

TORRINGTON TELEGRAM



Lancer golfers snag fourth consecutive win at NJC
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FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2024

\$1.50

WEATHER

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77
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SUNDAY
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Vol. 121, No. 30



8 52078 00124 9

EWC hopes to expand vet program

'They have all the opportunities in the world to go wherever they want'



RHETT BREEDLOVE/TORRINGTON TELEGRAM

The entire Eastern Wyoming College Veterinary Tech program stands before the Board of Trustees Tuesday evening to discuss both current and future expansion possibilities.

BY RHETT BREEDLOVE
rbreedlove@torringtontelegram.com

TORRINGTON – The Eastern Wyoming College (EWC) board of trustees met for the monthly discussion of college topics, plans, and crucial agenda items.

College president Dr. Jeffrey Hawes was present along with chairman Jackie Van Mark and vice chairman Rick Vonburg.

Trustee members Kurt Sittner, Randy Adams, Robert Baumgartner, Doug Mercer,

see EWC page A5

Title I family math night

Elks Lodge donated bikes to six lucky kids who attended



COURTESY PHOTO

Graham Watt (center) as he was one of six students to win a new bike and helmet, donated by the Torrington Elks Lodge.



COURTESY PHOTO

Shirley Peterson (right), of Lincoln Elementary and Christina Houk (left) are seen holding the bucket of names to be drawn.



COURTESY PHOTO

Kalliope Wyatt (left) with Christina Houk (right).



COURTESY PHOTO

Student Kaydence Werner (left) and elks representative Matt Mattis (right).



COURTESY PHOTO

Delaney Martin (left) with Stacey Robbins.



COURTESY PHOTO

Oliver Mackenzie (left) and elks representative Matt Mattis (right).

A special view of Wyoming law

'You only live once'

BY RHETT BREEDLOVE
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TORRINGTON – The Goshen District Court met in "session" at 8:30 a.m. early Tuesday morning.

This would be a special session, however. One meant to educate, inform, and perhaps set tomorrow's generation up for success rather than for dark complicated adversities.

The morning was not to address a defendant who found themselves on the wrong side of Wyoming law, but to give a healthy and truthful view to all county eighth graders on what the law really looks like.

With not an empty seat in the district courtroom, Goshen County and Prosecuting Attorney, Eric Boyer, addressed the children with close and accurate sincerity of how a seasoned attorney would in fact address a jury.

"We are very excited to show you today just how the law, and democracy really work," Boyer said to the children.

Over 100 eighth graders sat before the prosecuting attorney as well as district judge, Ed Buchanan, along with a long list of county officials and law enforcement personnel.

The day marked the annual and traditional day off from school for all eighth graders to participate in YOLO Day.

You only live once would be the power-



RHETT BREEDLOVE/TORRINGTON TELEGRAM

Goshen County and Prosecuting Attorney, Eric Boyer, welcomes the entire eighth-grade student body to the district courtroom for YOLO Day. The event was meant to educate students first-hand on Wyoming legal procedures, laws, and even consequences.

ful and constant message for every child sitting in the public area of the courtroom early Tuesday morning.

As they entered and filled the large room; some excited, some curious, and of course others just happy to be out of school for a while, a very imperative and nourishing approach would be taken to help this group of youngsters.

They knew they would be witnessing a trial simulation, but the question still remained, "What does a real trial truly look like?"

As the kids would soon see, a mock trial from an authentic staff of real judges, law-

see LAW Page A8

Right to life hosts townhall

'Gray talks voting updates'

BY JESS OAKS
joaks@torringtontelegram.com

TORRINGTON – A townhall style meeting was held Tuesday evening at the Lincoln Community Complex at 6 p.m.

Jan Long, Goshen County Right to Life President welcomed community members in attendance, a short prayer was given followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

"The gameplan tonight is a question-and-answer session and we have Cheri Steinmetz and Chuck Gray and Allen Slagle and Scott Smith. So, any questions that you might have, they will be glad to hear from you and to answer," Long explained.

Secretary of State Chuck Gray gave a brief presentation during the meeting.

"Before serving as Secretary of State, I was a legislator representing portions of east Casper. We worked a lot on the life issue," Gray said. "At that time, when I entered in 2017, there hadn't been a pro-life bill passed in 30 years."

Gray explained after taking office, he filed house bill 137, the ultrasound requirement bill, which set off a 'wave of pro-life legislation.'

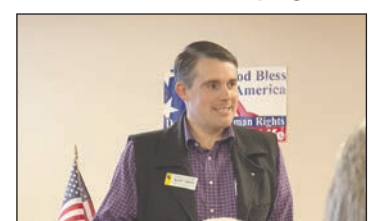
Then Gray gave a synopsis of how Wyoming has migrated through the Roe v. Wade overturn.

"When Row v. Wade was overturned, the pro-death forces were really flat-footed because we had a statute already on the books that would state that abortion was going to be banned in Wyoming," Gray said.

Gray spoke about legislation requesting abortion clinics and any individual performing abortions needs to have admitting privileges in a hospital.

"It's very reasonable. States across the county have this," Gray said. "It went through the legislature and then the governor vetoed it in his string of vetoes. His veto on the property tax bill which would have given a 25% exemption to all Wyomingites who qualified. His veto of the pro-gun bill which would have banned "gun-free zones" in numerous settings, including here (the Lincoln Complex) and I saw the sign coming in," he continued.

see LIFE page A3



JESS OAKS/TORRINGTONTELEGRAM

Scott Smith and other constituents joined together at the Lincoln community complex on Tuesday evening for a townhall meeting. Topics of discussion where a legislative session update and new voting law updates.

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BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Cooper Tazmen Small

TORRINGTON – Ralaya Morris and Chasen Small are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Cooper Tazmen Small. Cooper was born on Sunday, April 7, 2024, and he weighed

six pounds and five ounces. He was 19 ¼ inches long. He is welcomed by proud grandparents Ashley Wells and Travis Wolfe and Amy and John Small, all of Torrington.



Court fines for March 31 -April 6

A compendium of the Goshen County court fines.

March 31

Cassell, Cole – Forfeiture: \$25 [31-5-1402 a (1)] seat belt: driver.

Cassell, Cole – Forfeiture: \$150 [31-4-101 e] expired temporary license permit/improper registration.

April 1

Hurwitz, Charlie – Forfeiture: \$140 [31-5-301 bvii (2)] vehicle exceed 70 mph on primary/secondary highway (6+ mph over).

Cross, Thomas – Forfeiture: \$135 [31-5-

301 bvii (2)] vehicle exceed 70 mph on primary/secondary highway (6+ mph over).

Southwick, Russell L. – Forfeiture: \$175 [31-5-301 c (2)] vehicle superintendent's speed zone (6+ MPH over).

April 2

Enriquez, Suzanna M. – Forfeiture: \$160 [31-5-301 bvii (2)] vehicle exceed 70 mph on primary/secondary highway (6+ mph over).

Enriquez, Suzanna M. – Forfeiture: \$25 [31-5-1402 a (1)] seat belt: driver.

Hart, Joshua K. – Forfeiture: \$27 [31-5-1402 a (1)] seat belt: driver.

Numon, Jerry – Forfeiture: \$170 [31-5-

301 bvii (2)] vehicle exceed 70 mph on primary/secondary highway (6+ mph over).

April 3

Chavez, Eli – Forfeiture: \$120 [31-5-301 bvii (2)] vehicle exceed 70 mph on primary/secondary highway (6+ mph over).

April 4

Sapp Kendrick, Kyle – Forfeiture: \$140 [31-5-222 b) stop sign.

Romero, Leo A. – Forfeiture: \$103 [31-5-301 bvii (2)] vehicle exceed 70 mph on primary/secondary highway (6+ mph over).

April 5

Hatley, Jacob A. – Forfeiture: \$135 [31-5-301 bvii (2)] vehicle exceed 70 mph on primary/secondary highway (6+ mph over).

Cralle, Drue – Forfeiture: \$125 [31-5-301 bvii (2)] vehicle exceed 70 mph on primary/secondary highway (6+ mph over).

Bendix, Dylan C. – Forfeiture: \$105 [31-5-301 c (2)] vehicle superintendent's speed zone (6+ MPH over).

April 6

Torres Castelan, Jose – Forfeiture: \$105 [31-5-301 bvii (2)] vehicle exceed 70 mph on primary/secondary highway (6+ mph over).

Emergency services rolling log

A compendium of Goshen County emergency response and service calls

Wednesday, April 3rd – Thursday, April 4th

00:26-Suspicious Circumstances-Occurred on Converse St. Three people walking around and messing with vehicles. Unknown what they are doing but RP saw them walking towards vehicles. Last seen heading towards Albany on Converse. RP yelled at them and told them she was calling the police and they yelled back at her, but unknown what they said. Disposition: completed.

