

JUL + 2020

WYOMING

RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

WREN

‘The Fishing is Good’

**Wyoming Fish
Hatcheries Keep Sport
Fishing Thriving**

ANDREW ENSCORE



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a Game Warden**



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WREN

MAGAZINE

THE WREN MAGAZINE WYOMING RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

*The official publication of the
Wyoming Rural Electric Association*

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'The Fishing is Good'

STORY BY GAYLE M. IRWIN

Cover photo: Nick Cinquina
watches for a bite on the North
Platte River west of Casper.
Cinquina is a fishing guide for
Wyoming Fly Fishing.

PHOTO BY DAN CEPEDA

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'That's how we're going to win. Not fighting what we hate: saving what we love.'



SHAWN TAYLOR
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This little ditty comes to you from the movie "The Last Jedi," and in searching for good quotes from the Star Wars series for this month's column I found this under the heading of "Star Wars quotes about hope."

Because right about now I think we all could use some hope for the future.

Hope that peaceful protests can and will continue, no matter the cause. Hope that senseless rioting, looting and violence will cease. Hope that people across the state, the country and the world will do what's necessary to keep themselves, their loved ones and their livelihoods safe and protected from "the 'Rona."

I am a recovering political and news junkie. Having lived in Washington D.C for six years I loved Sundays. Sure I loved Fridays and Saturdays but on Sunday I would wake up and watch the "McLaughlin Group" where political figures and pundits from all sides would debate the issues of the day in a very civil manner. Next was "Meet the Press" with Tim Russert who was, in my mind, the most fair and balanced newsmen of his time. Plus he was a huge Buffalo Bills fan and I would give anything to hear his opinion of the University of Wyoming's own Josh Allen as the quarterback for the Bills.

Speaking of football, that's how I would round out my Sundays in D.C. – watching football. I had a dog named Elway (who I paid tribute to in this column years ago), a great girlfriend (who has now been my wife for almost two decades ... 18 years this month to be exact ... which is very important) and her dog Bridger; the four of us would hang out and watch football all day.

Simpler times to be sure but I'm not naive enough to think that we can go back to those times. First of all I have three kids, a mortgage, two new dogs and a country and a world that is vastly different, more divided and much more complicated than it was 20 years ago. But that is not to say that all of it isn't worth fighting for.

I was on a Zoom meeting the other night, which is the new thing, with former senator Al Simpson and he had a great quote. In the context of the civil unrest, dealing with a pandemic, political division like we haven't seen before and everything else, he said (and I'm paraphrasing) "the United States of America has always been messy; but I love the mess."

I love my job and the people I work with and for. I love my family more than anything. I love Wyoming. I love the United States for all its messiness. While I don't agree that we shouldn't fight what we hate, the ethos behind Rose Tico's closing words in "The Last Jedi" is in keeping with the hopeful ideology of the Star Wars franchise. You do have to fight what you hate because that's literally what war is. But you have to do that at the same time as saving what you love, with the latter taking priority over the former, because if you don't protect those that are close to you, the bad guys will get them while your back is turned.

As I said, the original quote came from my web search for Star Wars quotes about hope, but was poignant enough that I felt compelled to share it with you. So keep fighting the good fight, keep your love and keep your hope. We'll get through this together.



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CO-OP YOUTH

Wyoming's rural electric cooperatives are proud to support our youth, giving college scholarships and lineman scholarships. In addition, our co-ops sponsor high school students on the NRECA Youth Tour in June and Youth Leadership Camp in July.

THIS MONTH:

Growing up a mile from High West Energy headquarters in Pine Bluffs, Wyatt Fornstrom was an outstanding student and football player, helping Pine Bluffs High win two state football titles. He was accepted to West Point in 2018.



While Youth Tour and youth camps were canceled this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, your co-op may be taking applications for next year. See the insert in the center of the magazine for information from your local rural electric cooperative.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WYATT FORNSTROM



WYATT FORNSTROM



HOMETOWN:

Pine Bluffs

HIGH SCHOOL:

Pine Bluffs High School

YEAR OF GRADUATION:

2018

COLLEGE:

United States Military Academy
at West Point

MAJOR STUDY INTEREST:

Physical Geography

WREN: Tell us about your studies and interests.

WF: I have been passionate about the outdoors since a very young age. I am a hunter, fisherman and conservationist; physical geography gives me an opportunity to study what I love doing.

WREN: How have your hometown, family and/or friends influenced you?

WF: My hometown, family and friends are the backbone of my support. Pine Bluffs is a small town in the southeast corner of Wyoming with around 1,200 people. This town gave me many opportunities that have made me who I am today. A small town is the best place for a kid to grow up. When you live in Pine, you are not only a part of a community, you are a part of a family! Everyone knows everyone, and everyone tries to help one another. When it comes to my family and friends, they are the ones who knew my goals and pushed me towards them. I believe that with a strong base of friends and family a person can do anything they put their mind to, and fortunately I had exactly that. With this kind of family and friends, it's easy to put on a uniform and serve my country to protect them. I do strongly believe that if the ultimate sacrifice does prevail over me, I will be at peace knowing if I gave someone the opportunity of doing exactly what I did: pursue and accomplish my dreams.

WREN: What are your plans for the future?

WF: My plans are somewhat simple; I want to be a civil servant for most of my life. I believe that I am extremely fortunate to live in the greatest nation that God created, and that is why I'm willing to fight for it and when not doing that I will work in it to make it better. This will be in the form of serving in the military to hopefully serving as an elected official. Being more specific, I want to first graduate West Point and become an aviation officer in the Army. After my military service I eventually want to come back to Wyoming and serve the great state I was raised in. From there my goal is to work in the government in any capacity. Preferably in the USDA, EPA or anything regarding the outdoors. I want to be the voice with the small town, independent perspective promoting the Western way of life. But as we all know, things change in life and I never know exactly where I will be, but I do know that I will be serving this country in any way possible.

Co-op Trivia



The electricity that powers your home can seem as simple as the flip of a switch. But that electricity arrived because of a complex, coordinated system overseen by your rural electric cooperative. As a member-owner of your cooperative, you oversee that system.

Sources: Wyoming Municipal Power Agency, powerlinesinc.com/high-voltage-electrical-lines

HIGH-VOLTAGE TRANSMISSION

The electricity you use every day comes from a power generation facility, or station. It then travels a complex network of power lines and substations to reach your home. When electricity first leaves the station it travels the most efficient route – along high-voltage lines.

Generation and transmission cooperatives own and operate high-voltage lines to reduce the amount of energy lost as electricity travels over long distances. You can recognize a transmission line by the h-shaped or t-shaped steel transmission towers supporting the line.

High-voltage systems can carry hundreds of thousands of volts; Dry Fork Station in Gillette sends 230,000 volts of electricity 125 miles along high-voltage lines to northeast Wyoming substations. In contrast, the power sockets in your home deliver 120 and 240 volts.

This high-voltage electricity has to be “stepped down” to make it safe enough to travel along typical power lines, and stepped down again to reach your home or business. Your rural electric cooperative operates substations and transformers to perform that task.

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Annual Meeting Roundup

At this time of year in any other year, almost all of the Wyoming Rural Electric Association's 11 utility cooperatives would have met in person at an annual meeting. Members would have had the chance to elect board members, share a meal, and possibly bring home a door prize.

With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and statewide ban on gatherings of large groups of people, cooperative leadership had to decide how to proceed. Each of the cooperatives made a decision based on their particular membership's needs.

01

HIGH WEST ENERGY MEETS ONLINE

"No one has ever seen anything quite like this," Ed Prosser, board president for High West Energy, said at the beginning of the rural electric cooperative's first ever online annual meeting on June 18. The COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing guidelines led the cooperative to hold the meeting without its usual gathering of members.

Prosser presided over a meeting that included more than 180 participants, who either watched live video from their computer or listened by phone.

During the meeting, General Manager Brian Heithoff gave a favorable report of the cooperative's ability to help members and its financial viability. He told members that High West Energy was able to help those suffering hardship because of the pandemic by donating to medical providers and food banks in Nebraska and Wyoming. Groups in need are encouraged to contact High West Energy by sending an email to jeast@highwestenergy.com.

Heithoff announced a program to offer members the chance to test drive an electric car, starting in September. He said the co-op is installing electric vehicle charging stations in Nebraska and plans to install some in Wyoming.

"This is just good business," Heithoff said. "We are moving toward a world where everything will be electrified."

The co-op held elections to the board of directors by mail-in ballot. District 15 incumbent Damon Birkhofer was elected to a three-year term despite a challenge from Dennis Armstrong. District 12 board member Gary Smith ran unopposed and was automatically reelected for another term.



Big Horn members pick up pizza at Burlington Place and coffee at Cabin Brew.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BIG HORN RURAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

02

BIG HORN RURAL ELECTRIC COMPANY HOSTS GIVEAWAYS

Due to concern for the health of the membership during the COVID-19 pandemic, Big Horn Rural Electric Company chose not to hold its usual large gathering for the 2020 annual meeting. Instead the co-op asked members to mail in ballots and sponsored food and beverage giveaways at local restaurants and coffee shops in May and June.

The co-op elected two board members this year, for districts 1 and 4. Results of the contested elections were announced June 19. Winners Sara Schlattmann and John Fernandez will each serve three-year terms for their districts. District 4 incumbent Kathy Gilbreath did not run for reelection.

BIG HORN ELECTION RESULTS

DISTRICT # 1:		DISTRICT # 4:	
Sara Schlattmann	492	John Fernandez	711
Don Russell	429	Neil Schlenker	376
Richard Wardell	185		

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE 2020 CENSUS

The census data provides monetary funds for Wyoming. Wyoming towns and counties each received about **\$600/person** from state tax distribution based on census data in the 2019 fiscal year.

