



Prairie Press

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Chugwater's Monthly Publication



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Chugwaters Fall Harvest Dinner and Pie Auction

Mary Bloom, Chugwaters Community Center manager held a Fall Harvest Dinner and Pie auction on November 17th, 2013. The community was asked to bake 2 pies, one for sampling and one for auctioning. The dinner and pies were well received as many were there experiencing Potato with Ham soup, salad and bread and sampling of the pies to be auctioned off.



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United Methodist Church Celebrate 125 years

Come help celebrate Chugwater Methodist Church 125 years of Methodism in the Chugwater community. Please join us November 24th at 11 a.m. for Worship with lots of specials planned, and a carry-in dinner to follow. Hope to see you there!

R.S.V.P. to Irma Baker at 422-3566

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Chugwater School Reunion

The Chugwater School Reunion is in the planning stage for July 12th, 2014 reunion, and we need addresses of graduates. If you have moved in the last 5 years or know of a graduate who has moved we need their new address. If you are interested in attending the class reunion, we will also need your address. Please contact Ruth Vaughn or Carol Eckhardt. Anyone interested in catering the Saturday night meal please contact Ruth or Carol by December 8th, 2013. If you are interested in helping in the planning, decorating or have any suggestions to make this reunion fun and exciting plan to attend the next meeting at Ruth Vaughn's on Dec. 8th, 2013 at 2 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come and help.

Ruth Vaughn 422-3509

Carol Eckhardt 422-3444

"HERE in the WEST"

Don Hodgson

Class of 1958



The State of Equality in the Equality State

Saving the Best of the West in Wyoming. By Paul Jensen. Greybull, WY: Pronghorn Press. 2009. 251 pp.

The first Territorial legislature passed woman suffrage in 1869, and when Wyoming became a state in 1890, woman suffrage was included in the state constitution. We serve the first territory and state to give women the right to vote. Hence, Wyoming acquired the sobriquet of the "Equality State." Article 6 of the state constitution reads: "The right of citizens of Wyoming to vote and hold office shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex."

A relative newcomer to Wyoming, and having lived in various other states, Paul Jensen raises the question of "equality" in the Equality State. Using the past history of Wyoming and current statistical data, Jensen argues that the state has not lived up to its name-sake.

Jensen begins the book with a geographic look at the state, which summarily presumes to square in shape. However, it's east-west boundary is 375 miles, and is 276 miles north and south. Within the state's 97,884 square miles live (in 2008) 532,665; about 5.4 persons per square mile. The Federal government owns 46% of the land, while some 537,750 square miles are privately owned by ranches and farms.

In terms of wildlife, Jensen gives the following estimate: 564,580 pronghorns; 521,1070 mule deer; 103,281 elk; 10,154 moose; 1,085 buffalo; and 600 grizzly bears.

So much for numbers. Predictably, Jensen writes, "The gap between symbols of the Equality State and its performance has now persisted for almost 140 years." Strong words! Nationwide, women earn 77 cents compared to male workers' one-dollar. In Wyoming, a women earns 72 cents compared to male counterparts. A woman in professional occupation in the state, such as a lawyer, doctor, accountant, professor, will make less than 75% of men in those professions. Jensen believes more needs to be done in the state in creating opportunities for women.

Another issue relates to minorities in Wyoming. Hispanics represent 6.9%, African-Americans 0.7%, Asian-Americans 0.9%, and Native Americans 2.2%. While these groups have small numbers, one finds higher rates of poverty; and discriminatory attitudes persist in some cases. The Wyoming legislature argued for seven years before declaring a *Martin Luther King Jr./Equality Day*. Often, depending on the place or occasion, it is simply referred to as "Equality Day." A glaring example of discrimination might be realized when Harriet Elizabeth Byrd, raised in Cheyenne, and a graduate of Cheyenne High School, and a graduate of West Virginia State University, was denied employment for a number of years before obtaining a position in the Cheyenne school district. She soon became "Teacher of the Year," and in 1988 was elected to the state senate.

The Mathew Shepard case put Wyoming in the spotlight. Despite this episode, the Wyoming legislature failed to pass a hate crime law, which could have been a "memorial" to Shepard, and an additional sensitivity to such crimes.

Nor has Wyoming been tough enough on drinking and driving. Only in recent years has it been illegal to drink and drive on state's highways. Another disconcerting statistic is the high suicide rate in the state, especially in the 15-24 age group. Wyoming has the 4th highest rate among the states for this group of young people.