02:43-Suspicious Vehicle-Officer initiated activity at West 15th Ave, Torrington, Wyoming. Disposition: completed.

04:25-Assist the Public-Occurred on E 22nd Ave. RP moving to New Mexico today wanting to report that subject told her that she is going to fistfight her and pull a gun on her. RP reporting that she will call us and report that she said all of this. Disposition: completed.

06:16-Medic AID-Occurred on Road 55 F. 71-year-old male beginning stages of heart attack, going in and out of cons. Did not advise further. Disposition: completed.

06:58-Motor Vehicle Accident-Occurred on Buttermilk Rd. Rolled truck in canal, will stay on scene until deputy can get there. Disposition: citation issued.

07:40-Traffic Complaints; speed, reckless, etc.-Occurred on U.S. Highway 85. Northbound white four-door car with South Dakota plates swerving all over the road. Disposition: completed.

08:25-Traffic Complaints; speed, reckless etc.-Occurred on Main St. Was passed on Main St by a () 10 minutes ago. Not willing to sign a statement just wants us to watch out for. Disposition: completed.

08:34-Found Property Report-Occurred on E C St. Sets of keys and brought into police department. Keys left in lost and found. Disposition: completed.

11:27-911 Call (Abandoned, Open Line, Etc.)-Occurred on E G St. Abandoned call unable to call number back, pinging around above location. Disposition completed.

11:55-Water Department Call Out-Occurred on Industrial Park Ave. High zone tank system intrusion. Disposition completed.

11:57-Mecial Aid-Occurred on Road 53 S. 68-year-old male fell off scaffolding, landed on left side. Possible broken rib. Fell between six and eight feet. Skinned elbow, jammed shoulder. Disposition: completed.

12:29-Log Information-Occurred on E 22nd Ave. Delayed inquiry hit notification drives A. Disposition: completed.

13:02-Harassment-Occurred on E 18th Ave. Getting threatening text messages. RP in lobby to

speak with officer. Disposition: completed.

13:21-911 Call (Abandoned, Open Line, Etc.)-Occurred on W C St. Open line call can hear people talking doesn't sound like an emergency. Disposition: completed.

13:28-Assist the Public-Occurred on E G St. Wants to speak with () when asked what it was in reference to. RP just stated it's (). Disposition: completed.

16:00-Assist the Public-Occurred on E B St. Questions about hunter safety classes. Disposition completed.

17:10-Harassment-Occurred on E G St. Threatening RP, RP in the lobby. Disposition: completed.

17:12-Animal Call-Occurred on Grande Vista Rd. RP came home to a dead coyote on top of trash cans. Disposition: completed.

17:18-Log Information-Occurred on E 22nd Ave. PD phones not working. Disposition: citation issued.

18:20-Suspicious Circumstances-Occurred on Main St. RP states vehicle moved without permission. Wants deputy to take pictures of damage. Disposition: report required.

18:44-Traffic complaints; speed, reckless, etc.-Occurred on E A St. RP states that the vehicle stated from and is no on Main Street heading north. RP states driver appears to have been drinking. Disposition: completed.

18:51-Parking Complaints-Occurred on W 15th Ave. RP states car parked in lot 12. Disposition: completed.

19:17-Officer Court Papers Other Than Warrants-Officer initiated activity at Loma Vista Road, Torrington, Wyoming. Disposition: completed.

19:40-Community Contact-Officer initiated activity at W C St, Torrington, Wyoming. Disposition: completed.

20:05-Assist Other Agency-Occurred on E 22nd Ave. RP wants to talk with 120 about. Disposition: completed.

21:19-Animal Call-Occurred on U.S. Highway 85. RP states 8-10 black cows right off highway. Currently they are in the ditch on the east side of the road. Disposition: completed.

22:02-Suspicious Circumstances-Occurred on E 25th Ave. Person on camera locking. Disposition: completed.

22:24-Traffic Stops-Officer initiated activity at W Valley Road, Torrington, Wyoming. No lights on. Disposition: warning for any traffic or other.

22:50-Welfare Check-Occurred on Road 39 E. Quite abruptly tonight without notice. Disposition: completed.

01:24-Hazard-Traffic, PED, Etc.-Officer initiated activity at E Valley Road, Torrington, Wyoming. Something in the road. Disposition: completed.

04:04-Warrant-Occurred on E 22nd Ave. Removed NCIC warrant. Disposition: completed.

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Town approves car show

'It's going to be fun this year'

BY JESS OAKS

joaks@torringtontelegram.com

FORT LARAMIE – The Fort Laramie Town Council met on Wednesday, April 10 at 7 p.m. The meeting quickly began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the agenda. Mayor Joyce stated she had two additions to add and she added a discussion topic of the Lingle rest stop sign dedication and the invitation to attend the ceremony. She also added the next policy work session dates under the announcement portion of the agenda.

There was a motion to approve the amended agenda which was seconded and carried.

An executive session was also added to the agenda, before the meetings adjournment.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the amended agenda, which carried.

A motion was then made to approve the minutes from last month's meeting, March 27, which carried.

The April 8 special meeting minutes were also approved.

No action was needed for the item d, a review of financial documents, banking statements, and payroll-related documents.

The next item was the approval of the consent agenda, which was carried.

The first action item was the Fort Laramie Bar and Grill liquor license renewal. It was noted all paperwork and fees were completed. The council voted to approve the renewal.

The council then heard a request for an open container permit for a summer event/catering event for the Fort Laramie Bar and Grill.

mie Bar for a car show with live music on June 15. The bar has requested the streets be blocked off from the morning of June 15 until midnight. A motion was made which was seconded.

"It will be similar to the event we did last year," the bar owner said. "We will be doing a car show. We will have vendors. I'm trying to put together a corn-hole competition. We will have a band, actually, we will have two."

The owner requested the street be closed early in the morning so cars could be lined up by 10 a.m.

The motion carried.

"Thanks, guys," the tavern owner said to the council. "It's going to be fun this year."

The next item under the action section of the council agenda was to establish an account for utility deposits.

After a brief discussion on the banking institutions, the council agreed to continue to research the possibility of changing banking institutions. Evans advised the council it had been brought to her attention the town needs a separate banking account for utility deposits per Wyoming state statute. A brief discussion was held on utility deposits being a liability in the town's general banking account.

"It's really a good idea because that is a liability in our books because anybody could come in at any time and want to have their deposit back so if we have a separate account it would track that more clearly," Evans explained.

The council agreed to continue to explore options with other banking institutions.

A motion was made to 'Open a utility deposit account by July 2024 which bears the best interest rate possible,' which was

approved and carried.

The next item on the agenda was depreciation accounts where more discussion ensued, and no action was taken.

Moving on to discussion items the council heard a report on the policy work session.

"I really appreciate this council," Evans said. "They are putting in a lot of thought and energy into getting these policies where they need to be."

Volunteer fire report, Pete Howes, chief, reported on training hours attended and a short report of the Easter celebrations.

"Breakfast went fair, I think it's been better," Howes said.

"I want to toot the horn of the members of the fire department for a sec," one council member said.

The council commended the fire department for their recent participation and support in the local Easter egg hunt held at the park.

Evans noted the town clerk was ill and therefore no report was read.

The treasurer's report was read and approved, and mayor Evans authorized the purchase of a new desk for the clerk.

During the law-enforcement report, it was noted that an SRO would be hired for additional patrol services, and it was requested that funds remaining from last year's SRO contract be reallocated to replace the bulletproof vest. The excessive cat problem was also discussed during the town council meeting law-enforcement report. The council was advised until there is a way to dispose of cats in the community, very little resolution was seen, however, options continue to be evaluated by the council and law enforcement. It was noted the SRO would be



FILE PHOTO

The Fort Laramie Town Council met Wednesday evening to approve a special summer event, a catering permit for the Fort Laramie bar and Grill.

available during the car show summer event.

During the emergency management report, it was advised the town of Fort Laramie tested their tornado sirens last week. Some repairs and maintenance will need to be done to ensure proper communication for the remainder of the storm season.

Evans announced Christian DuFresne was hired as a permanent department head for public works and she reminded the council and community of the dedication of highway signs on May 2 at 2 p.m. and the Sunrise Mine tours on April 28.

Evans then moved on to announcements where she reminded the community of the health fair held Thursday. She also notes the budget work session at 2 PM on April 17 was open to the public. Evans then mentioned The next town Council meeting is April 24 at 7 p.m. And municipal elections are May 14 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The council then entered an executive session and the meeting was adjourned thereafter.

