

Watkins receives
lifetime NAAE
award

3

High school
winter sports
previews

6-7

Rotary renovates
dollhouse for
auction

9

Christmas Parade
entries due
on Friday

10

Thermopolis
Hot Springs

Independent Record

SPECIAL INTERNET PREVIEW

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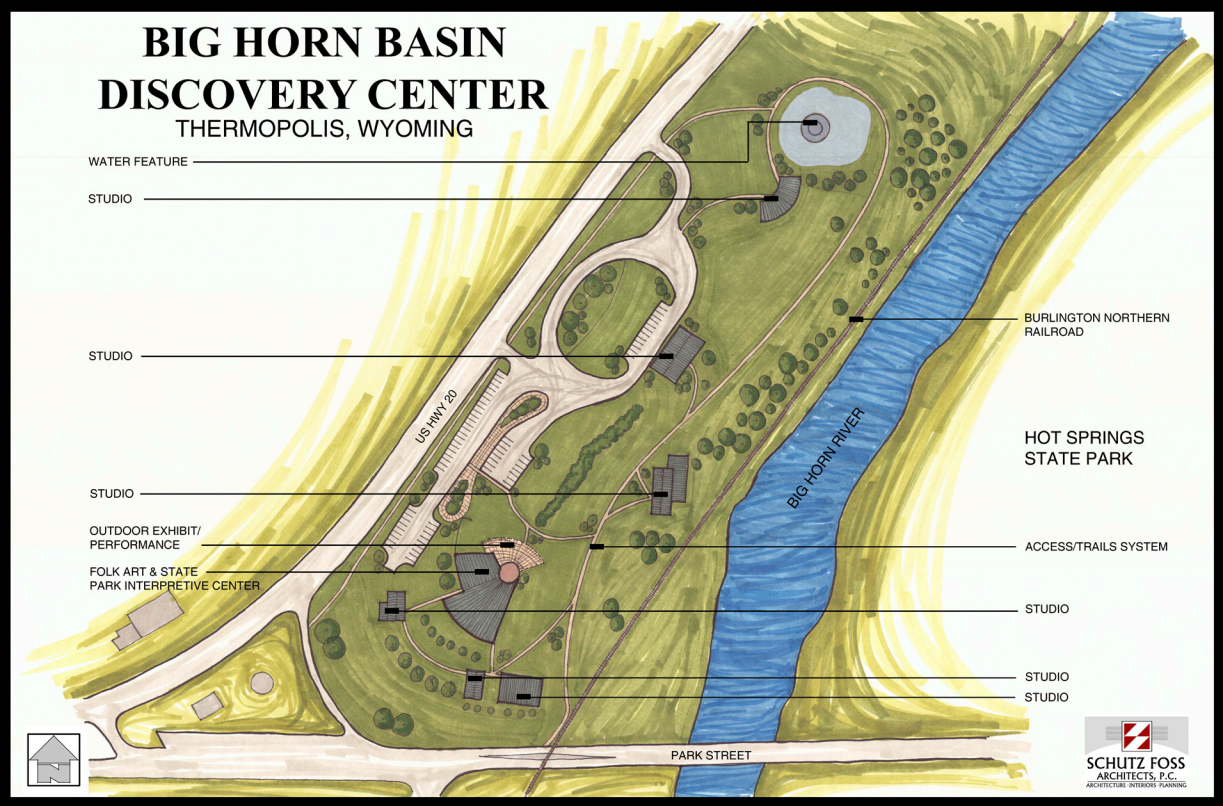
Discovery Center could add \$5 million to local economy