Despite these criticisms and others that should cause citizens to evaluate the ideal of equality, there is much in the state to appreciate and give reason for optimism. The simple, hardworking, and honest life of Wyoming's people, and their friendly nature are recognized. The grandeur of its scenery nourishes the state's pride, and the self-reliance and independence of Wyoming's people have supported the belief in "Western Exceptionalism."

Continued on page 7



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Chugwater Church Services

Mary Queen
Of
Heaven Catholic Church
Corner of 5th St. & Bowie Ave.

Services at 11:00 A. M.

United
Methodist Church
Corner of 6th St & Clay Ave

Worship 9 A.M.

Chugwater Valley Church
120 3rd St.

Worship 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School
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Here in the West, continued

In summation, Jensen calls for the state to economically move beyond its traditional “old economy” to a “new economy” of more diversity, more created opportunities, and more financial investment. Wyoming needs to integrate more into the national and world economy. Still, it should strengthen its agriculture and mining opportunities, and hold fast to its “Cowboy image;” but recognize the need for greater Equality State.

It is always a challenge for any people to know what to retain of their past, and what to create for their future. Thinking of the Chugwater community, what remains today from the its past, and what changes must be embraced for the future?

Don Hodgson, Class of 1958



Chugwater Cemetery Memorial Wall



THE MEMORIAL WALL IS NOW COMPLETE!

Honor your loved one with a Memorial Plaque

Contact Kate Jackson at 307-422-3329 or any of the other Cemetery Board Members for additional information and forms. The 2013 cost for each plaque is \$350.

Soft and Chewy Chocolate Drops

Cookies:

4 squares unsweetened baking chocolate
 3/4 c. butter
 2 c. sugar
 3 eggs
 1 tsp. vanilla
 2 1/2 c. flour

Glaze:

1 (8 oz.) tub cool whip topping
 6 squares semi sweet chocolate chips

Cookies: Preheat oven to 350. Microwave unsweetened chocolate and butter in large bowl on high 2 min. or until butter is melted. Stir until chocolate is completely melted. Add sugar; mix well. Blend in eggs and vanilla. Add flour; mix well. Cover and refrigerate 1 hour or until dough is easy to handle. Shape dough into 1" balls; place 2" apart, on lightly greased baking sheets. Bake 8 min. or just until set, Do Not Overbake. Let stand on baking sheet 1 min. Transfer to wire racks, cool completely.

Glaze: Place frozen whipped topping and chocolate chips in bowl. Microwave on high 1 1/2 min. or until chocolate is completely melted and mixture is shiny and smooth, stirring after 1 min. Let stand 15 min. to thicken. Spread over cookies. Let stand until glaze is set.

Makes 5 dozen. Recipe courtesy of "Bakers" cooking chocolate

Chicken & Fruit Spinach Salads

1 pkg. (6 oz.) fresh baby spinach
 1 pkg. (10 oz.) ready to use grilled chicken breast strips
 1 can (11 oz.) mandarin oranges, drained
 1 c. fresh sliced strawberries
 2 slices red onion, separated into rings
 1/2 c. reduced-fat raspberry vinaigrette
 1/4 c. honey-roasted sliced almonds

Divide spinach among 4 serving plates. Top with chicken, oranges, strawberries and onion. Drizzle with vinaigrette and sprinkle with almonds.

Recipe courtesy of : Taste of Home

4-H Chug Valley News

It is a new 4-H year and that means new officers for Chug-Valley 4-H club. This year's President is Nicole Sagner, Vice President is RyeAnn, Secretary is Jolie, Treasure is Allie Van Why, Historian is Sabryna Schaffer, and Reporter is Katie Currier. 4-H week is October 27 through November 2. The theme this year is "Making a lasting impact on 4-H". If you want to see the window display the club is doing it will be up at the Community Center starting October 25. If or someone you know is interested in 4-H or they want to join Chug-Valley, our next meeting was November 12 at 5pm. That's what's new for Chug-Valley.

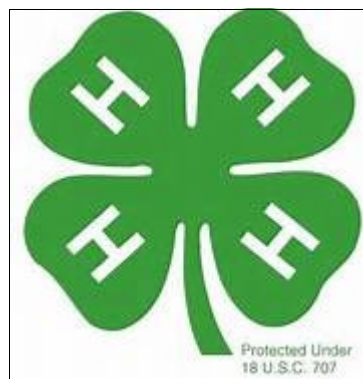


On Tuesday, November 12th ChugValley 4-H met at 5:06 p.m. at the Methodist Church. The American pledge was said by Rory Wayne and the 4-H pledge was done by Allie Van Why. Minutes were said by Jolie Strahan. Treasure's report was given by Allie Van Why with \$908.92 in the account.

