

# Gillette News Record

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'THIS IS MY COMMUNITY' Chuck Deaton begins his watch as Gillette police chief, **B1**

## CCH to add 3rd vaccine

People can start getting new Johnson & Johnson vaccine starting Thurs.

By **JAKE GOODRICK**  
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Campbell County Health will begin offering the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine through its Campbell County Medical Group clinics starting Thursday.

The partnership between Campbell County Public Health and CCH will add another vaccination option to the county's growing list of ways to get vaccinated.

Several of the Campbell County Medical Group clinics will offer the new vaccine, including the Wright Clinic.

The vaccinations are scheduled by appointment only. Call 307-688-6050 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Wednesday to make an appointment.

The vaccine clinics are scheduled for:  
\* 2-7:30 p.m. Mondays  
\* 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays  
\* 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays

\* 8 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m. Thurs.  
Patients will be directed to a specific clinic when their appointment is made and do not have to be an established patient at any of the clinics to receive the vaccine.

Once the vaccination schedule is filled, callers will be asked to call again to schedule the following week, the press release said.

"We are pleased that our citizens now have three vaccine options to choose from, as well as multiple locations where they can receive the vaccine," said Public Health Executive Director Jane Glaser in the press release. "The sooner we can vaccinate as many people as possible, the sooner we can defeat the virus and resume more normal lifestyles."

The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is a single-dose shot and recently became the third COVID-19 vaccine approved for emergency use in the United States. The other two available vaccines, made by Pfizer and Moderna, each require two doses, three to four weeks apart.

Public Health is continuing to offer the Moderna vaccine through its clinics on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays where appointments can be scheduled by calling 307-682-7275.

Through the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program, the Gillette Walgreens pharmacy is offering the Pfizer vaccine and the Walmart pharmacy is providing doses of Moderna.

## County considers selling shuttle vans to local agencies

By **JONATHAN GALLARDO**  
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Campbell County could soon say goodbye to its two remaining shuttle vans.

A few months after transferring the title of one of three shuttle vans to the Campbell County Senior Center, two other local organizations have approached the county about buying the other vans.

The county has had the vans for nearly six years.

In March 2015, Sheridan lost its commercial air service. Campbell County commissioners proposed launching an airport shuttle service to Sheridan and Johnson counties. The county bought three shuttle vans for nearly \$200,000.

They shut down the idea of the shuttle service in April 2016, just days after 465 coal mine workers were laid off.

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### More info.

\* CDC says fully vaccinated people can gather without masks. **Page A8**



News Record Photos/Mike Moore

Brandon Martagon and Shelby Ganje, both 12, work together at a computer station in Heather Gibson's STEM lab at Prairie Wind Elementary School. As the Wyoming Department of Education emphasizes computer science standards across the state, Campbell County has been leading the way for years.

# This bytes

## Campbell County a state leader in computer science education

By **CARY LITTLEJOHN** \* NEWS RECORD WRITER  
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**E**ight-year-old Owen Randall sat at a computer in Heather Gibson's STEM lab at Prairie Wind Elementary on a Friday morning, clicking through various screens with instructions on how to build a small motorized windmill out of Legos.

One might marvel simply at his skills navigating the computer's prompts, considering how his feet dangled from his chair unable to reach the floor, but even more impressive was his young mind grasping science, technology, engineering and mathematics concepts with

relative ease.

Problem-solving happened in real-time as he worked. The turbines of the tiny windmill were to be made of green Lego building blocks, but there happened to be a few types of green pieces. Instead of guessing at which was the correct one to use, he reached his finger to the screen, touched the drawing of the green Lego and counted the tiny holes in the piece. Then he dutifully counted the holes on the physical green Lego piece in his hand. He'd been right all along.

After a quick bit of troubleshooting when his windmill arms wouldn't turn like they're supposed to, Gibson informed Owen that the computer he was using had been on the fritz, and perhaps he'd have better luck on another computer. He moved, worked his way back through the same steps and voila! The arms spun. And just like that, a second grader had made a working windmill.

Baby Boomers, Gen Xers, Millennials and Generation Z, get ready for an uncomfortable truth: Elementary kids today can do more than you could at the same age — and perhaps more than many of you at your current age. Don't worry; it's not your fault. These kids today, especially those coming of age in the Campbell County School District, have a lot more accessibility to them than did students even five years ago. The increased accessibility for students is because of the district's push for STEM labs and early adoption of computer science standards.

### Ahead of the curve

Computer science was the most recent addition to the collection of subjects and skills thought to be essential for a well-rounded education in the state of Wyoming.

Known colloquially as "the basket of goods," the collection of skills would seem incomplete without computer science in the interconnected and digital world into which these young people will mature. Computer science represents the first addition to the basket since the concept was introduced in the 1990s, and that addition didn't officially happen until the 2018 legislative session.

The bill required the State Board of Education to have a final version of computer science standards in place by Jan. 1, 2022, and schools across the state to have the standards implemented by the 2022-23 academic year. The board, ahead of



Marley Wood, 7, builds with lego pieces to construct a wind turbine blade during a STEM class at Prairie Wind Elementary School in Gillette.

its deadline, approved the standards on Nov. 22, 2019, and Gov. Mark Gordon approved them Feb. 4, 2020, making them effective.

Samantha Burr, a professional development specialist and STEM curriculum facilitator, said the local school district was ahead of the curve when it came to implementation.

"We started the work on these prior to that," Burr said. "Being an innovative and technology-forward district has always been something we've prided ourselves on, so we already had these wonderful things in motion that really

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