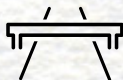
CENSUS INFORMATION IS USED IN WYOMING FOR PLANNING AND FUNDING



NEW SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION



MEDICARE DISTRIBUTION



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POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENT LOCATIONS



LIBRARIES AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS

THE CENSUS IN YOUR COMMUNITY

The census will not be mailed to P.O. Box addresses. Instead, a census worker will bring a postcard or questionnaire to your home.

How to identify a census field representative:

The representative must present an I.D. badge with:



THEIR PHOTOGRAPH



A DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE WATERMARK



AN EXPIRATION DATE

The representative will have a letter from the director of the U.S. Census Bureau and can provide the number for the regional office for verification. Wyoming residents can also call 211 for census information.

THE CENSUS IS SAFE

The U.S. Census Bureau is bound by law to keep your answers strictly confidential. Data cannot be used for law enforcement purposes or to determine personal eligibility for government benefits.

The census will NEVER ask for:



SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS



BANK OR CREDIT CARD INFORMATION



MONEY



ANYTHING RELATED TO POLITICAL PARTIES

CENSUS TIMELINE

2010

The last census took place 10 years ago.

MARCH

Census information was sent by mail. Some households received a postcard, others received a questionnaire.

APRIL

Reminder letters were sent out.

MAY

Census workers began visiting homes that haven't responded.

OCTOBER 31

Because of delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the census will close in October instead of July.

2030

The next census will take place 10 years later.



MAKE SURE YOU COUNT!

Wyoming's rural electric cooperatives encourage you to participate in the 2020 Census.

For more information call 211, log onto 2020census.gov or visit your local library.

Sources: Wyoming Department of Administration & Information Economic Analysis Division, Wyoming State Library.

Historical Marker Recognizes Empire Homesteaders

FROM WYOMING STATE PARKS

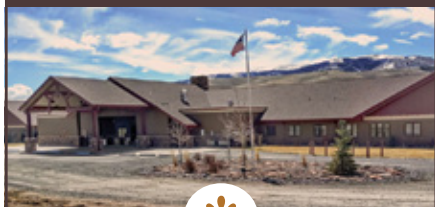
A new historical marker has been erected at the Dwyer Junction Rest Area on I-25 (near Wheatland) to commemorate a group of African American homesteaders who established a “colony” at Empire in Goshen County.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WYOMING STATE PARKS

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In 1908 Charles and Rosetta Speese founded the African American homesteader community of Empire when they moved to Goshen County's Sheep Creek Valley, near the Nebraska border. Under the Enlarged Homestead Act, they claimed 320 acres of public land. Other African American families soon joined the Speeses and by 1911 the overall population reached as many as 60.

Rev. Russel Taylor homesteaded in Empire with his wife Henrietta and their children in 1911. Russel Taylor quickly became Empire's most distinguished citizen. He established and led the Empire school, obtained a post office for the community and served as pastor for Grace Presbyterian Church.

Empire residents were victims of several racially-charged local disputes, including the murder of Russel's brother, Baseman Taylor, while in the custody of the county sheriff. Their community broke into factions and their farms produced meager crops in the dry, unforgiving climate. By 1930 Empire had largely emptied.

Empire remains a powerful reminder of the struggles and achievements of African Americans who migrated to the plains seeking land, education and civil rights.

Wyoming State Parks, Historic Sites, and Trails collaborated with the University of Nebraska to research, design and erect the marker. Funding came from the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: A historical marker was placed at Dwyer Junction Rest Area, Rev. Russel Taylor established a school and post office and members of the Speese family performed as the “Jubilee Singers.”

Assistance for Small Agribusinesses

FROM THE WYOMING SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Wyoming Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Network advisors across Wyoming are available to help agricultural producers and agribusinesses affected by COVID-19 secure funding through programs such as the federally appropriated Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) funds.

The EIDL low-interest loan program is now available only to agribusinesses that need capital to recover business losses and remain operational. Wyoming SBDC Network regional directors and business advisors cover every Wyoming county and can provide more information on the application process and loan preparation advice.

The Wyoming SBDC Network is working closely with the University of Wyoming Extension to further expand its reach and better understand the needs of the agribusiness community.

“As part of federal funding the Wyoming SBDC Network has received to address COVID-19 recovery to existing businesses, we are seeking to solidify our partnership with UW Extension to help with recovery efforts in the agribusiness community,” said Jill Kline, Wyoming SBDC Network state director. “We look forward to providing joint programming and targeted assistance in the coming months to directly address agribusiness needs in Wyoming.”

Kelly Crane, UW Extension director and associate dean in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, said the full impact

of this economic crisis will continue to unfold for producers in the near and long terms.

“We are pleased that SBDC is willing to assist our agribusiness partners in recovery efforts and exploring options that will help their businesses become more resilient and flexible over time,” said Crane.

Appointments can be made with a business advisor at WyomingSBDC.org or by calling 307-382-0947.

The Wyoming SBDC Network is Wyoming’s premier source of small business expertise. It offers confidential, no-fee advising and technical assistance to all Wyoming small businesses in any stage of their life cycle. In addition to securing recovery capital, Wyoming SBDC Network experts can provide strategies for marketing, product scaling, e-commerce, cash flow management and business plan development.

Contact your local Wyoming SBDC Network advisor to make an appointment for advice on accessing COVID-19 strategies to not only help your agribusiness venture recover from the economic downturn, but also create a resilient business model to withstand ongoing and future negative business impacts.





Promoting Staycations

Wyoming's tourism industry is the second largest industry in the state, and the COVID-19 pandemic is keeping some would-be tourists at home.

To help Wyoming's economy survive this impact, Basin Area Chamber of Commerce President Barbara Anne Greene is asking residents to take their vacations inside the state.

"We have a really awesome state," Greene said. "We can support it, and we can discover the beauty that we have right here in our own backyard."

Greene started the Facebook page "Wyoming Staycation" where she posts information about places to visit and events to attend around the state. She encourages Wyoming residents to find something they haven't visited yet.

"You just hop in your car and you go see Wyoming," Greene said.

A little advice; plan ahead and bring a reliable map.

For information on Wyoming events and tourism, turn to the What's Happening section on page 29 or contact the Wyoming Office of Tourism at 307-777-7777 or travelwyoming.com.



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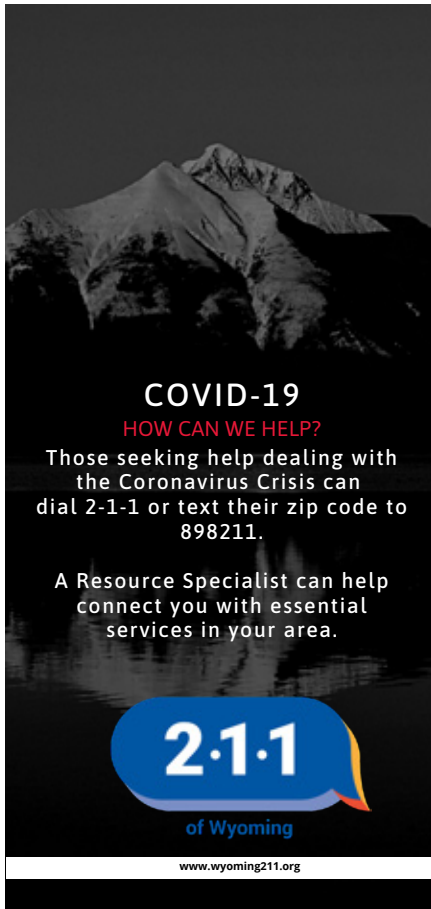
WYO Wednesdays

FROM THE WYOMING BUSINESS COUNCIL

Wyoming Main Street, in coordination with local Main Streets and other community organizations, is hosting “Wyo Wednesdays” as part of the Shop Smart, Shop Safe campaign.

Wyo Wednesday, to be held on the first Wednesday of each month, will encourage shoppers to explore and support their downtown businesses. Local Main Streets and other community organizations around the state will host promotions and events.

The series will continue throughout the summer with a different theme each month, starting with “Locally Made” in July.

COVID-19
HOW CAN WE HELP?

Those seeking help dealing with the Coronavirus Crisis can dial 2-1-1 or text their zip code to 898211.

A Resource Specialist can help connect you with essential services in your area.

2.1.1
of Wyoming

www.wyoming211.org

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www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

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“What are you feeling?”

“I care and am here to listen.”

“How have you dealt with things in the past?”

“How long have you been feeling like this?”

“Have you been thinking about suicide?”



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‘The Fishing is Good’

BY GAYLE M. IRWIN

Wyoming’s fish hatcheries provide stock to keep sport fishing thriving

Wyoming’s fisheries beckon anglers in the state, out-of-state and around the world. Behind the scenes, state fish hatcheries and rearing stations help Wyoming’s waterways thrive.

“Each hatchery is unique and has its specialty,” said Lars Alsager, superintendent of Dan Speas Fish Hatchery. “We all work together to make Wyoming fishing what it is – and the fishing is good.”

Nick Cinquina fishes and Ben Krueger rows on the North Platte River west of Casper. Cinquina and Krueger are both in their second year as fishing guides for Wyoming Fly Fishing guide service.

Dan Speas Fish Hatchery

Located southwest of Casper, the Speas Fish Hatchery is one of 10 such facilities run by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department. It was originally built in 1956, and over time, the technology became outdated. From 2009 to 2012, the hatchery underwent a complete renovation.

