey," she said in a syrupy way. "Honey," with sad puppy dog eyes, "and he makes it."

"I bought the hardware for \$7. I cut out the middleman," Roger said.

There's no need to ask, "you must be proud," you can see it in their eyes, said family friend Bruce Fauskee. Every problem is laughable now that they've lived in the house for 20 years. Every question they had can now be used to teach. Roger went so far in his on-the-spot, self-taught, home-schooled construction education that he actually called the author of the article they had first read when searching for cheaper construction options.

The writer was happy to help.

The husband and wife are now reaping the benefits of 16-inch thick walls. Their electric bills will make you want to build



Roger made all of the kitchen cabinets by hand, including crafting his own Lazy Susans.



A log-burning stove and a friendly cat help keep the efficient home cozy.

your own cordwood home.

"When we first moved in here my dad would catch the electric company over here at the meter, and they'd be changing it out," Nora said. "They changed out that meter three times before he caught them. They said, 'there must be something wrong with this meter, because you're not using enough electricity.' The bill was \$38 and it was January."

A 16-inch cordwood wall can achieve an R-value of approximately R-24 to R-35, depending on the type of wood, the quality of the mortar, and the insulating material in the core. Softwoods like cedar provide higher R-values, and adding insulation such as sawdust or lime in the center cavity, which the Blankenship's did, significantly increases the overall R-value of the walls. The thermal mass of the walls perfectly accommodates passive solar home design.

"We have 4 inches of mortar and 6 inches of insulation," Roger said. "In the summer it's always 15-degrees cooler in here than outside and in the wintertime, it would be the oth-

er way around. We'd stoke the stove up, get it to about 76 degrees or whatever, and it would be two, three, or four o'clock in the morning before the furnace would come on."

Like any home, the walls are still covered with family photos, Roger's paintings and Nora's creative home designs. Their frugal nature isn't something you notice. Every recycled part looks like it was specially built for the house.

One example are the front doors, which were acquired when the college tore down Bridger Hall.

"They have solid cores," Roger said, proud of his find.

But, once the doors were cut, sanded and installed, Nora decided she wanted a Dutch door (also known as a stable door or half door, it's a door split horizontally in the middle, allowing the top section to open independently from the bottom) so Baxter and Sterling, the couple's two retrievers, can be on the porch but still feel like they are still with the pack, she said.

"Roger just took his saw, set it at an angle. And he went vrr-room!" she said.



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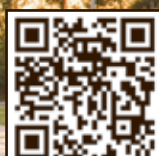
The irrigation and landscaping project surrounding the new parking lot is now complete thanks in part to the Moyer Foundation and its gracious donation toward the project.

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Metzler Construction is nearing completion on Mike and Kay Regan's 3,500-square-foot home at Campfire Lane. Having a view of Heart Mountain was a priority of the well structured house. Tribune photos by Braden Schiller

Mountain living around Campfire

BY BRADEN SCHILLER
Tribune features editor

Metzler Construction has nearly completed Kay and Mike Regan's 3,500-square-foot home on Campfire Lane, angled to allow for consistent views of Heart Mountain and designed to take advantage of its space.

The house has three bedrooms, two of them master's, a living room, kitchen, large pantry and laundry room all flowing together nicely.

The house's original plans had more walls, contractor Tim Metzler explained, adding he advised closing off the main room after framing was completed.

"It was a four-bedroom home, it's a three-bedroom home now. It's got a master suite on both sides now ... as we went through it, and like they saw the space and how it went away with four bedrooms. They said, 'Oh, this isn't gonna work,'" Metzler said, adding, "We tear stuff apart and build them how they like them."

The Regans had originally wanted to purchase an existing home but the sale fell through. They still wanted a similar home and were connected to Metzler Construction based on the recommendation of realtors, to the point they were willing to wait for availability.

Mike and Kay are from Washington. Now in retirement they'll be calling the Campfire Lane property home with the view from the back facing Park County's iconic mountain.

