

4-H Achievement Night Sunday at the fair building



by Lara Love

Community members are invited to attend the 2014 4-H Achievement Night Banquet and Awards Program on Sunday, Nov. 2 at the Hot Springs County Fair Building. The banquet begins at 5 p.m. and the awards program will follow.

The Outlaws, Mustangs, Wranglers and Cowpokes 4-H clubs will be featured.

Each family attending is required to bring two side

dishes, such as salad, vegetable/casserole or dessert and place settings for family members, including plates, silverware, napkins and cups.

There will be door prizes for 4-H members in attendance who have completed their record book.

Senior members who are interested in helping emcee the program are asked to call the Hot Springs County Extension Office at 864-3421 or Sharon Cordingly at 864-9352. Practice time will be at 1:15 p.m.



It's the GREAT pumpkin

Kindergartners visited Hessenthaler's farm last Friday to pick out pumpkins and apples ripe for the season. Above, Shyla Buckner helps Lane McMartin carry his gigantic pumpkin prize. - Dennis Nierzwicki photo

Candidates speak at Chamber of Commerce forum

by David Martin

Candidates running for state legislative, as well as county and local offices, spoke to residents Monday evening at Thermopolis Middle School.

The forum allowed candidates to discuss their stances on issues affecting the state and Hot Springs County.

House District 28

Nathan Winters, the lone incumbent candidate for House District 28, said his last two years in office were very educational. If elected, Winters said he is excited to be the cosponsor of a bill that would create a private property ombudsman in response to complaints from property owners about the energy industry overrunning their rights. He also said he's concerned with the federal government forcing state employees to uphold federal regulations, saying he's working on that issue as well. He also said he's taken a solid stance against Common Core, believing that the state shouldn't jump to another flawed system since its PAWS test are flawed. He also views Common Core as being damaging against states' rights, believing Common Core will cause the state to give in to servitude to the federal government.

Hot Springs County Commissioner

For the Hot Springs County Commissioners, only Tom Ryan appeared at the forum. Fellow candidate and incumbent John Lumley was in Cheyenne with the other commissioners for a meeting with Gov. Matt Mead.

Ryan said he's lived in Thermopolis for most of his life and is part owner of Ryan Brothers Trucking. He previously served on the school board for 14 years and is influenced to run by his civics teacher's emphasis that people should give back to the community. He said he has no real agenda and supports continued work on county infrastructure, saying the previous commissioners did a good job in setting up those projects.

Hot Springs County Attorney

Jerry Williams, the incumbent candidate for Hot Springs County Attorney, has served for two terms and served as a deputy county attorney in the late 1980s.

"I want a good community," Williams said. He said there are some people who make mistakes and some that are truly bad people, and the two groups must be sorted out, saying he tries to do what is right, not what's easy.

Hot Springs County Sheriff

Two candidates for Hot Springs County Sheriff also attended the event. Incumbent Lou Falgoust said working as a sheriff isn't just a job for him, but a passion. Having been a peace officer since 1971, he said he works closely with the public, believing the position doesn't give a person more power, just more responsibility.

His opponent, independent candidate Daniel Pebbles, said he's running as an independent because being sheriff isn't about politics. He worked for the sheriff's office for 27 years under three different administrations, saying as sheriff he would continue to promote unity between law enforcement in Hot Springs County.

The candidates were asked what the 2014-2015 budget for the sheriff's office, with Falgoust saying the combined budget for the sheriff's office and detention center totaled \$850,000. Pebbles did not dispute the statement. The two were also asked if there were places where budget cuts could be made.

Pebbles said he couldn't see where they could make budget cuts because a majority of the funds in the office's budget are spent on employee costs. Falgoust agreed with Pebbles, saying there isn't a lot of fat to cut in the office, but they make cuts if they're asked to.

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Candidates

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Speaking about federal over reach, Falgoust said he doesn't represent the federal government and will stand between the county's residents and any federal encroachment. Pebbles said he believes the wants and desires of Hot Springs County's residents come first.

Hot Springs County Clerk

Nina Webber is the sole name appearing on the ballot for Hot Springs County Clerk. Having been appointed to the position in March, she said the clerk's office is a busy place. Despite being a little nervous during the Primary Election in August, she said everything worked as it should have and the office was able to complete and send their reports on time.

Webber said the office will be receiving a new system to store the county's historical data. She said she also wants to maintain the office's friendly environment and strives to be a good listener.

Clerk of District Court

Terri Cornella is the unchallenged incumbent running for another term as Hot Springs County Clerk of District Court. She served in the office for the

past 10 years, serving as clerk for the last four and a half. She said the office is nonpolitical but ever changing due to changes coming in the statewide system they use. The office deals with a wide range of court cases, as well as accepting passport applications.

