

## “Meth house” owner

Joseph Goebbels, Adolph Hitler’s minister of propaganda said, “If you tell a lie often enough, it becomes the truth.”

Not to suggest that Cheyenne Police Chief Bob Fecht should be compared to Goebbels, but I wanted to provide the source of the quote that so aptly applies here in Cheyenne.

To aid in getting legislation passed to provide both funds and authority to take over property privately owned, Fecht has repeatedly misled the public and his peers about his dealings with the owner of the house at 211 E. 3rd Avenue.

Because no one would think to ask the police chief to go under oath for his testimony to Senate committees, he was able to tell them that this Avenues house had been a clandestine meth laboratory when, in fact, it had not. He continues the myth he has created by telling a cub reporter for the WT-E that the owner of the house “has never taken his calls.”

By phrasing it that way, he could not be challenged for any record of those calls nor whether the owner had refused to return his calls. It is a subtle distinction but one of great importance. When you’ve never called someone, you can say they have never taken your calls. Of course not, there were no calls to take.

The owner of this house on 3rd Avenue was named, along with his home address in Boulder, Colorado, in a recent WT-E story which was full of inaccuracies and half-truths. I have known him for a few years - since my first story about two of the people who resided in the house during the worst of the drug use. My review of their District Court case files indicated that the assistant district attorney told the judge at sentencing that the house had not been a “clandestine meth laboratory,” but something far less.

I have spoken on the phone with the owner on a few occasions. He has never been hard to reach and after the first attempt, when I left my phone no. with his wife, he was quick to call back.

Today, March 28th, I had planned to call the owner in the presence of another person just to prove how easy it is to get him on the phone. A half hour before my planned call, the owner called me. He told me that Bob Fecht has never called him. He told me that Bob Fecht had never left a message for him. He told me that he has had a handful of contacts with the CPD, once to clean up trash someone dumped in the alley behind his house - probably as a result of the negative publicity Fecht has generated against the property. He has told me that he contacted DEA and they told him they did not place the red “WARNING” sign on the front door. Very likely someone at CPD did, at Fecht’s direction. The sign is incomplete. It obviously was placed without authority and no one wants the owner to know who posted it.

## Upcoming 6<sup>th</sup> Penny referendum

Will Laramie County voters approve over \$105 million in spending for a handful of specific projects?

Predicting what Laramie County voters will do in terms of providing local government large sums of additional money can’t be done with accuracy.

Whether the voter mix has changed to the point that all tax propositions will pass, regardless of need or merit, or whether the dominance of only supportive messages leads to success, almost all 6th penny requests have been approved over the last ten years.

Early in this campaign, it is interesting to note that both the City and Laramie County mailed out favorable propaganda even before the ballot was approved.

Voters can expect a steady and slanted diet of what amounts to “vote yes” messages will inundate local media. Under the guise of providing “information,” the City has used their house organ at 702 W. Lincolnway for regular stories about the goodness of the rec center they want \$55 million to build.

One after another, the mayor and City employees will be allowed to use the editorial pages of the Tribune-Eagle to further their effort to convince voters to approve the \$55 million. Readers are not going to receive any information about

the negative effect a new rec center will have on the Johnson Pool, the Municipal Pool, the YMCA or other private businesses offering activities which will be a part of the new rec center.

Viewers of Channel 5 have seen a commercial aired in support of the rec center. Noticeably missing was the required disclosure of who paid for the commercial to be aired. Even if Channel 5 put it on for free, it has to show that it was an “in kind” donation from Channel 5.

But, just as the Chamber of Commerce has done through the Tribune-Eagle in past 6th penny elections, those in support of the additional penny of sales tax simply ignore election and campaign laws. Channel 5 is equally in violation of campaign laws by allowing a commercial to be broadcast without disclosure.

It isn’t that the supporters can’t win this election and comply with state statute. They just choose not to. They do not believe they have to and are confident that the Wyoming Secretary of State’s office does not have the competence to catch their violations nor the guts to enforce laws that exist if they did catch them. So they go along their merry way and challenge someone to sue to stop them.

It was good to see Laramie County Coroner Marty Luna speak realistically about the chances of the County’s big ticket

request being approved. While most in City and County government may believe voters will obediently approve anything put in front of them, apparently Marty does not share that confidence. He is proceeding toward a new morgue location in case the County doesn’t get the \$30 million they are asking for. Without the Fair being a part of the request, it is not as likely the County will get their money.

Elsewhere in this issue, the HR Home Owners Association weighs in on the shooting range. Knowing that the controlled media will provide ample free space, unlimited “news” articles in support of at least the rec center proposition, and reduced advertising rates for those in agreement, the Cheyenne Herald will offer some exposure for groups who have a position on the other side.

The fact that opposition viewpoints may be presented on these pages does not mean the Cheyenne Herald opposes any or all of the propositions. If the insiders are allowed to “cheat” or do not follow the laws, it is likely we will oppose passage because of that behavior. It has not been the position here to try to tell voters how to vote. They have to decide that.

There has been talk again in the City Building that county residents may have to pay higher fees to use the rec center than do city residents. If that is an official position, we will oppose the rec center.

In the same 3/21/08 story, it was reported that WT-E “archives” indicated that the owner had not returned their calls “for years.” I believe that, based on my experience with the guy, that is also a lie. Tell a lie often enough, it becomes the truth. Even one of the people who lived in the house while heavy drug use was being engaged in, was able to easily reach the owner, based on my providing each with an e-mail address for the other.

I would make the WT-E the same offer I have made to the police chief: If you cannot get in touch with the guy and need assistance, contact me.

The owner is seeking an experienced professional who can do an inspection of his house so he can determine the extent of any cleanup necessary. He is prepared to do what is necessary but not based on the word of the Cheyenne police chief who has used this house as his poster child for unnecessary legislation. He is also leery of Fecht because he was once contacted by a guy who told him he had made arrangements with “Bob Fecht” to buy the house and offered \$25,000.00 - telling the owner it would take “hundreds of thousands of dollars” to clean up the house.

The owner knows the house has to be cleaned up for him to either rent it again or sell it. He is willing to make that clean up but there aren’t a lot of businesses that do that sort of work. If a Herald reader knows a reputable and experienced business that handles these remediations, please call.

### Developing ...

More on the unsolved murder of Jamie Kamai.

Who drove the construction truck into the Corvette?

How did Laramie County legislators fare?

Why hasn’t the Norris Viaduct construction begun?

*Attend the 2008 Summer Olympics*

You can enjoy the  
**TRIP of a Lifetime!**

*Plan now to visit China and be a spectator at the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing!*



**631-6620**

www.balloonmantravel.com

**BEIJING 2008**  
August 8-24, 2008

**Subscription Order or Contribution**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

Subscription       Contribution

Mail to: The Cheyenne Herald - P.O. Box 2208 - Cheyenne WY 82003

**2008 Schedule and Rates – [www.cheyenneherald.com](http://www.cheyenneherald.com)**