

the kemmerer gazette

\$1.25

Volume 101, No. 3

Thursday, January 15, 2026

Serving Kemmerer, Diamondville, Oakley, Cokeville, LaBarge, Opal, Twin Creek and Frontier for 125 years



Sled dogs pull a musher through the snow during a Pedigree Stage Stop Sled Dog Race. This year, Kemmerer will host Leg 5 of the competition on Wednesday, Feb. 4. (COURTESY PHOTO)

Sled dog race just around the corner

By Bryon Glathar
Gazette Managing Editor

The 2026 Pedigree Stage Stop Sled Dog Race will kick off in two weeks, as Friday, Jan. 30, has been announced as the start date to this year's contest. The event continues a long-standing winter tradition that brings professional sled dog racing and community celebration to towns across the state, including here in Kemmerer.

The race will begin with a ceremonial start in Jackson, followed by daily competitive stages in Pinedale, Big Piney/Marbleton, Kemmerer and

Lander, where the race will end on Saturday, Feb. 7. Each day features a different course, with cumulative time determining the overall winner.

According to a press release issued by race officials, "The 2026 event will host top professional mushers and sled dog teams from across the United States and internationally, competing for a total purse of \$200,000, one of the largest in the Lower 48."

The Pedigree Stage Stop is free to the public and offers spectators close-up access to world-class teams, mushers and race activities in each host community.

The Kemmerer leg of the race is

scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 4, beginning at the Hams Fork Trailhead outside of town. Mushers will begin competing at 9 a.m.

The City of Kemmerer will once again host a "Meet the Musher" dinner the evening prior to the Kemmerer stage of the race. Community members can mingle with racers beginning at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 3, at the South Lincoln Training and Event Center in Kemmerer. Tickets cost \$15 for adults; youth 13 and under get in free if accompanied by an adult. The event will include many auction and raffle items for attendees.

Car crashes into Caribou Café



A vehicle slid into the Caribou Café building on Thursday, Jan. 8. The café had just opened, when cook Janea Christen and owner Keri Kelley heard a noise. Christen said she was looking up when she saw the booth that was next to the west side wall move about five feet across the floor. They went out to see that a female driver had hit the side of the building. Kelley said an officer at the scene indicated the driver may have been driving too fast for conditions. The café was closed the remainder of the week and an engineer assessed the damage on Monday before it reopened. (GAZETTE PHOTOS/Sheri Paulson)



Attorney slams Daniel man's motion to dismiss felony animal cruelty case

By Cali O'Hare
Pinedale Roundup
Via Wyoming News Exchange

PINEDALE — Sublette County Prosecuting Attorney Clayton Melinkovich has responded to Cody Roberts' motion to dismiss the felony animal cruelty indictment against him in a lengthy motion filed with the 9th Judicial District Court on Dec. 30.

The 11-page document comes after Roberts' attorney, Robert Piper, filed a motion to dismiss the case in

CRUELTY, A6

American Legion makes season bright



American Legion Post 55 in Kemmerer donated to multiple organizations over the holiday season. Members presented a check for \$500 to the Kemmerer Volunteer Fire Department. They also donated \$250 to three organizations: the Kemmerer Senior Center, local shelter Paws and Claws and the Angel Tree program. Pictured are John Failoni, Tom Tennyson, Jerry Hess, Archer Seaver, Eddie Ourada and Robert Bowen. The donations were made possible by the generosity of Kemmerer Municipal Judge Ken Roberts, The Unknown Saints and community members. (COURTESY PHOTO)

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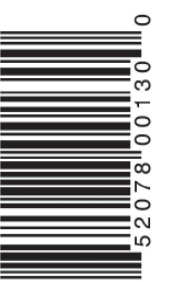
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Today: Sunny skies with 10-20 mph winds.

Tonight: A mostly clear sky with 5-10 mph winds.

High: 37 **Low:** 15
Chance of Precip: 4%



For a full weekend outlook, see page A2.

Call 307-362-6472 (MHSC)
to schedule your MRI.
For more info, go to
sweetwatermemorial.com



Need More Room?
You Need Our Wide-Bore MRI
We offer a more comfortable MRI for most shapes and sizes
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Community

Book Nook

A day of nothing: Are we doing it wrong?

By Tammy Plowman
Cokeville Branch Library

Jan. 16 is National Nothing Day — a day dedicated to doing exactly that: nothing. While the calendar is often cluttered with observances, this day stands out by asking Americans to simply sit and not celebrate, honor, or observe anything at all.

This “un-event” was proposed in 1972 by columnist Harold Pullman Coffin, who felt the calendar was getting a bit too crowded with frivolous special days. He founded the National Nothing Foundation to sponsor the day, which has been noted on calendars since 1973.

The National Nothing Foundation is a small, informal foundation registered in Capitola, California, that sponsors National Nothing Day, providing a national day of “doing nothing” in protest of the numerous other days that celebrate something. The purpose is straightforward: to give everyone a guilt-free day to just be, without any expectations.

But in a world that thrives on productivity, how do you even begin to celebrate nothing? The answer, ironi-



cally, involves a few deliberate actions to achieve a state of inaction.

Observing National Nothing Day requires a certain level of commitment to inaction. For people with a birthday on Jan. 16, the tradition is to wrap an empty box. For everyone else, leaving a diary page blank or sending a blank email dated Jan. 16 are considered perfectly acceptable ways to honor the day.

The goal is to elicit a “nothing” response, a fitting tribute to the day’s

core principle. When asked about your plans for the day, the only response is, “Nothing.” This response can be applied to nearly any question, leading to delightfully absurd conversations:

Q: What’s for supper?

A: Nothing.

Q: What are you reading?

A: Nothing. (Even as you’re clearly reading this article.)

There may be conflicts in celebrating this day. While National Nothing Day aims for a quiet, uneventful existence, it often finds itself in a peculiar conflict.

The third Monday of January is Martin Luther King Jr. Day, a significant national holiday honoring the civil rights leader. This means that approximately once every seven years, Jan. 16 lands on the same day as a major observance, effectively usurping the very nature of Nothing Day.

This overlap presents a philosophical conundrum: Can you truly observe a day of “nothing” when you are also observing a day of great historical importance? The answer remains a humorous paradox, a reminder that even when you plan for nothing, something can always come along and get in the way.

Weather Outlook



Friday: Sunny, along with a few afternoon clouds and 10-15 mph winds. A few clouds from time to time overnight.

High: 34 **Low:** 15 **Chance of Precip:** 4%



Saturday: Mostly sunny skies with 10-20 mph winds. Clear at night.

High: 35 **Low:** 17 **Chance of Precip:** 3%



Sunday: Sunny skies with 10-15 mph winds. Clear skies at night.

High: 36 **Low:** 15 **Chance of Precip:** 3%



Monday: Sunny skies with 10-15 mph winds. Generally fair overnight.

High: 36 **Low:** 18 **Chance of Precip:** 3%

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Friday, Jan. 16

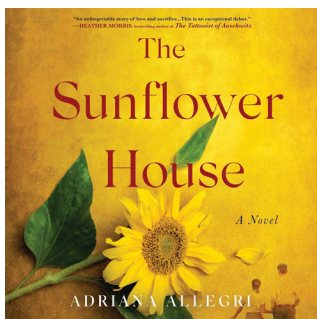
- HS swimming at Big Piney
- HS wrestling at Green River
- Glow forge at the Lincoln County Library at 2 p.m.
- Pickleball at the Rec Center at 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, Jan 17

- HS swimming at Pinedale
- HS wrestling at Green River
- MS basketball at Evanston “A Only”
- MS girls’ wrestling at Lyman
- Missoula Children’s Theater play “Sleeping Beauty” at the KHS auditorium at 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.
- Winter snow glob at the library from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Book review: ‘The Sunflower House’

By Melissa Soelter
Lincoln County Library



Historical fiction has become my preferred genre in recent years. The realization that so many significant events around the world are never fully explored in the classes I have taken is, in my opinion, unsettling. With this in mind, I chose to read “The Sunflower House” by Adriana Allegri after searching for novels centered around a particular

theme.

At first, it was not immediately clear how the book fit

into that theme, but as I delved deeper into the story, the connection became evident. “The Sunflower House” is set in Germany in 1939 and follows Allina, a young woman who harbors a dangerous secret: her birth mother was Jewish. Allina’s life is irrevocably changed when German soldiers ransack her home one night, killing her aunt and uncle. Because of her appearance, Allina is spared and taken by a high-ranking SS

officer, who later brings her to Hochland Home, a state-run “baby factory” designed to support Hitler’s vision of Aryan supremacy.

On the surface, Hochland Home appears to be a refuge for racially “pure” mothers to care for their children. However, as Allina spends more time there, she uncovers the horrifying reality behind its purpose. She has unwittingly

REVIEW, A3

SENIOR CENTER MENU

Monday, Jan. 19

Chili with cheese and toppings, cornbread, cookie, and one percent milk

Tuesday, Jan. 20

Ham, baked potato, corn, roll, margarine, salad bar, dessert, and one percent milk.

Wednesday, Jan. 21

Meatballs with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad bar, dessert, and one percent milk.

Thursday, Jan. 22

Chicken alfredo, mixed veggies, garlic bread, salad bar and one percent milk.

Friday, Jan. 23

Tamale casserole, beans & rice, salad



bar, dessert, and one percent milk.

Kemmerer Senior Center is located at 105 J. C. Penney Dr., Kemmerer. Lunch is served Monday- Friday noon to 12:30 p.m. Meals for ages 60+ suggested donation \$4; Under 60 meals are \$9. Pickup or carryout at 11:30. Home delivery for

qualifying individuals starts at 10:30. Individuals 60 and over may call between 8 and 9:30 a.m. for pickup or carryout orders, or to make changes to your delivery schedule. Individuals under 60 call between 9:30 and 10 a.m. for carryout. Call 877-3806 with questions. All meals are subject to change.

Upstairs Downtown

Cheyenne Upstairs Office For Rent

- 835 square feet
- Original exposed brick walls
- Hardwood floor
- Sunny with multiple skylights
- Near State Capitol
- Located in historic neighborhood

Contact: wyopress@wyopress.org

La Barge Area Churches

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
171 LaBarge Street
386-2201
Sunday School..... 11:20 a.m.
Priesthood and R. S. 10:30 a.m.
Sacrament Meeting 12:20 p.m.
Youth Classes (Primary and Nursery) 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays:
Young Men 7 p.m.
Young Women 7 p.m.
Everyone is invited to attend each week

The Potter's House
On Calpet Road
386-2420
Co-Pastors
Tony and Gwenette Portera
Sunday Worship..... 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening
Home Fellowship..... 6 p.m.

