

News briefs from around Wyoming

From Wyoming News Exchange newspapers

Posts threaten mass shooting; Natrona County school district, police say threat is not 'substantiated'

CASPER (WNE) — The Natrona County School District announced in an email Friday that there is no "substantiated" threat to schools after concerns grew out of a social media post threatening mass shootings.

The post that began circulating Friday on Facebook alleged a student was threatening to attack multiple schools Monday.

School district officials said in a press release that they worked with the Casper Police Department to determine whether the threat had any merit.

According to the press release, a comprehensive threat assessment was done and law enforcement officials made contact with the individuals and their "parents/guardians."

Officials "verified the information provided does not identify a substantiated or specific threat to the safety of schools," according to the prepared statement released jointly by the police department and school district.

"We understand there are social media rumors related to the safety of our schools on Monday, September 30th," said the press release. "The Casper Police Department and Natrona County School District are committed to the safety of our schools. Parents, staff, students, and school families should not be concerned with the safety of our schools and should plan on normal operations and attendance on Monday."

Police presence was stepped up at schools Monday.

LDS breaks ground for Cody temple

CODY (WNE) — LDS officials conducted a groundbreaking ceremony for the Cody temple at its controversial site off Skyline Drive during a small, private ceremony blocked from public view last Friday.

Elder Steven Bangertter of Salt Lake City asked a blessing on those who live near the location in his dedicatory prayer, according to an LDS news release.

"We ask that they may feel a spirit of peace wash over them, granting them comfort and assurance that the presence

of this temple will bring added joy, prosperity, beauty and unity to their lives and their community," he said.

Plans call for a single-story structure of approximately 9,950 square feet with a 101-foot tower.

The groundbreaking occurred almost a month after District Judge John Perry ruled in favor of LDS and about two weeks after the opponents appealed his decision to the Wyoming Supreme Court.

A group called Preserve Our Cody Neighborhoods, which objects to the temple's location in an area zoned rural residential, had filed lawsuits last summer against the city of Cody and its Planning and Zoning Board about the process for handling the issue. The city issued a building permit for the temple in August 2023.

LDS also filed lawsuits and voluntarily delayed construction until the court acted.

This temple will join two others in Wyoming, one in Casper and the other in Star Valley.

One in every nine residents of Wyoming, or about 68,000 people, claim membership in the LDS church, according to the news release.

Requests for information about when construction will begin and end were submitted Saturday and not answered before

press time.

Gas prices, on average, down another 3 cents a gallon in Wyoming

CHEYENNE (WNE) — Average gasoline prices in Wyoming have fallen 3 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.22 per gallon Monday, according to GasBuddy.com's survey of 494 stations in Wyoming.

Prices in Wyoming are 6.8 cents per gallon lower than a month ago, and stand 62.4 cents per gallon lower than a year ago.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the lowest price in the state on Sunday was \$2.69, while the highest was \$4.29, a difference of \$1.60 per gallon.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 1.4 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.17 per gallon Monday. The national average is down 15.4 cents per gallon from a month ago, and stands 63.8 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Public notices

NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR TAX DEED

On July 20, 2021 Alexa Hanson purchased the following real property for 2020 delinquent taxes:

HWY 20 N
44-94-07 FR NENE TOTAL
ACRES 1.215797 ACRES

The property was taxed in the name of James A. Thompson.

There are no special assessments. The time for redemption will expire January 16, 2025.

Take notice that unless redemption is made on said real property, Alexa Hanson, holder of CP 088120, will apply for a tax deed on or after January 16, 2025.

This notice is pursuant to Wyoming Statutes 39-13-108.

Pub. Oct. 3, 10 & 17, 2024 No. 1722

The Bureau of Reclamation intends to execute a water service contract with Clyde D. Little in accordance with Sec. 9(e) of the Act of August 4, 1939 (53 Stat. 1187). This contract will furnish up to 15 acre-feet annually of supplemental irrigation water from Boysen Dam and Reservoir. To provide written comments, to request additional information, or to view a copy of the proposed contract, please contact Cecelia Stuckert at 307-261-5610, or write to: Cecelia Stuckert, Bureau of Reclamation, Wyoming Area Office, P.O. Box 1630, Mills, WY 82644. Written comments will be accepted for a period of 60 days from the initial date of this notice.

Pub. Sept. 26 & Oct 3, 2024 No. 1718

NOTICE OF PARTITION SALE

Notice is hereby given that a writ for partition of property was entered on June 13, 2024 in the District Court of the Fifth Judicial District, Hot Springs County, Wyoming, Civil Action No. 2022-01 whereby Shawn M. Milek was Petitioner and Lindsey R. Pahl was Respondent, and such writ was rendered for partition of property, and the undersigned Sheriff, pursuant to the writ issued by such Court, will sell the following described property at a partition sale:

The West 968 feet of the South 480 feet of Lot 2 and the West 968 feet of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (NW ¼ SE ¼), Section 10, Township 8 North, Range 4 East of the Wind River Meridian, Hot Springs County, Wyoming.