Inside the Regan's home the living room features a high angled ceiling with a stone fireplace that leads easily into the kitchen and attached dining room (bright blue with modern light fixture). All of the house cabinetry is hand built by Metzler Construction and most of the closets, and the pantry and laundry room doors turn lights on upon opening and turn off when the doors close.

The home's first master bedroom includes a spacious bathroom with marbled tiling and a shower with space open at the top to allow light in. The toilet is



The kitchen of the home features bright blue paint and a unique light fixture.

in a small separate space with a door. The second master has a similar bathroom but smaller. Both rooms have spacious closets, also with hand built shelving and a view of the surrounding landscape.

The house includes a custom entryway built by Metzler's son Brad, who runs Metzler construction alongside his father. The entrance with an overhanging roof and heavy beams also has pre-installed lights that can be adjusted for events like Christmas, so Mike doesn't have to string lights.

On the opposite side of the house, a spacious patio with a stone work corner will allow for grilling (granite countertops will aid in serving) and a fireplace will keep everybody warm, and of course there's easy viewing of Heart Mountain.

"Everything [Kay] wants to do is live out here so she can see the mountains," Metzler said.



The fireplace in the living room adds a bit of texture and the windows, of course, face Heart Mountain. Tribune photo by Braden Schiller



Tim Metzler of Metzler Construction shows off closets in the home. The shelving was all built by hand and the closet lights turn on and off based on the motion of the door.



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Falling into yard work

Fall, in its splendid awesomeness, is all around us. We have been blessed with temperatures that have been mild, allowing for the beautiful colors to explode in their glory, which causes me to get distracted. And before I get much more distracted here are my top five fall tasks to accomplish before the snow flies.

1. Planting Trees, shrubs, flowers and garlic!

Trees and shrubs: Yes, there is still time to plant trees and shrubs in your yard. If you can dig a hole in the ground, you can plant a tree. However, make sure that it is watered well. As the ambient air cools, the ground soil temperature still stays warm, allowing for better root development. So, if you still want to plant a fruit tree or an evergreen tree, it can be done.

Tulips and perennials: A little extra work now will pay off in beautiful flowers next spring. If you enjoy tulips and daffodil flowers in the spring, they need to be planted now in the fall. Hopefully you have transplanted your Iris rhizomes too, if not get them transplanted. Fall is a perfect time to divide and move some of your perennials around your flower beds. This will allow for root development now in the fall, which then will help with better, bigger and showier flowers.

Garlic: Do you like to eat fresh garlic? Plant garlic now! Planting garlic bulbs in the fall is a must, allowing for the chilling vernalization that causes bulb development and leading to a bountiful harvest next July! Make sure to apply organic fertilizers and water in the newly planted bulbs. Don't forget to add a layer of mulch, at least an inch thick, to protect the garlic bulbs during the winter months.

2. Watering and Fertilizing your Lawn one last time

Before the water goes out of the ditches and canals, or you winterize your water pump, make a conscience effort to wa-

ter your lawn one last time. It is also a perfect time to add your last fertilizer step or winterizing fertilizer to your lawn. This will not cause your grass to grow, so you don't have to worry about mowing your lawn one more time, but the roots of your grass will go into the winter healthier, and it is a sure way to ensure that you have the first green lawn in your neighborhood, come spring. A healthy lawn will turn green earlier than a neglected lawn.

3. Pruning and trimming your trees and bushes

If you have any birch or maple trees, make sure that you do any necessary pruning to them this fall. Depending on the winter, spring sap can start flowing in January. If you prune them now, they won't "bleed sap" all spring long. Also, fall is the best time to do any maintenance pruning on your shrubs and flowers around the yard. Be careful in how well you clean up your flower beds, because there are many beneficial insects that winter over in the fallen leaves of flowers.

4. Cleaning up the garden

It is always better to clean out the old dying vegetable plants in the fall rather than waiting until spring. If you garden in raised beds, like I do, it can be very easy. It also doesn't allow for old seeds to winter over and surprise you in the spring. I have often been surprised at what pops up on occasion throughout my garden. The random plant variety know as "I wonder what that is" has been found more than once. Another variety known as "I don't remember planting that" has also been known to grow too.

