



JUSTIN SHEELY | THE SHERIDAN PRESS

Cheering from the stands

Jan Wilhelm, left, and Ro Wilhelm watch their granddaughter Gracie Von Krosigk play volleyball during the Border War tournament Saturday at Sheridan High School.

Irrevocable income only trusts are no protection from nursing home costs

Irrevocable income only trusts (IIO) are being sold in Sheridan based on a claim that they will protect your home and other assets from nursing home costs. The advertisement for these trusts says with such a trust "you still retain control of the assets and may live off their income." That may be true in New York or Alaska, but it is not true in Wyoming.

The advertisement also says that, "You may change the beneficiaries at any time and retain full control over the assets during your lifetime, including the ability to live off the income they produce." That is also not true in Wyoming.

Medicaid is the government program that pays nursing home costs for people who cannot afford to pay on their own. In order to qualify for Medicaid, an applicant who does not have a spouse living in the community is limited to no more than \$2,000 of "resources." If you have more resources than that, you must spend down your own resources until you reach that limit. That can result in the forced sale of a home or other assets. If you attempt to avoid that problem by transferring your assets to someone else within five years of the time you apply for Medicaid, you are disqualified until the value of the assets transferred would have paid your nursing home bill. If there is a community spouse, the resource limit for the community spouse is \$119,200.00 plus a house and a car, but the house and other assets are subject to a Medicaid recovery lien upon the death of the community spouse.



TIM TARVER

Placing assets in an irrevocable income only trust does not prevent them from being used to determine Medicaid eligibility because even though they are in trust, they are still considered your "resources." Wyoming's Medicaid law states: "In the case of an irrevocable trust, if there are any circumstances under which payment from the trust could be made to or for the benefit of the individual, the portion of the corpus or corpus income from which payments to the individual could be made shall be considered resources available to the individual, and payments from the portion of the corpus or income to or for the benefit of the individual shall be considered income of the individual." That means that if you can receive the income from the trust, the assets of the trust are going to be treated as a resource to you and must be spent down to pay for your nursing home care before Medicaid will pay.

The sellers of these trusts try to avoid this result by having the trust say that the income will stop if you have to go to a nursing home. But the law states: "Any portion of the trust or corpus income from which no payment could under any circumstances be made to the individual shall be considered, as of the date of establishment of the trust or, later, the date on which payment to the individual was foreclosed, to be assets disposed by the individual for purposes of W.S. 42-2-402," which is a transfer within the five-year look-back period that disqualifies you from Medicaid benefits. That means that if you terminate the distribution of income within five years of the date on which you apply for Medicaid, you are disqualified. This applies if the trust is created by you, your spouse, or some other person at your direction or request, such as your children, siblings, friends, etc.

The people of Sheridan should not be fooled by these false claims. The sellers of these trusts apparently agree with P. T. Barnum that there is a sucker born every minute, the trick is to find them. Don't allow yourself be one of those people.

GUEST COLUMNIST TIM TARVER is an attorney with a practice in Sheridan. Center Stage is written by friends of the Hub on Smith for the Sheridan Community. It is a collection of insights and stories related to living well at every age.

The Hub... on Smith to host fashion show

FROM STAFF REPORTS

SHERIDAN — On Saturday, The Hub... on Smith (formerly the Sheridan Senior Center) will hold its third annual Green Boomerang Fashion Show. Each year, Green Boomerang Thrift Shop showcases its latest fashions on stage.

With fall upon us, seasonal styles will cross the stage, with models of all ages presenting this autumn's best looks for the best price. Green Boomerang's volunteer visual merchandiser Elaine Burke coordinates the show each year. Burke began coordinating fashion shows 50 years ago, when she started modeling in them at the age of 15. By age 20 she was putting on shows for different beauty pageants across the state of Utah. Over the years she has organized fashion shows for a variety of church groups, business women and the Lake Hills Golf Course in Billings, Montana.

