News briefs from around Wyoming

From Wyoming News Exchange newspapers

LCCC makes Time magazine's list of best community colleges

CHEYENNE (WNE) — Laramie County Community College has been recognized as one of America's Best Community Colleges for 2027 by Time magazine, placing the college among a select group of institutions nationwide recognized for student success, educational quality and workforce impact, according to an LCCC news release.

LCCC was one of only two Wyoming community colleges included on the 2027 list. (The Northern Wyoming Community College District is the other.)

The annual ranking evaluates community colleges across the country using a variety of measures related to student outcomes, access, affordability and institutional effectiveness. The recognition highlights colleges that are creating meaningful opportunities for students while helping meet the workforce and economic development needs of their communities.

"We are honored to be recognized among America's Best Community Colleges for 2027," LCCC President Joe Schaffer said in the release. "This distinction reflects the outstanding work of our faculty and staff and, most importantly, the success of our students. Every day, we see lives transformed through education, training, and opportunity."

LCCC serves thousands of students each year through academic transfer programs, career and technical education, workforce training, dual and concurrent enrollment opportunities and applied bachelor's degree programs. The college partners closely with industry, community organizations and K-12 schools to support workforce development and economic vitality throughout Wyoming.

The complete list of America's Best Community Colleges for 2027 is available through Time magazine.

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Yellowstone sets October visitation record

CASPER (WNE) — October visitation at Yellowstone National Park set a new monthly record, pushing the park's year-to-date total slightly ahead of last year's pace. But despite the late-season increase, Yellowstone is unlikely to surpass its annual visitation record.

The park recorded 345,383 recreation visits in October, a 10% increase over October 2025, when 313,959 visits were recorded, according to National Park Service figures released Nov. 16.

October's total also was 9% higher than the 316,662 visits recorded in October 2021, the year Yellowstone set its annual record.

Through Oct. 31, Yellowstone had recorded 4,705,683 recreation visits, compared with 4,701,505 during the same period in 2025. The difference is 4,178 visits, an increase of less than 1%, according to the National Park Service.

The 2026 total puts Yellowstone ahead of last year's pace and within reach of its second-busiest year on record. But it remains well behind 2021, when the park recorded 4,860,242 recreation visits for the year.

Yellowstone would need another 154,560 visits in November and December to break that record. That appears unlikely given the sharp seasonal decline in visitation.

The park's busiest months typically fall between June and September, with July and August drawing the largest crowds. October generally marks a substantial drop in visitation as temperatures fall and seasonal road closures begin.

Yellowstone's annual visitation record has risen substantially over the past decade. The park first surpassed 4 million visits in 2015, then set a new record in 2021 with more than 4.86 million. Visitation fell to about 3.3 million in 2022, when historic flooding forced the park to close for more than a week in June, before climbing above 4.5 million in 2023.

Even if 2026 falls short of the record, the year's total is on pace to rank second in Yellowstone's history.

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Public notices

REQUEST FOR BIDS
TO MAINTAIN TOWN PARK
LAWNS AND OTHER PLANTINGS

The Town of Thermopolis is requesting bids for maintenance of lawns, plantings, and equipment maintenance, in Candy Jack Park, Glade Edwards Park, Bicentennial Park, Family Park, Southside Parkway, flower garden and median circles on Broadway, side islands on Sixth Street and flower barrels and flower garden in front of Town Hall. The scope of work also includes snow removal for various Town properties and sidewalks. The awarded contract is a four-year contract, from January 1, 2027 to December 31, 2030

Bid specifications detailing the entire scope of work may be obtained at Town Hall or calling 307-864-4442. Submit sealed bids to the Mayor's Office, 420 Broadway St. Thermopolis, Wyoming 82443. Sealed bids will be accepted until 2:00 p.m. December 8, 2026 at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late bids will not be accepted. Bids will be discussed and awarded at the December 15, 2026 Town Council meeting. Please mark envelope "Park Maintenance Bid." The Town reserves the right to reject any and all bid proposals and to determine the qualifying proposal that will best benefit the Town.