Fall is also a great time to add organic mulch or fertilizer to your garden beds. If you don't want to add fertilizer, I would

highly recommend at least adding soil sulfur to your garden and flower beds in the fall. This will slowly break down over the winter, increasing soil fertility. Trust me, your garden will reward you with better and higher yield productions next year.

5. Protecting Your Roses

I could write a whole article about preparing your roses for the winter. Don't prune them yet. It is still too warm! It's warm enough that pruning roses now, can and will stimulate new growth. Allow the spent rose blooms to naturally fall. Do cut back your how much watering you do. Roses need a good soaking going into winter, but not too much. Add magnesium sulphate and potash around the rose bush but not directly inside the crown.

Closer to Thanksgiving time is the ideal time to put your roses to bed for the winter months. Prune any wild or broken rose canes out, prune the other remaining canes down to about 18 inches. Mid-to-late November is the time you will want to mulch or cover your roses with leaves or dry compost. Cover to a depth of at least a foot. You can use boxes, old plastic buckets, even Styrofoam Rose Cones to hold the compost in place. Then you wait till spring, leaving the protective layer of compost covering your roses until early April.

The mild temperatures of fall have allowed me to take a slower pace in getting my fall gardening tasks done around my yard. But I had better hurry, because I keep finding more to do and the weather won't stay this nice forever.

(Gary Emmett is the owner of Successful Gardens. For more information visit Successfulgardens.com or see his YouTube channel for other gardening tips at youtube.com/@SuccessfulGardens1.)



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Guest Columnist

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Wyomingites 90% more likely to own their home

BY CARRIE HADERLIE
The Sheridan Press
Via Wyoming News Exchange

Wyoming ranks among the top when it comes to residents who own their homes, according to a new report.

In Wyoming in 2023, the most recent annual data available from the U.S. Census Bureau, 74.5% of households owned their home, meaning the state's home ownership rate ranked fifth of all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia.

In comparison, the home ownership rate is the highest in West Virginia at 77%, and lowest in New York at 53.3% and Washington, D.C. at 40.2%.

"Homeowner rates have always been higher in Wyoming (than many other states)," Dr. Wenlin Liu, chief economist with the Wyoming Economic Analysis Division, said.

"One thing that contributes is likely the cost of housing. You could say that houses are much more expensive in a place like California, or Washington, D.C. than in Wyoming, so their home ownership is lower," he said.

California's home ownership rate in 2023 ranked 49th at 55.8%.

The overall home ownership rate in the U.S. in 2023 was 65.6%, with the average age of a homeowner of 61.2 years, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, the data source for much of the state's newly released 2024 "Just the Facts" report.

The report provides information on demography, education, the economy, transportation, housing, geography, tourism, agriculture, tax environment and crime and law enforcement in Wyoming. The data displays facts for the most recent period for Wyoming, its ranking relative to other states and the change from the previous period.

"People are often curious about how their state ranks compared to others. This publication compiles statistics from a diverse array of data sources, allowing residents

to explore how Wyoming has changed over time and where it stands nationally," Liu said.

According to a 2024 Profile Of Home Buyers And Sellers by the National Association of Realtors, the median first-time home buyer age increased to 38 years old in 2024 from 35 in 2023, while the typical repeat-buyer age increased to 61 years from 58 in the same time span.

The most recent data from the U.S. Census Bureau shows a slightly lower homeowner rate of 65% nationwide for only the second quarter of 2025, more recent but less comprehensive data than the previous year included in the state's Just the Facts report.

Relatively speaking, home ownership rates are often higher in rural states, Liu said. "Areas like Montana and the Dakotas have comparable homeowner rates to Wyoming," he said.

Wyoming Community Development Authority Deputy Executive Director Christopher Volzke said his view of the high home ownership rate in Wyoming, especially compared to other places in the nation, may represent a regional pattern in the mountain West rather than something specific to Wyoming. Idaho ranked 15th on the list, Montana ranked 16th and South Dakota ranked 22nd.

"Based on the Federal Bank of St. Louis data, Wyoming home ownership rate was 73.4% back in 2010, so it is similar now to what it was 15 years ago," Volzke said.

