

WREN

WYOMING RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

FEBRUARY ✕ 2019

CENTERPIECE

BLOCKCHAIN & WYOMING

[14]

CO-OP SPOTLIGHT

GREYBULL COUPLE RECALLS VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

[28]





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WYOMING RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS
*The official publication of the
Wyoming Rural Electric Association*

The WREN Magazine, Wyoming Rural Electric News, volume 65, number 1, February 2019 (ISSN 1098-2876) is published monthly except for January for \$12 per year by Linden Press, Inc., 214 West Lincolnway, Suite 21C, Cheyenne, WY 82001. Periodicals postage paid at Cheyenne, WY (original entry office) and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster – Send address changes to: The WREN Magazine, Wyoming Rural Electric News, c/o Linden Press, Inc., 223 S. Howes St., Fort Collins, CO 80521, [970] 221-5252. Include 3-digit co-op code.

WREN Magazine is owned and controlled by rural electric cooperatives in the interest of the economic progress of rural areas specifically and the entire population of Wyoming and the nation generally. WREN Magazine has a total average monthly paid circulation of 40,912 for 11 months ending in September 2018. WREN Magazine is delivered to rural electric member/consumers and other subscribers throughout the entire state of Wyoming and the nation.

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WREN Magazine • 214 West Lincolnway, Suite 21C
Cheyenne, WY 82001, [307] 772-1968
wren@wyomingrea.org

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$12 per year, Single copies \$1.50 each

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OFFICE OF WREN OWNER

2312 Carey Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82001

OFFICE OF WREN PUBLISHER

Linden Press, Inc., 214 West Lincolnway,
Suite 21C, Cheyenne, WY 82001

PRINTED WITH VEGETABLE INK

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COVER PHOTO ✨ Angus cattle owned by the Murray family graze on sugar beet tops in a field south of Powell in January. Learn about Murraymere Farm's participation in BeefChain on page 17.

PHOTO BY ILENE OLSON

WYOMING: BLAZING A TRAIL FOR BLOCKCHAIN BUSINESS

BY REP. TYLER LINDHOLM



SHAWN TAYLOR
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Blockchain technology is a new idea that is taking off in our state. Wyoming Rep. Tyler Lindholm, R-Sundance, wrote this column to explain why he is on board with this new technology.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT BLOCKCHAIN, TURN TO THE CENTERPIECE ON PAGE 14.

Over the past year and a half, Wyoming has gone from “zero to a hundred” in not only supporting blockchain technology, but helping to shape its future.

If you’re wondering what exactly that sentence means, and why it should matter to you, you’re not alone. When you ask Siri “what is blockchain?” she’ll tell you it’s a growing list of records, called blocks, which are linked using cryptography. Each block contains a cryptographic hash of the previous block, a timestamp and transaction data. In short, think of it as the most secure ledger system imaginable. While it was originally designed for digital currency, the uses for it today are endless and it’s being used in a wide variety of industries – from banking and agriculture, to retail and energy.

A little over a year ago, Wyoming was one of only three states where our regulatory policy made it effectively impossible to operate a virtual business or utilize blockchain. Our antiquated laws in Wyoming made it so residents had to use unregulated, frequently offshore, virtual currency exchanges to buy, sell and hold digital currency.

Last year, I joined with several of my colleagues in the Wyoming Legislature, including Sen. Ogden Driskill and Rep. Jared Olsen, and sought to remedy this.

One of the great things about living in a small state, and having a citizen legislature, is that you can move quickly and make big change. And that’s just what we did.

In 2018, the Wyoming Legislature passed five bills to empower blockchain entrepreneurs and innovators. The package of bills aimed to bring a cottage industry of cybersecurity experts, cryptographers, database managers, big data entrepreneurs and digital currency miners to Wyoming. By remaining nimble and open to innovation, in less than a year Wyoming went

from a regulatory framework that was hostile to blockchain technology to an inviting environment that encourages innovators and entrepreneurs working in this budding technology space.

Since then, Wyoming has continued to attract new businesses, entrepreneurs and startups. This past fall, we hosted our first WyoHackathon competition at the University of Wyoming. This event brought together more than 400 blockchain developers, corporate sponsors, including Microsoft and IBM, and world famous blockchain entrepreneurs.

What’s more, we are finding innovative ways to adopt and adapt this technology for our core industries – including ranching. BeefChain has launched in Wyoming, and just recently opened a branch in China. This is a company working to create a new “rancher-centric” supply chain utilizing blockchain technology to recapture the value now realized by third-party feedlots and processors. By enabling unique animal identification and ensuring origin, BeefChain allows the rancher to receive premium pricing for premium beef and provides consumers with greater confidence in the meat they consume.

In the Wyoming Legislature, we are continuing to move the ball forward with bills to make it even easier and safer to do business in Wyoming. During this session, the Wyoming Legislature is considering additional legislation to let blockchain startups operate within a “regulatory sandbox.”

The message Wyoming is sending is loud and clear – we are open for business and welcoming the next generation of tech innovators and entrepreneurs.

Rep. Tyler Lindholm, R-Sundance, represents House District 1 in the Wyoming Legislature. He is chair of the Corporations, Elections & Political Subdivisions Committee and co-chair of the Blockchain Task Force.

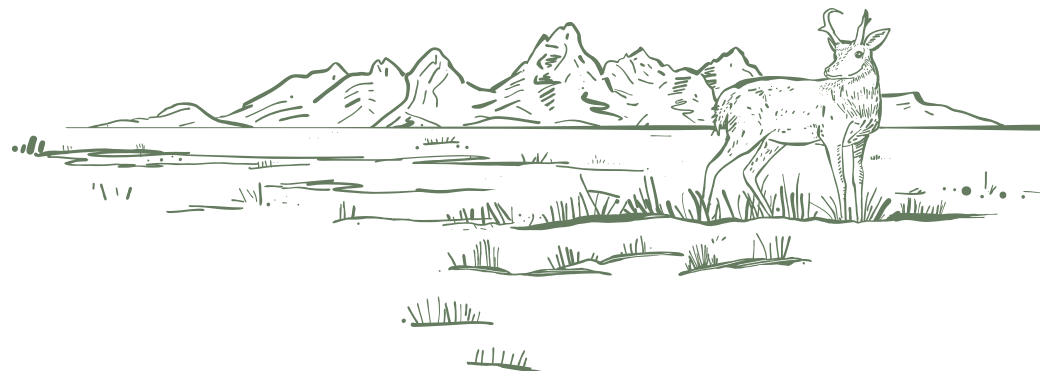


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DEREGULATION DOESN'T WORK FOR ELECTRICITY

GUEST COLUMN BY PAUL GRIFFIN

Yogi Berra had many witticisms, including his famous “It’s déjà vu all over again.” There couldn’t be a more appropriate phrase to describe recent attempts in states like Nevada, Arizona, Florida, and now Wyoming to deregulate electricity markets. Unfortunately, these efforts illustrate how we’ve forgotten key lessons learned when opportunistic companies like Enron sold a bill of goods to state policymakers, ultimately leaving consumers holding the bag with higher electricity rates, reduced reliability and fraudulent practices perpetrated on unsuspecting elderly and low-income consumers. Faced now with possible deregulation proposals, Wyoming legislators should recognize the harsh lessons learned in other states that have deregulated and reject these deregulation proposals.



Since the 1990s, many states have explored deregulating their electricity markets. Deregulation means that consumers can choose their electricity supplier and that prices fluctuate with the ups and downs of wholesale costs for generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity. Theoretically, prices are left to the market. In the years since electricity deregulation first became popular, eleven states, including California and Montana, had buyer’s remorse after costly deregulation experiments failed, eventually re-regulating. In the states that remain deregulated, residential consumers often pay the highest rates in the country. Those states have also experienced rampant fraud and deception from unscrupulous energy marketers, resulting in attorneys general in Massachusetts and Illinois, after damning investigations, calling for an end to deregulated electricity markets.

Instead of being wooed by promises about “customer choice” and “free markets,” policymakers and the public should remember these facts:

1 Every year since 1997 has seen the average residential consumer in regulated states pay a lower rate for electricity than their counterparts in deregulated states.



2 In Texas’ deregulated retail market, consumers experienced brownouts in 2011, 2014 and 2015. In 2011, rolling blackouts even forced Texas to import power from Mexico.



3 The availability of electric linemen for emergency response is a concern. After deregulation came to the electric industry, some utilities in affected jurisdictions reduced their line staff by 25 to 30 percent. Deregulation could affect restoration of electric service after the harsh storms that are so common in Wyoming.



We now have 20 plus years of data about what happens when we deregulate electricity markets. It’s safe to say that if legislators follow the “choice” path again, customers will pay a heavy price. As they say, “Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me.”

Paul Griffin is the executive director for Energy Fairness, a not-for-profit organization that advocates for sensible energy policy.

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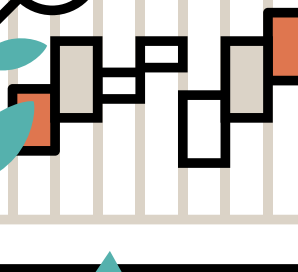
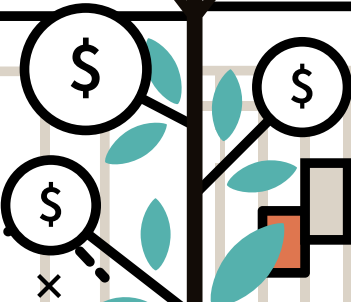
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COOP- ERATIVE VALUES



Wyoming's rural electric cooperatives aren't just responsible for power in our communities. We strive to empower our members, our families and our communities, whether we are working or volunteering right alongside our neighbors.

There's a rural electric cooperative in every county in Wyoming, and there's a community in every cooperative. Electric cooperatives are community-focused organizations that work to efficiently deliver affordable, reliable and safe energy.

Each month this year, *Wyoming Rural Electric News* will focus on a single cooperative, and how it gives back to members and the community. We'll use numbers from a 2018 Wyoming Business Council Study, which used statistical analysis to demonstrate how an employer creates collateral jobs. We'll also use numbers from the total co-op contributions from 2007-2017 to create a pie chart that shows how much money came back to the community from the co-op in the last 10 years.

WHAT IS A COOPERATIVE?

1

We are led by members like you who understand and listen to the community.

2

We belong to the communities we serve, so any excess revenues are shared back with the members.

3

We were built by the communities we serve, so each cooperative is different depending on their community's specific needs.

NATIONAL NETWORK OF COOPERATIVES

We are part of a greater community of cooperatives who give back. Between 2007 and 2017, the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation, CoBank and Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange returned more than \$5.6 million to WREA co-ops. We passed this money back to members by paying down operating margins to keep rates low, or directly returning it through capital credits.