Life: 'It's a measure to ensure the Wyomingites vote in Wyoming'

FROM PAGE A1

"Does anybody feel secure now that we can't carry in here? I certainly don't. It makes us a soft target."

"That's a little bit of the session in terms of the life work. I am the Secretary of State [and in my] role there's a number of things that come across our desk and if I could just quickly speak to a couple," Gray said. "One is elections and that really gets a lot of the attention is our work on election integrity. I am a big believer in election integrity."

Gray spoke on the party declaration deadline bill, which bans cross-over voting, noting the deadline for party affiliation declaration or change for registered voters is May 15.

"I will say, absent the vetoes, this was the most conservative session the '24 session since I've been involved which has been since 2017," Gray said. "By far, usually we get one or two, I'd say landmark conservative bills through but this year I'd say six. The governor vetoed four or five of them, so we ended up in the same place but in terms of the legislative work it was the most conservative I've seen since I've been involved."

Gray mentioned the early voting period was also shortened because of this session, from 45 days to 28 days before the election.

"[We] really want to move more towards voting on the election day, which of course the left and the media has tried to move us off of," Gray said. "We were tied for the longest early voting period in the nation and in the '23 session we cut that to 28 days so it's a little over two weeks, two and a half

weeks that are cut off on that period. I think that's really good from an election integrity perspective. It's going to encourage individuals to interact with the election process for a longer period of time which I can only think is a good thing. I think it also encourages voting on the day of election," he continued.

Gray mentioned the governor is to issue a decision by Friday, April 12 regarding a rulemaking saying 'If you are registering to vote, you need to provide proof you are a Wyomingite.'

"It's a measure to ensure that Wyomingites vote in Wyoming," Gray said. "Only Wyomingites are able to vote in Wyoming elections. Not nonresidents, not illegal aliens and I think in the environment we are in here, in 2024, with the open border it's very important."

"Now it's on the governor's desk. He has 15 days from when that memo was issued from the management council to make a decision, which on our count is Friday and we are going to have a meeting with him tomorrow (Wednesday)," Gray explained. "We are very hopeful that it's going to go through," Gray said. "The governor has until Friday to make a decision."

Gray mentioned his effort to keep Trump on the 2024 electoral ballot, including the numerous lawsuits filed by Tim Newcomb to prevent Trump from

being listed as a candidate for the upcoming presidential election.

"I'm going to try to get some accountability on this individual because he's abusing the legal system. This is abuse of process," Gray said.

Gray then addressed the Amicus Curiae brief which was filed by Gray and other constituents urging the Colorado Supreme Court to keep Trump on the ballot.

"I was the only secretary of the state in the nation to file an Amicus [Curiae] brief explicitly siding with President Trump's arguments there. Took a lot of heat from the media on that but it was the right thing to do," Gray explained.

"Chuck gave you a pretty good legislative overview. One of the things I want to say is we have a great team here in Goshen County. I want to thank Scott (Smith) and Allen (Slagle)," Wyoming State Senator, Cheri Steinmetz said. "They have done a tremendous job representing you here. They are a joy to work with and we don't really often have to ask each other if we are on the same page. We seem to always be on the same page. I really appreciate that," she continued.

Steinmetz stressed how having a good team to work with during the legislative session is important because it

takes a team to accomplish a common goal.

"This year was a challenge," Steinmetz said. "As you know, we tried to get back into a special session and we weren't able to do so. We had 16 folks that voted for it in the senate, but we couldn't get a majority in the house unfortunately to override the governor's vetoes. The reason that is important is we abrogated our authority. We came home. We didn't finish our job and we said, 'Oh we're just going to let the governor legislate by veto,' and that's what we did," Steinmetz added.

Steinmetz expressed scheduling conflicts are common which means it is more difficult to work through each issue during the session. She also expressed her dissatisfaction with Wyoming Governor Gordon, stating during the COVID-19 pandemic, Gordon was forced to act without guidance.

"Unfortunately, during Covid, this governor got into some bad habits," Steinmetz said. "He thinks he runs the state alone right now, so we need to curb those bad habits and the longer we wait to do so the worse it is going to get."

The meeting continued with a brief discussion by representatives Scott Smith and Allen Slagle followed by a public question and answer period.

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THS names new administrator

BY JESS OAKS

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TORRINGTON – The Goshen County School Board meeting was off to a rocky start on Tuesday, April 9 as the board meeting battled some technology issues. The meeting was called to order around 7:20 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance shortly followed.

In attendance were, board chairman, Michael Sussex, vice chair, Sarah Chaires, clerk, Chris Alexander, treasurer, Carols Saucedo, and board members Lena Moeller, Matthew Cushman, Dylan Hager, Justin Hurely, and Wade Phipps. Also in attendance was Kevin Derby, director of curriculum, instruction, and data management, and Ryan Kramer, superintendent.

Kramer made a few minor adjustments to the agenda and the board agreed to adopt the new agenda with addenda.

During the information and proposal portion of the agenda, no action was taken, and the council heard the 2024 Goshen County Recreation Board allocations. The following grants were requested and approved City of Torrington Pool request an amount of \$5,518, which was granted. The city of Torrington Parks Department requested \$7,000 and received the total amount. Bent Barrels Crooked Arrows 4-H club requested the amount of \$7,400 and received that amount. Torrington Wrestling Club requested the amount of \$50,512.21 and received that amount. Goshen County High School Shooting team was awarded the amount requested of \$5,220. Fort Laramie Place to Play requested \$14,204.89 of which they received. Goshen County Library had

two applications requesting the total amount of \$25,545; they also received that amount. The City of Torrington golf course requested the amount of \$22,950 and received that amount as well. Goshen County Grizzlies baseball team requested and was awarded \$18,604.23. The Torrington Little League baseball requested \$9,388.37 which was the amount granted. Football 101-Sled requested and received \$7,666. Legion baseball requested and received \$18,825. The Torrington Girls Softball Association requested and was rewarded \$21,000. GoWyo Soccer requested and was granted \$1,930. The Torrington Junior Rodeo requested and received \$5,000. The Torrington Rotary Walking Path requested and received \$50,000. The total amount of grant money to be allocated totaled \$270,763.70.

The next item on the agenda was reported by student representatives to the board. Kramer announced due to several student representatives being absent, no assignment for the board was given.

Next on the agenda was a school presentation and artwork in the boardroom by Trail Elementary.

During the public forum, Sussex reminded speakers there was a five-minute time limit.

Tony Goulart spoke on his concern about the Franklin Covey curriculum urging the board to find a different type of program.

Another member of the community spoke up against the Franklin Covey curriculum and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) and the 2024-2025 school calendar.

"I have served in the district for 13 years as a teacher and a coach. In this capacity I have seen the need for stu-

dents from elementary to high school to be taught life habits and skills that will carry over into their lives not just as students by as productive members and leaders within their families, communities, and society," Monica Anderson, Southeast High School teacher said. "Like many people in our community, I am concerned with what our children are being taught and being exposed to. As a teacher of Leader-in-Me and a co-facilitator of the Southeast Elementary Lighthouse Team, I am confident that there is nothing within the curriculum that would expose students to anything other than strong habits of mind."

Anderson continued to address the concern brought up by the previous speakers, DEI, challenging the board to see exactly what companies have DEI. Anderson noted the increased popularity of the DEI movement.

Moving on to the consent agenda, the board approved the March 12, 2024, regular meeting minutes as read.

In old business, letter a, the board considered the approval of the proposed policy revision on the second and final reading for the tobacco and smoking policy which was approved after a motion was made.

The board then moved on to consider the approval of the proposed policy revision on the second and final reading for policy 3643 unpaid student meal debt which was also approved.

In letter c, the board considered the approval of the proposed policy revision on the second and final reading for policy 5113-5 students withdraw 2024 and policy 5113-5 students withdraw EX 2024. A motion was made, seconded and the revision was approved on the second and final reading.

It was recommended to consider the approval of the proposed policy and revision on the 2nd and final reading for policy 3420 purchasing rev 2024 which also carried.

The board moved on to new business with the considered approval of the 2024-2025 school year calendar. After a brief discussion, the board voted to approve the calendar.

"I just want to thank the committee members of that," Kramer said. "We met for an hour and a half. I believe there ended up being ten meetings total to create this calendar."

In the next item on the agenda, the board accepted the resignation of three school faculty members and approved the recommendation offering teaching contracts, including renewal of initial contract teachers, and annual employment agreements for the 2024-2025 school year.