TOGETHER WITH that certain right-of-way easement, for ingress and egress and underground utilities purposes, set forth by instrument titled "Easement and Right of Way" record in Micro Book 57 at pages 1140 and 1141 on the 2nd day of March, 1994, at the office of the Hot Springs County Clerk and Ex-Officio Register of Deeds; and the extension thereof, upon and across grantor's lands, to the North line of the above aforementioned Section 10; being 30 feet in width, 15 feet on each side of the following recited and described center line, to wit: Beginning at the northwest corner of that certain 30.00 acre portion of said Lot 3 shown on the record of survey titled "Arnold Lands" filed in Plat Cabinet B at page 38 and Micro Book 31 at page 542 at aforementioned office, said corner bearing S. 00°06'15" W., 48.30 feet distant from P.I. No. 3 of County Road Number 28, also known as Jones Road; thence S. 00°06'15" W., a distance of 15.00 feet to the true point of beginning of said center line, last said point designated Station (Sta.) 0+00.00; thence N. 89°58'32" E., parallel with and 15 feet distant from the North line of last mentioned parcel, a distance of 749.60 feet to Sta. 7+49.60; thence S. 67°16'56" E., a distance of 355.94 feet

to Sta. 11+05.54, the point of terminus of the previously recorded easement, lying on the East line of said Arnold lands and from which the Northeast corner thereof bears N. 00°11'58" E., 152.60 feet distant; thence continuing S. 67°16'56" E., now upon and across grantor's lands in said Lot 2, a distance of 16.24 feet to Sta. 11+21.78; thence S. 00°11'58" W., parallel with and 15 feet distant from the line common to said Lots 3 and 2, a distance of 574.03 feet to Sta. 16+95.81. the point of terminus of the extension of said R/W easement, lying on the North line of the parcel herein conveyed and from which the Northwest corner thereof bears S. 89°58'32" W., 15.00 feet distant.

together with the improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging and subject to easements, reservations, rights of way, and restrictions of record and legally existing.

Said property is more commonly known as 1276 Jeffs Road in Hot Springs County, Wyoming. The undersigned Sheriff will sell the described property at public sale, to the highest qualified bidder for cash on the front steps of the Hot Springs County Courthouse 415 Arapahoe Street, Thermopolis, Wyoming on the 22nd day of October, 2024 at the hour of 11:00 AM.

The Sheriff may not sell the property without an agent for each seller present at the sale or without a signed waiver from the absent party.

The property is subject to a minimum bid of \$286,713.00 as set by statute. The property being sold 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. The Sheriff conducting the sale will require satisfactory proof of funds from a prospective bidder before accepting any bids from that bidder.

For more information contact Keith Nachbar, Attorney at 307-473-8977.

Jerimie Kraushaar, Sheriff
Hot Springs County, Wyoming

Pub. Sept. 12, 19, 26 & Oct. 3, 2024 No. 1714

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Raymond and Cynthia DeVries has requested approval of a preliminary plat for a minor subdivision dividing a portion of an approximant 8.5-acre parcel into five lots. The proposal also includes a Land Use Change from Agricultural to Residential for the 5 lots. The subject property is located in the Southwest Quarter(¼), Section 11, Township 42 North, Range 95 West

A public hearing on this matter will be held before the Hot Springs County Land Use Planning Commission at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 16, 2024 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the County Annex Building. Anyone requiring additional information should call the County Planning Office at 864-2961. Those unable to attend are invited to comment in writing to: County Planning, 415 Arapahoe St., Thermopolis, WY 82443, or by e-mail at planner@hscounty.net.

Pub. Oct. 3 & 10, 2024 No. 1723

Notice

The Hot Springs County Board of Commissioners is asking Hot Springs County residents to apply to serve on the Hot Springs County Travel and Tourism Board:

Hot Springs County Representative – One Member (due to resignation)
(Travel & Tourism applicants shall be from the lodging and/or tourism industry)

Residents of Hot Springs County interested in applying to serve on the Board should submit their County Board Application (available on the County website www.hscounty.com or at the County Clerk's Office) to the Hot Springs County Clerk's Office.

Becky Kersten
Hot Springs County Clerk

Oct. 3 & 10, 2024 No. 1725

U.S. Postal Service STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

The Thermopolis Independent Record, USPS Publication No. 627-300. Filed Sept. 21, 2024, for edition Sept. 12, 2024. Frequency of issue: Weekly. Number of issues published annually: 52. Annual subscription price: \$43. Address of publication and headquarters: P.O. Box 31, Thermopolis, WY 82443-0031.

Publisher: Lara Love, P.O. Box 31, Thermopolis, WY 82443-0031. Owner: Thomas R. Mullen, 33 Maxville Rd., Phillipsburg, MT 59858.

Known bondholders, mortgagees and other security holders owning or holding one percent or more of the total amounts of bonds, mortgages or other securities: None.

Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: Total number copies (net press run), 1,700 plus. Paid or requested circulations through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter circulation 615, through mail subscription 726. Total paid and requested circulations, 1,341. Free distribution by mail carrier, or other means (samples, complimentary or other free copies), 70. Total distribution, 1,411. Copies not distributed (office use, left over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing), 328. Total, 1,739.

Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: Total number copies (net press run), 1,700 plus. Paid or requested circulations through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter circulation 615, through mail subscription 727. Total paid and requested circulations, 1,342. Free distribution by mail carrier, or other means (samples, complimentary or other free copies), 70. Total distribution, 1,412. Copies not distributed (office use, left over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing), 328. Total, 1,740.

Online only subscriptions, 143.
I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

/s/ Lara Love, Publisher

Pub. Oct. 3, 2024 No. 1726

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The Thermopolis Town Council met in regular session on September 17, 2024, at 7 pm at Town Hall. Present were Mayor Adam Estenson, Council members John Dorman Sr., Rachel Hughes and Dusty Lewis. Also, present were Clerk/Treasurer Tracey Van Heule, Public Works Director Basil Sorensen, Police Chief Pat Cornwell, Town Attorney Marshall Keller and Town Engineer Anthony Barnett. Council member Bill Malloy was absent.

AGENDA: Following the pledge of allegiance, Lewis made a motion, seconded by Dorman and carried to approve the agenda with the change of moving the Town Engineer executive session before Public Works. **FINANCIAL STATEMENT:** Hughes made a motion, seconded by Lewis and carried to approve the financial statement for August 2024.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: JAMES SECKMAN: 2024 AUDIT RESULTS: Seckman presented the audit of the Town's June 30, 2024, financial statements. The audit includes reviewing accounting principles, assessing deficiencies (lack of segregation of duties), evaluating compliance and reviewing

reserves. Mr. Seckman encouraged oversight from the Town Administrator and/or Mayor and Council. The sanitation fund is not covering depreciation, and a rate increase was recommended. The auditor's opinion noted the town's financial statements fairly present the town's financial position.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: Debra Davenport expressed concern about the junk and vehicles that have returned to 117 Fremont. Estenson noted he would set up a meeting with Davenport, Jeunehomme and himself. Tonya Petty expressed her displeasure with Town leadership and the police department. Jennifer Paris expressed concern about the possibility of a garbage transfer station being built below her garage and future home-site on Owl Creek Hill Road.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: EXECUTIVE SESSIONS: At 7:26 pm Dorman made a motion, seconded by Hughes and carried, to enter executive session, as allowed under state statute 16-4-405 (a)(ix) and 16-4-405(a)(vii). At 8:07 pm the executive sessions ended, and Lewis made a motion, seconded by Hughes and carried to resume regular session.

TOWN ENGINEER: Lewis made a motion, and Hughes seconded to allow the mayor to sign a purchase agreement for the S 1/4 SW 1/4 Section 35N., Range 95W 6th PM, Block 4, Tract 4 of the Commercial Park West Subdivision, containing 3.63 acres for \$300,000.00. In discussion, Estenson noted there were access concerns with the proposed site north of town, the current site is in a commercial zone and plans are for a metal building. Landscaping is also being considered. Operations would be enclosed with trash collected on a working floor then to a drop floor trailer. Trash would be moved asap. Other discussion ensued on DEQ requirements and the Town being one of a few municipalities with a landfill. All voted aye, motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR HOT SPRINGS COUNTY: Estenson noted the County is looking at a block grant for the north side of the 500 block of Arapahoe and remodeling the Common Ground building for higher education. Dorman Sr. made a motion, and Hughes seconded to allow the mayor to sign the letter of support. Lewis asked if it would be more effective for the Town to apply for the grant, Estenson noted the County owned the building at 518 Arapahoe. All voted aye, motion carried.

MAYOR & COUNCIL: Estenson noted the Fire Department helped get the flags unstuck, after the landspout. The flagpole, which was damaged in the windstorm (landspout) will be evaluated. Estenson stated there is a possibility of replacing the pole with a 15-20' lower pole, due to cost, availability and maintenance. The mayor also thanked the Fire Department and other agencies for the work on the Warm Springs Fire. Council woman Hughes wanted to acknowledge the following four individuals who were recently deployed for the next 11 months, Dylan Todd, Clint Strawser, Talen Steinmetz and Brad Becerra. At 8:28pm Hughes made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dorman Sr. and carried. The next Council meeting is October 1, 2024, at 7pm.

ATTEST:

Tracey Van Heule, Adam R. Estenson,
Clerk/Treasurer Mayor

Pub. Oct. 3, 2024 No. 1727

NOTICE OF SALE

There is a 1989 Ford Bronco with VIN# 1FMEU15N7KLA45390 that will be sold at Sheriff's public auction on the front steps of the Hot Springs County Courthouse on October 15th, 2024, at 11 a.m. This sale is to satisfy abandoned vehicle costs against Robert Redd on the above listed vehicle by Rocky Yetter in the amount of \$1,000.00.

Pub. Oct. 3 & 10, 2024 No. 1724