



Star Herald

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Sports 1B

Expedition League Baseball

Red-hot Big Sticks batter
Pioneers 5-4



News 7A

Yemen attacks

Rebel missile, suicide attack
kill dozens in Yemen port

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY FAIR



Allison Carpenter took FFA Reserve Market Champion at the Scotts Bluff County Fair in Mitchell Thursday with LeBron, a goat that was born in the animal bay at Scottsbluff High School.

MARK MCCARTHY/Star-Herald

SHS goat takes reserve champion

By Mark McCarthy
Star-Herald

MITCHELL — The FFA Reserve Market Champion goat hasn't had the life of your average goat.

LeBron, you see, was born at the animal bay at Scottsbluff High School, just a day after his mom was brought to the school by her owner, Allison Carpenter. Born at 5 pounds, LeBron now weighs a healthy 91, and Carpenter is happy that it was her doe that gave birth to LeBron. After the birth, she decided to be the one to raise LeBron.

"It's really helped all of those students to be able to learn from it," she said. "It really worked out for us well to have others be able to learn about ag and livestock."

SHS ag instructor and FFA advisor Alan Held said LeBron was "kind of a big hit at the school," especially when students were allowed to take part in a contest to choose a name and LeBron was introduced at a school basketball game.

See **LEBRON, 3A**



LAUREN BRANT/Star-Herald

In the Scottsbluff High School agriculture shop, a new boy buckling walked around in his pen. Students and faculty stopped by throughout the day to see him and cuddle with him. This photo ran in the Jan. 16 Star-Herald.

CITY COUNCIL

Gering ready to unveil new comprehensive plan

By Jerry Purvis
Star-Herald

GERING — Gering's Comprehensive Plan, last updated in 1995, is almost complete and ready for a hearing before both the City Council and the Planning Commission.

Along with the comprehensive plan, the city's zoning regulations, which date back to 1984, are also receiving an update.

"Plans in the past have sometimes ended up on a shelf and never implemented," said Gering City Engineer Annie Folck. "That's because past documents have been an encyclopedia of information that wasn't readily available to the public. But today, everything is available online so plans have evolved."

Folck said the new Comprehensive Plan should be more of a policy document that casts a vision for the community, so she wants to see it used. It will also help staff to better determine whether new projects fall within that vision.

Last October, Gering hosted a public forum to hear from the public about what they thought was important for the city's future. The forum included a discussion of responses from an online survey the city had done earlier in 2018. As of last fall's forum, about 150 responses had been received.

Cheyenne, Wyoming-based Ayres and Associates helped develop the survey.

One of the common complaints on the survey was about Gering's zoning codes that said the city allows too many zoning variances that often contradict original zoning.

Folck said some of those complaints have since been addressed.

"There are a number of restrictions in our zoning codes that are inhibiting development in Gering," she said. "Some things were already changed because they keep coming up."

One of those is non-conforming use of property. Under current zoning, if a structure in a non-conforming zone is destroyed, the owner typically can't secure a loan to rebuild.

"This plan was developed with a lot of help from the public in our online survey," Folck said. "They gave us a better idea of what the residents want the community to be. The plan will help us present a unified vision of the future that isn't arbitrary."

The city's park system was one of the major items mentioned by the public.

Another important item is the ease of doing business and having the city support new business opportunities. "Retail is a struggle for us right

See **GERING, 3A**

BUSINESS

Roasting freshness

Couple opens I&L Coffee Roasters in Mitchell.

By Lauren Brant
Star-Herald

MITCHELL — A new coffee shop opened in Mitchell Monday after Isaac and Lacey Holbrook turned their dreams of opening a family business into a reality.

When the opportunity came up to rent the building on Center Avenue in Mitchell, Lacey took the initiative to open a business, I&L Coffee Roasters.

"Lacey brought it up about why don't we just do it," Isaac said. "With her on board, we just decided to do it."

The "I" stands for Isaac and the "L" stands for Lacey. Their logo is a hippo.

"I like hippos and it's memorable," Isaac said.

See **BUSINESS, 2A**



Isaac Holbrook pours black coffee into a measuring glass as he makes a drink for a customer. Holbrook and his wife, Lacey, opened a new coffee shop in Mitchell Monday.

LAUREN BRANT/
Star-Herald

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