BIG HORN RURAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

COUNTIES

BIG HORN, PARK, SHERIDAN, WASHAKIE

2.91

METERS PER MILE

3,826

METERS SERVED

Big Horn Rural Electric Company is proud to be a part of the communities we serve. We demonstrate this in many different ways, such as sponsoring an EMT class in Burlington, putting on high-voltage safety demonstrations for schools and first responders, and awarding scholarships to local youth.

AT THE CO-OP



14 FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES



19 HOUSEHOLDS SUPPORTED



22 JOBS CREATED IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY



\$12,861,110 SALES

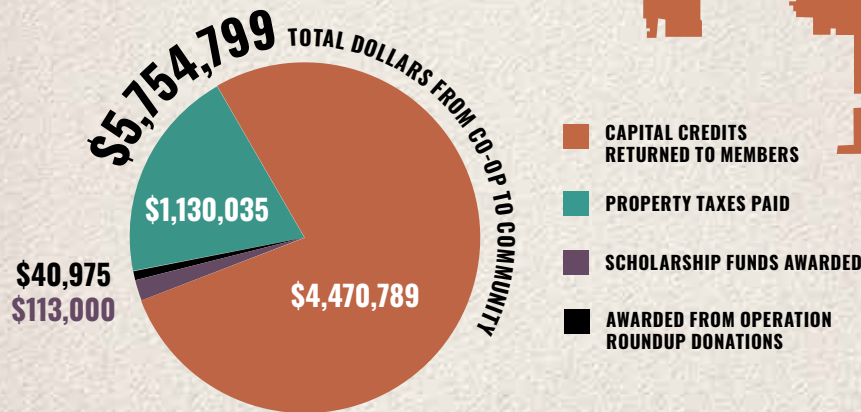


\$1,220,063 PAYROLL



\$1,579,288 PERSONAL INCOME GENERATED

IN THE COMMUNITY



AT THE CO-OP: The Wyoming Business Council (WBC) recently completed a study of the economic benefits of Wyoming's rural electric cooperatives. Looking at employment and tax revenue data from 2017, the WBC reported that Big Horn Rural Electric Company is an economic driver in the local community.

IN THE COMMUNITY: Between 2007 and 2017, Big Horn Rural Electric Company gave \$5.7 million back to the community.

Numbers are rounded to the nearest dollar.

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Tell us about your studies and interests:

The agriculture industry has always had a huge impact on my life. I grew up on a cattle ranch and have always had a love for caring for the livestock as well as the land. I decided to do dual degrees in Agriculture Education & Animal Science – Livestock Production to not only broaden my knowledge but allow myself for more opportunities and career choices. I have a passion for livestock judging and competed on both the Northwest College and University of Wyoming teams and would love to share that passion with our youth.

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 D.C. Youth Tour in June and Youth Leadership Camp in July.

THIS MONTH:

We are checking in with Kassi Renner, a University of Wyoming student who received a college scholarship from Big Horn Rural Electric Company in 2013. She plans to graduate in May, and is currently student teaching agriculture at Sheridan High School and working as an intern for Wyoming Rural Electric Association cooperatives' Facebook pages.



Interested in applying for a scholarship, D.C. Youth Tour and/or Leadership Camp? Contact your local rural electric cooperative! See the insert in the center of the magazine for contact information.

KASSI RENNER



HOMETOWN:
Lovell

HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDED:
Lovell High School

YEAR OF GRADUATION:
2014

COLLEGES:
Northwest College &
University of Wyoming

MAJOR STUDY INTEREST:
Agriculture Education & Animal Science –
Livestock Production

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

My family has had a large influence on me as they have been the ones that have constantly pushed me to do my best and supported me in everything I do. My friends have also been very important in giving me self-confidence and happiness. I'm also very grateful for my hometown, especially my past teachers for providing me with knowledge and skills that I continue to use today.

What are your plans for the future?

I hope to be representing the agricultural industry in some way whether it is being a high school ag teacher, an extension agent, or even a representative for an agricultural company.



In 2019, WREN will feature Wyoming Trivia in place of Where in Wyoming and Milestones. Curious where the December Where in Wyoming photo was taken? Ranchester!

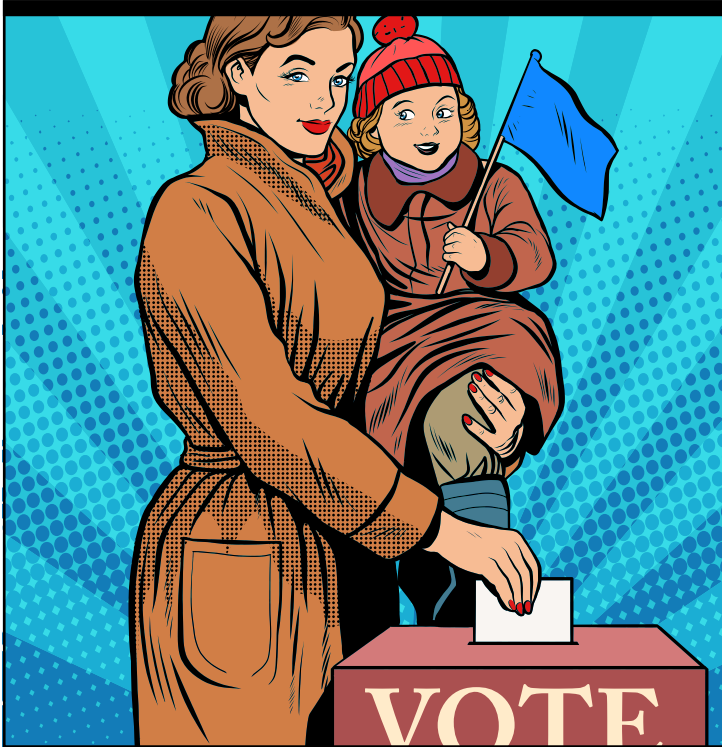
WYOMING TRIVIA



RIGHT TO VOTE

WYOMING WAS THE FIRST STATE TO GRANT WOMEN THE RIGHT TO VOTE

Women were granted the right to vote before and, some say, so Wyoming could reach statehood. John A. Campbell, Wyoming's first Territorial Governor, signed a bill December 10, 1869, making Wyoming the first territory, then the first state to grant women the right to vote. Wyoming became a state in 1890, the 44th state to join the Union.



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WYDOT CONNECTS VEHICLES ON INTERSTATE 80

STORY AND PHOTO BY KELLY ETZEL DOUGLAS



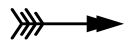
◀ Trihydro Lead Developer Rick Smith poses as the distressed vehicle while other connected vehicles drive by to pick up the signal during a demonstration of the connected vehicle pilot program in Cheyenne.

Phase three of the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT) Connected Vehicle Pilot program is currently taking place along all 402 miles of Interstate 80 in Wyoming.

About 400 drivers are using the technology to see the locations of other connected vehicles, along with road and weather hazards along the way. Units are onboard Highway Patrol vehicles, snowplows and heavy commercial trucks from participating companies.

The program is part of a larger effort by transportation departments in Wyoming, New York City and Tampa, Florida. Wyoming competed to participate in the program because of the state's unique landscape and weather hazards. The project is expected to cost \$5.7 million, with \$4.4 million coming from the federal government.

Once phase three ends, WYDOT and its partners will continue operations on I-80 and evaluate whether it is appropriate to install additional roadside infrastructure on Wyoming highways.



Have you gotten your cervical cancer screening?

Preventing cervical cancer is possible through regular screenings and getting the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine.

- At age 21, women should begin receiving Pap tests every 3 years.
- At age 30, women should receive a Pap test with HPV test every 5 years, an HPV test every 5 years or a Pap test every 3 years until age 65.
- Pre-teen boys and girls should receive the 2-dose HPV vaccination at age 11-14, or the 3-dose vaccination for ages 15-26.

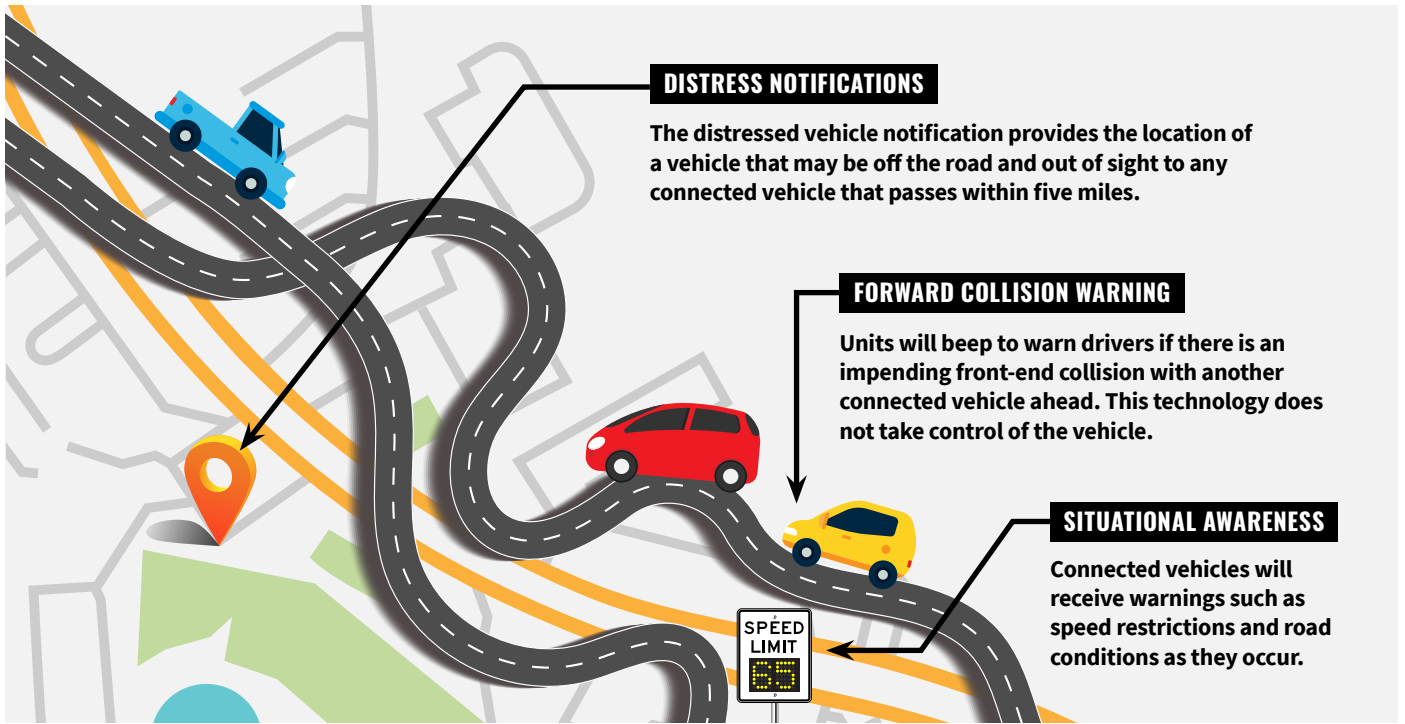
For more information, contact the Wyoming Cancer Program at 1.800.264.1296.

