

Bobcat pride in Thermopolis

by Chandler Smith
The 2015 Hot Springs County High School Homecoming Parade will start Friday at 10:45 a.m. from behind the high school on Senior Avenue and proceed to Arapahoe Street past 4th Street and Springview. The parade will then take a left onto 5th Street, immediately followed by a right onto Broadway.
From there the parade will go to 6th Street (at the stoplight), where it will turn around and travel back down Broadway passing 5th and 4th streets before taking a left on 3rd Street where it will draw to a close at the high school.

Friday is spirit dress up day at the high school. Cross Country will be hosting the Bobcat Invitational starting at 1 p.m. at the Thermopolis Golf Course.
The Thermopolis FFA will hold its annual Homecoming Steak Dinner from 5:30-7 p.m. Friday before the Homecoming football game.
Dinner will be served to ticket purchasers from 5:30-6:30 in the high school commons, and from 6:30-7 p.m. for those who did not purchase tickets.
Tickets are available from Thermopolis FFA members or FFA advisor Britton Van Heule. Dinner consists of a 10oz sirloin, a po-

tato, corn on the cob, brownies and a drink.
For more information, contact Van Heule at 864-6501.
The Bobcats Homecoming football game is Friday night. The 2-2 Bobcats will face off against Burns at 7 p.m. at the high school football field.
Lady Cats Volleyball is at home Saturday against Shoshoni with 9th beginning at 1 p.m., junior varsity at 2 p.m. followed by varsity at 3 p.m. at the high school gym.
The Homecoming Dance will finish off Bobcat Homecoming activities Saturday from 9 p.m.-midnight in the high school commons.



photo by Lara Love

Go minnow, go!

As the water goes flying, Anne Ivie, left, encourages her minnow to swim faster against her opponent during the minnow races at Octobrewfest Saturday.

Hospital Board hears compliance education talk

by Chandler Smith
To open the board meeting, Cheri Benander, Director of Compliance Consulting Services from HealthTech, gave a presentation about compliance education. Compliance education, according to Benander, not only protects the care giver, but also those that receive it. In order to prevent costly lawsuits that may prevent the hospital from receiving federal support for Medicare and Medicaid acts, it also allows the hospital to reduce fraud and abuse, enhance operations, and improve quality of care.
Among the most important laws Benander covered in her presentation include the Physician Self-Referral Law, the Anti-Kickback Statute, and the False Claims Act. These laws prohibit submitting claims for false illnesses or patients and prohibit physicians from referring patients to receive health services payable by Medicare and Medicaid to family members.
In order to prevent violations of compliance policies, Benander encouraged the board to develop a plan to stay informed and encouraged the board to get employees to ask questions about possible violations.
According to Benander, laws are written in a confusing manner, and intent does not have to be proven in order to convict someone. However, with the formation of a compliance committee, open lines of communication between staff, education and training, and enforcing rules and discipline, violations are easy to avoid.
Benander encouraged board members to organize orientation for new members as well as focused topic presentations on interesting subjects to solidify the hospital's compliance with all applicable laws.
Benander finished her presentation by stating that she was impressed with how the hospital has taken her suggestions and enforced proper compliance.
Among other business conducted was the motion to go forward with a bid to renew the Master Facility Plan. The board will ask the county commissioner for the \$28,000 plus expenses necessary for the renewal at the upcoming count commissioner meeting.

Dog park grand opening set for Oct. 10

by Chandler Smith
The grand opening of the 4-H Riverbend Bark Park will be held on Saturday, Oct. 10, in correlation with National 4-H Week.
The Mustang 4-H Club came up with the idea to build a dog park in town for both residents and tourists to Hot Springs State Park, creating a fenced in area that would allow dogs to run and have fun while allowing their owners to be worry-free.
From the park's inception, members of the Mustang 4-H club have raised all of the necessary funds through fundraising, grants from the Wyoming 4-H Community Fund, Central Bank & Trust Community Fund and through presentations to other

groups in Thermopolis.
The idea for the park started out with 12 dedicated 4-H members and their parents, who organized and undertook almost all of the construction for the Bark Park.
The park has received an overwhelming amount of support from the community, including Hot Springs State Park, which dedicated the land and some equipment for the park, and former 4-H Dog Leader Gayla Mead, who helped the kids pick out appropriate equipment for the park.
The dog park, which is located on the west bank of the Bighorn River near Hot Springs State Park, will be opened at 9 a.m. on Saturday.

Local veterinarian Dr. Kevin Dickey will attend the opening celebration to talk about dog obesity and the importance of up-to-date vaccination for pets. His son, Luke, will attend with his famous homemade dog biscuits that won purple ribbons at both the local and state fair. Dr. Kevin Dickey has also donated two \$50 gift certificates for services at Owl Creek Veterinary Services.
There will be a drawing for a doggie gift basket and free collapsible dog water bowls will be given to the first 25 dogs at Saturday's grand opening. Snacks and refreshments will be available for dogs and humans alike.

