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State H.O.G. Rally to feature up to 400 riders

by Cindy Glasson

It won't actually be thunder, but the sound of Harley-Davidsons rolling into town next weekend for the 2013 Wyoming State Harley Owners Group (H.O.G.) Rally will certainly sound like it.

According to local organizer Jenni Dorman, there are 288 riders preregistered for the three-day rally and they are expecting up to 100 more registrations during the event.

Thursday

The rally will kick off Thursday, July 11 with a continental breakfast at Days Inn from 6:30 to 9:30 a.m., followed by registration from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A "walk about" poker run will be held throughout the day on Thursday at the downtown businesses, where participants will pick up playing cards at each store they visit in the hopes of collecting the winning hand.

Participants may also start the "ride about" poker run on Thursday, a 210-mile trip that will take them through Kirby, Worland, Ten Sleep, Greybull, Cody and Meeteetse. They will have until 2 p.m. Saturday to finish the run.

A charity bike wash, benefitting the Muscular Dystrophy Association, will be held on Thursday, Friday and Saturday throughout the day.

A parade of bikes is scheduled to start at Days Inn at 6 p.m. and wind its way through town to Owl Lumber, where opening ceremonies will begin at 7 p.m.

Friday

Things will really pick up on Friday with a couple of special events.

The "walk about" poker run and "ride about" will both continue on Friday as well as the charity bike wash.

The group will also be making a trip out to Legend Rock on Friday morning with off-bike games to be held starting at 3 p.m. at Days Inn.

Wyoming Whiskey will be hosting a meet and greet at its facility in Kirby at 6 p.m. with tours of the distillery and bottling area.

A special motorcycle, built by Harley-Davidson for Wyoming Whiskey, will be unveiled at the meet and greet.

Kip Attaway will then perform that evening from 8:30 to 11 p.m. at the Hot Springs State Park pavilion. The public is invited to attend the free concert, sponsored by Wyoming Whiskey.

Saturday

Fun and games continue on Saturday with a meet and greet pancake breakfast from 7 to 9:30 a.m. at the Eagles Club.

The public is invited to the all-you-can-eat breakfast which benefits Relay for Life. Cost will be \$7 for the breakfast.

There will be a bike show in the parking lot at Days Inn from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. and riders will be participating in traditional rally games on their motorcycles from 1 to 5 p.m. and finish out their stay in Thermopolis with a banquet, awards and closing ceremony that evening.

Dorman said the public is invited to come see all the activities.



Becky Harvey, her mother, Nina Carroll and her uncle, David Sanders all took a lap around the pavilion in Hot Springs State Park as part of the Survivors Lap at Relay for Life. All

three members of the family have survived their bout with cancer and walked to support the American Cancer Society this year. — Cindy Glasson photo



Relay for Life raises \$37,000

Eighty-eight people on nine teams take part in annual event

by Cindy Glasson

Although the monies raised were down this year, the 14th Annual Relay for Life event was a complete success last weekend

in Hot Springs State Park.

Relay Core chairman Shurie Scheel said the final amount raised was \$37,000 this year, down from the 2012 Relay, but fewer teams taking the challenge is the primary reason for the lower amount.

"We had nine teams this year," Scheel said, "and last year we had 12."

The luminary ceremony — honoring those who are fighting cancer or who have lost their battle — was well attended Friday night.

The names from each luminary purchased

were read aloud by Lea Schoenewald from the stage of the pavilion.

The 88 participants spent the rest of the evening walking and enjoying each other's company before the closing ceremony Saturday morning.

"This is my last year as chairman," Scheel said. "Next year Shawna Baumeister takes over as core chair."

"I just really want to say thank you to the community for all their support during my term."

Jumping right in



Boys take a flying leap into the water on a hot day at the Taylor home last week as part of the summer program presented by Gottsche Wellness. The triathlon included swimming, biking and running for boys and girls. — Cindy Glasson photo

Council OKs Farmers' Market

by J.D. Stetson

As crops begin to come close to harvest, the annual Farmers' Market downtown is preparing to start up at the end of July.

Sonja Becker requested at the Thermopolis Town Council meeting Tuesday to close Fifth Street between Broadway and the alley next to Pinnacle Bank each Saturday to host the Farmers' Market.

The street closure will start July 27 and will run from 7 to 11 a.m. Becker asked that the closures continue until Oct. 15, but said she was not sure the market will go that long.

The council did not take any action on the request because Public Works Director Ernie Slagle said his department would be happy to set out barrels to close the street.

Mayor Bill Malloy also directed town staff to provide access to open the town's public restrooms during the markets.

"I expect (the market) to get bigger every year," Malloy said.

Lodging Tax appointment

The council approved the appointment of Kevin Skates to the Hot Springs County Lodging Tax Board.

Mayor's Assistant Fred Crosby said the position had been advertised to fill the town-appointed position vacated by Jim Mills. The position requires the appointment be filled by someone who works in the tourism or lodging industry.

The town only received one application for the appointment, which was from Skates, who is the Hot Springs State Park superintendent.

Water projects

The town had originally included on its agenda a request to pay off a state loan with a remaining payoff of \$21,300.

Instead, town staff recommended not to pay off the remainder of the loan due to a possible water project to increase water pressure to areas of town leading off the recently installed water line connecting the town to the Owl Creek Water District.

Crosby explained that a T and valve were installed so that the town could eventually tap into the line to give better water pressure to the Meadowlark subdivision and other areas.

Staff said the item was not included in the recently enacted budget, but the currently existing line will be functional in the upcoming months.

The town chose to not take any action on the loan and instead allow town staff to focus on the waterline tie-in.

Crosby also notified the town that the State Loan and Investment Board (SLIB) approved a \$350,000 grant, which requires \$350,000 in matching funds, for replacement of a water line from Broadway Street up to the airport water tanks.

Town Engineer Heath Overfield said work is on schedule for the Broadway East water project. Work is expected to start on the 14th Street water project within the month.

The 14th Street project starts near Clark Street and continues south to Canyon Hills Road and then east to Highway 120. He said the goal for the project is to proceed past Thermopolis Middle School before school starts in late August.

Pheasants Forever banquet a success

The first Pheasants Forever banquet in Hot Springs County was a rousing success, according to organizer Gene Boehmke.

Seventy-five people attended the first-ever event at Days

Inn Saturday night, enjoying games, music, dinner and a silent auction.

Boehmke said they raised a little over \$13,000.

"We couldn't be happier," Boehmke said. "This enabled

us to go ahead with both programs we have scheduled."

The two programs include a hunter safety class in September or October, and a pheasant hunt when the season opens sometime in November.