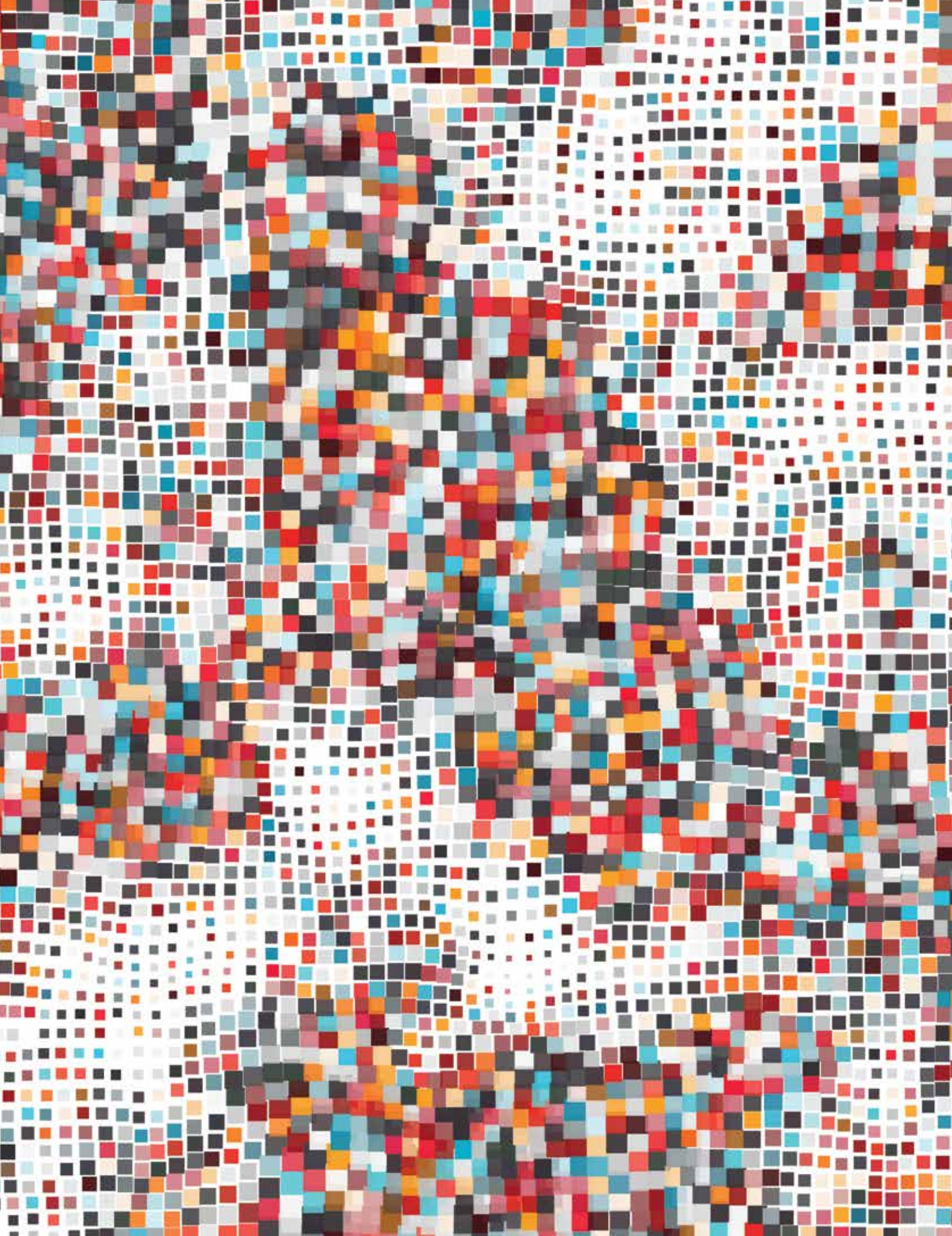


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CONNECTED VEHICLE TECHNOLOGY PROVIDES THESE HAZARD WARNINGS





— BY KELLY ETZEL DOUGLAS —



BLOCKCHAIN & WYOMING

Blockchain, bitcoin, digital currency. These new ideas are taking off in Wyoming, and they may affect the state in a big way.

WHAT IS BLOCKCHAIN?

In simplest terms, blockchain is a way to trade with strangers you may not trust. How? As University of Wyoming Professor of Computer Science James Caldwell explains, everyone can see what's on the blockchain.

“This is the first advancement in accounting since double-entry bookkeeping was invented during the Renaissance,” he said during a presentation called “The Way We’ll Work: Blockchain” held at the Laramie County Library in Cheyenne in October. ▶

◀ HOW DOES BLOCKCHAIN WORK?

Picture it this way: you are holding a copy of the February issue of *Wyoming Rural Electric News*. If you could look through the magazine at the same time as 100 other readers, you could collectively check the magazine against other readers' copies. If one copy looked different, the group could throw that copy out and expel the reader who might be trying to cheat. Then, when the March issue came out, you could repeat the process, weeding out bad copies and keeping a verified record.

Blockchain technology uses many computers on the internet to compare a chain of information and add new "blocks" of information very quickly. All of the computers on the blockchain verify the information, all the way to the beginning of the record.

"At no time in the entire process does any one computer have control over the ledger," said Jennifer Moffitt, a Cheyenne attorney who specializes in digital currency, "everyone's working on it, but no one has control."

Information on the blockchain can be about money transactions, legal papers, contracts and more. It's encrypted so that, while users can see computer codes for information, they need the key (a very long hexadecimal number) to decode the information. The idea is taking off.

"Every major corporation in the U.S. is working on blockchain applications for their businesses. IBM has invested heavily in building blockchain applications for tracking food supplies. IBM is working with Walmart, Dole, Kroger, Nestle, Tyson Foods and others," Caldwell wrote in an email in January.

This means large and small businesses may be able to tie into these blockchains for their own bookkeeping systems, similar to the way some use off-site "cloud" storage for digital records.



“EVERY MAJOR CORPORATION IN THE U.S. IS WORKING ON BLOCKCHAIN APPLICATIONS FOR THEIR BUSINESSES.”

BITCOIN: A GHOST STORY

The invention of blockchain has been attributed to Satoshi Nakamoto, which may or may not be their real name (the name is as common in Japan as John Smith in the United States).

In 2009, Nakamoto published *Bitcoin: A Peer-to-Peer Electronic Cash System*, a white paper outlining an idea to create a digital currency. It would be traceable to prevent double-spending, public to avoid third-party fees and decentralized to make it un-hackable. Then, in 2011 – according to a 2015 story in the *Economist* – Nakamoto wrote “I HAVE moved onto other things” in an email, and he hasn't been heard from since.

DIGITAL CURRENCY IS HOT & COLD

Bitcoin, ether and ripple are all names of digital currency, each operating on their own blockchain network, and there are hundreds more. Digital currency is not a thing you can or ever could hold in your hand. It is not FDIC insured; it is not guaranteed by any bank.

Two years ago, Moffitt drove to Colorado to make a real-world purchase of digital currency. She found a Bitcoin ATM at a convenience store in Greeley and fed \$20 cash into the machine. She used an app on her phone called BRD Wallet to hold the bitcoin she had just purchased. “I spent most of the time figuring out how the machine worked,” she said.

Digital currency is contained inside a digital wallet. There are two kinds of wallets, hot and cold, Moffitt said. Cold wallets are not connected to the internet, making them “safe” – that is, they can't be hacked (stolen by other computer users). Hot wallets are connected to the internet and may be vulnerable to hackers. Moffitt advises digital currency owners to keep their money in a cold wallet and to physically write down the password.

DIGITAL CURRENCY IS NOT A
THING YOU CAN OR EVER COULD
HOLD IN YOUR HAND. IT IS
NOT FDIC INSURED; IT IS NOT
GUARANTEED BY ANY BANK.

Angus heifers owned by Murraymere Farms make their way from one pasture to another via the Willwood Highway (Route 295) south of Powell.

▼

IT'S ELECTRIC

The Chelan County Public Utility District (PUD) in Wenatchee, Washington uses hydropower to provide electricity to the area, producing some of the lowest-cost electricity in the nation at 3.2 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) for the average residential customer.

At the Wyoming Rural Electric Association directors' meeting in September, Chelan County PUD Managing Director John Stoll told the story of digital currency mining in his utility's territory.

"We are kind of in the eye of the hurricane," Stoll said. ▶



PHOTO BY ILENE OLSON

BEEFCHAIN: BLOCKCHAIN ON THE RANCH

In 2018, six Wyoming ranches began tracking their cattle with a blockchain company called BeefChain. A test group of cattle were equipped with radio frequency identification (RFID) ear tags, which workers electronically scanned as they moved the cattle between pastures and to the processor.

Participating ranch Murraymere Farms recently demonstrated the technology by

tracking beef from the ranch to a restaurant in Taiwan. Diners could scan a QR-style barcode on the menu that linked them to a page about Murraymere Farms and its beef-tracking information. The demonstration gave customers a clear chain of custody for the beef.

"It was very experimental, but it worked," said ranch co-owner Val Murray.

Murray said she plans to track more cattle with BeefChain in February.

◀ Digital currency miners provide the computers that verify blockchain information. They're like the magazine readers from earlier, collectively looking over the information, making sure everything matches. For their work, miners earn transaction fees, paid in digital currency.

Two ASIC miner machines, a popular brand for bitcoin mining, can use 1,700 kWh of electricity per month. In contrast, the average household typically uses less than 1,700 kWh per month. Successful mining operations use tens, or hundreds of machines. Tasked with providing safe electricity to large-scale mining operations, the Chelan County PUD board set a moratorium on new operations so they could review the rules.

There are half a dozen digital currency miners in Wyoming right now, said Rep. Jared Olsen, R-Cheyenne. But with the right preparations, he doesn't see them as a threat.

"We can't just let it be the Wild West. We have to regulate it," Olsen said.

"I'VE NEVER SEEN SO MUCH ACTIVITY IN COMPANIES INTERESTED IN COMING HERE."