Hot Springs County Treasurer

Julie Mortimore is running untested for the Hot Springs County Treasurer's Office. Mortimore is a third generation native who has experienced progress in the treasurer's office first-hand, saying she's seen the change from maintaining a large book detailing expenditures to the use of computers. Mortimore said the county's citizens are very important and seeks to always be courteous and treat customers with respect.

Mayor of Thermopolis

Two candidates are running for the nonpartisan mayor's office. Incumbent Bill Malloy said he seeks another term as mayor because he doesn't want to see the town wind up like the federal government. He said under his administration, the town has spent \$16 million in infrastructure improvement

projects, something he would like to see continue. He said improvements to the town's water system changed it from being in shambles eight years ago to being a first-class operation today. He said the biggest issues the town faces will involve its landfill, streets and the Broadway Bridge.

Mike Mortimore is a former mayor who served during what he describes as one of Thermopolis' toughest times. He said the next U.S. president will determine if the town will deal with an energy boom or tough times.

When discussing what they see for the town in the next 10 years, Mortimore said he expects an oil boom to occur during that time. He also said the town needs to get its tourism industry back to its previous levels. Mortimore also said technology is important to the town as well, because it negates the need for large shopping centers because almost anything can be purchased online. Malloy said he believes the downtown area will improve greatly because groups of people are passionate toward its development. He doesn't think a lot of growth will happen in the town, believing more development will occur within

the county. He also believes changes in the state park will happen.

Thermopolis Town Council, four-year term

Two of the four four-year Thermopolis Town Council candidates spoke to residents Monday night. James Raymond and John Dorman, Sr. were on hand to talk about why they wanted to run and what they saw in the town's future.

Raymond is a 27-year-old resident who has lived in the town three separate occasions during his life.

"I always come back to Thermopolis because that's where I was raised," he said.

He believes the town has very special qualities that separate it from other places he's lived in. He also wants to help the town maintain those qualities and also believes in management from the bottom up. Talking about the town in 10 years, he said it weathered the economic downturn well and believes the town will stay mostly the same, with more people living in Thermopolis. He also believes growth may occur to the west of town.

Dorman, Sr. said he was chosen as

a write-in candidate and will do the best he can do in the position. Talking about Thermopolis in 10 years, he said he would like to see the town grow so young children can stay and prosper and enjoy the good life he had here.

Thermopolis Town Council, two-year term

One of two candidates running for the town council's sole two-year term seat appeared at the forum. Berge Brown is the local game warden, having worked in Thermopolis for the past seven and a half years. He said the city shouldn't encourage development of a business park or low-income housing and said he doesn't want the town to grow fast. However, he also sees potential in tourism taking off in the town and believes the town can do some things to attract people and businesses to the area.

Mayor of East Thermopolis

David Peake is the only person running for mayor of East Thermopolis. Peake is the incumbent, who said he lived in the town for 14 years. He said he wants to keep the little town as it is.

School board candidates talk future challenges

by David Martin

Candidates running for the four-year positions on the Hot Springs County School District No.1 board discussed what challenges the district will face in the future.

Six candidates for the three four-year seats attended the public forum Monday night.

During the discussion involving the four-year term candidates, Mark Hamilton said while he and his wife don't have children in the district, he is running because he is a concerned citizen who wants to serve.

"I feel as a citizen ... that there is a time and a place you have to serve," he said.

Daniel Pebbles, who is also running as a candidate for Sheriff of Hot Springs County, said he isn't afraid to speak up if he sees something wrong. Pebbles was selected to fill a vacant term one and a half years ago and is a graduate from Hot Springs County High School.

Tobi Johansen said he is running based on his philosophy that children determine the fu-

ture. He said he enjoys being a part of the public process and has served on the Curriculum Coordinating Counsel and a Girl Scout leader. He said he believes they owe it to the students to find every opportunity they can for students.

Jennifer Axtell is a mother and teacher with four children in the district. She said she would serve with an open mind and said people need to step up and serve the community.

Nikki Slagle is a parent concerned with the issues facing the district. She is the mother of four children and has experience in education.

Liz Oliver, also running for a four-year term, said she believes it's her duty to make sure Hot Springs County's students can have a good education so they can prosper.

Hub Whitt and Kevin Simpson did not attend the event. In a written statement provided by Simpson, he said moved to Thermopolis from Redfield, Iowa in 2005. He taught at Ralph Witters Elementary as a kindergarten teacher for five

years, then started working with adults with disabilities in 2010. He said he knows some of the ins and outs within the district and knows many of the people employed there.

Discussing what challenges they see in the future of public education, Oliver said the district has gotten rid of the old to make way for the new, believing children need to learn from their elders as their elders have done before them. She also believes the turnover rate in the district is high and needs to decrease.

Slagle said Common Core and educating people as to what it is would be a challenge. She said open discussion about Common Core is needed because it is portrayed very negatively in the media and multiple avenues to host that discussion are needed as well.