"If you look at Wyoming, Idaho and Montana, we all have higher home ownership rates than the national average and are higher than our neighbors to the south in Colorado," he continued.

Colorado came in 34th on the list this year. Population density likely factors into this, Volzke said, as rural communities are more apt to have structures built and designed for ownership, likely factors into the state's high percentage. More dense, urban areas tend to prioritize rental housing and livable city cores.

"There is probably also a cultural influence here where our Wyoming population values property ownership and independence," Volzke said.

After covid, home prices soared across the nation, although homeowner rates in Wyoming have remained steady for about a decade. In 2014, 70.8% of Wyoming households owned their homes, and in 2020 that number had risen to 73.9%.

In the spring, experts in the housing market said prices were finally stabilizing, although most buyers have to spend more on starter homes in the state than they used to. The median sold price of a home in Sheridan County was \$442,500 according to an April 2025 market trends report by the Wyoming MLS. The median estimated property value in Sheridan County last spring was \$395,170, representing a 6.8% increase over the past year.

Data on home ownership rates also correlates to wage earnings in an area, according to Liu. Affordable housing remains a challenge in much of the state, as the median value of owner-occupied housing units in 2023 was \$298,700, up 2.2% from \$292,300 in 2022. Those numbers do not match the median sold price in many areas.

There was a significant spike in building after 2020, when residential building permits reached an all-time high of 3,004 issued in 2022, according to the Just the Facts report. Fast forward a year, and permits dropped 44% to 1,681. Rather than demonstrating a drop in building, Liu said that likely represented the end of a building spike post-covid.

"Another factor contributing to that (2022 spike in) building had to do with the federal interest rates changing," Liu said.

In September of 2024, the Federal Reserve announced it would lower interest rates by half a percentage point, setting its target range to 4.75%-5%, and interest rates on mortgages began to fall even before the announcement.

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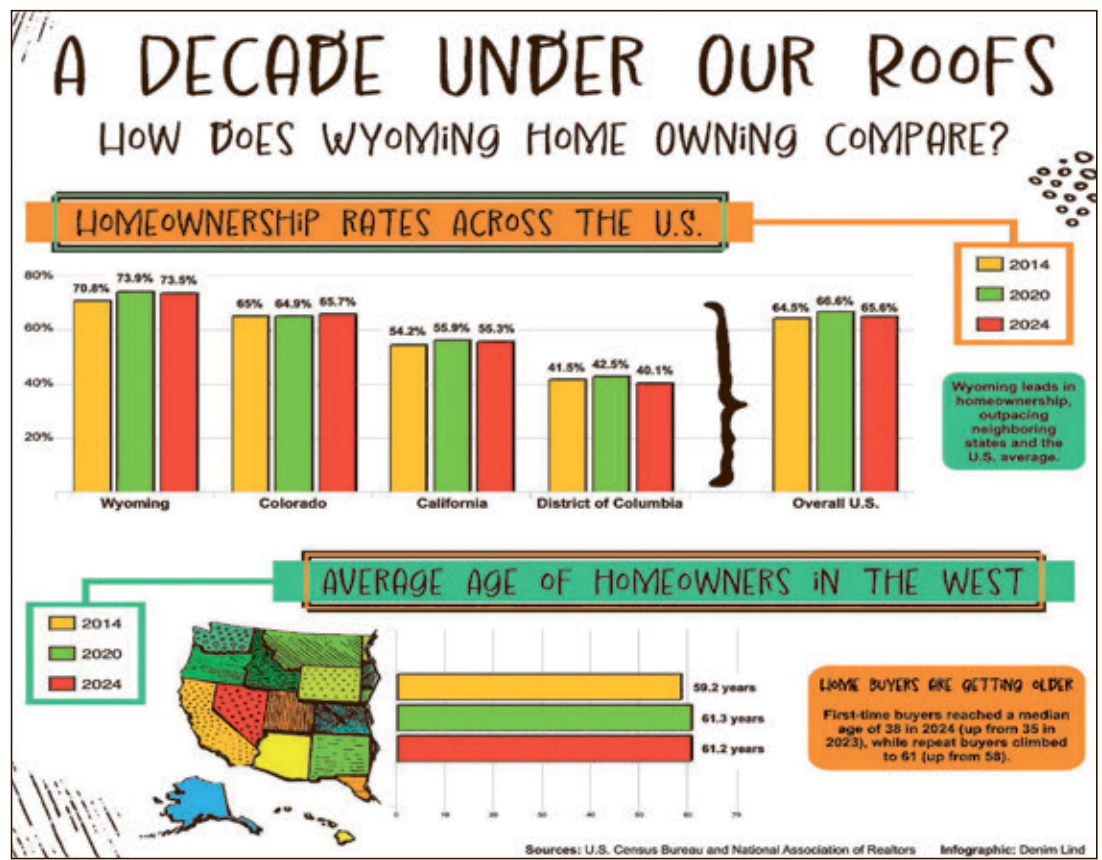
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Wyoming ranks fifth of all 50 states — plus Washington D.C. — for the number of households that own their home. Often, more rural states rank higher when it comes to home ownership, perhaps because urban areas often prioritize rental housing and livable city cores.

