

Cats host Lyman
in first round of
state FB playoffs

6

Take a look behind
the scenes of a
football game

18

See the 2010 General Election
special section for candidate interviews
in this edition of the Independent Record

Thermopolis
Hot Springs

Independent Record

SPECIAL INTERNET PREVIEW

VOLUME 111, No. 43, October 28, 2010

THERMOPOLIS, WY 82443

USPS 627-300

75¢

Complaint alleges 'practicing medicine without a license' at detention center

by Cindy Glasson

Another complaint was filed against the Hot Springs County Sheriff's Office, more specifically, the county jail, on Thursday – citing negligence in administering medications to incarcerated individuals.

The complaint, filed by Daniel Evans with county attorney Jerry Williams, states no medical supervision is being used when giving prescriptions, including class A narcotics, to inmates, constituting, "practicing medicine without a license," a high misdemeanor offense.

According to the Controlled Substance Act, class A narcotics are opiates, primarily used for therapeutic pain relief. Common medications in this class include Darvon, Hydrocodone and Morphine.

Evans' complaint says there is "no line item for medical care in the sheriff's budget presented to the county commissioners."

According to sheriff Lou Falgoust, there is no medical line item in the department's budget, however, that is a different budget from the jail budget.

Deputy Daniel Pebbles, former jail supervisor, said there is a medical line item of \$5,000 annually in the jail's budget.

"By state statute 18-6-303, the commissioners are responsible for paying for medical care for the inmates," Pebbles said.

Evans' complaint also states, "Red Rock Family Practice used to provide jail supervision and has no current contract to provide this service."

According to Pebbles, there was an agreement, not an official contract, with Red Rock to provide services on site.

"About every two weeks we would have sick

call," Pebbles said. "We were charged \$15 per inmate and they would see anywhere from three to five inmates per visit. They were generally at the jail no longer than 15-30 minutes."

Red Rock provided a suggested contract to the jail some time ago that increased the charges for seeing the inmates from \$15 to their regular office visit rate.

County health option

Pebbles said he had talked with county health nurse Bree Gerber regarding the possibility of using her services for inmate care.

"It makes sense," Pebbles said. "We have a county entity that can provide what we need at a lower cost, so why not use them? One example would be an inmate needing a hepatitis test. As it stands now, we would need to take them over to Red Rock, pay for an office visit and pay for the test."

"If we worked through public health instead, all we would be paying for is the test. That is a huge cost savings for the county."

Williams said no agreement has been reached on costs with Red Rock.

"I know we take the proper steps to see doctors and take inmates to the hospital when needed," Williams said.

The complaint continues with, "Prescription drugs are administered almost daily to inmates," with a statement that Evans will provide a witness to a qualified investigator.

"Our county would be more at risk if we were not giving inmates their prescriptions," Falgoust said.

According to Pebbles, law enforcement does ev-

See Medicine on page 10

Domestic Violence Awareness



Silent Witness Ceremony

The H.O.P.E. Agency observed Domestic Violence Awareness Month with a Silent Witness ceremony Friday afternoon at the county annex. Above, Jennifer Domhoff lights the last of 59 candles in memory of those who have lost their lives to domestic violence in Wyoming since 1985. At left, Ranae Baldes, left, and Amanda Kraushaar release some of the 59 balloons sent skyward to end the ceremony.

— Joe Sovia photos

General election Nov. 2

Voters go to the polls Tuesday to cast their ballots in the 2010 General Election. If the August primary is an indication, there should be a strong turnout Nov. 2.

The highest profile race locally is for Hot Springs County sheriff. Republican incumbent Lou Falgoust, who is completing his second four-year term, is being challenged by Independent Sam Donahue. Dave Larson's name will not be on the ballot, but he has announced his candidacy as a write-in.

Races for the Thermopolis Town Council and Hot Springs County School Board are also contested. Those are non-partisan races.

Town of Thermopolis incumbent mayor Bill Malloy is being challenged by James Raymond.

There are four candidates for three seats on the town council. Incumbents Toni Casciato and Tom Linnan are running for reelection. Also on the ballot are Tony Larson and Marilyn Strausborger.

Four candidates are vying for three seats on the school board of trustees. They are incumbents Liz Mahoney, Belenda Willson and Hub Whitt, along with newcomer Tom Sullivan, Jr.

Bob Cunningham and Rich Olson are the candidates for the Hot Springs County Conservation District director at-large position. Current director Mar-

vin Andreen is not running for re-election.

Incumbents John Lumley and Mike Baker are the two candidates for two county commission seats. Incumbent Lorraine Quarberg is unopposed for State House District 28.

There are five Hot Springs County offices that are uncontested. Those candidates are Jerry Williams, attorney; Hans Odde, clerk; Mickey Jean Ford, treasurer; Shelley Deromedi, assessor; Terri Cornella, clerk of district court and Mike Mortimore, coroner. All six are Republicans.

A general election preview, with the Nov. 2 ballot, are in a special section of this week's Independent Record.

Lehman files complaint with county

by J.D. Stetson

On Monday, Julie M. Lehman submitted a formal complaint to the Hot Springs County Commission through the county clerk's office. The document asks the commission to conduct a formal investigation into the conduct of sheriff's deputies at a recent fundraising event for the Hot

Springs County High School cheerleader squad.

In the complaint, Lehman claims former undersheriff Dave Larson and sheriff's deputy A.J. Helm acted inappropriately on Sept. 5 in the Pamida parking lot, alleging they took pictures and acted in a lewd manner toward the cheerleaders while both

wearing Hot Springs County Sheriff's Department uniforms.

"During the course of the day Larson was continually taking photographs of the girls. Both he and Helm were engaged in conversation, laughing and giggling. Their lewd behavior and

See Lehman on page 10

Man dies in hunting accident

Deputies are investigating a fatal hunting accident that happened at about 6 p.m. Saturday on Owl Creek Road.

Matthew J. Schickel, 43, was found dead by his spouse near a haystack on his property with a single gunshot wound to his head from a high-powered rifle.

Deputies believe Schickel had been deer hunting on his property during the day, and he had several licenses for big-game animals in his possession, said sheriff Lou Falgoust.

While circumstances regarding the accident are unclear, there is no evidence it is any-

thing more than a hunting accident, Falgoust said.

Deputies are unsure if a fall off the haystack caused the accident or if the accident could have happened while Schickel was getting up after the fall, Falgoust said.

Tiger Scout making fire



Tiger Cub Ryan Mosser learns the finer art of starting a fire without help from a match from a Worland scout during the Scout-O-Rama in the State Park Saturday morning. Hundreds of scouts camped overnight for the annual event.

—Cindy Glasson photo