



A grizzly bear sow forages for worms, grubs and fresh, tender grass near Lake Butte Overlook on the opening day of the East Entrance Friday at Yellowstone National Park. Reports of several bear sightings were also made in the North Fork with one visitor reporting five sightings on the way into the park. Tribune photos by Mark Davis

GATES SWING OPEN

Yellowstone National Park

Visitor spending to Wyoming surpasses \$5 billion statewide, hits \$519 million in Park County

BY ZAC TAYLOR
Tribune editor

As Yellowstone National Park opens for its summer season, the Wyoming Office of Tourism's latest report is a reminder as to how important tourism is to the Park County and state economies.

The Wyoming Office of Tourism released the 2025 Wyoming Economic Impact of Travel report last week, revealing that the state's visitor economy has reached a historic milestone in spending: Total travel spending reached \$5 billion statewide, a 2.8% increase over 2024.

In Park County, direct travel spending increased from \$519 million in 2024 to \$538 million in 2025. That's second only to Teton County, where spending rose from \$1.759 billion to \$1.847 billion. Spending in third-place Laramie County rose from \$464 million to \$485 million.

While sectors like manufacturing, mining and oil and gas still generate the most overall output, the report says travel has seen the strongest long-term growth, expanding its GDP by an average of 6.1% per year since 2019.

The analysis was conducted by Dean Runyan Associates.

"Wyoming's visitor economy continues to prove that when we focus on what's authentic, people take notice," Gov. Mark Gordon said in a release. "This record level of spending is more than a number, it reflects real support for our communities, our small businesses and the livelihoods of thousands of Wyoming families. Travel plays an important role in funding essential services like schools and infrastructure, while showcasing the very best of what makes Wyoming special."

The outlook for Wyoming's travel industry remains positive heading into peak travel season.

"Wyoming's strength as a destination comes from the experiences it offers that others can't," said Domenic Bravo, executive director of the Office of Tourism. "That's reflected in the state's continued growth, and it gives us confidence heading into the summer season and beyond."

The impact is felt directly at the household level. In

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Annual May East Gate opening leads to amazing day in America's first national park

BY MARK DAVIS
Tribune senior reporter

As nature lovers poured through downtown Cody Friday, May 1 on their way to the East Gate of Yellowstone National Park, hundreds got their feed bag on free of charge, courtesy of the Cody Country Chamber of Commerce.

For the past dozen years the board of directors and celebrity guests have dished up a filling pancake breakfast to help celebrate the spring park entrance opening. The smell of bacon wafted through the air as piping hot pancakes were fried on dual griddles and the sweet tasting syrup mingling with fresh fruit put smiles on visitors' faces.

The early morning celebratory meal in the gateway city

is just one program to help lure more visitors through the East Entrance. More is better in a municipality and county that counts on tourism to help keep the lights on. Yet, once again, there are forces working against the 5 million visitor mark in the local tourism model.

Gas prices have quickly increased since the start of the Iran war, going from around \$2.79 to \$4.49 locally, seemingly overnight. Israel and the U.S. fired their opening salvo in Iran on Feb. 28, instantly sending the price of fuel

higher. A month earlier lucky travelers in Casper were able to find gas for \$1.93 a gallon.

The question is, how will rising gas prices and inflation affect the summer visitation season?

"If you've been planning for a trip of a lifetime for a couple years, the cost of fuel is not going to change plans," said Executive Director of Cody Country Chamber of Commerce Jennifer Thoma. "We're still looking forward to having a big number of people

“If you’ve been planning for a trip of a lifetime for a couple years, the cost of fuel is not going to change plans.”

Jennifer Thoma
Cody Chamber of Commerce

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Cody resident Lucy Moss, 5, watches while her mother Amanda pours syrup on her pancakes early Friday morning during the Cody Country Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Parks and Pancakes Day at the Cody Visitor's Center.

Possible measles exposure reported in Powell, Riverton

The Wyoming Department of Health says those who visited Powell's Maverik store around midday on Saturday, April 25, may have been exposed to measles.

In a Friday news release, the department said an adult who lives in Fremont County has been confirmed to have the infectious disease and indicated the individual recently visited Powell. Ac-

cording to the department, anyone who visited the Maverik on East Coulter Avenue between 10:45 a.m. and 1 p.m. on April 25 may have been exposed to the measles. The same goes for anyone who went to the Riverton Walmart between 6:30 and 9 p.m. on Friday, April 24.

The measles virus can remain in the air for up to two hours after an infected

person leaves the area, particularly in an indoor space.

"We are asking individuals who were potentially exposed to self-monitor for measles symptoms for 21 days past the exposure date, and consider avoiding crowded public places or high-risk settings such as day care centers," State Health Officer Dr. Alexia Harrist said in

the release.

People exposed to measles typically develop symptoms seven to 21 days after exposure. They include: fever; cough; runny nose; red eyes; and a characteristic rash that usually starts several days later on the face and spreads down

See Measles, Page 3 >

Powell man claims self defense in altercation with father

BY CJ BAKER
Tribune staff writer

A rural Powell man who is alleged to have beaten his father in a December altercation is asserting that he only acted in self defense.

Park County prosecutors have charged Brian C. Lewis, 40, with two felonies and one misdemeanor, but Lewis is asking a judge to throw out the charges. He and his attorney are citing a 2018 law that says a person can not be prosecuted for using "reasonable defensive force."

Lewis' father sought medical attention at Cody Regional Health and called the sheriff's office the next day

As a result, prosecutors will now need to rebut the claim that Lewis used reasonable defensive force before they can take their case to a trial.

The county attorney's office will need to convince Simpson by a "preponderance of the evidence" — basically showing that it's more likely than not — that Lewis' force was excessive. If they meet that relatively low burden, the case would then proceed to a jury trial, where prosecutors would need to prove their case "beyond a reasonable doubt."

Simpson mentioned in his ruling that the Park County Sheriff's Office had presented evidence that "might shed a different light on the circumstances" than the narrative presented by Lewis.

TWO DIFFERENT STORIES

The incident took place in the early morning hours of Dec. 18, at the Heart Mountain area home that Lewis was sharing with his father. The two men reportedly got into an argument over Lewis' dogs that escalated into a physical fight.

According to the father's account, Lewis backed him into a wall and yelled at him to get out of the house. The father told the sheriff's office he was beginning to fear for his life as Lewis closed in, so he began

See Altercation, Page 2 >

Cody attorney launches second bid for state House

BY CJ BAKER
Tribune staff writer

David Hill is making another run for the Wyoming Legislature.

The Cody attorney announced late last month that he will again seek to represent House District 50 — an area that includes portions of Cody, Ralston, Heart Mountain and Clark.

"Over the past several weeks, I've heard from people across Park County who want to see steady, effective leadership that reflects our values and keeps the focus on getting things done," Hill said in his April 24 announcement. "That's what led me to step forward and run."

Hill previously ran for the seat in 2024, facing off with Rep. Rachel Rodriguez-Williams in that year's Republican primary election. Williams won that contentious contest with 62% of the vote, but she's now exiting the Legislature and running for secretary of state.

Hill said he focused on Williams' voting record during his 2024 campaign, but this time around, his goal is "to focus on the issues and how we can work for the people in House District 50." If and



DAVID HILL

when another candidate joins the primary race, Hill said he intends to make it about "what do we offer, not, who is the other person."

The winner of August's Republican primary will face off with Libertarian candidate Carrie Satterwhite of Ralston in November's general election.

BACKGROUND AND GOALS

Hill has past experience working with the U.S. Attorney's offices in Wyoming and Washington, D.C., plus the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. He is now in private practice with the firm Burg Simpson and has spent five years as a drug court judge. Out in the community, Hill is the current president of the Cody Country Chamber of Commerce and has served on the boards of the Park County Leadership Institute, Park County Sheriff's Office Charitable Foundation, Bright Futures Mentoring, the Northwest College Foundation and Little Explorers Preschool.

Hill said he would not be heading to the Legislature to grind an ax, but because he cares about Wyoming's future

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WINGING IT



American white pelicans circle above the Shoshone River near Powell, the light catching on their bill horns. The horns will fall off, like antlers, after breeding season. Tribune photos by Mark Davis



A pair of Canada geese feed near their nest along the banks of the Shoshone River. There are seven sub-species of Canada geese; the common Canada goose, lesser Canada goose, Richardson's Canada goose, Aleutian Canada goose, dusky Canada goose and the cackling goose.

Wyoming towns want energy developers to pay up front for public service impacts

BY DUSTIN BLEIZEFFER
WyoFile.com

Anticipating about 1,000 construction workers for the Dinosaur Solar Energy Project, Natrona County and the city of Mills began investing hundreds of thousands of dollars to meet the influx; a new \$268,000 ambulance, a \$55,000 command vehicle and additional expenses to beef up the local fire district.

Those hefty sums would be covered via a 50-year-old state program that expedites payments to impacted communities based on a portion of the sales and use taxes the developer will, presumably, eventually pay.

But the developer of the 440-mega-watt, 2,000-acre solar farm delayed the original construction date of 2024. After a change in ownership, the project was supposed to begin construction in March. The new developer, NextEra Energy Resources, recently delayed the project again — this time for another three years. It also trimmed the solar farm's size to 240 megawatts.

That means the "impact assistance payments" have been delayed and, possibly, will be reduced while the town and county are left holding the bag.

"We are now facing the possibility of waiting until March of 2029 to be reimbursed for our expenses, if at all," Mills Mayor Leah Juarez told the Legislature's Joint Minerals, Business and Economic Development Committee this week. "That structure is fundamentally backwards."

Though community leaders generally embrace the prospect of a large industrial project for its job opportunities and additional tax revenue, such economic bonanzas come with headaches that officials are obliged to ad-

dress. There's also an increasing pre-volume of large industrial proposals. Until recently, the Industrial Siting Council averaged about one permit application per year, according to the agency.

"We have 39 projects in different stages of development right now — wind, solar and other projects. So there's quite a bit going on in that division right now," Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality Director Todd Parfitt said.

DEQ oversees the siting council. It's also difficult for community leaders to suss out which projects might be speculative.

Increasingly, developers are delaying construction, leaving communities like Mills and Natrona County to take on extra expenses for something that might never come to fruition, local officials say. Another recent example is the Settler Wind Project in Converse County. The developer in February was granted a request to change its construction start date from August 2025 to November 2027.

Developers ought to put up a big chunk of money for impacted communities soon after they receive an industrial siting permit and long before they are scheduled to begin construction, Natrona County Commissioner Dave North said. That way, if they delay a project, "those companies are on the hook for it. It's not the state. It's not the counties. It's not the municipalities."

Aside from developer delays, the program doesn't seem to be working, Juarez said.

"We don't receive payments for months to years and sometimes not at all, and we are required to report on funds we have not received and prove that we have not used them," Juarez said in written testimony to the panel.

"The ISC works swiftly and prematurely to approve projects with minimal solidified information. It is all a wild estimate by the company proposing the project."

The committee directed legislative staff to draft two bills for consideration at its next meeting in June.

Rather than issue fast-track payments from the state's general fund, one measure would require a developer to post a bond shortly after receiving an industrial siting permit. Qualifying communities would receive pre-construction payments based on a percentage of the estimated tax revenue of the project.

Another measure, based on this initial draft, would exempt projects within existing coal and trona mining districts, as well as facilities built within existing industrial parks. It's based on the notion that communities neighboring such industrial complexes have already installed the resources necessary to handle those expansions.

Regarding the proposal to impose a bond on developers, Parfitt warned lawmakers not to make it too expensive. If the bond requirement is too steep, a developer may abandon a project, he said. However, Parfitt added, "we do agree that some money needs to come up front so that some of these impacts can be addressed before the project actually begins."

Imposing a bond, and ensuring that communities receive impact assistance payments long before scheduled construction, is a no-brainer, North said.

"It's not going to cost the state anything additional," he told the panel. "All it's doing is saying to the companies, 'OK, you have to put this right up front.' This just makes the companies have a little bit more skin in the game right up front, so they don't keep kicking the can down the road."

WyoFile is an independent non-profit news organization focused on Wyoming people, places and policy.

Altercation: Misdemeanor count of false imprisonment filed

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chopping at Lewis' throat to get him out of the way.

However, Lewis said his father punched him in the throat and ear, causing him to believe that his father "was going to kill him," according to Simpson's recounting of the testimony. Lewis said he punched back and knocked the older man down.

Lewis' father also said that Lewis punched about 15 times in the stomach and head — including while he was on the ground.

The man also said Lewis threw him into a wall, which broke a mirror and the wall behind it; sheriff's deputies later found a mirror hung over a patch of damaged drywall.

The father also reported that Lewis forced him to stay in his room, pointed a pistol at him and fired a round into the floor; deputies later found a bullet

hole in the mattress the father had been using.

However, Lewis testified that he didn't remember a shot being fired. He said his father threw a pistol at his leg during the fight, so he threw it back.

Lewis said his father then rushed at him and punched him again, so he pushed the man over a bed. After that, Lewis said his father came at him with a lamp, so he grabbed the man and knocked him down. At that point, Lewis testified that his father "had had enough" and left the residence.

"Brian [Lewis] testified that his actions were to protect his own safety and that they were a reasonable response to [his father's] actions," Simpson wrote in his ruling.

PENDING CHARGES

Lewis' father sought medical attention at Cody Regional Health and called the sheriff's office the next day, after re-

turning to his home in Washington, changing documents say.

The father reportedly expressed concern that Lewis would retaliate, telling a deputy that Lewis had threatened to kill him if he called the police.

