

## Advice to follow before bringing someone into your home

BY LOIS BELL  
SHERIDAN SENIOR CENTER

Wyoming State Board of Nursing.”

To work as a CNA, a license is required to be renewed every two years and the State Board records would indicate that the individual passed clinical exams and was licensed at one time and whether or not there are any suspension orders in place.

“But the records won’t show if that applicant is currently working under the supervision of a licensed nurse,” Korpela said. “You will have to ask them who they are working under and ask for that nurse’s contact information.”

Plan to follow up with a phone call or visit.

The second step in vetting an applicant is to do a background check through the Central Registry via the Department of Family Services (<http://dfsweb.wyo.gov/central-registry>).

This step checks if the applicant has a record of abuse against vulnerable adults. There is a form that the applicant has to sign and a fee for \$10 that is mailed in. It will take 10 days for a response on this step of the interview process. “If the report comes back with a ‘yes’, then stay away,”



COURTESY PHOTO

**Take time and do your homework before bringing someone into your home to care for a loved one. Janet Korpela, director of the Senior Center's Help at Home program offers suggestions on how to do a thorough check on applicants you are interviewing to bring into your private life.**

Korpela said.

Step three: fingerprints. This step investigates if an applicant has a criminal background. In Sheridan, Cedar’s Health Clinic does the fingerprinting. There is a fee and the interviewer can ask the applicant to pay for this.

A fourth step in the interviewing process is to request a contact sheet for the Sheridan Police. There is a nominal fee but the report will show any time

that individual had contact with the Sheridan Police from shoplifting to calls in about the neighbor’s dog. Keep in mind that only contact within the city of Sheridan will show up on this report.

Another step is to check the applicant’s driving record with the Wyoming Department of Transportation.

“This is important especially if you need the successful interviewee to

drive your loved one to appointments or shopping,” Korpela said.

Then there are the considerations of Workman’s Compensation, a dishonesty bond and who will pay the required salary taxes such as social security, state income tax (in states where there is state income tax) and other applicable deductibles.

“And you should always request and follow up on at least three work-related ref-

erences,” Korpela said.

Korpela follows all of these steps when interviewing applicants for the Senior Center’s Help at Home program.

“And sometimes we go through all the steps and incur the cost to find out that someone did not qualify,” Korpela said.

But Korpela says the process is worth it especially when bringing someone into your home, lives and to care for your loved one.

“I come for a balanced meal and so I don’t have to eat alone. It’s good to be able to sit across the table and talk to folks.”  
— John Pillis



**Sheridan Senior Center**  
“Celebrating 40 Years of Service”  
[www.sheridanseniorcenter.org](http://www.sheridanseniorcenter.org)  
**Fun and Food**  
BUILD YOUR OWN SALAD Mon - Fri

Entrees and kiosk include sides, dessert and drink.

Entrée Choice*	or	Soup Kiosk
Sun - Glazed Ham		
Mon - Hot Beef Sandwich		Cream of Asparagus
Tue - Pork Chop Supreme		Chinese Beef Soup
Wed - Baked Potato Bar		Chicken Noodle Soup
Thu - Chicken Enchilada		French Onion Soup
Fri - Taco Salad		Chicken/ Vegetable Soup
Sat - Boneless Chicken Breast		

\*entrée only offered for Home Delivered Meals

Tue - Christmas Luncheon Party	11:30 a.m.	Open Range Restaurant
Advance sign-up required for Luncheon Party		
Wed - Gentle Yoga	10:30 a.m.	Community Room
Thu - Cribbage	12:30 p.m.	Dining Room
Fri - Bingo	12:00 p.m.	Dining Room
Sat - Woodcarvers	9:00 to 12:00	Art Studio

Lunch Service Hours: 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.,  
7 days a week  
211 Smith Street Sheridan, WY 82801 (307) 672-6079  
Senior Center Main Phone: (307) 672-2240

## Some GOP voters skittish on full repeal, poll finds

BY JORDAN RAU  
KAISER HEALTH NEWS

With their party gaining control of both the White House and Congress, some Republican voters are growing hesitant about outright abolition of the Affordable Care Act and instead favoring a more circumspect approach of scaling it back, according to a poll released Thursday.

Republican opposition to the ACA remains strong

among voters for President-elect Donald Trump, with 81 percent of his supporters viewing it unfavorably, according to the survey from the Kaiser Family Foundation that was conducted after the election. (KHN is an editorially independent program of the foundation.)

Trump voters, however, also support many of the individual consumer protections in that law.

Trump and the Republican

Congress have vowed to repeal the 2010 health care law and replace it with a not-yet-specified alternative. Lawmakers are mulling a variety of approaches, from immediate repeal to keeping the law operating until a substitute is designed, even if that takes several years.

A smooth transition is important for the 20 million people who gained health insurance through the law, and Republicans do not want to be blamed for lapses in coverage. The poll found that of those who want the law replaced with a Republican alternative, there is twice as much support for devising a replacement plan before repealing the law as there is for getting rid of it first.

The public overall remains essentially split on the Affordable Care Act, the poll found, with 43 percent wanting it repealed or scaled back and 49 percent wanting to keep or expand it, according to the poll.

Among Clinton supporters, 79 percent hold favorable views of the law.

With its diminishment now a political likelihood, the portion of Republicans who want to repeal the law has decreased to 52 percent from 69 percent last October. The poll identified a “slight uptick” in the share of people who want the law scaled back but not eliminated. That view is now twice as popular among Republicans: 24 percent want to scale it back, up from just 11 percent in October.

The poll found strong Trump voter support for some of the consumer protections that were part of the law, including allowing young adults to stay on their parents’ insurance until age 26, reducing the amount Medicare beneficiaries have to pay for prescription drugs and providing financial assistance to lower income Americans to buy insurance.

### SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS

- Free consultations at the Senior Center, 211 Smith St., with skill therapist Ginny Holcomb of Teton Therapy regarding pain, balance issues, weakness, and difficulty walking on the second Thursday of each month from 9–11 a.m., beginning Dec 8. Mini-assessment will address options to resolve dysfunction.
- Are you getting the maximum benefits from your Medicare Prescription Coverage? Dec. 7 is the deadline for review of your prescription coverage under Medicare Part D Open Enrollment. Free review with Wyoming State Health Insurance Information volunteers by appointment. Call 672-2240 to schedule a time.
- Ugly Sweater Day at the Senior Center on Thursday, Dec. 8. Wear your ugliest sweater or make one. Santa’s Elves will

- be taking photos until 1:30 p.m. that day.
- Can’t make the Ugly Sweater Day at the Senior Center on Dec. 8? Then join us on Friday, Dec. 9 for Ugly Sweater Night at the Cozy Corner Bar at Coffeen Liquors, 112 Coffeen Avenue, as the Senior Center kicks off its raffles and energy for the center’s 2017 Keystone Awards! The fun begins at 6 p.m. and a percentage of the night’s sales goes to the Senior Center!
- DIY Greeting Card Workshop Sat., Dec. 10, 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. with Heidi Roesler. All supplies provided or bring your own project to work on. The suggested contribution for the workshop is \$5 for registered seniors and \$7 for all others. Must call in to 672-2240 or stop by the front desk to sign up in advance as space is limited.

MAKING SPIRITS

Bright

REHABILITATION AND  
SKILLED NURSING SERVICES  
DESIGNED TO HELP YOU STAY  
JOYFUL THIS SEASON.



SADDLE RIDGE

THERAPY CENTER at  
WESTVIEW HEALTH CARE

307.672.9789

1990 W. Loucks St.  
Sheridan, WY 82801

WestviewHealthCareCenterWY.com