

Arapahoe Street to be closed downtown Monday, Tuesday **5**

Lady Bobcats finish fourth at Border War Tournament **6**

Gray wolves to come off Endangered Species List **11**

Destination America films feature for cable channel **14**

Thermopolis  
Hot Springs

# Independent Record

SPECIAL INTERNET PREVIEW

VOLUME 113, No. 36, September 6, 2012

THERMOPOLIS, WY 82443

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## Friends of the NRA banquet Saturday

by Joe Sovo  
Tickets are going fast for the fifth annual Hot Springs Friends of NRA (National Rifle Association) Banquet, set for Saturday evening at the Hot Springs County Fair Building. The event will commemorate the 20th anniversary of Friends of NRA.  
Doors open at 5 p.m. for games and a social hour. A catered prime rib dinner begins at 7 p.m. Members of NRA and nonmembers are welcome to attend.  
Cynthia Garbin, chair of the Hot Springs Friends of NRA committee, said she was anticipating a flurry of ticket sales leading up to the banquet.  
“It’s looking like the tickets are selling really fast,” Garbin said. As of Tuesday afternoon, there were still some banquet tickets available.  
Only 150 banquet tickets are available and Garbin said the event could be sold out with no tickets available at the door.  
Cost is \$35 per person or \$25 for children 14 and under.

A pre-banquet raffle is now underway and there were only a handful of tickets available Tuesday. The prize is a Taurus Protector .357 Magnum handgun with a polymer hybrid frame. Only 100 tickets will be sold. Tickets are \$10 each.  
Advance tickets and pre-banquet raffle tickets are available at Canyon Sporting Goods and Storyteller in Thermopolis or from Hot Springs Friends of NRA members, including vice chair Patty Stegman, Cynthia Garbin (921-8304) or treasurer Paul Garbin (921-8303).  
“As in previous years, we’re hoping everyone enjoys themselves,” Cynthia Garbin said. “We’ll have some new games this year and some familiar ones.”  
**Live and silent auctions**  
Featured during the evening will be raffles, and live and silent auctions. Items to be auctioned include guns, pistols, knives, paintings, other forms

See NRA on page 10

## Fall WYO Quarter Horse Sale Saturday

The 12th annual Fall WYO Quarter Horse sale starts at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Hot Springs County Fairgrounds.  
The fall sale is the second and final sale of 2012, featuring 93 horses total. The breakdown of horses include 32 broke geldings, 28 2-year-olds, 10 yearlings and 18 weanlings.  
All the animals are home-raised horses from the Bill and Carole Smith Ranch or the Bartlett Ranch.  
In May, the overall average price for the horses was \$9,227. The geldings averaged \$12,019, the 2-year-olds averaged \$3,494 and the yearlings averaged \$2,420.  
Last fall, 34 geldings were sold, averaging \$8,213, and 23 2-year-olds, which averaged \$2,958.  
Carole Smith said anticipation for the sale thus far has

been very good. The ranch has received various calls and catalog requests and has been featured twice on television.  
The summer drought that has skyrocketed feed prices for livestock is not expected to affect the gelding market, but may affect the market for the younger stock, such as the yearlings and weanlings, Smith said.  
Events for the sale start Friday at 7 p.m. for the Parade of Geldings where potential buyers can meet the crew and get their first look at the horses. Refreshments will be served.  
Saturday at 9 a.m. will be the performance preview of the roping and trail class horses. The actual sale will start promptly at 1 p.m.  
For more information about the sale, call the Smiths at 864-5671 or visit [www.wyohorses.com](http://www.wyohorses.com).

## Fill the Boot for muscular dystrophy



Thermopolis volunteer firemen worked Monday to “Fill the Boot” for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, standing at the spotlight taking donations from passersby. Forrest Coleman-Weisz and Jim Andreen take donations

from Mattie and Hannah Andreen along with their mother Celly Andreen at the corner of Broadway and Sixth streets. “Fill the Boot” corresponds with the MDA Telethon every Labor Day Weekend. — Cindy Glasson photo

## Hospital board continues legislative push

### Process of getting hospital district question on election ballot discussed

by J.D. Stetson  
The Hot Springs County Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees continues to work toward a legislative solution to simplifying the process to place the question of a hospital district on the ballot.  
Hospital CEO Robin Roling stressed during the board’s Aug. 28 meeting the goal of the initiative is to give the citizens of the county the choice of taking on the additional property tax mill levy that will be involved with the formation of a hospital district.  
Roling said it is extremely important for the voters to decide whether to take on this burden, and they should have the opportunity to make the decision by placing the issue on the ballot.  
Hot Springs County Commissioner John Lumley also attended the meeting as the county’s liaison. Lumley stated the commissioners and the hospital have had dialogue with Gov. Matt Mead regarding the issue and that the commissioners would take the issue to the Wyoming County Commissioners Association (WACO) conference later this month.

