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# Independent Record

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## Governor reflects on terms

*Freudenthal will  
teach part-time at  
College of Law*

by Joe Sovia

Gov. Dave Freudenthal, a native of Hot Springs County, has seen the upside and downside of the state and national economy in his eight years as Wyoming's leader. Fortunately, the downs the outgoing governor experienced were not nearly as severe as many other U.S. states during the economic downturn—thanks to Wyoming's mineral industry.

During a stop in Worland on New Year's Eve with his wife, First Lady Nancy to present a special bronze to the Hot Springs County Museum and Cultural Center, Freudenthal took time to talk about his two terms as the state's Democratic governor.

"I always tell people I got to where I am, in part, because Thermop had a remarkable education system," he said. "I can still see Karl Allen, Stella Anchor and all of those [teachers]. They said, 'You've got to learn to write, you've got to learn to communicate.'

"So it is important. As you go through transitions in your life you remember not only where you're going, but you think about where you came from," the outgoing governor said.

Communication with the state's residents is critical for any Wyoming governor, including Freudenthal.

"Most of it all revolves around the fact that this is a job that allows you to be incredibly interactive with lots of people around the state," Freudenthal said



Gov. Dave Freudenthal

"What I'll miss is that, and good parking spots, and the fact that when you're governor you don't have to go through security at airports," he laughed. "You interact all over the state with lots of different people on an incredible range of issues."

### Confidence in Mead

The Democratic governor has high regards for incoming Republican Gov. Matt Mead.

"Matt will do it in his own way. He'll do things differently that I would have done them and some different things," Freudenthal said. "I think he'll do a good job for the state. I think he and (wife) Carol have strong personalities and the state is going to need that."

"The division between urban and rural gets more pronounced in this country every year. I think the state needs a good strong governor who is able to go to bat and pick your fights."

What will Freudenthal's mentality be after leaving office?

"The right thing for a governor to do when they're done is to not second guess the next guy,"

he said. "Give them some time."

Freudenthal talked about former President George W. Bush.

"He has conducted himself in what I think is the proper way," Freudenthal said, waiting for more than a year before you saw much of him in context of the presidency.

According to Freudenthal, the duty of the sitting governor is to come up with a supplemental budget so the state is covered. He said the new governor could rewrite it, as he sees fit.

"It's the obligation of the outgoing governor to do everything they can to get it set," he said of the budget.

Freudenthal leaves Wyoming in a strong financial position as Mead takes over in Cheyenne.

"One of the things I'm proud of is we're leaving him (Mead) with a billion dollars in cash. And that's not by accident," the outgoing governor said. "We began cutting budgets early. We said we're not going to keep funding things we don't have money for."

### Teaching at UW

With not much time off, Freudenthal will be a distinguished professor at the University of Wyoming College of Law for the next three semesters. He will teach a seminar and work on special projects.

"I knew how I felt about law school professors when I was in law school, and now I am one," Freudenthal joked. "I am excited about it. I think I have some perspectives that are useful."

"Being around young people who still believe that tomorrow can be better than today is really an invigorating thing in itself," he said.



Hot Springs County Museum and Cultural Center board member Phyllis Baker admires the 20-inch bronze "Open Season" presented to the museum by outgoing Gov. Dave and First Lady Nancy Freudenthal last Friday at the Worland airport.

## Freudenthals present bronze to museum and cultural center

by Joe Sovia

Outgoing Gov. Dave Freudenthal is Hot Springs County's "native son," and one of his final official functions as governor was to make a presentation to the local museum.

He and Wyoming First Lady Nancy Freudenthal flew

into the Worland airport on New Year's Eve to present Hot Springs County Museum and Cultural Center director Ross Rhodes and board members with a striking bronze entitled, "Open Range." The 20-inch bronze by Guadalupe Barajas is a smaller replica

of the maquette that stands at the governor's residence in Cheyenne. It depicts three mule deer, including a hearty buck.

Freudenthal said the choice of Thermopolis for one of the

*See Bronze on page 8*

## Commissioners hear update on airport land purchase, runway design

by Cindy Glasson

Several members of GDA Engineering and World Wide Consultant Group were on hand Tuesday to give the Hot Springs County Commissioners an update on the progress with the new county airport.

Joel Peckham with World Wide Consultant Group told the commissioners surveying has been completed at the site owned by Joe Holden, giving DeLoyd Quarberg everything necessary to complete his appraisal of the property.