Fellowship Baptist Church
Located on Main Street
120 West 3rd Ave (along HWY 189)
386-9252
Pastor Paul Nittler
Adult & Children's
..... Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
..... Sunday Worship..... 11:00 a.m.
coffee and nursery provided
Youth Meeting groups for ages K thru 12
1st and last Wednesday of each month
(dinner provided)..... 6:30 p.m

LaBarge Catholic Church
373 N. Wildcat (SOS Building)
(307) 877-4573
Rev. Dave Erickson
2nd and 4th Sundays
Mass 11:30 a.m.

Faith

Churches - Please call us with any changes (877-3347) or e-mail to advertising@kemmerergazette.com

Cokeville Area Churches

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
725 East Main Street
279-3266
1st Ward 279-3268
Meeting time 9:00 a.m.
2nd Ward 279-3267
Meeting time 11:30 a.m.

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Community Church
220 Pine Street, Cokeville
307-279-3366
Sunday Worship Services..... 10:00 a.m.
Adult & Children's Sunday School
Refreshments & Fellowship every Sunday
"We enter to worship and exit to serve."

Grace Community Church
Pastor Steve Johnson
307-248-3717
Where God is love!
Sunday worship..... 11 a.m.
Tuesday nights 6:30 p.m.

New Beginnings Fellowship
Sunday Services 6 p.m.
For more info, call 390-8453

Cokeville Community Church Bible Study & Fellowship
Sunday Worship Service..... 2:30 p.m.
Tuesday Night Bible Study . 6:30 p.m.
*Call 307-279-3366 for more information
Come and join us in studying God's Word.*

Churches - Please call us with any changes (877-3347) or e-mail to advertising@kemmerergazette.com

Kemmerer, Diamondville and Opal Area Churches

Berta Penney Memorial United Methodist Church
Sage and Garnet Streets
307-800-2087
Sunday Worship. 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Starting on November 3, 2024.

Valley Evangelical Free Church
Sage and Sapphire Streets
877-9305
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Children's Church and Nursery provided

Living Water Community Church
619 Pearl Street
307-248-0852
Pastor Alan Bella
Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod
Sage and Opal Streets
727-7095
Rev. Jonathan Lange
Sunday Divine Services.... 11:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Study..... 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday Matins Service 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 9:30 a.m.

Grace Baptist Church
905 Pine Avenue
871-3214
Pastor Richard Hartman
Sunday School 9:45
Sunday Worship..... 11 a.m.
Prayer & Bible study
Wednesday evenings 7 p.m.

Opal Baptist Church
140 Chrisman, Opal
307-389-9436
Pastor Robert Chapin
Sunday Worship 4 p.m.

St. James Episcopal Church
Cedar and Pearl, Kemmerer
307-723-3292
Sunday Worship..... 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School/Youth Group 9:00 a.m.
on the 1st and 3rd Sundays
Facebook: St.JamesKemmerer

St. Patrick's Catholic Church
65 McGovern, Diamondville
877-4573
Father Dave Erickson
Weekday Mass
Monday, Wednesday - Friday
..... 7:00 AM
Saturday Vigil Mass 5:30 PM
Sunday Mass 9:00 AM
Confessions -- by appointment

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
Elk Mountain Ward
Dell Rio Drive, Kemmerer
Sacrament 9:30-10:30am
Primary 10:30-11:30am
Sunday School (1st and 3rd Sundays) 10:30-11:30am
Oyster Ridge Ward
Antelope and Third West, Diamondville
Sacrament 9:00am-10:00am
Primary 10:00-11:00am
Sunday School (1st and 3rd Sundays) 10:00-11:00am
YW/YM/EQ/RS (2nd and 4th Sundays)..... 10:00-11:00am
Fossil Butte Ward
Antelope and Third West, Diamondville
Sacrament 10:30am - 11:30am
Primary 11:30am - 12:30pm
Sunday School (1st and 3rd Sundays) 11:30am - 12:30pm
YW/YM/EQ/RS (2nd and 4th Sundays) 11:30am - 12:30 pm

Please call us with any changes (877-3347) or e-mail to advertising@kemmerergazette.com

Records

Obituaries

Thomas Austin Nelson Nov. 13, 1939 – Jan. 8, 2026

Thomas "Tommy" Austin Nelson, age 86, passed away on Thursday, Jan. 8, in Bountiful, Utah.

Tommy was born in 1939 to Austin and Annie Nelson, with his twin sister, Barbara. He was raised on the family's Hams Fork Ranch near Kemmerer, where he worked alongside his father from a young age — an experience that shaped his strong work ethic and lifelong values.

He attended Kemmerer schools and later the University of Wyoming. Tommy spent his career with the Union Pacific Railroad, from which he retired.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Brenda; his parents; and his siblings, Doris, Marian, Sally and Paul.

Tommy is survived by his daughter, Lisa; his sisters, Bar-



bara and Susan; and his three grandchildren.

He was deeply loved by his family and will be greatly missed.

A memorial gathering to celebrate Tommy's life will be held for family and friends at a later date.

Kemmerer Police Report

Editor's note: Information contained in this report is compiled from a daily activities log and arrest record maintained by the Kemmerer Police Department from Monday, Jan. 5, through Thursday, Jan. 8.

Monday, Jan. 5

12:00 a.m. business premise check on Onyx St.
12:322 a.m. business security check on WY State HWY 233
1:07 a.m. business security check on Susie Ct.
4:52 a.m. utility problem, electrical problem on Opal St.
5:13 a.m. business premise check on Coral St.
5:55 a.m. utility problem, electrical problem on Pine Alley
9:39 a.m. school zone patrol on Third West St.
9:54 a.m. traffic problem, traffic hazard, dead animal, assist game and fish on Walnut St.
10:12 a.m. ordinance violation on 3rd West Ave.
10:31 a.m. public service, assist motorist on Justice Center Dr.
11:26 a.m. public service, assist public on Justice Center Dr.
11:44 a.m. ordinance violation on Beech Ave.
2:23 p.m. juvenile problem, unruly juvenile on Emery St.
6:09 p.m. traffic stop for equipment violation, verbal warning on 9th West Ave.
6:18 p.m. parking problem, prolonged parking, parking violation, warned on Pine Ave.
6:49 p.m. business premise check on US HWY 189
10:12 p.m. parking problem, prolonged parking, parking violation, warned on Cedar Ave.
10:36 p.m. business premise check on Canyon Rd.

10:47 p.m. business security check on US HWY 189
11:09 p.m. business security check on US HWY 189

Tuesday, Jan. 6

4:50 a.m. assist other agency, city assist on WY State HWY 233
5:00 a.m. assist other agency, city assist on WY State HWY 233
7:37 a.m. school zone patrol on Lincoln Heights Dr.
1:15 p.m. miscellaneous incidents on WY State HWY 233
2:00 p.m. assist other agency, city assist on WY State HWY 233
4:45 assist agency, assist Game and Fish on Park Dr.
5:01 p.m. fire, structure fire, assist Fire Department on Garnet St.
6:40 p.m. business premise check on Third West St.
7:11 p.m. business premise check on Susie Ct.
8:11 p.m. parking problem, prolonged parking warned on Pine Ave & Garnet St.
9:25 p.m. business premise check on Third West St.
10:06 p.m. business security check on Pine Ave.
11:08 p.m. business security check on Moose St.

Wednesday, Jan. 7

12:54 a.m. business security check on Airport Co. Rd. 234
4:48 a.m. assist agency on WY State HWY 233
7:06 a.m. traffic stop for speeding/registration on US HWY 189
7:12 a.m. public service, motorist assist on US HWY 30
7:37 a.m. school zone patrol on Third West St.
7:38 a.m. traffic stop for obstructed view, verbal warning on 3rd West Ave.
7:57 a.m. traffic stop for speeding, verbal warning on

Moose St. and 2nd West Ave
9:19 a.m. traffic stop for registration, citation issued on US HWY 30
9:54 a.m. animal problem, animal call on 3rd West Ave.
11:06 a.m. public service, assist motorist on Fossil Butte Dr.
11:10 a.m. traffic stop for speeding, citation issued on US HWY 30
12:39 p.m. medical assist, patient transferred on Dell Rio Dr.
1:24 p.m. assist agency on WY State HWY 233
1:50 p.m. public service, VIN inspection on Pine Ave.
2:14 p.m. welfare check, residence on Sage Ave.
2:53 p.m. public service, assist motorist on US HWY 189
3:19 p.m. investigative citizen contact on Elk St
7:02 p.m. suspicious activity, suspicious vehicle on Third West St.
7:26 p.m. traffic stop for equipment violation, verbal warning on 5th West Ave.
7:38 p.m. traffic stop for equipment violation, verbal warning on Pine Ave.
8:03 p.m. business premise check on Susie Ct.
10:11 p.m. business premise check on Third West St.

Thursday, Jan. 8

2:43 a.m. parking problem, parking violation, prolonged parking cited on Canyon Rd.

3:16 a.m. parking problem, parking violation, prolonged parking cited on 3rd West Ave.
3:55 a.m. business premise check on Pine Ave.
3:56 a.m. business premise check on Pine St.
4:02 a.m. business premise check on US HWY 189
5:14 a.m. parking problem, parking violation, prolonged parking cited on Cedar Ave.
5:29 a.m. parking problem, parking violation, prolonged parking cited on Pearl St.
5:45 a.m. traffic stop for lane use, verbal warning on Pine Ave.
7:32 a.m. school zone patrol on Third West St.
7:52 a.m. traffic stop for obstructed view, verbal warning on 3rd West Ave.
9:25 a.m. parking problem, parking violation, prolonged parking cited on Beech Ave.
9:40 a.m. alarm test on Onyx St.
11:08 a.m. traffic accident, property damage to the Caribou Café on Pine Ave.
12:27 p.m. animal problem, dog at large on Post Pl.
2:23 p.m. traffic accident, vehicle damage on Garnet St.
6:05 p.m. E911, accidental 911 dial on Nations Dr.
6:55 p.m. public intoxication, arrested a male for intoxication on Emerald St.
9:31 p.m. traffic stop for equipment violation, verbal warning on Central Ave.

