

Water well development company expands to Wauneta

Written by Wauneta Breeze

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Tanner Kerchal, left, and Wellstone Industries owner Bryan Beckner stand in front of the Wauneta service rig and building. (Sheri Hink-Wagner | The Wauneta Breeze)

By Sheri Hink-Wagner

The Wauneta Breeze

It's always nice to see Wauneta's business community expand, especially when the new business is one with 40 years of experience behind it.

Wellstone Industries of Wray, Colo., owned by Bryan Beckner, has expanded its operations to Wauneta. Aaron Twiss serves as a partner in the company and is an important part of the daily operations.

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The company opened a shop at 119 South Arapahoe. The phone number at the shop is 308-394-5313.

Wauneta native Tanner Kerchal will serve as the manager of Wauneta operations for the company.

Beckner said, "I felt it was important to hire someone local and add jobs to the community." He hopes to hire 2-3 more employees for the Wauneta location in the future as the business takes off.

Wellstone Industries has been operating in Wray for over 40 years and was purchased by Beckner in 2010. The company drills, services and installs domestic and stock wells. It also installs trench water lines and water systems.

They are fully licensed in Nebraska for water well drilling and service.

The company's initial focus in Wauneta will be service and drilling, however Beckner plans to offer the full gamut of Wellstone's services including excavation in the future, hopefully within a year.

The company is also interested in completion of large projects in the Wauneta area and can bring crews and equipment from their Colorado location to complete them.

When asked what attracted him to Wauneta Beckner said initially the area was strategically interesting to them, but that Wauneta also has a similar customer base to those Wellstone already serves and that the Wauneta Economic Development Committee was very welcoming and willing to help the business expand to Wauneta.

Becker said, "From visiting Wauneta I could tell it was the type of community that is interested in staying and trying to grow—that's appealing to any new business."

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He went on to say he could tell almost immediately the community was very involved and supportive of the businesses in town.

Beckner and two of his sons, Chase, 12, and Joey, 10, were in town last week setting up accounts with other local businesses.

Chase said he is already quite fond of Wauneta and has plans to move here after college.

Beckner lives in Wray with his wife, Erika. In addition to Chase and Joey the Beckners have two other children, Madison, 13, and Jake, 19.