Prosecutors charged Lewis with two felony counts of aggravated assault and battery. One alleges Lewis threatened to use a drawn deadly weapon and the other alleges he caused serious bodily injury "under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to the value of human life."

They also have filed a misdemeanor count of false imprisonment.

Lewis was arrested on Dec. 21 and spent close to two months in jail before being released on a \$75,000 surety bond.

As of Friday, Simpson had not scheduled the next hearing in the case.



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OBITUARIES

Ken Witzeling

Ken Witzeling passed away on April 30, 2026, at the age of 99. His personal goal was to live to be 100 years and one day — an ambition he nearly achieved. He lived independently in his home in Powell, Wyoming, until just a few months before his passing.

Ken was a proud graduate of the University of Wyoming College of Pharmacy and remained a lifelong advocate for the profession. He owned and operated Skyline Drug Store in Powell, Wyoming, with his wife, Betty for 23 years, after starting his career as a pharmacist in Worland. Ken served as president of the Wyoming Pharmaceutical Association and completed two terms on the Wyoming State Board of Pharmacy. He also generously supported the University of Wyoming School of Pharmacy through several significant donations.

Deeply committed to his community, Ken was actively involved in civic life in both Powell and Worland. He served on chamber of commerce boards, city councils, hospital boards, airport boards, and was a life-long member of Kiwanis. He volunteered with numerous service organizations and was honored



twice with the Powell Chamber Community Builder Award. Ken was also a founding member and president of the Powell Merc, a community-owned department store that earned nationwide recognition.

Ken served his country during World War II as a sergeant in the United States Army Air Force, where he developed a lifelong love of aviation. He became a private pilot and owned his own plane, often flying across the country with his wife, Betty, who was also a pilot.

As a longtime member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Powell, Ken was an active participant and helped the congregation raise funds for a new church building. He also volunteered many hours contributing his woodworking skills to church projects.

Together, Ken and Betty shared a passion for travel, taking many international trips. Ken documented these journeys through his beautiful photography and frequently shared his experiences through slide presentations with community groups and family.

Ken was born and raised



KEN WITZELING

in Wisconsin where he met his wife Betty. After graduation from pharmacy school, they were married and Ken persuaded Betty to move to the state he loved — Wyoming — where they built a life together, raised two sons, and embraced its natural beauty and strong sense of community.

Ken was preceded in death by his wife of 71 years, Betty. He is survived by his sons, David (Worland) and wife Nancy (Casper); his grandchildren, Scott and wife Erblina, great-grandsons Dorian and Denis (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), and Jenny and great-grandson, Max (Ashburn, Virginia).

Special thanks to the staff at Heartland Assisted Living in Powell, and New Horizons Care Center and North Big Horn Hospital in Lovell.

Memorial services will be held on Saturday, May 9 at 10 a.m. at the Immanuel Lutheran Church, 675 Avenue D, Powell, WY.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the preschool fund at Immanuel Lutheran Church, the Homesteader Museum, or the charity of your choice.

Max Laforest Ruby

Max Laforest Ruby, of Cody, Wyoming, passed away at the age of 96.

Max was born on Dec. 30, 1929, in Gillette, Wyoming, to Hazel Margaret Groves and Jesse Donald Ruby. He was one of five children and the second youngest among his siblings. He later made his home in Cody, where he built a life rooted in hard work, family, and the Wyoming land he loved.

Max proudly served his country during the Korean War as a Military Police officer and was present at the signing of the peace treaty. He was honorably discharged on July 1, 1953, carrying with him a deep sense of duty and pride in his service.

Following his time in the military, Max spent many years drilling water wells, contributing to the growth and sustainability



of his community. He also owned and operated Eagle Valley Guest Ranch outside of Cody for a time, a place that reflected his connection to the land and western way of life.

He had a passion for collecting antiques and rock hunting, always drawn to pieces of history and the quiet beauty of the natural world. Those who knew him will remember his steady presence, his work ethic, and the life he built for his family.

Max was preceded in death by his parents, Hazel and Jesse Ruby, and his siblings, Dola, Dale, Wyoma and Ceola.

He is survived by his children: Frosty (Jessie) Ruby, Clint (Sue) Ruby, Alicia (Doug) Wright, Melody (Grant) Christensen, and Nicole (Jeremy) Burr. He also leaves behind his grandchildren: John



MAX RUBY

(Tonya) Ruby; Keith Ruby; Kyle (Sam) Ruby; Christine (Adam) Koch; Chelsie (Sam) Simons; Orrin Christensen; Olivia (Tyler) Elkins; Matt (Cheyenne) Ramsey; Courtney Ramsey; as well as many great-grandchildren who will carry on his legacy.

Max's life was one of service, resilience, and a deep connection to family and the land. He will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by all who knew him.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Park County Animal Shelter in honor of Max and his love for animals.

Memories and condolences can be shared on Max's memorial page at ballardfh.com.

A graveside service will be held on Friday, May 8, 2026, at 11 a.m., at Riverside Cemetery in Cody, Wyoming.

House: 'I think the Legislature needs to relinquish some of its control'

Continued from Page 1 ▶

and wants his children to stay here.

“... I want to work and read every bill, and I want to work with the entire Legislature, and I want to work hard,” Hill said, “and then my goal is to make the people and House District 50 proud.”

MORE LOCAL CONTROL

He said he doesn't think he would join the more moderate Wyoming Caucus or the more conservative Wyoming Freedom Caucus within the House.

“I think that the Freedom Caucus has some good ideas and I think other groups have good ideas — and I think ... both the moderate group and

the Freedom Caucus group have bad ideas,” he said, “and my goal would be to work with ... any of them to make sure that the good ideas are pushed forward and the bad ideas are buried in the backyard or improved, so that we can get them to where they need to be.”

Hill described the main focus of his campaign as being limited government and local control. He said too many decisions are being centralized in Cheyenne and “I think the Legislature needs to relinquish some of its control.”

Hill specifically said that, when it comes to issues of planning and zoning, budgets and spending, counties and cities should have more con-

trol of how they operate.

“I want to be able to have a personal relationship with the person who's making financial decisions for my community,” he said, “and I don't want to have to worry about the people in Gillette or Casper or Evanston or Cheyenne telling Cody and telling Park County, ‘This is what you have to do, and this is how you have to do it.’”

He's currently in the process of updating his campaign website, hill4wyo.com, with more information on his positions.

The filing period for Republican and Democratic candidates runs from May 14-29, with the primary election on Aug. 18 and general election on Nov. 3.

Measles: Disease poses the highest risks to infants

Continued from Page 1 ▶

the body.

Health officials say the disease poses the highest risks to infants, nonimmune pregnant women, and immunocompromised people and that those people should call a healthcare provider if they've been exposed. All others should reach out if they develop symptoms.

Measles can cause severe illness and is highly infectious, but vaccinations generally provide lifelong immunity to the virus. For those who have not received the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine, the department says monitoring for symptoms is especially critical.

The state health department said it did not know if the in-

fectected adult in Fremont County had been vaccinated.

“Measles is one of the most contagious diseases we know, but it is preventable,” said Harrist. She recommends that all Wyomingites be up to date on MMR vaccinations.

The incident was the first reported case of the measles in Wyoming this year, after 15 were reported last year.

POSITIVE PERFORMANCE | APRIL



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Spending: Local tourism spending resulted in \$25.5 million in tax revenue

Continued from Page 1 ▶

2025, travel-generated tax revenue contributed approximately \$1,200 per Wyoming household, the report says.

In Park County, direct spending from tourism has risen 14.4% since 2019, while earnings from those employed in the industry rose 26.7% over the same time period.

Locally, the spending represents \$138.5 million in earnings and employs 4,230 people — nearly 20% of the county's workforce and more than double the state average, the report says. The employment number is actually down from 4,460 people the year prior.

Local tourism spending also resulted in \$25.5 million in tax

revenue, with accommodation and food service the top two costs for travelers.

Across the state, 75% of visitors were non-Wyoming residents, with 9% being international visitors.

As the Park County Travel Council prepares its new marketing campaign for the tourism season, it is also making a point to take care of international tourists with pamphlets and guides in a variety of languages, from French and German to Mandarin and Japanese.

“Wyoming’s visitor economy continues to prove that when we focus on what’s authentic, people take notice.”

Gov. Mark Gordon

“It’s a great resource for international travelers and we’ve already spoken to a few partners about it; they’re absolutely just out of their mind excited,” Marketing Manager Katrina Southern said. “So we hope to continue that program in the future, but it’s a great stepping point for everyone.”

In all, 2.767 million overnight visitor nights were recorded in Park County in 2025, up from 2.747 million in 2024, with visitors spending an average of \$487 and 2.7 days per trip.

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Ashleigh Snoozy, Managing Editor, Sheridan Press

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IN OUR OPINION

EXPECT MANY MORE ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

We're closing in on the filing period for this summer's primary election, but that hasn't stopped a flood of announcements from those looking to run, or run again, for seats up for grabs, generally in the August Republican primary.

As regular readers will surely note, we've been getting in stories on those who announce in as timely as we can, depending on when we can connect and talk with candidates. We appreciate candidates who send us press releases and that information can be helpful when we run the stories, but we still want to talk with each candidate before publishing a story. While that may mean our stories can come out much later than the official announcement, we feel our job is to present the reader with a full story on each candidate.

Some candidates have reached out to us right off the bat, others we have reached out to upon seeing an announcement if we have contact info. So if you're running for a Park County elected position and we haven't already talked, please feel free to contact us, and we'll set up a time to talk (zac@powelltribune.com).

For the Tribune, elections are one of the most important times as we feel we can do our part in making sure we have an educated electorate.

Not only will we continue to write stories on candidates as we talk to them, we'll compile those all in an online voter's guide a few weeks prior to the primary. That's earlier than usual, but with the growing popularity of early voting we're ensuring as many people as possible can view it before casting a ballot.

Of course, we're not the only source for learning about candidates. Many organizers for local and statewide candidates are holding events around the area that give potential voters chances to get to know them. I applaud all the candidates taking the time to do these events, as in this small town with long streets, everyone ought to have a chance to talk to a candidate face to face before they see their name on a ballot.

Reading the Tribune offers just one more way to get to know them.

Zac Taylor

Powell Tribune editorials are signed by the writer. They are reviewed by the Powell Tribune Editorial Board, which includes Publisher Dave Bonner, General Manager Toby Bonner and Editor Zac Taylor.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Lawyers as judges' is rational

Dear editor:

I once watched as a plumber sent a camera down a wastewater pipe to locate an obstruction.

I bring this up because, while the comment by Troy Bray about "hanging bad judges" (CJ Baker's story in the April 30 issue of your paper) caught the headline, a later quote by Mr. Bray also piqued my interest. He is quoted in the article as having said "We need to fix our system because we keep getting lawyers as judges."

It's so refreshing to see our lawmakers so unencumbered by inconveniences like rational thinking. While the cost of a professional plumber is not inconsequential, a plumber is far less expensive than a practicing medical doctor. I invite Mr. Bray to propose a city ordinance that would allow plumbers to legally perform colonoscopies.

Phil Anthony Powell

'Commissioners are the ones who act like kings' response

Dear editor:

In response to Larry French's letter of April 30 titled "Commissioners are the ones who act like kings,"

several key points need to be addressed, particularly around the use of technology to count ballots in elections vs. hand-counting.

1. Budget cuts and the costs of hand counting: The county's budget has been significantly reduced due to cuts in property taxes, which makes additional spending on hand-counting ballots a major concern. Hand-counting requires a large number of trained personnel to ensure accuracy and efficiency. This would place a financial strain on county resources, particularly given the challenges already posed by the aforementioned reduced funding. The extra cost would exceed the budget allocated for elections, further exacerbating financial challenges for the county.

2. Accuracy of tabulators vs. human error: While the letter raises concerns about machine tabulation, it is important to highlight that modern tabulators have been rigorously tested and proven to be accurate and reliable in counting votes. There have been no verified instances where tabulation machines have made errors in tallying votes. In contrast, human error is always a factor in manual processes, as was recently demonstrated by the Park County Republican Party, where a mistake in counting ballots for the position of County Assessor was made by humans, not machines. Machines, while not perfect, are far less prone to errors than humans (both accidental and intentional).

Strategic patience

Since the beginning of hostilities in the Middle East at the end of February, congressional blowhards and the media have been threatening action based on the War Powers Resolution of 1973, which was an attempt to require congressional approval for presidential use of military force. The president's enemies introduced resolutions in the Senate calling for an end to actions against Iran long before the 60-day mark where the WPR granted them any such authority. Each resolution has failed, because Republican senators have stood united (except for the usual defectors). Democrats cannot muster the votes and have themselves been abandoned by the one Democrat with a lick of sense, and the vice president stands ready to break any tie vote.

No one can even agree — no one has ever agreed — on significant details of the WPR, such as when the 60-day clock starts, whether it stops during ceasefires (shooting starts, the clock starts; shooting stops, the clock stops), and whether (just for instance) drug interdiction and blockades are even included. Four out of five U.S. conflicts since the founding have seen either presidential action regardless of Congress, or Ccer various terms, conditions and durations short of a formal declaration of war.

The War Powers Resolution has been seen as an inconvenience by every president since 1973. It has been consistently repudiated and ignored by most of them: Clinton in Somalia (293 days) and Kosovo (226 days); Bush and Obama both for the "War on Terror" worldwide; Obama in Libya (266 days) and Syria (2013 through 2017); Trump in Syria, Yemen, Iran, Niger and Venezuela variously in his two terms. No armed conflict has ever been terminated by invocation of the War Powers Resolution, its constitutionality has been challenged but never resolved by the Supreme Court, and it does not appear likely to affect the prosecution of the current conflict with Iran.

