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Thermopolis
Hot Springs

Independent Record

SPECIAL INTERNET PREVIEW

VOLUME 114, No. 40, October 3, 2013

THERMOPOLIS, WY 82443

USPS 627-300

75¢

Core State Standards meeting slated Oct. 10

A presentation on Wyoming's Common Core State Standards will be featured Thursday, Oct. 10 at the armory building in Thermopolis, beginning at 7 p.m.

These are the standards that Wyoming has adopted for the education of our children. Along with the standards, Wyoming has agreed to provide student growth data on students to the U.S. Department of Education and other stakeholders. These standards will eventually have an affect on all students, public, private and home schooled.

"If you do not know about these standards or the data collection on students this would be an excellent presentation to attend to become more educated," said presentation organizer Amber Galovich.

There will be three featured

speakers. Amy Edmonds is a former Wyoming state legislator and is very knowledgeable on the subject. Kelly Simone and Erin Geving will be presenting on the data collection on students. It has been said that Simone and Geving are probably the most knowledgeable in the state with regard to data collection and student assessments.

Elected public officials have received personal invitations, including the Hot Springs County School District Board of Trustees, Rep. Nathan Winters and Sen. Gerald Gies.

Parents, grandparents, teachers, administrators and anyone who is interested in the education of our children are encouraged to attend and educate themselves on the subject.

County, districts earn development award

*Entities collaborate
to get \$9.7 million
in various funding*

A partnership between Hot Springs County, the Owl Creek Water District and the South Thermopolis Water and Sewer District has earned the entities the honor of the 2013 Wyoming Chapter of National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (WyoNAHRO) Outstanding Community Development Award.

Greg Hancock, organization president, said the entities worked together to successfully secure \$9,727,989 in funding from various sources, including the Wyoming Business Council Community Development Block Grant Program, the U.S. Department of the Agriculture Rural Development, the Wyoming Water Development Com-

mission and the State Loan and Investment Board.

As a result of the projects, 209 individuals in 90 homes will have improved fire flows, improved sewer service, increased water pressure and potable water, Hancock said.

The projects also improve the capability of further housing and economic development northwest and south of town.

"WyoNAHRO and the Wyoming Business Council applaud Hot Springs County, the Owl Creek and South Thermopolis districts for their tenacity in pursuing multiple resources, forming partnerships and being committed to the long processes and forward thinking that projects of this magnitude require," Hancock said.

The county and the districts were presented the award during the organization's banquet Sept. 26.

Homecoming royalty



Homecoming royalty for 2013, left to right, junior attendants, Michal Moon and Zackery Hurley, king Dylan Shaffer and queen Ivy Paris, senior attendants Jared Mohr-Leiva, Victoria Anderson and Kaden Wood, and sophomore attendants Janell Harvey and Cody Boss. Seated are freshman attendants, Jake Maksin and Hannah Weyer.

4-H Week highlighted by Oct. 13 carnival

by Cindy Glasson

Oct. 6-12 is National 4-H Week across the country. 4-H, the largest youth development organization in the world, is a community of seven million young people across the globe learning leadership, citizenship and life skills.

In Hot Springs County there are 74 young people and 30 active volunteer leaders who make up 4-H. They are spread out among four community clubs.

4-H isn't just about raising animals or living in the country. With something for everyone, 4-H has activities and programs of interest that cover everything from aerospace to youth leadership. There are travel opportunities available through 4-H as well.

Don't see anything 4-H offers that you think you'd be interested in? There are always "self determined" projects you can do

through 4-H as well. Self determined projects can be developed for just about anything young people may be interested in.

To celebrate National 4-H Week, Hot Springs County 4-H will be hosting a carnival for everyone in Hot Springs County. The event is sponsored by the Hot Springs County 4-H Council.

On Sunday, Oct. 13, from 2 to 6 p.m., everyone is invited to Thermopolis Middle School where there will be inflatables, carnival games, Frisbee spin art and concessions, including cotton candy, funnel cakes, Sno Cones, hot dogs, nachos and more.

Carnival tickets will be four for \$1. You

can also buy a wristband (good for all carnival games and inflatables) at a cost of \$25 for the first child, \$23 for the second and \$21 for each additional child (immediate family members only).