THE LARAMIE COUNTY LIBRARY IN CHEYENNE RECOMMENDS THESE BLOCKCHAIN BOOKS AND WEBSITES:

- Blockchain for Dummies*, by Tiana Laurence
- The Blockchain Revolution*, by Don Tapscott
- The Truth Machine*, by Michael Casey
- Blockchain Basics: A non-Technical Introduction in 25 Steps*, by Daniel Drescher
- BeefChain - beefchain.com
- Wyoming Blockchain Coalition - wyomingblockchain.io

TECH JOBS IN WYOMING

"I've never seen so much activity in companies interested in coming here," Caldwell told the crowd at the Laramie County Library in October. Caldwell said he gets contacted several times a month by companies that are interested in Wyoming's blockchain-friendly laws.

Caldwell is a member of the Wyoming Blockchain Coalition, a group that was involved in the creation of five bills related to blockchain that became law at the end of the 2018 Legislative Session. The goal, he said, is to bring high-paying tech jobs that keep young people in the state.

Co-founder of the Wyoming Blockchain Coalition and member of the Wyoming Legislature's Blockchain Task Force, Caitlin Long was also involved in last year's legislation.

"I think if we look back on the last year, it's played out really well for Wyoming ... We asked for no money from the state, we just asked for enabling legislation to enable companies to come in and get clarity that what they were doing was in compliance with the law," Long said in January.

Laws in Wyoming now allow for digital currency exchange, corporate record-keeping on blockchain networks and the creation of limited liability securities companies. At the time of printing, six bills were working through the legislature, including a banking bill that would give Wyoming a niche in the financial services industry, Long said, noting that niche could bring new jobs to the state.

"By being an early adopter, Wyoming may now become a jurisdiction of choice not only for sector-specific ventures in blockchain-related technology but also for exchanges of [digital] currency and the issuance of non-securities 'utility tokens' in arenas such as insurance and health care," the *National Law Review* reported in March 2018.

"I just think Wyoming is the right climate for that kind of stuff," Olsen said. Also on the Legislature's Blockchain Task Force, Olsen co-sponsored four of the blockchain bills that became law last year, and he's involved in five of the new bills this legislative session. "The ethics we live by, the closeness of our community ... we need chief skeptics when we are talking about blockchain." **W**

Kelly Etzel Douglas is the managing editor of WREN magazine. She and her family live in Cheyenne.

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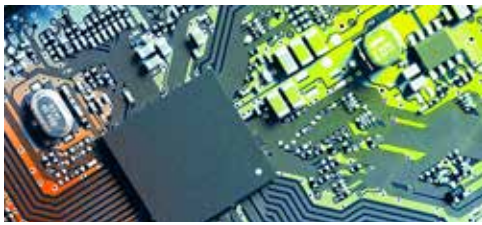


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BINARY CODE AND COMPUTERS

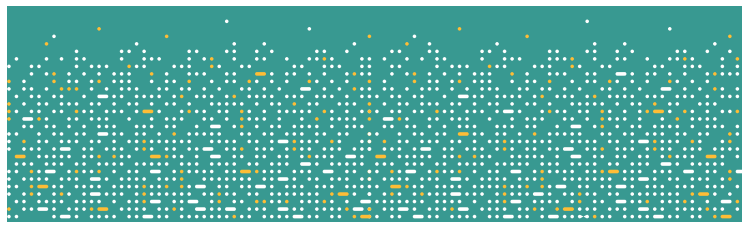
Did you ever wonder why computers talk in 1s and 0s?



The answer is electricity! Underneath the screen, underneath the keyboard, underneath the software, every computer and device has circuits that are made up of teeny, tiny switches.

These switches each have two options: on and off. Having only two options, or “states,” is a very reliable plan for a computer. It means that, even if there’s more or less electricity in the circuit, the switches will not be wrong.

But how do these switches turn into all the things computers do?



To understand this, we can think of the code that computer makers used for inspiration: Morse code. Before telephones were invented, telegraph operators used Morse code to send a message over long distance. They would tap out letters, numbers and words using a series of dots and dashes. The listener at the other end would write down what they heard, in order, so they could decode the message.

Binary code is a series of 1s and 0s, and the order of the numbers lets the computer know what to do. The computer knows what to do because a programmer gave it a set of instructions to follow based on the code.

COUNT WITH CODE!

Let’s create instructions and count with binary code. First we’ll decide that each place represents a number.

- ___ 1 is the first place, it will be 1
- __ 1 _ is in the second place, it will be 2
- _ 1 __ is in the third place, it’s 4
- 1 ___ is in the fourth place, it’s 8

If you had more places, you would add them, from left to right, 64, 32, 16.

What number is 0100?
It’s 4, or 0+4+0+0

NOW YOU TRY IT!

0001 =

1111 =

1100011 =

ANSWERS ON PAGE 35 »

WHO SAID IT?

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS

On Presidents Day, February 18, we celebrate two birthdays, Abraham Lincoln, born February 12, 1809 and George Washington, born February 22, 1732.

01. Of course when I came of age I did not know much. Still somehow, I could read, write, and cipher ... but that was all.

02. It is infinitely better to have a few good men than many indifferent ones.

03. Truth will ultimately prevail where pain is taken to bring it to light.

04. Understanding the spirit of our institutions to aim at the elevation of men, I am opposed to whatever tends to degrade them.

05. For happily the government of the United States, which gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance, requires only that they who live under its protection should demean themselves as good citizens, in giving it on all occasions their effectual support.

06. Happiness depends more upon the internal frame of a person's own mind than on the externals in the world.

We've collected quotes from their speeches and letters. Do you know who said which quote?



GEORGE WASHINGTON

ANSWERS ON PAGE 35 »→



ABRAHAM LINCOLN

07. If we desire to avoid insult, we must be able to repel it; if we desire to secure peace, one of the most powerful instruments of our rising prosperity, it must be known, that we are at all times ready for War.

08. The Presidency, even to the most experienced politicians, is no bed of roses; and ... like others, found thorns within it. No human being can fill that station and escape censure.

09. In your hands, my dissatisfied fellow countrymen, and not in mine, is the momentous issue of civil war. The government will not assail you... You have no oath registered in Heaven to destroy the government, while I shall have the most solemn one to preserve, protect and defend it.

10. Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed, is more important than any other one thing.

11. In this sad world of ours, sorrow comes to all; and, to the young, it comes with bitterest agony, because it takes them unawares.




REAL

WYOMING COWBOYS PLAYED POLO

BY DAVID MCCORMICK

The polo ponies' hooves pounded against the turf as they thundered down the field. It was a Sunday morning in August, 1918 and the Sun Flowers were playing against the Magpies.





Editor's Note: Like many geographic regions in America, the town of Big Horn, Wyoming, is not located in the county of Big Horn, Wyoming. While we celebrated the economic benefits that Big Horn Rural Electric Company brings to the Big Horn County and region on page 9, this story takes place on the other side of the mountains, 100 years ago.

◀ Robert Walsh and Malcolm Moncreiffe, second from left, in Big Horn around 1900. They partnered with Oliver Wallop in the horse business, and through transatlantic polo connections prospered selling Wyoming horses.

The Sun Flowers team included four cowboys, complete with western saddles, cowboy hats and spurs. The Magpies' team, led by Scotsman Malcolm Moncreiffe, backed-up by a fellow Brit and two local ranchers, were seated in traditional English saddles. Year after year, between the Spanish-American War and the Great Depression, Sundays were reserved for polo matches on Moncreiffe's Polo Ranch in Big Horn, Wyoming.

One would think that a game such as polo would set the British elite apart from the madding crowd, but on the Wyoming range that was not the case. In fact, it was quite the opposite. The polo played in Big Horn broke cultural barriers. The reasons being that Wyoming polo players relaxed ceremonial norms; each player served as his own groom and the absence of club dues allowed those harboring the desire to participate to do so. The only thing required was the horse. And they were not kept in high style in fancy stables, they grazed on range pastures. Most worked handling cattle during the week; but on Sundays they transformed into polo ponies.

The game of polo had its roots far from the Wyoming plains in Persia 25 centuries earlier. It was introduced to British colonials in India, and reached the shores of America through the efforts of James Gordon Bennett Jr., the owner of the *New York Herald*. Bennett was enamored with the game of polo,

and in the role of a major sports promoter, introduced it to America in 1876. And, from its inception in America, polo was associated with the wealthy; that's what makes Wyoming polo so unique.

The rules in polo are fairly simple. It is played with two teams. Each team is mounted on horseback with four players on a 12.4-acre regulation field. Each match is divided into six, seven-minute chukkers with a five-minute break between chukkers. All players must play right-handed to avoid collisions. And the player must hit the ball with the mallet, only while traveling in the same direction as the ball. Reversing the momentum of the ball must be done in backhanded fashion.



One would think that a game such as polo would set the British elite apart from the madding crowd, but on the Wyoming range that was not the case.

Wyoming was good horse country with its vast areas of nutritious native grasses. But Big Horn's early history offered no hint it would ever become a polo center. Founded in 1881, it became a trading center for surrounding farms and ranches. But in 1893 it was bypassed for Sheridan by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. This resulted in depressed land prices in Big Horn. But that didn't turn out to be a bad thing. British expatriate Oliver Henry Wallop and the Moncreiffe brothers were soon attracted to the area. In the 1890's Wallop and Malcolm Moncreiffe entered the international- polo pony business. By 1899 both had expanded their horse business.





As more polo clubs sprang up, Wyoming's Magpies were able to compete in interstate tournaments. In the summer of 1904 the Magpies traveled to Hot Springs, South Dakota, where they were defeated by the Tenth Cavalry. The following year, Moncreiffe and his team were hosted by Denver, Colorado Springs and the Tenth Cavalry teams, this time defeating the Tenth. The Magpies became a highly competitive team on the circuit. In a dash- ing win against a Kansas City team, the local paper printed a photo of the Big Horn team with the caption, "These Men Play Real Polo." In 1915 and 1916 two of the country's top polo players visited Big Horn: Tommy Hitchcock and Fox- hall Keene. Seventeen-year-old Hitchcock would become the greatest American player in the 1920s and 1930s. He teamed up with transplanted New Yorkers Goelet Gallatin and Milt McCoy, and Gallatin ranch foreman Roy Snyder. Hitchcock and his teammates played well, but according to the *Sheridan Post*, "... did not outshine the local players."