My last column defined the current ceasefire in the Iran war, now extended beyond its original 14 days, as an operational pause for the U.S. and Israel and their growing coalition, which have rested, resupplied, reinforced and redeployed forces across the region, so that their military potential is now greater than it was when the war began in February. Iran is far weaker, having been isolated interna-

tionally and defeated militarily in the preceding campaign. It lost an arsenal, a force structure, and a proxy network that took decades to build and cannot be rebuilt under current conditions.

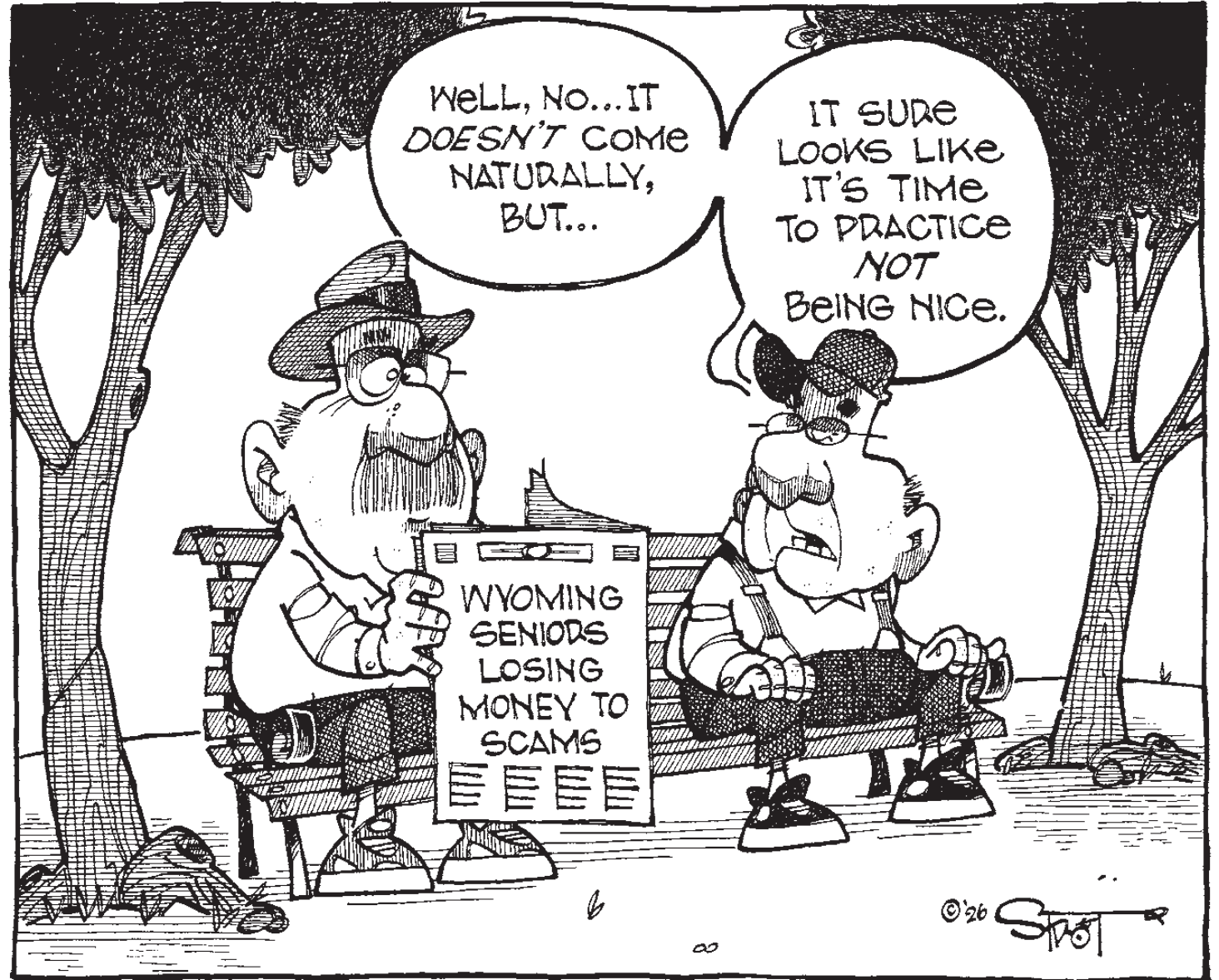
The ceasefire has now become an exercise of strategic patience. The war is not ended, and can be renewed at a moment's notice. Its goals are being advanced every day now, with hardly a shot being fired, by the U.S. naval blockade of Iranian ports and maritime traffic. This is a different side of asymmetric warfare, a side that favors us for once: The unchallenged global power of the U.S. Navy is shutting down Iranian oil and gas exports, its only significant source of wealth. The immediate effect is the loss of the sales income, close to half a billion U.S. dollars a day. The long-term effects are much more devastating for Iran, and are just beginning to be felt. There is an engineering component and a political/economic component.

Roughly half of Iran's oil fields are low- or mid-pressure fields. What that means, briefly, is that the oil must continue to flow without pause, into tankers or pipelines for trade, or into storage, because the fields themselves will be damaged, sometimes beyond recovery, by "shut-in" when the valves

are closed. Iran's oil is going nowhere, stopped by the U.S. blockade; and its remaining storage capacity is filling up rapidly. The longer the thugs of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps delay the inevitable, the more of the wealth, actual and potential, that has funded five decades of terrorism and proxy war will be lost.

The other piece is the global response. Saudi Arabia and the UAE are diverting significant quantities of their oil exports through overland pipelines that bypass the contested Strait of Hormuz; those and other pipelines are being rapidly expanded and extended. One, with sweet irony, will reach the Mediterranean at the Israeli port of Haifa. The UAE has announced that it is leaving OPEC, which means freedom from its imposed limits on oil production and sales. Venezuela may well become the second major defector from OPEC, which along with the ongoing rapid expansion of U.S. production, would result in a swift correction and stabilization in oil prices and availability worldwide.

The IRGC hopes that its "closure" of the Strait of Hormuz will still force its enemies to negotiate a solution it can survive. But hope is not a strategy. We might see, any day now, just how many days or hours that "closure" will last if we again let slip the dogs of war. The threat should be enough.



In conclusion, while some have concerns about the security and accuracy of elections, the facts show that machine-counting is both more cost-effective and reliable compared to hand-counting. Mr. French's continued efforts to change election processes have shown no evidence of need, rather they appear to be born out of a political or ideological motivation that doesn't prioritize either security or efficiency. If I may offer a suggestion to Mr. French, focus more on making honey instead of ways to waste the taxpayer's money.

Dan Schein Cody

Stand together for life of babies

Dear editor:

During this year's legislative session our elected officials got The Heartbeat Act passed into law. On April 24, Judge Dan Forgey announced a temporary

injunction to block this new law. Forgey predicted that the courts will win this and make this action permanent.

For the last four years since Roe v. Wade was overthrown our elected legislators have worked tirelessly and have created several laws to protect unborn babies. These efforts have been thwarted by a small cadre of people within Wyoming who have been girded with out-of-state financial backing which garnered the high courts' support to block those laws.

In January of this year Wyoming's high courts determined that abortion is healthcare. This ruling is incorrect. Abortion is the opposite of healthcare. Healthcare professionals take an oath, and pledge to protect life and "do no harm." Abortion kills an innocent baby and poses risks to the mother. Healthcare professionals who carry out abortions are defaulting on their pledge.

The pro-choice coalition said they are suffering irreparable

harm from the Heartbeat Act and that irreparable harm is harm to their revenue stream. The pro-life coalition reminds everyone that blocking this law means allowing abortions to continue and doing so gives permission to murder living human beings. The pro-choice folks are not experiencing "irreparable harm," it is the innocent baby who is killed who suffers it.

Those fighting against the Heartbeat Act state that this new law compels healthcare personnel to perform unnecessary invasive procedures. The procedure they are referring to is the transvaginal ultrasound which has next to no risks ... far fewer than any form of abortion.

And while talking about risks; the abortion pill(s) (mifepristone/misoprostol) is dangerous. The availability of these drugs enable women to take them in isolation and without medical oversight. Women have died from complications associated with these drugs.

These women and their part-

ners need medical and emotional support when facing the challenges of an unplanned pregnancy and these drugs are not an answer. There are resources to protect the lives of the babies and their mothers. Let's focus on them and stand together for life.

Mary Pat Szutenbach Cody

Bray living up to name

Dear editor:

Regarding "charged language" by Powell Councilman Troy Bray: It appears that, as usual in such circumstances, some find his comments distasteful while others do not.

I simply want to point out that he is living up to his name. A dictionary will suffice to note two major definitions for bray. "1.a harsh, breathy cry, as of a donkey. 2. to make such a cry."

Bob Rodriguez Clark

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

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Committee debates role in business growth, infrastructure

BY CARRIE HADERLIE
Wyoming Tribune Eagle
Via Wyoming News Exchange

CHEYENNE — On Friday, state lawmakers discussed whether the government’s role in economic development should focus primarily on water, sewer and road infrastructure, or on broader business investment.

The Joint Appropriations Committee spent much of the day Thursday and Friday discussing two programs: a no longer used Countywide Consensus program and the Wyoming Business Council’s current Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program.

Both support economic development in a way, but the CWC program was targeted specifically toward addressing infrastructure needs, while the BRC program allows eligible infrastructure, as well as “amenities within a business park, industrial park, industrial site or business district; landscaping, recreation, and educational facilities; and other physical projects in support of primary economic and educational development.”

Funding under both programs is — or was — subject to final approval by the State Loan and Investment Board, a body of Wyoming’s top five elected officials chaired by the governor.

“There seems to be a lot of support for (the CWC) program. My co-chair and I believe that there’s probably not enough support for funding two different programs that accomplish the same thing,” Rep. John Bear, R-Gillette, said Thursday.

During the 2026 Budget Session, the House approved an amendment brought by Rep. Chip Neiman, R-Hulett, to move BRC funding, totaling around \$54.9 million, away from the Business Council in order to reinstate the CWC program in the budget bill. That amendment passed, but was line-item vetoed by Gov. Mark Gordon.

The CWC was administered by the Office of State Lands and Investments for about 10 years, but ended in 2016 with an average annual appropriation of around \$73 million per biennium for the entire state. In the past, CWC funding was allocated as grant funding by the state to cities, towns, counties, special districts and joint powers boards to construct, replace or improve a fixed asset or public service facility, for major building and facility repair and replacement, and for routine maintenance and repair that does not constitute a capital project. The 2026 budget amendment would have expanded the allowable uses to include capital construction.

Lawmakers have had several discussions over the last several months contrasting the CWC program with BRC funding, which some argue gives the Business Council and executive branch too much leeway on de-



During the lead-up to the 2026 Budget Session, from left, Rep. Trey Sherwood, D-Laramie, and Sens. Mike Gierau, D-Jackson and Ogden Driskill, R-Devils Tower, voted against efforts to defund and dismantle the Wyoming Business Council. Reps. John Bear, R-Gillette, Ken Pendergraft, R-Sheridan, and Jeremy Haroldson, R-Wheatland, argued in favor of the measures. Photo collage by Tennessee Watson, WyoFile

cisions about funding outside of infrastructure needs.

“The Legislature has certain ideas about what we’d like this money to be spent on, versus sometimes what the executive takes liberty with,” Bear said Friday.

In February, Neiman said the BRC process also pitted local communities against each other.

In 2014, the county consensus grant program required that 70% of the incorporated population in a county agree on expenditures before making a funding proposal to SLIB. That meant that in Laramie County, the city of Cheyenne and the Laramie County commissioners could have agreed to projects without the consent of smaller towns like Pine Bluffs, Burns or Albin.

The 2026 budget amendment proposed during the session would have changed that to a required 50% municipality agreement. In Carbon County, where the JAC met Friday, Don Richards, budget/fiscal administrator for the Legislative Service Office, said that would mean a majority of smaller towns like Saratoga, Dixon, Encampment, Riverside and others could overrule a bigger municipality like Rawlins.

Wyoming Business Council CEO Josh Dorrell argued on Thursday that both programs are necessary, saying that economic development in Wyoming is a complicated issue.

“It is not one or the other. It is both,” Dorrell said. “The Business Ready Community Grant program is primarily focused on economic growth, on, what are the barriers to growth in our communities? What are the opportunities that we see as well?”

The CWC program was focused on infrastructure and maintaining what a community has to ensure it remains business ready.

“There is another element, and that is funding for growth,” Dorrell said. “I would say that (both funds) are really important. The Wyoming Business Council is about economic growth. It is not about keeping what we have the same. It is about removing barriers to growth.

“So how do we take advantage of both those programs to get to where we need to go? The distinction is what we have today versus how we want to grow in the future,” Dorrell said.

During public comment Thursday, Torrington City Council member Shane Viktorin, who clarified that he was speaking as a private citizen, said the BRC grant program is operating outside the limits intended by the Legislature.

“The Business Ready Community program is no longer an infrastructure program,” Viktorin said. “Rather, it has evolved into a mechanism that can be ... used to direct substantial public funds that are closely tied to specific private interests with limited statutory constraints and limited legislative oversight.”

That, he said, is not a minor policy concern, but a structural issue within state statute.

However, Sen. Mike Gierau, D-Jackson, said that from his country’s point of view, the CWC program is not the better choice of the two. But he acknowledged that for some counties, it does work.

“Maybe a combinational approach might be something where one program helps small-

er counties, one program helps bigger counties ... instead of trying to shoehorn one (program) to fit everybody,” Gierau said.

