

## New hospital CEO

The lead story in the October 14, 2008 issue of the Cheyenne Herald was headed:

### CRMC Doctors 2 Hospital Board 0

In that story, I indicated that allowing the workers to choose their boss wasn't such a good idea. Even if the boss is qualified, it just isn't wise to let underlings decide who they work for. I pointed out that in the letter an unnamed number of physicians submitted to the Board and

county commissioners who name the board members, the physicians not only demanded the resignation of the CEO and board chairman, they named the CEO's replacement. One of them.

The new doc was named "Interim" CEO at the time. I rightly predicted that he would become the permanent CEO after a respectable period of time had passed. In fact, I offered a wager: "Five will get you ten that the interim guy becomes the permanent CEO." Guess what? He did.

## Before they even call, the answer is "no" *I don't want to be a district court judge*

Reading on the Wyoming Supreme Court webpage, I learned that I was qualified to be a district court judge.

And, with Ed Grant retiring, Laramie County is in dire need of a decent district court judge.

But the selection committee would be wasting its time if it calls me.

I'm not interested.

I could provide a list of reasons but first let me share with readers what the qualifications are and how the process works.

*Thankfully, this one does go through Congress. Clarence Brimmer has been waiting since the late 1970's for someone to be confirmed to succeed him.*

It ain't exactly the "Buddy System," but knowing someone never hurt anyone move up. At least knowing the right somebodies. The governor's wife, etc.

Here's the way it works: Chief Justice Voigt, chairman of the Judicial Nominating Commission, has announced that Ed Grant is retiring as of August 5, 2009.

*(Just an aside: If you're planning to whack anybody repeatedly with a car axle shaft, you probably won't be fortunate enough to be tried in Ed Grant's courtroom. So don't do it.)*

Chief Justice Voigt offered the typical, blah, blah, blah in praise of Grant. Then he outlined how Grant's replacement would be chosen.

The Judicial Nominating Commission (JNC) will accept "expressions of interest" from qualified persons to fill the vacancy through May 6, 2009, said the Chief Justice. The JNC is comprised of the Chief Justice, three attorneys elected by the Wyoming State Barr (Todd H. Hambrick of Casper, Rhonda Woodard of Cheyenne, and Michael S. Messenger of Thermopolis), and three non-lawyers appointed by the governor (three men, one from Rock Springs, one from Yoder and one from Sheridan).

Let's count them up by gender. Not counting the governor, who makes the ultimate choice from the list of three men - excuse me, candidates, given him, there are one ... two ... three ... four ... five ... and counting the Chief Justice, six men and, let's be careful here so we don't miss anyone ..... one woman. That sounds about right. Six times as many men as

women will present a list to one man who will decide. Probably one of those glass ceilings things.

At least the Wyoming Supreme Court is more evenly represented. Wait a minute. There's but a single woman on that court, with ... let's count 'em to be sure: Voigt ... Hill ... Golden ... Burke ... they're all men. And Justice Kite is the only woman. Four to one. That's equality in Wyoming.

I am so certain that the governor would choose me that I can't risk allowing my name to be on that short list he receives.

Here are the qualifications, according to the Chief Justice: One must be learned in the law (I humbly nod) - at least twenty-eight years of age (passed that a few years back) - a citizen of the United States (seventh generation, I believe it is) - and a resident of Wyoming for the past two years (23 years, 1 month exactly).

Interesting that you don't have to be a lawyer to be a judge. No quarrel here. It would be interesting to have a non-lawyer seated on the district court bench. He (forgive the pronoun, we've already established that a woman can't rise above the circuit court level in Laramie County) might feel the need to actually research the law before rendering seat-of-the-pants decisions that the Supremes have to volley back for a second try at getting it right.

I do not seek the seat on the Laramie County District Court. If nominated, I will not run. If chosen, I will not serve. I know my popularity with the governor is high. From what I've been reliably told, every since I pointed out that his wife's inaugural duds were made in Denver, he can't stop talking about me. By making it known that I won't serve if chosen, he won't choose me. Will he?

There is one glitch in my plan.

The Chief Justice points out "Rule 7" of the Wyoming Judicial Nominating Rules.

"The Commission should at all times take cognizance of the fact that the best qualified nominees may be those whom it would be most difficult to persuade to serve. Accordingly, the commission should not limit its consideration to persons who have been suggested by others or to persons who have indicated their willingness to serve. ..." Damned. I'm still not off the hook. Can you imagine such a group going after the best candidate if they didn't apply for the job? When pigs fly. Or Wyo sends a Dem to D.C.

**Come on by and weigh something.  
It doesn't cost much.**

**Freight, Military, Trailers & Trucks, Livestock, Salvage, Metal & More  
UP TO 100,000 POUNDS -- 4' AND 70' SCALES -- GROSS & TARE WEIGHTS**

**Cheyenne Public Scales**  
802 W. 21st St. (between Snyder and Reed Ave.)  
307.634.2758

163-186

### Joe Baumgartner

is now General Manager - Shari's, E. Lincolnway



Friday  
**CHICKEN FRIED STEAK**  
Midnite to 11 am **\$3.99**



3609 E. Lincolnway  
**OPEN 24 HOURS**

## TUNE-UPS AND MORE ...

**C.A.R.S.**



**CHEYENNE AUTO REPAIR & SERVICE**

604 W. Lincolnway / 632-0498

**PRIDE. Positive Results In Daily Effort**

### ADVERTISE IN THE CHEYENNE HERALD

\$36.00 / Insertion in Black / White (2 Col x 2")  
\$50.00 / Insertion in Black / White (2 Col x 3")  
\$100.00 / Insertion - Qtr Page (2 Col x 6 1/8")  
\$175.00 - Half Page (4 Col x 6 1/8")

637-2879