“There had been a lot of changes in the fish culture-related field: better water usage, more efficient water usage, increased specialized equipment for conditioning water, cleaning water in between each use, use of oxygen generators to reoxygenate water after each use,” Alsager said. “Our overall water usage from the reuse standpoint didn’t change but what did change was the technology we were using. We reuse our water four different times. After each use, we’re able to run it through rotating drum filters and clean it up, reoxygenate the water before it goes to the next building where the next group of fish is. Essentially, it’s like getting new water in each building. That allows us to raise more fish on essentially the same amount of water. Our rearing capacity increased from 100,000 pounds to 300,000 pounds. It was a pretty elaborate renovation.”

An additional water source was also added – a well. The temperature of the well water is 54 degrees; the water temperature of the spring water received from Goose Egg Spring is 60 degrees, Alsager said.

“We can take eyed eggs or fry, whereas before, other hatcheries had to transfer us fry, which put a constraint on all the facilities in the state and limited the capacities of our hatcheries to produce fish,” he said.

Stocking fish in Wyoming’s waters is a primary focus for the Speas staff. The hatchery raises more than two million fish each year from 10 species. Once the fish are large enough, from

3 to 9 inches in length, they are released at different locations. In May, Speas staff stocked fish in Big Sandy Reservoir outside of Farson, in Flaming Gorge and in waterways in the Casper and Laramie areas, Alsager said.

“Just in the month of May, we stocked over 300,000 fish out of this facility,” he said. “It was a really busy month for us.”

Speas Hatchery fish are stocked from April to October “just about every week,” he added. Hatchery staff know ahead of time which species to stock where.

“Each [Game and Fish] region has a fish crew that’s in charge of managing the waters within their region,” Alsager said. “They put out requests two years in advance, and then those requests get sent out to the hatcheries, and we basically clear our facilities until we’ve

either maxed out the facilities or we’ve covered all the requests. That’s what dictates what we raise in a typical year, what all these different fisheries around the state need from a production standpoint, to meet the needs of the anglers of Wyoming.”

The fish travel from the hatchery to the selected waterway by semi. All seven Speas employees possess commercial driver’s licenses to drive the trucks. They are also on call.

“We have to respond to the facility 24 hours a day,” Alsager said. “Those alarms let us know if there’s a power outage, if the pumps don’t turn back on, if something goes wrong with one of our oxygen generators or any of our other essential equipment [that] keep fish alive.” ➔

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WYOMING GAME AND FISH



ABOVE: An ariel view of the Dan Speas Fish Hatchery.

LEFT: Dan Speas Fish Hatchery workers weigh fish before loading them onto the distribution truck. Weighing the fish helps the hatchery determine the number of fish that are being loaded onto the truck.

“Just in the month of May, we stocked over 300,000 fish out of this facility.”



BELOW: A Game and Fish distribution truck waits near circular tanks at the Dan Speas Fish Hatchery. Hatchery employees have commercial driver's licenses so that they can stock lakes and rivers all over the state.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WYOMING GAME AND FISH



Story Fish Hatchery

This facility maintains three permanent year-round personnel plus one or two seasonal employees, according to Steve Diekema, Story's superintendent. Story's mission is different from Speas.

"We're not a typical fish hatchery ... our purpose is all about egg production," Diekema said.

The hatchery produces five to six million fish eggs per year. One of the species of eggs they provide is the California golden trout.

"The first year of spawning golden trout was very rewarding," Diekema said. "I still remember that first spawn day in June of 2009. After receiving the fish as transfers, we had to wait two years to see if the fish would mature and produce viable, quality eggs. Not knowing if starting this brood stock at the hatchery was going to be successful brought about a variety of emotions. When we spawned the fish and they provided great looking eggs, there were fist pumps and high-fives all around. To know that we were able to have a successful golden trout brood stock to produce a reliable source of golden trout to be stocked around the



Cowboy State has been one of the most rewarding aspects of my career."

Story also provides eggs to out-of-state hatcheries in exchange for their fish.

"We provide fish eggs as part of our trading program with other states to bring cool and warm water fish back into Wyoming, such as bass, walleye, pike, and catfish," said Diekema, who has worked at the Story Fish Hatchery for 12 years.

The hatchery, the oldest in the state, first opened in 1909. In 2008, the facility transitioned from a stocking hatchery, like Speas, to a brood stock operation. That means keeping adult populations of fish for egg production.

"When we go out into the wild, we're unsure of the disease status of the fish, and capturing fish in the wild can be hit or miss at times. This provides a reliable source of eggs for our fish culture system," he said.

Wyoming's fish hatcheries closed to visitors during the COVID-19 outbreak. For a hatchery that usually sees 20,000 people every year, including school tours, that hit Story hard.

"We are the most visited fish hatchery in the state," Diekema said.

The hatcheries partially reopened in June.

To learn more about the Story operation, a 10-minute YouTube video is available online at youtube.com/watch?v=f-Scu9ZdZ-s. Virtual tours of the other hatcheries can be found on the Game and Fish website. A video about the Dan Speas Fish Hatchery can be found at wgfd.wyo.gov/About-Us/Offices-and-Facilities/Dan-Speas-Fish-Hatchery.



PHOTO BY DAN CEREDA

Endless Opportunity

With 4,200 lakes, 27,000 miles of rivers and streams and at least 35 game fish species, Wyoming offers endless opportunities to cast a line into the state's waterways.

Fishing remains a popular outdoor sport, said Matt Hahn, regional fisheries supervisor for Wyoming Game and Fish in Casper.

"It's about as popular as it's ever been. In some states, participation in various [outdoor] sports has tapered off, but we haven't seen that here in Wyoming," he said.

Wyoming's waters beckon nonresidents as well, including people from other countries.

"We're definitely a destination state – a lot of people come here to fish," Hahn said. "We have pretty top-notch resources."

From warm water species, like bass, bluegill and sunfish, to cool and cold water species such as trout, sauger and walleye, Wyoming offers a plethora of opportunities for anglers. Fishing is a year-round sport and an activity for just about everyone, whether a person prefers solitude or taking the family outdoors, Hahn said.

"We're lucky in this state to have a diversity of places," he added. "A lot of remote places, too, so if you're looking for solitude, you can always have a place to fish where there's nobody else or only a handful of people fishing. In a lot of the more populated states, that's not the case." ➔

Nick Cinquina casts and Ben Krueger rows on the North Platte River west of Casper.

Joys of the Job

COVID-19 may have disrupted in-person visits to the state's fish hatcheries for a time, but fishing in Wyoming has never been canceled. The outdoors, including rivers and lakes, allows for social distancing. Within those waters, Wyoming residents and visitors find the purpose of the state's fish hatcheries and rearing stations – the species swimming beneath the surface.

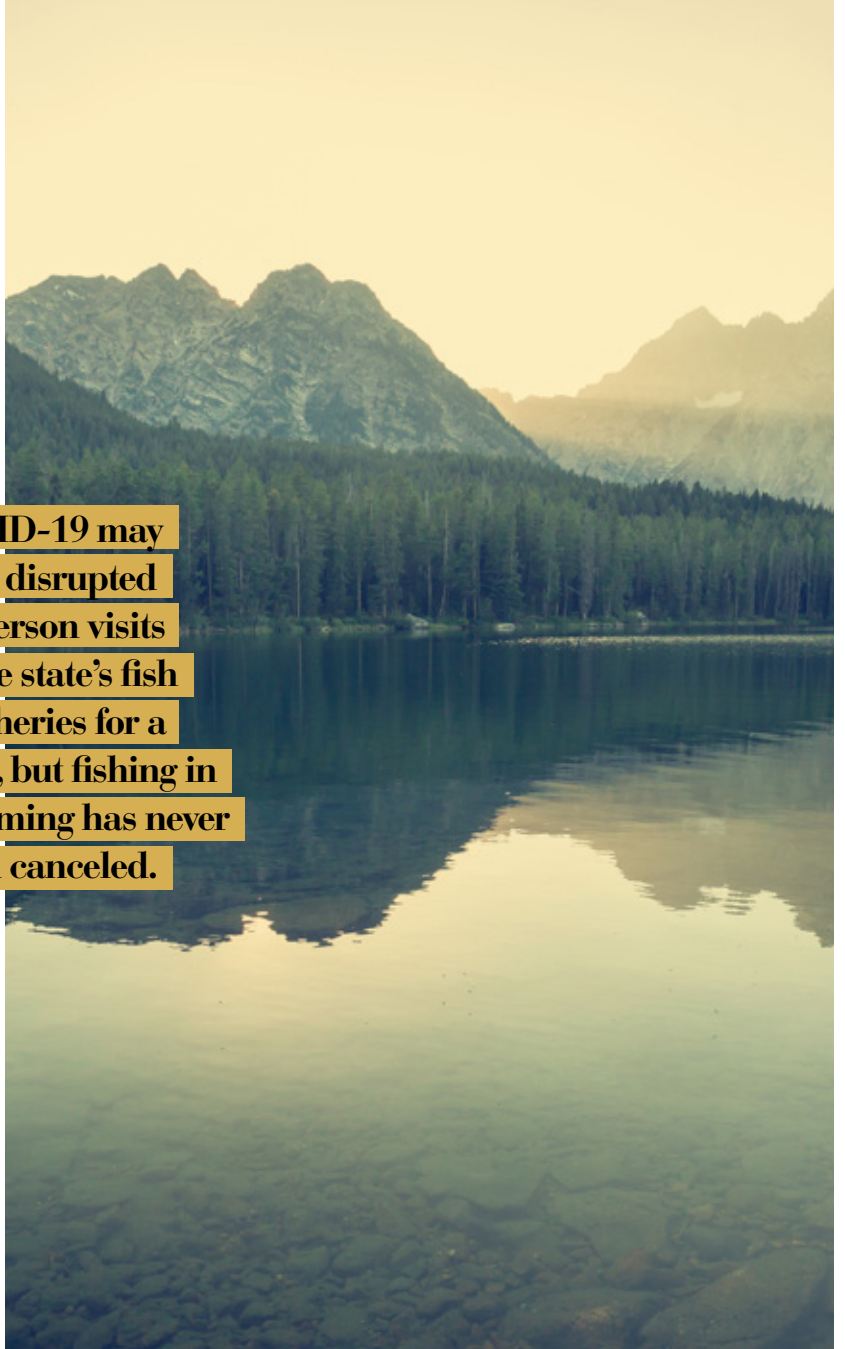
"The most rewarding thing for me in my job is seeing all the plans come together and doing the good work that we do and the impact it has on the resource for the general public," Alsager said. "People get to go out there and enjoy the resource."