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A spooky, scary skeleton on Seventh Street ushers in the holiday season. Tribune photos by Braden Schiller



As is Halloween tradition, this Absaroka Street home features a frightening fearscape.



Skeletons reign supreme at this Bent Street home.

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This unique house on Christy Lane, first built by Ty Barhaug, takes advantage of reclaimed materials to beautiful effect.

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POWELL HOME USES RECLAIMED MATERIALS TO AMAZING EFFECT

BY BRADEN SCHILLER
Tribune features editor

Items can have a life long after their initial purpose has been filled. A perfect example is Mike and Susan Jubie's home on Christy Lane.

The house, built with a heavy reliance on reclaimed and refurbished items, was purchased by the Jubies a year and a half ago from Ty Barhaug and his family who had taken a small, rustic house with wooden siding and transformed it into a unique, nearly 3,000-square-foot home.

One of the property's most eye-catching features, aside from a well built tree house — a neighborhood favorite — is what's referred to as the round-house. On the far side of the Jubie's home is a round, two story portion, the first half containing the master bedroom, while the top half was Barhaug's art studio and now Mike's office.

The Jubies, who came to Powell from South Dakota, owned a similar home in southern Oregon — their first as a married couple, "it just kind of drew us back ... the wood and ... it looks a lot like what our home looked



The home's new owners, Mike and Susan Jubie, sit on their porch, which has support beams that were once enjoyed by beavers. Tribune photos by Braden Schiller

like back when we first got married."

A lot of old material is used in the house, Mike said, while items such as the windows, electrical and plumbing are new.

"But then there's a lot of older things that are inside the home,

a lot of old steel that was kind of resurrected from old buildings, old timbers that you'll experience when you go inside, the outside ... short of all the cedar is new," Mike said.

The home's cedar siding was carefully cut by Barhaug and his

sons to create an intricate pattern, while the support beams for the porch (harvested logs) have marks from a beaver on the base.

Speaking of old wood, a large

See Jubies, Page 14 >



A view from the kitchen in the couple's house showcases the varieties of wood on display throughout the house.

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ONE MORE GOAL

Danny Agee, Powell High School's girls' soccer coach, added something new to his backyard this year — a soccer goal. As a father of soccer players, Agee had previously had a goal at his family's home in Oregon and decided to build one in Powell after purchasing oil field pipe from a friend's mom. He then welded it together — this type of pipe can handle the dimensions without sagging — and used old and left over turf from Powell High School to further emulate gametime shooting. Now, he's in the process of raking rubber crumb from the older turf squares into the newer material.

Tribune photo by Braden Schiller

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HOME FIRE PREVENTION TIPS

(Family Features) House fires can be devastating, but taking proactive steps can significantly reduce the risk.

Learn how to safeguard your home and loved ones with these fire prevention tips in honor of Fire Prevention Month.