Diamondville Police Stats

Editor's note: Information contained in this report is compiled from a daily activities log and arrest record maintained by the Diamondville Police Department from Thursday, Dec. 19, 2025, through Jan. 7, 2026.

Friday, Dec. 19

6:15 p.m. traffic stop for equipment, verbal warning

Saturday, Dec. 20

12:08 p.m. medical call
8:37 p.m. suspicious activity
8:50 p.m. medical alarm

Monday, Dec. 22

12:06 p.m. harassment
9:40 p.m. E911

Tuesday, Dec. 23

2:00 p.m. E911, pocket dial
3:20 p.m. traffic stop for speeding, verbal warning
5:17 p.m. public service, motorist assist

Wednesday, Dec. 24

10:26 a.m. traffic stop for speeding, verbal warning
10:47 a.m. traffic stop for speeding, verbal warning
5:59 p.m. traffic stop for headlights, verbal warning
8:21 p.m. medical alarm, call for lift assist

POLICE, A9

REVIEW / from A2

become part of a brutal eugenics program. Pregnant herself, Allina is determined that her child will not be subjected to such inhumane cruelty.

Faced with an impossible choice — remain to help the innocent children or attempt to escape — Allina's path changes when she captures the attention of SS officer Karl von Strassberg. Secretly involved in a resistance movement, Karl helps rescue Jewish children. Together, they work to save as many lives as possible before seeking safety for their own, surviving the war, and beginning the difficult process of rebuilding their lives.

It isn't only unsettling that the events in this book are based on events that have happened before, but how easily they can be repeated. I had previously thought myself to be quite knowledgeable about events during this time period as WWII historical fiction is the main category I read.

"The Sunflower House" proved once again that there is always more to learn and uncover. I am personally thankful

for all of the authors who have taken the time to uncover little known and hidden facts from history.

"The Sunflower House" is both a gripping narrative and a sobering warning. By exposing the horrors of a little-known eugenics program, the novel demonstrates how easily cruelty can be disguised as care and how vital it is to question systems of power.

"The Sunflower House" is available at multiple libraries across the Lincoln County Library System and on the Libby App.

Subscribe to the Gazette!
Call (307) 877-3347

**KEMMERER GUN CLUB
MEMBER MEETING**
January 18 at 2:00 PM
at Clubhouse.
Main topic: 4-H Shooting Range

Forge
A HEALTHY TRAIL; THEY'LL FOLLOW.
THE TIMES YOU GUIDE ARE THE ONES THEY REMEMBER.
SHAPE THE MOMENTS THAT SHAPE THEIR FUTURE

FREE Developmental Screening

Kemmerer Child Development Center

Children ages 0 through 5:
Call/ leave a message at 877-6984
To make an appointment for the screening on:
March 6th, 2026
You can also message us on Face Book "KCDC" or Angela Black Hagler

Areas to be screened include:
• Vision
• Hearing
• Physical Development
• Social / Emotional
• Language
• Speech
• Problem Solving
• Behavior

CLUBS & LODGES

Healing Through the Savior 12 step Recovery, Spouse and Family support meetings Meetings

If you or a loved one is suffering from addiction, or are suffering because of a loved one's addictions, there is hope, help, and healing. Recovery Meeting: Sundays 6:30 PM. Spouse and Family Support: Sundays 6:30 PM. Location: Kemmerer Stake Center, 1584 3rd West Ave, Diamondville, Wyoming. Anonymous Phone Support Recovery Meeting 1-669-900-6833 Meeting ID: 97288584831 ## Sundays: 5:00 PM. Anyone 18 years of age and older is welcome.

Kemmerer Rotary Club

Kemmerer Rotary Club Club Officers: President: Jaycee Romrell; President- Elect: Dave Ryerse; Secretary: Bridget Stewart; Treasurer: Anne Bluemel

Fossil Basin Promotion Board for Tourism

will hold meetings every month on the 2nd Thursday at the Diamondville Town Hall at 6pm. Grant applications accepted in January, April, July, and Oct. For more information or to request the zoom link, please email info@fossilbasin.org

United Mine Workers of America Local #1307

Meets the 3rd Friday of every month at the Kemmerer Fire Department at 4:30 p.m.

American Legion Post 55/Kemmerer, Wyoming

Meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at Wyoming Fossils, 921 Pine Avenue. For more information contact Robert Bowen at 254-223-3204.

South Lincoln Fire Protection District Board

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Fire Station at 1255 Coral Avenue.

Fossil Basin Chamber Of Commerce

For information on meetings and joining the Chamber, please email fossilbasinchamberofcommerce@outlook.com. For more information contact Nicole Anderson (307) 429-0440 or Jessica Lozier at (307) 679-0626.

Kemmerer Food Bank

Open the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month from 1-3 p.m. Located on the corner of Pearl & Cedar in the basement of the Episcopal Church. For more information call 307-723-7960.

Lincoln County AA

Meetings: Tuesday and Thursday 6:00 PM, 506 Cedar Ave. Kemmerer, WY 83101. "One day at a time."

Kemmerer Masonic Lodge #33 AF & AM

Meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month except July and August. Coffee social at 7 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM. Located at 607 Pine Ave, across from Riddleys, all members and sojourners are invited to attend. For more information -Charlie Custer 307-723-2626 or Seth Snyder Senior Warden 307-460-1463.

Kemmerer Eagles-F.O.E and Auxillary

Men's meeting the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, Women's meetings the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at the Aerie Hall on Klondyke St. Call 307-877-4712 for more information. Joint meetings the 2nd Monday of each month. Changes to bylaws will be read on June 9, 23 and July 14.

Kemmerer Gun Club

President - Kyle Thompson 435-213-6084; Vice President - AJ Guinta 307-727-6029; Officer at Large - Garey Lacey 307-350-2922. kemmerergunclub@gmail.com.

For changes or updates email: sheri@kemmerergazette.com

Opinion

I'm full of it

John Knox once wrote, "You cannot antagonize and influence at the same time."

My client has a landline for all her calling needs. It's the same number she's had since Alexander Graham Bell started the whole shebang.

Unfortunately, she gets hackers and scammers multiple times each day. I've never seen anything like it. Starting at 7 a.m., she has Medicare scams, weirdo car insurance salesman, phony warranty deed guys, quack credit card companies, banking fakes, software creeps, home siding frauds and probably half a dozen more. The worst part for her is that she answers every call because she can't tell if it's one of her sisters or a friend wanting to chat.

We've told her to hang up immediately, but she doesn't. Instead, she debates them over their facts. No matter how long she keeps them on the phone, it's no deterrent. They incessantly call back.

Last week, she was in the bathroom when the phone rang. I answered, and it was a woman hacker calling to announce she had information about my client's car being in an accident and she had an extended warranty just for her. She's never been in an accident

so, just to be meanspirited, I began speaking gibberish. After 30 seconds of listening to me spew nonsense, the woman, who barely spoke English herself, asked, "Can you speak English?" I gave her a few more babba mabba fibuji goanno mudafulo wawo, then said, "No. I can't."

Later, my client was undergoing physical therapy when the phone rang. I again answered, and a strongly-accented foreign voice asked if my client might be there? Unsure of what he wanted, I skeptically asked, "Are you a hacker?" He was taken aback and chirped, "Uh, what, no, no, I'm an old friend." I asked his name and told him to call back in half an hour.

When I mentioned what happened, my client got a bang out of it and laughed, "Yeah, I haven't seen him in 20 years, but he's real." I felt I should call him back to apologize, but maybe he gets the ridiculous calls, too, and understood. If not, John Knox is right. I couldn't antagonize and influence at the same time, but let's not start a rumor. Influencing isn't my greatest strength.



By Trena Eiden

FULL OF IT, A9

Paying their respects



Two bucks take a stroll through the South Lincoln Cemetery in Kemmerer. This photo was taken by Kylee Batista in September. (COURTESY PHOTO/Kylee Batista)

How to use mindfulness in your daily living

By Stan Popovich



Mindfulness is the practice of becoming more fully aware of the present moment rather than dwelling in the past, projecting into the future, or what's going on around us. It involves a heightened awareness of sensory stimuli such as our breathing and being "in the now."

Practicing mindfulness involves breathing methods, guided imagery, and other practices to relax the body and mind.

1. Find a comfortable place: You'll want to find a comfortable seat in a relaxed and stress-free environment. Sit on a couch or chair with your feet on the ground. Al-

low your head and shoulders to rest comfortably; place your hands on the tops of your legs with upper arms at your side. Put your upper arms parallel to your upper body. Rest the palms of your hands on your legs.

2. Focus on your breathing: Close your eyes, take a deep breath, and relax. Keep your attention on the sensation of the inhale and exhale of your breath. Focus on the air moving through your nose or the rising

and falling of your stomach and chest.

3. Reduce wandering thoughts: It's normal to have wandering thoughts or distractions, so don't judge yourself if you start becoming distracted. Instead of wrestling with your thoughts, let them pass by, without focusing on any thought. Thoughts will try to pull your attention away from your breathing. Notice them, but don't pass judgment. Gently return your focus to

your breath.

4. Tune into your senses: Sometimes, when we are stressed, focusing on what's happening right in front of us can be a challenge in and of itself. Our minds are drawn to thinking about the future and all the bad things that are or could happen.

5. Live in the present: Focus your attention on what is happening right now, actively engaging with the current moment instead of dwelling on the past or worrying about the future.

6. Focus on one thing at a time: Multitasking can leave you feeling distracted, so concentrate on one task with your full attention.

7. Pay attention: It's hard

to slow down and notice things in a busy world. Take the time to experience your environment with all your senses including touch, sound, sight, smell, and taste. For example, when you eat a favorite food, take the time to smell, taste, and enjoy it.

8. Enjoy the small moments: Small moments in our lives include those that we do not typically notice and those we take for granted. A small moment may be having a cup of coffee or a cool glass of water, spending a moment with a child or pet, or performing any everyday activity that goes by without our attention. Enjoyment, peace, and serenity in life happen in the small moments.

9. Create a safe place:

Similar to guided imagery, create a place that is safe and comfortable. It may be your favorite room or a cabin in the woods. Use your senses to fully enter the safe place. Stay in this place for a while and go there whenever you need to soothe and calm yourself.

10. Go outside: Spending time outdoors is a great way to live in the moment and observe the sights, sounds, and sensations around you.