Foxhall Keene, the first American to score a goal in interna- tional competition, the 1900 Olympics, visited the following summer. Keene played in a three-team tournament at the Polo Ranch with teams interspersed with transplanted Brit- ish and American players. Articles in western contemporary newspapers carried tales of ordinary Wyoming horsemen

competing with the elite players on Big Horn fields. According to cowhand Floyd Bard, "every Sunday for five years I went either to Moncreiffe or Gallatin polo field for a game." Floyd Bard listed several cowboy players that could hang with the elite members; his list included ranchers Ray Wood and John Cover, and Clyde Sackett and Fred Skinner, both sons of Big Horn merchants; and Harold Hilman, the son of a nearby dude ranch operator.

The irony of polo being found in Wyoming was not lost on east- ern visitors. One such newcomer "smiling amusingly" to him- self "at the prospect of plow horses or at best cow ponies bur- lesquing the strenuous game of polo," was "astonished" when informed of three area ranches devoted entirely to the breeding and training of ponies. His pride was "further humbled" to learn that these same ponies were shipped back east to "wealthy fash- ion centers" and to England, according to Leon Dusseau in the 1915 publication *The Teepee Book*.

The terms 'cowboy and polo player' seemed at odds with each other. Between the Spanish-American war and the Great De- pression local cowboys and ranchers would run cattle during

the week, and on Sundays those same working horses would be thundering up and down the polo fields. Today, the game of polo continues to be a pastime in the state. Polo ponies still pound the fields on summer weekends at the Big Horn Equestrian Center and Flying H Polo Club, echoing the hoof beats of their predecessors.

W

Now retired, David McCormick has worked as a freelance writer for the last 11 years. He espe- cially enjoys writing on the old west. Several of his articles have appeared in *Wild West*, *Michigan History* and *Army Magazine*.

The Moncreiffe Ranch near Big Horn, shown here in 1910.



2596—The William Moncreiffe Ranch, Sheridan County, Wyo.

THE SLIP BUCKET



As with everything in life, there are challenges, sometimes on a daily basis. Chores come to mind, and as a child; some pleasant and some not-so-pleasant.

Using one's ingenuity one can make the most unpleasant chore pleasant, for example, mucking the horse corral. Well, using a little ingenuity it can be a pleasant experience.

The following procedure can be both rewarding and fun: You harness up your most gentle horse to your great-grandfather's slip bucket, which has not been used in years. A word of advice, "practice first." Then you and your horse fill the bucket up, and take it out to the pasture to dump.

The rewards are bountiful. The corral becomes clean, your horse thinks it's fun, and your parents are happy. All's well that ends well.

Note: This was an original idea.

FIXING THE FENCE

One day is never the same as the previous day. This negates boredom and brings about new challenges each and every day. However, as time goes by you think things were simpler, and less of a bad experience.

One morning before school, your horses break down the corral fence. This is part of the "grass is greener on the other side of the fence" syndrome.

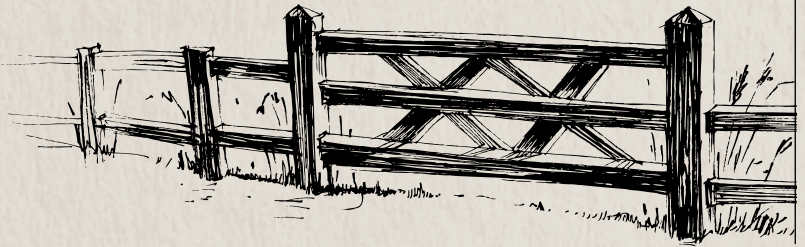
The grass is wet with dew, and you are in a hurry to get ready for school. You say a few words, which cannot be repeated, and with halters and rope proceed to catch the horses.

Now, if you have ever tried to catch a hungry horse in green grass you will understand the challenge. Once caught the horses, being led of course, follow you back to the corral.

Now comes the challenge. No one ever taught you how to nail up a board. So with nails, hammer, and board you bang away at the board. Mission accomplished. The horses are in the corral, you throw them some feed, and the boards are back up for another day.

They say hindsight is looking through rose-colored glasses, well this is true. It was a beautiful morning, with dew on the grass you were running through. You had a few precious minutes with your horses. The corral was repaired and might be knocked down another day. This didn't matter, all was right with the world, and you made it to school on time.

The majority of things I went through happened when I was 13 or 14 years old, and my father was on a business trip.



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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SOUP

RHONDA'S SAUSAGE POTATO CHOWDER

- 1 LB WILSON POLSKA KIELBASA
- 2 TBS BUTTER OR MARGARINE
- 1 LARGE ONION, CHOPPED
- 1/2 CUP SLICED CELERY
- 3 CUPS (3-4 MEDIUM) POTATOES, CUBED
- 3 CUPS (3 BOUILLION CUBES IN 3 CUPS WATER) CHICKEN BROTH
- 1 CAN CREAM OF MUSHROOM SOUP
- 1/2 CUP SOUR CREAM
- 1 CUP MILK



Cut sausage into 1/2-inch pieces. Reserve. Melt butter in Dutch skillet, sauté onion and celery until onion is transparent. Add potatoes, chicken broth and sausage. Bring to boil. Cover and simmer on low 15 to 20 minutes, until potatoes are tender. In a small bowl, combine soup and sour cream. Blend well. Add to chowder with milk. Heat on low until serving time.

Also good with ham instead of sausage.
Can be kept warm in a Crock-Pot.

TINY BUSH ★ HULETT

CHEESEBURGER SOUP

- 1 LB HAMBURGER
- 1 CUP CELERY, CHOPPED
- 1 CUP CARROTS, SHREDDED
- 1 CUP ONIONS, CHOPPED
- 1 TSP BASIL
- 1/2 TSP SALT
- 6 CUPS CHICKEN BROTH
- 8 CUPS POTATOES, CUBED
- 16 OZ CHEESE (AMERICAN, CHEDDAR, PEPPERJACK ETC)
- 16 OZ SOUR CREAM
- ROUX:
- 6 TBS BUTTER
- 1/2 CUP FLOUR

Brown the hamburger, add vegetables and sauté. Add basil and salt. In a stockpot boil the cubed potatoes in the 6 cups of broth. Add the hamburger and vegetables to the stockpot. In a separate pan, make the roux by melting the butter and adding the flour. Cook and stir until it is brown and bubbly. Add the roux, cheese and sour cream to the stockpot. Stir to combine.

Serve on a cold day to warm you through.

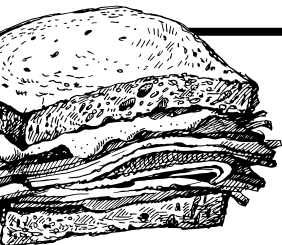
RUTH ZELLER ★ LOVELL

CHICKEN WILD RICE SOUP

- 1 CUP WILD RICE
- 2 CUPS COOKED CHICKEN, CHOPPED
- 2 15-OZ CANS CHICKEN BROTH
- 1 CAN CREAM OF MUSHROOM SOUP
- 1 CAN CREAM OF CHICKEN SOUP
- 1 CAN RASPBERRY CHIPOTLE SALSA OR A FRUIT SALSA OF CHOICE
- 1 4-OZ CAN OF MUSHROOMS
- 1 CUP DRIED CRANBERRIES
- 1 CUP OF EVAPORATED MILK

Cook wild rice according to package directions. In high altitude, add cooking time until grains pop (or use one 15 oz can cooked rice). Combine rice with: chicken, chicken broth, mushroom soup, chicken soup, and salsa. Simmer together 1-2 hours. Before serving, add mushrooms, dried cranberries, and evaporated milk. Heat through.

MARA FUNK ★ CHEYENNE



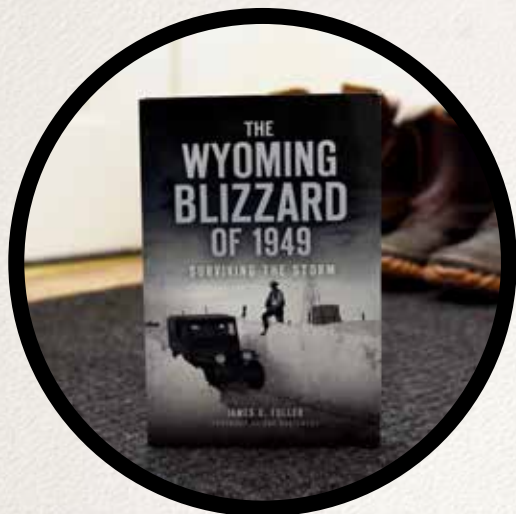
APRIL'S DISH: SANDWICHES

SUBMIT A RECIPE

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THE WYOMING BLIZZARD OF 1949

SURVIVING THE STORM

DESCRIPTION BY ARCADIA PUBLISHING

BY JAMES C. FULLER

ORDERING INFORMATION:

2018 | 176p. | \$23.99

ISBN: 978-1625859358

Publisher: *The History Press,*
a division of Arcadia Publishing

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or by contacting the publisher at
888-313-2665 or arcadiapublishing.com.

Snow, wind and frigid temperatures devastated parts of Wyoming and neighboring states in 1949. For nearly two months, towns and ranches were marooned by enormous drifts, some reportedly eighty feet tall. The storm stranded hundreds of motorists on the highways and stalled nearly two dozen trains at depots throughout the state. Communities pulled together to assist not only their neighbors but also anyone unable to escape the snowstorm. The deaths of motorists and livestock weighed heavily on the minds of Americans as news spread nationwide. Author and historian James Fuller recounts these harrowing stories of tenacity and fortitude.

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**BILL &
MARGARET
DAHLKE**



GREYBULL COUPLE RECALLS VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

BY ILENE OLSON

PHOTO COURTESY OF MARGARET DAHLKE

ABOVE: Margaret and Bill Dahlke, top, are pictured with their family, related “by love and by blood” during their annual Thanksgiving get-together in November 2018.

Volunteering isn’t something Bill and Margaret Dahlke of Greybull find time for occasionally; for them, it’s a way of life.

The Dahlkes, formerly of the Saratoga/Rawlins area, both served as volunteer emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and as foster parents. They led youth groups in 4-H, FFA and FBLA, and Bill, a former employee of Carbon Power & Light, served as a volunteer fireman and on the county fair board as well.

But none of those things were on the Dahlkes’ radar when Bill’s boss fell out of a tree, highlighting the need for a Carbon employee to take training classes so they could serve with the local volunteer emergency medical service.

“I was on the bottom of the totem pole, and I was told I would be the one,” Bill recalled.

That was in 1984-85. From that point forward, Margaret said, “he lived, ate, and breathed EMS for 30-some years. He’s given a lot of time.”

But he wasn’t the only one. Margaret, pregnant with their first child at the time, took the emergency medical services classes with Bill, and she served as an EMT for 20 years — nearly all that time as a volunteer — until she became a nurse in 2005.