Jeremiah Rieman, executive director of the Wyoming County Commissioners Association, said his organization will work on a formal proposal for the JAC to address how economic development funding should be allocated. He said the proposal would consider allowing funding for major maintenance, so the lifespan of existing infrastructure can be extended.

“By having that investment, you are taking facilities that had a 25-50 years out to 75 years and beyond,” Rieman said. “It is a pretty small investment year over year that reaps great rewards.”

Ensuring that 50% of municipalities agree on project funding would also be key, he said.

In Natrona County, the city of Casper makes up 74% of the county’s population, Riemann said, but that change would mean one municipality in the county could not overrule the other six. He also said the WCCA would be cognizant of lawmakers’ desire to help hardship communities, while also striving for a “singular approach” to allocating funding.

The Joint Minerals, Business and Economic Development Committee is also examining the Business Council and its grant programs during the interim, and requested a bill draft early this week to bring back the CWC, according to Richards. As the interim continues, the Joint Minerals and Appropriations committees will continue to work separately, with the intention of coming together in several months, on WBC reform.

Casper party guest accused of eating pet goldfish

CASPER (WNE) — A Casper house party went off the rails when a guest allegedly ate a pet goldfish, leading to an animal cruelty charge.

The teen, who is either 16 or 17 years old based on court documents, faces up to six months in jail, according to state animal cruelty statute.

Juvenile cases sometimes appear in public records before being formally moved to juvenile court. The district attorney’s office did not immediately respond to requests for comment on the charge against the teen.

The Star-Tribune is withholding the defendant’s name because it has not been confirmed whether he is being charged as an

adult. According to court documents, a warrant was issued for the teen’s arrest citing his “extensive criminal history.”

Authorities allege he intentionally acted “to seriously injure or destroy any domesticated animal owned by another person while the animal is on property where the animal is authorized to be present.”

The Casper Police Department was first alerted to the incident when a Casper father returned home with his wife and children after a two-day trip, according to an affidavit filed with the charge. The father allegedly told authorities he left his son in charge of the home for two days. During that time, the son is said to have thrown a house party.

Upon returning home, the father purportedly told authorities the house was in disarray. And the family’s pet goldfish was missing.

The son told officers he initially didn’t want to throw the party, but a friend persuaded him, Casper Police Officer John Everett wrote in the affidavit. The alleged goldfish eater arrived at the party uninvited. A friend warned the host that the newly arrived teen was “dangerous,” but the son didn’t know how to get him to leave, he told Everett.

Before long, that “dangerous” partygoer ate the goldfish, according to the affidavit.

The homeowner’s wife provided officers with a video showing the teen eating the goldfish, Everett wrote.

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Judge dismisses defamation case against Wyoming Freedom Caucus PAC

BY MAGGIE MULLEN
WyoFile.com

A district court judge dismissed a defamation case Thursday against a political action committee linked to the Wyoming Freedom Caucus, ruling that there was insufficient evidence to indicate the PAC (Political Action Committee) had made statements against two lawmakers with actual malice — a hefty legal standard in libel cases involving public officials.

After launching in 2023 to support the hard-line Wyoming Freedom Caucus, the PAC took aim at Republican incumbents in the Legislature, including Rock Springs Reps. J.T. Larson and Cody Wylie.

The two filed a lawsuit in 2024 after the PAC sent text messages and mailers to voters indicating the two lawmakers voted to remove former President Donald Trump from the presidential ballot. No such vote occurred in the Wyoming Legislature.

In their complaint, the two lawmakers argued that the PAC knew its statements were false and, therefore, made them with actual malice — a legal standard in defamation cases involving public figures or officials.

Attorneys for the PAC, meanwhile, accused Wylie and Larson of “seeking to punish and censor criticism of their records as legislators and to profit from their public services.” The PAC also argued that the mailers and text messages did not constitute defamation and “were made in the court of political campaigning, where imaginative expressions and hyperbole are at their zenith.”

The case was scheduled for a five-day jury trial in June, but Uinta County District Judge James Kaste ruled Thursday that there was insufficient evidence to move forward and granted a motion by the PAC for summary judgment.

“There is no doubt the messages were purposely crafted to exaggerate the effect of the legislators’ votes and to more efficiently criticize them,” Kaste wrote in his decision. “In short, the messages were pretty standard political attack ads. Similar ads plague Americans every day, but they are indisputably protected speech under the First Amendment.”

Kaste also pointed to the high bar a public official must clear in a defamation case.

“They must produce evidence demonstrating that the criticism was published with actual malice, meaning the publisher either knew the statement was false or they made the statement with reckless disregard for the truth,” Kaste wrote. “And they must make this demonstration by clear and convincing evidence.”

“The bar is high because the right to criticize our government and our public officials is so fundamental to our democracy,” he wrote.

The plaintiffs, however, did not clear that high bar, the judge ruled.

“That is not an endorsement of the message or the pervasive use of negative misleading political attack ads,” Kaste wrote. “It is an endorsement of the fundamental right to freedom of speech established in the First Amendment.”

HOW WE GOT HERE

The Wyoming Legislature has never considered, debated or voted on any proposal to remove President Donald Trump from the ballot in any election, in any state.

Campaign mailers and text messages stating otherwise referred to a vote on a budget bill footnote, WY Freedom PAC Chairman Kari Drost previously told WyoFile.

Lawmakers have regularly clashed over which elected officials should have the authority to represent the state’s interests in litigation, including in a debate during the 2024 Budget Session. At the time, Secretary of State Chuck Gray had recently joined Ohio and Missouri’s Republican officials in filing an amicus brief that advocated overturning a Colorado court’s decision to remove Trump from that state’s ballot because of his role in inciting the Jan. 6, 2021 riots at the U.S. Capitol.

The Joint Appropriations Committee responded by adding a footnote to the budget limiting the secretary of state’s ability to sue on Wyoming’s behalf.

“No funds shall be appropriated under this section shall be expended without specific legislative authorization for the secretary of state or the office of the secretary of state to initiate any litigation or participate in any litigation initiated in a court outside of Wyoming in which the state, the secretary of state or the office of the secretary of state is not a named party,” the proposed language read.

The footnote was motivated by protecting the separation of

powers and ensuring the governor — the state’s chief executive — remained the one office with the authority to speak on behalf of Wyoming in a courtroom, some lawmakers argued.

Freedom Caucus members, however, argued that Gray’s office needed the ability to act quickly. The footnote was ultimately left out of the final budget bill passed by both chambers, but was described by the PAC’s mailers as a vote for or against Trump being on the ballot.

“[He] voted with the RADICAL LEFT to remove President Trump from the ballot,” a postcard targeting Wylie stated. A similar mailer aimed at Larson accused him of voting “NO to KEEP President Trump on the ballot this fall.”

The Freedom Caucus celebrated the ruling Thursday, calling the case a “meritless lawfare defamation lawsuit.”

“The First Amendment is clear. Politicians don’t get to silence speech that points out their unpopular voting records,” the caucus said in a statement. “Lawfare is a favorite tactic of the left, and it won’t go away after this case. That’s why Wyoming needs strong anti-SLAPP protections.”

Wyoming is one of 10 states without a law to prevent lawsuits intended to silence free speech, also known as an anti-SLAPP statute.

An attorney for Reps. Wylie and Larsen did not respond to WyoFile’s request for comment by publication time.

WyoFile is an independent non-profit news organization focused on Wyoming people, places and policy.

MARRIAGE LICENSES
APRIL 27-MAY 1

- Alan Michael McOmie, 45, and Gaetana Nicole (Musto) Deford, 41, both of Riverton
- Riley Scott Birky, 25, and Sierah Nicole Cheri Martin, 23, both of Byron

NEW FACES

- Bodil J. Good was born on Thursday, April 23, 2026, to Ryan and Hailee Good of Powell. She arrived at Powell Valley Hospital at 12:02 p.m. with a weight of 7 pounds, 7 ounces. Her grandparents are Robert and Jennifer Hyde and Chris and Miria Good.
- Dustin and Sarah Brown of Powell wish to announce the birth of a baby girl, Raven Dawn Brown, who was born at Powell Valley Hospital on Friday, April 24, 2026. She was born at 7:52 p.m., weighing 7 pounds, 2.6 ounces.
- Delta Jane Brazelton was born at Powell Valley Hospital on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, to Cecilia and Brian Brazelton of Powell. She arrived at 3:14 a.m. weighing 7 pounds, 9 ounces, and joins sibling Natasha Brazelton. Delta’s grandparents are Lilly and David Brazelton and Janet and Tom Spiering.

POLICE REPORT
APRIL 20

- 6:53 a.m. A resident reported a dead duck in the road at Tower Boulevard/Statesboro Drive. An officer properly disposed of the animal.
- 8:20 a.m. A caller on West Coulter Avenue reported a shoplifter. After investigation, a juvenile male was cited for the violation, and the case is under investigation.
- 10:27 a.m. An officer assisted in checking the welfare of a person on North Absaroka Street. Disposition: completed.
- 12:59 p.m. An iPhone 15 with a clear case was reported missing on South Bent Street. Nothing matching was reported as found.
- 2:36 p.m., 3:33 p.m. Drivers on East Seventh Street and East Coulter Avenue were warned for speeding in a school zone.
- 6:59 p.m. A horse was reported running at large in the area of South Fair/West North streets. An officer responded and located the owner, who responded to retrieve the animal.
- 7:40 p.m. An officer responded to an auto burglary reported on North Ingalls Street and placed the case under investigation.

- 8:07 p.m. A resident on South Bernard Street trapped a stray cat. An officer responded and took a gray cat with black stripes to the animal shelter.

APRIL 21

- 9:48 a.m. A driver at East Seventh Street/North Panther Boulevard was warned for speeding in a school zone.
- 10:14 a.m. A driver at East Coulter Avenue/South Day Street was warned for driving the wrong way on a one-way street.
- 10:55 a.m. A husky-type dog reported running at large on Avenue G was reported in a resident’s yard and then taken to the animal shelter.
- 12:16 p.m. After a traffic stop at North Panther Boulevard/East Coulter Avenue, a driver was warned for not carrying driver’s license and using cellular device while driving.
- 12:23 p.m. A chicken was reported wandering around the area of Gateway Drive, but it was not caught.
- 12:51 p.m. An officer responded to a report of a stray dog lying in a vacant lot on Lodgepole Court and it had been wandering around for about three hours.

The dog, mid-sized, white with a brown face, was gone upon the officer’s arrival.

- 1:51 p.m. A caller reported a working dog, brown and white spotted, and wearing a blue collar, was running in and out of traffic on North Evarts Street. It was last seen in the alley by Ace Hardware. Officers responded, but could not locate the dog.
- 3:38 p.m. A driver at North Gilbert Street/East Coulter Avenue was warned for speeding in a school zone.
- 4:31 p.m. A caller reported a business on East North Street was closed when they went to pick up their dog. An officer was able to contact the owner, who sent someone to help the customer. Disposition: assistance given.
- 7:19 p.m. A caller complained about a black SUV that ran a stop sign and was swerving at North Division/West Seventh streets. Officers responded, but could not locate the described vehicle.
- 8:31 p.m. A resident complained about four kids on e-bikes racing up and down North Ingalls Street. The kids and their caretaker were contacted and educated about the rules of the road.

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Friday

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66° 47°

Saturday

Partly sunny, a shower; becoming windier, cooler

58° 40°

Weekly Almanac

Powell for the 7-day period ending Sunday

TEMPERATURES

High/low 72°/23°

Normal high/low 63°/35°

Average temperature.....44.9°

Normal average temperature49.1°

PRECIPITATION

Total for the week..... Trace

Month to date.....0.00"

Normal month to date.....0.10"

Year to date.....0.87"

Normal year to date.....1.24"

% of normal month to date0.0%

% of normal year to date70%

Sun and Moon

Sunrise/Sunset5:59am/8:25pm

Moonrise/Moonset12:03am/8:01am

Last

New

First

Full

May 9

May 16

May 23

May 31

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Wednesday, May 6

BBO PORK on a bun with tater tots, peas and carrots, 3 bean salad anf fluffy fruit.

Thursday, May 7

OVEN FRIED CHICKEN with mashed potatoes and gravy, Pacific vegetables, fruit and cinnamon raisin bread.

Friday, May 8

HAM AND CHEESE CROISSANT with chicken canteloupe salad, pasta salad, green salad, choco cherry moouse and WW bread.

Saturday, May 9*

MACARONI AND CHEESE with ham, steamed broccoli, salad, fruit and WW roll.

Monday, May 11

CHICKEN TACO SALAD with corn chips, carrot celery salad, fruit and cookieie.

Tuesday, May 12

BEEF POT PIE with mixed vegetables, calico salad, pear Jello and WW bread.

*Lunch served at noon at the Rocky Mountain Manor on Saturdays

What's Happening at the Senior Center:

Friday, May 8 | Noon

Mother's Day Luncheon

Fitness Class

Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 10-11am

北

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Mahjong Thursdays

10am - New players welcome!

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April 20

Addison Mennell

April 22

Alden Wotman

April 22

Bodil Good

April 23

Raven Brown

April 24

Delta Brazelton

April 29

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OB/GYN

Nicole Comer

MD

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Ashley Engesser

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Certified Nurse Midwife

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Grizzly bear relocations are often necessary due to the growing population in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, such as this boar about 6 miles east of Pahaska along the North Fork Highway. Tribune photos by Greg Wise

First grizzly capture of year in Park County

BY MARK DAVIS
Tribune senior reporter

A grizzly bear captured for cattle depredation on private land in Park County has been relocated to about 20 miles north of Dubois; the first relocation of the year for the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

In cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Shoshone National Forest, grizzly bears, which are protected under the Endangered Species Act, are relocated in accordance with state and federal law and regulation. Game and Fish officials are required to update the public whenever

“Despite the rebound, high mortality rates from conflicts and environmental factors are a concern for long-term stability.”