Pub. Nov. 26 & Dec. 3, 2026 No. 2228

STATE OF WYOMING)OFFICE OF THE
)BOARD OF
)COUNTY
COUNTY OF HOT SPRINGS)COMMISSIONERS
)THERMOPOLIS, WY
)November 3, 2026

The Hot Springs County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, November 3, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in the Public Meeting Room at the Government Annex. Present were Commissioners Bob Aguiar, Paul Galovich and Tom Ryan. Also present were County Clerk Becky Kersten and Assistant to the Commissioners Kim Lindseth. Chairman Aguiar led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Galovich moved to approve the agenda. Commissioners approved the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Ryan moved to approve the minutes from October 20, 2026. Commissioners approved the minutes.

Approval of Bills-Accounts Payable Warrants Register

Commissioner Galovich moved for the approval of the Accounts Payable Register warrant numbers 69693 through 69804 for a total of $555,302.45, with a payroll total of $211,478.17. Commissioners approved the accounts payable warrants register.

Commissioners – Response to Recusal Petition

Commissioner Ryan reported Deputy County Attorney, Jalie Meinecke, had prepared a response to petitions filed by attorney William P. Schwartz on behalf of opponents to the Tipi Land Use Change Application. A petition for recusal of Commissioner Galovich and Commissioner Aguiar was filed on October 5, 2026; a petition to dismiss application or alternatively stay hearings was filed on October 7, 2026; and a petition to adopt contested case rules was filed on October 23, 2026. Commissioner Ryan stated he would address these petitions via motions. Commissioner Ryan motioned to grant the stay of proceedings until such time as the Board can fully consider the other pending motions; specifically, the request for a contested case hearing and the motion to adopt contested case rules. Commissioners approved the motion to stay proceedings. Commissioner Ryan made a second motion to deny the petition for recusal since the motion to stay proceedings was granted. Commissioners approved the motion to deny the petition for recusal.

Adjournment

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

A regular meeting of the Hot Springs County Board of Commissioners will be held on November 17, 2026 at 3:00 p.m., at the Hot Springs County Annex building, 117 N. 4th St. Thermopolis. The public is invited to attend in person, or view the meeting via Zoom through the link provided on the County website. To be placed on the Agenda please email Becky Kersten, County Clerk, at commissioners@hscounty.com. Per Wyoming Statute section 18-3-516 (f), County information may be obtained at the County website https://hscounty.com/ or by requesting a Public Records form from the County Clerk's office.

ATTEST:

/s/Bob Aguiar, Chairman	/s/Becky Kersten, County Clerk

BILLS – October 2026

SIGN SOLUTIONS USA, LLC 3,660.36 / STEPHENS-PECK INC 125.00 /HOT SPRINGS VETERINARY CLINIC 72.00 / HASCO INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY 1,644.97 / HOT SPRINGS COUNTY LIBRARY 14,500.00 / VERNON W. MILLER, M.D., PC 1,350.00 / ALLEGIANCE BENEFIT PLAN MANGT, INC. 82,821.06 / ARDURRA GROUP, INC. 4,002.85 / ARIKKAN, INC. 4,500.00 / CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS 139.98 / BIG HORN WATER 310.00 / LONG BUILDING TECHNOLOGIES, INC. 480.00 / AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP, 369.20 / CARDINAL HEALTH 110, LLC 599.24 / CHALICE WEICHMAN 11.90 / COLEMAN OIL COMPANY, LLC 30,998.43 / COLEMAN OIL COMPANY, LLC 60.00 / THERMOPOLIS HARDWARE 138.08 / COLONIAL SUPPLEMENTAL INS. 18.70 / VERIZON BUSINESS 37.01 / VERIZON BUSINESS 245.26 / CONSTANCE GUNTLY 506.25 / DBT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, LLC 1,000.00 / DEERE CREDIT, INC. 98,023.77 / DISCOVER THERMOPOLIS 505.00 / ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE 1,943.07 / FERGUSON ENTERPRISES LLC #109 521.99 / PINNACLE BANK OF THERMOPOLIS 45,496.00 /US. FOOD 3,450.75 / MORTIMORE FUNERAL HOME 1,477.50 / GOTTSCHE THERAPY REHAB WELLNESS 85.00 / HIGH PLAINS POWER 726.61 / HOT SPRINGS COUNTY SCHOOL DIST. #1 6,175.74 / HOT SPRINGS COUNTY HEALTH INS ACCT 70,177.56 / HOT SPRINGS HEALTH - THERMOPOLIS 725.00 / HOT SPRINGS CO. SCHOOL DIST #1 10,539.67 / THERMOPOLIS INDEPENDENT RECORD 4,228.00 / INLAND TRUCK PARTS & SERVICE 967.10 / JADECO, INC. 85.00 / JALIE MEINECKE 8,000.00 / JENNIFER CHENEY 699.68 / JILL LOGAN 720.80 / JULIE MORTIMORE 437.67 / KELLER LAW FIRM, PC 270.00 / KENT A. RICHINS 300.00 / KIMBERLY D JONES 40.00 / KRISTINA D. MCNEFF 74.52 / LEE-CRAIN FAMILY HOME GOODS 60.00 / LINDA BADER 350.00 / MACK'S MARKET, INC. 137.43 / HOT SPRINGS HEALTH 181.00 / MIKE ROBINSON, LLC 6,991.45 / MOUNTAIN STATES LITHOGRAPHING, LLC 1,908.17 / NAPA MOTOR SUPPLY, INC. 422.91 / O'REILLY AUTO PARTS 47.84 / O'REILLY AUTO PARTS 22.99 / OFFICE SHOP INC. 1,469.20 / OWL CREEK AVIATION, LLC 13,838.11 / OWL CREEK AVIATION, LLC 3,180.13 / ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER 6,025.26 / PMI PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE INC. 6,750.00 / PERFORMANCE AUTO & GLASS 70.70 / PERFORMANCE AUTO & GLASS 137.04 / PINNACLE BANK OF THERMOPOLIS 3,423.00 / WYOMING PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY 112.00 / QUADIENT LEASING USA, INC. 220.74 / RANAE BALDES 469.68 / RIVERTON TIRE AND OIL 688.50 / RANGE 2,853.07 / SADY MOUNTS 737.68 / SCHNEIDER GEOSPATIAL, LLC 13,333.00 / SHAWN MOHR 239.53 / SOURCES OF STRENGTH INC. 1,500.00 / STATE OF MONTANA 3,100.00 / THE STANDARD INS. CO. 2,031.12 / STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE 500.00 / WYOMING GUARDIANS AD LITEM PROGRA 1,562.71 / TEPEE POOLS 138.00 / TERRA GIS 600.00 / Thompson Law, LLC 290.00 / T-MOBILE 34.08 / TOWN OF THERMOPOLIS 1,482.53 / TRI COUNTY TELEPHONE ASSOC,INC 655.33 / TRAVELING COMPUTERS, INC. 1,994.75 / NORCO, INC. 363.05 / VERIZON BUSINESS 37.56 / HOT SPRINGS PHARMACY 113.97 / PINNACLE BANK (VISA CARD ONE) 229.28 / PINNACLE BANK (VISA-CARD TWO) 887.34 / PINNACLE BANK (VISA CARD THREE) 502.90 / PINNACLE BANK (VISA CARD FOUR) 849.04 / PINNACLE BANK (VISA CARD FIVE) 1,603.53 / PINNACLE BANK (VISA CARD SIX) 1,079.77 / PINNACLE BANK (VISA CARD SEVEN) 182.22 / PINNACLE BANK (VISA CARD NINE) 1,034.21 / PINNACLE BANK (VISA CARD 10) 161.07 / PINNACLE BANK (VISA CARD 1-SHERIFF) 299.96 / PINNACLE BANK (VISA CARD 2-SHERIFF) 66.98 / PINNACLE BANK (VISA CARD 3-SHERIFF) 725.47 / PINNACLE BANK (VISA CARD 4-SHERIFF) 292.65 / WAVESWEBDESIGN.COM 475.00 / WEX BANK 424.96 / WYOMING DEPT. OF WORKFORCE SERVICES 2,977.23 / WYOMING BEHAVIORAL INSTITUTE 6,786.00 / GREAT-WEST TRUST COMPANY, LLC 4,560.00 / WYOMING GAS 1,935.00 / WYOMING HEALTH FAIRS 7,506.00