INSTALL, MAINTAIN SMOKE ALARMS

Smoke alarms are your first line of defense in case of a fire. They provide early warning, giving you and your family time to evacuate. Ensure you have smoke alarms installed on every level of your home, including inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas.

Test your smoke alarms monthly to make sure they're working properly and replace the batteries at least once a year. If your smoke alarms are more than 10 years old, consider replacing them to ensure optimal performance.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

Sit down with your family and create a detailed plan that includes an exit strategy (or two) from every room in your home. Make sure everyone knows where to meet outside and practice your evacuation plan regularly.

PREVENT KITCHEN FIRES

Cooking is the leading cause of house fires in the United States, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) with fire departments responding to more than 170,000 home cooking fires annually. Always stay in the kitchen while frying, grilling or broiling and keep flammable items such as potholders, paper towels and wooden utensils away from the cooking area. Additionally, clean your stove and oven regularly to prevent grease buildup, which can catch fire, and keep a fire extinguisher within easy reach.

KEEP FLAMMABLE MATERIALS AT BAY

Store gasoline, propane and other flammable liquids in approved containers and keep them in a well-ventilated area, away from heat sources and out of reach of children. Ensure your home is free of excessive clutter, especially in the basement, attic and garage, which can fuel a fire and make it harder to escape.

MAINTAIN ELECTRICAL SAFETY

To help prevent electrical fires — electrical distribution or lighting equipment ranks third among causes for home fires, according to the NFPA — regularly inspect your home's electrical system. Look for frayed wires, overloaded outlets and malfunctioning appliances. Avoid using extension cords as a permanent solution and never run them under rugs or furniture. Additionally, make sure to use light bulbs with the correct wattage for your fixtures.

Find more tips to help keep your home safe at eLivingtoday.com.

Source: eLivingtoday.com

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Inside, the home continues to feature reclaimed lumber including burl logs. Tribune photos by Braden Schiller



The property's treehouse is a popular feature for some neighborhood children.

Jubies: 'We're the beneficiaries of somebody else's hard work' — Home features wide variety of reclaimed wood, old steel

Continued from Page 11

high mountain cedar (this one's maybe 150 years old), first tak-

en down the mountain by the Barhaugs, has been moved in the backyard to create a sort of courtyard area where it and a

bench sit amongst a variety of fossils and petrified wood. Inside the home, the focus on reclaimed wood becomes even

more apparent. The ceiling beams are beautifully weathered, some including old tool markings or notches from their previous life, and pieces of burl serve as support beams, including one for a large kitchen table. The kitchen flooring is reclaimed and the doors around the utility room are handmade.

"We're the beneficiaries of somebody else's hard work," Mike said.

Heading towards the downstairs bedroom is reclaimed steel siding; the floor of the bedroom was made using 2-inch cuts of log and epoxy; the neighboring bathroom's floor, Susan thinks, was made by ripping and layering old brown paper bags with epoxy.

The master bedroom is in the roundhouse. Unlike many master bedrooms, the room utilizes an open floor plan where the bedroom area opens up to allow for a large round bath with a wrap around partition. Past that is the sink and a shower, once again with a river walk floor.

"We had always thought, 'Why do I have to walk through a doorway in my bedroom to get into the shower,'" Jubie said. "We actually designed a home that we're gonna have built that was all open and then we walked into this."

Up the stairs is Mike's office, with fish caught from around the world hanging on the wall behind his desk. The walls and ceiling are made of reclaimed wood of varying lengths and colors.

The office space opens out to a balcony and from there you can see the Jubies' addition to the home — a shop extension and workout space. They were careful to keep with the cedar lined aesthetic of the home, reusing siding and bringing their own reclaimed materials.

Josh Obermiller of Bonfire

Construction built the addition and was "really willing to work with our ideas and having me help source a lot of this siding material ... he was very instrumental in getting it done the way we wanted it," Mike said.

The green metal siding on the back end of the shop extension was old roofing brought down from South Dakota. Mike wanted to use rusted metal and while they found a small amount to join the new structure to the old, they just couldn't find enough for the whole building.