Big Horn Basin Nature & Discovery Center Joint Powers Board release
Several members of the Joint Powers Board attended the Nov. 21 Hot Springs County Recreation District Board meeting and expressed their interest in working with the recreation board on a special use tax on an upcoming election ballot. Details of that meeting are in a separate story in this week's issue of the Independent Record.
A proposed project in Hot Springs State Park can have a major impact upon the Thermopolis economy as well as the state, according to a study completed this summer.
The Big Horn Basin Nature & Discovery Center project can

mean as much as \$5 million in additional revenue to the state each year – more than half of which would remain in the Big Horn Basin.
The projected income can positively impact accommodations, food and beverage services, recreation, retail sales, food stores and service industries.
“We’re talking about capturing dollars from people who stay in our area longer – with new jobs, ranging from entry-level to professional management,” said Toddi Darlington, chairwoman of the Big Horn Basin Nature & Discovery Center Joint Powers Board.
The feasibility report was conducted by Dean Runyan & Associates, Portland, Ore., which

has worked closely with Wyoming Department of Tourism & Travel.
The results show that a combination of visitor services and activities will make the project sustainable.
“We will need to address several niche markets, including those interested in outdoor recreation and those interested in learning new skills,” Darlington said. “And we will look at ways to deliver services in our off-seasons.”
The proposed location is on the south side of the highway north to Worland – visible from the highway but still near the entrance to the state park proper.

See Discovery on page 12



If it comes to fruition, the Big Horn Basin Nature & Discovery Center could be located on Hot Springs State Park property just east of Highway 20 and west of the Big Horn River.

Annelise Domhoff: A German-born potter

by J.D. Stetson

Annelise Domhoff was born in East Prussia, Germany, in 1928. She remembers her family home in a residential neighborhood in the rural town of Heinrichswalde, which is now located in northern Poland.
Her father, Dr. Reinhold Dorde, was a rural doctor who enjoyed Latin and Greek languages. She never had much time to spend with her father because of his profession, but he enjoyed having his family sit around him while he spoke poetry and told them stories.
Ever since Annelise was 5 years old, she dreaded listening to the stories, but she now knows her father had wanted them to see the beauty of language.
When she became 10 years old, Hitler came into power and she was forced to join the Hitler Youth – or else face being taken away by the police.
Her father never liked Hitler and never joined the Nazi Party. She went to the meetings and learned various things about Hitler, his politics and what it meant to live for the nation.
Although the meetings were not pleasant, one small good thing came out of them. It was a sense of doing good deeds, not for herself, but for a greater whole.
But on the other end of the spectrum, the Hitler Youth also trained their members to spy on their parents, to rout out anything that could be used against them.
Both her parents liked to listen to a program on the BBC. She doesn't want to think about what would have happened if she had told anyone about her parents' activity.
When she was 11, Annelise's father was drafted into the army. It would be many years until he returned to help provide medical services to help deliver babies.
When Annelise turned 16, she remembered the last time she saw her father. The Nazis were losing ground against the Soviets and had waited until the last minute to evacuate her town. They

told the family to pack light; Hitler was working on new weapons to drive the Soviets back.
She remembers seeing her father as he left them at the train station. He had to go with the troops to help the wounded while she, her mother and younger sister traveled south into Germany. She never saw him again.

“

If you have a dream
you want to fulfill,
don't let anybody talk
you out of it.

Annelise Domhoff

A life's story

Annelise recently shared the story of her life during a meeting of the Hot Springs County Historical Society.
She was nervous at first and wondered how she was going to explain 85 years of life in the 45 minutes available.
Her story started at the beginning of World War II and flowed from her time training to become a potter, meeting her husband and crossing the Atlantic Ocean to travel the United States. She eventually found her way to Wyoming and started teaching her craft to younger generations.
Both she and her husband loved the hot springs of Thermopolis and came here with dreams of retirement and opening her own shop again.
Now, she has her beautiful home, a thriving business with her son, Stephan Domhoff, and the cherished memories to remind her of her determination to get where she now calls home.

