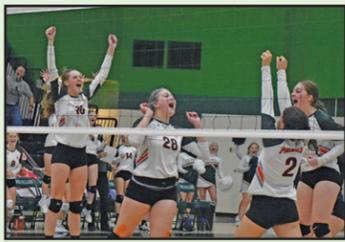


SPORTS
**Headed
to State**

See **B2**



LOCAL
**Stomping
out Bullying**

See **A3**



LOCAL
**Fire remains
a problem**

See **A4**



Pinedale Roundup

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NOVEMBER 6, 2020

One Dollar

Sublette's registered voters hit 5,000

Hospital district, Pinedale lodging tax pass

By Joy Ufford
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SUBLETTE COUNTY – It takes teamwork for an election like Tuesday's to run smoothly – and in Sublette County it did. Counting the eight precincts' ballots took less time after the polls closed at 7 p.m. than



Joy Ufford Photos

Deputy Dan McClure is the last to arrive at the Sublette County Clerk's Office from Bondurant.

it did for deputies to transport them safely to the Sublette County Clerk's Office.

County Clerk Carrie Long and Deputy Clerk Andrea Jean began receiving the bright blue locked boxes at 7:35 p.m., with the arrival of Pinedale and Boulder ballots.

Five minutes later, Deputy Scott Winer arrived with the Daniel and Cora boxes. Then came the Marbleton and Big Piney ballots and at 7:55 p.m., Deputy Dan McClure carried in the last two boxes to arrive from Bondurant, where votes were cast in the secular section of St. Hubert's Episcopal Church.

Altogether, Sublette County set a new record at an even 5,000 voters – well over 4,178 who voted in the primary election.

However long it takes to officially announce the 2020 presidential race's winning duo, President Trump with Vice President Mike Pence cleanly and clearly won in Sublette County.

A total of 3,957 people voted for their reelection; the Democratic Joe Biden-Kamala Harris ticket gathered 882 votes, about 20 to 25 percent in each precinct. Independent Brock Pierce had 23 votes and Libertarian Jo Jorgensen, 71.

Several states with very close presidential results were still counting Thursday morning and recounts were already requested in at least two states.

Vote getters

• The special hospital district ballot initiative passed, 2,856-1,895, with the largest margins in Pinedale Precinct 1-1 and showing good support also in Pinedale West, Boulder, Bondurant and Cora. The nays

Next steps for the hospital district

SUBLETTE COUNTY – The public approved a ballot initiative to form a special hospital district at the Nov. 3. election. The Sublette County Rural Health Care District will continue to exist alongside a newly formed hospital district for an undetermined period.

"There's quite a few different things that need to be figured out," said Emily Ray, the SCRHCD communications director, as the boards work toward the project to construct a new critical access hospital and assisted living facility.

The first step is to finalize the memorandum of understanding that will form the basis for the partnership between the Sublette Center and the SCRHCD, Ray said. Once the final MOU is completed, the boards can apply for a USDA loan to pay for the critical access hospital portion of the project, Ray added.

Ray stated that Dave Doorn, the SCRHCD administrative director, has "worked hard" to prepare most of the paperwork and the application is close to completion. The "ideal" is for the new hospital district board to submit the application, Ray continued. This would prevent further paperwork down the road to change the name of the applicant.

The new hospital district board does not have bylaws yet, and those will have to be worked out at their first meeting, along with the details on how the two boards will operate together, Ray said.

Ray said that another important step was to find out when the Board of County Commissioners will commit the money they pledged to fund a new assisted living facility.

outweighed the ayes in Big Piney, 343-328, Marbleton, 205-174, and Daniel, 138-134.

• The new special hospital district board's two-year trustees are Kenda Tanner, Wendy Boman and Dr. Brendan Fitzsimmons. New four-year trustees are Tonia Hoffman and Jamison Ziegler.

• Pinedale's 2-percent lodging tax initiative passed, 645-298, in Pinedale 1-1 with 265 yes, 137 no, and Pinedale West 1-3, 380 yes, 161 no.