On the front end are two lights, originally planned for the scrapyard. Mike advocated for their reinstallation when the building was complete — you can't find them anywhere, he said, sometimes an item lives past its original intent.



The master bedroom is located in the house's signature roundhouse and utilizes an open floor plan.



The floor in a bedroom was made with 2-inch cuts of log and epoxy.

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Powell area resident Maria Berchtold draws a line indicating what land should be devoted to ag as Logan Simpson consultant Melissa Ruth (left) and fellow residents (right) Jeff Michels and Julie Thompson watch at a March planning area workshop at Heart Mountain Hall. Tribune photo by Zac Taylor

County using new land use plan on decisions

BY ZAC TAYLOR
Tribune editor

Rural areas in Park County are now under both a new land use plan, approved last year, and the first batch of amended development standards and regulations, both of which are already having an effect.

At the Oct. 7 meeting of the Park County commissioners, the first in which the county is now working under DSR phase 1 — which went into effect last week — commissioners held five public hearings on land use issues and noted the 2024 land use plan in approving the first one.

The owners of a new four-lot subdivision going in at Lane 9 1/2 and Road 7 1/2 first got approval from commissioners to rezone the property from industrial to General Rural-Powell, which allows lots as small as 1 acre (these lots will each be a few acres larger).

Planner Kim Dillivan said that lines up with the new land use plan, which identified that land as being primed for development, whether as commercial, industrial or residential.

Of course, the GR-P zoning district could be changing once the second round of DSR is completed, which includes a restructuring of zoning areas.

Work on that process is ongoing between consultants Logan Simpson, Park County Planning and Zoning commissioners and the technical working group to sift through the mountains of comments received over a number of public input methods over the last few months, from an online survey to in-person workshops.

“There’s a lot,” Chair Dossie Overfield said. “It may take a significant bit of time before it comes out to the public.”

It’s a long process, as once all of the info is sifted through and released to the public, people will then have another chance to weigh in on what the groups have been working on based on the initial rounds of input.

Commissioner Lloyd Thiel encouraged people to be involved as DSR 2 continues after asking the owners of the land slated for the new Powell subdivision how long the process of rezoning took: at

least four months.

“That should hopefully encourage people to get involved and get their property where they want it to be,” he said.

DSR two includes working on determining zoning areas, appropriate land uses in certain areas and other such crucial questions that, as County Planning Director Joy Hill has said previously, is where individual property owners could be affected.

Summary information from previous public events is available at engageparkcounty.com.

Scan to view the entire Park County Land Use Plan.



QUICK FACTS			
29,786 Population (2020)	32,097 – 33,564 Est. Population (2040)	0.64%/year Growth Rate (2000-2020)	0.37% - 0.60%/year Est. Growth Rate (2020-2040)

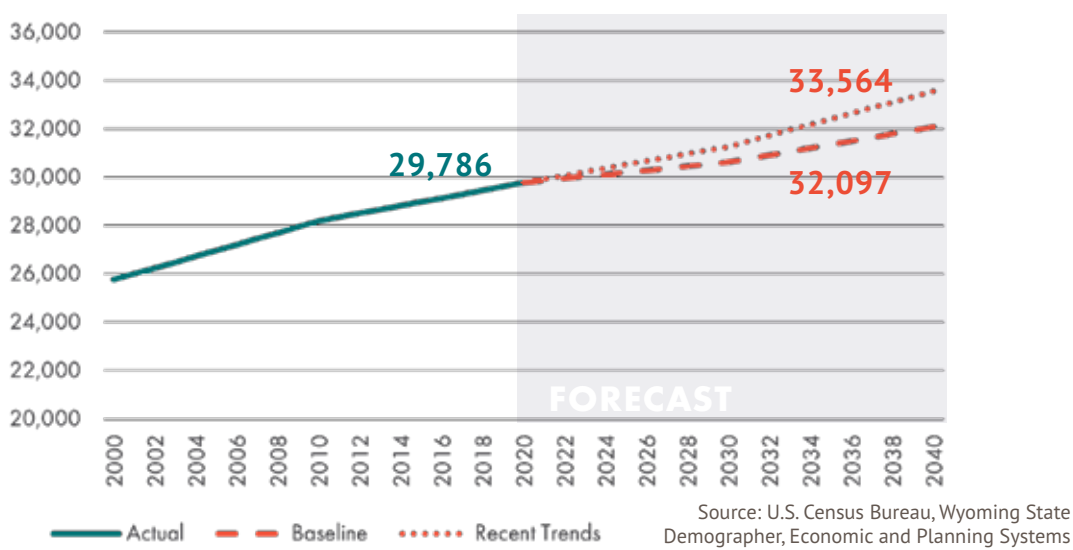
ECONOMIC AND EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