National Park Service

er a grizzly bear is relocated, according to a Thursday press release.

“Grizzly bear relocation is a management tool large carnivore biologists use to minimize conflicts between humans and grizzly bears. Bears that are considered a threat to human safety are not relocated. In some cases, a bear may be removed from the population if it cannot be relocated successfully,” the

department reported.

Capture is necessary when other deterrents or preventative options are exhausted or unattainable. Once the animal is captured, all circumstances are taken into account when determining if the individual should be relocated. If relocation is warranted, a site is determined by considering the age, sex, and type of conflict the bear was involved in as well as potential

human activity nearby.

Last year 39 grizzly bears out of the 75 making the provisional documented known and probable grizzly bear mortalities in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem list prepared by the U.S. Geological Survey were euthanized. The second largest cause of death last year was grizzly bears killed by vehicles. Nine grizzlies died on the road last year.

The number of management removals and probable deaths continues to grow as the population of the protected species grows in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. The 2026 list, which reports all mortality

investigations, has yet to be released.

RELOCATIONS

Grizzly bears are only relocated into the recovery zone or adjacent areas. With any relocation, Game and Fish consults with appropriate agencies to minimize the chance of future conflicts and maximize the relocated grizzly bear’s survival.

The department continues to stress the importance of the public’s responsibility in bear management and the importance of keeping all attractants such as food, garbage, horse feed, bird seed unavailable to bears. Reducing attractants available to bears reduces human-bear conflicts, and in some cases, relocations.

About 1,000 individual griz-

zly bears live in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE), according to the National Park Service. While population estimates have fluctuated due to changing monitoring methods, the population has rebounded significantly from a low of fewer than 150 individuals in the 1970s, marking a major conservation success, the park reports.

“Despite the rebound, high mortality rates from conflicts and environmental factors are a concern for long-term stability,” National Park Service officials reported in 2025.

For more information on grizzly bear management and reducing the potential for conflicts, visit the Bear Wise Wyoming webpage: wgfd.wyo.gov/wyoming-wildlife/large-carnivore/bear-wise-wyoming



A delegation of JACSC leaders meets in a congressional office. Photo courtesy JACSC

Japanese American confinement organizations grateful for release of funding opportunities

Members of the Japanese American Confinement Sites Consortium (JACSC), which includes Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, are grateful for the National Park Service’s release last week of funding opportunity notices for two critical programs.

Congress had approved spending \$4.655 million for the Japanese American Confinement Sites (JACS) and Japanese American Confinement Education (JACE) programs for the 2026 fiscal year, but the terms for grant applications had not been released.

Without the notices of funding opportunities, known as NOFOs, organizations lacked the necessary guidelines to apply for the grants. The lack of the NOFOs prevented organizations from planning for future programs backed by either JACS or JACE grants.

JACS grants have enabled

consortium members to build museums, develop educational programs and restore essential parts of their camp sites.

Recently awarded JACE grants from the 2025 fiscal year will enable the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation and four Rocky Mountain confinement sites to offer educational workshops and programs, while Den-sho and the National Japanese American Historical Society plan detailed programs with their grants.

JACSC leaders met in Washington last week to lobby members of Congress and the Interior Department to support the release of the notices and to push for continued funding of the JACS and JACE programs. They thank Interior and the bipartisan group of legislators who supported the release of the notices and the two programs.

Participants in last week’s

fly-in included the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial Association, Densho, Japanese American Citizens League, Fred T. Korematsu Institute, Historical Museum at Fort Missoula, Ok-agesama, Jerome Rohwer Committee, Minidoka Pilgrimage Planning Committee, National Japanese American Historical Society, National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, Poston Community Alliance, Topaz Museum and Tule Lake Committee.

The Japanese American Confinement Sites Consortium is a national network of organizations working to preserve sites and artifacts related to the Japanese American incarceration experience during World War II and dedicated to interpreting this history for the benefit of public education. It can be reached at info@jacsc.org.



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A tree swallow takes a perch on a dead tree branch on the shores of Yellowstone Lake Friday during the opening day at the East Entrance. The North and West entrances were the first to officially open on April 17 and it was reported the Northeast Entrance was open Friday as the 'plug' was plowed early this year. Tribune photos by Mark Davis

Yellowstone: ‘The hotels are telling me that reservations are up for this summer ...’

Continued from Page 1 ▶

this year."

International visitors will likely travel despite the increases, maybe making up for the increased price by skipping expensive meals or cutting back on their budget for souvenirs. Last year visitors from 52 countries traveled through Cody en route to the park.

She said rising fuel prices might even help as the cost of jet fuel is pushing up the price of flying, possibly encouraging more folks to plan staycations. Folks from all 50 states signed the guest book at the Visitor's Center last year and Thoma doesn't think gas prices are going to change the growing visitation trend.

"The hotels are telling me that reservations are up for this summer and some of the different attractions have reservations higher than they expected," Thoma said. "Those are some good indicators that it's going to be a really good year."

But, there are still issues that have visitation experts worried; like the possibility of large wildland fires. Thoma said hopefully we don't have a bad fire season, and that it doesn't "scare people away," she said.

Park officials have been predicting breaking the 5 million visits mark since 4.8 million visits were recorded in 2021. Last year was the second highest number of visits on record with 4,762,988 recreation visits. This was despite a 43-day partial government shutdown — the longest ever. The National Park Service worked to keep parks open and accessible whenever possible so visitors could continue to experience the nation's natural and historic treasures. However, there have been many major issues in the past six seasons, including a global pandemic, a tragic flood and government shutdowns, all stifling visitation in one way or another during the 2020s.

About 10% of all visitation in the park occurs in the month



A bull bison works on an early dinner near Bridge Bay on the east side of Yellowstone National Park Friday. The beginning of breeding season will see bulls fighting for dominance around late July or early August.

of May. And those arriving Friday found clear roads, fluffy clouds, blue skies and a light cool breeze. The near-perfect weather must have put the park's charismatic critters in a good mood as well.

Grizzly bears were numerous on the landscape, seemingly happy to ignore wildlife watchers while they searched for grubs and worms under fallen and rotting trees. Greater sandhill cranes were content mixing with bison, both species foraging the same meadows and drainages without complaint. And the first bison calves, known as red dogs, were learning to run as they bucked in joy during the warm, sunny afternoon.

One change this year is increasing the cost of entry for foreign visitors. As of Jan. 1, foreign visitors (non-U.S. residents age 16-plus) face significant fee increases at the 11 most popular U.S. National Parks, including a new \$100 per-person surcharge, alongside a \$250 annual pass (up from \$80). These changes are an aim to boost revenue, said



A mating pair of harlequin ducks battle fast water at LaHardy Rapids. The species feeds on vegetation found on the bottom of the Yellowstone River in the rapids and are generally in the park into early summer.

Superintendent Cam Sholly.

"It's going to be really good from a revenue standpoint," he said after the changes were made. "We'll be able to take a lot of that revenue and put it into our operations."

Back at the Visitor's Center, those stopping by for infor-

mation and fun will find a completely remodeled facility, Thoma said on her three-year anniversary with the chamber. She was hired on Parks and Pancakes Day in 2023.

"We have new space, new map tables, and new ways for visitors to explore," she said.



A greater sandhill crane forages near its nest Friday afternoon while bison feed in the same field — seemingly oblivious of their feathered dinner guests.



A coyote hunts for small treats, like voles and mice, in the Hayden Valley. Coyotes are adaptable eaters, munching on everything from garbage in cities to cactus fruit in the desert.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 8

Nurses Pinning Ceremony
3:00 PM • Friday, May 8
NWC • NELSON PERFORMING ARTS AUDITORIUM
This event is free and open to the public

MAY 9

2026 Commencement Ceremony
10:30 AM • Saturday, May 9
NWC • CABRE GYMNASIUM
This event is open to the public

MAY 11

Board of Trustees Meeting
4:00 PM • Monday, May 11
NWC • YELLOWSTONE BUILDING CONFERENCE CENTER
This event is open to the public

MAY 25

Memorial Day
Monday, May 25
COLLEGE CLOSED

JUNE 1

Summer classes begin
Monday, June 1

JUNE 3

Last day to add summer classes
Wednesday, June 3

JUNE 8

Board of Trustees Meeting
4:00 PM • Monday, June 8
NWC • YELLOWSTONE BUILDING CONFERENCE CENTER
This event is open to the public

JUNE 14-19

Yellowstone Summer Music Camp
Sunday, June 14 – Friday, June 19
NWC • NELSON PERFORMING ARTS AUDITORIUM
Registration deadline is May 16

For more details nwc.edu/events

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Paige Sanders took the victory in the triple jump at the Wyoming Track and Field Classic in Casper on Friday, winning with a leap of 37 feet. Photo courtesy Andrew Towne, Casper Star-Tribune

Panther girls enjoy strong week

SANDERS WINS CLASSIC, COOLEY BREAKS MILE RECORD

BY SETH ROMSA
Tribune sports reporter

The Powell High School girls' track and field team posted top results over the weekend. Paige Sanders won the triple jump at the Wyoming Track and Field Classic on Friday in Casper, while Karee Cooley broke the school record in the 1600 meters. The Panthers also finished second as a team in Lovell on Saturday.

Six Panther girls made the trip to Casper for the classic on Friday, a gathering of the top times and distances in every event regardless of classification.

Sanders proved to be the best of the best at Kelly Walsh High School, as she won the triple jump with a leap of 37 feet.

"Paige started finals in last and sealed the competition on her first jump in finals, then followed with two more really good jumps," coach Scott Smith said.

The next highest Panther placement came from Cooley, who took fourth overall in the 1600 meters with a time of 5 minutes, 13.88 seconds, breaking the record her sister Kinley set a year ago at the same event by approximately five seconds.

"Karee ran a fantastic race against the best in the state to break her sister's record," Smith said. "It's always nice to see great competitors put out their best in a great competition like the classic."

Kaytlee George earned a sixth place finish in the 400 meters with a time of 58.35 seconds, Nalani Jordan was sixth in the discus with a throw of 124-3 and eighth in the shot put with a throw of 35-6 1/4, Sanders added another sixth place finish in the long jump with a leap of



KAREE COOLEY

16-9, Anyston Keller took eighth in the 3200 meters with a time of 11:52.2 and Shelby Zickefoose ran the 1600 meters in a time of 5:32.22 to finish ninth.

As a team the Panthers scored 26 points, sandwiched between a pair of 3A teams as Lander had 32 and Worland had 25 — those were the three highest scoring 3A teams.

Kelly Walsh scored the most points in the girls' race with 83.

Making the short trip to Lovell on Saturday, the Panthers were led by George who was the only two event winner, taking the 200 meters in 27.25 seconds and the 400 meters in 58.91 seconds.

Kate Williams won the pole vault clearing 8 feet, while Lucy Ostermiller won the triple jump with a leap of 33-8.

The Panthers added two relay

wins, as the team of Keller, Lynea Christensen, Kara Sanders and Zickefoose won the 4x800 in 10:30.76 and the 1600 sprint medley team of Paige Sanders, Audrey Johnson, George and Cooley won in 4:21.05.

Additional top five individual Panther finishes included Keller who took second in the 1600 meters (5:37.99); Jordan placed second in the discus (124-5); Ashlee Jacobsen took third in the 100 meter dash (13.35); Keylyn Knuth was third in the high jump (4-9); Averie Warner took fourth in the 100 meters (13.43); Paige Sanders was fourth in the 200 meters (28.05); Sam Edgell took fourth in the shot put (34-9 1/2); Anai Torres placed fourth in the discus (112-9) and fifth in the shot put (34-9); George added a fifth place finish in the long jump (15-5) and Nyah Johnson was fifth in the discus (104-1).

As a team the Panthers had 149.5 points and finished just

See Girls' Track, Page 10 >

Boys win Lovell Invite

IMPRESSIVE PERFORMANCES IN CASPER

BY SETH ROMSA
Tribune sports reporter

Competition brought out the best in the Powell High School boys' track and field team, as the Panthers brought back three medals from the Wyoming Track and Field Classic Friday in Casper and won the Lovell Invitational on Saturday by more than 50 points and adding new qualifying marks.

The Panthers took three competitors to Kelly Walsh High School on Friday. This meet pits the best of the best from around Wyoming against each other regardless

of classification.

Powell's highest placer was Braxton Nelson in the long jump, as he took second with a leap of 21 feet, 9 1/2 inches.

Sawyer Wormald added a pair of third place finishes in the hurdles, as he finished the 110 meter hurdles in 15.46 seconds and the 300 meter hurdles in 39.37 seconds.

Korbyn Warren was the final Panther competitor, as he took 10th with a time of 10:15.79 in the 3200 meters.

"I was really proud of the

"I was really proud of the boys with how they competed."

Scott Smith
Coach

See Boys' Track, Page 12 >



Korbyn Warren had a big week for the Panthers in the distance races, placing in the top 10 in the 3200 in Casper before adding qualifying marks in the 1600 meters and 4x800 relay.

Photo courtesy Andrew Towne, Casper Star-Tribune



Ivy Agee (center) recorded a goal and an assist for the Panthers in their 2-1 win against Lander on Tuesday. Tribune photo by Seth Romsa

GIRLS' SOCCER LOCKS UP STATE SPOT

TAKE ON BRIDGER VALLEY OPPONENTS NEXT

BY SETH ROMSA
Tribune sports reporter

Nice weather led to impressive results for the Powell High School girls' soccer team, as the Panthers defeated Lander 2-1 on Tuesday, April 28, before cruising to a 12-0 win over Pinedale on Saturday to lock up

a spot at the state tournament with three games to go.