The board approved offering certified teaching contracts for the 2024-2025 school year and approved offering administrator contracts for the 2024-2025 school year.

Alan Van Tilburg was offered the administrator contact for Torrington High School.

"I would just like to say, I sat in the committee for hiring and it was a very, very impressive committee," Moeller said. "A very, very impressive process. I am excited for him to come. I think he is going to be a huge asset to this community and to the high school. I fully realize there is some PTSD because we've had some turnover, but I think he's going to be a huge asset so I'm excited for him to come," she continued.

see SCHOOL page A7

EWC: 'Congrats on full accreditation'

FROM PAGE A1

and Jim Willox were all additionally present, while Trustee Katherine Patrick attended digitally.

Perhaps the most noteworthy item on the evening's agenda was the recognition of both recent and anticipated future progress of the college Veterinary Technology (vet-tech) program, currently headed up by Dr.

Colleen Mitchell.

Dr. Colleen Mitchell would present crucial information before the Board in regard to significant accomplishments made by vet-tech students, recent scholarships awarded, and future program needs.

According to Dr. Mitchell, the program enrollment has become so high with first-and second-year students, the college in years to come may have no

choice but to continue program expansion with resources and even additional buildings.

The vet-tech program head would begin her presentation by giving well-deserved acknowledgment of both her students and colleagues.

"I do want to mention several of our students have been awarded scholarships by the drug companies Pfizer and Merk," Dr. Mitchell began. "Several of

them applied for and got those scholarships, so we are very proud of them on that."

"We use models a lot for students to practice. What vets-techs do is actually a wide variety of things. We usually think about them working in clinicals practices. That's just a part of what our students are qualified to do such

see EWC page A7



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Kid Scoop Together

Corny Math

Work with a family member to use your math skills to reveal more facts about corn.

Each corn stalk usually grows _____ ear of corn.

12 - 11 = _____

The average ear of corn usually has about _____ kernels.

670 + 130 = _____

If you plant one kernel and care for it, you end up with _____ kernels!

400 + 400 = _____

If a farmer plants 30,000 kernels in one acre, how many will he plant in 100 acres?

About how many are there in two ears of corn?

800 + 800 = _____

If a giraffe is 16 feet tall, how much taller is the tallest stalk of corn ever measured?

If a corn plant grows 2 inches a day, how long until it is 12 feet tall?

Corn Seasons

Corn is used in more than 3,500 ways. To name just a few, there is corn starch, corn syrup, corn oil, popcorn and good old eating corn. Corn is even used to make a kind of fuel called **ethanol**.

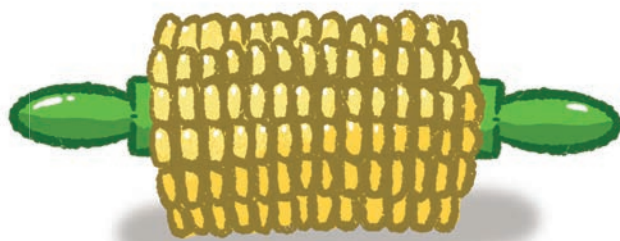


Which of these things are partly made of corn?

- Batteries Matches Diapers

ANSWER: All of them!

Two Kinds of Corn



Most of the corn grown is **dent corn**, also called **field corn**. Dent corn is picked dry and used mostly for livestock feed and ethanol.

Another popular corn is **sweet corn**. Sweet corn is sweeter and juicier than dent corn and is the kind we eat!

Replace the missing words.

Spring

Corn seeds are planted in the spring. Corn seeds are called **kernels**.

In the spring, farmers wait until the _____ is warm before planting corn. The corn kernels need warm soil and spring _____ to start growing.

EARS SOIL GROWING STALKS
WATER HURT FIX RAINS

Summer

During the summer, farmers care for their corn plants. They make sure they get enough _____. They check for weeds, diseases and insects that could _____ the plants. It takes science to grow healthy corn crops!

With water and warmth, corn grows about 2 inches a day. Corn _____ usually grow to about 8 feet tall. The tallest stalk on record was about 45 feet tall—nearly as tall as a four-story building!

Fall

In the fall, corn plants stop _____. The plants turn brown, and the _____ point down. Farmers wait for the ears of corn to dry, and then they harvest.

Winter

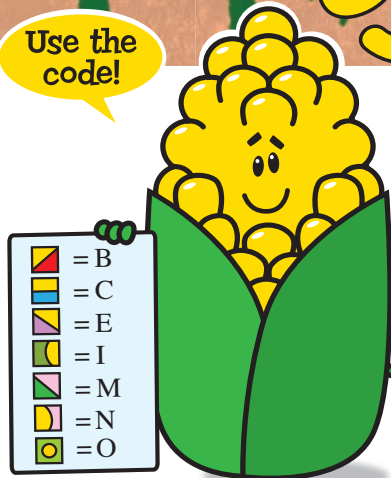
Farmers ship their corn to customers. They also _____ their equipment and get ready to plant again in the spring.



Corn was first grown in this country more than 9,000 years ago:

The letters along the correct path through the corn maze reveals the answer!

Use the code!



- = B
- = C
- = E
- = I
- = M
- = N
- = O

How Technology Helps Farmers

Corn for many centuries was picked by hand. But there have been many inventions that help farmers.

One machine combines several farming jobs in one machine. It cuts the corn stalks and then brings them through the machine. This machine then separates the kernels from the rest of the plant. The machine is called a:



Extra! Extra!

Make a Tall Corn Stalk

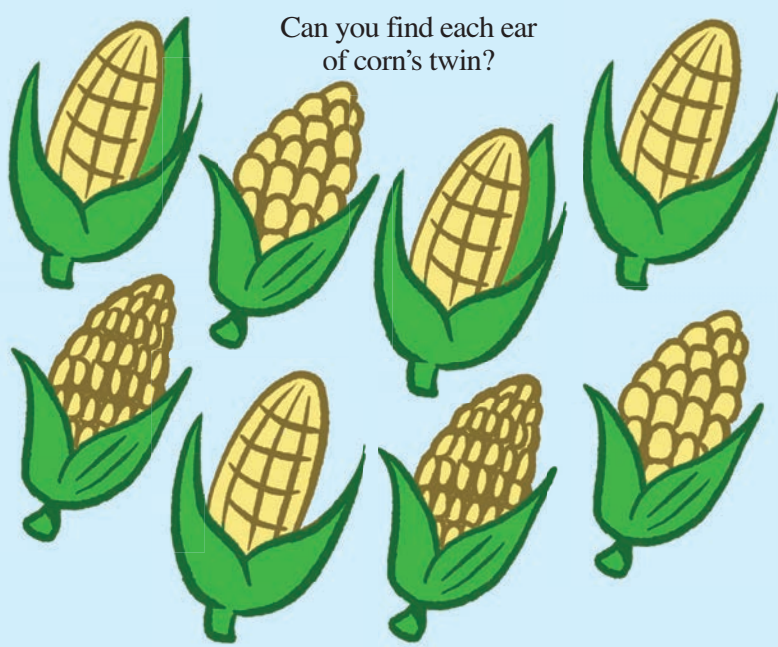
Roll up sheets of the newspaper to make long rolls. How long is one sheet rolled? Estimate how many more pages need to be rolled to make one long roll that is 45 feet long. Then keep rolling pages and lining them up until you make a 45-foot-long roll—the length of one of the tallest corn stalks measured.

Standards Link: Math: Estimate lengths.

Standards Link: Life Science: Understand the origin and uses of food products.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Can you find each ear of corn's twin?



Double Double Word Search

- ACRE
- CARE
- CORN
- CROPS
- DENT
- EAR
- FARMER
- FEED
- FIELD
- GROWS
- HARVEST
- PLANT
- STALK
- SWEET
- WATER

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

D J Z W V G U E W A
E S C Q K R T M A Y
E K L B P O B H T R
F L C E F W O X E N
I A O R R S Y W R P
E T R L O A W S C L
L S N M D P C E V A
D E N T E J S R E N
W T S E V R A H E T

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Life Cycle

Look through the newspaper for pictures that show people, animals or things at different stages of their lives. Cut them out to create a life cycle.

Standards Link: Life Science: Understand the natural life cycle of people and objects.



Why did all the farmer's jokes make everyone groan?

ANSWER: They were really corny jokes.

Write On!

Your Favorite Vegetable

Write a riddle for people to figure out your favorite vegetable.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Write using descriptive details.

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School: 'Best that we possibly can for our kids'

FROM PAGE A5

The board next moved on to consider approval of rehiring a retiree for the 2024-2025 school year, Randy Epler as a half-time NPS coordinator, carried.