Stan Popovich is the author of "A Layman's Guide to Managing Fear" which covers 200+ techniques that can drastically improve your mental health. For more information, please visit Stan's website at <http://www.managingfear.com>.

The consequential role of America's schoolhouse

By Brian Schroeder

Historically, the local community schoolhouse was uniquely positioned between the three institutions of home, church and state. That means it functioned strategically as an extension of the family, a friend of the faith and an incubator for a free society.

This triangular relationship was what the Founding Fathers envisioned for America's schools because they understood all three institutions as God-ordained. It was not only natural that they complement each other and work together in harmony, but absolutely critical, especially for a brand new and highly fragile democratic republic.

The health and growth of a young country conceived in liberty would only be strengthened and sustained by such a relationship. Conversely, an emerging hostile or conflictual relationship would greatly weaken and potentially destroy this great American experiment. On all three fronts (domestic, ecclesiastic and civic), the Founders knew intuitively that the local schoolhouse would play a key role in America's foundation and future as well as its ultimate success or eventual demise.

Take the first one ... the schoolhouse as an extension of the family home. To the American Founders, the home was sacrosanct because it was the most basic form of community. It was where all community began and, therefore, where a child would get its

first taste of community.

This meant a lot of things, but at the very least, it meant children belonged to their parents, not to the state. This by definition meant the parents were responsible for their children's education, not the church or the state. And this by definition meant the parents could delegate (not relinquish) their responsibility to educate their child. (If they relinquish it, then the parents serve the school. If they delegate it, the school serves the parents.)

So, our schools were to be an extension of the family, not vice-versa, which means American school life should be reinforcing family life and values, not replacing it or working against it. When it does, the pushback should be immediate and overwhelming.

Take the second one ... the schoolhouse as a support to the faith community. As new towns were popping up everywhere in this country during its infancy, the first two structures built were usually the church house and the schoolhouse (often the same building). This was neither accidental nor incidental. As a priority, in every new American community, the two were joined at the hip. And there was a reason for it, conveyed clearly by John Adams: "Our

Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

How savvy, then, were the secularists in creating a false dichotomy between all things public and all things religious, and when the paradigm shift happened, they caught most Americans off guard and flat-footed.

By making the Constitution say things it never said (the "separation of church and state" clause, for example), they succeeded in muzzling all expressions of faith in a place (our schools) where our young people spend 30-40 hours a week of their developing lives, nine months out of every year, for thirteen years. (And over the subsequent 30-40 years, we watched teen pregnancies, drug use and school shootings sky-rocket while academic competencies plummeted.)

But in a free society where religious freedom is at the core of all other freedoms, the schoolhouse should be a place where freedom of religion is taught and practiced, not freedom from religion.

Which leads to the third one ... the schoolhouse as an incubator for a free society. This is the place where we either raise up great Americans, or the opposite, because as Lin-

coln said, "The philosophy of the schoolroom in one generation becomes the philosophy of government in the next."

A classical liberal arts education was always about liberating the mind from ignorance, freeing the mind from "mind blinds." The liberal arts were the arts of liberty, the arts of freedom. A free society cannot long abide without this kind of education.

Ronald Reagan was known for saying, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction." The Founders knew how true this was, and thus were keenly aware of the consequential role the community schoolhouse would play in either preventing this extinction or contributing to it.

It is this grander vision for our local schools to which we must return or we will crank out yet another generation who will gullibly elect big government control freaks forever hellbent on controlling our thoughts (via progressive education), our beliefs (via religious marginalization), what we can say (via cancel culture), how we buy and sell (via socialist economics), how we vote (via tampered elections) and our society as a whole (via social engineering).

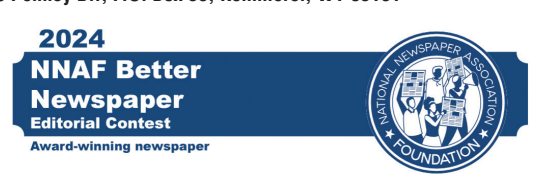
Brian Schroeder is the former Wyoming Superintendent of Public Instruction, an ordained minister and founder/president of The ChrisCorps Association (bschroeder081858@gmail.com).



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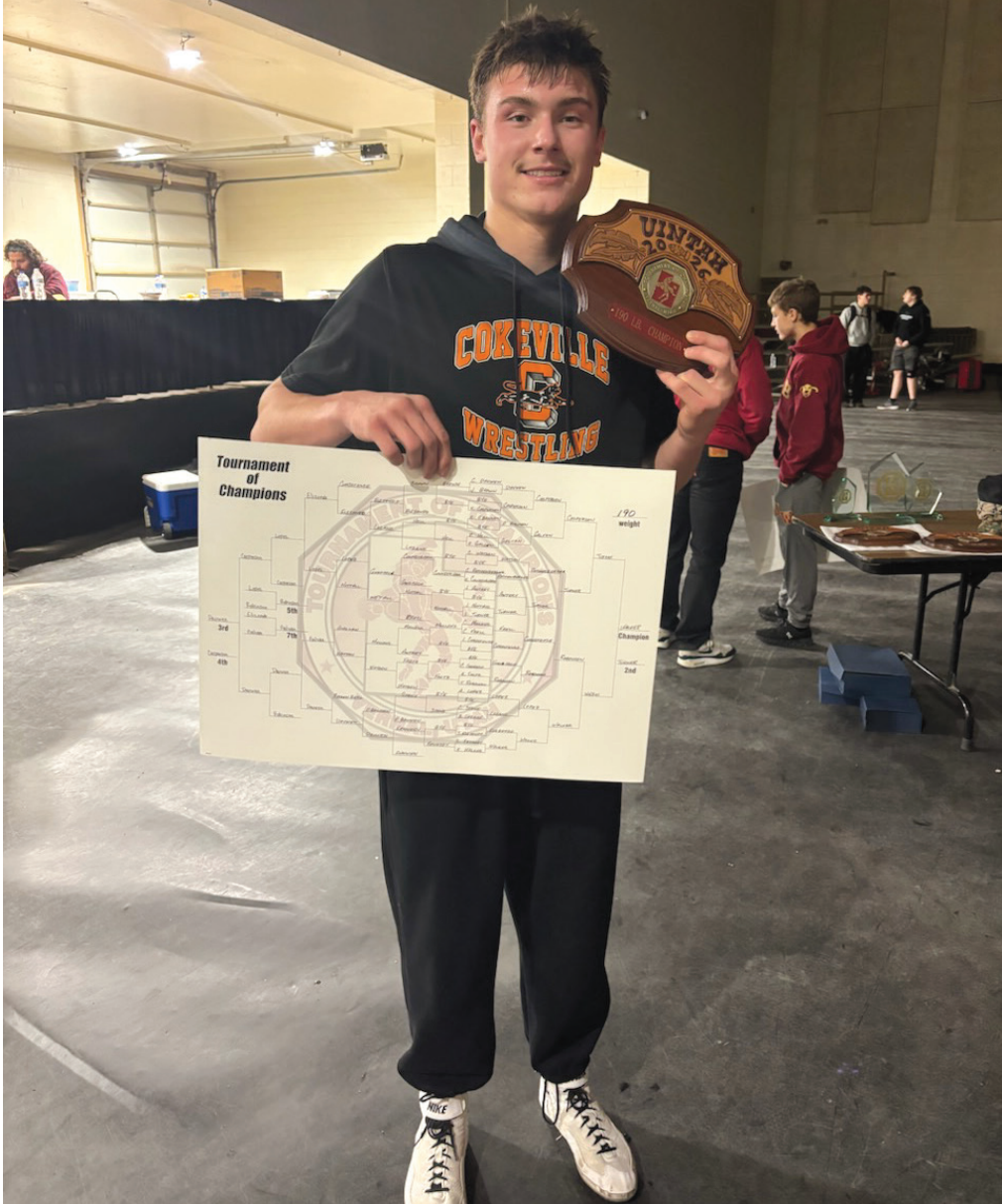
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Cokeville/News

Wrestlers show well at home and on road



Panther wrestler Kashton Walker took first place in his weight class at the Tournament of Champions over the weekend. Cokeville High School wrestlers had their first home dual, facing the Rich Rebels on Thursday, Jan. 8. Cokeville took the dual 48-24. The varsity and junior varsity wrestling teams traveled to the Tournament of Champions in Vernal, Utah, Jan 9-10. Kashton Walker won the varsity 190 bracket, while teammates Cade Thompson and Clay Teichert both took eighth in their weight classes. Daxton Pope won the JV 157 weight bracket with teammate Myles Dayton taking second in his weight class. The Panthers will travel to the Shoshoni tournament on Jan. 16. (COURTESY PHOTO)



Wyoming State Superintendent of Public Instruction Megan Degenfelder speaks during the Wyoming Department of Education standardized test results news conference in the Capitol Extension auditorium at the Capitol on Aug. 28, 2025. (WYOMING TRIBUNE EAGLE/Milo Gladstein)

Degenfelder announces bid for governor after Trump endorsement

By Noah Zahn
Wyoming Tribune Eagle
Via Wyoming News Exchange

CHEYENNE — State Superintendent of Public Instruction Megan Degenfelder officially announced her bid for Wyoming governor Monday following an endorsement from President Donald Trump over the weekend.

“When my President calls on me to serve my state and my country, I answer,” she wrote in an X post Friday responding to Trump’s Truth Social post.

Degenfelder was elected to her current role in 2022, becoming one of the youngest statewide officials in state history at age 34. Since then, she has become known as a staunch conservative who often aligns with Trump’s priorities.

“Megan is an unwavering supporter of President Donald J. Trump, often referring to her political ideology as ‘the new generation of Trump Republicans,’” her campaign website said. “She attended the signing of President Trump’s executive order to overhaul the U.S. Department of Education.”

According to her website, she is a sixth-generation Wyomingite from a ranch in Casper and graduated from the University of Wyoming with degrees in economics and political science. While in school, she served as student body president and captain of the women’s rugby team.

Later, she earned a master’s degree in economics from the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing, writing

DEGENFELDER, A5

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News

CRUELTY

from A1
mid-December, arguing that the phrase “in any manner” contained within Wyoming State Statute 6-3-1008 gave his client a “blanket license” to capture, hunt or destroy predators “in any manner whatsoever.”

Roberts, of Daniel, stands accused of torturing a young male gray wolf knowingly and with the intent to cause undue suffering.

In February 2024, Roberts came into possession of a wild wolf after reportedly chasing it down on his snow machine in a predator zone, a practice that is lawful in Wyoming.