Diekema agreed.

"I really enjoy spawning these fish and providing a great resource in the end for the residents of the state of Wyoming. I think that's what we're all in for, really taking pride in being able to provide good fishing opportunities for the public through our work, whether it's rearing fish, spawning fish or stocking fish." **W**

Gayle M. Irwin is a freelance writer based in Casper.

**COVID-19 may
have disrupted
in-person visits
to the state's fish
hatcheries for a
time, but fishing in
Wyoming has never
been canceled.**



LEFT: Ben Krueger shows off a rainbow trout on the North Platte River west of Casper.

ANDREW ENSCORE



Working as a Game Warden

BY GAYLE M. IRWIN

“Variety is the spice of life,” the old saying goes, and for Game Warden Andrew “Andy” Enscore, that diversity is what he most enjoys about his job. His work isn’t just about finding poachers or writing citations.

“My days are all really different – that’s one of my favorite parts of the job,” he said. “I get up, and I set out to do what I need to accomplish that day, whether that’s working on the water and checking fishermen or driving around and talking to landowners, building relationships with them. Sometimes I go out and look for critters and count animals. One day I can be out doing law enforcement and the next day I can be out counting sage grouse on their breeding ground. It’s really awesome!”

Enscore serves Niobrara County as Wyoming Game and Fish’s Lusk District Game Warden. He lives in Lusk, but he serves in Niobrara Electric Association’s territory, as well as the entire state. He came to Lusk in March of this year after having worked as a warden in Casper since August 2019. Before that, he worked for Colorado Parks and Wildlife and graduated from Colorado State University with a degree in fish and wildlife biology. ➔



I was on the science side of things [while in Colorado],” he said. “As soon as I saw an opening here with Wyoming Game and Fish, I jumped right on it.”

Before college, Ensore served in the Army and worked construction, a skill he sometimes applies in his current job.

“A big part of my job is helping biologists on the research side of things, like going up in a helicopter and counting elk and doing population studies.

“I’ve always been drawn to wildlife, and, also at the same time, I’ve felt a strong draw to law enforcement,” he added. “Being a game warden, I’m able to blend those fields into one single career, which is really a dream come true for me.”

He also serves as a public relations officer, whether enforcing game laws, meeting people or giving presentations.

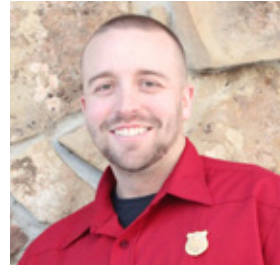
“I do a ton of public relations,” he said. “I talk with landowners, and I’ve had the privilege to go and give talks to schools.

As a game warden, I’m kind of the face of the Game and Fish Department out in the public, so their impression of Game and Fish oftentimes comes from interaction with the game warden. So, part of my job is building relationships with folks.”

Just as his days are different, so are the seasons in which he works. Ensore expects to spend a lot of time at Alcova Reservoir near Casper this summer. There are no lakes or reservoirs in Niobrara County.

“Summer brings out the watercraft, and I’ll do a lot fishing enforcement,” Ensore said. “Alcova is kind of a busy area, so the more law enforcement presence we have out there, the better. We’re a state agency, so we go anywhere we’re needed.”

That may include Glendo if he’s called to go.



While summer brings out boaters and anglers, the fall season is often the busiest, Ensore said.

“Fall into winter is the busy season for us. That’s when the big game seasons and small game and waterfowl seasons are open,” he said. “We’re

almost always out in the field then.”

Spring turkey season takes him back out into the field and provides catch-up time in the office.

Relocating to Lusk, Wyoming from Fort Collins, Colorado hasn’t been difficult for Ensore. In fact, he said he’s enjoying both his job and his new community.

“I’ve spent some time up here in Wyoming. I have some friends here and did some fishing trips and other things,” he said. “I like the landscape and the people up here. I like the culture around Wyoming.

“Growing up in a bigger city, you really don’t get the same feeling as you do in Wyoming, and I’m really enjoying it, especially my placement in Lusk,” he added. “It’s a good community, a lot of great people. I love the small-town feel, and I really think I’ve found my calling here.”

As his first anniversary as a Wyoming Game and Fish Department game warden nears, Ensore believes he made a positive choice accepting the position.

“I’m really excited to be working here in Wyoming,” he said. “I’ve only been doing this a short while now, but I couldn’t imagine myself doing anything else. It’s a great agency. Everybody that works here is passionate about what they’re doing, and they’re great to work with. The public is really interested in fish and wildlife. I look forward to working with the people in Wyoming, and I’m really enjoying Lusk and Niobrara County – it’s a good community of people. I’m excited to set my roots here and make a life here. I’m just happy to be here.” **W**

Gayle M. Irwin is a freelance writer based in Casper.

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What do Biologists do?

WHEN I GROW UP

I want to be a

Biologist

How to Become a Biologist

Tools of the Trade

Circle the correct items.

- A. A truck
B. A boat
C. A helicopter
D. All of the above

Wyoming Range War

The Infamous Invasion of Johnson County

BY JOHN W. DAVIS

"John Davis' understanding of the subject and his affinity for the place and people give the reader a rich portrait of the townspeople, the cattlemen and the politicians. ... He details a plot worthy of today's political scandal-gates ... a pleasure read that you can't help but enjoy."

—Wyoming Lawyer

DESCRIPTION BY WREN STAFF

Author John Davis explores a notorious event in Wyoming history, coming to a new conclusion about the motives of so-called thieves and rustlers. The range war began in 1892 when prominent Wyoming cattlemen hired a private army and traveled to Buffalo with a list of men they planned to shoot or hang. The war ended when President Benjamin Harrison sent the Army to rescue the prominent cattlemen, who were under siege by a local posse.

"Wyoming Range War" was awarded a nonfiction book award by Wyoming State Historical Society in 2011, and the book was reprinted in 2012. Davis practiced law in Worland, retiring in 2016. This giveaway copy was printed in 2010.

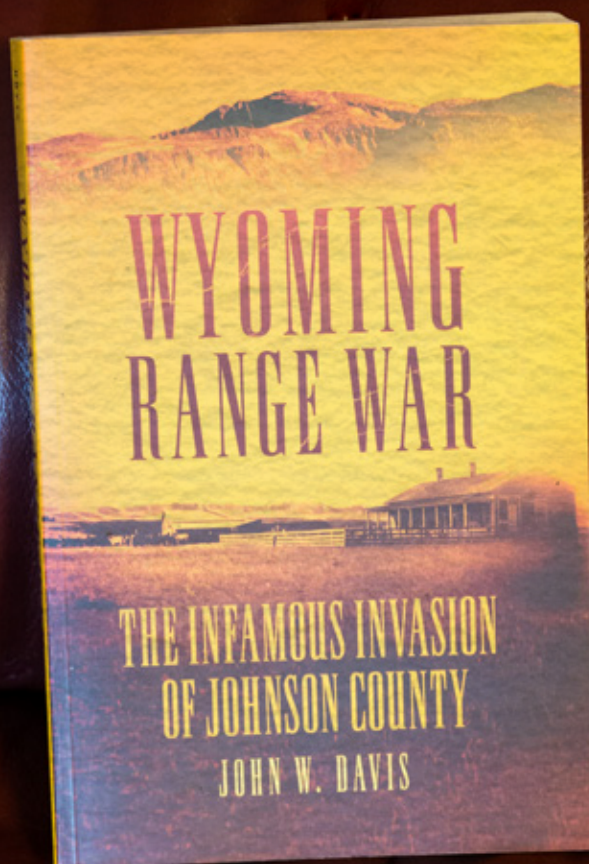
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ISBN: 978-0806142616

Publisher: University of Oklahoma Press

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Going Fishing

BY TIFFANY WHITSITT



Consider yourself a so-fish-ticated angler?

See if you can find each of these items, or text, in the photo at left.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 35

1. REELS
2. Floating Tip
3. Retractor
4. Scud
5. Shot Weight
6. Swivel
7. WY Fishing License
8. Orb Fly Variation
9. Spring
10. Neon Spinner
11. Buckskin Caddis
12. 26



Stress Relief

BY DR. BRUCE CONNALLY

There were a lot of things I did not know that I did not know when I graduated from veterinary school. I knew quite a bit about anatomy and pathology and microbiology. I knew a little bit about surgical techniques and how to interpret lab results. But I did not know very much about client communications.

Especially about those communications that involved giving bad news. I did not understand the pressures I would feel when choosing to end an animal's life, even

when that choice was obviously best for the animal. I did not understand the pressure I would feel when a rancher lost a calf. He not only lost a life, but income he needed to feed his family.

