

## Huck Finn Fishing Derby

The pond was packed, and the fish were biting Saturday at the annual youth fishing derby  
Sports, Page B2



## Smile, don't cry

It's just change, nothing to hyperventilate over  
Opinion, Page A6

# Rocket-Miner

Your news source since 1881

SERVING ALL OF SOUTHWESTERN WYOMING

rocketminer.com

Volume 134, Issue 131

\$1.00

SUNDAY, June 4, 2017

# 10

## Things you should know about lacrosse in Rock Springs

Lopes Lacrosse is in its second year in Rock Springs. It's grown from 12 players to 29 this season.

Here are 10 things you should know about the program:

### 1. How it started

If you're wondering how Lopes Lacrosse got to Rock Springs, you don't have to look any further than its founder Rick Baker. He has been the trailblazer.

When he arrived in Rock Springs, he knew the town was missing lacrosse. He applied for and received the First Stick Grant from US Lacrosse. Lopes Lacrosse is one of 15-20 programs in the country to receive the grant. With that, first-ever lacrosse program in Rock Springs was born (see accompanying story).

### 2. What to expect

Baker grew a lacrosse program in southern California from the ground up and aims to do the same thing here.

"We're knocking on the door," Baker said. "In my experience at seeing how it works with the growth of the sport, it's going to take nothing to just blow up."

According to US Lacrosse, it's the fastest-growing sport in the nation. For an area that could benefit from another option for spring sports, Baker's expectations for the program appear to be realistic.

Baker is excited about the young age of many of the kids who are signing up. The potential size and quality of a program depends on how well the foundation is built, and Baker is focusing on getting the players on the field early on.

He has players as young as 8. Starting kids at a younger age is a huge advantage for everything from developing the right culture and mindset to improving on the raw skills, Baker said.

### 3. Building skills

US Lacrosse provides coaches with a developmental model to aid the teaching of the game. It hosts clinics based on that model.



Thirteen-year-old Brennen Wilson is ready to play.

## For the love of the game, and his son

ROCK SPRINGS — Lacrosse is a big

## ROCK SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL

# City to consider garbage ordinance

ROCK SPRINGS — The Rock Springs City Council will listen to the third reading of an ordinance to penalize companies that collect garbage without permission.

Under the proposal, people found guilty could receive a six-month sentence and \$750 fine.

In addition, the ordinance would require garbage collectors to maintain an office from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. with at least one employee.

At the May 16 council meeting, Peak Disposal Owner Ryan McGuire spoke against the ordinance and said his business operates 24-7 telephone service and doesn't believe it is necessary to physically staff his office every day.

Councilman David Tate noted the contract McGuire signed that said his company agreed to "maintain normal business hours."

McGuire said he thought an office and hours would be up to his discretion. He said his customers have never requested a physical presence in an office and that feedback has been positive.

Councilman Rob Zotti said the contract has broad language and he has trouble with the city "dictating how someone should run their business," the Rocket-Miner reported.

Wyoming Waste Systems Manager Laurel Sperry spoke in favor of the ordinance. She said her company has always staffed an office in the city and not requiring competitors to staff an office gives them an edge in cutting rates.

### If you go

**What:** Rock Springs City Council meeting  
**When:** 7 p.m. Tuesday  
**Where:** Rock Springs City Hall, 212 D St.

Requests, resolutions.



hosts clinics based on that model, which are especially helpful for coaches building new programs. It also ensures that coaches everywhere are doing things the same way.

"If I were to go coach in Cody, it's seamless," Baker said. "Nine times out of 10, what we're doing here is the exact same thing they're doing there."

Even with the developmental model, making mistakes is part of learning a new sport. Baker said he's not worried about the kids



RICK BAKER

▶ SEE 10 THINGS, PAGE A13

▶ SEE THE COACH, PAGE A12

ROCK SPRINGS — Lacrosse is a big part of Rick Baker's life; it always has been.

He played the sport in middle school, through high school, and then on the club team at Gonzaga University. After a college injury cost Baker a chance to continue playing, he switched his focus.

"If I can't play anymore, I'm going to teach it. I'm going to coach it," Baker said of his immediate thoughts when his playing career ended.

**public hearing**

The City Council will also hear:

- A request from the Rock Springs Police Department to define and fill a vacant police records supervisor position.
- A request from the Water Reclamation Facility to fill a vacant collection worker position.
- A sales agreement with Mathew Register for police dog Gunner.
- Uncollectable debts for the Rock Springs Housing Authority.
- A proposal from McGee, Hearne & Paiz, LLC to audit the city's financial records for fiscal year 2016-17.
- Two resolutions amending the land use map.
- A public hearing and first reading on an ordinance to add an indoor shooting range.

**Ordinances**

- Proposed ordinance would:
  - Allow the mayor to reschedule a City Council meeting in the event of an emergency, third reading.
  - Raise age requirements from 18 to 21 for people entering a business where the primary source of revenue comes from the sale of liquor and require

Rocket-Miner stories and photos by **Miles Englehart**

# Recycling center faces uphill battle

## Supervisor says it is in limbo

GREGORY R.C. HASMAN  
reporter1@rocketminer.com

ROCK SPRINGS — The Ray Lovato Recycling Center is once again dealing with uncertainty.

Under the proposed city budget, it would only receive \$28,215, or about half of its request of \$56,430, which is what it received in fiscal year 2016-17. Recycling Center Supervisor April Thompson said the 50 percent cut could leave the center scraping to stay alive.

"I don't want to shut down the

recycling center," she said. "We will continue to fund it as long as we can."

She said the center has used \$75,000 from reserves and is looking at different funding sources, such as applying for grants.

The agency received \$80,247 in fiscal year 2016-17, which included

▶ SEE RECYCLING CENTER, PAGE A3

▶ SEE ORDINANCE, PAGE A3

Like us on facebook.com/  
**Rocket-Miner Newspaper**

Follow us on Twitter  
**@Rocket\_Miner**

Classifieds B4-B6  
Comics.....A8  
Community ...A4

Faith.....B3  
Lotto.....B1  
Opinion ... A6-A7

Records .....A2  
Region .....A11  
Sports ..B1,2,7,8



**83/51**  
Weather..A2

