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Thermopolis
Hot Springs

Independent Record

SPECIAL INTERNET PREVIEW

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Relay for Life Friday evening at state park

The 13th Annual Relay For Life kicks off in Hot Springs State Park Friday, July 13 with a Survivor's Dinner on the pavilion at 6 p.m.

The Survivor's Dinner is for those who have battled cancer, plus their caregivers and loved ones, and will be followed by opening ceremonies for the Relay at 6:30 p.m.

This year's event features 12 teams that have been working to raise money for cancer awareness for the past year. The goal for the Hot Springs Relay For Life this year was set at \$35,000 by the core group, headed by Shurie Scheel.

Silent auction items for the Relay have been on display in various businesses in town, and drawings for those items will begin at 9 p.m.

Luminaria are set out along the Relay's walking path in memory of those who have battled cancer. They may be purchased from any Relay

team member until 7 p.m. the evening of the Relay. Cost is \$5 each or three for \$10.

The luminaria ceremony will begin around 9:30 p.m.

The Relay is an overnight event with the idea that if cancer doesn't sleep then we can give up our sleep for one night in an effort to fight against this disease. Funds raised by the teams benefit the American Cancer Society.

As always, the public is invited and encouraged to come to the park to support their favorite team.

Teams this year include: Kim's Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Winnie the Pooh Hospital Crew, PLTI Class 1, NFST Piglets, Motivated Couch Potatoes, Pamida's Haku-na Matata, Energized Tator Tots, Eric Kay, Big Brothers Big Sisters, A Whole New World-Cancer Free, Paintbrush Dental and Angels of Hope.



Nature and Discovery Center backers ask for special purpose tax on ballot

by Cindy Glasson
The Big Horn Basin Nature and Discovery Center (BHBND) hit a snag during a recent meeting of the Hot Springs County Commissioners.

Representatives from the BHBND, Sue Blakey and Toddi Darlington, approached the commissioners July 3 with a request to have a specific purpose tax placed on the November ballot that would increase sales taxes in Hot Springs County by 2 cents in order to raise the approximately \$4 million needed for the project.

Darlington said figures show the amount could be raised within three years of going into effect.

"Do you really think this is the time to do this?" asked commissioner John Lumley. "The state has cut funding and the county has cut funding."

"There is never a good time," Darlington said. "Our reasoning

is that even though the state has cut back, the governor is giving money to certain projects.

"Historically it's been shown that these things need to show up on the ballot many times before it is finally passed. We have to start somewhere."

Darlington added that having the proposal on the ballot would give proof to the state that they are trying to raise the funds on their own.

A decision would need to be made by Aug. 7 in order for the proposal to appear on the November ballot. It would also need to include East Thermopolis and Kirby.

Because this is a tourism project, economic development dollars cannot be earmarked for use, forcing the group to look to other avenues for funding. Tourism is not considered economic development.

"I personally favor this proj-

ect and support it," Lumley said, "but I just don't think it's the right time."

"I think the first priority we need to fund is a hospital district," chairman Brad Basse said. "I don't want to see something like this get in the way. I have no idea if we're going to get the hospital or not, but it has to be a priority."

Blakey and Darlington said they would return to the commissioners at another time to visit more at length about the project.

Liquor license

In other business, the commissioners held a public hearing on a restaurant liquor license application made by the Wind River Canyon Grill.

Darren Calhoun, one of the partners in the business that is

See Tax on page 11

How many is that?



Natalie Zupan gives a fierce look of determination as she competes in the Dairyland Fourth of July Hot Dog Eating Contest. Paul Anthony Vargas won the event for the second year in a row, consuming 10 hot dogs. Zach Anderson had the second highest with nine. — J.D. Stetson photo

School budget public hearing Wednesday

by Joe Sovia

Patrons in Hot Springs County School District No. 1 will see minimal changes in the fiscal year (FY) 2013 budget compared to the budget for the just completed 2011-12 school year. Good news is the district does not have to dip into reserves in order to balance the budget like it did for FY2012.