• Wednesday, a recount took place for the Upper Green River Cemetery District, where former sexton Don Schooley was overwhelmingly elected as a four-year trustee with 1,591 votes countywide. Dwight

Dibben took a seat with 1,271 votes.

Long called for the recount due to the 10-vote difference between incumbent Jana Bloxham's 1,224 votes and Carmen Hittle's 1,214 votes.

Mary Ellen Schooley defeated incumbent Kent Van for the two-year term, 1,603-1,160.

• As expected, newly elected Sen. Cynthia Lummis will join reelected Rep. Liz Cheney in Washington, D.C. In Cheyenne, Sen. Fred Baldwin, Sen. Dan Dockstader, House Rep. Albert Sommers and House Rep. Jim Roscoe are reelected.

• The primary's top three county commissioner candidates – Tom Noble, See 'VOTERS' on page **A2**

Food Basket: Most store employees in quarantine

By Joy Ufford
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PINEDALE – The Pinedale Community Food Basket's popular store is closed now while all but one employee are quarantined after an employee tested positive for COVID-19.

Store manager Sandy Hinderliter is the lone employee who did not have contact with the person, she said this week.

"We're very sad to report that one of our wonderful employees has gotten sick with COVID-19," she posted on the shop's Facebook page. "They are doing well with mild symptoms so far but unfortunately nearly all of our thrift store team were in close contact and must isolate for 14 days as mandated by the State of Wyoming."

That would make the reopening date Nov. 16, she said. In the meantime, people are asked to not drop off donations at the Food Basket, where furniture and goods filled available space outside – for now.

"We know many of you depend on us for goods and know that we'll be back in action as soon as possible," the Facebook post stated. "If you'd like to donate to help keep our Food Basket services running, please visit <https://www.pinedalecommunity.com/> and hit the donate button in the top right."

The link also takes people to Hinderliter's current work in progress, an online store where people can peruse featured clothing and collectibles. She plans to have it up and running in the very near future.

People without COVID-19 are offering to help bring donated items inside and to help run the shop, she said. Anyone who comes by to help must wear a facemask and keep a 6-foot social distance. The Food Basket's grocery distribution is not affected by the closure.

For more information, call the Pinedale Community Food Basket at 307-367-3206 or visit the Facebook page.

Neighbors unhappy with RV park variance request

Public workshop on short-term rentals will be Nov. 20

By Joy Ufford
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PINEDALE – A handful of neighbors were respectful but firm when they spoke against a variance request by Yellowstone Trail RV Park owner Casey Dauwen.

His request to the Pinedale Planning & Zoning Commission at its Nov. 2 meeting was to change a length-of-stay condition in town's ordinance so customers wanting to leave a "Park Model" trailer – unoccupied – in the closed campground over winter.

The popular Park Model home is a very small trailer-type RV that can be towed and set up temporarily or sometimes permanently.

Dauwen asked the commission to consider a variance to allow an RV, camper or Park Model to stay for 365 days so people can leave them and return next summer. They can live in it for a maximum of 184 days with the May 1 to Oct. 31 season.

Currently the ordinance allows one-fifth

of the RV park for long-term stays of 360 days; then they must be removed for at least 30 days. Otherwise, no units can stay for more than 180 consecutive days in a 360-day period.

"All I am asking is for a variance to turn '360 days' into 365 and write in that it can only be occupied for 184 days maximum," Dauwen said.

As it stands, with 51 RV spaces he could leave 10 RVs for the winter but they all have to be removed for 30 days. Dauwen said no one would live in them. There is nothing to prevent him from parking his own RV or someone else's in the campground before Oct. 31 and leaving it there until May 1, he added.

"I think I've proved that I don't have a project going on that's going to hurt the neighborhood," Dauwen said. "I'm going the extra mile."

Neighbor Stephanie Kervistky disagreed, See 'PARK' on page **A2**