Roling said Mead was intrigued by the issue, which is not limited to Hot Springs County but also other counties in the state. She also said the upcoming general session of the legislature is facing other medical related issues stemming from the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, and state Medicaid.  
The hospital continues to drum support for the issue locally and through various members of the legislature.  
Lumley and Roling reported Sen. Gerald Geis has shown support for a legislative review of the issue and has agreed to sponsor a bill to streamline the process of placing it on the ballot.  
The hospital’s understanding of the current law requires entities responsible for at least 25 percent of the county’s assessed valuation and 25 percent of property tax payers to be in support of the district before it can go on the ballot.  
Roling said she had learned the fire districts around the state also went through a similar process to streamline getting their districts on the ballot.  
The board discussed with Lumley the feasibility of presenting the issue to a committee in order for it to become a committee-sponsored bill, which the hospital believes would increase the probability of the bill passing the legislature.

See Hospital on page 10

## Touch of America



New flags, representative of the American flag, were recently erected near the entrance to Hot Springs State Park. High winds overnight, however, blew three of the flags down and State Park Superintendent, Kevin Skates, said the flags will be moved to a less windy area of the park. —Cindy Glasson photo

## Commissioners prep for airport ceremony

by Cindy Glasson  
The Hot Springs County Commissioners received an update on the airport project from GDA Engineers and discussed final plans for the groundbreaking ceremony scheduled for Sept. 13 at their meeting Tuesday.  
Dusty Spomer with GDA told the commissioners Phase 1 of the new airport project is ready to bid.  
“We have seven general contractors that have shown interest in bidding,” Spomer said.  
The pre-bid meeting was held on Wednesday at 2 p.m., and included a site visit.  
Spomer said his company had held a meeting with Charlie Holden on behalf of the landowner, Joe Holden, and while there were a few minor changes to how structures on the property will be moved or disposed of, at least the road situation had been figured out. Previously there had been some concern on where ingress and egress would be on the property.  
“We’re still looking at five

main things,” Spomer said, “right-of-way issues, cattle guards, fences, power and water issues that are still unresolved, but I’m confident those will be taken care of before Phase 2 starts.”  
Phase 2 of the project will be mostly drainage work, irrigation and dirtwork. GDA hopes to be able to take the second phase to bid during the first part of October.  
**Groundbreaking ceremony**  
The groundbreaking ceremony for the new airport will be held next Thursday, Sept. 13 at the airport site.  
The county was given grant money from the State Aeronautics Division to hold the ceremony, which will kick off at 12:15 p.m.  
A special tent will be set up on the property for the festivities and some ground leveling in the area will be done by the road and bridge department.

See Commissioners page 10

# NRA

of art and lots of unique NRA memorabilia. The live auction begins as the dinner is concluding.

Paul Garbin said there would be 16 firearms in the live and silent auctions and raffles.

Auction items include the 2012 NRA Gun of the Year – a Benelli Ultra Light 12-gauge shotgun, a Remington R1 1911 handgun and a Henry Golden Boy .22LR rifle. Brunton Epoch 10.5x43 top-of-the line binoculars valued at \$1,200 will also be on the auction block. Other items include a Weatherby Vanguard S2 Synthetic .300 WBY Magnum rifle and Smith & Wesson MP15 5.56MM NATO/.223 REM rifle.

The Friends of NRA 2012

Print of the Year will be among the live auction items, titled “Allegiance” by Cole Johnson. Friends of NRA collaborated with Johnson to form a distinctive piece to celebrate the programs 20 years of existence and support of shooting sports.

A chestnut handle Catskill Drop Point, the Friends of NRA 2012 Knife of the Year, will be auctioned, plus a Fred Boyer elk skull bronze, George Washington sculpture, Stone River Gear Drop Point Skinner, gun and pistol cases, an African safari and many more attractive items.