Many parts of practicing veterinary medicine were so exciting and tremendously rewarding as I got to know my clients and their animals. But the responsibility of life and death decisions began to wear me down after about 6 months of practice. My old college roommate must have understood when he called me on an early June evening.

"Hey, what are you doing this weekend?" Elvis asked. "I have some time off and there is supposed to be some good fishing around Lander."

"That sounds great! I think I need a little break from veterinary medicine," I said. "I am not much of a fisherman but I am renting a house on a ranch that the Little Popo Agie River runs through. I have a beautiful bamboo pole that my dad bought in Japan when he was in the Navy. Maybe you could teach me to fly fish."

The plan was in place. Elvis sent me to the sporting goods store to buy the appropriate reel and line. He said he would bring the flies. I spent each evening practicing in the backyard until I could fairly consistently cast a fly about 20 feet.

Elvis drove up on Saturday morning while I was working in the vet clinic. We grabbed some sandwiches for lunch and sat down to make a plan for the fishing expedition.

"Elvis, you know I have never fly fished," I confessed. "We used to use bait or sometimes lures in the big stock dam at home, but never flies. And we were fishing for bass or bluegill, not trout."

"And," I continued my confession, "my brother always caught more fish than me. He would catch nice bass and I would catch bluegill. I never did catch a bass. The only one I almost caught broke my line and got away. Twenty minutes later my brother caught it with my hook still in its mouth. Fishing was a little frustrating."

"Don't worry: I can teach you," Elvis said reassuringly. "Fishing is not that hard. It gives you a chance to relax and enjoy nature around you."

We finished our sandwiches and headed toward the river. Elvis had his pole, a fishing vest with all sorts of good stuff in it, and a little metal box full of hand-tied flies. I had Dad's antique bamboo pole and a bottle of industrial strength mosquito repellent. We headed for the north side of the river. There were fewer trees and bushes on that side for me to tangle up in as I practiced my newfound skill. We started fishing going upriver, Elvis leading and me following about 30 yards behind. Within 10 minutes Elvis caught a small brown trout. We admired the shimmering fish with the dark spots before returning it to the river.

"That is a promising start," Elvis said. "Now let's find his big brother."

For the next 45 minutes we kept working our way up the river. I watched as Elvis cast his fly onto the water and let it drift peacefully downstream. I followed along, trying hard to emulate the fisherman ahead of me. It was not as smooth as Elvis did it, but I could get my fly out into the middle of the narrow river. Then I let it drift with the current, around rocks and under tree branches. Sometimes it tangled but I was always able to get free. Elvis caught and released two small browns. I did not get a bite.

Elvis and I stopped to discuss strategy. "What fly are you using?" He asked.

"That should work," he said when I showed him the fly. "But let's have you try the same one I am using." We changed the fly out and continued up river, this time with me leading. For the next 30 minutes I flicked the new fly out into the river. I watched it float through the ripples and eddies until it drifted past me down the river. Then I reeled it back in without any sign that a fish had taken notice. Behind me Elvis caught and released another brown that was just about big enough to eat.

"What am I doing wrong?" I asked while slapping two mosquitoes off the back of my neck. I had gotten into the edge of the river and my feet were cold. The

frustration of fishing with my brother years ago was beginning to edge into the back of my mind.

"I don't know," Elvis replied with a puzzled look on his face. "How about if I just stand here and watch what you are doing?"

"Sounds good." I said as I mashed another mosquito on my forehead.

"See that old log half submerged on the other side?" Elvis asked. "Put your fly in that calm area above the log and let it drift down. There's probably a big fish sitting in that pool right under the log."

Dad's old bamboo pole felt good in my hands. A red winged blackbird squawked encouragement from the willows across the river. I took a deep breath and worked some line out, gently snapping it back-and-forth twice before depositing the fly 10 feet upriver from the log.

"Perfect." Elvis said quietly as the fly followed the current around and into the pool below the log. It sat in the calm water for a few seconds before drifting out into the main current.

"Do that again," Elvis encouraged as I reeled my line back in.

Using muscle memory I had begun to develop in my backyard over the previous week, I sent the fly zipping through the air to drop into the river above the log. It rested there for a moment, caught in the current, and drifted into the calm water below the log. The fly sat there for what felt like 10 minutes before catching in the current and drifting on down the river.

"Well isn't that strange?" Elvis mused, "I would have bet a lot of money there was a fish in there."

He stepped up beside me and cast his fly into the river above the log. It caught

in the current and drifted down into the quiet pool.

BANG! A 2-pound brown erupted from the water to take the fly.

"I thought he was in there," Elvis smiled happily as he reeled the fish in.

We fished for another hour or so but my heart wasn't in it. I could feel the icy water soaking into my socks after I waded into the river to untangle my fly from some cattails. The mosquitoes chewing on my ears appeared to like Deet and the blackbird in the willows seemed to be mocking me each time I reeled in an empty fly. Elvis caught the only rainbow trout of the day. It was a beautiful 10-inch-long fish with the shimmering colors on its sides. I never

got a single bite the whole afternoon.

That night we cooked burgers on the grill. We reminisced about university life in Laramie and relived elk hunts in the mountains above Encampment until fatigue overtook us.

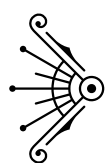
The next day was one of those magnificent

early June mornings that starts crisp but promises to get hot by midday. We said our goodbyes and Elvis headed back home to Saratoga. I took Dad's bamboo pole apart and put it back in its basswood box. The reel and flies that Elvis had left for me fit in a special compartment at one end of the box. With the brass latches secured on the box I returned it to the highest shelf in the porch. I turned and took a deep breath. The Popo Agie River is beautiful and it was good to share it with Elvis.

I do wonder though, if fishing might be more stressful than veterinary medicine.

W

Dr. Bruce Connally practices equine medicine in central Wyoming and northern Colorado from his home in Berthoud, Colorado.



SALMON



SEARED SALMON WITH VINAIGRETTE

4 (6 OZ) PIECES OF SALMON FILLET
SALT AND PEPPER
6 TBS OLIVE OIL
4 TSP WHITE WINE VINEGAR
4 TSP DIJON MUSTARD
4 TSP HORSERADISH

Pat salmon dry and coat with salt and pepper. In a heavy skillet heat 2 TBS oil over moderately high heat until hot, but not smoking. Sear salmon, skin side down, for 5 minutes. Reduce heat to moderately low. Turn salmon and cook for 4 minutes more, or just until it flakes.

While salmon is cooking, in a small bowl, whisk together vinegar, mustard, horseradish and 4 remaining TBS oil, and salt and pepper to taste until combined. Serve over salmon.

ANNE METZLER ★ RIVERTON

GRILLED SALMON

1 - 1/2 POUNDS SALMON FILLETS
LEMON PEPPER TO TASTE
GARLIC POWDER TO TASTE
SALT TO TASTE
1/3 CUP SOY SAUCE
1/3 CUP BROWN SUGAR
1/3 CUP WATER
1/4 CUP VEGETABLE OIL

Season salmon fillets with lemon pepper, garlic powder and salt.

In a small bowl, stir together soy sauce, brown sugar, water and vegetable oil until sugar is dissolved. Place fish in a large resealable plastic bag with the soy sauce mixture, seal and turn to coat. Refrigerate for at least 2 hours.

Preheat grill for medium heat.

Lightly oil grill grate. Place salmon on the preheated grill and discard marinade. Cook salmon for 6 to 8 minutes per side, or until the fish flakes easily with a fork.

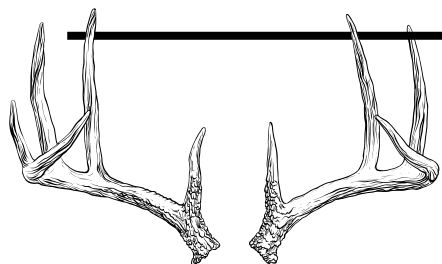
NANCY DENK ★ RIVERTON

ORANGE CHILI SALMON

1/2 CUP ORANGE JUICE
4 (6 OZ) SALMON FILLETS
2 TSP GRATED ORANGE RIND
3 TBS BROWN SUGAR
1/2 TSP SALT
1 TBS CHILI POWDER

Place juice in zip lock bag and add salmon. Marinate 30 minutes. Combine orange rind, brown sugar, salt and chili powder. Pat onto salmon fillets. Place salmon skin side down in baking dish and bake at 350 degrees for about 20 minutes or until fish flakes with a fork.

CAROLYN DROESCHER ★ WHEATLAND



SEPTEMBER:
GAME

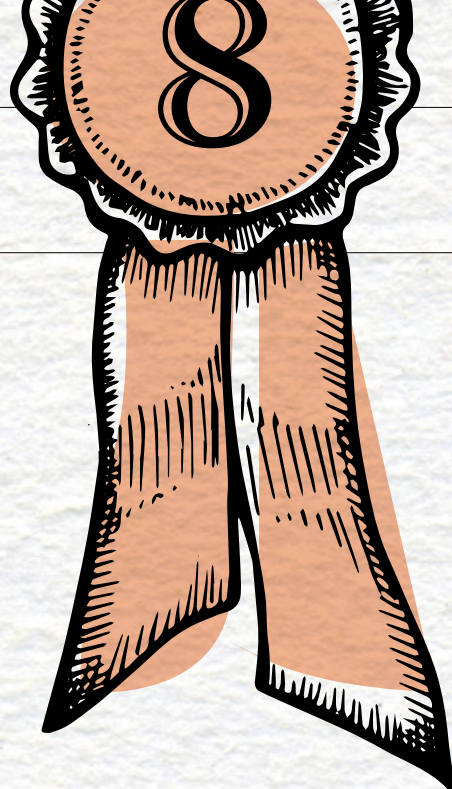
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DEB DAVIDSON ★ YODER



Wyoming State Fair!
The very words bring excitement to all ages

whose goal is watching competitions and viewing the strengths of young people as they showcase the year's projects. My main interest as an almost 17-year-old was the sheep show, going from the Casper Fair to county fair, and now on to the state fair in Douglas, Wyoming that was part of my yearly routine in my teen years. I competed with market lambs along with a small farm flock of registered Hampshires. Meeting others with common interests and learning different methods was just a portion of the excitement, with the paramount goal of seeing the best of the best, the best of show. Like most kids, I was hoping that my sheep would have that title.