The board moved on to consider the approval of contracting with Franklin-Covey for district professional development services. After a brief discussion, Alexander expressed his disapproval of the contract, citing concerns with the DEI mission statements and philosophy.

"I would just like to say, I respect the concerns over DEI, but above that, I trust the staff in our district," Chair said. "I trust them enough I give them my babies every day to teach. They are our neighbors and our friends. I believe they hold the same values, and they are not pushing things on our children that this community does not support."

"I would like to speak to it as well," Moeller explained. "We were challenged with spending the time educating ourselves and looking into this and I've done exactly that. I went to Southeast, and I picked up the curriculum and materials that are actually being shared with the staff that are teaching my children. My kids are in Southeast. I have pulled up the exact website Mr. Alexander that you asked us to read that literally talks about kindness and compassion and the hurt associated with Mr. Floyd's death. I saw absolutely no negativity there whatsoever in my personal opinion a school board is not a battleground for political initiatives. It's not. We have to learn as a community and this school board to set those things aside and focus on what's important to our kids," she continued.

Moeller expressed, students need more and more instruction on life skills,

and she urged fellow board member, Alexander, to look at the material being taught to the children.

Saucedo offered his comments, stating the teachings of the healthy habits offers students a choice on the things they do in life.

"I am very confident I will be making the choice to do the best that we possibly can for our kids," Saucedo said. "I am hoping that I am assisting in building good leaders for our future."

Item d, to approve the contract with FranklinCovey after the board vote.

The board then moved on to consider approval of contracting with Wyoming Educators Benefit Trust (WEBT) for district health insurance coverage for the 2024-2025 school year which was approved.

The board approved contracting for asbestos abatement management and oversight and approved contracting services for the demolition of the Torrington High School Tech Ed building and a little house.

Next, the board approved contracting for district concrete projects and approved of purchase exceeding \$5,000.00 for water softener replacement.

A purchase exceeding \$5,000 for replacement carpet was approved by the board and a purchase exceeding \$5,000.00 for Kajeet SmartBus internet data renewal was also approved by the board.

The board approved of building fire panel upgrades and the purchase exceeding \$5,000.00 for replacement music riser stands.

The purchase exceeding \$5,000.00 for THS Family Consumer Science kitchen equipment was approved by the board and the purchase exceeding \$5,000.00 for the purchase of Orton-Gillingham sup-

plies was approved.

Lastly, the board approved of purchase exceeding \$5,000.00 for Trail library books.

During the topics for discussion, Sussex read a letter addressed to the Carbon County School Board regarding an email from the board.

"On March 4, 2024, trustees for Goshen County School District received an email with a variety of allegations regarding the misconduct of our superintendent, Ryan Kramer. While in attendance at the 3A regional basketball tournament that was hosted in Rawlins, following this email, an informal investigation was conducted which included the review of video surveillance from the event as well as first-hand accounts of the incidents in question," Sussex read. "Trustees reviewed all evidence presented and unanimously found our superintendent acted within the parameters of his position and with reason regarding the situation. We stand with Mr. Kramer and support his actions as a reflection of his desire to safeguard the wellbeing of our student-athletes during a state-sanctioned sporting event."

"To be very honest with you I've really, really, struggled with this and whether or not even say anything to this board but I'm very disturbed by something that has occurred and was brought to my attention by a community member," Moeller explained. "I understand that an e-mail pertaining to this very sensitive subject was printed and circulated amongst the community. In fact, it was sent by a board member to a former board member who then took it to a bank and printed it off, and planted it down for the community to read. There are specifically laws to protect

someone from branding another human being with baseless accusations and allegations. The purpose of internal investigations of personnel matters is that they are very sensitive and it's not fair to release that information to those that are not sitting on the board when we are discussing it and considering it," Moeller continued. "That information was released in my opinion for no other purpose other than to drag Mr. Kramer's name through the mud this particular action has destroyed my trust in you, Mr. Alexander, for releasing this e-mail. It's disheartening, it's appalling. We work very hard as this board. We spend a lot of time trying to do what's best for this district so when something like that happens it's very, very, discouraging and disappointing and I think it's important for this board to know that that has occurred. I don't know if this is the first time, I'm hopeful it's the last," Moeller said.

The board then entered executive session during the regular board meeting.

After an executive session, the board announced future meetings.

A work session for salary relations information will be held on April 18 and the salary relations committee will meet on April 22 at 8 a.m.

District graduation dates and times were announced during the meeting and Platte River School graduation will be May 15 at 5 p.m. The remaining Goshen County ceremonies will be held on Sunday, May 19. Southeast graduation will be held at 1 p.m.; Torrington High School graduation will be at 2:30 p.m. and Lingle-Ft. Laramie High School ceremonies begin at 4 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned to reconvene for a regular session on Tuesday, May 14 at 7 p.m.

EWC: 'This would include building and an increase in our...'

FROM PAGE A5

as working at vet labs and zoos. Also, things point to control hotlines, emergency clinics, and specialty clinics."

Dr. Mitchell, with the presence of the entire vet-tech student body, would continue to speak before the board with a sincere explanation of the cruciality and ever-growing industry demand in both the country and vastly worldwide.

"Vet clinics are in high demand, and they can all find a job," Dr. Mitchell continued. "There is no problem with that at all. I have had numerous people contact me looking for technicals both close and far away. We have vet-tecs right now with salaries increasing rapidly, and they have all the opportunities in the world to go wherever they want. Washington state can't get enough students to work for them. They can have government work, corporations, everything. This is the whole range besides working in vet clinics. This is where most of them go, but some want to try

other fields in the vet profession."

As Dr. Mitchell continued with her presentation while holding her colleagues and students in very high regard, the seasoned professor ensured one other thing was to be brought up at the meeting.

Despite significant recent accomplishments within the program, the program head was resolute in mentioning more improvements can be made; this as well as supplementary support from the Board will be essential in moving forward.

"The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) committee on Veterinary Tech Education and Activities continued the EWC vet-tech program on full accreditation. Not every vet-tech school does this, but we did. This is a huge congrats. We weren't perfect as they did some up some deficiencies. Not that they are major, it's just they are more important. The good news is we have five to six years to correct them. We have to keep working on our

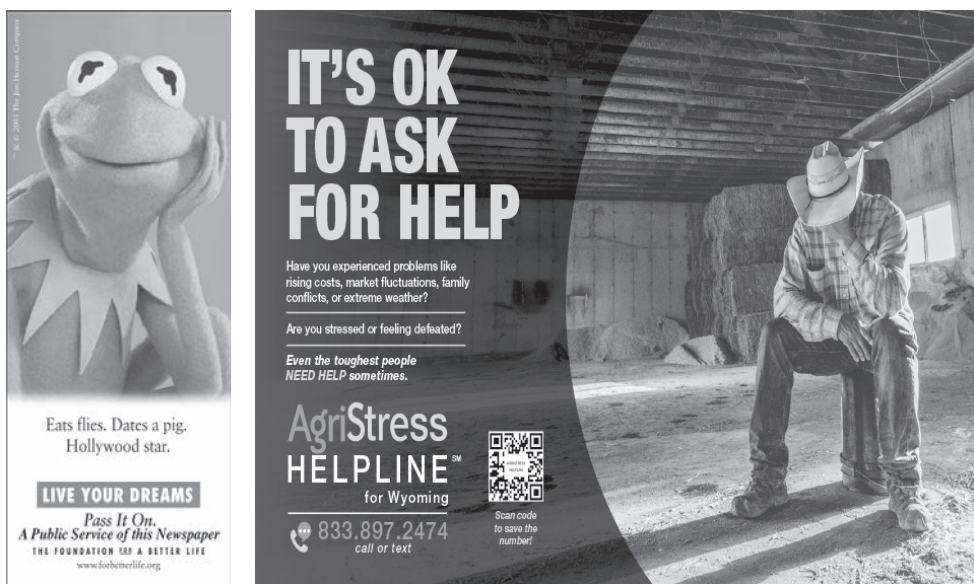
protocols, but a major deficiency would be where we need your help. Money in other words."

The room responded with light laughter.