“One of the items people are getting excited about is a retro metal pedal car,” Cynthia Garbin said.

The exclusive Friends of NRA

Pedal Jeep is outfitted in rich American military symbolism, including a classic olive drab green finish.

Donations through the live and silent auctions are tax deductible since Friends of NRA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

### Banquet proceeds benefit shooting sports

Net proceeds from the annual local banquet go into a pool of funds raised statewide. Fifty percent of the money goes to the NRA Foundation to support the national Eddie Eagle program, safety courses, etc. The other 50 percent stays in Wyoming and is available for grants.

Paul Garbin said Friends of

from page 1

2011 NRA banquets in Wyoming grossed more than \$1 million and had a net of about \$600,000. Gross proceeds from last year’s event in Thermopolis were about \$33,000, and a net of \$13,000 went into the state fund.

Friends of NRA is the education safety arm of the NRA and provides financial support for youth shooting sports. Paul Garbin said the local contribution to 4-H has been about \$25,000 since Hot Springs Friends of NRA was established five years ago.

Most of the money goes to youth programs and the remainder to training and education, range development, women’s programs, conservation, special grants and endowments.



Sheriff Lou Falgoust and Eddie Eagle ride on the Thermopolis Gun Club float in the Gift of the Waters Parade. Eddie Eagle symbolizes the NRA Foundation's national program.

# Hospital

The discussion touched on having the board contact the Legislative Service Office to create a rough draft of the bill to present to a committee, and for the commissioners to take to the draft to the WACO conference. Lumley also made the recommendation to the board to approach the Thermopolis Town Council in order to present the issue to the Wyoming Association of Municipalities (WAM).

**Wyoming Integrated Care Network**  
Roling and Dr. Kurt Pettipiece, the hospital’s medical director, informed the board about a recent meeting in Worland concerning the Wyoming Integrated Care Network.

The network is intended to work with practitioners to enact plans included in the Affordable Care Act. The network works under a “patient-centered” model to reduce the number of

repeat hospital admissions and emergency care through proactive measures, such as screenings, promoting wellness and keeping in contact with patients.

Pettipiece said there is more of an effort in the state on the part of physicians’ practices to become involved with the network.

He said there are good and bad aspects of the network because it would decrease the number

of inpatient admissions, but it would positively affect outpatient services.

The goal would be to increase focus on the people who use the majority of hospital services and get them to a point where they are not consistently readmitted to the hospital, while also proactively contact and keep track of patients with chronic diseases such as diabetes or heart disease.

from page 1

# Commissioners

Temporary signage will help folks find the proper turn-off on Highway 120, and the sheriff’s department and highway patrol will help with traffic control in the area.

A permanent sign has been designed and will be constructed at the area at a later date, announcing the future home of Hot Springs

County Airport.

Among the dignitaries slated to attend the groundbreaking ceremony are Gov. Matt Mead and members of the aeronautics division and the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT). Commission Chairman Brad Basse will be the emcee for the afternoon.

### Other business

In other business, the commissioners signed a proclamation announcing Constitution Week, which falls from Sept. 17-23 this year.

According to Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Constitution Week Chairwoman Ruth Clare Johnson, special programs and packets of

fun information on the Constitution have been put together by the DAR for fifth-grade students in Thermopolis, Worland and Ten Sleep.

The commissioners also approved renewal of three liquor licenses in the county – Stones Throw, the Flying Dutchman and Wind River Grill, tentatively set to open this fall in Wind River Canyon.

from page 1

# School board hears development plan update, approve pool bid

by Joe Sovia

Curriculum Director Janet Philp gave trustees an update on the district’s Professional Development Plan during the Aug. 16 board meeting.

Also during the meeting, trustees accepted a \$4,000 bid from the Star Plunge for use of the facility for district pool activities. Superintendent Dustin Hunt reported a \$9,000 bid was received from TePee Pools. He discussed the increase in bid price with pool management and they said they’d consider another bid. In the meantime, a second bid for \$4,000 was received from the Star Plunge. After discussion, it was decided that in the future the use of pools would be opened for bid and that both businesses understand the district would move forward with the best bid for pool usage. With trustee Karen Leyba abstaining, a motion to accept the Star Plunge bid was accepted by a 5-0 vote.