From 1983-1985 Burke served as executive director

for the Miss Billings Pageant.

"I really enjoy it because it is fun to do and gets people to come out of their shell and be someone else," Burke said when asked what she enjoys most about coordinating Green Boomerang's show. "This is a great opportunity for the store to showcase its available items and bring in new customers."

Burke has produced over 100 fashion shows over the last 50 years. The public is invited to come enjoy lunch in the café at 211 Smith St. from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 7, with pre-show entertainment beginning promptly at 1 p.m.

The Hub's cardio dance class, Happy Feet, that meets on Monday mornings for a musical cardio workout, will be doing a special dance performance featuring more of the high-end fashions found at Green Boomerang, followed by the main show and music from the local group Patchworks. The event is open to the public and free of charge.

SENIOR HAPPENINGS

- Shopping Sheridan Days for Tongue River Valley residents are available every first and third Thursday of each month. Trips to Albertson's or to

- Walmart will be offered. We can shop for you, with you or leave you on your own. Take advantage of this great way to get your shopping done. Call ahead to reserve your spot at 655-9419, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The shopping bus will leave Dayton at 12:30 p.m., pick up riders in Ranchester at 12:45 p.m. and return to Ranchester at 3:45 p.m., and to Dayton at 4 p.m. The cost is \$8 for a round-trip ride.

- Beginning Oct. 3, join us for breakfast, Monday through Friday, any time between 7-10 a.m. Meal tickets are accepted for individuals registered with us. No reservation or advance call-in required.

- The third annual Green Boomerang Thrift Shop Fashion Show will take place Oct. 7 at 1 p.m. in the café, with musical guests

Patchworks.

- Are you turning 65 and have questions about Medicare enrollment and coverage?

There are two Medicare presentations to help clarify Medicare enrollment at the HUB... on Smith at 211 Smith St. The programs will be Oct. 9 from noon to 1 p.m. sponsored by Sheridan AARP Chapter 676 (grab lunch and join us) and on Oct. 10 from 5:30-7 p.m. sponsored by the HUB. No advance sign-up required.

- Join us Oct. 17 for a trip to the Ranch at Ucross and Ucross Foundation Art Gallery in the Clear Creek valley on edge of the Powder River Basin. The group will Depart Heritage Towers at 10:30 a.m., 211 Smith St. at 10:45 a.m. The group will leave the ranch at 3:30 p.m. Sign-up and pre-pay at the front desk by Oct. 12.



FUN AND FOOD
BUILD YOUR OWN SALAD
Monday - Friday
Entrees and kiosk include sides, dessert and drink.

Salad Bar Available
Mondays - Fridays

No Salad Bar on Saturday or Sunday

ENTRÉE CHOICE* or SOUP/SALAD

Tue- Beef Tips/Egg Noodles
Wed- Baked Breaded Cod
Thu - Southwest Pork Roast
Fri - Chicken Fried Steak
Sat - Sweet & Sour Pork/Rice
Sun - Ham, Potato Asparagus Bake
Mon- Beef and Cheese Enchilada

*Entrée only offered for Home Delivered Meals

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Wed - National Frappe Day	Grab 'n' Go	The Hub
Thu - Sheridan Aires Choir	9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.	Community Room
Fri - Conversation Pit	8:00 a.m.	Cafe
Sat - Green Boomerang Fashion Show	1:00 p.m.	Dining Room
Mon - Tongue River Canyon Hike	Bring lunch	Carpool 9:30 a.m. @the Hub

Lunch Service Hours: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 365 days a year at 211 Smith Street Home Delivered Meals (307) 672-6079

Loan Closet, Outreach, and Administration Services, 672-2240, Mondays - Fridays.

Help at Home Services, 675-1978, 232 North Brooks: Mondays - Fridays.

Day Break Adult Care Services, 674-4968, 241 Smith Street: Mondays - Fridays.

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