"This would include buildings and an increase in our faculty type thing. Right now, I'm the only full-time vet. Our adjunct helps quite a bit, but right now we have two job openings listed for program veterinarians, and that's how

we are going to try and get program staffing. If we hire two vets, that will allow the program director more time for administrative and teaching duties while allowing faculty to have more time. If we have more faculty, we will have more time to prepare for classes and counsel them. The long-term needs are the building. We need a new

see EWC page A8



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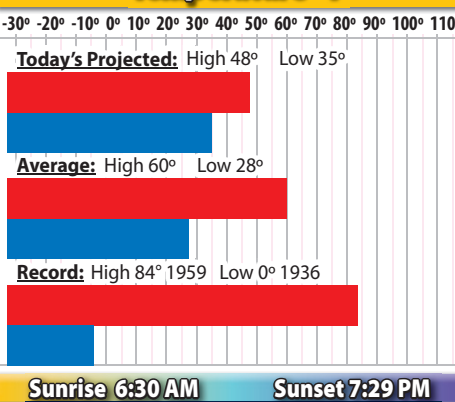
Wyoming High/Low for Saturday



5 Day Local Forecast

Day	High	Low	Precipitation
Saturday 4/13	81° Real Feel 80°		6%
Evening	40° Real Feel 36°		5%
Sunday 4/14	81° Real Feel 83°		4%
Evening	42° Real Feel 38°		6%
Monday 4/15	68° Real Feel 65°		55%
Evening	42° Real Feel 32°		42%
Tuesday 4/16	55° Real Feel 57°		56%
Evening	37° Real Feel 25°		75%
Wednesday 4/17	52° Real Feel 46°		42%
Evening	29° Real Feel 25°		7%

Temperature ° F



EWC: 'meeting will reconvene May 14 at 4 p.m.'

FROM PAGE A7

vet-tech building. It has to go through the plans, but we need more to work through major deficiencies and there needs to be more working as a college to take care of that. It won't be built in five years, but it's expected we keep moving forward on those plans."

The room applauded as Dr. Mitchell finished her presentation. Soon thereafter, vice chairman Vonburg gave further kudos to the vet-tech program for their recent endeavors as well as other contributions.

"Congrats on full accreditation," Vonburg said. "Also, thank you for hosting the state FFA science contest. That takes a lot of work. Many years ago, we were at an ag meeting, and they said we want to do an ag contest, so you can blame us for that. We know that takes a lot of work, so we greatly appreciate that, and we appreciate all you've done."

"There's only certain programs that have this level of rigor," president Dr. Hawes added. "There's rigor in everything, but very few have accrediting bodies with accreditation such as healthcare and nursing programs. There's a lot the leadership had to put in for this accreditation standard, and they've had very high success rates."

The meeting continued further with a discussion regarding the EWC Gear Up program, headed by college staff Chelsea Ballard.

According to Ballard, the direction

the program is headed deals primarily with continuing to not only grow the program but to begin recruitment efforts just a few years earlier.

As Ballard explained before the Board of Trustees, talking about higher education with students well before high school plants a positive seed in helping them set their minds much sooner; as well as being better prepared academically and financially.

When it came to this particular notion, Ballard expressed a firm belief our local high and middle school students should take top consideration for recruitment heading forward.

"I have been asked to share where the program is, where it is was, and where it's going," Ballard said. "The first thing is through our financial items. The grant is almost half a mile a year over the course of seven years. We are in year seven right now. We have many objectives to serve here at EWC, and one is getting our locals to come here. The goal is to get them to graduate and come here. We have put a lot of emphasis on this, and we are trying to get them used to coming here early. The goal is to get them to come to our school, and not immediately go to Casper College or UW right away. We want them to come here first, and then transition on elsewhere. That is the goal with our seventh through twelve graders. That is a direct reflection of what is happening. We are moving in a very positive direction and a large piece is for our local students; espe-

cially low-income first-year students that don't get as many opportunities. Often times they don't know what to do or where to go, so they just stay home. We appreciate your support in what we are doing to share with our population."

Just prior to the adjournment of the meeting, college legislative intern, Brandon Patterson, gave a brief but enlightening account of recent first-hand experiences with Wyoming's latest legislative session.

"I spent every day I could there from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., going to committee meetings, and had a lot to take in," Patterson said. "It started off very interesting. Actually, a fun fact, as it went on it didn't get less interesting. My time there was very decent. Many things I took away are it's not as political as it sounds, and it's not at all like DC politics where it seems super contentious. They seem to work very well with each other, they take other's opinions and take thoughts from other sides into consideration. They work very long days, as some were there from 7 a.m. to 12 at night going through all the things they had to get done. There was a lot of hard work and dedication, with quite a lot of different people."

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. and will reconvene on May 14 at 4 p.m.

If you would like more information or have further questions regarding EWC, feel free to call 307-532-8200 or visit www.ewc.wy.edu.

Law: 'What does a real trial truly look like'

FROM PAGE A1

yers, and law enforcement does not differentiate much from the real thing.

As judge Buchanan entered the courtroom, it seemed as if it was business as usual. As all were required to rise as Buchanan made his entrance, the sound of chit-chat and giggling slowly died while the district judge took his chair, customary shining black robe clean and ready to educate a younger generation.

Despite the procedure being merely a show for all the children pres-

ent, the atmosphere felt entirely much like the real thing. The kids were able to see first-hand exactly what the final stage of a legal case or felony realistically is, in this case the sentencing.

As with a real sentencing, facts were once again read regarding the case, and both sides were given a final chance to be heard including the defendant.

With both defense and prosecution counsels "recommending probation" on behalf of the "defendant charged with aggravated assault," Judge Buchanan explained in depth the reasoning behind a looming sentence. According to Wyoming statute on this particular charge, the penalty factually carries a maximum of up to ten years of incarceration.

While both defense and prosecution "agreed" probation would be appropriate for the "defendant with a history of drug and alcohol-related infractions," Judge Buchanan did not.

"On behalf of the state of Wyoming, I hereby sentence you to serve no less than four years no less than six, at a state correctional institution," Buchanan said. "Court will stand in recess."

Soon thereafter county investigator, Sergeant Herbie Irons, placed the "defendant" in handcuffs, and escorted her promptly out of the courtroom.

The entire mock hearing lasted roughly in the realm of at least half an hour. In those thirty minutes, however, the complete silence of the room hinted perceptions were altered and thoughts were running with questions.

As Judicial Assistant, Melissa Stevens, kindly introduced every present official by full name and position, numerous hands slowly but surely began to fill the air with questions.

As Stevens reminded the children once more, "You only live once."

If something could be taken away from those words and as every at-

torney, police officer, or social worker in the room would explain; life is much too short to complicate it with poor decisions.

In total ambiguity of certain "scared straight" programs, perhaps which have unethically made their way onto national television in recent years, the purpose of the day was guidance, education, and peaceful yet persistent dissuasion.

Not fear. The message to the dozens and dozens of middle schoolers sitting in the county's only courthouse was soft but clear.

Courts do not exist to instill fear. They are there to uphold the law. As Judge Buchanan further explained, "The laws are there to keep everyone safe."

Furthermore, the district judge additionally alluded without law we, as a society, would not have peace, we would not have happiness, and we certainly would not be civilized. In simple terms, Wyoming statute acts as a convincing deterrent for those who would proceed to intrude on the peace and tranquility of the innocent and vulnerable.

As every official in the room is entirely familiar, perhaps teaching a child fear and anger will only reinforce decisions ultimately resulting in sitting in the defendant's chair later on in life.

"Hopefully students leave with more understanding of how the criminal justice system works in our democracy, and how democracy wouldn't work without a justice system." Donna Duncan of Goshen County Victim's Assistance said.

If there is one thing every resident in Goshen County might be able to agree on from YOLO Day; if more age-appropriate children could witness what a courtroom truly feels like in the presence of real officials, perhaps we would witness far more of them choosing trades, careers and colleges over substances, charges, and incarcerations.

April 12-21

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RHETT BREEDLOVE/TORRINGTON TELEGRAM

Donna Duncan of the Goshen County Victim's Assistance Office patiently waits for the commencement of YOLO Day in the county district courtroom. Hundreds of eighth graders throughout the district took part in a mock sentencing, meant to give students an accurate look at the laws of Wyoming.

SCHEDULES

Torrington Track

The Blazer and Lady Blazer track teams travel to the Burns Invitational on Friday beginning at 9 a.m. Tracksters board the bus for the Scottsbluff Twilight Invite on April 19.

Girls soccer

The Lady Blazers host Worland on Friday at 4 p.m. and host Buffalo on Saturday at 12 p.m.

Boys soccer

The Blazers play Worland at home on Friday at 6 p.m., followed by a home game against Buffalo on Saturday at 2 p.m.

Softball

The Torrington High School girls' softball team travels to Laramie on Friday for a double-header beginning at 4 p.m.

Southeast Track

The Southeast boys' and girls' track teams compete at the Burns Invitational on Friday with competition beginning at 9 a.m. Tracksters travel to the Pine Bluffs on April 19.

Lingle-Fort Laramie Track

LFL tracksters travel to the Burns Invite on April 12. Events are scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. Next up is the George Calvert Invite in Morrill, Nebraska, on April 19.