At this particular fair, my sheep had already been knocked out of the running for top market lamb with a third or fourth place showing. It was enough to earn a ribbon since the ribbons were given out through eighth place, but not enough to compete for the champion slots. I continued to watch others show their animals in various classes when I noticed that two of my friends were among the nine competing in the arena. That meant that one out of the nine would not get a ribbon, but that was not my thought at the time.

One of the competitors was a young man of about 18 and this was his final year to participate in the 4-H/FFA programs. He was from Laramie and I had known him since I was in the sixth grade, meeting when my family bought my market lamb project from his family. Dewey was always helpful to others. I was rooting for him since it was his last

year and it would be nice to have a final good memory to complete his years.

Then I looked over at my other friend — she was a new friend just that summer. We had both attended Girls State in Laramie in June, learning about the workings of local, county, state and national governments. I had not been aware that she had a sheep project and it was a nice reunion to meet up with her at the fair. I instantly wanted her to win, even over my old friend.



I watched them work their lambs; Sherry being naturally less polished than some who had begun showing a smooth harmony with their animals that only experience can develop. The judge asked them to line up in profile, then change to be parallel to each other. The lambs were then braced for the judge as he felt them for fat and muscle, and the tension rose as the judge began choosing his placings. I felt the disappointment as I realized that my friends were side by side at the bottom of the class! And Sherry was last! She would not even get a ribbon! The judge motioned to the clerk that he was done.

That is when the kindness happened. I watched my young man friend motion to the judge. This was highly unusual, I thought. What is he doing? What is he saying to the judge? I had never seen a contestant speak to a judge!

A thoughtful look came over the judge's face as Dewey spoke, and the judge SWITCHED the bottom pair! I began to tear up and I could not look at others around me to see if they had done the same. Sherry was now in eighth place and as she was handed a ribbon, one that she could enjoy the touch of. I had to leave the area.

I had been amazed earlier in the week that Sherry had even known me just a few months after meeting me. She recognized my voice after I said a simple, "Hello Sherry." She didn't even hesitate to say my name. My new friend Sherry had been blind since birth.

And as for Dewey on that day, he truly was the Best of Show.

FLY FISHING

My boy's eyes lit with fire
His energy boundless
Preparation at sun rise
Full of dreams no less

Good reel, line and leader
A fly rod in hand
The challenge is out there
Set fly on command

Along streambed
A pool is selected
Cast made, fly set
Awareness to be tested

Who knows what will come home
One to full creel
The very act of fly fishing
Makes this day real

C.A. PRINE ★ DUBOIS

We share a selection of WREN readers' creative writing (poems, limericks, haiku, short verse, and prose) every issue as space and content allow. To be considered for publication, please include the author's consent to be submitted, his or her mailing address, and confirmation that the work has not been published elsewhere. If you would like us to return your work, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING REGIONAL MAP



★
Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic,
events may be postponed or canceled. Please
call ahead before attending events.

FEATURED EVENT



JURASSIC CLASSIC MOUNTAIN BIKE FESTIVAL

LANDER ★ AUGUST 20-23

Mountain Bike Festival takes place in multiple areas throughout Lander.

Friday: Group ride, demo bikes, film and live music.

Saturday: Yoga, breakfast, clinics, Sinks Canyon ride, trade fair, vendors and entertainment.

Sunday: Breakfast at the Bake Shop, then head out to Sinks Canyon to build new trail.

INFO 307-332-2926
JURASSICCLASSICFEST.COM

NORTHWEST

VIRTUAL

JULY 22

Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout: Human and Wildlife Interactions seminar series. Zoom and Facebook Live webinar, 6p, free. Info on Facebook, meetetsemuseums.org, 307-868-2423.

JULY 29

Paleontology of the Big Horn Basin and Absaroka Range: Human and Wildlife Interactions seminar series. Zoom and Facebook Live webinar, 6p, free. Info on Facebook, meetetsemuseums.org, 307-868-2423.

AUGUST 5-6

Native American Education Conference: Something for everyone, including building relationships and generating ideas for engaging families and the community in education of the whole child. Info 307-777-3747, eventbrite.com/o/wyoming-department-of-education-16663810825.

AUGUST 12

Bison in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem: Human and Wildlife Interactions seminar series. Zoom and Facebook Live webinar, 6p, free. Info on Facebook, meetetsemuseums.org, 307-868-2423.

01 | SOUTHEAST

CENTENNIAL

ONGOING

Nici Self Museum Hours:

Museum open 12-4p Thu-Mon to Labor Day weekend, 12-4p Sat-Sun in September. Nici Self Museum, free, info 307-742-7763, niciselfmuseum.org.

CHUGWATER

AUGUST 14-15

Chugwater Music Fest: Showcase musicians in an outdoor tent. Food and vendor booths. 10a-5p, Staats Park, \$20, \$10 kids each day. Info 307-331-9298.

ONGOING

Live Music: Stampede Saloon & Eatery, info 307-422-3200, stampedefun@aol.com.

DOUGLAS

AUGUST 11-15

Wyoming State Fair: Agricultural displays and competitions, vendors, entertainment and more. Wyoming State Fair Park, \$5, \$3 12 and under, info 307-358-2398.

HARTVILLE

AUGUST 15

Sunrise Mine Tours: Three-hour mine and town tour, barbecue lunch to benefit the Western History Center. Gates open at 11:30, tour leaves at 1p. Meet at Sunrise Mine, \$20, \$35 family, no credit cards. Info 307-575-2010.

GUERNSEY

FOURTH SUNDAYS

American Legion Riders: 2p, Crazy Tony's Bar & Grill, info 307-575-0838.

RAWLINS

AUGUST 1-8

Carbon County Fair & Rodeo: Events include mud volleyball, rodeo and ranch rodeo, mutton busting, dummy roping, wild pony races and demolition derby. Info 307-328-7811, fairgrounds@carbonwy.com.

SARATOGA

AUGUST 8

Trek: Meet at Saratoga Museum 8:30a. Suggested donation \$20, info 307-326-5511, saratoga-museum.com.

AUGUST 14

Gema Pearl Sings the Blues: Benefit concert for Saratoga Museum. Platte Valley Community Center, info 307-326-5511, saratoga-museum.com.

AUGUST 15

Steinley Cup Microbrew Festival: 1-5p, Veterans Island Park, \$30, free for 12 and under. Info 307-326-8855, saratogachamber.info.

SAVERY

AUGUST 15-16

Sheepwagon Exhibit: Food, crafts, music, tours and demonstrations during Little Snake River Museum event. Free, info 307-383-7262, littlesnakerivermuseum.com/sheepwagon.

TORRINGTON

JULY 18, AUGUST 22

Cruise Night: Cruise 6-10p at 21st and East A, poker run 7-8:30p. Info 307-532-3879.

JULY 31-AUGUST 8

Goshen County Fair: Fair begins with Jelmer Johnson Memorial Team Sort, ends with Kiwanis Pig Wrestling. Goshen County Fairgrounds, info 307-532-2525.

AUGUST 20

Third Thursday On Main

Street: Live music, food, drinks, crafts and late-night shopping downtown. 5-7p, Main Street, info 307-532-3879.

02 | NORTHEAST

BUFFALO

THURSDAYS

Bluegrass Jam Session: 6:30p, Occidental Saloon, free, info 307-684-0451.

CLEARMONT

ONGOING

Historical Center: Center open Thu 2-4p, 1250 Front St, free. Historical Group meets 2p first Mon of the month at Clearmont Library, 1p third Mon of the month at Sheridan Library, info 307-758-4430.

GILLETTE

TUESDAYS

Levis and Lace: Square dance club will give modern square dance lessons, 7:30p, Rockpile Community Center, free trial lessons, info 307-660-7207.

SATURDAYS

Black & Yellow Theatre:

Experience designed to allow guests the opportunity to interact with subject matter, events and people that have shaped the Powder River Basin from pre-history to modern day. 11a-2p, Campbell County Rockpile Museum, free, info 307-682-5723, szacharias@ccgov.net, rockpilemuseum.com.

ONGOING

Ava Community Art Center: Info avacenter.org or 307-682-9133.

HULETT

ONGOING

Hulett Museum and Art Gallery:

8a-4p Mon-Fri, free, info 307-467-5292.

MOORCROFT

ONGOING

Library Events: Story hour 10a Wed; Book clubs 1p third Thu and 6p fourth Tue. Info 307-756-3232, moorlibrary@rtconnect.net.

ONGOING

Senior Center Events: Third Thu Birthday and Anniversary Dinner, meat provided, bring a side dish. 5p social hour, 6p dinner; fourth Thu toenail clinic 9a, info 307-756-9550.

NEWCASTLE

AUGUST 8-15

Rescue 100: Fundraiser for Weston County Sheriff Search and Rescue will have raffles, food, homemade pies. 10a-7p, corner of US 16 and US 85. Info 307-746-3435.