In 2013, Bill was recognized as medic of the year for the state of Wyoming.

Bill, now a lineman for Big Horn Rural Electric Company, said the

co-op encourages its employees to be involved in their communities. Bill and Margaret took that philosophy to heart.

They were already serving as volunteer EMTs when Bill’s sister asked them to consider becoming foster parents, as there were no foster families in Saratoga at the time. They agreed to give it a try, and they never looked back.

“We probably had 32 kids go through our house over the years,” Bill said. They adopted one foster daughter, and attempted to adopt two others, but their biological father prevented it. Even so, “They’re the ones who call us mom and dad,” Bill said.

Margaret said foster parenting “is probably one of the most rewarding, and at the same time, the most challenging things I ever did. ... Once you make a commitment to those kids, it’s all in.”

Foster parenting’s challenges include balancing the needs of foster kids with the needs of your own children, and making a blended family with kids whose lives have been fragmented, often from birth, she said.

“They had no stability, no solid parents or solid mentors,” Margaret said. “Becoming those for them is not always an

easy thing, and it's certainly not always welcome on their part. ... Not every child was glad to be in our home, and several of them were glad to leave it. But the kids that were long-term, they're amazing kids and they took the tools that we taught them and made good use of them. ... The girls that we have raised have become very productive individuals and have turned their lives around in a sense, and now they are doing some of the same things that we did for them."

The demands of being volunteer EMTs and a volunteer fireman didn't stop just because the Dahlkes had a family.

"The nice thing about working in a very small community is, you have people willing to help you do what you have to do. We had babysitters who literally were on call for us. We had people who would come sit for us in the middle of the night if we got a call, so I was generally as active as Bill was as an EMT, and sometimes more active, because he worked a full-time job."

The need for EMTs or firefighters didn't stop for holidays. Sometimes, Bill and Margaret were called away from holiday meals and other family activities.

Their response area included the infamous Interstate 80 corridor between Elk Mountain and Rawlins. That meant that they often were called during some of the worst weather to help people who were involved in crashes on I-80, day or night.

The Dahlkes' emergency volunteer work was appreciated by most people, "but sometimes not by our kids," Margaret said.

Now living in Greybull, which relies on an ambulance service out of Cody, the

Dahlkes no longer volunteer as EMTs, though Bill continues to teach CPR and EMT classes. But they remain involved with their foster kids, and now, their foster grandkids as well.

The Dahlke's oldest foster daughter, Shawna Daves, said, "As long as I can remember, my parents have always

been very willing to help, no matter what the circumstances were, whether it was a huge inconvenience, whether the weather was bad. Even if people were stuck in a ditch, or if people in the community needed help with sandbagging when the Platte

River was flooding. They're the kind of people who would give you the shirt off their back."

Shawna said she and her sister, Robin Claborn, were placed in foster care when she was about 8 or 9 and Robin was about 6.

When they went to live with the Dahlkes, "They took over the parenting, the parental role, when our parents couldn't or wouldn't," Shawna said. "They sacrificed for us, fought for us, cared for us, like their own kids, from Day 1. You would never have known we were their foster kids by the way they treated us. We were all equal."

Shawna, who now has three children of her own, said she works as a youth advocate, and she volunteers with Meals on Wheels.

"Honestly, I learned that from them," she said.

Robin described her foster parents with one word: Caring.

"They took us in due to a medical situation with my real mom and turned it into a good thing for us kids," Robin

said. "They're really selfless people. They've given a lot of time to their communities, and ever since I can remember, they have always helped others."

Robin, who has two children, also has followed in the Dahlkes' footsteps, serving as a volunteer EMT in her Texas community.

Looking back on their volunteer experience, Bill said, "I enjoyed it. I enjoyed being able to help people — my wife and I both enjoyed that. We enjoyed it because we were doing it for our community."

"That was our life," Margaret said. **W**

Ilene Olson is a freelance photographer, writer, editor and public relations specialist in Powell. She can be reached at Lightweaver-Creative@gmail.com.



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01 | SOUTHEAST

CHEYENNE

FIRST & THIRD SATURDAYS

Winter Farmer's Market: Local vegetables, coffee, meat, eggs, crafts and more. 10a-2p, Cheyenne Train Depot Lobby, info 307-640-2665, cheyennewinterfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

CHUGWATER

ONGOING

Events at Stampede Saloon & Eatery: Karaoke Contest Mar 1, \$500 finals Apr 5. Acoustic jam session 6p Thu; live music Fri and Sat. Stampede Saloon & Eatery, info 307-422-3200, stampedefun@aol.com.

GUERNSEY

THIRD MONDAYS

Book Discussion Group: 7p, info 307-575-1384.

Tri-City Arts Guild: 6:30p, info 307-575-1384.

SUNDAYS

VFW Bingo: 1p, VFW Hall, info 307-836-2631.

FOURTH SUNDAYS

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

HARTVILLE

FOURTH SUNDAYS

Hartville Museum & Community Center: Free music jam for musicians and listeners. Everyone is welcome. Bring snacks and have fun! 4-6p, info 307-836-2288.

LARAMIE

MARCH 7

Spring to Dance: Concert features new works by UW dance faculty. 7:30p, Buchanan Center for the Performing Arts, \$14, \$11 senior, \$7 students, info 307-766-2160.

MEDICINE BOW

FOURTH TUESDAYS

Bingo: 6:30p, Community Hall, info 307-710-4045.

PINE BLUFFS

TUESDAYS

Bingo: 7p, Recreation meeting room, 25¢ per card, 14 games, info 307-245-3301.

TORRINGTON

SECOND WEDNESDAYS

Rex Young Rock Club: 7-8p, Senior Friendship Center, info 308-632-5574.

THURSDAYS

TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly): 8-10a, Senior Friendship Center, info 307-334-3358.

02 | NORTHEAST

BUFFALO

THURSDAYS

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

MOORCROFT

THIRD MONDAYS

Moorcroft Historical Society: 5:45p, West Texas Trail Museum.

THIRD THURSDAYS

Birthday and Anniversary Dinner: Meat provided, bring a side dish. 5p social hour, 6p dinner, Senior Center.

NEWCASTLE

FRIDAYS

Bingo: 7:30p, VFW Hall, free.

SHERIDAN

FEBRUARY 21

The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show: 6p, WYO Theater, \$13.50, \$11 senior and military, \$7 students, info 307-672-9084, wyotheater.com.

MARCH 16

St. Paddy's Day Celebration with Colcannon: Irish music performed live. 7:30p, WYO Theater, \$26, \$22.50 military, \$17 student, info 307-672-9084, wyotheater.com.

MARCH 17

Sheridan College Symphony Band: Eric Richards directs, 2p, Whitney Center for the Arts, free, info whitneyarts.org.

MARCH 19

B - The Underwater Bubble Show: A modern fairy tale for all ages with drama, mime, dance, magic and more. 6p, WYO Theater, \$13.50, \$11 senior/military, \$7 student, info 307-672-9084, wyotheater.com.

SUNDANCE

WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS

Yoga: 4:30p Wed, 5:30p Thu, Central Office Gym, \$5, info 307-282-0769.

FEATURED EVENT

WYOMING STATE WINTER FAIR



FEBRUARY 22-23

Two-Day Trade Show, Lander Community Center.

MARCH 8

Jackpot Team Roping, 6:30p, Lander Rodeo Grounds.

MARCH 9

Ultimate Miniature Bull Riding, 7p, LOTRA Arena, Lander Rodeo Grounds, \$7.

MARCH 10

Lander Horse Show, 9a-3p, Lander Rodeo Grounds arena.

INFO 307-349-5844

WYOMINGSTATEWINTERFAIR.ORG

NORTHWEST

PHOTO BY JENNIE HUTCHINSON

UPTON

MARCH 14

Chamber of Commerce Meeting: Noon, Remy's Diner, info 307-468-2642.

ONGOING

Indoor Archery: Mon-Sat 5-9p, also 9a-12p Sat, 2741 Hwy 116N, \$10, info 307-468-2506.

ONGOING

Senior Center Activities: Weekday lunch \$4 make reservation before 9a 307-468-9267. Tuesday coffee and treats, with an exercise program at 9a. Seniors welcome Thu and Fri 1-4p. Potluck 5:30p third Mondays. Medical equipment loans. 1113 2nd St., info 307-468-9251.

WRIGHT

MARCH 3

Wright Winter Series Buckle Roping: Team roping series opens at noon. Southern Campbell County Ag complex, free to watch, info 307-391-0555.

03 | NORTHWEST

CODY

THIRD SUNDAYS

Wyoming Fiddler Association District #2 Jam: 1-4p, Cassie's Supper Club, info 307-754-2687.

ONGOING

Cody County Art League Gallery: 9a-5p Mon-Fri, 836 Sheridan Ave, info 307-587-3597.

DUBOIS

FEBRUARY 21

National Bighorn Sheep Center Annual Meeting: Potluck dinner, learn about education outreach and local bighorn herd. 6p, Headwaters Events Center, registration preferred, info 307-455-3429, bighorn.org.

MARCH 7

Early Residents: Steve Banks to talk about early Dubois history. 7p, Dubois Museum, free, info 307-455-2284.

MARCH 14

Whiskey Basin Collaborative Meeting and Sheep Summit: All-day public meeting on local herd includes Wyoming Game and Fish, UW Ruckelshaus Institute, Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation. 6-9p, Headwaters Events Center, info 307-455-3429, bighorn.org.



Send complete information for the April issue's events by **MARCH 10!**

Please remember that events from the 20th of April to the 20th of May are included in the April 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:

✉ wren@wyomingrea.org

☎ [307] 772-1968

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

🖨 wyomingrea.org/wren-submissions

LANDER

FEBRUARY 23

Lander Unplugged acoustic concert: 6-8p, Lander Bake Shop, free, info unplugged.wy@gmail.com.

MARCH 10

Fremont County Orchestra Symphony Pops: Clarinet soloist Dan Foster performing. 7p, Lander Valley High School, tickets: \$10-\$20. Info murdock1@bresnan.net.

ONGOING

Big River: Adventures of Huck Finn: 7-9p March 1, 3, 8 and 9; 2-4p March 2. Central Wyoming College Peck Arts Center Theater, \$12, \$10 youth and seniors, tickets 307-855-2002, tickets@cwcc.edu.

ONGOING

Sunday Swing Dancing at the Coalter Loft: 6-9p every Sunday in March, 126 Main Street, free. Info 307-332-8228.