Park County’s economy is primarily driven by agricultural activity (which impacts multiple industries), mining and oil and gas extraction, tourism, and services to residents of the larger region. The largest industries in terms of employment in Park County today include public administration (including federal, state, and local jobs), accommodation and food services, and retail trade, as shown in Figure 4. Economic growth in

the County over the past ten to 20 years has been driven by growth in agricultural activity, tourism visitation, and increased demand for services from residents and visitors, as evidenced by increases in employment in these industries. Farm employment, specifically, has grown steadily since 2000 (1.7 percent annually) and at an even greater rate since 2010. Farm employment, as reported by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), represents a mixture of the number of farm establishments and employment at estab-

lishments. While it provides a reasonable representation of total Farm employment, it does not capture the full extent of those that do farm work (e.g. one family farm with four to six family members is reported as one job/farm). Historically, oil and gas extraction has been a major contributor to Park County’s employment and tax base; however, employment associated with extraction activity peaked in the region between 2010 and 2012 and has declined over 50 percent since 2010,

Figure 3: Population Trends 2000-2040



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No job is too small!

Local pantry provides choices and fresh vegetables

BY BRADEN SCHILLER
Tribune features editor

St. John's Episcopal Church in Powell has explored a variety of different ways to support the community's food needs.

Two years ago the church landed on offering a pantry every Tuesday from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. The pantry is grant supported thanks to organizers Sue Woods and Debra Ross, who handle grant writing and shopping/community relations respectively.

Ross tries her hardest to gather input from those who use the pantry to see what they like and what they may need.

"They don't want to seem ungrateful or greedy, but we've kind of learned from that," Ross said, adding, "We should put in our pantry the same things you want to get at the grocery store."

The church's pantry is small and tries not to offer what people can get somewhere else, Woods added. Among other things, they offer kit meals like pork chops, mashed potatoes, gravy and vegetables. If Woods gets her way there will be "cookies or ice cream in there somewhere."

The pantry is nearly entirely grant funded, Woods said. The model works because the pantry can afford to buy things like chicken breasts and make a meal kit. People can also gather other pantry items, "but it's not a full pantry, and we make it different almost every week," Woods said.

Unlike other pantries where people are given pre-packed bags, at this one they can come in and pick what they want, Ross said, and when they leave they can pick up some treats from a basket where there may be chocolates or even a Twinkie.

The pantry's usage has grown from around 30 to 60 people, Woods said, and they recognize there are a total of four pantries in town looking to fill gaps instead of compete.

The pantry also receives plenty of fresh produce from a local farmer, (the pantry will gladly take vegetables but en-



courages donations to go into other organizations like Loaves and Fishes.)

The freshly picked vegetables have been a hit and people have been "so pleased and so

happy and appreciative" Woods said.

"We decided we would be the pantry that sort of filled the gaps between what the typical pantry offers, and I believe

a lot of those pantries use the Wyoming food bank," Woods added. "So my opinion is that's great. I'm glad there's so much food access for people, but we tried to figure out a way to be different from them, and so we kind of worked a little bit with Loaves and Fishes, and we found where there are gaps, and that's kind of what we offer."

"We decided we would be the pantry that sort of filled the gaps between what the typical pantry offers, and I believe a lot of those pantries use the Wyoming food bank."

Sue Woods, Pantry organizer

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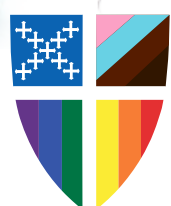
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