Pub. Nov. 26, 2026 No. 2229

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

To: SonRise Grass Creek Guest Ranch, LLC

Attn: Registered Agents Inc.
30 N. Gould St. Ste. R
Sheridan, WY 82801
Via regular and certified mail

TLC Ranch, LLC
10455 Stockton Rd
Moorpark, CA 93021-8713
Via regular and certified mail

Person in Possession
3809 Creek Ranch Road
Thermopolis, WY 82443
Via regular and certified mail

SonRise Grass Creek Guest Ranch, LLC
Attn: Douglas Lindamood
3809 Grass Creek Ranch Road
Thermopolis, WY 82443
Via regular and certified mail

State of Wyoming
Department of Workforce Services, Division of Workers' Compensation
Attn: Shannel Welsch
5221 Yellowstone Road
Cheyenne, WY 82002
WC#800459929
Tracking # 30130491
Via Certified Mail with Return Receipt

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to WYO. STAT. §§ 34-4-101 through 34-4-113, that a certain Mortgage dated March 4th, 2025, which was executed and delivered by SonRise Grass Creek Guest Ranch LLC, Mortgagor, to Propagate Investments I, LLC., as Mortgagee, will be foreclosed by a sale to the highest bidder at a public auction of the premises described pursuant to a power of sale contained in the Mortgage. If you wish to contest said sale, then you must challenge said sale by filing a lawsuit in a court of competent jurisdiction.

The Mortgage was filed for record on March 4th, 2025 as Document No. 0560752 in Book 213 at Page 291-298, in the office of the Recorder of Deeds, Hot Springs County, State of Wyoming. The premises that are described in the Mortgage are as follows:

Please see Exhibit A.

The above sale will be conducted by the Sheriff or the Sheriff's deputy at the front door of the Hot Springs County Courthouse in Thermopolis, Wyoming, at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 22nd, 2026. Hot Springs County requires proof of funds before submitting a bid.

In the event that either a representative of the Mortgagee or a representative of Hot Springs Title is not present at the sale, the sale will be postponed until a later date.

SonRise Grass Creek Guest Ranch LLC has defaulted on the terms of the Note and Mortgage, and as of the date of this Notice, the undersigned claims an outstanding balance of **$1,886,937.65.**

The property being foreclosed upon may be subject to other liens and encumbrances that will not be extinguished at the sale and any prospective purchaser should research the status of title before submitting a bid.

DATED: November 18, 2026

Propagate Investments I, LLC, Mortgagee

BY:
DALE W. COTTAM
OF BAILEY | STOCK | HARMON | COTTAM | LOPEZ LLP
Attorneys for Mortgagee
80 E 1st Ave | P.O. Box 850
Afton, WY 83110
(307) 459-1120

Exhibit A
Legal Description

Township 46 North, Range 99 West, of the 6th P.M., Hot Springs County, Wyoming

Section 23: E½SE¼

Section 24:

Parcel 1: N½NW¼, SW¼NW¼, NW¼NE¼, SW¼, W½SE¼, SE¼SE¼,

LESS AND EXCEPT THEREFROM a parcel more particularly described as follows: A tract of land being described as the West 734 feet of the East 1877 feet of the North 177 feet of the Northeast Quarter of Section Twenty-four, Township Forty-six North, Range Ninety-nine West, of the Sixth Principal Meridian.

Parcel 2: SE¼NW¼, S½NE¼, NE¼SE¼

Parcel 3:

A parcel of land in the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (SE¼NE¼), Section 24, Township 46 North, Range 99 West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Hot Springs County, Wyoming, being more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the Northeast comer of said SE¼NE¼ of Section 24 also being Comer 4 of Lot 65 and Comer No. 3 of Lot 66, Township 46 North, Range 98 West, thence South 00°51'27" East along the East line of said SE¼NE¼, a distance of 361.18 feet; thence North 84°19'46" West, a distance of 268.35 feet; thence North 65°17'33" West, a distance of 203.83 feet; thence North 46°49'57" West, a distance of 126.48 feet; thence North 00°51'27" West, a distance of 170.88 feet; thence North 89°32'02" East, a distance of 179.75 feet; thence South 88°30'23" East, a distance of 361.99 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning.

Section 25: N½NE¼

Pub. Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10 & 17, 2026
No. 2227