ONGOING

Weekly Family Ice Skating at City Park: Concessions onsite. 10a-5p Mon-Fri, 12-5p Sat & Sun. Night skates on 7-9p Wed, 7-10p Sat. 405 E. Fremont. Skate rentals \$2.50, admission \$1.50, info 307-332-4647.

RIVERTON

MARCH 9

Rabbit Hide Painting: Kids learn to paint on rabbit pelts, inspired by petroglyphs. 2p, Riverton Museum, \$4, registration required, limit 12 participants ages 8 and up. Info 307-856-2665.

MARCH 14

Carol L. Deering, Poet: Deering to present her first published book of poems. 6:30p, Riverton Museum, free, info 307-856-2665.

ONGOING

Weekly Ice Skating: Rink is open during daylight, closed if the temperature is below zero. 3-6p Thu, 3-9p Fri, 12-9p Sat, 12-5p Sun. Tonkin Stadium open-air ice rink. Skate rentals \$3, info. recreation.com.

TEN SLEEP

FIRST & THIRD THURSDAYS

Live Music: Acoustic Open Mic Night on 1st Thu; Open JAM Night on 3rd Thu 7p, Ten Sleep Brewing Co., info tensleepbrewingco.com.

THERMOPOLIS

MARCH 8

ArtStroll: 2nd Friday Stroll on Broadway Street in downtown Thermopolis. Theme is "Young at HeART," 5-8p, info 307-864-3002, gatherer@panix.com.

MARCH 14-16

CWCC Cutting: Hot Springs County Fairgrounds, info thermopolischamber.org.

MARCH 16

Freedom Ball: 1950s sock hop theme, Thermopolis VFW Post #2281, \$5, info thermopolischamber.org.

MARCH 17

Bow Hunter's Shoot: Hot Springs County Fairgrounds, info thermopolischamber.org.

04 | SOUTHWEST

JACKSON

FRIDAYS TO MARCH 29

Feathered Fridays: View live birds of prey. 12-2p, Jackson Hole & Greater Yellowstone Visitor Center, free. School and non-profit groups call 307-739-9322 for a private raptor lesson.

ONGOING

National Elk Refuge Sleigh Rides: Daily 10a-4p through early April. \$25, \$15 for ages 5-12, under 5 free. Jackson Hole & Greater Yellowstone Visitor Center, info 307-733-0277.

LYMAN

SECOND FRIDAYS

Lego Club: 10a-noon, Lyman Branch Library, ages 8 & up, free, info 307-787-6556, uintalibrary.org.

MOUNTAIN VIEW

WEDNESDAYS

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

SECOND WEDNESDAYS

Chamber of Commerce Community Luncheon: For business owners and individuals alike. \$15/plate, noon, Town Hall, RSVP bvchamber@bvea.net, 307-787-6378.



01

02

03



THIS MONTH:

MORNING

- 01** | My ol' buddy, Lori Archer, Gillette
- 02** | Starting her morning, Charlotte Beebe, Pueblo, Colorado
- 03** | Sunrise at 39,000 feet, Carol Enderson, Cheyenne
- 04** | Frosty morning, Tamara Filcaske, Gillette
- 05** | Beautiful morning at Hoodoo Ranch, Pat Nelson, Cody



04



05

JUST PICTURE IT



APRIL (DUE MAR 10):

STORMS



MAY (DUE APR 10):

DEER



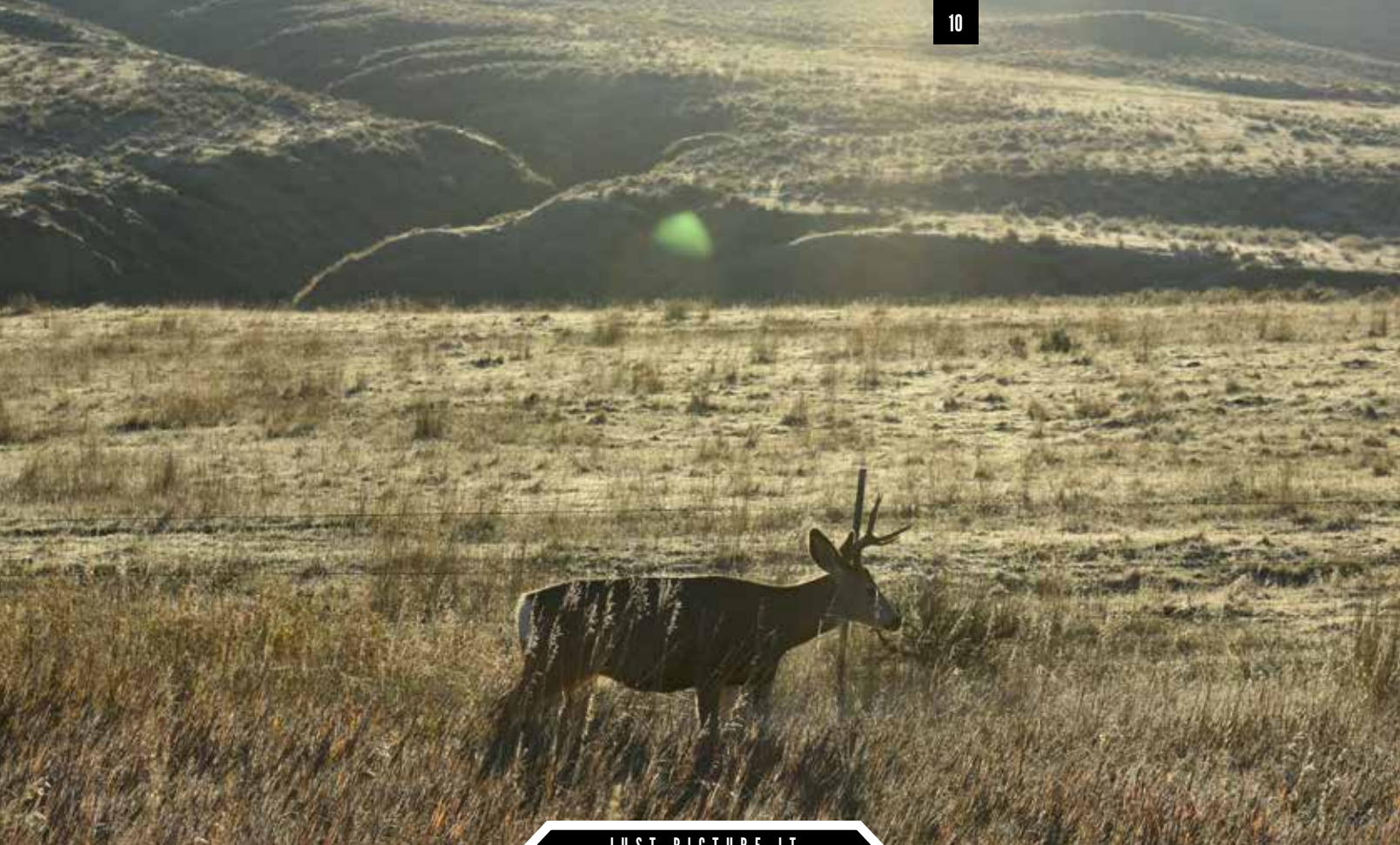
06 | Good morning Big Horns, Tiffany Shroyer, Riverton

07 | Looks like a cross in the sky, Flower Norris, Lander

08 | Checking the time by the light in the sky, Ruth Zeller, Lovell

09 | Good morning sun, Carrie Miller, Laramie

10 | Early morning mulie, Cynthia Vannoy, Clearmont



JUST PICTURE IT



- ✉ wren@wyomingrea.org
- ✉ 214 W. Lincolnway Ste. 21C Cheyenne, WY 82001
- 📄 wyomingrea.org/wren-submissions

Please include your name, hometown and a title.

Please submit high-quality digital files* or an original we can scan, as well as details about the artwork, the artist's name, and the co-op. *Use the highest quality setting on your camera, or save digital artwork as a .jpg or .tif file with at least 300 dpi resolution. Don't use Kodak Easy Share®.

If you would like your work returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.



11

11 | Headed out to the hayfield,
Charlene Camblin, Gillette

12 | God made a farmer,
Krissy Borchert, Moorcroft

13 | Morning gems, Amber Greer,
Hyattville

14 | Morning Surprise, Heike Bohl,
Devils Tower



12

13



14



PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS

FROM PAGE 21



GEORGE WASHINGTON

- 02. George Washington To James McHenry | Friday, August 10, 1798
- 03. From George Washington To Charles M. Thruston | Sunday, August 10, 1794
- 05. From George Washington To The Hebrew Congregation In Newport, Rhode Island | Wednesday, August 18, 1790
- 06. From George Washington To Mary Ball Washington | Thursday, February 15, 1787
- 07. George Washington's Fifth Annual Address To Congress | Friday, December 13, 1793



ABRAHAM LINCOLN

- 01. From Abraham Lincoln's *Autobiographical Sketch*, December 20, 1859
- 04. Abraham Lincoln's Letter To Theodore Canisius, May 17, 1859
- 08. Abraham Lincoln's Eulogy On Zachary Taylor, July 25, 1850
- 09. Abraham Lincoln's Inaugural Address, March 4, 1861
- 10. Abraham Lincoln's Letter To Isham Reavis, November 5, 1855
- 11. Abraham Lincoln's Letter To Fanny McCullough, December 23, 1862

Sources: Mountvernon.org/Library/Digitalhistory/Quotes, Whitehouse.gov, Abrahamlincolnonline.org/Lincoln/Speeches/Quotes.htm

FROM PAGE 20

KIDS CORNER ANSWERS:

0001 = 1

1111 = 15, or 8+4+2+1

1100011 = 99, or 64+32+0+0+0+2+1



protect what matters

looks like
mother nature
finally met her match.

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- "Where am I?" function
- Hands-free, eyes-free function
- Easy to use

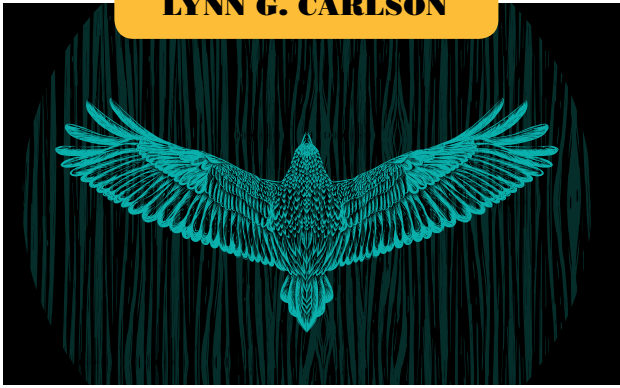



Available for free download on the Apple App Store. Available for free download on the Google Play Store.