Trustees also approved on first reading the revision of Policy GDC, Support Staff Leaves and Absences. They also gave the OK to an operating line of credit through Central Bank & Trust in the amount of \$1.5 million with a fixed rate of 3.25 percent for the term of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013 (fiscal year 2012-13) using school buses and other school-owned vehicles as security.

A request to allow a student to participate in two middle school classes for the 2012-13 school year was approved by trustees.

### Philp report

The district’s Curriculum Coordinating Council (CCC) provides oversight to the Professional Development Plan (PDP),

Philp stated in her report. She said team members review student achievement data, consider input from staff and give consideration to individual, school-level and district-wide goals.

“When you look at our plan you see a very strong focus,” Philp said.

Philp indicated the committee would consider the following sources of information:

- 1 – District goals (board of trustees)
- 2 – School improvement plans (district and school)
- 3 – District/school improvement survey (students, staff,

parents, community)  
4 – Student performance on PAWS, NWEA MAP and common assessments

5 – Technology plan and surveys

6 – Staff surveys

7 – Consolidated Grant plans  
According to Philp, district professional development initiatives, based on the needs assessment, are:

- 1 – Implementing K-12 collaboration based on Professional Learning Communities (PLC) principles
- 2 – K-12 standards-based

**SCHOOL MENU**  
Week of Sept. 10-14  
(Menu subject to changes)

**MONDAY** - Pizza, Cucumber, Mandarin Oranges, Peaches, Banana Pudding, Milk

**TUESDAY** - Baked Potato, Ham, Cheese Sauce, Roll, Lettuce, Corn, Grapes, Milk

**WEDNESDAY** - Sloppy Joes, Hamburger Bun, Potato Chips, Lettuce, Peas, Peaches, Milk

**THURSDAY** - Chicken Strips, Barbecue Sauce, Macaroni Salad, Sugar Snap Peas, Mandarin Oranges, Milk

**FRIDAY** - Hamburger Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Roll, Pineapple Slices, Chocolate Cake, Milk

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**Thurs., Sept. 6**  
7th/8th Volleyball vs. Worland, 4:30 p.m.

**Sat., Sept 8**  
7th Volleyball vs. Cody/Powell, Powell, 9:30 a.m.  
8th Volleyball vs. Cody/Powell, TMS, 9:30 a.m.  
7th/8th Football Jamboree at Lovell, 9:30 a.m.

**Tues., Sept 11**  
7th/8th Football vs. Cody, 4:30 p.m.

**Thurs., Sept 13**  
7th/8th Volleyball at Shoshoni, 4 p.m.

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**Quips & Health**  
By Tony Deromedi

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Sat., 9-2

**HSC High School**  
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1	2	3	4	5

**Thurs., Sept. 6**  
Volleyball vs. Lovell, F/4 p.m.  
JV/5 p.m. V/6 p.m.

**Fri., Sept. 7**  
Cross Country at Worland, 4:40 p.m.  
Football vs. Big Piney, 7 p.m.  
Volleyball at Big Horn Tournament, Big Horn, TBA  
Freshman Volleyball at Buffalo Tournament, Buffalo, TBA  
Golf, Buffalo Invite, TBA

**Sat., Sept. 8**  
Volleyball at Big Horn Tournament, Big Horn, TBA  
Golf, Buffalo Invite, TBA

**Thurs., Sept. 13**  
Cross Country at Lander Invitational, 4 p.m.

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**Isn't It Time?**

**Sunday School**  
**September 9 at 9 AM**  
All ages - Preschool through adult including a young adult class (Nursery Provided)

*Wednesday's*  
**Fellowship**  
**September 5 at 4-5:15 PM**  
(We will pick up your child at the elementary school)

**Youth PIZZA Fellowship**  
**September 5 at 6-7 PM**  
Open to all youth 5th grade through 12th

**Community Federated Church, Sixth and Big Horn**

**Groundbreaking Ceremony at the NEW Hot Springs County Airport**

**WHAT** Please plan to join us for lunch, a groundbreaking ceremony, and listen to speakers including: Governor Matt Mead, the FAA and WYDOT Aeronautics.

**WHERE** At the new airport site, located on the west side of the road, approximately 9 miles north of Thermopolis on Highway 120 (head towards Cody at the spotlight in Thermopolis and follow the signs).

**WHEN** At 12:15 p.m. on September 13, 2012.

**RSVP** Please RSVP to GDA Engineers via phone (307) 587-3411, or email: tparker@gdaengineers.com.