

LANDER

Informing the Lander Valley since 1884 • Vol. 132, No. 15



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Sunday, February 21, 2016



Senators ch WLRC overh

BY CHRISTINA GEORGE
Staff Writer

CHEYENNE - Funding to renovate the Wyoming Life Resource Center in Lander and another state-run health care facility became vulnerable in the Senate chamber this week.

The Wyoming Legislature is considering a capital construction bill to the tune of \$320 million for one-time projects, including an overhaul of the WLRC and Wyoming State Hospital in Evanston.

However, some senators questioned spending money to construct buildings at

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During the Feb. 18 ceremony at the National Outdoor Leadership School, which revealed a 7-foot-tall statue of the school's founder, committee members addressed the audience. Pictured, from left, are Kevin McGowan, Peter Simer, Skip Shoutis and Dianne Shoutis.

Photo by Taylor Kraft

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Petzoldt remembered by NOLS with bronze statue

BY TAYLOR KRAFT

Staff Writer

The National Outdoor Leadership School held a dedication ceremony on Feb. 18 to honor the completion and installation of the 7 foot-tall bronze statue of its founder Paul Petzoldt in the courtyard at NOLS International.

Petzoldt, a "legendary mountaineer" and environmentalist, founded NOLS in 1965 with a vision to train leaders capable of conducting wilderness programs in a safe and rewarding manner, according to the outdoor school's website. Petzoldt died Oct. 6, 1999.

A committee raised \$85,000 with the help of 169 donors to have the piece commissioned by Eagle Bronze Foundry and artist Benjamin Victor. All committee members are current or former NOLS employees who knew Petzoldt.

The ceremony kicked off with members of the committee, Diane and Skip Shoutis, Kevin McGowan and Peter Simer, expressing the committee's goal of having the school's founder be recognized physically.

Other committee members, who were unable to attend the dedication, are Andy Carson, Nancy Weis-Carson, Neil Short and Cyndy Simer.

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NOLS

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Rob Hellyer, who was also with NOLS in the beginning, reminisced on how the statue captured the "true likeness" of his friend, even stating the larger-than-life statue capture the true persona of Petzoldt.

During the ceremony, NOLS executive director, John Gans, reminisced on his first encounter with Petzoldt and how Gans would never forget the en-

during words Petzoldt spoke of "the power of the mountains, the power of the bonds and the power of education" the mountains provide to students.

During an Aug. 31 interview, Gans said the bronze statue "will ensure Paul will live on for his visionary idea that proven timeless as we complete our 50th year and look forward to the next 50."