GRATITUDE

➤ In November, Walt Gasson asked *WREN* readers to share what they are grateful for. We received these thoughtful responses.

LYNN G. CARLSON



I'm grateful for the sparrows, jackrabbits and red-tailed hawks that grace my property and put on a show for me every day.

I'm grateful for a warm, well-lit house, a car that runs and the people in my life who give me love and worry and hope.

I'm grateful for that crazy thing called the internet because in spite of its shortcomings, it allows me to connect with people and look up things I want to learn more about.

And because so many struggle with pain, I'm reminded to be grateful for a body that carries me through my day with only a twinge here and there.

Cheyenne

ELAINE BLANCHARD



I'm grateful for life upon this earth; grateful that I was born in America with all the freedoms we enjoy. Just had my 79th birthday – so grateful to still be alive.

Took a moment to look back at my life, hoping that maybe my life has made a difference in someone else. We cannot touch all maybe just a few, but those few touch others and somehow we can make a difference.

So grateful for each new day with its new beginning. Life is not always smooth sailing; but after the trials come the blessings.

So grateful for health, good husband, children who take care of their families, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

West Haven, Utah



PHOTO BY CLEVE BELL, LANDER

EVERY DAY IS A GIFT

I am so thankful to see the amazing sunrises every morning and the splendor God bestowed in our great state of Wyoming.

MY GSP, GINGER, IS THANKFUL FOR

the Wyoming Game and Fish game bird pheasant release program and the workers so that she can hunt a bird every season.

MY HORSE AND FRIENDS ARE VERY THANKFUL FOR

the Wyoming National Forests and the people that maintain and preserve the horse trails in the mountains every year.

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
- 16. BUILDING SUPPLIES
- 17. TRAVEL & RECREATION
- 18. HEALTH
- 19. PERSONAL
- 20. FREE

02 | FOR SALE

Two registered WY brands: "Rocking B" and "Lightening D." \$3,000 each. 307-680-7557.

New & Used Coal Stokers, parts, service & advice.

Available for most makes. Thanks.
307-754-3757.

Shaver Outdoor Wood Boiler Furnace. Aermotor Windmills and parts, cylinders, pipe, rod, submersible pumps, motors, control boxes, Hastings 12 ga. bottomless stock tanks and more. Herren Bros., Box 187, Harrison NE. 1-308-668-2582.

Surplus Equipment New and Used: Generators, air heaters, engine driven pumps, (all sizes), solar pumps, 3" and 4" polypipe, etc. A variety of types and sizes available. Call for pricing and details: Premier PowerPlants & Pumps, Farson, WY 307-273-9591.

04 | LIVESTOCK

24 coming 2-YO Limousin and Lim-Flex Bulls. All Black & Polled. Great dispositions & balanced EPDs to compliment any program. After 30 years of selling at Public Auction we are now marketing our bulls Private Treaty. We invite you to the ranch in Pavillion, WY to take a look! Call 307-856-4268 to inquire directly, or find us on Facebook. Thank you for your interest in Stoll Limousin.

07 | WANTED

Antique Collector Looking For Oil Company Gas Pumps, Globes And Signs. Will pay fair market value! Also looking for general antiques for our antique shop. Please go to our website FrontierAutoMuseum.com. Located in Gillette WY, our passion is to preserve Wyoming history and the nostalgia of the past, especially Parco, Sinclair, Frontier, Husky and any car dealership along with all brands. We are also always looking for WY license plates and WY highway signs and State Park signs. Please call Jeff Wandler 307-680-8647 jwandler@LNH.net or daughter Briana Brewer 307-660-2402 bbrewer@frontierauto.net.

Want to purchase minerals & other oil/gas interests. Send details to: PO Box 13557, Denver, CO 80201.

We Pay Cash For Mineral & Oil/Gas Interests producing & non-producing. 800-733- 8122.

20 | FREE

Soon Church/Government uniting, suppressing "Religious Liberty" enforcing "National Sunday Law." Be Informed! Needing Mailing address. TSBM Box 99, Lenoir City, TN 37771, thebiblesaystruth@yahoo.com, 1-888-211-1715.

Murphy



Leading Acid Reflux Pill Becomes an Anti-Aging Phenomenon

Clinical studies show breakthrough acid reflux treatment also helps maintain vital health and helps protect users from the serious conditions that accompany aging such as fatigue and poor cardiovascular health

by David Waxman
Seattle Washington:

A clinical study on a leading acid reflux pill shows that its key ingredient relieves digestive symptoms while suppressing the inflammation that contributes to premature aging in men and women.

And, if consumer sales are any indication of a product's effectiveness, this 'acid reflux pill turned anti-aging phenomenon' is nothing short of a miracle.

Sold under the brand name AloeCure, it was already backed by clinical data documenting its ability to provide all day and night relief from heartburn, acid reflux, constipation, irritable bowel, gas, bloating, and more.

But soon doctors started reporting some incredible results...

"With AloeCure, my patients started reporting less joint pain, more energy, better sleep, stronger immune systems... even less stress and better skin, hair, and nails" explains Dr. Liza Leal; a leading integrative health specialist and company spokesperson.

AloeCure contains an active ingredient that helps improve digestion by acting as a natural acid-buffer that improves the pH balance of your stomach.

Scientists now believe that this acid imbalance is what contributes to painful inflammation throughout the rest of the body.

The daily allowance of AloeCure has shown to calm this inflammation which is why AloeCure is so effective.

Relieving other stressful symptoms related to GI health like pain, bloating, fatigue, cramping, constipation, diarrhea, heartburn, and nausea.

Now, backed with new clinical studies, AloeCure is being recommended by doctors everywhere to help improve digestion, calm painful inflammation, soothe joint pain, and even reduce the appearance of wrinkles – helping patients to look and feel decades younger.

FIX YOUR GUT & FIGHT INFLAMMATION

Since hitting the market, sales for AloeCure have taken off and there are some very good reasons why.

To start, the clinical studies have been impressive. Participants taking the active ingredient in AloeCure saw a stunning 100% improvement in digestive symptoms, which includes fast and lasting relief from reflux.

Users also experienced higher energy levels and endurance, relief from chronic discomfort and better sleep. Some even reported healthier looking skin, hair, and nails.

A healthy gut is the key to a reducing swelling

and inflammation that can wreak havoc on the human body. Doctors say this is why AloeCure works on so many aspects of your health.

AloeCure's active ingredient is made from the healing compound found in Aloe vera. It is both safe and healthy. There are also no known side effects.

Scientists believe that it helps improve digestive and immune health by acting as a natural acid-buffer that improves the pH balance of your stomach.

Research has shown that this acid imbalance contributes to painful inflammation throughout your entire body and is why AloeCure seems to be so effective.

EXCITING RESULTS FROM PATIENTS

To date over 5 million bottles of AloeCure have been sold, and the community seeking non-pharma therapy for their GI health continues to grow.

According to Dr. Leal, her patients are absolutely thrilled with their results and are often shocked by how fast it works.

"For the first time in years, they are free from concerns about their digestion and almost every other aspect of their health," says Dr. Leal, "and I recommend it to everyone who wants to improve GI health without resorting to drugs, surgery, or OTC medications."

"I was always in 'indigestion hell.' Doctors put me on all sorts of antacid remedies. Nothing worked. Dr. Leal recommended I try AloeCure. And something remarkable happened... Not only were all the issues I had with my stomach gone - completely gone - but I felt less joint pain and I was able to actually sleep through the night."

With so much positive feedback, it's easy to see why the community of believers is growing and sales for the new pill are soaring.

THE SCIENCE BEHIND ALOECURE

AloeCure is a pill that's taken just once daily. The pill is small. Easy to swallow. There are no harmful side effects and it does not require a prescription.

The active ingredient is a rare Aloe Vera component known as acemannan.

Made from of 100% organic Aloe Vera, AloeCure uses a proprietary process that results in the highest quality, most bio-available levels of acemannan known to exist.

According to Dr. Leal and several of her colleagues, improving the pH balance of your stomach and restoring gut health is the key to revitalizing your entire body.

When your digestive system isn't healthy, it causes unwanted stress on your immune system,

which results in inflammation in the rest of the body.

The recommended daily allowance of acemannan in AloeCure has been proven to support digestive health, and calm painful inflammation without side effects or drugs.

This would explain why so many users are experiencing impressive results so quickly.

REVITALIZE YOUR ENTIRE BODY

With daily use, AloeCure helps users look and feel decades younger and defend against some of the painful inflammation that accompanies aging and can make life hard.

By buffering stomach acid and restoring gut health, AloeCure calms painful inflammation and will help improve digestion... soothe aching joints... reduce the appearance of wrinkles and help restore hair and nails ... manage cholesterol and oxidative stress... and improve sleep and brain function... without side effects or expense.

Readers can now reclaim their energy, vitality, and youth regardless of age or current level of health.

One AloeCure Capsule Daily

- Helps End Digestion Nightmares
- Helps Calm Painful Inflammation
- Soothes Stiff & Aching Joints
- Reduces appearance of Wrinkles & Increases Elasticity
- Manages Cholesterol & Oxidative Stress
- Supports Healthy Immune System
- Improves Sleep & Brain Function

HOW TO GET ALOECURE

Due to the enormous interest consumers have shown in AloeCure, the company has decided to extend their nationwide savings event for a little while longer. Here's how it works...

Call the AloeCure number and speak to a live person in the US. Callers will be greeted by a knowledgeable and friendly person approved to offer up to 3 FREE bottles of AloeCure with your order. AloeCure's Toll-Free number is 1-800-330-5324. Only a limited discounted supply of AloeCure is currently available.

Consumers who miss out on the current product inventory will have to wait until more becomes available and that could take weeks. They will also not be guaranteed any additional savings. The company advises not to wait. Call 1-800-330-5324 today.



HELP BUILD YOUR CHILD'S

CONFIDENCE + self-esteem

Feeling good about themselves and feeling capable are important ingredients for your child's social and emotional development.

Let them do it "by myself!"

Encourage them (with words and hugs!)

Be their role model

Follow their lead

Let them help



Children learn from watching and imitating the important people in their lives – that's you!

For a fun activity to do together, that your kids can help with every step of the way, visit wyqualitycounts.org/wren



WY Quality Counts, housed in the Department of Workforce Services, helps Wyoming parents and child care providers identify and create quality learning experience for children, thanks to the funding of the Wyoming Legislature.



All WY Quality Counts activities are supported by the Wyoming Early Learning Foundations and Guidelines, as well as the Domains of Development, which include:

-  COMMUNICATION
-  SENSE OF SELF & RELATIONSHIPS
-  CURIOUS MINDS
-  STRONG & HEALTHY BODIES