



Haire sentenced for manslaughter

by Mark Dykes

Wednesday, May 4 in Washakie County Fifth Judicial District Court, Anthony Haire of Worland was sentenced to 8-10 years with the Wyoming Department of Corrections.

The sentence is for a charge of manslaughter, stemming from an April 13, 2015 incident during which Haire shot and killed his stepfather-in-law, Jamey Don SoRelle. Both Haire and SoRelle are formerly of Hot Springs County.

Prosecuting attorney John P. Worrall said that, during sentencing, SoRelle's daughter Kelly Sharpensteen spoke of how hard it is to have her father taken from her. Worrall not-

ed SoRelle was 58 years old, and his family is losing out on perhaps another 20-plus years of being with him.

Worrall also noted Haire's wife, Liz, asserted Haire was defending his family, and his grandmother, Shirley, spoke of Haire's being a good person. Haire also made a statement to SoRelle's family, apologizing for his actions.

Worrall said Judge Robert E. Skar noted the most troubling thing about the case was Haire shot 12 times at SoRelle, hitting him nine times; of those, three were after SoRelle was on the ground.

Worrall requested a prison sentence of 15-

17 years for Haire — the maximum being 20 — but noted Haire did have a short criminal record with a couple minor offenses and an incident of aggravated assault with a weapon.

As for the April 2015 incident, Worrall provided some background, explaining SoRelle asked Haire and his wife to move onto his property in order to provide help as needed, which the couple did. The day of the incident, Worrall said, SoRelle was invited over for a barbecue. A friend of the Haire's came as well.

It appeared SoRelle left the barbecue un-

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photo by Lara Love

Going for it

Darian Macie and Lee Grimm aim to take away the tail worn by Owen Douglas during a youth Pokemon party at the Hot Springs County Library Friday. Once participants' tails were removed they were out of the game. Macie, Grimm and Douglas were the three final competitors with Grimm being the final participant left with a tail.

Winters to speak on federally managed lands

by April S. Kelley

State Representative Nathan Winters is slated to speak on "Federally Managed Lands Transfer to State Control" at 7 p.m. May 19 at the Big Horn Federal Meeting Room. The presentation and discussion will be put on by the Thermopolis Gun Club.

Winters will speak on current conditions as well as state ownership issues.

"I'm going to facilitate a conversation," Winters said. "I want people to come out and talk about these issues. It would be helpful to have a lot of different perspectives."

Winters explained that he wants to give an overview of all of the different perspectives as well as help people to understand the importance of having this discussion.

"We need to have this discussion because we've watched a dramatic change in the finances of our country in general," he said. "There are a lot of lands that are owned by the federal government. Those lands are inaccessible for taxable purposes by the state of Wyoming."

Winters said that 48 percent of the State of Wyoming is federally managed lands.

"There's been a long-standing effort to take a look at what would happen if the State of Wyoming took over these lands — what that would look like and how we can best manage them," Winters said.

One of the big issues is how people could gain access to public lands if they were owned by the State, Winters said.

"We do believe in multiple use," he said. "We believe in the access of individuals to hunt and fish and all of those different things."

Winters said there needs to be a discussion about the best practices to use to manage these public lands.

"Right now, the government is running them [federally managed lands] at a net loss," he said. "We would be able to manage them far more profitably."

Another issue that Winters brought up regarding federally managed lands was the number of forest fires.

"When you look at the number of forest fires over the last 30 years, most of those occurred on federally managed lands that are inaccessible," he said. "When you have local control, you can make better decisions. Local control means that decisions are being made by people who are actually on the ground, which I think is better. I think that's where the discussion needs to happen."

Town files complaint against county

by Mark Dykes

At recent Town Council meetings, motions were approved — with Councilman Dusty Lewis voting "no" — to file declaratory judgment against the County, for clarification of the County's duty under Title 25 to pay for detention, treatment and transportation of persons in need of mental hospitalization.