POWELL 2, LANDER 1

Starting the week against a difficult opponent the Panthers (10-1 overall, 6-1 3A West) were looking for the season sweep of the Tigers (7-4 overall, 3-4 3A West).

Powell had the majority of the possession in the first half and the pressure on the Tiger goal eventually paid off late on.

The first goal came off a headed effort by Emery Hernandez, as she put home a corner by Ivy Agee to give Powell a 1-0 lead with 8:36 left in the first half.

See Girls' Soccer, Page 10 >

Boys' soccer ends losing skid

TAKE STEP TOWARDS SECURING STATE SPOT

BY SETH ROMSA
Tribune sports reporter

Ending a scoring drought helped the Powell Panther boys' soccer team take a significant step towards the state tournament in Gillette this month. Powell fell to Lander 6-0 on Tuesday, April 28, before ending a four game losing skid against Pinedale 3-0 on Saturday.

LANDER 6, POWELL 0

At home the Panthers (4-6 overall, 3-4 3A West) welcomed in the Tigers (9-2 overall, 6-1 3A West).

The visitors got on the board early and often, as the Tigers scored five minutes in, and quickly added another off a corner 15 minutes in and a second corner made it 3-0 just before the midway point of the first half.

Lander didn't let up, as the visitors added a fourth goal with 15 minutes left in the first half, and a fifth made it a 5-0 score at the break as Powell's scoring drought continued.

Powell had more opportunities in the second half but couldn't score, despite the visitors getting a red card in the final 15 minutes.

Even after receiving the red card the Tigers added one final goal, as a deflected shot found its way into the net and made the final score 6-0.

POWELL 3, PINEDALE 0

Heading into Saturday the Panthers were in a must-win situation, as a victory against the Wranglers (0-7 overall, 0-7 3A West) moved Powell closer to a state spot and a loss meant the Panthers would need to be perfect down the stretch to secure

a position.

Powell's best chance in the first half came off a shot by Gianreye D'Alessandro, hitting the crossbar with 16:30 left in the half.

Ryan Rivas came up with a one-vs.-one save just before the halftime whistle, as the scoring

See Boys' Soccer, Page 11 >



Ethan Frame (right) helped the Panther boys end their losing skid with a pair of goals in the second half on Saturday against Pinedale. Tribune photo by Seth Romsa



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Park County Fairgrounds / First race of 2026!

Saturday, May 9

Gates Open 5:30pm
Races 6:00pm



Girls' Soccer: Face Mountain View on Friday at 3 p.m.

Continued from Page 9 ►

Powell doubled the lead just before the break, as Agee found her way in behind the Lander defense with 1:23 left in the half after a good through ball by Aspen French to make it 2-0.

“Getting the first two goals was really important especially after giving one up against them in Lander early,” coach Danny Agee said. “We went into the second half easier with the confidence of a two goal lead.”

The Panthers took that lead into the half.

In the second frame the Panthers were unable to find a way to extend their lead, as the Tigers started applying pressure late in the game.

The Tigers hit one off the crossbar with 16 minutes left in the game, and eventually snuck one in at the near post with 6:33 left to make it a 2-1 contest.

Powell was able to hold on late, and complete the season sweep of the Tigers.

That win, coupled with a Tigers loss to Cody on Thursday and the win Saturday against Pinedale guaranteed the Panthers will finish ahead of the Tigers heading into the postseason.

POWELL 12, PINEDALE 0
Heading into Saturday the Panthers had a much easier contest, as it didn't take long for the hosts to get on the board against the visiting Wranglers (0-7 overall, 0-7 3A West).

That early goal came courtesy of Ava Gilliatt, who started her big day with a shot far post just 18 seconds into the game to make it 1-0.

Hernandez quickly doubled the lead just two minutes in off a corner kick, and Gilliatt got her second of the game 11:30 minutes in to make it 3-0.

Just 30 seconds later Aspen French made it 4-0, and a minute later Gilliatt completed her hat-trick to make it 5-0.

Ily Williams got on the board with 14 minutes left in the half to make it 6-0, and Hernandez added a second just before the half to make it 7-0.

“It's always good to play everyone,” coach Agee said. Gilliatt added a fourth off a cross from Avery Love three

minutes in, and got her fifth and final goal 3:30 minutes later to make it 9-0.

Mady Agee got a goal nine minutes in, putting home a rebound from a French shot.

Josie Hallock, typically in net for the Panthers, nearly got on the scoresheet 18 minutes into the second half, but was called offside as it remained 10-0.

Melanie Garcia got on the board with six minutes left with a near post finish, and Autumn Weckler capped off the scoring after a strong run by Fae McNair to make it 12-0.

“It was good to see all of the young players get excited about doing stuff at the varsity level,” coach Agee said.

“Autumn scored off a good run by Fae which was a big boost to both of their confidences.”

That win locked up a guaranteed state spot for the Panthers this month in Gillette, as coach Agee said it's nice to know they at least have a shot at the program's first state title as they play for positioning the final two weeks.

“It's always good to know that you're in. I hope we can finish strong and get seeded well,” he said.

BRIDGER VALLEY OPPONENTS

The Panthers head on the road this weekend for the final time in the regular season to take on a pair of Bridger Valley opponents.

Powell starts with a matchup against Mountain View (4-3 overall, 3-3 3A West) at 3 p.m. on Friday before continuing on against Lyman (1-6 overall, 1-5 3A West) at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

“We saw some good ball movement against Pinedale and hopefully we can keep those dynamic runs,” coach Agee said. “We'd like to keep it with our front line more rather than at the back. We want to keep scoring goals with creative passing.”

3A WEST STANDINGS

- (Overall record followed by conference record)
1. Cody 10-0 overall, 7-0 3A West
 2. **Powell 10-1 overall, 6-1 3A West**
 3. Lander 7-4 overall, 3-4 3A West
 4. Mountain View 4-3 overall, 3-3 3A West
 5. Lyman 1-6 overall, 1-5 3A West
 6. Pinedale 0-7 overall, 0-7 3A West



Melanie Garcia got a goal late for the Panther girls against the Wranglers as Powell rolled to a 12-0 win.

Girls' Track: Wrap up regular season in Cody on Thursday

Continued from Page 9 ►

7.5 points behind host Lovell but well ahead of Cody in third place with 115.5 points.

The Panthers continue on the road to end the regular season this week, making the trip to Cody for the Trackstravaganza at noon on Thursday with field events and the 4x800 relay. The remaining track events begin at 2 p.m.

WYOMING TRACK AND FIELD CLASSIC

* Denotes state qualifying mark
Team scores — 1. Kelly Walsh 83, 2. Natrona County 63, 3. Thunder Basin 54, 4. Sheridan 53.5, 5. Laramie 44, 6. Cheyenne Central 39, 7. Lander 32, **8. Powell 26**, 9. Worland 25, 10. Cheyenne East 19, 11. Wright 18, 12. Torrington 14, 13. Cody 13, 14. Lovell 10, 15. Burlington 9, 16. Big Horn 8, T17. Buffalo and Newcastle 7, 19. Greybull 6, 20. Douglas 5.5, T21. Burns and Upton 3.5, T23. Lingle Ft. Laramie and Riverton 1, T25. Rock Springs and Wheatland .5
400 meters — 6. Kaytlee George 58.35
1600 meters — 4. Karee Cooley 5:13.88*, 9. Shelby Zickefoose 5:32.22
3200 meters — 8. Anyston Keller 11:52.2*
Long jump — 6. Paige Sanders 16-9*
Triple jump — 1. Paige Sanders 37*
Shot put — 8. Nalani Jordan 35-6 1/4*
Discus — 6. Nalani Jordan 124-3*

LOVELL INVITE

Team scores — 1. Lovell 157, **2. Powell 149.5**, 3. Cody 115.5, 4. Big Horn 83, 5. Burlington 46, 6. Greybull 38, 7. Rocky Mountain 25, 8. Riverside 9, 9. Meeteetse 4
100 meter dash — 3. Ashlee Jacobsen 13.35, 4. Averie Warner 13.43, 6. Paige Sanders 13.68, 7. Lucy Ostermiller 13.76
200 meters — 1. Kaytlee George 27.25, 4. Paige Sanders 28.05, 7. Averie Warner 28.52, 8. Ashlee Jacobsen 28.61
400 meters — 1. Kaytlee George 58.91*
800 meters — 11. Jordyn Nelson 3:19.22
1600 meters — 2. Anyston Keller 5:37.99, 10. Natalie Laing 6:37.65
100 meter hurdles — 11. Vera Thomas 19, 16. Stella Shoopman 19.58
300 meter hurdles — 6. Stella Shoopman 53.17, 10. Lucy Ostermiller 57.16
4x100 relay — 2. Ashlee Jacobsen, Paige Sanders, Lucy Ostermiller and Kindyle Floy 51.16*
4x800 relay — 1. Anyston Keller, Lynea Christensen, Kara Sanders and Shelby Zickefoose 10:30.76*



Anyston Keller finished eighth in the 3200 meters in Casper, and second in the 1600 meters in Lovell on Saturday.

Photo courtesy Andrew Towne, Casper Star-Tribune

1600 sprint medley relay — 1. Paige Sanders, Audrey Johnson, Kaytlee George and Karee Cooley 4:21.05*
High jump — 3. Keylyn Knuth 4-9, T6. Kindyle Floy 4-5
Pole vault — 1. Kate Williams 8, 7. Ivy Lennon 6-6
Long jump — 5. Kaytlee George 15-5, 9. Cambree Dicks 14-5 3/4, 18. Kara Sanders 12-10 1/2, 24. Ryann Hutzenbieler 10-7
Triple jump — 1. Lucy Ostermiller 33-8, 9. Kara Sanders 30-7 3/4, 11. Cambree Dicks 30-4, 16. Keylyn Knuth 29-4 3/4, 18. Ryann Hutzenbieler 29-0 1/4, 19. Lainni Cary 28-1 1/2
Shot put — 4. Sam Edgell 34-9 1/2, 5.

Anai Torres 34-9, 7. Nyah Johnson 32-5 3/4, 14. Noelle Leighton 28-6, 17. Meredith Giltner 27-3, 18. Macey Davison 27-0 1/2, 19. Sharae Shoopman 26-10 1/2, 21. Rowan Borchert 26-4, 28. Raegan Carter 21-11 1/4, 29. Claire Hultgren 21-5 1/2
Discus — 2. Nalani Jordan 124-5*, 4. Anai Torres 112-9, 5. Nyah Johnson 104-1, 6. Meredith Giltner 98-7, 8. Sharae Shoopman 95-10, 9. Sam Edgell 94-2, 11. Adrianna Torres 87-6, 12. Macey Davison 86-8, 21. Noelle Leighton 72-11, 25. Rowan Borchert 65-7, 28. Claire Hultgren 60-2, 31. Raegan Carter 57-8, 36. Sophie Erkkila 48-10



Aspen French (right) contests a ball against a Lander defender. French and the Panthers locked up a state spot and can secure a top two seed this weekend. Tribune photos by Seth Romsa

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Boys' Soccer:

Continued from Page 9 ►

drought continued.

Powell hadn't scored since a penalty kick in a big second half against Lyman with two minutes left on April 17 meaning the Panthers hadn't scored in just over four and a half games. That meant 367 minutes of gametime separated the Panthers between their two goals.

D'Alessandro got the Panthers on the board after stealing the ball at the back of the Wrangler defense, before firing it past the keeper to make it 1-0 just five minutes into the second half.

Ethan Frame added to the Panther lead with 22 minutes left, as he fired home a shot to make it 2-0.

Frame didn't have to wait long to find his second, as he finished another shot just two minutes later as he nutmegged the Wrangler keeper to make it 3-0 midway through the half.

D'Alessandro almost added another with seven minutes left, but his long free kick hit off the crossbar as the Panthers earned the 3-0 win.

That win gave the Panthers a third in the conference, and an eight point lead over the Wranglers who earned one point earlier in the conference season after losing in a shootout to Lander.

One more loss by the Wranglers or one more win ensures the Panthers finish ahead of them to end the year, but one more challenge remains for Powell to lock up a state spot.

BRIDGER VALLEY TRIP

Powell heads on its final road trip of the regular season, taking on a pair of Bridger Valley opponents on Friday and Saturday.

The Panthers start with a game against Mountain View (5-2 overall, 4-2 3A West) at 5 p.m. on Friday before a key game against Lyman (1-6 overall, 1-5 3A West) at noon on Saturday.

If Powell defeats the Eagles on Saturday they lock up a spot at the state tournament heading into the final week of the regular season.

The Panthers end the regular season at home next week against Cody on Thursday.

3A WEST STANDINGS

- (Overall record followed by conference record)
1. Cody 8-1-1 overall, 6-1 3A West
 2. Lander 9-2 overall, 6-1 3A West
 3. Mountain View 5-2 overall, 4-2 3A West
 4. Powell 4-6 overall, 3-4 3A West
 5. Lyman 1-6 overall, 1-5 3A West
 6. Pinedale 0-7 overall, 0-7 3A West

At right, Gianreye D'Alessandro (right) hugs Ethan Frame as the two combined for all three goals on Saturday against Pinedale. Far right, Ryan Rivas dives down to get a ball as the Panthers posted a 3-0 shutout over the Wranglers at home.