The thought of the day was "Welcome Winter". There will be a shooting sports meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the 4-H building in Wheatland on Monday Dec. 9th.

Our next meeting will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Dec. 20th, 2013 at the Methodist Church in Chugwater.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:39 p.m.



Cinnamon Tea Cakes

2 c. flour
1 tsp. cinnamon, divided
1/4 tsp. salt
1 c. unsalted butter, softened
1 1/2 c. powdered sugar, divided
1 tsp. vanilla

Preheat oven to 375. Line cookie sheets with parchment paper. In small bowl, combine flour, 1/2 tsp. cinnamon and salt. In large bowl, beat butter, 3/4 c. sugar and vanilla until light and fluffy. Add flour mixture; mix only until combined. Drop by tablespoonfuls on to prepared cookie sheets, placing 2" apart.

Bake 8-10 minutes or until bottoms are golden brown. Remove to cooling grid; cool 5 min. Combine remaining 3/4 c. sugar with remaining 1/2 tsp. cinnamon. Roll warm cookies in sugar mixture; cool completely.

Easy Caramel Apple Bars

1 pouch Betty Crocker oatmeal cookie mix
1/2 c. cold butter
1 egg
1 c. finely chopped peeled apple
3/4 c. caramel topping
1/4 c. all-purpose flour

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Spray bottom only of 13 x 9" pan with cooking spray. In large bowl, place cookie mix. Cut in butter, using pastry blender or fork. Stir in egg until mixture is crumbly. Reserve 1 1/2 c. crumb mixture. Press remaining crumb mixture in bottom of pan. Bake 15 min. Sprinkle apple evenly over crust. In small bowl, mix caramel topping and flour; drizzle over apple. Sprinkle with reserved crumb mixture.

Bake 20-25 min. or until golden brown. Cool completely in pan on cooling rack, about 2 hours. Cut into 9 rows by 4 rows.

Recipe courtesy of: Betty Crocker



Thanksgiving

Source: Wikipedia, free encyclopedia

Thanksgiving, or **Thanksgiving Day**, is a holiday celebrated in the United States on the fourth Thursday in November. It has been an annual tradition since 1863, when, during the [Civil War](#), President [Abraham Lincoln](#) proclaimed a national day of "Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens", to be celebrated on Thursday, November 26.^[1] As a [federal](#) and [public](#) holiday in the U.S., Thanksgiving is one of the major holidays of the year. Together with [Christmas](#) and [New Year](#), Thanksgiving is a part of the broader [holiday season](#).

The event that Americans commonly call the "First Thanksgiving" was celebrated by the [Pilgrims](#) after their first harvest in the New World in 1621.^[2] This feast lasted three days, and was attended by about 53 Pilgrims and 90 [American Indians](#).^[3] The New England colonists were accustomed to regularly celebrating "thanksgivings"—[days of prayer](#) thanking God for blessings such as military victory or end of a drought.



Thanksgiving was founded as a [religious](#) observance for all the members of the community to give thanks to God for a common purpose. Historic reasons for community thanksgivings are: the 1541 thanksgiving mass after the expedition of [Francisco Vázquez de Coronado](#) safely crossing the high plains of Texas and finding game,^{[7][38]} and the 1777 thanksgiving after the victory in the Revolutionary War Battle of Saratoga.^[7] In his 1789 Proclamation, President Washington gave many noble reasons for a national Thanksgiving, including "for the civil and religious liberty", for "useful knowledge", and for God's "kind care" and "His Providence".^[39] The only presidents to express a specifically Christian perspective in their proclamation have been [Grover Cleveland](#) in 1896,^[39] and [William McKinley](#) in 1900.^[39] Several other presidents have cited the Judeo-Christian tradition.

The tradition of giving thanks to God is continued today in various forms. Various religious and spiritual organizations offer [worship services](#) and events on Thanksgiving themes the weekend before, the day of, or the weekend after Thanksgiving.^[40] At home, it is a holiday tradition in many families to begin the Thanksgiving dinner by saying [grace](#) (a prayer before or after a meal).^[41] The custom is portrayed in the photograph "Family Holding Hands and Praying Before a Thanksgiving Meal". Traditionally, grace was led by the hostess or host, though in later times it is usual for others to contribute.

Public Notice

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The article and ad deadline is the 5th of the month

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