

**Local hoops teams
 compete in
 playoffs. B1**



Swallowing hard, Trump rivals vow to back him if nominated

DETROIT (AP) — The Republican establishment and its last best hopes to defeat Donald Trump spent a long and extraordinary day denouncing the billionaire businessman as dangerous, a “phony” and a “con man” unfit for office. Then, when it was all over, Marco Rubio, Ted Cruz and John Kasich swallowed hard and said they’d support Trump if he wins the GOP nomination.

Their pained commitments, at the end of the 11th GOP debate on Thursday, put into sharp focus the dilemma the Republican Party faces as Trump continues to dominate the race for delegates and the campaign conversation.

Beyond harsh words, GOP leaders see little opportunity to stop Trump's march toward the presidential nomination. Panicked party leaders are poring over complicated delegate math, outlining hazy scenarios for a contested national convention and even flirting with the idea of a third-party effort to derail Trump's insurgent candidacy.

Romney A tumultuous day opened with

Mitt Romney, the party's 2012 presidential nominee, making a rare public appearance to denounce Trump as a fraud who is “playing the American public for suckers.” Speaking to NBC's “Today” Friday, Romney said he will “do everything within the normal political bounds to make sure we don't nominate Donald Trump.”

He ruled out that he will run for the presidency but also ruled out ever voting for Trump or the Democratic front-runner Hillary Clinton.

Also publicly criticizing Trump: House Speaker Paul Ryan, who was Romney's running mate, and 2008 GOP nominee John McCain. Ryan said Trump's more controversial ideas “disfigured” conservatism, and McCain voiced concern about Trump's “uninformed and indeed dangerous statements” on national security.

Trump lashed back. In the evening debate in Detroit, he called Romney “a failed candidate” who lost to Barack Obama four years ago.

SEE NOMINEE, PAGE 8

Breaking ground for the future



Day Break staff and clients look over the design plans for the new facility at the groundbreaking ceremony Thursday. Pictured, from left, are Barb Blue, Mary Legerski, Vanessa Thiele and Dee Habeck.

Senior Center starts work on Day Break project construction

BY PHOEBE TOLLEFSON
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SHERIDAN — Construction of a new facility at the Sheridan Senior Center that will support respite for caregivers began Thursday with a groundbreaking ceremony. Staff, clients, board members, Mayor John Heath and other city officials attended.

Carmen Rideout, executive director of the Senior Center, spoke about the role the center's Day Break program — which the new building will house — plays in the community.

SEE BREAK, PAGE 3

Man enters plea for third domestic violence charge

BY ZACH SPADT
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SHERIDAN — A Sheridan man entered a guilty plea Thursday to his third domestic violence charge in as many years.

Dustin D. Morris changed his plea as part of an agreement that he serve two to five years in the Wyoming State Penitentiary for an incident that occurred Sept. 16. According to an affidavit of probable cause, he began arguing with his girlfriend over a tattoo she received.

In addition to being displeased with the tattoo,

Morris accused his girlfriend of having a romantic relationship with the tattoo artist.

Law enforcement was dispatched to the scene and learned that Morris pushed his girlfriend and then slapped her, causing her to fall. They also observed that her left eye was beginning to swell.

Morris was serving probation for a strangulation of a household member conviction that occurred in 2014 while living in Laramie County. The probation sentence was a part of a deferred prosecution in lieu of a three to five year prison sentence.

SEE VIOLENCE, PAGE 3

Grizzly hunts loom as US seeks to end protections

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — Grizzlies could be hunted across parts of three states under a proposal by the Obama administration to lift federal protections for the animals that were first imposed more than 40 years ago.

‘Yellowstone wildlife is treasured. We understand that. We’ll manage them in a way that addresses that sensitivity.’

Gov. Steve Bullock
 Montana

The administration on Thursday declared the Yellowstone-area population of grizzlies has recovered from near-extinction, in what U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe called “a triumph for partner-driven conservation.”

Most grizzlies in the American West were killed by trapping and hunting in

the late 1800s. Their low reproductive rate has made them slow to rebound.

Revoking the feared predator's threatened status would return jurisdiction over the species to state wildlife managers in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. Hunting within Yellowstone National Park would still be prohibited.

Grizzlies once roamed much of North America and came to symbolize the continent's untamed wilderness. They now occupy only about 2 percent of their original range across the Lower 48 states, according to government officials and wildlife advocates.