Summer on a farm

When Annelise was 14 years old, her father had been dispatched to work and live in Belgium and France with the army. Her mother, Marie Luise Dorde, decided she would take the family on a vacation to a resort on the Baltic Sea during their break from school.
The day before they were going to leave, a man came to the door wearing a Nazi uniform. The man asked for Annelise by name and told her she had been chosen to go to a tiny town in the province to

replace a farmer who had been drafted into the army.
Annelise went to the farm and worked in the fields harvesting rye by hand. After the first week, she thought she would not live through the work, but she didn't even think of giving up.
She thought it was a great honor to be chosen to help the farmer's wife and her children with the grueling work to keep the family fed.
Eventually, she took on other duties on the farm such as milking the cows, collecting the eggs and cooking the bread. All of which she had to give some portion of to the Nazi troops when they came around to collect. The rest they had to hide.
She remembers cooking the bread the most. Every two weeks, she would take 200 pounds of grain to the mill, and would bring back 100 pounds of flour – the miller kept the other 100 pounds for payment.
She would use about half the flour to make six, 8-pound, loaves of bread. The first time she did it, she remembers the first loaf coming out shaped like an accordion.
The sight of the ruined loaf made her feel ashamed. She thought she had let the farmer's wife down.
But disappointment did not come. The farmer's wife said it was fine; they could use the loaf in bread pudding or bread soup.
Her family had always been very critical of mistakes. This was the first time Annelise had met someone who wouldn't get upset by a simple mistake and would instead adapt to the situation to make it better.
“I learned so much in those eight weeks, that I would never have learned any place else,” Annelise said.

Learning a trade

Germany was in ruins after the war.
Nearly every building in the West German towns was decimated from the allied bombings. There was no train, no mail or any other service during the time period.

See Domhoff on page 11

Preparations continue for annual Tree Festival

Preparations continue for the 11th Annual Christmas Tree Festival on Monday at Central Bank & Trust.
Christmas trees were decorated earlier this week in the bank lobby. Trees were assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Wreaths were also decorated and returned to CB&T for display before Monday's auction.
The festival begins with a social hour from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., featuring complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages. Auction of the trees and wreaths begins at 6:30 p.m.
Janice Hoxsey and Hannah O'Rourke of CB&T are coordinating the festival. Hoxsey said there are 15 trees this year, two more than in 2010, as well as 16 wreaths. There will be six items in the auction in the On Their Own category.
Last year, the festival netted \$14,000 for the Thermopolis Community Fund – despite cold, wintry weather. There were 13 beautifully decorated trees and 20 exquisite wreaths auctioned by Gary Nash. A tree decorated by Lucy's Sheep Camp was the top-selling auction item, bringing in \$2,000. The magnificent tree featured 80 hand-spun wood birds.
All the trees are artificial and stand from 6.5 to 7.5 feet tall. The wreaths are 24 inches in diameter.
Hoxsey said Nash would again be donating his time as the festival auctioneer.
Beneficiaries of Thermopolis Community Fund money have included the H.O.P.E. Agency, Fourth of July Fireworks, Hot Springs Greater Learning Foundation-Spur of the Moment concert, Hot Springs County School District No. 1, Books for Babies, PRCA Rodeo Committee, Hot Springs County Memorial Hospital Foundation and Gift of the Waters Pageant.
If you have any questions, call 864-5561 and ask for Hoxsey or O'Rourke.



Peggy Schneider puts the finishing touches on the TOPS tree that will be up for auction at the 11th Annual Christmas Tree Festival on Monday at Central Bank and Trust.
—Cindy Glasson photo