What witnesses say happened next is why Roberts is charged with felony animal cruelty.

Photos and videos corroborate accounts that Roberts brought the wolf — leashed, muzzled with its mouth duct-

taped and wearing a collar — to the Green River Bar, where it languished on the floor. Following global outrage over the images, Wyoming Game and Fish fined Roberts \$250 for possession of warm-blooded wildlife, later issuing a press release that said animal cruelty laws do not apply to predators.

‘An absurdity’

In his Dec. 30 motion, Melinkovich calls Piper’s “blanket and complete license” defense an “absurd result” of a legal interpretation.

By Piper’s logic, Melinkovich argued, a person would have a “blanket and complete” license to engage in all other actions prohibited by Article 10 of Title 6, Chapter 3, including bestiality and torture, so long as the animal was a predator, pest or wildlife. This would also mean that what Roberts is accused of doing to the wolf could be done to a moose or

an elk.
To draw “such a conclusion is an absurdity,” Melinkovich wrote.

Roberts also failed to address the rest of the sentence: “not otherwise prohibited by law,” Melinkovich said.

State statute provides limitations for the treatment of animals, including predators. For instance, capturing a wolf with a leg-hold trap without sufficient breakaway limits or a trapper’s failure to check a trap within 72 hours are not protected actions under Wyoming law.

“Such language in the Statute indicates that the Legislature, while protecting animals from cruelty or abuse, has also sought to protect the otherwise lawful actions of individuals as they relate to animals,” Melinkovich wrote.

The county attorney also pointed to the predecessor of the current animal cruelty laws, which was part of Wyoming’s Criminal Code since

its enactment in 1983 until the statute’s recodification in 2021. It included essentially the same language as the 2021 version of WSS 6-3-1005, under which Roberts is charged.

State statutes are clear

Citing state statutes 6-3-1005, 6-3-1008, and 6-1-104(a)(xii), Melinkovich wrote, “These statutes when taken as a whole do not contain ambiguity. It is clear that a wolf is ‘an animal’ and that the Legislature intended to prohibit every act, omission or neglect whereby the willful and malicious infliction of pain or suffering is caused, permitted or allowed to continue when there is a reasonable remedy for relief.”

No lenience for ‘inherently immoral’ acts

Addressing Roberts’ request to be treated with leniency under state law, Melinkovich pointed to Wyo-

oming’s lenience rule having less effect when the alleged crime is “inherently immoral.” “Felony animal cruelty is inherently immoral,” he wrote.

Roberts is “charged with tormenting or torturing an animal, he does not stand charged with hunting, capturing, killing or destroying the animal,” Melinkovich wrote. “Therefore, there is no ambiguity and the rule of lenity does not apply.”

Additional motions

In addition to the request for a dismissal, Piper filed three other motions on Roberts’ behalf last month, requesting evidence related to prior wrongdoing by Roberts and “opinion testimony” be excluded from the trial and seeking to exclude testimony from Game and Fish wolf biologist Ken Mills. Mills is expected to testify that the wolf’s behavior, as observed in videos taken inside the

bar, indicates Roberts injured the animal. Piper’s motion argues such testimony would be an “unscientific interpretation.”

Melinkovich intends to respond to each of those motions, as well.

Next steps

The motion to dismiss and the state’s response to it will be considered by Sweetwater County District Court Judge Richard Lavery at a hearing scheduled for Jan. 28. If Lavery declines to dismiss the indictment, the felony animal cruelty case against Roberts is set to go to trial on March 9.

A Sublette County grand jury of 12 residents convened in July and indicted Roberts in August 2025. He pleaded not guilty to the charge in November. If convicted, Roberts faces up to two years in prison. He is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.

DEGENFELDER

from A5
her thesis on the elasticity of demand between coal and natural gas.

“Coastal elites and liberal activists are coming for our oil, gas and coal jobs. Radical extremists seek to redefine genders, threatening our young women. And the political establishment cares more about undermining President Trump than serving the people who elected them,” Degenfelder wrote in a press release. “Not in Wyoming. Not when I’m Governor.”

Following her schooling, Degenfelder spent nearly a decade working in the coal and oil and gas industries across Wyoming.

“When the Obama and Biden administrations tried to strangle that strength with federal red tape and political pressure, I pushed back every step of the way. I’ll never let Wyoming be treated like an afterthought. In my years of experience

working both in the coal industry and the oil and gas industry, I know firsthand the bureaucracy that slows down development,” Degenfelder wrote on her website.

As the top education official in the state for the past three years, Degenfelder has overseen several conservative education reforms. She spearheaded Wyoming’s first state-authorized charter schools and a voucher program designed to provide \$7,000 annually for K-12 students in private or home schools.

The latter is on hold pending an appeal of a district court’s suspension based on its constitutionality.

She also supported a ban on transgender athletes from high school into college, which was approved by the state Legislature last year.

On her website, Degenfelder committed to expanding career and technical education and skilled trade credentials, teaching American patriotism and not teaching “political

agendas like CRT or DEI.”

Other issues Degenfelder supports align with Trump and conservative values, like sending money to the nation’s southern border and supporting Immigration and Customs Enforcement. She’s also anti-abortion and supports Second Amendment rights, lower taxes, water and property rights, improved access to rural health care, and continued pursuit of blockchain and digital assets in Wyoming.

“When Wyoming leads, America wins,” she wrote. “Our bright future will be marked by our leadership, the unwavering spirit of our proud people and a commitment to leave this state stronger for the next generation.”

In Trump’s post about Degenfelder, he wrote, “Many of my strongest supporters and friends have been calling and telling me how great ‘MAGA’ Megan Degenfelder is...From everything I know about her, she would be fantastic!”

Degenfelder enters a growing race for governor consisting of former state house speaker and current state Sen. Eric Barlow, R-Gillette, 2022 Republican candidate Brent Bien and Independent Joseph Kibler.

Incumbent Gov. Mark Gordon will complete his second of two consecutive terms next year and has not announced any further political moves after that, saying he wants to continue to focus on his role as governor for now.

Unless Gordon chooses to challenge term limit laws, he would have to take four years off after this term before he could run for one more four-year term.

Although there have been other female gubernatorial candidates in the past, no woman has been elected to the Equality State’s top executive office. Wyoming’s only female governor, Nellie Tayloe Ross, made history in 1925 as the first woman to become a state’s governor after

taking office following the death of her husband, William Bradford Ross. She served until 1927.

Though no official announcement has been made, Rep. Tom Kelly, R-Sheridan, has made social media posts saying he intends to run for state superintendent of public instruction should Degenfelder run for governor.

“I’m currently focused on work as a House rep for the Recalibration Committee and the Budget Session, and I have logistics to work out with my wife and kids before any formal decision is made about a run for Superintendent. That said, unless any unforeseen circumstances arise, I can’t see why I wouldn’t,” he told the WTE in a statement.

Kelly ran for the position in 2022 and came in fourth in the Republican primaries topped by Degenfelder. Though he unofficially withdrew from the race before Election Day, he received 12,347 votes, or 8.4%

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The Rangers' Bowman Sandall had another productive performance in the pool over the weekend, placing second in diving (441.30), and 10th in the 100 butterfly (1:08.78) at the Jackson Invitational. (GAZETTE PHOTO/Jill Walker)



Rangers senior Jacob Platt made the finals in both of his individual events at the Jackson Invite over the weekend, placing 6th in the 200 freestyle (2:24.65) and 7th in the 500 freestyle (6:11.11). (GAZETTE PHOTO/Jill Walker)

Rangers fifth at Jackson Invitational Sandall 2nd in diving; Big Piney, Pinedale next

By Don Cogger
Gazette Sports Editor

The Kemmerer High School boys' swimming and diving team traveled to Jackson over the weekend for a two-day tournament, squaring off against a handful of the toughest teams in the region.

The Rangers finished fifth as a team, but head coach Amanda Aimone said her team's finish wasn't reflective of their effort.

"I think it went really well," Aimone said of the meet. "The placing of the team doesn't show all the success we had over there. We had six of the eight guys competing the next day in at least one individual event, and I count that as a big win."

Ranger diver Bowman Sandall continued his quest for a state title, placing second with a score of 441.30. Teammate Callahan Ryerse also made the podium in diving, placing

sixth with a score of 279.75; Ryerse's score prequalified him for the 3A State Meet next month.

"It was a fun competition that pushed Bowman, and I think it showed him some good things and some things for him to work on," Aimone said. "We were so proud of Callahan — this is his first year of diving ever, and he has just worked so hard, and he is seeing the benefit. I would like to see Bowman place in the top two at state, and Callahan has a great chance of being in the top 12."

Freshman Brenden Lockwood made the finals in both of his individual events, placing sixth in the 100 breaststroke (1:13.30) and seventh in the 50 freestyle (25.45). Both times were state-qualifying marks.

"Brenden loves to race, and we saw a lot of competitive spirit out of him," Aimone said. "He swam like he was an

RANGERS, A8



Led by head coach Darrell Bullington (far left), the Rangers wrestling team won the team title at the Aimone Invitational, with Wyatt Miller (126 pounds), Abel Jimenez (132 pounds), Logan Julander (165 pounds) and Jace Barton (285 pounds) winning individual championships. (COURTESY PHOTO)



The Lady Rangers wrestling team won the team title at the Aimone Invitational, with Kaylie Julander (145 pounds) and Ella Kelley (170 pounds) winning individual championships. (COURTESY PHOTO)

Rangers, Lady Rangers win team titles at Aimone Invitational Teams combine for six individual champions; Thoman Duals this weekend

By Don Cogger
Gazette Sports Editor

The Kemmerer High School wrestling teams got the 2025-26 season off to a promising start last month, winning both the boys and girls team titles at the Aimone Invitational, hosted by KHS Dec. 19-20.

The two teams combined for six individual champions, 10 runners-up and 23 total visits to the podium. Individual champions included Wyatt Miller (126 pounds), Abel Jimenez (132 pounds), Logan Julander (165 pounds) and Jace Barton (285 pounds) for the boys; Kaylie Julander (145 pounds) and Ella Kelley (170 pounds) were tops on the girls' side.

Wrestling to a second-place finish were Rangers Luna Keys (106 pounds), Bronson Hubbard (120 pounds), Noah Parks (150 pounds), Heston McMillan (157 pounds) and Michael Symons (175 pounds). Lady Rangers Saige Erickson (100 pounds), Rylee Krell (110 pounds), Riley Meyer (115 pounds), Saige Theule (130 pounds) and Addison Anderson (135 pounds) finished runners-up in their respective classes.