Thursday's announcement came as conflicts between humans and grizzly bears have been on the rise, including six people fatally mauled since 2010. A record 59 bears were killed by humans last year, often by wildlife managers following attacks on livestock.

That's resulted in pressure to turn over management of the animals to states, in part so hunting can be used to control the population.

SEE GRIZZLY, PAGE 8



COURTESY GRAPHIC |

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 of Sheridan**

OPINION	4	SPORTS	B1
PEOPLE	5	COMICS	B4
PAGE SIX	6	CLASSIFIEDS	B5
ALMANAC	B3	PUBLIC NOTICES	B7



Dr. Kevin McCurry, his wife Cheri McCurry and Dr. Joseph Garcia, Cardiologist

Surviving a Heart Attack...

Kevin McCurry, DDS had a heart attack and was treated in Sheridan Memorial Hospital's cath lab and Intensive Care Unit. The hospital is currently building a new, expanded ICU.

View Dr. McCurry's story, all 10 Top reasons for a new ICU and see how you can support the project:

sheridanhospital.org



#9 Well-planned, higher functioning space





KRISTEN CZABAN | THE SHERIDAN PRESS

Simpsons, students mark end of 'Wyoming's political identity' class

Dr. Pete Simpson, center, taught a seven-week course on Wyoming's cultural and political identity at Sheridan College. His brother, Sen. Alan Simpson, pictured next to him, closed the course with a presentation Thursday. Dr. Simpson's class included discussions about the state's history, legislative decisions at the state and national level and the economic development of natural resources to fund Wyoming's way of life. Guest speakers included two governors, members of the Wyoming Legislature, authors, museum curators and historians.

VIOLENCE:

FROM 1

He will serve the sentences concurrently provided 4th Judicial District Court Judge John Fenn agrees to the terms of the plea agreement.

He was also serving probation for a misdemeanor domestic violence incident that occurred June 23, 2015.

A sentencing date has been set for 9:45 a.m. April 28.

Man pleads not guilty to felony pot charges

SHERIDAN — A Sheridan man entered a not guilty plea to two drug charges in 4th Judicial District Court Thursday.

Robert Schutte is charged with intent to deliver a controlled substance — marijuana — and delivery of a controlled substance — marijuana.

He was originally only charged with intent to deliver, but the charges were recently modified.

He is facing up to 10 years imprisonment, a fine of \$10,000 or both for each charge.

Court documents indicate that on Feb. 2, a confidential informant working with the Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation purchased one-quarter of an ounce of marijuana from Schutte while under audio surveillance.

Schutte told the confidential informant that he typically kept one pound of marijuana at his residence, which he kept in hidden glass jars at various locations.

On Feb. 3, DCI requested and obtained a search warrant. Schutte allegedly admitted to law enforcement that he had been selling marijuana for about a year.

A trial date has not yet been set.

4-H organizing family dance for March 11

FROM STAFF REPORTS

SHERIDAN — Sheridan County 4-H junior leaders invite members of the community to kick up their heels at a family dance March 11 from 7-10 p.m.

The event is meant for kids, but people of all ages are welcome. A deejay will provide the music

for the event, which will also feature lemonade and concessions.

Admission to the dance is free. For additional information, contact Liz Shaffer at 674-2980 or 231-1577.

The dance will take place at the Sheridan County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall, located at 1753 Victoria St.

Wyoming man could get life in prison after punching officer

GILLETTE (AP) — A Wyoming man could face life in prison after punching a detention officer.

The Gillette News Record reports that 46-year-old Keith Matteri has been in Campbell County jail on drug charges for a year.

Prosecutors say he punched an

officer in the face in November, leaving multiple fractures on the right side of his face.

Prosecutors added a habitual offender status to Matteri's charge, meaning he could be sentenced to life in prison. He has nine previous felony convictions.

Jail officials say Matteri punched officer Matthew Boer after the officer told him he had been charged with a major rule violation, meaning that he could lose various privileges.

Matteri pleaded not guilty on Wednesday.

SC to host science lecture on fish restoration

FROM STAFF REPORTS

SHERIDAN — The Sheridan College Museum of Discovery will present a discussion on native fish restoration as part of its Science Lecture Series on Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the SC Science Museum/Mohns Center.