Trustees will hold a public hearing on the proposed budget at 8 p.m. next Wednesday, July 18 in the boardroom at the administration building. The board will convene at 7 p.m. on that date for its regular monthly meeting and adjourn to go into the public hearing. When the hearing is concluded, trustees will return to their regular meeting and adopt the FY2013 budget (ending June 30, 2013).

Avoiding a special meeting later in the month,

trustees approved budget amendments during the June 21 regular meeting.

With the budget amendments included, outgoing school district business manager Lisa Pearce is proposing a general fund budget of about \$10.823 million for FY2013. That is about \$800,000 less than for the 2011-12 school year, but that budget included capital construction funds that are not part of the general fund for the new budget.

"The budget is right where we anticipated it to be," said Pearce, who was to complete her work with the district this week before she and her family move to Kodiak, Alaska. "It's not going to be a 'flush' year, but it's (the budget) very workable."

She summarized the budget amendments that

See Budget on page 11

Ranch Rodeo action



CJ Nye attempts to rope a cow in order for his teammates from the High Mountain Ranch to catch the bovine and milk it during the Wild Cow Milking event Saturday night

during the Lions 22nd Annual Ranch Rodeo at the Hot Springs County Fairgrounds. See page 6 for Ranch Rodeo results. — J.D. Stetson photo

Republican Party forum Monday

The Hot Springs County Republican Party will host a forum Monday at the commissioners' chambers at the county annex building in Thermopolis. The party's regular monthly meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. and the hour-long forum follows at 7 p.m.

Mike Gular is the new HSC Republican Party committee chairman. He is filling the term of Nathan Winters, who stepped down since he is a candidate for House District 28 in the upcoming election. Gular, who had been the committee's vice chairman, will serve until the annual election of officers in March.

According to Gular, House District 28 candidates Winters and Echo Renner have con-

firmed they would participate in the forum. The other Republican candidate is Roland Luehne, whose attendance was unconfirmed.

Gular said Thomas Bleming of Lusk, who is running for the U.S. Senate seat held by Sen. John Barrasso, would attend the forum. Barrasso is seeking reelection, and Emmett A. Mavy of Alpine is the other Republican on the ticket. Neither Barrasso nor Mavy is expected to attend.

Candidates present will answer a few questions from the committee. A question-and-answer session involving the audience will follow.

Everyone is invited to attend the forum.

H.O.G. rally bound for Thermopolis next year

by Cindy Glasson

The rumble of engines will fill the air next summer with the arrival of the Wyoming Harley Owners Group (H.O.G.), July 11-13, 2013.

Jenni Dorman of Thermopolis traveled to Laramie recently to approach the H.O.G. selection committee about bringing their 20th anniversary convention and rally to Hot Springs County, a decision that was made unanimously by the board.

"I gave them a presentation about Thermopolis," Dorman said. "It was in front of the whole committee, including the regional president, and they voted unanimously to come here next summer."

Dorman said Wyoming is part of an eight-state Regional H.O.G. that also includes states like Colorado, Idaho, Montana and Utah.

Representatives of H.O.G.

See H.O.G. on page 11

Budget

factored into the overall budget. “There are not very many,” Pearce said of the amendments. “They were mostly special ed (education) placements.” Another amendment results in the adoption of a new physical education curriculum in the amount of \$40,000. A budget amendment was adopted to allow the district to deal with the third round of energy audit grants, which have resulted in a substantial improvement in energy efficiency. That, in turn, will save the district money for heating and air conditioning for years to come. District patrons have had 30 days to review the proposed budget and they have final input at next Wednesday’s budget hearing.

Mill levies unchanged
Pearce expects the Board of

Cooperative Education Services mill levies to remain the same; they are one-half mill (.500) for Northwest BOCES and the same levy for Fremont County BOCES. CWC Board of Cooperative Higher Education Services (BOCHES) is also expected to stay the same, at one-quarter mill (.250). The mill levy for Special District Tax would be 25 mills and 6 mills for County School Tax – both the same as for the 2011-12 school year. The Recreation Board mill levy would stay the same at 1 mill. Assessed valuation for the county went up last year, coming in at about \$223.3 million. Valuation is going up again, expected to be about \$248 million for FY2013. That means more money is generated for the local school district since there will be an increase in tax collections.