Third-place finishers included Hunter Batista (138 pounds) for the boys and Chrislyn Carlson (105 pounds) for the girls.

Eli Jernigan (4th, 113 pounds), Colter Krell (5th, 215 pounds) and Urijah Biebinger (6th, 285 pounds) rounded out the Rangers' podium placers; Beau Jackman (7th, 215 pounds) also scored team points. Addison West (6th, 100

pounds) and Millee Ellis (6th, 115 pounds) rounded out the Lady Rangers contingent.

Rangers

Wyatt Miller went 7-0 en route to the 126-pound title, with six pins and a technical fall. He beat Lyman's Weston Maxfield by technical fall in the semifinals, then pinned Mountain View's Gavin Butters to claim the title.

Abel Jimenez battled back from a first-round loss to win seven straight matches at 132 pounds, pinning Lyman's Daysen Tucker in the semifinals, then winning by medical forfeit over Beau Gutierrez for the championship.

Logan Julander finished 6-0 for the tournament, winning all of his matches by pin; he pinned Mountain View's Riggs Reeves to advance to the championship match, where he pinned Rich's Ryker Kirk for the title.

At 285 pounds, Jace Barton went 2-0, winning by forfeit over Dubois' Crimson Tarness and pinning Big Piney's Kian Pelham to claim the crown.

Lady Rangers

For the girls, Kaylie Julander — last year's State Champion at 140 pounds — posted an 8-0 record at the Aimone Invite, winning all her matches by pin. Julander pinned Rich's Katharina Smith, Weber's Morgan Healey and Lyman's April Sing en route to the championship.

At 170 pounds, Ella Kelley went 3-0, pinning Wyoming Indian's Tamia Yellowplume, Wyoming Indian's Jaelah Blackburn and Rich's Vivian Lopez to claim the title.



Lady Rangers wrestlers Ella Kelley (left) and Kaylie Julander are all smiles after being crowned Aimone Invite champions in their respective weight classes. Kelley won the title at 170 pounds, while Julander won at 145 pounds. (COURTESY PHOTO)

Sports



The Rangers' Callahan Ryerse qualified for state in diving over the weekend at the Jackson Invitational, posting a score 279.75 to finish sixth. Ryerse also finished 14th in the 100 freestyle (1:16.07). (GAZETTE PHOTO/Jill Walker)



The Rangers' Brenden Lockwood continues to impress in his freshman campaign, placing 6th in the 100 breaststroke (1:13.30) and 7th in the 50 freestyle (25.45) at the Jackson Invitational over the weekend. (GAZETTE PHOTO/Jill Walker)

RANGERS from A7

upperclassman, which gives him a great look for state. It doesn't matter that he is a freshman, he competes with the best of them."

Jacob Platt also made the finals in both of his individual events, placing sixth in the 200 freestyle (2:24.65) and seventh in the 500 freestyle (6:11.11); the senior captain is on the cusp of qualifying for state in both events.

"Jacob Platt swam tough — he swam personal bests in the 200 free and 500 free," Aimone said. "He is pushing towards qualifying in those events, which would be really exciting. He also wasn't feeling well, but showed how to push through and do things for your team. That is the kind of leadership we need from him."

Other notable performances included KJ Walker, who advanced to the finals in the 200 freestyle, placing ninth (2:32.62), and the 100 backstroke, placing 12th (1:11.60). Charlie Lozier placed 10th in the 100 freestyle, posting a time of 1:07.32.

"They all did a great job, but KJ Walker swam tough," Aimone said. "It was great to see him get into two individual events the next day. He also had a PR in the 100 backstroke, which was great. Charlie Lozier swam tough, as well — he was able to make the top 12 in the 100 free. I was really excited for him, and he set a PR in that same event."

In the relay events, the 200 freestyle relay team of Charlie Lozier, Beau Cunningham, Remington Shepherd and Callahan Ryerse finished fifth (2:06.72), while KJ Walker, Bowman Sandall, Brenden Lockwood and Jacob Platt placed fifth in the 200 medley relay (1:59.32).

The 400 freestyle relay team of Jacob Platt, KJ Walker, Bowman Sandall and Brenden Lockwood finished fourth (3:54.20).

Jackson 2-Day Invitational Team Scores

1. Lander 363, 2. Laramie 362, 3. Jackson 186, 4. Sublette County 156, 5. Kemmerer 172

200 Medley Relay

5. KJ Walker, Bowman Sandall, Brenden Lockwood, Jacob Platt 1:59.32

200 Freestyle

6. Jacob Platt 2:24.65, 9. KJ Walker 2:32.62

50 Freestyle

7. Brenden Lockwood 25.45, 20. Remington Shepherd 30.05, 22. Beau Cunningham 32.42

1 Mtr Diving

2. Bowman Sandall 441.30, 6. Callahan Ryerse 279.75

100 Butterfly

10. Bowman Sandall 1:08.78

100 Freestyle

10. Charlie Lozier 1:07.32, 14. Callahan Ryerse 1:16.07, 16. Beau Cunningham 1:19.54

500 Freestyle

7. Jacob Platt 6:11.11

200 Freestyle Relay

5. Charlie Lozier, Beau Cunningham, Remington Shepherd, Callahan Ryerse 2:06.72

100 Backstroke

12. KJ Walker 1:11.60, 15. Remington Shepherd 1:30.24

100 Breaststroke

6. Brenden Lockwood 1:13.30, 16. Charlie Lozier 1:30.82

400 Freestyle Relay

4. Jacob Platt, KJ Walker, Bowman Sandall, Brenden Lockwood 3:54.20

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Outdoors

With ballot challenges, Jackson Hole Mountain Resort ski patrol unionization vote inconclusive

By Billy Arnold
Jackson Hole News&Guide
 Via Wyoming News Exchange

JACKSON — After four sessions of voting over two days, Jackson Hole Mountain Resort ski patrollers voted against unionization, though a handful of ballots were challenged and the result is not final.

The National Labor Relations Board has not certified the results and is instead reviewing the challenged ballots and other “procedural matters,” resort officials said in a statement after the vote.

Why, exactly, the ballots were tossed out wasn’t clear by press time last week.

In total, 74 ballots deemed eligible by a National Labor Relations Board representative were counted. Patrollers eligible as of Thursday night cast 32 votes for the union, and 42 against.

A total of 16 ballots was challenged, four of which were cast by new hires. Twelve were cast by supervisors, according to an organizer.

Without knowing a final outcome after the vote, 15-year patroller Dave Wade said he was “just ready to move onto the next step, whatever it is.”

“And I’m remaining optimistic,” he added.

The election was held Wednesday and Thursday in Jackson Hole Mountain Resort’s mountain operations building, with two voting periods each day: one in the morning, and the other in the evening. Ballots were counted in a conference room on the third floor after voting closed Thursday night.

The ballot count was tense.

Ski patrollers and resort management — including one of its new owners, Mike Corbat — sat in the conference room. As a National Labor Relations Board representative counted the votes, piling “No” ballots on his right side, and “Yes” ballots on his left, everyone in the room was quiet, until Ski Patrol Director Drew Kneeland’s cell phone went off, prompting a laugh that broke the tension.

Over a few minutes, however, the stack of “No” ballots exceeded the stack of “Yes” ballots. Challenged ballots were bundled into tan envelopes nearby.

After the vote, most patrollers in the building declined to comment. Other patrollers reached before the vote declined as well. In general, patrollers have said the days leading up to the vote were tense.

Kneeland declined to comment. Resort officials did, too, providing a statement instead.

“The final outcome is pending,” resort spokesperson Andriana Rogers said in the statement. “The NLRB will review the challenges and make the final decision on how to proceed.”

After the vote, patrollers shared beers, talked about the result, hugged one another and mingled with a handful of managers in the hallway. Laughter could be heard up the hall.

Just before polls closed, CEO Doug Pierini said management supported the patrol.

“We want patrol to feel valued, and so we support them, however this lands,” he said in an interview.

Pierini declined to say whether the resort supported



After four sessions of voting over two days, Jackson Hole Mountain Resort ski patrollers voted against unionization, though a handful of ballots were challenged and the result is not final. (COURTESY PHOTO)

or opposed the unionization effort, and whether the resort would consider any new benefits for patrollers, such as health insurance. The starting wage for ski patrol is \$23 an hour. Full-time patrollers are eligible for a 401(k), but not health insurance, according to patrollers organizing the unionization drive.

The vote happened amid a surge of headline-making labor activity at ski resorts across the Mountain West.

On Thursday, the same

day as the Jackson Hole Ski Patrol’s vote, the Telluride Professional Ski Patrol agreed to accept an offer from resort owner Chuck Horning that ended a 13-day strike. The patrollers struck shortly after Christmas, one of the busiest times of the year for ski resorts, prompting visitation to plummet. Horning responded by closing the resort, and business owners petitioned ski patrollers to accept the resort’s offer.

Some Jackson Hole ski

patrollers had wanted to organize as Communication Workers of America Local 7781, United Mountain Workers. The same union represents patrollers and lift mechanics at resorts in Utah, Colorado, Montana and Washington, including Breckenridge, Park City, Telluride and Big Sky Mountain Resort.

Ski patrollers filed a petition for a unionization vote in November.

Wade, the patroller who

spoke with the Jackson Hole Daily, said the team has had good communication with the resort since the petition was filed. That, he said, has produced good focus and work on the hill.

If management can’t deliver, the door is always open to unionization in the future, he said. For the time being, Wade said he loves everyone on the team.

“It’s my life and my family,” he said. “I’m just waiting to see what’s next.”