Once Quarberg has finished the ap-

praisal, it will be handed off to the two parties attorneys as well as WYDOT for review, followed by any needed corrections.

At that point, the information will be compiled for talks with Holden regarding the purchase of the land.

"We are hoping Mr. Holden will be out here in the next week or so for a meeting," Peckham said. "We want to get this process started in person."

Peckham said Quarberg had spoken directly with Holden, re-establishing a connection with the landowner who

then allowed the engineers and other staff back on the property to continue with the appraisal.

Dusty Spomer with GDA Engineering said they would like to work with World Wide as something of a buffer between the landowner and the commissioners in order to clear up any misunderstandings and better explain the "how's and why's" of the land acquisition process.

Rick Patton with GDA showed the commissioners advance drawings that show the configuration of the apron for the airport runway.

"One of the things we've strived for," Patton said, "was south-facing hangar doors as the commissioners had requested."

The drawing shows a row of hangars on the northwest side of the apron area with slanted roofs for easy snow removal and a back wall no higher than 15 feet.

"Because of limited space, there will be some apron cross traffic," Patton said. "It isn't the optimal situation, but it will allow for the south-facing doors."

The cross traffic would be vehicles which would cross the apron in order

to get to the hangars. The configuration could require rules minimizing the amount of traffic to the hangars.

"I don't see there being a big issue between vehicular traffic and the hangars," Basse said. "If this were the Casper airport, it could be a problem, but I think it will have a very low impact with a small airport like this."

The next question Patton brought forth was whether the commissioners wanted to own the hangars.

*See Airport on page 2*

### 2010 in Review - Hot Springs County



Hot Springs County residents spent many hours in Wind River Canyon watching the cleanup process after a Burlington Northern train derailed May 12. The train, pull-

ing 65 cars, hit a boulder on the tracks at 12:33:33, just one mile inside the canyon. Clean up took approximately one week to complete.

—Cindy Glasson photo

## Two burglary suspects bound over

by J.D. Stetson

On Dec. 28, Circuit Court Judge Tom Harrington bound over Austin Hill and Adam Hill to District Court on charges of burglary and conspiracy to commit burglary.

The two men are charged in connection with burglaries at Smith Oil Field Service and Thermopolis Liquors. Austin Hill is charged with burglary of the Wishy Washy Washateria later in December.

Austin Hill is charged with three counts of burglary and three counts of conspiracy to commit burglary.

Adam Hill is charged with one count of burglary, two charges of

conspiracy to commit burglary and accessory before the fact to burglary.

Each count is a felony punishable by up to 10 years in prison, a fine of up to \$10,000 or both.

Gus Weed also was arrested in connection to the burglaries, but charges have not yet been filed in District Court.

According to court documents, Weed allegedly drove Adam and Austin Hill to Smith Oil Field Service the night of Nov. 30 where the men were allegedly going to search for cash intended for employees. The men did not find any cash and allegedly took a DeWalt drill set and accessories.

After leaving Smith's, they

went to Thermopolis Liquors where one of the men went inside and allegedly took cash out of a tip jar. He handed the cash and a few bottles of liquor to another through an open window, according to court documents.

The three went to Weed's hotel room where they split the money between themselves, about \$600 each, according to court documents.

The men later moved items to a home on Washakie Street occupied by John Baker, who also was arrested on suspicion of possessing stolen property. Deputies found the drill and ac-

*See Burglary on page 8*

## Court orders Bond to serve jail term

District Court Judge Robert E. Skar sentenced Tracy Bond to serve one year in the Hot Springs County Detention Center with credit for 154 days already served. Bond pleaded guilty Nov. 29 to one count of burglary, one count of illegal possession of hydrocodone and one count of illegal possession of Darvocet, all felonies.

Officers arrested Bond in September 2009 when she went door-to-door to homes in search of medications while posing as an employee of Hot Springs County Memorial Hospital, according to court documents.

Bond also had a 3- to 4-year-old child accompany her to distract the occupants while Bond would ask to use the restroom and then go through the

occupant's cabinets, according to court documents.

Skar ordered Bond to a prison sentence of not less than three years nor more than seven years in the Wyoming Women's Center. Skar suspended the sentence and exchanged it for a split sentence of one year in the county jail with 154 days suspended for time previously served as part of the plea agreement.

Bond will also serve five years of supervised probation for the burglary charge and two years for both the controlled substance charges, which will all run concurrently.

The court ordered Bond to pay \$150 to the Crime Victims Compensation Fund and a \$10 court technology fee.