Hugh Carpenter heads a ball on frame during the game against Pinedale on Saturday as Powell earned a 3-0 win. Tribune photos by Seth Romsa



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Protect Wyoming lifts off

New NGO aims to protect public lands by exposing politicians voting against public lands

BY MARK DAVIS Tribune staff writer

There are strong early forecasts for the new nonprofit Protect Wyoming, which aims to protect public lands by exposing politicians voting against public lands. The group, which was founded by former Wyoming Gov. Mark Lander, will focus on lobbying and public relations efforts to protect public lands. Lander, who served as governor from 2003 to 2011, said the group was created to "make sure that public lands are protected for future generations."

BY GREGORY S. STEWART, M.D.

BY GREGORY S. STEWART, M.D.

BY GREGORY S. STEWART, M.D.

BY GREGORY S. STEWART, M.D.



Mark Lander, former Wyoming governor, speaking at a press conference for the new Protect Wyoming organization.

Attendees of the Protect Wyoming press conference and children were speaking to the press.

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As a team the Panthers



110 meter hurdles — 3. Sawyer
Wormald 15.46*

3200 meters — 3. Colin Walker
10:44.47

110 meter hurdles — 7. Lincoln Crawford 16.58*, 12. Renzy Matthews

Cox 99, 30. Jacob Christofalos 90-9
32. Dane Smith 87-5, 33. Eli Bear
85-3, 47. Andrew Walker 69-1, 49.
Conner Lohrenz 62-8



Photo courtesy David Peck, Lovell Chronicle

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61 YEARS of Powell Swim Club

Powell Swim Club currently has 49 registered swimmers

BY BRADEN SCHILLER
Tribune Staff Writer

I took the Powell High School swim team last year, and with a few exceptions, it was mostly the same. The Powell Swim Club was founded in 1964, and it's been around for over 60 years. The club has a long history of providing a place for swimmers to train and compete. The club's first year began to take shape in the area, to provide a place for swimmers to train and compete. The club's first year began to take shape in the area, to provide a place for swimmers to train and compete. The club's first year began to take shape in the area, to provide a place for swimmers to train and compete.

Young Powell Swim Club members practice their water aerobics. From left, they are: Ashley Bonner and Tessa Timmons. Photos by Braden Schiller.

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102 Lela L. Powell, birthday celebration with friends. Photo by Braden Schiller.

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Paternity, pain and peer pressure

Powell woman impressive as she seeks long distance goal

BY BRADEN SCHILLER
Tribune Staff Writer

After finishing her first semester, Nancy West (left) and her mother, Beth Bailey (right), are working on their long-distance goal. West is a student at Powell High School, and Bailey is a mother. They are working on their long-distance goal. West is a student at Powell High School, and Bailey is a mother. They are working on their long-distance goal. West is a student at Powell High School, and Bailey is a mother. They are working on their long-distance goal.

6 Mon was always a future

can't get cancer. She

either goes with me to my race or I call her for the ride.

Nancy West
Powell resident

West, who is a mother, is a future cancer survivor. She is a mother, and she is a future cancer survivor. She is a mother, and she is a future cancer survivor. She is a mother, and she is a future cancer survivor. She is a mother, and she is a future cancer survivor.

See Schiller, Page 3

See Schiller, Page 3

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The Homesteader Museum welcomed 48 ladies to its first Afternoon Tea last month, which included small sandwiches, scones and sweets in addition to tea.

Photos courtesy Homesteader Museum

Homesteader Museum holds first Afternoon Tea

The Homesteader Museum hosted its first Afternoon Tea on Saturday, April 18, with 48 ladies in attendance, including several multi-generational families. A delicious menu of small sandwiches, scones and sweets by June Dunn Peterson along with tea, made conversation lively. A presentation by Cecil Alice Johnstone of Ladies Fashion through the decades was a highlight. Museum board members and staff served as hostesses.



Pictured above, from left, are Brandi Wright, director/curator; Amy McKinney, board member; Christine Roemmich, board member; Michela Morrissey, board member; Cecil Alice Johnstone, treasurer; Susie Rodriguez, outreach coordinator; and Julie Sheets, vice president.

At left, Cecil Alice Johnstone, treasurer Homesteader Museum Board, speaks during the event.

Wyoming Arts Council now accepting grant applications

CHEYENNE — The Wyoming Arts Council is now accepting applications for the Professional Development/Career Advancement Grant and the Arts Access Project Grant.

Beginning in May 2026, both grants will be offered through three application cycles throughout the year. Applicants should apply during the cycle that best aligns with their project timeline or set project start date.

Application cycles are as follows:

Round one: May 1 through June 1, for projects beginning between July and September

Round two: Aug. 1 through Sept. 1, for projects beginning between October 2026 and February 2027

Round three: Jan. 1 through Feb. 1, 2027, for projects beginning between March and June 2027

“Together, these two grants reflect a vision for Wyoming’s artistic ecosystem, one that invests in both artistic development and access,” said Kimberly Mittelstadt, creative arts specialist for the Wyoming Arts Council. “By empowering artists to grow professionally while expanding opportunities for community engagement, the Wyoming Arts Council is strengthening not only the arts sector, but also the social and

cultural fabric of the state as a whole.”

The Professional Development/Career Advancement Grant provides funding to Wyoming artists and organizations to build skills, expand capacity, and increase long-term impact in the creative sector.

The Arts Access Project Grant is available to organizations for arts project funding designed to increase access to the arts for communities with limited access through comprehensive and collaborative community engagement.

Applications are available through the Wyoming Arts Council’s online grant system at wyomingartscouncil.org under the Grants tab. A complete list of eligibility requirements and guidelines is also available on the website.

Arts Council staff are available to answer questions and encourage applicants to reach out prior to applying.

For questions about application content or eligible projects, contact Kimberly Mittelstadt, creative arts specialist, at (307) 274-6673 or Kimberly.Mittelstadt@wyo.gov. For general questions, contact Cashmere Balland, grants and administration manager, at (307) 214-7819 or Cashmere.Balland@wyo.gov.



Casey Rislov, Professional Development/Career Advancement Grant recipient, hosts a literary reading and actor performance of one of her books to a school in Cheyenne. Courtesy photo

NORTHWEST COLLEGE Commencement set for Saturday

Commencement exercises at Northwest College are scheduled for Saturday, May 9, beginning at 10:30 a.m. in Cabre Gym. The ceremony will be live streamed on the NWC YouTube channel, or viewers can watch directly from the college website at nwc.edu/commencement, streaming.

This year’s guest speakers include Milo Asay (the 2026 Distinguished Faculty Award winner), Raylee St. Onge Honeycutt (the 2026 Distinguished Alumna), and Lauren Bates (student representative).

Milo Asay has been a member of the faculty for 16 years, serving as assistant professor of ESL (English as a Second Language). He’s lived in six different countries on five continents and spent 20 years teaching at universities in Japan and Saudi Arabia before returning home to Wyoming and joining the Humanities Division at Northwest College in 2010. During his time at NWC, Asay started the Japanese language studies program more than a decade ago, has led several student trips to Japan since then, and has also served as coordinator of the popular Writers Series since 2019.

Though he was originally hired for the ESL faculty position, Asay also enjoys teaching literature, poetry and creative writing. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology from Brigham Young University, and two master’s degrees, one in Intercultural Administration from the School of International Training, and another in English from the University of Wyoming.

Raylee St. Onge Honeycutt is an industry leader in Montana agriculture who currently serves as executive vice president of the Montana Stockgrowers Association, the first female to hold that position in the organization’s 140-year history. She has received a Montana Governor’s Award for Excellence, been recognized as a finalist for the Indiana Farm Bureau Excellence in Agriculture Award, been appointed as a Montana Ambassador, and has led multiple national award-winning marketing campaigns.

A 2003 graduate of the Animal Science program, Honeycutt was an active student at NWC, serving as a representative on the student senate and as a member of the livestock judging team. She earned her bachelor’s degree in Agricultural Education with an emphasis in Public Relations from Montana State University. Honeycutt and her husband, Mike, are the parents of two daughters, Isla and McKenna, and currently reside in Helena, Montana. She’s an engaged member of her community, previously serving on the Greater Helena Community Foundation and volunteering with local nonprofits in her community.

Lauren Bates is graduating with an A.S. in Outdoor Education and Recreation and an A.A. in Political Science. Originally from Lovell, she has been an active participant in campus life over the past two years. Bates is a member of the NWC Outdoor Club and Phi Theta Kappa, has served as a peer mentor with TRIO, and has recently taken on the role of resident assistant. She plans to volunteer for her local search and rescue team and for the ski patrol during the winter months.



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GARY HOPSON LAWN CARE and Landscaping - weekly lawn care, fertilizing, weed control, de-thatching, spring clean ups. Irrigation repair and new installs, sod, plants, trees. 40+ years experience. (541) 280-1665 (17-40PT)
Digitize Your Photos & Old Movies — NOW DOING 8MM! Professional digitizing services for photos, polaroids, VHS tapes and 8mm films. Choose a digital copy of your photos or other professional quality prints from me. Call or text 307-272-0795 (leave voicemail), or shoot me an email at wenskyjor@gmail.com. (19TFET)

Services Offered

HANDYMAN SERVICES - Spring projects. Call Dick, 307-250-0430. (35-38PT)

Personals

WHEN YOU HIT THE BOOKS, You Escape the Crooks! MikesNewsNet.com (35-35PT)
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)
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)
POWELL AL-ANON is a fellowship of friends and families of alcoholics which meets on Tues. at noon and Wed. at 7:00 p.m., 146 S. Bent, Big Horn Enterprises north door. For more information call 754-4231 or 271-2556 www.wyomingal-anon.org (75TFFT)
WELCOME TO POWELL! If you're new to the area, you get a FREE Park County Welcome Basket packed full of local business information, coupons, freebies, and more! Send an email to haleyj@wyomingwelcome.com or call/contact Haley Jones at 406-559-0355 for info on where to pick up your Park County Welcome Basket. You can also find a list of distributors on our Facebook page @ParkCountyWelcomeBaskets (45TFFT)

Personals

POWELL VALLEY LOAVES and Fishes local food bank, Park County Annex, 109 West 14th St. Food distributed Monday thru Friday, 9-11:30 a.m. Please call for appointment, 307-754-8800. All non perishable, commercially processed food accepted. Please leave donations at local churches or receptacle barrels at local grocery stores. (09TFFT)
AMERICAN LEGION MEETING, 7 p.m., first Tuesday of every month at Post 26. (07TFFT)
SAL- SONS OF AMERICAN Legion meeting, 6:30 p.m., first Thursday of every month at Post 26. (07TFFT)
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS in Powell is meeting at 146 S. Bent St., Powell, Tues., Thurs. & Sun. at 7 pm and Sat. at 10 a.m. Virtual meeting information can also be accessed at urmna.org and virtual-na.org Call 307-213-9434 for more info. (21TFFT)
CODY NA MEETINGS- M,W,F at 7 p.m., 825 Simpson Ave., (Christ Episcopal Church). Virtual meeting information can be accessed at urmna.org and virtual-na.org Call 307-213-9434 for more info. (24TFFTThursT)
NA MEETS IN LOVELL, Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at 1141 Shoshone Ave., Saint Joseph's Catholic Church. Call 307-213-9434 for more info. (16TFFT)
AA MEETINGS: 270 S. Douglas Street (new location). Closed meetings on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 6 p.m., Saturday at 7 p.m. Open meetings last Monday and Friday of the month. Call 307-250-2594. (24TFFT)
BYRON AA, 35 S.Pryor St., Basement of Byron City Hall, Fridays, 7-8 p.m. (56TFFT)

Personals

DO YOU OR SOMEONE YOU know need help overcoming a problem with alcohol? AA Twelve Steps for Christians meets Thursdays 7-8 PM, 215 N. Ferris. Call 254-2283 for more information. (46TFFT)
“OUR KIDS” A SUPPORT GROUP for parents/guardians of children with special needs. 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm, call for location. Free child care provided. For information contact: Brandon Douglas 254-2273, or Adrienne Harvey 754-2864. (85TFFT)
TOPS – TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY – Powell Chapter 0169 is meeting weekly on Thursdays at the Rebekahs & Oddfellows Lodge building, at 276 S. Douglas St., Powell. Weigh ins start at 5 p.m. with meetings following at 5:15. For more information contact 1-800-932-8677. (37TFFT)
PREGNANT? NOW WHAT? Free and confidential pregnancy medical clinic specializing in pregnancy diagnosis, options counseling, education and resources. Serenity Pregnancy Resource Center (307) 271-7166 in Powell. (61TFFT)
POST ABORTION HEALING GROUPS, Serenity PRC (307) 213-5025 (Cody). (52TFFT)
HAVE YOU BEEN AFFECTED by suicide loss? A free support group, “Hope and Healing,” is held the first Tuesday of every month at YBHC, 2538 Bighorn Ave. in Cody from 6 to 7:30 pm. Call 587-2197. (17TFFT)
IMMUNIZATION CLINICS FOR children and adults are held at the Public Health Office at the Powell Annex. For appointment call 307-754-8870. (46TFFT)

Personals

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS of Wyoming is looking for adult mentors for youth between the ages of 5 and 17. If you would like to make a difference in a child's life, call (307) 213-3263 for more information. (98TFFT)
PARENTS WITH children who have developmental disabilities, needing information, support, or help of any kind, please contact Betty Carmon, Parent Coordinator, 754-3430. (42TFFT)
PREGNANT? WHAT am I going to do? How can I be sure I am pregnant? How should I tell my family? Can I continue school?...keep my job? Where can I live until my baby is born? Call Care Net of Billings Woman Clinic at 406-256-7038. Give life a chance and we'll help you every step of the way. (83TFFT)
ARE YOU PREGNANT and planning to breast-feed? If you want information or have concerns about breastfeeding, please call Park County Public Health at 307-754-8870. (37TFFT)
CRISIS INTERVENTION SERVICES is your source of help with family violence and sexual assault. All services are free and confidential. Call toll free, 24 hours a day, 877-864-9688. (72TFFT)
REACH THOUSANDS with a WY Classified Advertising Network. For sale, services, help wanted, auctions and more! Advertise statewide for only \$150. Contact your local newspaper. (83-83W)

Help Wanted

BIG HORN ENTERPRISES HAS open positions in our residential department. We offer flexible scheduling, a competitive starting wage, free employee vision and dental coverage and a \$1,000.00 sign on bonus. If you would like to help people with disabilities, please call (307) 754-5101, ext. 1 for more info., or apply at 146 S. Bent St. in Powell. (35-38CT)

Northwest College – Powell, WY Teach. Mentor. Make a Difference.