Loos pleads guilty to delivery of marijuana

by J.D. Stetson

Karl Bert-David Loos, 24, pleaded guilty Monday to a charge of delivery of marijuana to a person under the age of 18 in Hot Springs County District Court.
The delivery charge is a felony punishable by a maximum prison sentence of 20 years in jail, a maximum fine of \$10,000 or both.
Loos faced a litany of charges in both Hot Springs County Circuit Court and District Court involving two drug-related cases. One case stemmed from an arrest in May after an investigation, and the other in September during a search for two underage girls who had left a group home in Basin without permission. In the second case, authorities found a pipe and a bag of marijuana inside his Clark Street home.
Loos pleaded guilty on the first charge in the most recent case pursuant to a plea agreement in which the state dismisses the rest of the charges in both cases.
The state has agreed to argue for a five- to 10-year prison sentence in the plea agreement; however, District Court Judge Robert E. Skar said the court still retains its ability to assess the maximum penalty for the charge during sentencing.
Skar ordered the state to produce a pre-sentence investigation report and said the sentencing hearing would take place within 60 days. Loos provided a factual basis for his guilty plea by admitting he provided and smoked marijuana with a 16-year-old girl in September at his home.
Loos' attorneys Brigita S. Krisjansons and Curtis Cheney asked the court to reduce Loos' bond, which is set for \$50,000 in one case and \$100,000 in the other, in order to allow Loos to continue a process to further his education and turn his life around.
County Attorney Jerry Williams argued Loos should remain under his current bond because he had broken his bond requirements from the previous case, which led to the second felony case. Williams added the state has concerns Loos also may attempt to flee the state to avoid the consequences of his sentencing since he has now pleaded guilty to the charge.
Skar agreed and left the bond at \$50,000 for the first case and \$100,000 for the second, stating Loos has not demonstrated his willingness to conform to the laws of society.

Domhoff

Germany had been divided into four regions, with the Soviet Union occupying the largest piece to the east, and Britain, France and the United States occupying the regions to the west.

Annelise had finished her schooling in 1946 in Düsseldorf, and she was attracted to the trade of making pottery.

She knew she wanted to attend an academy in Höhr-Grenzhausen, but she also knew it would require three years of apprenticeship and the submission of two of her own pieces to become a craftswoman.

She finally found a master potter to take her as an apprentice and spent a money-sparsely three years learning under him. She was the only girl out of the 13 apprentices the potter took in.

She spent her first year in the clay cellar, loading and unloading clay. She also had a natural gift in making handles for the pots.

The other apprentices thought she was getting preferential treatment because she never had to sweep the streets on Saturdays.

Eventually, they went to the master and complained it was unfair for Annelise not to do the same work as they had to do.

The master decided to make

Annelise sweep the street the next Saturday while the other apprentices watched with grins on their faces.

Annelise had always seen prisoners and vagrants perform the work she was now doing. She had always thought it was the lowest work someone could do.

“Today, you can ask me anything to do, and I have nothing that is beneath me or is nothing, but at that time, I took that broom and threw it as far as I could, and the master had just come out of the house,” Annelise said.

The master looked at her and asked if she wanted to sweep the street that day or if the broom just fell out of her hand.

“He said, ‘You don’t have to sweep the street, you can just go home. There are hundreds of people out there waiting to take your job,’” Annelise said.

Annelise picked up the broom and swept the street. She finished her apprenticeship, created her two pieces for the academy, a fruit bowl and a pot, and finished her education.

Coming to the U.S.

Annelise was working at all hours of the day on her business. One day a German-born man from



Annelise Domhoff points out places of interest in East Prussia, Germany. Domhoff lived through the war to eventually become a potter and bringing her craft to Thermopolis. The fruit bowl pictured is one of two pieces she made to gain entry to a German academy to become a potter.

– J.D. Stetson photo

Canada stopped in her shop to buy a present for his parents.

He had asked her to go on a date with him, but she really did not have the time for dating. Instead, he helped her in her shop.

The two would eventually get married in 1956 and make their plans for the future in Canada.

Her husband, Fred Domhoff, had previously served in the German army in Africa and came to

the U.S. as a prisoner of war.

As a German prisoner of war, he actually liked being in the U.S. because he loved the openness, being treated with respect and even the food. He wanted to eventually come back to the States legally later in his life.

The reason he wanted to come back was simple. “He had lived under Hitler, and now he had a comparison,” Annelise said.

The easiest way for them to come to the States started with the two moving to Canada. He eventually got a job with the railroad and the two traveled the states from New York to Hawaii.

