



**Welcome** to the team of business and industry leaders who are dedicated to promoting Southwest Wyoming manufacturing, technology and workforce development.

Visit our website

*This Issue  
Sponsored By:*



## SOUTHWEST WYOMING MANUFACTURING PARTNERSHIP

### OUR MISSION AND GOALS INCLUDE:

**Awareness** of career opportunities.

**Alignment** of education and skill development for career paths.

**Planning** for what is needed now for future opportunities.

**Results** for how to measure success.



**Greetings!**

Welcome to the SWMP newsletter!

Send info or questions to [swmpnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:swmpnewsletter@gmail.com)

[swmppartnership.org](http://swmppartnership.org)



# UPCOMING EVENTS

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*April 4*

**Businesses & Job Seekers!**

## CAREER FAIR RAWLINS

**April 4, 2023**

**10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**Jeffrey Center**

315 W. Pine St., Rawlins, WY 82301

**Businesses:** For more information and to reserve a space, please contact the Rawlins Workforce Services office at 307-324-3485 or 307-328-4181.

**Job Seekers:** Bring your resumes and please join us - there are multiple openings and options to explore!

[DWS.WYO.GOV](https://DWS.WYO.GOV)



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*April 18-19*





**APRIL  
18-19**  
**CHEYENNE, WY**

from **b.a.r.r.i.e.r.s** to  
**BREAKTHROUGHS**

Mark your calendar and plan to join us April 18-19, 2023 at Little America in Cheyenne for valuable industry-focused programming and networking. Keynote speaker Shari Harley, author of *How to Say Anything to Anyone*, will provide insight on attracting and retaining the right employees, as well as managing business relationships and professional reputations.

**Day One** offers an in-depth series of half- and full-day workshops, including a look into the ever-changing digital world with a Social Media Masterclass. Those considering starting an apprenticeship or internship program, and need assistance with the costs and expenses of implementing a program will appreciate DWS' Business Training and Support Unit's insightful workshop, A Deep Dive into Business Training Grants on available grant programs, eligibility requirements and assistance in applying. DWS's Risk Management division will host a workshop on Workers' Compensation Discount Programs, and the OSHA department will host an all-day Fall Protection Training workshop.

**Day Two** features breakout sessions by Edwin Foulke, Former Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA under George W. Bush, who will speak on Safety Leadership, Rules, and Engagement: How Leaders Drive Safety Culture Success; John Jenks, Economic Initiatives Director with the Wyoming Business Council and Melody Norris, DWS Workforce Specialist, who will speak on Second Chance Hiring and the benefits of hiring formerly incarcerated individuals; and Zach Shifflett with Premier Virtual who will be speaking on The Great Resignation vs. The Great Return.

If you have questions about the Summit, please email [DWS-Communications@wyo.gov](mailto:DWS-Communications@wyo.gov)

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# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS LOCAL, REGIONAL, & STATEWIDE



20  
**APRIL**  
6 - 7:30PM

Roundhouse ~ 1500 Main Street ~ Evanston, Wyoming



## May 2: Art and Industrial Arts Fair

The Green River High School CTE Team cordially invites you to join our Spring Perkins Advisory Council for an exciting showcase of the Art and Industrial Arts Fair, including an update on CTE programs and equipment purchases provided through the Perkins Grant.

The Art and Industrial Arts Fair has been a tradition at Green River High School for over 50 years, providing students with a platform to showcase their hard work and creativity. We believe that a brief meeting followed by an exhibition would be a great way to appreciate the students' efforts and provide insight into the CTE programs that promote growth and skill development.

This event will take place on **Tuesday, May 2nd at 6:00 PM** in the Auxiliary and Main Gyms at Green River High School. To get to the venue, please park in the open parking area in front of the building and enter through the main doors. After you enter the building, please take your first right and head down the stairs until you reach the entrance of the Auxiliary and Main Gyms.

We will meet in the Auxiliary Gym first, where a brief summary of the grants will be presented, followed by an opportunity to view the exceptional projects created by our talented students in Welding, Woodworking, Auto Body, Art, and Pottery.

The schedule for the evening is as follows:

**6:00 PM - Introductions and Grant Information - Auxiliary Gym**



We hope you can make it to this exciting event and support our students. After the viewing, you are welcome to leave or stay and visit with us. Thank you for your support!

# WHAT'S NEW

## Western's Powerline Students Climb to Success



Western Wyoming Community College Powerline Technology program is completing the first year. The course has become very popular throughout the area, providing today's young workers with the electric utility line work instruction and education which is resulting for those graduating this May, with the Certificate of Completion, a job offer straight out of the program.