POLICE / from A3

- Thursday, Dec. 25**
4:37 p.m. medical alarm
- Friday, Dec. 26**
4:13 p.m. fire
9:04 p.m. miscellaneous incident
- Saturday, Dec. 27**
10:06 a.m. public service, motorist assist
- Sunday, Dec. 28**
9:56 a.m. public service, motorist

- Monday, Dec. 29**
11:31 a.m. weapons offense, received a call involving a weapons offense.
- Tuesday, Dec. 30**
4:18 p.m. public service, assist motorist with vehicle lockout
6:07 p.m. public service, utility problem, water problem
- Wednesday, Dec. 31**
4:37 p.m. traffic stop for improper

- assist
- display, verbal warning
5:34 p.m. traffic stop for headlight, written citation for driving on a revoked license
6:04 p.m. traffic stop for taillight verbal warning D01 gave open container ticket
6:24 p.m. traffic stop for headlight, verbal warning
6:33p.m. traffic stop for headlights, verbal warning
8:13 p.m. traffic stop for equipment, verbal warning
8:23 p.m. traffic stop, verbal warning
8:46 p.m. traffic stop for equipment,

- verbal warning
9:11 p.m. traffic stop for head light, verbal warning
- Thursday, Jan. 1**
12:02 a.m. traffic stop, verbal warning
12:08 a.m. traffic stop for equipment, verbal warning
- Saturday, Jan. 3**
4:03 a.m. suspicious activity, traffic accident, hit/run private property damage, suspicious call about a vehicle that struck a phone utility box then drove

- away. Citation issued to driver for careless driving, hit and run, property damage.
- Sunday, Jan. 4**
12:49 p.m. public service, motorist assist
- Monday, Jan. 5**
10:31 a.m. traffic problem, traffic hazard
- Wednesday, Jan. 7**
6:34 a.m. assist other agency
7:01 a.m. traffic stop

FULL OF IT from A4

It’s antagonizing where I really shine, almost like God lets me roam the earth to acquaint people with the realization that He made a few oddities.

Scientists just uncovered something extraordinary. The human voice is not just breath and sound vibrating off our vocal cords. Our voices are an orchestra of precision that coordinates dozens of systems to work simultaneously. Muscles tighten and release in millisecond accuracy.

Airflow is regulated by the diaphragm, the larynx shifts shape like a living instrument and

the brain computes language, tone, and meaning faster than a supercomputer. It’s a level of communication so grand that nothing remotely close has that level of sophistication. Evolutionists are baffled. I am not; it’s God’s work.

Since our brain can compute language, tone and meaning, why are teenagers clueless when asked to clean their room, then comply when the octaves go up? They understand the assignment, just not how it applies to them. Scammers are similar. They hear a voice screeching, “Stop calling!” Yet, every day they’re on the job.

A cell phone doesn’t always tell you who the caller is either so when I answer a fraud call, I’ve been known to exclaim, “Frank! You said you’d be here to mow today! Last week

you never trimmed the hedges or dug up the flower beds. I’m firing you.” Once, a guy said, “My name’s not Frank, it’s Robert.” Another time, the scammer had the audacity to chuckle, “You’re very good at this, you’re full of it” (he has no idea).

The best might have been the day I got a junk call and I’d had a bad day (which is any day I actually have to put forth effort). I was working outside and had to run for the phone.

When I answered and realized it was garbage, I yelled, “Leonard! You left me at the altar! I was so embarrassed and now I can’t face anyone again! If you didn’t want to marry me, you should have just told me!” The guy on the line spoke softly, “Miss, I’m so sorry. I feel badly that happened to you. I will hang up now. Sorry. Sorry.”

If I were a good person, I’d have felt bad. I didn’t and that’s all you need to know about me.

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Obituaries

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To place an obituary: Call 307-877-3347 or email: Bryon@kemmerergazette.com

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Outdoors

Game and Fish: Help southwest fisheries by harvesting burbot and lake trout



Three upcoming fishing derbies will help fisheries in southwest Wyoming by focusing on lake trout and burbot. (COURTESY PHOTO)

From the Wyoming Game and Fish Department

GREEN RIVER — This winter, anglers can participate in three fishing derbies and one angler harvest program in southwest Wyoming that promise to be a lot of fun, and also help to manage the state's resources.

Registration is open now for the Burbot Bash through Jan. 18. The event is Jan. 23-25 at Flaming Gorge Reservoir and is hosted by Daggett County (Utah). Burbot were illegally introduced to the Green River drainage more than 20 years ago and anglers have played a major role in helping to reduce their impact ever since.

The Burbot Bash started in 2011 and brings in about 800 participants each year. Over the years, anglers have harvested over

50,000 burbot during this derby alone. Anglers caught 4,675 burbot during the 2025 Burbot Bash and the hope is that number increases in 2026.

Another derby that targets illegally-introduced burbot is the Ding the Ling at Fontenelle Reservoir near LaBarge. That event is scheduled for Feb. 6-8. Anglers caught 1,277 burbot at last year's event, and the largest was 36.2 inches long. This event is hosted by the LaBarge Events Committee and anglers should keep their eyes open for registration information on social media.

There are also events focused on lake trout in Flaming Gorge Reservoir. The Mac Attack, hosted by Buckboard Marina, is an opportunity for anglers to help reduce the number of small lake trout in Flaming Gorge. This derby is Feb 20-22. Previous Mac Attacks

have harvested up to 900 lake trout during the two-day event with harvest limits in place.

A new regulation that went into effect in October 2024 on the Wyoming side of the reservoir and Jan. 1, 2025, on the Utah side allows anglers to harvest an unlimited number of lake trout less than or equal to 28 inches long. The combination of good angler participation and unlimited harvest can have a large and positive impact on the entire fishery.

Something new for anglers is the start of an Angler Harvest Program. This is a pilot program hosted by the Flaming Gorge Chamber of Commerce and runs from Jan. 1-April 30. There is no registration or cost to participate. There are cash rewards for the

FISHERIES, A11



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Outdoors

FISHERIES

from A10
greatest number of lake trout harvested, tagged fish and random draws.
All anglers need to do to participate is submit the heads of lake trout harvested, fill out a short survey and deposit the heads in a uniquely

numbered bag at one of four freezers located around the reservoir. Additional details on how to participate in this program will be available on the Flaming Gorge Reservoir Management page, partner websites, and on freezers.
Anglers are reminded that while it is legal to waste burbot and lake

trout from Flaming Gorge Reservoir, anglers are encouraged to consume or find someone that would like to consume their catch. If anglers decide to waste these fish, the best option is to eviscerate and release them back into the water to recycle their nutrients. The last option is to throw them away at home or in a dumpster around the

reservoir. If anglers decide to throw them in the dumpster they should put them in a plastic bag for a cleaner and easier disposal.
All events can be subject to change due to weather and safety conditions. Please refer back to the Game and Fish website often for any updates.
The Flaming Gorge Reservoir

Management page has more information about Game and Fish's work to manage the fishery on Flaming Gorge Reservoir and information on how and where to catch burbot and lake trout. Anglers are encouraged to seek out additional information on burbot and lake trout derbies from sponsored websites.

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103 announcements

NOTICE OF MEETING
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SUDOKU

				1		7	5
			4				9
2	4	9		5			8
9		1		2		5	7
	2		3	5	8	9	4
8				7	9		2
3	6						
5				6	7		
	1	7	5	3		8	

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

9	6	8	2	5	9	4	1	7
3	7	4	9	1	8	2	6	5
1	5	2	7	7	6	8	9	3
2	9	8	6	4	1	7	5	8
7	1	6	8	5	9	2	4	3
4	8	9	7	2	9	1	5	6
8	3	1	5	9	4	6	7	2
6	2	9	3	8	7	5	4	1
5	7	7	1	6	2	3	8	9

Public Notices

DEADLINE: Friday at Noon for the following week's edition — Exceptions apply for holidays.

FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that default in the payment of principal and interest has occurred under the terms of a Promissory Note and Loan Agreement dated November 6, 2017 (the "Note"), executed and delivered by Bridger Jay Mackey and Alix Mackey ("Mortgagors") to Farm Credit Services of America, FLCA ("Mortgagee"), and under a real estate mortgage of the same date securing the Note ("Mortgage"), which Mortgage was executed and delivered by Mortgagors to Mortgagee. The Mortgage was recorded in the real estate records of the Clerk of Lincoln County, Wyoming on November 20, 2017, at Rec. No. 995415.

The Mortgage encumbers certain real property that is described as follows (commonly known as 501 Thornton Lane, Afton, WY 83110 and hereinafter the "Property"):

LOT 10, TRIPLE T RANCHES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED JUNE 13, 2008, AS INSTRUMENT NO. 939777, OFFICIAL RECORDS, LINCOLN COUNTY, WYOMING.

The Mortgage contains a power of sale which, by reason of the aforesaid default, Mortgagee declares to have become operative. No suit or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage, or any part thereof, nor has any such suit or proceeding been instituted and the same discontinued. Written notice of intent to foreclose the Mortgage by advertisement and sale has been served upon the record owners and the party in possession of the Property at least ten (10) days prior to the commencement of publication of this notice.

The amount due that is secured by this Mortgage, as of the date of this Notice, is \$353,689.53, consisting of \$337,753.10 in principal, \$15,518.39 in interest, and \$418.04 in late fees, plus attorneys' fees and costs expended, plus additional interest and late charges accruing after the date of this notice.

NOW, THEREFORE Mortgagee will have the Mortgage foreclosed as provided by law by causing the Property to be sold at public sale by the Sheriff or Deputy Sheriff in and for Lincoln County, Wyoming to the highest bidder for cash at ten o'clock in the forenoon (10:00 a.m.) on February 3, 2026, on the second floor of the Lincoln County Courthouse, 925 Sage Ave., Kemmerer, WY 83101, for application to the above-described amounts secured by the Mortgage.

The property being foreclosed upon may be subject to other liens and encumbrances that will not be extinguished at the sale and any prospective purchaser should research the status of title before submitting a bid.
Dated December 17, 2025

FARM CREDIT SERVICES OF AMERICA, FLCA
BY: Timothy L. Woznick
CROWLEY FLECK PLLP
PO Box 394
Cheyenne, WY 82003
(307) 426-4100
23553

PUBLISHED: January 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act and the Wyoming Public Service Commission's (Commission) Rules, notice is hereby given of the Application of Rocky Mountain Power (RMP or the Company) for a Deferred Accounting Order to record a regulatory asset associated with the differences in incremental costs and revenues between the 2020 PacifiCorp Inter-Jurisdictional Allocation Protocol (2020 Protocol) and the 2026 PacifiCorp Inter-Jurisdictional Allocation Protocol (2026 Protocol), as more fully described below:

1. RMP is a division of PacifiCorp, an Oregon corporation, engaged in the business of supplying electric utility service to customers throughout its six-state service territory, including Wyoming. RMP is a public utility subject to the Commission's jurisdiction. Wyo. Stat. §§ 37-1-101(a)(vi)(C) and 37-2-112.