Eastern Wyo. College Rodeo

The Lancers and Lady Lancers are on the road to compete at Casper College on April 12-14.

Men's golf

The Lancers play day two of the Eastern Wyoming College Tournament today beginning at 9 a.m. at Torrington's Cottonwood Golf Course. EWC travels to Central Wyoming College for a tournament from April 18-19.

SPORTS BRIEF

Wrestling awarded team scholar all-american honor

LARAMIE – The National Wrestling Coaches Association announced its Team Scholar All-American honorees. The University of Wyoming garnered a top-30 ranking.

The Cowboys held a cumulative GPA of 3.35 to rank No. 27. Harvard led the way with a 3.61, while Cleveland State and Drexel rounded out the top three with a 3.57 and 3.55, respectively.

"We are immensely proud to recognize the exceptional commitment demonstrated by these athletes who showcase remarkable dedication both on and off the wrestling mat," NWCA Executive Director Mike Moyer said. "Our heartfelt congratulations extends to all the teams for their outstanding accomplishments."

Lancer golfers snag fourth consecutive win at NJC

BY ROBERT GALBREATH
rgalbreath@torringtontelegram.com

STERLING, COLORADO – Maintaining an undefeated record for the spring season, the Eastern Wyoming College (EWC) men's golf team trounced the competition at the Northeastern Junior College (NJC) Tournament on April 4-5 to clinch their fourth successive victory.

The Lancers shot a two-day cumulative score of 556 strokes at 16 under par, matching an EWC team record set at the NJC Tournament in Sterling, Colorado the previous fall.

Central Wyoming College came in second place at the NJC spring tournament, grossing 577 strokes after two rounds. Central Wyoming was followed by Otero College (587), Lamar Community College (599), McCook Community College (599), NJC (599) and North Platte Community College (625).

Lancer freshman Taiki Sugawara, hailing from Aizuwakamatsu, Japan, captured first place with a combined score of 133, coming in 10 below par.



EWC freshman Taiki Sugawara celebrates his scores at the Northeastern Junior College Tournament on April 5. Sugawara captured first place on the leaderboard with a two-day score of 133 (10 under par).

COURTESY PHOTO/ZACH SMITH

Sugawara shot consistently on both days, tallying 66 strokes in the first round and 67 in the second.

"The guys played great on Thursday," coach Zach Smith said. "Taiki Sugawara and (freshman) Braylon Bingham played fantastic rounds on Thursday, shooting 10 under par between the two of them to help us take the lead into day two. Taiki followed up the next day with another amazing round to get the individual win. We tied a team record that was set in the fall at (-16) par at the same tournament."

The Lancers hosted the first round of the Eastern Wyoming College Tournament on Thursday and play the second round beginning today at 9 a.m. at the Cottonwood Golf Course located in Torrington.

"We look forward to hosting at home this week to hopefully make it five straight wins for this spring," Smith said.

Top 20 leaderboard
Sophomore Leander Suttka, from Berlin, Ger-

see GOLF page B3

Bartel and Cook named SEWAC Coaches of the Year

BY ROBERT GALBREATH
rgalbreath@torringtontelegram.com

LINGLE – A successful winter basketball season for Lingle-Fort Laramie (LFL) High School culminated with Lady Doggers head coach Susan Bartel and Doggers head coach Chris Cook receiving the Southeast Wyoming Athletic Conference (SEWAC) Coach of the Year awards.

Coach Bartel

The Lady Doggers concluded the 2023-2024 winter season ranked No. 1 in the 2A Southeast Quadrant, netting an impressive 22-6 overall record and an undefeated conference record of 6-0.

Bartel credited the exceptional team chemistry between players and coaches for LFL's accomplishments.

"I am grateful to be honored as Coach of the Year for SEWAC," Bartel said. "It is a testament to how well our team and coaches worked together for a successful season. The team had an amazing 14-game winning streak during the (regular) season that propelled us into regionals and state."

LFL captured the No. 2 state berth as the runner-up at the 2A Regional Tournament in Burns following victories against Wright in the quarterfinals and Pine Bluffs in the semifinals.

The Lady Doggers left it all on the court at the state tournament, opening the action with a 48-32 victory against Wind River.

Advancing to the semifinals, LFL defeated Wyoming Indian High School 68-51.

The championship game between LFL and Tongue River turned into an epic battle between two talented teams.



COURTESY PHOTO/KELSEY GRANT

Lingle-Fort Laramie High School head boys' basketball coach Chris Cook, pictured giving junior Cooper Smith a high five during the December 15 game against Kaycee, earned SEWAC's 2024 Coach of the Year Award.



ROBERT GALBREATH/TORRINGTON TELEGRAM

Lingle-Fort Laramie High School head girls' basketball coach Susan Bartel, pictured above giving her starting lineup a pep talk during the January 19 game against Guernsey-Sunrise, received SEWAC's 2024 Coach of the Year Award for girls' basketball.



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THS softball team ties ranked Cheyenne East

BY ROBERT GALBREATH
rgalbreath@torringtontelegram.com

CHEYENNE – The Torrington High School girls’ softball team stepped up to the challenge in a double-header against the Cheyenne East junior varsity team on April 9.

The first game between Torrington and a Cheyenne East team containing several members of the No. 1-ranked Thunderbird varsity squad ended in a 3-3 tie.

“In the first game, the girls hit the ball well,” coach Robin Schainost said. “East had a fast pitcher, but Torrington players were patient at the plate and got walks. We also ran the bases relatively aggressively. We held Cheyenne to a tie at the bottom of the fifth inning – we considered this a moral victory against top-ranked players.”

Sophomore pitcher Kennedy Reinhardt played a “great game” against Cheyenne East in the first matchup, striking out seven opponents over the course of five innings.

Cheyenne East rallied in the second game to prevail, 11-2. Due to illnesses or injuries, Torrington made several alterations to its fielders.

“We made some changes in positions, but the girls stepped up and played good defense,” Schainost said. “We picked off a few of Cheyenne’s players on second and third bases. We’ll keep working on improvement and we’ll get there.”

Lancer rodeo team posts solid spring season



ROBERT GALBREATH/TORRINGTON TELEGRAM

EWC freshman RaeLee Caldwell, hailing from Gillette, quickly dismounts during the goat tying short-go round at the EWC Lancer Rodeo in March. At the CSU rodeo on April 5, Caldwell was one of six EWC cowboys and cowgirls to advance to the short-go. The freshman finished third in the average with a 7.2-second run in the long-go and an impressive short-go with a 6.6-second run. Up next, the EWC rodeo team competes at Casper College from April 12-14.

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Golf: Eight Lancers secure top 20 spots on leaderboard

FROM PAGE B1

many, tied for fourth place on the final leaderboard, shooting a 71 in both rounds for a cumulative score of 142. Suttka's two-day tally came in at one under par.

Bingham and British freshman Joshua Chapman tied for sixth place with an overall score of 143 (on par).

Bingham totaled 68 strokes on Thursday and 75 on Saturday. Chapman advanced from a first-round score of 72 to 71 in the second round.

Utah freshman Tytan Birchell finished the tournament in 11th place, shooting 145 after two days at two over par, improving from 75 on Thursday to 70 on Friday.



Sophomore Leander Suttka, of Berlin, Germany, takes a swing at the NJC Tournament. Suttka tied for fourth place with a cumulative score of 142.



Freshman Taiki Sugawara tees off at the NJC Tournament. Sugawara snagged first place with a two-day score of 133 (-10).

Freshman Mathis Fortin, from Ottawa, Canada, and freshman Coltin Powell, hailing from Ogden, Utah, both tallied 147 strokes (four over par) during the tournament to tie for 15th place. Fortin shot 70 in the first round and 77 in the second, with Powell shooting 73 and 74.

Utah sophomore Ryker Dunkley tied for 20th place, moving up on the leaderboard from 77 on Thursday to 74 on Friday for a combined score of 151 at eight over par.

Additional results

T24 Jax Oviatt -153 (74-79, +10)

30 Brodey Deacon - 156 (79-77, +13)

T37 Jordan Hunt - 160 (76-84, +17)

T43 Tyler Wallace - 163 (77-86, +20)

T49 Tyler Fraser - 168 (79-89, +25)

Coaches: Bartel and Cook credit assistant coaches and athletes

FROM PAGE B1

Bartel thanked Lady Doggers assistant coach Kim Cooper for helping Bartel develop strong team bonds throughout the season.

"Coach Cooper - Coops - and I have worked to make our season about continuing to develop our team's family atmosphere with each player, coach or manager supporting each other," Bartel said. "We have a great group of girls and hope to continue our success as we move to 1A next year."