SUNDANCE

ONGOING

Library Events: Storytime for toddlers and preschoolers 10:30a Wed; Lunch Bunch book discussion group 11a fourth Thu; UFOs (Unfinished Objects) 6-8p last Mon. Crook County Library, info 307-283-1006 or crookcountylib@rangeweb.net.

UPTON

AUGUST 15

Golf Triathlon: Food provided. Cedar Pines Golf Association, \$150 per team (2 people), info 307-941-1151.

ONGOING

Senior Center Activities: Lunch is served at noon Mon-Fri, \$4, call for reservation before 9a. 307-468-9267. Stop by Tuesday mornings for coffee and treats, with an exercise program at 9a. Seniors welcome Thu and Fri from 1-4p. Potluck at 5:30p third Mondays. Ask about medical equipment loans. 1113 2nd St., info 307-468-9251.



Send complete
information for the
September issue's
events by
AUGUST 10!

Please remember that events
from the 20th of September to
the 20th of October are included
in the September issue.

Be sure to include the date,
title, description, time, cost,
location, address and contact
information for each event.

Photos are always welcome.



Look for more events at
wyomingrea.org/news.

QUESTIONS & SUBMISSIONS:

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☎ [307] 772-1968

✉ 214 W. Lincolnway
Ste. 21C
Cheyenne, WY 82001

💻 wyomingrea.org/wren-submissions

03 | NORTHWEST

CODY

ONGOING

Cody Country Art League

Gallery: 9a-5p Mon-Sat, 836 Sheridan Ave, info 307-587-3597.

DUBOIS

JULY 25

National Day of the Cowboy:

Parade at 1p, rodeo, poker run, cowhide race, and Western events. Info 307-455-2556, duboiswyoming.org.

JULY 29, 30

Annual Community Wellness

Screening/Blood Draw: 7-10a, Headwaters Arts and Conference Center, info 307-455-2243.

AUGUST 6-7

Volcanism in Dubois: Speech about Lava Mountain and other recent volcanism in the Dubois area. 7p Aug 6, free. Trek to see evidence of volcanic activity around Dubois and the upper Wind River basin. 9a-1p Aug 7, \$10 advanced registration required, Dubois Museum, info 307-455-2284.

AUGUST 8

Dirt Bike Scramble: Over 50 participants are expected for six miles of motorcycle racing on the scenic Dubois Overlook trails. 8a-2p, info 307-438-2156, tylercjardine@aol.com.

AUGUST 8

Fireman's Buffalo BBQ: 4-7p in Town Park, \$15. Info 307-455-2556, duboiswyomingchamber.org.

AUGUST 18

A Day on the East Fork with

John Finley: Educational day seeing and hearing the history of the East Fork. 9a-4p, Dubois Museum, \$10, advance registration required, info 307-455-2284.

LANDER

JULY 31-AUGUST 1

Brewfest and Golf Tournament:

Vendors and live music. Tournament 9a Aug 1 at Lander Golf & Country Club. Festival at City Park. Tickets and info 307-332-3892, landerbrewfest.com, landergolfcourse.com.

AUGUST 3-8

Riverfest Art & Music Festival in the Park:

Artist booths and demos, live music, children's activities, food and spirits. 224 Main St, \$5, 12 and under free, info 307-332-5772, landerartcenter.com.

AUGUST 6-9

Wind River Days: Outdoor trade fair, beer gardens, food trucks and games, 8a-6p, Wind River Outdoor Company, free, info 307-332-7864, windriveroutdoorcompany.com.

AUGUST 13

Sho Rap Firefighters: Wildland firefighter and author will talk about the long history of Native American firefighters in Wyoming and the west. 7p, Pioneer Museum, free, info 307-332-3339.

MOVED TO AUGUST 14-16

International Climbers' Festival: Info 307-349-1561, 307-332-3892.

AUGUST 15

Paper Quilting for Kids: Children will learn about history of Lander while making a group paper quilt that will be displayed in the museum. 1p, Pioneer Museum, \$4, registration required, info 307-332-3339.

MEETEETSE

AUGUST 8

Kirwin Tour: Free, info meeteetsemuseums.org, programs@meeteetsemuseums.org, 307-868-2423.

RIVERTON

JULY 25 - AUGUST 1

Fremont County Fair: Ranch rodeo, PRCA rodeo, live music, ninja warrior competition, truck pull, demolition derby and more. Info fremontcountyfair.org.

AUGUST 15

J.B. Okie Manor Adventure

Trek: Learn about sheep tycoon and tour his home. Attendees are required to ride bus from museum, 9a, Riverton Museum, \$20 pre-registration required, info 307-856-2665.

SOUTH PASS CITY

AUGUST 8

Paint the Town Red: Historical cocktails with Backwards Distilling Company & the Low Water String Band. 6:30-8:30p, 125 Main St. \$50, reservation required, info 307-332.3684, southpasscity.com.

SATURDAYS

English Tunnel Mine Tour: One-mile hike and candle tour of a real mine. Reservations required, 11a-1p, 125 South Pass Main St. \$3 WY residents, \$5 visitors, under 18 free. No kids under 8. Info 307-332-3684. info@southpasscity.com, southpasscity.com/tours.

THERMOPOLIS

AUGUST 20

Pack'n the Mail: 7p, Hot Springs State Park pavilion, info thermopolischamber.org.

SECOND FRIDAYS

ArtStroll: Stroll on Broadway Street in Historic Downtown Thermopolis. Info 307-864-3002, gatherer@panix.com.

04 | SOUTHWEST

LYMAN

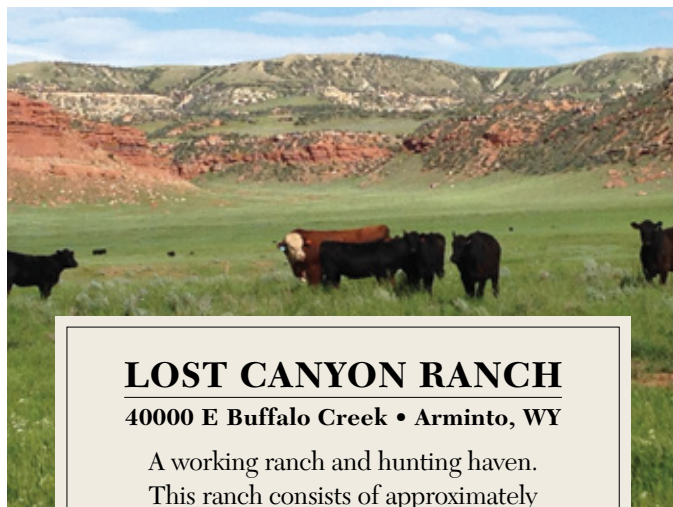
SECOND FRIDAYS

Storytime: 11a, Lyman Branch Library, all ages are welcome, free, info 307-787-6556, uintalibrary.org.

MOUNTAIN VIEW

WEDNESDAYS

Storytime: 11a, Uinta County Library, info 307-782-3161.



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More questions? Ask an expert at <http://bit.ly/wyo-expert>.



01

01 Mom's big catch, TK Enders, Decker, Montana

02 Anthony and Jaxton fishing, Michelle Rakness, Encampment

03 Brandon's first fish, Scott Cocharo, Moorcroft

04 Spring rainbow, Gina Burns, Mountain View

05 What do I do with it now? Marilyn Repshire, Hillsdale



02

03



04

05



JUST PICTURE IT

THIS MONTH:

FISHING



SEP (DUE AUG 10):