Northwest College is hiring an Instructor/ Assistant Professor of Business (Accounting Emphasis) for Fall 2026. This tenure-track role offers the chance to shape future business professionals through engaging teaching, advising, and real-world application. At NWC, you're more than a faculty member—you're a mentor helping students build confident, successful futures, all in the heart of the Big Horn Basin. Apply today: nwc.edu/jobs I EOE BHB(35-38CT)

Help Wanted

Northwest College Work local. Make an impact. Great people. Meaningful work. A campus community that makes a difference. Current Openings: • Temporary Facilities Assistant – Custodian • Facilities Director • Adjunct Instructor of CAD • Financial Aid Specialist • Fixed-Term Instructor of Nursing For more information and to apply: nwc.edu/jobs I EOE BHB(32-35CT)

Help Wanted

ARE YOU A CARING person? You are NEEDED! Families of domestic violence and sexual assault want and need someone to care. Please call Crisis Intervention Services at 754-7959 or 307-272-4754 and put your talents to work. Volunteer today! Thank you. (53tft)

Check out the **SUPER DEALS** in today's **LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS**

BUFFALO BILL CENTER OF THE WEST

Custom Events & Group Travel Assistant

FT/YR / Flexible Hours

Seeking a detail-oriented team member to support event and group tour sales through planning, coordination, and execution of external and internal events. This role works closely with multiple departments to ensure smooth operations and excellent guest experiences. Responsibilities include managing reservations, coordinating tours and catering, handling customer concerns, and assisting with café operations as needed.

Strong communication, organization, multitasking, and problem-solving skills required. Must be able to work a flexible schedule and maintain positive relationships with guests, staff, and the community. May serve as Manager on Duty for events.

Degree in business management or related field preferred; equivalent experience considered. Position eligible for service fee (tip) sharing based on events worked.

For full job description, log onto Center of the West Employment - Buffalo Bill Center of the West. To apply, send cover letter and resume to terryh@centerofthewest.org. Background screens are conducted. EEO (35-38CT)

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PUBLIC NOTICES

“Because the people must know”

Water main bids

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
Notice is hereby given that City of Powell will receive sealed bids until 2:00 P.M., local time, May 12, 2026, at City Hall, 270 North Clark Street Powell, Wyoming for materials, labor, services, transportation, and complete construction of SOUTH POWELL WATER MAIN REPLACEMENTS.
Mail or deliver bids to 270 North Clark St., Powell, Wyoming Attention Zack Thorington. City of Powell will take no responsibility for delivery of bids through mail. All bids publicly opened and read aloud - date and time stated above. Complete digital copies of the bidding documents are available at www.questcdn.com and at www.eaengineers.com under PROJECTS OUT TO BID. Prospective Bidders will be required to register with the website to download the bidding documents for \$25 by inputting Quest project # 10150767 on the website's project search page. Please contact QuestCDN.com at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in free membership registration, downloading, and working with this digital project information. Optional paper copies of bidding documents are available at: Engineering Associates, 902 13TH STREET CODY, WY 82414 for \$100 non-refundable. City of Powell reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids and to waive any informalities and irregularities if deemed in the best interest of the Owner. No bid may be considered unless accompanied by the required bid guarantee of 5% of the total bid amount, which amount shall be forfeited if the bidder is awarded the Contract and fails to enter into a Contract with the Owner. Successful bidder will be required to provide payment and performance bonds in an amount of at least 100% of awarded contract price.

A Mandatory Pre-bid Meeting will be held at 1:00 P.M., local time, on May 5th, 2026, at City Hall, 270 North Clark St., Powell, Wyoming. Bidders are required to attend and participate in the conference. To qualify as attending, Bidders must arrive and sign in within 10 minutes of the start of Pre-bid Meeting. Bids will not be accepted from Bidders that do not attend the mandatory pre-bid conference. Pursuant to W.S. 16-6-106, “preference is hereby given to materials, supplies, agricultural products, equipment, machinery and provisions produced, manufactured or grown in Wyoming, or supplied by a resident of the state, quality being equal to articles offered by the competitors outside of the state”.
Dated this 17th day of April 2026.
City of Powell
/s/ owner
First Publ., Tues., April 21, 2026
Final Publ., Tues., May 5, 2026

Name change

STATE OF WYOMING)
) ss
COUNTY OF PARK)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT)
5th JUDICIAL DISTRICT)
CASE NUMBER 31320)
IN THE MATTER OF the)
CHANGE OF NAME OF)
Isabelle Melina Thormahlen)
Petitioner)
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF)
PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME OF AN ADULT)
Notice is hereby given that a Petition for Change of Name of an Adult, Case Number 31320, has been filed in the 5th Judicial District of Wyoming District Court by a Petitioner whose current full name is Isabelle Melina Thormahlen. The address of the District Court is 1002 Sheridan Ave., Cody, Wyoming, 82414.
The object and prayer of the Petition is to change the Petitioner's full name to Casey Chrysocyon Lycosa.
Any objection to this action must be filed with the District Court within 30 days following the final date

of publication of this notice. If no objection is timely filed, an Order granting the name change may be issued without further notice.
DATED April 15th, 2026.
DEBRA CARROLL
Clerk of District Court

First Publ., Thurs., April 23, 2026
Second Publ., Tues., April 28, 2026
Third Publ., Tues., May 5, 2026
Fourth Publ., Tues., May 12, 2026

Subdivision public hearing

BIGHORN MTN MINOR SUBDIVISION (MS-99) SKETCH PLAN
At their regular meeting on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 1:00pm, the Park County Planning & Zoning Commission will conduct a public hearing to consider the application and Sketch Plan for Bighorn Mtn Minor Subdivision (MS-99). Ryan Hopson (applicant), on behalf of RH Building Investments, LLC., and Watt Properties, LLC., (landowners), is proposing to create a three-lot subdivision, comprised of two 2.39-acre lots and one 30.61-acre lot, for residential and agricultural use, from an existing 35.39-acre parcel. The parcel is located approximately 4.5 miles east of Powell city limits, at the southwest corner of the intersection of Lane 8 ½ and Road 3 with an address of 864 Road 3, Powell. The property is in a General Rural Powell (GR-P) zoning district in the Cody-Powell Rural Planning Area. The proposed subdivision is located within Lot 54-J, Lot 54, Resurvey, T55N, R98W of the 6th P.M., Park County, WY.
The hearing will be held in the Alternate Emergency Operating Center (EOC Room) located in the basement of the Courthouse Addition, 1002 Sheridan Ave., Cody, WY. In the event that multiple hearings are on the agenda, complete applications will be heard in the order in which they were received. Visit <https://parkcounty-wy.gov/planning-and-zoning/pzmeeting-calendar/>. Anyone wishing to comment on this matter is encouraged to attend, or submit comments to the Planning & Zoning Department, 1002

Sheridan Ave., Suite #109, Cody, WY 82414 or email planning@parkcounty-wy.gov. For more information call 307-527-8540 or 307-754-8540.
First Publ., Tues., May 5, 2026
Final Publ., Tues., May 12, 2026

Subdivision public hearing

THE REMUDA MINOR SUBDIVISION (MS-98) SKETCH PLAN
At their regular meeting on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 1:00pm, the Park County Planning & Zoning Commission will conduct a public hearing to consider the application and Sketch Plan for The Remuda Minor Subdivision (MS-98). Grant Cadwallader and Alexandra Few (applicants/landowners) are proposing to create a one-lot subdivision, comprised of one 1.91-acre lot for residential use, from an existing 47.31-acre parcel resulting in an approximately 45.40-acre remainder parcel. The parcel is approximately three miles south of Powell city limits, north of Highway 295 (Lane 13), on the west side of Pony Trail. The property has an address of 22 Pony Trail, Powell, and is located in a General Rural - Powell (GR-P) zoning district in the Powell Local Planning Area. The proposed subdivision is located within Lot 38-N, Lot 38, Resurvey, T55N, R99W of the 6th P.M., Park County, WY.
The hearing will be held in the Alternate Emergency Operating Center (EOC Room) located in the basement of the Courthouse Addition, 1002 Sheridan Ave., Cody, WY. In the event that multiple hearings are on the agenda, complete applications will be heard in the order in which they were received. Visit <https://parkcounty-wy.gov/planning-and-zoning/pzmeeting-calendar/>. Anyone wishing to comment on this matter is encouraged to attend, or submit comments to the Planning & Zoning Department, 1002 Sheridan Ave., Suite #109, Cody, WY 82414 or email planning@parkcounty-wy.gov. For more information call 307-527-8540 or 307-754-8540.
First Publ., Tues., May 5, 2026
Final Publ., Tues., May 12, 2026

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Pictured are bottom row, from left: Parker Spomer, Ace Phillips, Reuben Jones, Quinn Carolson, Aylin Paris, Lucy Edgell, Briar Robertson, Jonathyn Jackson and Eli Weiser. Second row: Hannah Hultgren, Blythe Morgan, Joy Reekers, Hayden Tietema and Gwenivere Sherman. Third row: Kumora Snell, Ashlynn Swink and Ashlynn McConnell. Fourth row: Sophie Erkkila, Natalie Munguia-Garcia, Audrey Hultgren and Cyanne Phipps. Fifth row: Allison Toman. Sixth row: John Black, Ryleigh White and Allison Tolman. Top row: Layla Gehrts and Karen Shreve. Courtesy photo

Powell's top young authors celebrated

Powell's top young authors were celebrated last month at Powell Middle School. Many authors from Powell schools submitted their entries in January, and there was a celebration on Monday, April 13 for District and State winners. First place winners were Allison Tolman,

Hayden Tietema and Karen Shreve. Second place winners were Hannah Hultgren, Allison Tolman, Ryleigh White, Cyanne Phipps, Joy Reekers, John Black, Ashlun Swink, Layla Gerhts, Brooke Horning and Blythe Morgan. Third place state winners were Blaine

Adkins, Eli Weiser, Aylin Paris, Ace Phillips, Jonathyn Jackson, Hayden Tietema, Brooke Sheets, Parker Spomer, Sophie Erkkila, Kumora Snell, Quinn Carolson, Reuben Jones, Cherish Davis, Lucy Edgell, Briar Robertson, Gwenivere Sherman, Ashlynn McConnell, Audrey Hultgren and Natalie Munguia-Garcia.

PARK COUNTY LIBRARY

May happenings at the library

The wait is finally over and the new Powell Library is open. The building is gorgeous and we were so happy to see Powell turn out for the grand opening. The new building means new hours; Powell Library is now open Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Remember all events and programming for the Powell Library will be held in our new wonderful building. The end of May will also mean the kick off for Summer Reading throughout the Park County libraries, so be on the lookout for more information to come.



KAREN HORNER
Guest Column

Craft Supply Swap is back. Join us on Monday, May 11 from 4-7 p.m. On Friday, May 8 from 1-3 p.m. come to the library and join us for All Ages Crafternoon and on Friday, May 15 from 1-3 p.m. ages 10 and up join us as we use perler beads to recreate a famous painting. Grab your Altered Book Club kit after May 13 and create a book Hydrangea Wreath. Join us for Adult Craft Night on Thursday, May 21 at 6 p.m. for a night of Craft Catch Up; here is your chance to do a previous adult craft you might have missed out on.

Tuesday Afternoon Book Discussion meets on May 12 at 2 p.m. where we will be discussing "The Keeper of Lost Causes," by Jussi Adler Olsen. The evening book discussion will be meet on Tuesday, May 26 at 6 p.m. to discuss "The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store," by James McBride. Powell Library is offering Tech Tuesday; sign up for a one-on-one session with Park County Library IT who can help you with your device problems. Tech Tuesday will be on May 19, signups required. Bring the kids to the Powell Library for our wonderful children's programming. Toddler Time is every Tuesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Join us every Wednesday for Storytime at 2 p.m. Join us for kids craft for K-fifth grade, to make Fortune Tellers on Friday, May 22, 1-3 p.m. Lego Club is back on Thursday, May 28 at 3:30 p.m. For ages 10 and up, on Friday, May 29 from 1-3 p.m. we will have Board Game Afternoon. Remember Early Literacy Kits as well as tonies for checkout. Also sign up your child for 1000 Books before Kindergarten. Make sure and check out the new book at the Storywalk at Homesteader Park. This month's story is Alan's Big, Scary Teeth, by Jarvis. All Park County libraries will be closed Saturday, May 23 and Monday, May 25 for Memorial Day.

Shopping for Mom made easy!

Support Local Businesses

Give her a gift, gift card or certificate at participating stores or restaurants!

Mother's Day is May 10!

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NHC

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Open Mother's Day Weekend

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HAPPY Mother's Day

HAPPY Mother's Day!

From all of us at YELLOWSTONE MOTORS

We want to wish a heart-felt thank you to all the amazing moms out there.

For everything you do, every mile you drive, and every moment you make special—today we celebrate you.

Thank you for everything you do!

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