His employment with the railroad eventually led them to Rock Springs, where Annelise started to teach a pottery class at the college.

She built the original kiln for the college, and she became the first college pottery professor for the college.

The highlight for her while visiting Rock Springs now is seeing the various pots students have made throughout the Slovenski Dom.

Annelise would build the program until she reached retirement age at 50. Her husband was 57.

The two decided to retire and build their home in Thermopolis. They bought the property and bought the materials little by little, as they built their home, kiln and business of Domhoff Pottery north of town.

Going home again

Throughout her life, Annelise has persevered through whatever obstacle has gotten in her way.

She still makes her own bread, but she does not ever want to live the way she did while working her way through pottery education, or even the small amount of money they lived on while she built her home in Thermopolis.

She eventually made it back to her hometown in East Prussia, and she did not recognize anything there. The bricks of the old building she knew had been taken to Russia and nothing was left of the town she knew.

During the Historical Society presentation, Annelise ended her discussion with a speech she gave to other immigrants who were about to become naturalized. She ended the speech with a final quote.

“If you have a dream you want to fulfill, don’t let anybody talk you out of it,” Annelise said.

Discovery

“For the old-timers, it’s where the drive-in used to be,” said Darlington. “For others, it’s the area sometimes used by the park for buffalo grazing.

“Hot Springs State Park has more visitors than any other park in the state,” she said. “But not enough visitors see the park as a destination site – it’s a place to stop on the way to somewhere else. This project can change that.”

Funding for initial planning came from Hot Springs Greater Learning Foundation and Hot Springs County Commission.

Petitioning state legislature

In 2009, Thermopolis citizens petitioned the Wyoming state legislature for financial support. “A lot of community members

attended committee meetings and legislative sessions,” Darlington said. “Rep. Lorraine Quarberg led a legislative support group. Sens. Gerald Geis, Hank Coe, Ray Peterson and Rep. Debbie Hammons were sponsors.”

The bill required that a joint powers board be organized with a town and county partnership. The board had to create a working agreement with the State Parks & Cultural Resources, then complete engineering surveys to determine soil stability, flood plain boundaries, wildlife and archaeological issues.

“A five-member board was created, and an agreement was signed with the park,” Darlington said. “The engineering studies showed that we will be dealing with the same soil conditions as at the high school across the road.

“Now, Dean Runyan’s feasibility report shows that the project is sustainable.”

One component is a program to develop and promote state and local artisans and crafts people.

“Rep. Quarberg and Sue Blakey worked with the consultant responsible for turning North Carolina’s rural crafts communities into an economic engine,” said Darlington.

“There is a strong arts and folk culture in our state,” said Blakey, Hot Springs Greater Learning Foundation (GLF) director. “Some people think artists just barely eke out a living, but those who are serious about their business can do well.”

Folk arts include traditional skills with which people in our region are familiar – blacksmithing, tanning, taxidermy, antler

art, leatherwork, quilting and other fiber arts.

“A number of national organizations have been studying rural communities, trying to identify how they can sustain their economy without changing their lifestyle or ruining the environment,” Blakey said. “Rural areas with the strongest chance of strengthening themselves are those that have distinctive natural resources, such as we have – a strong traditional culture, often rooted in agriculture and agri-tourism, and a willingness to invest in themselves and the community.”

Center concept dates back to 2005

The Center concept was developed after the first Community Assessment sponsored by the