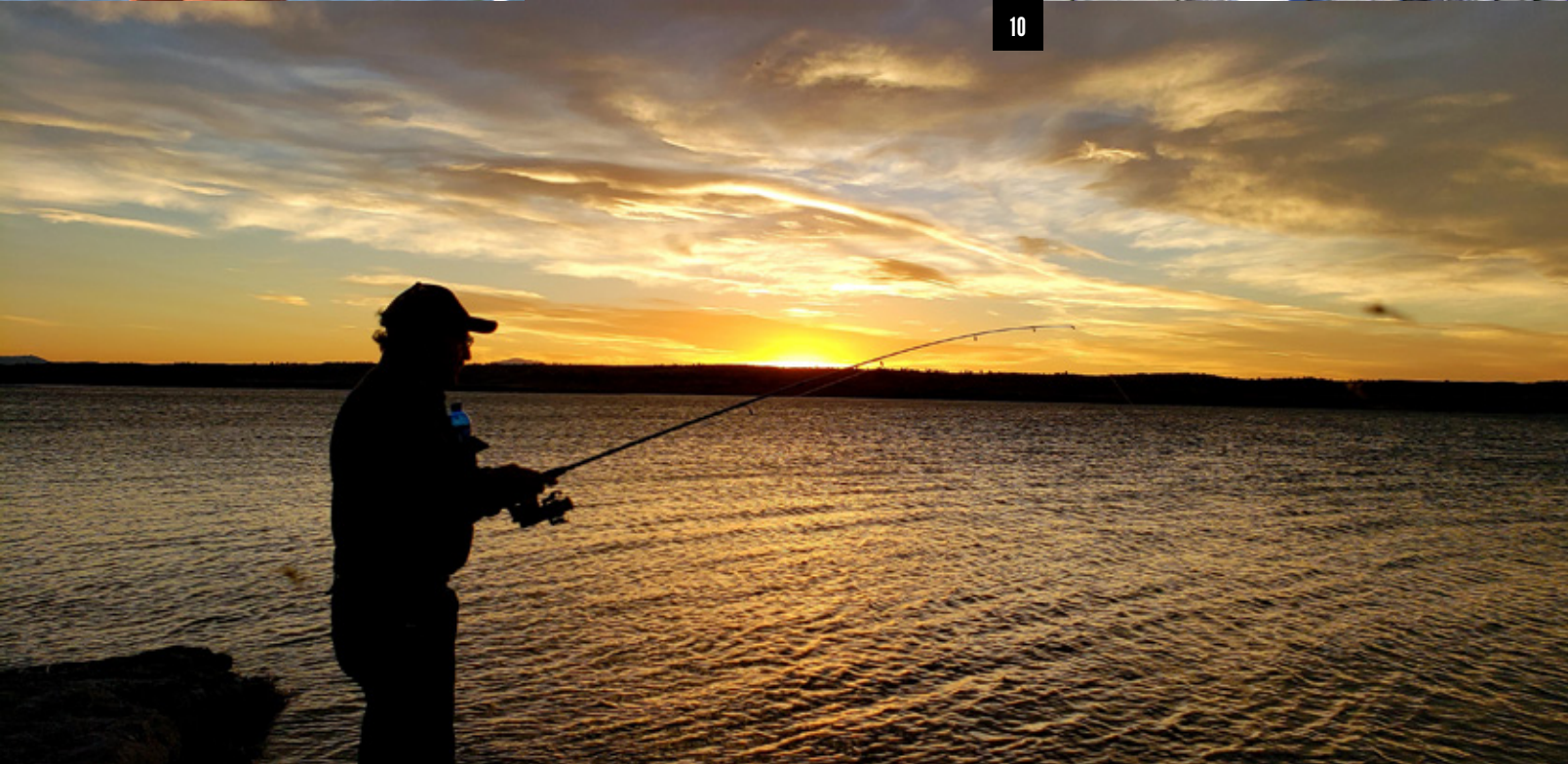
BRIDGES

OCT (DUE SEP 10):

WIND



- 06** | Uncle Ernie's sucker, Jana Ginter, Carpenter
- 07** | Fishing for cutthroat trout, Bill Sincavage, Dubois
- 08** | Fishing in South Dakota, Hollie Gilbert, Harrisburg, Nebraska
- 09** | A tough day fishing! Marynell Oechsner, Powell
- 10** | Fishing at Grayrocks, Dianalee Prime, Wheatland





10



11



12

- 10 | Fish on! Flower Norris, Lander
- 11 | First fish, Carissa Camp, Powell
- 12 | George Hill and Dan Brown fishing near Ranchester in 1947, Isabell (Brown) Hill, Lingle
- 13 | Spring fly fishing, Dahlton Tarno, Gillette
- 14 | Halibut fishing in Alaska, Bonnie Geckler, Pine Haven
- 15 | Enjoying the evening on Buffalo Bill, Jerry Thompson, Powell



13



14



15



✉ wren@wyomingrea.org
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Please include your name, hometown and a title.

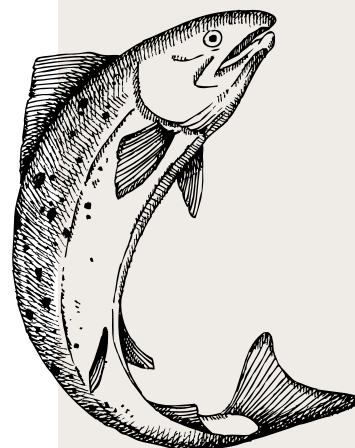
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5. Shot Weight
6. Swivel
7. WY Fishing License
8. Orb Fly Variation
9. Spring
10. Neon Spinner
11. Buckskin Caddis
12. 26



PUZZLE ON PAGE 23



**Wills, Trusts
& Probate**

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The Law in Old Wyoming

BY DAVE MCCORMICK

While the U.S. Army of the 1800s was associated with fighting Native American tribes in the northern plains, that was just part of their function. Army soldiers also supported civilian law enforcement officials.

After the Civil War many people emigrated to the northern plains; some peaceful settlers, others outlaws and renegades. The latter two groups posed a serious problem. In the late 1870s the outlawry made inroads into the Black Hills; attacking miners, holding up stagecoaches and robbing Union Pacific trains. They rustled horses from the Sioux and Arapaho herds as well as those of the settlers. Even military property wasn't safe from their thieving incursions.

In the 1870s local law enforcement in Wyoming, Dakota and neighboring districts offered a thin wedge of protection at best. They could not keep up with the crime wave. If the Army had not stepped in to aid local sheriffs and U.S. marshalls, the crime wave would have been many times worse. Using Fort Laramie as the center of operations, Army posts such as Fort Fetterman and Fort Sanders dispatched units to aid sheriffs in their quest to curb the outlaw faction.

In 1854 United States Attorney General Caleb Cushing broadened the meaning of the posse comitatus. In the law enforcement custom, sheriffs and marshals had the mandate to muster male citizens as posse men. Cushing ordained the phrase "posse men" to encompass any Army soldiers posted inside the bailiwick of lawmen needing help. Cushing drew this viewpoint from

Section 5 of the Fugitive Slave Law. But it also aided western lawmen in that it allowed them the full right to enlist the help of U.S. military garrisons. This was a huge help to Wyoming lawmen — they could ride to the closest Army post and secure help from the soldiers there.

The unearthing of gold in the Black Hills in 1874 triggered an upsurge in the exploitation of this expanse of western Dakota and eastern Wyoming and raised

the need for a military assistance. The soldiers' role as lawmen was to thwart gold miners from encroaching onto Indian treaty lands in the Black Hills. That proved impossible. Soon, the whole area was inundated with thousands of people with gold fever. Naturally, this environment drew the lawless element to prey on the miners. In a contradictory manner, they now had to protect the miners who were illegally there.



Fort Laramie

Cheyenne blossomed into a most important hub of commerce due to its location along the Union Pacific Railroad. The entire area, including the Cheyenne-Deadwood Stage route and other roads leading into the region, drew many robbers; some of which harassed the Union Pacific.

Panning for gold in the Black Hills of South Dakota in 1889.



Soon, the whole area was inundated with thousands of people with gold fever.



Some outlaws, rather than rob the miners, raided livestock, especially horses from the Native American herds on reservations. These outlaws sometimes even stole livestock from the Army and sold the animals to the hungry miners, who refused to expose the rustlers to the law.

Army posts in Wyoming often sent out infantry or cavalry units in pursuit of the lawbreakers. The forts also provided food and a place to sleep after a hard day's ride, as well as weapons and fresh mounts. With few jails, the Army guardhouses served that purpose. In July 1877 Deputy Sheriff Thomas F. Talbott of Cheyenne

appreciatively recalled that, while on the trail of outlaws, he stopped at Fort Sanders, near Laramie where he was, "furnished fresh horses, rations, and everything needed for a hard, long ride."

This was dangerous duty for all lawmen, including the bluecoats on the northern plains. Arapaho Chief Black Cole sought help from the Army in March of 1876 to combat the marauds of the infamous horse thief, William F. Chambers, alias Persimmon Bill. Sgt. Patrick Sullivan and troopers from Fort Fetterman took up the chase. When they confronted the outlaw leader, Chambers shot Sullivan dead.

In 1876, the train robbers held up an express train at Percy Station in western Wyoming and got clean away. In 1878 the Army increased manpower support to the Union Pacific Railroad. The reason being the increased threat of the highwaymen that had been building along the route. On 13 September 1878, Lt. Theodore C. True, Adjutant at Fort Sanders, dispensed the orders "to protect the U.S. mails and passenger trains in route over the U.P.R.R. from Rock Springs to Carter Station." The specific orders were issued, at that time, because two independent gangs of train robbers were skulking in the Rock Springs area. The presence of the soldiers kept them at bay.

By 1879 the combination of civilian lawmen and military personnel had shown to secure returns in restoring law and order. Infrequent spates of lawbreaking still occurred; the Army's participation was still there with certain restrictions. Civilian lawmen now took the lead in apprehending the robbers and rustlers. At the pinnacle of the outlaw regime in the 1870s, the simple existence of the Army posts and their patrols in the hinterlands of Wyoming deprived the banditti a permanent haven. These Army soldiers represented the closest patron of civil lawmen on the Wyoming frontier in the 1870s. **W**

Now retired, David McCormick has worked as a freelance writer for the last 12 years. He especially enjoys writing on the old west. His articles have appeared in Wild West, Michigan History and Army Magazine.

Parts of this article were adapted from these sources:

Ball, Larry D., "The United States Army as a Constabulary on the Northern Plains," *Great Plains Quarterly* (Winter 1993), Pp. 21-32.
"Jenny Stockade," *Casper State-Tribune*, October 3, 1982.
Showalter, Dennis, "The U.S. Cavalry: Soldiers of a Nation Policemen of an Empire," *Army History*, No. 81 (Fall 2011), Pp. 6-23.
Welty, Raymond L., "The Policing of the Frontier by the Army, 1860-1870," Vol. VII, No. 3 (August 1938), Pp. 246 to 257.
"The Fugitive Slave Law; Section 5," *The Daily National Era*, January 24, 1854.

CATEGORIES

01. EQUIPMENT
02. FOR SALE
03. HORSES
04. LIVESTOCK
05. POULTRY
06. REAL ESTATE
07. WANTED
08. CRAFTS
09. OPPORTUNITIES
10. MISCELLANEOUS
11. BUSINESS CONSULTING
12. FOR RENT
13. HELP WANTED
14. DOGS
15. EMPLOYMENT SOUGHT
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1

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2

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the water

3

Talk about what
the raisins do

4

Repeat with a glass
of flat water

WHAT MAKES THE RAISINS DANCE?

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Activity adapted from Buggy and Buddy

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