Coach Cook

The Doggers finished the season as the No. 1 team in the 2A Southeast Quadrant, posting an 18-6 overall record and a 4-2 conference record. An undefeated 13-0 record at home highlighted the season for the Doggers.

Cook attributed LFL's outstanding regular season run to the efforts of his assistant coaches, Brice Hill and Jeshua Arnusch.

"The Coach of the Year is a nice award, but it is really a reward for our staff for a success-



ful overall year," Cook said. "I have two great assistants in Brice Hill and Jeshua Arnusch. They helped tremendously throughout the season and deserve a ton of credit. They both bring different perspectives to the game that I

really appreciate."

The athletes on the team set the bar high for the Doggers' program during the 2023-2024 season.

Cook outlined several of the Dogger's notable achievements:

"We were able to accomplish some things this year that had not been done in many years at LFL, or in some cases, at all. We were the best defensive team in 2A, allowing 46.2 points per game. We were the best shooting team in 2A as well, at 49.02 percent. We were able to complete the best school record at home at 13-0. We finished third in the state in scoring at 63.5 points per game."

Ultimately, the coach of the year award reflected a "nice regular season" for the Doggers, Cook said.

"I have a great support staff of coaches and parents willing to put in extra effort to help me and our team," Cook added. "We look to build on this next fall."

"Go Doggers!"

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Life after the implementation of GIF #263

BY JESS OAKS
joaks@torringtontelegram.com

TRI-STATE – On June 12, 2023, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced they had successfully implemented guidance for the industry #263, “to out-

line the process for animal drug sponsors to voluntarily change the approved marketing status of certain medically important antimicrobial drugs from over the counter (OTC) to prescription (Rx).”

“Under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the ‘Act’), the

term ‘drug’ means articles recognized in the official United States Pharmacopoeia, official Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia of the United States, or official National Formulary; articles intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in man or other animals; and articles other than food intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of man or other animals. It also includes articles intended for use as a component of a drug,” according to the FDA.

GFI #263 was introduced in 2019 as a draft and the final guidance was published in June 2021 which

outlined a two-year timeline for animal drug sponsors to transition products to prescription status.

As the two-year span continued to close, many local farm and ranch supply stores continued to sell the remaining products from shelves however many of stores have officially run out of common antimicrobial drugs around the tri-state area.

Karah Booth and her family raise close to 40 head of goats near Veteran, Wyoming. Booth explains the new guidelines haven’t prompted much of a change in the family’s goat operation.

“We haven’t really had to change much, except now we have the inconvenience of depending on a vet clinic that may not be open when you need something,” Booth explained. “Also, the added cost of always going through a vet. I will say our vet has been very easy to work with, but they are not available 24/7 like we sometimes need. We only vaccinate for CD&T. Once at eight weeks of age, and again four weeks later. All moms get their annual booster one month prior to kidding. Bucks get theirs one month prior to breeding season.

Cattle producer Joe Fales of Torrington expressed, he, like most producers who have been in the animal business for a length of time have a general idea of what is wrong with their animal.



JESS OAKS/TORRINGTON TELEGRAM

The refrigerated drug selection at the Torrington Bomgaars store now only holds a small amount of pharmaceuticals available for producers over the counter. The regulation came as part of GIF #263 which outline the process for animal drug sponsors to voluntarily change the approved marketing status of certain medically important antimicrobial drugs.



see Life Page 2



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Life: 'I am 100% on board with these new regulations'

FROM PAGE A1

"Most of us used to rely on our own knowledge," Fales said. "Now we have to call a vet every time. It costs extra time we don't have sometimes."

"As a producer, and a degree in veterinary science, I generally know what my goats need, and a lot of times, it's a simple antibiotic. Living in a very rural area with only one vet clinic, it was nice to be able to get vaccines and meds at the local store," Booth said. "I recently lost a buck to an infected tooth. Noticed him on Thursday, couldn't get any antibiotics till the vet opened on Monday, he was dead on Sunday. It is very inconvenient to not be able to drive into town and pick up what you need."

Janelle Prows has a small operation located in northwest Wyoming.

"I am currently calving. I vaccinate cows and calves but only run 75 head. The mandate is very frustrating because it vets are swamped and extremely hard to reach," Prows explained. "They are so busy and burnt out that they cannot be reached at night or on the weekend. I have had to drastically increase what I personally keep on hand and have had to network with other local producers to access antibiotics during the more difficult times to reach a vet. Additionally, even the vets have had difficulty keeping certain products in stock," she continued.

Prows orders her vaccines from a pharmaceutical wholesaler and feels the regulations have zero benefits for her operation.

"I already have a good relationship with my vet. Neither they nor I needed the extra restrictions," Prows explained. "I now have had to purchase my antibiotics in 500ml containers instead of buying 100ml at a time. It is more upfront cost that I have to hold as inventory. Thankfully, my vets will give me whatever I ask for. They don't hassle me or require me to bring animals into the clinic for visits," she continued.

Megan Salzer and her husband primarily raise black angus cattle south of Alliance, Nebraska.

"My husband and I only have about 20 head of cattle, but we run our cows on two separate operations. I would say between the two ranches, we handle between 700-850 cattle at any given time," Salzer explained. "We vaccinate our cattle on a schedule that works for us. The general rule of thumb is to vaccinate cows and heifers prior to breeding, vaccinate calves prior to weaning at branding time."

"Honestly, I have been working in veterinary medicine for most of my adult life. I've seen firsthand why these rules are being implemented and had to deal with the aftermath of a producer administering a drug via the incorrect route and dose," Salzer said. "The rule is inconvenient, yes, but it serves a purpose. If you have a good relationship with your local veteri-

narian, you should have no issue obtaining the drugs and supplies you need. Thus far, we have had no challenges directly due to this rule."

Salzer attributes most of her feelings about the regulation to the fact she has a great working relationship with her veterinarian.

"This rule has not affected our operations in the least. We maintain working relationships with our veterinarians, just as we always have. I mean, any veterinarian worth their salt is going to protect their license. They have to ensure that the producers they are selling drugs to and utilizing them correctly and are using them in appropriate situations. Have you ever seen a Clostridial myositis in a horse's neck? It's awful. If you didn't know better and read the back of the bottle of Banamine, you might think it's okay to administer the drug via the intramuscular route. You can do that in cattle, so why not horses? Well, in horses Banamine can cause muscle damage if injected into muscle. Some horses can have dormant spores of the bacteria Clostridium hiding in healthy muscle. If that muscle is damaged, the bacteria go wild. The growth of this bacteria causes Clostridial myositis. It starts as a warm swelling under the skin, but within 72 hours of the start, the swelling worsens and a crunchy area of gas (emphysema) forms under the skin at the site of the IM injection. Bacterial toxins are released into the bloodstream, and horses quickly become very sick. Banamine should always be administered intravenously in horses, and if that isn't possible, it should be administered orally."

Extra guidance by veterinarians isn't just seen on a local level, according to Prows.

"All meat that sold commercially is antibiotic free! Withdrawal periods are there for that reason and they are generous. Additionally, many packing houses also do random drug testing to make sure the meat is free of drug residue," Prows explained.

Sarah Hashman of Hemingford, Nebraska raises cattle and chickens.

"[We have] ten mother cows, but we also background and finish our calves," Hashman said. "At any given time, there are 20-30 head of cattle on our place and 30 chickens. [We have had] absolutely zero problems. We already had a well-established veterinary/client/patient relationship with our local veterinary clinic. So still business as usual. We typically have what we need on hand from discussing with our vets what possible situations we could see."

"Personally, I am 100% on board with these new regulations," Hashman said. "I've worked on operations of 10 head to 800 head. So, I've had the benefit of dealing with 'hobby' farms up to multi-generational ranches. I've always preferred to purchase my antibiotics and medications from the vet clinic, having people who are actually trained to handle the medicine and store them properly, in example, proper temp and light exposure, helps to ensure the product I am buying is not already ruined before I purchase it," she continued. "It also helps to guarantee producers are getting the correct product and not just shooting in the dark for treatment and using the incorrect medication or improper dosing."



COURTESY PHOTO

Reata Salzer helping her dad Tate, dry off one of the newest arrivals at the family ranch south of Alliance, Nebraska. The Salzers are one of the many ranches who suggest working closely with local veterinary staff to manage the regulation changes.



COURTESY PHOTO

Cooper Salzer with one of the newest arrivals at the family ranch south of Alliance, Nebraska. The Salzers are one of the many ranches who suggest working closely with local veterinary staff to manage the regulation changes.

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