Public notices

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS			
Notice is hereby given that the Town of Thermopolis, Wyoming will receive sealed bids until 2:00 P.M., local time, December 15, 2011 at the Thermopolis Town Hall, at 420 Broadway, Thermopolis, Wyoming, for MATERIALS, LABOR, SERVICES, TRANSPORTATION & COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ARAPAHOE STREET TREATED WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT – PHASE I & II. The Engineer’s opinion of probable construction costs ranges from \$574,000 to \$861,000. All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud - date and time stated above. Mail or deliver to Town of Thermopolis, P.O. Box 603, 420 Broadway, Thermopolis, WY 82443. The Town of Thermopolis will take no responsibility for delivery of bids through mail. Bidding documents are available at: Engineering Associates, 429 Broadway, Thermopolis, WY 82443 for \$50.00, non-refundable. The Town of Thermopolis reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids and to waive any informalities if deemed in the best interest of the Owner. No bid may be considered unless accompanied by the required bid guarantee of 5% of the total bid amount which amount shall be forfeited if the bidder is awarded the Contract and fails to enter into a Contract with the Owners. A pre-bid meeting will be held at 2:00 P.M. local time, on December 8, 2011 at the Town Hall, 420 Broadway, Thermopolis, Wyoming.			
Dated this 18th day of November, 2011.			
/s/ Town of Thermopolis			
Pub. November 24, December 1 & 8, 2011	No. 6411		
FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE			
WHEREAS, default in the payment of principal and interest has occurred under the terms of a promissory note (the “Note”) dated July 9, 2008, executed and delivered by Martin J. Kobza and Nicole M. Kobza (“Mortgagor(s)”) to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Heartland Bank its successors and assigns, and a real estate mortgage (the “Mortgage”) of the same date securing the Note, which Mortgage was executed and delivered by said Mortgagor(s), to said Mortgagee, and which Mortgage was recorded on July 15, 2008, at Reception No. 0479106 in Book 131 at Page 672 in the records of the office of the County Clerk and ex-officio Register of Deeds in and for Hot Springs County, State of Wyoming; and			
WHEREAS, the mortgage was assigned for value as follows:			
Assignee: GMAC Mortgage, LLC Assignment dated: November 3, 2011 Assignment recorded: November 9, 2011 Assignment recording information: at Reception No. 0496650 in Book 148 at Page 602			
All in the records of the County Clerk and ex-officio Register of Deeds in and for Hot Springs County, Wyoming.			
WHEREAS, the Mortgage contains a power of sale which by reason of said default, the Mortgagee declares to have become operative, and 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; and			
WHEREAS, written notice of intent to foreclose the Mortgage by advertisement and sale has been served upon the record owner and the party in possession of the mortgaged premises at least ten (10) days prior to the commencement of this publication, and the amount due upon the Mortgage on the date of first publication of this notice of sale being the total sum of \$268,015.16 which sum consists of the unpaid principal balance of \$260,785.82 plus interest accrued to the date of the first publication of this notice in the amount of \$7,267.68, plus attorneys’ fees, costs expended, and accruing interest and late charges after the date of first publication of this notice of sale;			
WHEREAS, The property being foreclosed upon may be subject to other liens and encumbrances that will not be extinguished at the sale. Any prospective purchaser should research the status of title before submitting a bid;			
NOW, THEREFORE GMAC Mortgage, LLC, as the Mortgagee, will have the Mortgage foreclosed as by law provided by causing the mortgaged property to be sold at public venue by the Sheriff or Deputy Sheriff in and for Hot Springs County, Wyoming to the highest bidder for cash at 11:00 o’clock in the forenoon on December 27, 2011 at the front door of the Hot Springs County Courthouse located at 417 Arapahoe Street, Thermopolis, WY, Hot Springs County, for application on the above-described amounts secured by the Mortgage, said mortgaged property being described as follows, to-wit:			
LOT 3 IN BLOCK 2, CEDAR RIDGE SUBDIVISION, FIRST FILING, THERMOPOLIS, HOT SPRINGS COUNTY, WYOMING.			
with an address of 104 Cedar Ridge Drive, Thermopolis, WY 82443.			
Together with all improvements thereon situate and all fixtures and appurtenances thereto.			
GMAC Mortgage, LLC By: Castle Stawarski, LLC 330 S. Walsh Drive, Ste. 202 Casper, WY 82609-0000 (307) 333 5379			
Pub. December 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2011	No. 6412		
IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR HOT SPRINGS COUNTY, WYOMING			
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT			
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE) OF IVA DORTHY SPAIN,) Probate No. P11-26)) Deceased.)			
<u>NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR SUMMARY DECREE OF DISTRIBUTION</u>			
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Robert R. Spain has filed an Application for Summary Decree of Distribution in the above-captioned Estate on the 23rd day of November, 2011.			
Said Application for Summary Decree of Distribution requests that all real property owned by the decedent be set over to said applicant, including the described real property, to-wit:			
Being all of the following described portions of Lots 1 and 2 in Block 18 of the original Townsite of the Town of Thermopolis, Hot Springs County, Wyoming; to wit:			
Beginning at the northeast corner of said Lot 1 and Block 18, a rebar with aluminum cap stamped “Corner LS 519 1994”; thence S 1°15’13” W, along the east line of said Lot 1, a distance of 78.37 feet to a rebar with aluminum cap stamped “Corner LS 519 1997”, from which the southeast corner of said Lot 1 bears S 1°15’13” W, 60.00 feet distance; thence N 88°44’47” W, parallel with the South line of said Lots 1 and 2, a distance of 52.36 feet; thence N 1°11’09” E, a distance of 78.37 feet to a point on the north line of said Lots 1, 2 and Block 18; thence S 88°44’47” E, Along last mentioned line, a distance of 52.46 feet to the point of beginning.			
SUBJECT to all patents, easements, rights-of-way, reservations, zoning restrictions, covenants and any other matter of public record or otherwise established; all assessments and subsequently assessed taxes.			
Any objection to said Application should be filed with the Office of the Clerk of the District Court, Hot Springs County, Wyoming, on or before December 15, 2011.			
Dated this 23rd day of November, 2011.			
Terri Cornella Clerk of the District Court Fifth Judicial District Hot Springs County, Wyoming			
Pub. December 1 and 8, 2011	No. 6413		
STATE OF WYOMING			
Department of Environmental Quality/Division of Air Quality			
PUBLIC NOTICE			
Chapter 6, Section 2(m) of the Wyoming Air Quality Standards and Regulations provides that prior to a final determination on an application to construct a new source, opportunity be given for public comment and/or public hearing on the information submitted by the owner or operator and on the analysis underlying the proposed approval or disapproval. The regulation further requires that such information be made available in at least one location in the affected air quality control region, and that the public be allowed a period of thirty (30) days in which to submit comments. A public hearing will be conducted only if in the opinion of the administrator sufficient interest is generated or if an aggrieved party so requests.			
Notice is hereby given that the State of Wyoming, Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality, proposes to approve a request by the following applicant to construct a new source in Hot Springs County, Wyoming.			
Citation Oil & Gas Corporation 14077 Cutten Road Houston, TX 77069			
The applicant has requested permission to construct the Little Sand Draw Tank Battery multiple well oil & gas production facility, with a smokeless combustion device to burn produced gas from the wells and to control volatile organic compounds and hazardous air pollutant emissions associated with the produced gas, located in the NW1/4 of Section 2, T44N, R96W, approximately eight (8) miles west of Kirby, in Hot Springs County, Wyoming. The Division is proposing conditions requiring the installation of a continuous monitoring system for the flare. A copy of the permit application and the agency’s analysis is available for public inspection at the Hot Springs County Clerk’s Office, Thermopolis, Wyoming. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, special assistance or alternate formats will be made available upon request for individuals with disabilities.			
Written comments may be directed to Steven A. Dietrich, Administrator, Division of Air Quality, Department of Environmental Quality, 122 W. 25th St., Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002 or by fax (307) 777-5616. Please reference AP-9350 in your comment. Comments submitted by email will not be included in the public record. All comments received by 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 3, 2012 will be considered in the final determination on this application.			
Pub. December 1, 2011	No. 6414		
Public Notice			
The December meeting of the Hot Springs County Predator Management District will be held on December 9, 6 p.m. at the Annex building.			
Pub. December 1 and 8, 2011	No. 6415		