

Natrona County Mustangs, Fillies and Kelly Walsh boys punch state tickets



SPORTS, B1



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Casper vault to house Wells Fargo's precious metals

ALLISON ALLSOP
Casper Star-Tribune

Despite still being a "young" company, The Wyoming Reserve has been chosen to house the precious metals of a major banking institution.

The reserve started just three years ago. Wells Fargo Bank announced in late February it would be using The Wyoming Reserve Opportunity Zone Fund Corporation to house its precious metals. The reserve is

located in Casper in the former Star-Tribune building.

"This relationship reflects the level of trust and operational rigor required by the world's leading financial institutions," said company CEO and co-founder Josh Phair in a news release. "Wells Fargo is one of the most respected names in financial services, and being selected to safeguard physical precious metals on their behalf is a significant validation of our facility, our people

and our commitment to the highest standards of security and transparency."

Co-founder and President David McMaster chucked it up to the years of experience and expertise between upper leadership at the reserve.

McMaster and Phair each have more than 10 years of experience in precious metals that have led to making a name for themselves and building plenty of professional relationships.

"The team that we have in place is a very experienced precious metals industry team," McMaster told the Star-Tribune. "So we've got a lot of institutional knowledge and relationships that we've developed over those years of working in the industry."

In addition to the qualities within the leadership, the reserve is a Class 3 facility with "state of the art" security.

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CHIEF'S 'BRAINCHILD'



ANDREW TOWNE, STAR-TRIBUNE

The Casper Police Department has launched a new community-focused effort designed to proactively strengthen neighborhood safety by working closely with residents to identify and address area-specific concerns.

Ahead of Area Initiative Project meetings, police chief shares inspiration and goals

DYLAN FARRELL
Casper Star-Tribune

With just over a month to go, Casper Police Chief of Police Shane Chaney described a "push and pull" between Casper's community and police department while expressing optimism within the PD's internal view of

how the project is proceeding.

The second round of Area Initiative Project meetings are set to take place between April 15 and 17.

At those meetings, officers will present preliminary information on the projects they're developing for their areas, according to a news release

issued by the department in February.

Origin and goals

In a January interview, Casper Police spokeswoman Rebekah Ladd described the project as Chaney's "brainchild."

Please see **AIP**, Page A4

Worland Democrat runs for secretary of state

HANNAH WARD
Casper Star-Tribune

Worland resident and Democrat Bryan McCarty announced his campaign for Wyoming secretary of state earlier this year.

McCarty told the Star-Tribune the absence of a Democratic candidate for the state-level position in the 2022 election, despite multiple Democrats running for Congress including himself, pushed him to run.



McCarty

"We can't just let the opposition have elected offices," he said. "The literal least we can do is show up and get on the ballot."

The only other declared candidate is Converse County Commissioner Robert Short, a Republican, who announced his campaign last week.

"I'm not going to pretend it's not more than a little daunting," McCarty said.

McCarty pointed to Wyoming's voter turnout of 61% in 2022 as a chance for bringing more voters to the ballot for a chance at winning the race.

The last election between a Republican and Democratic candidate was in 2018, when former state representative James Byrd — now running for U.S. Senate — captured only 26% of the vote in the race for secretary of state against Edward Buchanan.

Please see **MCCARTY**, Page A4

Casper firefighter battles cancer; community responds

HANNAH WARD
Casper Star-Tribune

After a Casper firefighter received a cancer diagnosis, his fellow firefighters and the community banded together to support his family, surpassing the \$50,000 goal within a few days.

Capt. Brian Dixon, who has served with the Casper Fire Department for more than 23 years, was diagnosed with Stage 3 mantle cell lymphoma, an aggressive, rare form of cancer.

"Brian has always been the one we can

lean on... We don't often ask for anything from the public, but in times like these we can use all the help we can get," Casper Fire Department officials wrote in a Facebook post Thursday.

The fundraiser through the Yard Foundation, a crowdfunding website dedicated to helping firefighters and their families, received 370 donations totaling \$53,400 by Monday morning.

Donations through the Yard Foundation fundraiser give all of the raised funds to the family without fees and adds 3.43%

of its money on top.

Dixon's treatment will require a six-month chemotherapy regimen split between Rocky Mountain Oncology in Casper and a facility in Denver, according to the fundraiser page.

The fire department also has internal plans to start a prayer chain for Dixon, be present for Dixon's chemotherapy treatments locally and may organize more support efforts in the future, Capt. Andrew Sundell said.

Please see **DIXON**, Page A4



COURTESY CASPER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Casper Fire Department Capt. Brian Dixon was recently diagnosed with Stage 3 mantle cell lymphoma.

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A snow squall in the p.m.
High 47 • Low 20
Forecast • A8



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