According to Amy Murphy, Dean, Outreach & Workforce Development at Western, the Powerline Technology program originated from the SWMP group as a need in not only Southwest Wyoming but the State of Wyoming as a whole.

The program started in August 2022, and the students have learned the fundamental aspects of powerline work, including classroom and hands-on training in safety, climbing, techniques, electrical theory, aerial framing, rigging, operating utility service equipment and commercial driver's license training.

Murphy also stated, "Hiring Lance Caldwell was the best thing for this program. He brings a wealth of experience to the program, and the students have really learned a lot from him. Lance stresses the importance of safety as this line of work can be very dangerous."



On March 23rd, the Southwest Wyoming Manufacturing Partnership (SWMP) participated in a panel discussion at the Next Gen Academy in Lander, Wyoming, sharing the success of our region. Then panel consisted of Ron Wild, Rocky Mountain Power, Fred von Ahrens, Genesis Alkali, Amy Murphy, Western Wyoming Community College, and Craig Barringer, Sweetwater County School District #2.

The panel discussed “Creating Presence in Southwest Wyoming”, and the conversation shared with the attendees how Industry-led, community-supported partnerships strengthen regional economies and connect people to jobs. Other successes shared was how the Next Gen partnership within Southwest Wyoming designed and delivered the Plant Operations and Powerline Technology programs. Both programs were developed and supported at the request of business and industry.



## WWCC Hosts Welding Competition



On April 13 & 14<sup>th</sup>, Western Wyoming Community College hosted the “Best in the West” High School competition! High schoolers from across the region competed for a chance to win prizes and scholarships. Anna Kallgren from Star Valley High School took first place with a \$5,000 scholarship to Western. Anna said, "God helps you when you need Him too. He definitely helped me."

Landen Morrill from Rock Springs High School took second place with a \$4,000 scholarship. Morrill said he's already registered to attend Western in the fall. Ethan Rupke from Cheyenne East High School placed third with a \$3,000 scholarship.



Other scholarship recipients include: Jacob Spearman from Cheyenne East High School, Payton Andrews from Star Valley High School, Kaleb McDaniel from Greybull High School Buffaloes, Damon Morris from Green River High School - Wyoming, Kai McKeever is a Dual and Concurrent student at Western with Rock Springs High School (authentic), Noah Hymas from Rock Springs High School (authentic), and Joseph Martinez from Rock Springs High School (authentic).

**Congratulations** to all our contestants and winners! Special thanks to the John Hay Foundation & Western's MIT Endowment for funding these scholarships.

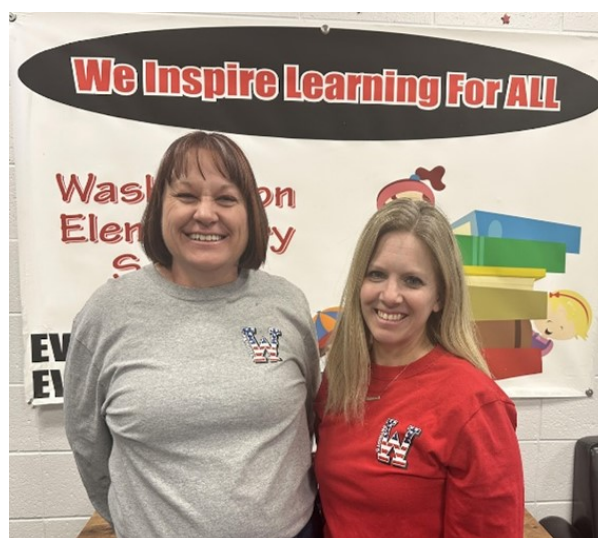


## Focus on Education for SWCSD#2

### Washington Elementary's Future Engineers

Led by third grade teacher Melissa Skinner and STEM teacher Tara Taliaferro, the Washington Elementary third graders participated in the University of Wyoming's Engineering Week. The third-grade students took a field trip to Green River City Hall and worked with the Green River Public Works Director, Mark Westenskow. He worked with them in designing a city plan to help them understand the many details that it takes to design a town.