Axtell said communication is

an issue at the state level, saying Common Core and No Child Left Behind were passed without hearing from local voices. She also said she thinks the district is losing sight of its goals and mission and needs to make sure it works to achieve its goals.

Johansen said he agrees with Axtell, saying many parents don't know what's going on in the district. He said if the public is more informed, solutions to issues facing the district would present themselves because more people would be aware of the issues.

Pebbles said the U.S. ranks 36 in the world for math, reading and science. He said the district must help students to close the achievement gap. He said the district must encourage the Wyoming Legislature to provide equal and adequate funding to help address that

gap.

Hamilton said finances and staffing are two things the district will see challenges in. He said teachers are overloaded with responsibilities, saying the schools are doing everything for kids. He believes improving parental involvement would help solve that problem.

In Simpson's statement, he said many of the questions he's asked about regard Common Core, saying some of the standards are too high for some students and need to be looked at. He also believes some standards, like math or reading, take away from other subjects.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- Thur., Oct. 30
Kiwanis, Days Inn, 6:45 a.m.
Storytime, HSC Library, 10:30 a.m.
Red Rock Family Practice flu shot clinic, 5 p.m.
Moonlight Madness, downtown, 6 p.m.
Grief Share, 644 Clark, 7 p.m.
Halloween Jam, Roudtop Motel, 7 p.m.
- Fri., Oct. 31
Toastmasters, HSC Museum, noon
Halloween dinner and dance, HSC Senior Center, 5 p.m.
Thermop. Rehab trick or treating, 6 p.m.
Open gym, armory, 7-9 p.m.
- Sat., Nov. 1
Open gym, armory, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Thomas Haderlie welcome back, 524 S. 11th, 4 p.m.
- Sun., Nov. 2
4-H Achievement Night, fair building, 5 p.m.
- Mon., Nov. 3
Christmas Basket sign-ups begin, Common Ground
- Tues., Nov. 4
Public Health flu shot clinic, Government Annex, 8 a.m.
County Commissioners Meeting, County Annex, 9 a.m.
TOPS meeting, Community Church basement, 9 a.m.
Moms and Tots, Vocational Bldg., 10 a.m.
Rotary Club meeting, Days Inn, noon
East Thermopolis Town Council, Town Hall, 7 p.m.
Thermopolis Town Council, Town Hall, 7 p.m.
- Wed., Nov. 5
Moms and Tots, Vocational Bldg., 10 a.m.
Storytime, HSC Library, 10:30 a.m.
Prevention Management, Gottsche ADL Room, 11:30 a.m.
Weed & Pest Meeting, District Office, 5 p.m.
Booster Club Meeting, HS Commons, 6:30 p.m.
Grief & Loss support group, Common Ground, 6:30 p.m.
Open gym, armory, 7-9 p.m.
Elks meeting, fair building, 7 p.m.
- Thur., Nov. 6
Kiwanis, Days Inn, 6:45 a.m.
Storytime, HSC Library, 10:30 a.m.
Cemetery Board meeting, Riverside Cemetery, 2 p.m.
Grief Share, 644 Clark, 7 p.m.
Thermopolis Gun Club meeting, Amory, 7 p.m.

Call 864-2328 to have your community event listed.

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NOVEMBER SCHEDULE
Washakie Medical Center Physician Outreach Clinic
1106 Big Horn Ave.
Worland, WY
(307) 347-8801

For more information and appointments, call the numbers listed below. Dates are subject to change.

DATE	PROVIDER	SPECIALTY	PHONE NUMBER
Nov. 3	Christopher Lowther	Dermatologist	307-587-7000
Nov. 4	Vernon Miller	General Surgeon	307-347-8115
Nov. 4	WY Cardiopulmonary	Cardiology	800-445-3501
Nov. 5	Christopher Schreiber	Urologist	800-648-6274
Nov. 5	Hearing Aid Institute		800-331-6009
Nov. 10	Dale Myers	Gynecologist	866-587-1155
Nov. 11	Vernon Miller	General Surgeon	307-347-8115
Nov. 13	Paul Byorth	Ear Nose and Throat	800-332-7156
Nov. 14		A1C Clinic	307-347-8801
Nov. 14		Diabetic Education	307-347-8801
Nov. 17	Phillip Tallman	Dermatologist	866-988-3376
Nov. 18	Vernon Miller	General Surgeon	307-347-8115
Nov. 18	WY Cardiopulmonary	Cardiology	800-445-3501
Nov. 19	Andrew Rashkow	Cardiology	307-578-2980
Nov. 19	Christopher Lowther	Dermatologist	307-587-7000
Nov. 25	Vernon Miller	General Surgeon	307-347-8115
Nov. 26	Hearing Aid Institute		800-331-6009

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