According to the complaint filed, the Town of Thermopolis is acting on behalf of the Thermopolis Police Department against the Board of County Commissioners of Hot Springs County.

The complaint states the Town desires to have the status and other legal relations between the Town and County determined by the Court involving obligation imposed by the statute commonly referred to as Title 25 which involves involuntary emergency detentions.

Thermopolis Police Officers are often called as first responder to calls requiring emergency detentions within the Town.

Following steps required by Title 25, according to the complaint, individuals subject to emergency detention are often held in Hot Springs County Memorial Hospital, as opposed to Hot Springs County Jail.

The hospital requires police officers to provide 24-hour standby to observe and protect subjects of Title 25 proceedings and hospital employees.

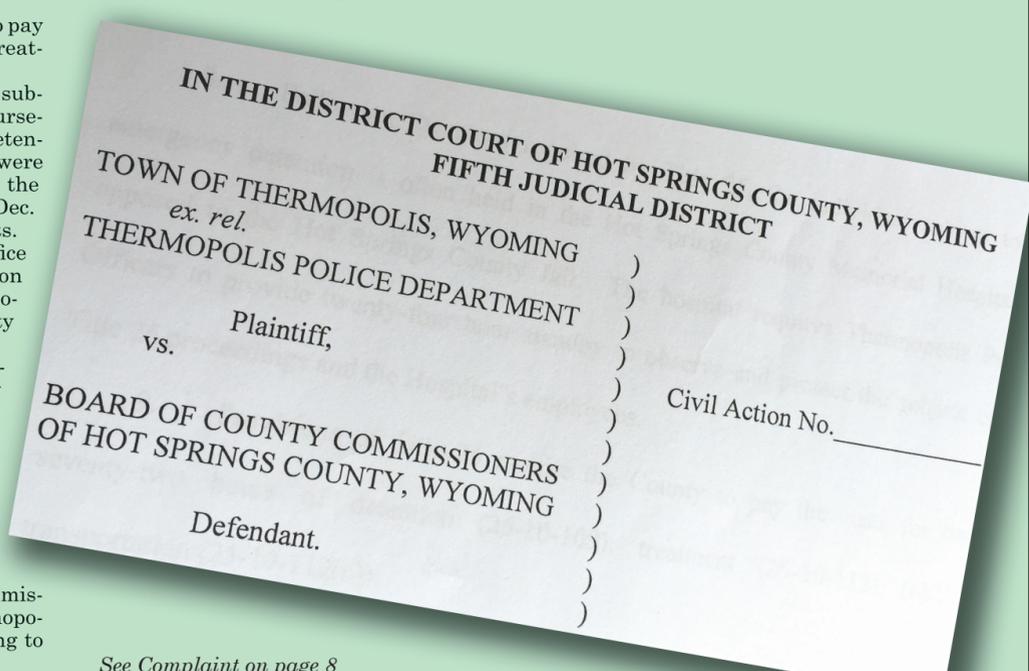
Provisions of Title 25 require the County to pay costs for the first 72 hours of detention, treatment and transportation.

The Thermopolis Police Department has submitted vouchers to the County for reimbursement for expenses related to emergency detention. The complaint states said vouchers were submitted by Police Chief Steve Shay in the amount of \$2,157.29 by letter on or about Dec. 29. The vouchers were attached as exhibits.

The Hot Springs County Sheriff's Office typically attends to emergency detention situations outside the Town of Thermopolis boundaries and generally within County boundaries.

The complaint further states there is information and belief the Board of County Commissioners has a budget line item for reimbursement for detention, treatment and/or transportation, and reimburses the Sheriff's Office for expenses related to Title 25 emergency detentions. There is further information and belief the Sheriff's Office declines Title 25 emergency calls within Town limits.

The complaint alleges the Board of Commissioners has refused to reimburse the Thermopolis Police Department for expenses relating to detention treatment and transportation.



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