In looking at other funding areas in the district, Special Revenue is about \$1.1 million in the FY2013 budget, nearly identical to 2011-12. The Capital Construction fund has about \$625,000, which is about \$400,000 less than 2011-12. Pearce indicated an increase in the Major Maintenance fund for FY2013; the projection is for \$850,000. That money is based on square footage of district buildings and several other factors. Approximate amounts of other district funds for FY2012: Debt Service, \$287,000; Food Service, \$422,000; Insurance Trust, \$1.65 million; Scholarship, \$30,000; Pupil Activity, \$210,000; and Recreation District, \$244,000. District patrons are invited to attend the July 18 budget hearing and provide their input before the adoption of the FY2013 budget.

Tuesday wreck



No injuries were reported in a collision Tuesday afternoon on the corner of 13th and Broadway streets. A semi-truck and trailer belonging to McGarvin-Moberly Construction, traveling west on Broadway, struck an unoccupied parked vehicle, dragging it underneath the trailer, around the corner onto 13th and shearing off a fire hydrant below ground level. – Cindy Glasson photo

H.O.G.

in Belgium and Australia were also at the Laramie convention and told Dorman they have plans to attend next year, too. The convention could bring in more than 300 Harley-Davidson owners. Dorman said some activities have already been discussed, including a parade with an opening ceremony, a street dance, bike show in Hot Springs State Park and a poker walk down-

town that would include all the local businesses. “They really want to include the community in all their activities,” Dorman said. “State H.O.G. rallies offer great reasons to ride and experience the United States,” said Eric Keyes, a national member with H.O.G. Chapter 2165 in Cheyenne. Rallies are created, planned and implemented by Wyoming H.O.G. members.

Keyes indicated dates of H.O.G. rallies and registration information are listed in Hog Tales and on website www.hog.com. To give the group an even better idea of the facilities and activities available in the area, a group of about 20 H.O.G. members will arrive for Labor Day weekend in September. – Joe Sovo contributed to this article.

Tax

located at the former Wolf Creek Store in Wind River Canyon, told the commissioners he and his partners have completed all the paperwork for the state and showed the layout of the proposed enterprise. Calhoun, who is also the owner of Wind River Canyon Whitewater, said the new business would be primarily a restaurant with an outdoor kitchen in the summer months. They would like to

serve alcohol with meals, and neither he nor his partners have any interest in making the business a bar. Commissioner Mike Baker expressed concern over liquor being served, combined with a drive through the canyon, a concern with which the other commissioners concur. “If it starts heading in that direction we will adjust our plan accordingly,” Calhoun said. “We

just want to offer people a nice place to eat.” Calhoun said they do not plan to open until their food permit is acquired, and they are waiting on the go-ahead from both the fire inspector and health inspector. After approving the liquor license, the commissioners commented, saying they have to rely on all establishments with liquor licenses to monitor their customers.

Cottonwood/Grass Creek WID

BUDGET REPORT FOR
FISCAL YEAR ENDING 06/30/13

FINAL BUDGET SUMMARY

	Prior Year <u>Actual</u>	Current Year <u>Estimated</u>	Proposed <u>Budget</u>	Final <u>Approval</u>
1. Total Expenditures, Cash Requirements	\$9,798	\$522	\$198,520	\$0
2. Total to be added to Reserves	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3. Total Cash and Anticipated Revenues	\$12,570	\$3,522	\$201,000	\$0
4. Additional Financial Support required	-\$2,772	-\$3,000	-\$2,480	\$0
5. Amount as approved by County Commissioners	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Analysis of additional Financial Support Required:

	Prior Year <u>Actual</u>	Current Year <u>Estimated</u>	Proposed <u>Budget</u>	Final <u>Approval</u>
6. Tax levy (for entities able to make levies)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
7. Other County Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Additional funding approved by:

County Commissioner

Date Approved

BUDGET MESSAGE per W.S. 16-4-104 (c)

This budget reflects the completion of improvement projects by producers within the watershed. There will be no assessments in 2012-2013.