When the students returned to their classroom they were given the challenge of "Creating a Safe Pathway for Wildlife". The students had to draw out a plan, build their

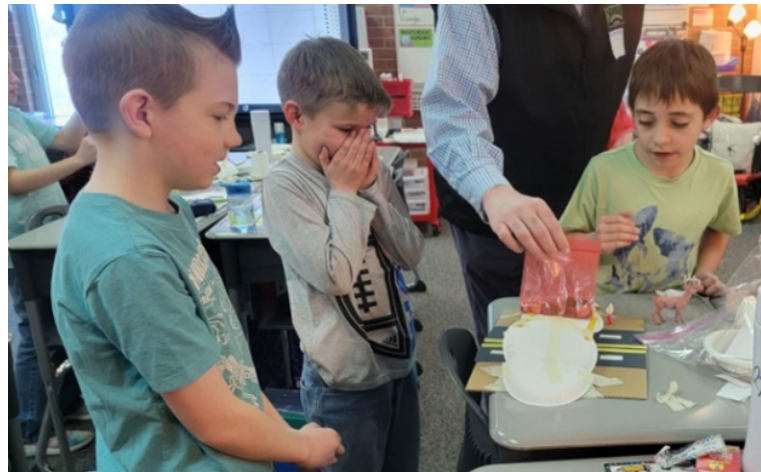


plan, test their plan, then improve their plan.



The students' structure had to withstand a test, which was the weight of pennies, starting with 50 pennies up to 250 pennies. Students were also given plastic animals to demonstrate if an animal could fit on their structure or inside their structure (i.e. a tunnel). Discussions were led to look at their structures to see if it was safe for animals, and if they needed to improve their structures by building a barrier so animals did not fall off.

Students have also been able to use the process of planning, testing their plans, and improving their plans in building structures that withstand an area if it were to flood. Using real-life situations in building structures helps students understand and apply third-grade engineering standards to their daily lives.



*Would an intern help your company?*

Companies Offering

**INTERNSHIP**

OPPORTUNITIES



wants to partner with you to provide our students with real-world experience.

Contact Amy Murphy at  
[amurphy@westernwyoming.edu](mailto:amurphy@westernwyoming.edu)  
to arrange summer internships.





Explore the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services website for current job openings or to post an opening within your company.



Thank you to our Sponsor



Genesis Alkali is the Western Hemisphere's largest natural soda ash producer. Our talented workforce of more than 1,000 employees located primarily in Green River operates the world's largest natural soda ash mine and production site and is the leader in natural soda ash mining and processing technologies.



In 2023 Genesis Alkali will be celebrating two significant milestones: the expansion of our Granger facility, a next generation soda ash manufacturing operation, and the company's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Granger will be among the lowest cost soda ash manufacturing operations in the world using our patented Alkaline brine-based processing technology. Genesis Alkali is proud of employing several generations of reliable, hard working employees over many decades. We are determined to maintain a culture of safety as a core value, support the State of Wyoming and our local communities, and continue to deliver soda ash and sodium specialty products to our customers around the world.

## Friendly Reminder . . . .

### What is our Purpose and How do we Get There?

#### ***Purpose:***

#### **Improve outcomes for our students and those seeking career changes**

- **Business, Educators, Government Services and the Community working together to improve**
  - **Awareness** of career opportunities
  - **Alignment** of education and skill development for career paths
  - **Planning** for what is needed now and for future opportunities
  - **Results** for how to measure success
- **Awareness**
  - Increase awareness of career opportunities within our community
  - Students, Educators, Counselors, Government Agencies, Parents and the Community
  - Engagement events and opportunities
  - Career Fairs,
  - Jr. High and High School events
  - Mentoring and job shadowing etc.
  - Engagement & Dialog with the stakeholders
- **Alignment to better prepare our students for careers in our community and beyond**
  - Direct from high school including career technical training
  - Secondary education, certificate programs, two-year degrees, CTE
  - University alignment (pathways and career paths)
- **Planning**
  - What is needed now,
  - Where will the opportunities be
  - What will we do to prepare and fill the pipeline?
  - Promotion, Communication processes, Scholarships, etc.
  - Measurements; Create metrics such as % Secondary Education, % successful career changes
- **Membership**
  - **Southwest Wyoming: Carbon, Fremont, Sublette, Sweetwater, Uinta, Lincoln**

#### ***Membership:***

**Core Business Champions:** Fred von Ahrens, Ron Wild, Craig Rood, Matt McQueen, Carl Lembke, Lauren Schoenfeld, Kim Dale, Kelly McGovern, Craig Barringer, Joan Evans, Jed Vigil, Marty Carollo

**Core Co-Conveners:** Bridget Stewart, Lacey Bluemel, Tosha Garner





Get In Touch