2. On December 31, 2025, pursuant to Wyoming Statutes §§ 37-2-112 and 37-2-115, the Company filed an Application requesting the Commission issue a Deferred Accounting Order to record and defer a regulatory asset associated with the differences in incremental costs and revenues between the 2020 Protocol and the 2026 Protocol cost allocation methodologies, effective January 1, 2026.

3. The 2020 Protocol expired December 31, 2025. The 2026 Protocol Application is set for hearing on May 26, 2026, in Docket No. 20000-690-EA-25. The 2026 Protocol proposes a new cost allocation methodology across RMP's multiple state service territory that includes Wyoming. The Company requested the deferral to address costs incurred during the transition period from December 31, 2025, until a new cost allocation methodology is reflected in RMP's base rates. RMP states the deferral will track and align costs and benefits while avoiding over or under allocation of costs while the 2026 Protocol is pending approval and implementation in Wyoming and other jurisdictions. The Company proposes a uniform adoption date for the new cost allocation methodology across all jurisdictions.

4. RMP is not currently seeking recovery of these costs from customers. The requested Deferred Accounting Order, if approved, will enable the Company to seek recovery in the future. If approved, deferred costs will be recorded in Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Account 182.3.

5. The total amount of the potential deferral is unknown. RMP estimates current costs and benefits of approximately \$5.1 million annually. Deferred accounting permits the Company to track the expenses accrued from December 31, 2025, through the beginning of the rate effective period of the 2026 Protocol for potential future recovery.

6. This is not a complete description of RMP's Application. Interested persons may inspect the entire Application at RMP's Wyoming offices and at the Commission's office or online at: <https://dms.wyo.gov/external/publicusers.aspx>. (enter Record No. 18030). The Application may also be reviewed on line at: <https://www.rockymountainpower.net/about/rates-regulation/wyoming-regulatory-filings.html>.

7. Anyone desiring to file a public comment, statement, protest, intervention petition, or request for a public hearing in this matter must file with the Commission in writing on or before February 9, 2026. Any intervention request filed with the Commission shall set forth the grounds of the proposed intervention or request for hearing as well as the position and the interest of the petitioner in this proceeding. Please mention Docket No. 20000-699-EA-25 in your communications.

8. If you wish to intervene or request a public hearing that you will attend, or wish to file a public comment, statement, or protest, and you require reasonable accommodation for a disability, please contact the Commission at (307) 777-7427, or in writing at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002. Communications impaired persons may also contact the Commission through Wyoming Relay at 711.
Dated: January 8, 2026.

PUBLISHED: Jan. 15, 22, 2026

email notices to: Sheri@kemmerergazette.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Kemmerer Operations, LLC of Kemmerer, Wyoming, Permit No. 379-T10, has applied for area bond release from the Land Quality Division of the Department of Environmental Quality for the State of Wyoming. This permit was originally approved on June 30, 1975. The coal mining permit area is located in all or portions of Township 21 North, Range 116 West, Township 21 North, Range 117 West, Township 19 North, Range 117 West, and Township 20 North, Range 117 West, 6th P.M. Lincoln County, Wyoming. The Kemmerer Mine is located approximately six miles to the southwest of the town of Kemmerer. This area can be found on the Kemmerer III and IV, Elkol, and Warfield Creek USGS quadrangle maps. The parcels to be released from bond are located in Sections 22 and 27 in Township 20 North, Range 117 West. This bond release request includes 79 acres. This request is for Area Bond Release under Category Five lands. The total amount presented by this bond release request is \$4,420,960. This reclamation was performed from 2023 until 2025.

Information regarding the mining operation, reclamation procedures and area proposed for release may be viewed in the Office of the Land Quality Division of the Department of Environmental Quality in Cheyenne and Lander, Wyoming, and the mine office of Kemmerer Operations, LLC in Kemmerer, Wyoming. Written objections to the proposed bond release request must be received by the Administrator of the Land Quality Division, Department of Environmental Quality, 200 W. 17th Street, Suite 10, Cheyenne, WY 82002, before the close of business on the 1st of March 2026. Objections may also be submitted by the same deadline via the Land Quality Division's electronic comment portal at <http://lq.wyomingdeq.commentinput.com/>. If written objections are filed, and a public hearing is requested, the Environmental Quality Council (Council) shall hold a public hearing within sixty (60) days after the final date for filing objections unless a different period is stipulated to by all parties. The Council shall publish notice of the time, date and location of the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality of the proposed operation once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks immediately prior to the hearing. The hearing shall be conducted as a contested case in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act (W.S. §16-3-101 through §16-3-115), with a right of judicial review as provided in that act. Without prejudice to the objector or applicant's right to a hearing before the Council, the Administrator may hold an informal conference to resolve written objections after notification to all parties. The Administrator shall make a record of the conference unless waived by all parties, which shall be accessible to all parties. The Administrator shall furnish all parties of the conference with a written finding of the Division based on the conference, and the reasons for the finding.

Para español, visite deq.wyoming.gov. Americans with Disabilities Act: special assistance or alternative formats will be made available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Please provide at least fourteen (14) days before the close of the public comment period for such requests.
PUBLISHED: Jan 8, 15, 22, 29 2026 23552

NOTICE AND ORDER SETTING PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act and the Wyoming Public Service Commission's (Commission) Rules, notice is hereby given that a public hearing is scheduled regarding Rocky Mountain Power's (RMP or the Company) request for authority enter and participate in the California Independent System Operator's (CAISO) Extended Day-Ahead Market (EDAM). The public hearing is set to commence on Thursday, February 5, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., in the Commission's hearing room located at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

2. RMP is a division of PacifiCorp, an Oregon corporation, engaged in the business of supplying electric utility service to customers throughout its six-state service territory, including Wyoming. RMP is a public utility, subject to the Commission's jurisdiction. WYO STAT. §§ 37-1-101(a)(vi)(C) and 37-2-112.

3. On December 30, 2024, RMP filed a "Notice" that RMP was in the process of preparing to enter and participate in the EDAM. The Company filed the "Notice" based upon a Commission directive to file an Application after discussions with the Company at open meetings held on October 10, 2024, and October 17, 2024.

4. On February 18, 2025, RMP submitted an amended filing pursuant to the provision of Commission Rule, Chapter 3, Section 21(f)(i). The Amended Application seeks Commission approval to allow RMP authority to enter and participate in the CAISO's EDAM stating that the Company's participation will result in certain reliability, economic and environmental benefits to its Wyoming Customers. The EDAM is an extension of CAISO's Western Energy Imbalance Market (WEIM) RMP has participated in the WEIM since its inception in November of 2014.

5. Wyoming Industrial Energy Consumers (WIEC) and Interwest Energy Alliance petitioned to intervene in this matter, which the Commission granted by Order issued on May 14, 2025. The Office of the Consumer Advocate (OCA) intervened on March 27, 2025, as a matter of right.

6. This is not a complete description of RMP's Application. You may review the Application and its supporting testimony and exhibits at the Commission's office during business hours or online at: <https://dms.wyo.gov/external/publicusers.aspx> (enter Record No. 17731).

7. All interested persons are encouraged to attend the public hearing which will be conducted in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act, Wyoming Public Service Commission Rules. All interested persons may appear and be heard, in person, by video or telephone conference, or through counsel appearing in person or by video or telephone conference.

Attend Zoom Meeting and actively participate at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9933449233>
Or by dialing: 1 669 900 9128 Meeting ID: 993 344 9233

8. If you wish to attend the hearing and you require reasonable accommodation for a disability, please contact the Commission at (307) 777-7427 (Voice or TTY) in Cheyenne during regular business hours or write them at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, to make arrangements. Communications impaired persons may also contact the Commission by accessing Wyoming Relay (TTY) by dialing 711. Please mention Docket No. 20000-675-EA-24 in all correspondence with the Commission.
Dated: January 6, 2026.

PUBLISHED: Jan. 15, 22, 2026

23555

The Opioid Epidemic



Based on provisional data for the 12-month period ending in April 2025, approximately 210 Americans died each day from drug overdoses, with the majority of these deaths involving opioids.

While this figure represents all drug overdoses, sources from 2024 and 2025 consistently report that approximately 66% to 76% of all drug overdose deaths involve an opioid, primarily synthetic opioids like fentanyl. This places the approximate number of opioid-involved deaths per day in 2025 between 140 and 160.

This daily death rate reflects a positive trend, with a significant decline in overall overdose deaths reported in 2024 and early 2025, attributed to efforts such as expanded naloxone access and treatment options.

Despite this progress, the opioid crisis was still considered a public health emergency as of March 2025, and overdose remains a leading cause of death for young Americans.

For more information and resources, you can visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) overdose prevention website or the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) website.

rX-Out

Prescription Drug Misuse

Follow medication directions provided by your pharmacist or on the prescription label.

Educate yourself about potential prescription interactions with other drugs and alcohol.

Consult with your doctor before stopping or changing your dosage.

Never use someone else's prescription medications, and never share your prescription with anyone. Store prescription stimulants, sedatives and opioids securely, and out of reach from children.

Discard unused or expired medications according to disposal instructions on the package insert. If no instructions exist, return them to a registered collection site, or mix them with an unpalatable substance like dirt or used coffee grounds and dispose of the mixture in a sealed bag inside your household trash.

Government agencies recommend certain drugs be flushed down the toilet when registered take-back options are not available. Check the medication package insert or visit fda.gov to find out if your drugs require flush disposal.

When discarding prescription medication bottles, scratch out your personal information.

Recognize the signs of opioid addiction, which can include drowsiness, constipation, nausea, dizziness, vomiting, dry mouth, headaches, sweating and mood change.

Ask a doctor about alternative pain management treatments that do not involve opioids, particularly for adolescents.



Lincoln County Prevention
925 Sage Avenue
Kemmerer, Wyoming 83101

(307) 877-2092 Office
(307) 390-8442 Cell

Brittany Ritter

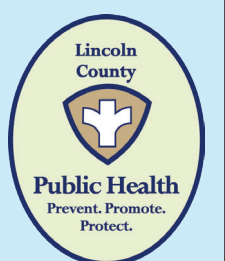
E-mail: brittany.ritter@lincolncountywy.gov



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https://www.lincolncountywy.gov/government/public_health/index.php

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STATE OF WYOMING

Uinta County Sheriff's Office
783-1000

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POLICE OFFICER
POLICE WYO

Evanston Police Department
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Recovery is possible; awareness is the first step

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