Submitted by: Cottonwood/Grass Creek WID

Title: Treasurer

/s/ Dee J. Hillberry

Date adopted by Special District

The annual budget meeting for the Cottonwood/Grass Creek WID will be held at 2:00 p.m. July 18, 2012 at the Hot Springs County Weed & Pest office.

Pub. July 12, 2012

No. 6614

Public notices

PUBLIC NOTICE			
Rocky Mountain Power (RMP) has received authority from the Wyoming Public Service Commission (Commission) to recover deferred net power costs (NPC) through its Energy Cost Adjustment Mechanism (ECAM) in the amount of \$29.3 million, on an interim basis, effective May 15, 2012. These interim rates will remain in effect until final rates are approved by the Commission. The interim increase is subject to refund with interest if the final rate increase is less than the interim increase or to additional collection if the final rate increase is greater than the interim increase. The Commission's interim approval of these rates does not prejudice or restrict any party with respect to any issues which might be raised in connection with the Commission's determination of the final ECAM rate increase.			
NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING			
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held at 415 Springview, Thermopolis, Wyoming on the 18th day of July, 2012 at eight o'clock p.m. The purpose of this hearing is consideration and adoption of the proposed budget for Hot Springs County School District #1 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013. At this time any and all interested persons may appear and be heard respecting such budget.			
These budget considerations are based on an estimated assessed valuation of \$248,274,680.			
The primary reason for interim approval is to allow the Commission's Staff and intervening parties to make a thorough review of RMP's application.			
RMP stated this deferred NPC adjustment results from a number of factors including, the most noteworthy of which are a decline in wholesale electricity prices during the deferral period (December 1, 2010, through September 21, 2011), as compared to the wholesale electricity prices included in Base NPC, which resulted in RMP making more wholesale purchases in the market, generating less energy from its coal and natural gas thermal units, and making fewer wholesale sales transactions.			
The interim ECAM price changes proposed by RMP are:			
The average Residential customer using 100 kWh in May 2012 may expect an increase of \$0.21 or about 8.6% before taxes. Actual bills will vary with usage. Customers served under other service schedules should contact RMP for details on how the changes will affect them.			
This is not a complete description of RMP's application. Customers with questions about how this application could affect their electricity bills should contact RMP directly for further information. Interested persons may inspect the application during regular business hours at the Commission's offices in Cheyenne, Wyoming, and at RMP's Wyoming service centers in Casper (Casper Service Center and Casper Region Office), Cody, Evanston, Laramie, Pinedale, Rawlins, Riverton, Rock Springs, and Worland. The application and its supporting testimony and exhibits may also be reviewed on the internet at http://www.pacificorp.com .			
If you wish to communicate with the Commission and require reasonable accommodation for a disability, call the Commission at (307) 777-7427, or write to the Commission at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002. Communications impaired persons may also contact the Commission by accessing Wyoming Relay at 711. Please mention Docket No. 20000-410-EP-12 when you call or write.			
Dated: June 29, 2012.			
Pub. July 12 and 19, 2012			No. 6610
NOTICE OF SALE			
There is a 1986 Ford Ranger, Red, VIN# 1FTBR10C1GUC73224 that will be sold at Sheriff's public auction on the front steps of the Hot Springs County Courthouse on July 17, 2012, at 11:00 a.m. This sale is to satisfy a lien against Seymour Butler for storage and/or repair on the above listed vehicle by Mikki Martinez in the amount of \$1,500.00 and all reasonable sale expenses.			
Pub. July 5 and 12, 2012			No. 6597
LUCERNE WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT P.O. BOX 611 THERMOPOLIS, WY 82443 ***** PUBLIC NOTICE *****			
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Public Hearing on the Final Budget for the Lucerne Water and Sewer District for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 will be held at the District's Office located at 918 Nakamura Lane, Thermopolis , Wyoming, on the 17th day of July 2012 at 6:00 p.m., at which time any and all Lucerne Water and Non Water Users interested may attend and be heard on the Final Budget.			
LUCERNE WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT			
Pub. July 12, 2012			No. 6607