The presentation, "Native fish restoration in Lower Clear Creek: Kendrick Dam, a fish bypass channel and success," is free and open to the public.

This talk will share results regarding which species are using a bypass and discuss additional details about a conservation success story.

Bill Bradshaw will give the presentation. Bradshaw earned a bachelor's in marine biology from The Evergreen State College and eventually a master's in fisheries science from Louisiana State University. Over the years he's worked in fisheries positions in Washington, Montana and Louisiana.

Bradshaw has been with the Wyoming Game

and Fish Department for 30 years, first in Cheyenne where he worked in the Instream Flow Program and for the last 20 years as a regional fisheries biologist in Sheridan.

The Sheridan College Science Museum/Mohns Center is located at 3059 Coffeen Ave.

BREAK: Program aids local caregivers

FROM 1

"Day Break is really really important because we don't like to see people lonely, isolated and at risk, living at home," Rideout said. "We don't like to see family members jeopardizing their own health and wellbeing. And we don't like to see people going to nursing homes before they need to."

The \$765,000 facility, which is expected to be complete by late summer or early fall, will allow the Day Break program to expand. The project is paid for by a \$500,000 grant from the Wyoming Business Council and private donations.

Currently, the program cares for clients from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Rideout hopes to provide more evening and weekend hours after the new building is usable. The center might need to hire additional staff, she said.

The Day Break program is intended to ease what can be a near-constant job of caring for an elderly loved one dealing with declining mental or physical capacities. Those spouses, children or others who take care of the individuals can use the Day Break program as a safe, positive place for

their family member to stay while they do errands, work or simply take a break.

In doing so, the program aims to allow clients to continue living at home.

Without someplace to go during the day and receive meals and care, or without a family member who is able to spend all the time caregiving that their loved one requires, nursing homes become a more likely option.

Day Break also provides an opportunity for seniors living on their own to be social.

Shirley Bedner, on the caregiving staff at the Senior Center, said her father visits the Day Break center twice a week. While he was initially reluctant, he soon changed his mind.

"He really enjoyed it, visiting with people and also telling his stories," she said. Bedner said that her mother has died since her father began visiting the center, "so it's been even more important" that he get out and see people.

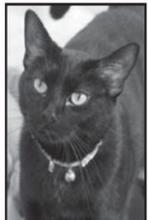
The Senior Center is moving forward with two other capital improvement projects — one to renovate the main building, starting with the kitchen and dining room — and another to expand the transit facility.

THE DOG & CAT SHELTER

Open 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri, 11:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Sat.
And visit our web site at www.dogandcatshelter.org



Imari is a lovely four-year-old black cat with some gorgeous green eyes. She has managed to outlast every other cat in the adoption room. How? We have absolutely no idea! She is sweet as can be without being too overbearing. She likes to greet people from one of her overhead perches, purring away the entire time. Most of the day, Imari just does her own thing. Sometimes she's tossing around a toy, other times just taking a long cat nap. Imari has been overlooked far too long. She hopes her forever family will discover her soon!



Rainy is a six-month-old Heeler mix. She shows some lack in socialization and can be very timid, taking her time warming up to new people and is currently in foster care to help her overcome this. However, her affection is definitely worth the wait! Once Rainy feels comfortable she just wants to be right in your arms, smothering you with kisses. Rainy also loves to play, especially with other dogs! Rainy will require a very patient owner who can appreciate each baby step this sweet girl is taking. Recently, Rainy allowed us to fit her into a harness for the very first time. We were so proud! Rainy is quietly waiting for a very special person to give her a forever home and the stability she desperately needs.

Please bring your aluminum cans either to our Can Hut just inside the Shelter gates or to our can trailer at Scotty's Skate Castle. Recycling proceeds are used to care for the animals. Thanks for your support.

This ad courtesy of:
BIG HORN BEVERAGE

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 <p>LONDON HAS FALLEN Daily 4:30 7:10 9:30 Saturday Sunday 2:00</p>	 <p>RISEN Daily 4:30 7:00 9:25 Sat Sun 2:00</p>
 <p>GODS OF EGYPT Daily 4:10 6:50 9:30 Saturday - Sunday 1:30</p>	<p>Sheridan Film Festival Wednesday March 9th</p>  <p>THE BIG SHORT Wednesday March 9th only 4:30 7:15</p>

Movie Info 672-9811 or sheridanmovies.com