New members who sign up that day will receive free carnival tickets. Anyone bringing a canned good will receive free tickets, too, and so will current members who bring along a prospective new 4-H member. The canned goods will be donated to NOWCAP.

In order to join 4-H you must turn 8 years old by Jan. 1, 2014, but children of all ages are encouraged to come have some fun at the carnival.



**NATIONAL
OCTOBER 6-12, 2013
4-H WEEK**

Thermop firefighters educate youth for Fire Prevention Week

*Learning escape
routes, how to use
911 to be featured*

The Thermopolis Volunteer Fire Department will be busy next week educating children in the community about fire prevention and protection.

Fire Prevention Week starts Mon-

day, Oct. 7 and the sessions will continue through Thursday.

For the 2013 Fire Prevention Week, firefighters will be making stops at Head Start, Children's Resource Center, Risen

Son Christian School, Ralph Witters Elementary, Moms and Tots and Hot Springs County Library. Various grades will also get the opportunity to visit the Fire Hall for demonstrations.

Some of the demonstrations include seeing the firefighter's gear, learning escape routes from a fire, 911 information, flammable substances, Stop Drop and Roll and using the fire truck hose to spray water.

Soup and bread supper



Three-year-old Rhiannon Goffena joins organizer Hannah Bird for a bowl of chili during the first soup and bread supper at Community Federated Church on Monday evening. The supper is held on the last Monday of the month through the fall and winter. — Joe Sova photo

Lights On events heat up October

by Joe Sova

Lights On Afterschool activities in Hot Springs County School District No. 1 are heating up with several events scheduled for October.

According to Lights On program coordinator Jenny Davis, the second session of the Math Counts Family Math Camp for Ralph Witters Elementary (RWE) students is set for Monday, Oct. 7. There is a Lights On co-alition meeting Oct. 9, specifically for the parent advisory group. A field trip for RWE students who are registered with Lights On is featured Friday, Oct. 11.

The big event for the month is the National Afterschool Celebration on Thursday, Oct. 17 at RWE.

On Friday, Oct. 18, a field trip for Thermopolis Middle School (TMS) students in Lights On is scheduled.

Lights On students will be involved in a Halloween costume science experiment on Halloween, which is Thursday, Oct. 31 to close out the month.

Davis said Math Counts funding was written into the "cohort 8" grant that the school district is receiving.

"We felt really strongly about it. Parents want students to be successful," she said. "It's important to put power in parents' hands."

As a resource, Davis and her Lights On assistants put together kits from WriteSource for students that they can use at home. "Parents have those tools they need," she said. "We want them to be as successful as they can."

The second session of Math Counts begins with a dinner at 5:30 p.m. Monday at RWE and the session begins at 6 p.m. Teachers meet with parents, and the students are invited to attend. Davis said there is partnering with teachers as they offer a monthly Family Night at RWE; each grade level hosts one during the school year. Par-

ents can pick up Math Counts kits during Family Night activities; there is no Family Night in December and May.

Davis said she would like to write Math Counts for middle school and high school students into a future grant for funding.

"It's been a really worthwhile activity and a resource for parents," she said of Math Counts.

Davis spoke about the coalition meeting Oct. 9, held at the home economics room in the district's vo-tech building. The Lights On program will be discussed and grant information will be shared with coalition members.

The Oct. 11 field trip takes RWE's Lights On students to the SonHarvest Seasons corn maze and pumpkin patch north of Riverton.

For the Oct. 18 field trip, TMS' Lights On students go to Lungren Girls' Farm corn maze and pumpkin patch at Worland.

The local observation of the National Afterschool Celebration begins at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 17 at RWE. Lights On programming and opportunities for students will be featured with a video. The 2013-14 theme is "Harness the Wind, Energize the Future." Students will be building windmills and wind turbines, and they will be displayed during the celebration. There will be an ice cream buffet. Students will then "light up the sky" with their paper lantern fundraiser and send-off.

Other specific Lights On activities this month: Oct. 7, raking leaves for community members; Oct. 21, a science experiment; and Oct. 28, TMS opened to preschool students and parents to show them a science experiment that pertains to Halloween.

"It's important for students to give back to their community and learn 21st century skills," Davis said.