Wyoming Legislators!

Before the vote on Private School Licensing amendments, read on ...

Diploma mills (degree sellers) hold a unique place in American business.

Pretending to be educational institutions, they specialize in the exchange of one piece of paper for another. "Students" send them a check. They send the faux student a diploma (or degree).

In some states, such as Oregon and Michigan, these scammers are unwelcome. In other states, like Wyoming and Mississippi, the welcome mat is laid out for them.

There is a simple process to separate the legitimate educational institutions from the degree sellers. It is called accreditation. Then, there are legitimate and illegitimate accreditation firms. The legit ones are recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, the illegit ones are not.

Lacrosse University is an example of one of the worst kind of degree sellers. That is the "institution" where Bob Fecht, Cheyenne's police chief, purchased his bogus master's degree. Lacrosse is not accredited by a legitimate accrediting agency. It claims accreditation from an illegitimate one - ADLP.

Wyoming merely requires licensing for degree selling enterprises to operate safely from within its borders. In Cheyenne alone, American Capital University, American Global University, American City University, Preston University, Kennedy-Western University, and Paramount University of Technology, were operating with the blessing of the Wyoming Department of Education.

These unaccredited degree sellers blacken the eyes of Cheyenne's accredited private schools - College America, University of Phoenix, and IBMC.

Legislation is being proposed during this session which would require the degree sellers to become accredited with a firm recognized by the USDOE. But it provides too much time to become legitimate. Five years is unnecessary. Three years at the most. Two is better.

Legislators ... and others: Articles which have appeared in the Cheyenne Herald pertaining to diploma mills, mail order degrees and related subjects now appear on the Cheyenne Herald website. (www.CheyenneHerald.com) Specifics about the purchase of a master's degree by Cheyenne's police chief and the public payment for that worthless degree are included in the stories.

You read it here first!

Even when the Associated Press, Casper Star-Tribune or Wyoming Tribune-Eagle "hijack" our stories, Cheyenne Herald readers know the truth. They read it here first!

FREE ... FREE ... FREE ... FREE ... FREE ... FREE

THE CHEYENNE HERALD

the local advocacy journal

In depth. Independent. Stories of Local Interest.

City of Cheyenne Paid for Police Chief's Bogus Mail-Order "Master's Degree"

CHIEF BOB FECHT REQUESTED AND RECEIVED MORE THAN $2500 FROM THE CITY TREASURER FOR A DIPLOMA WHICH ISN'T WORTH THE PAPER IT'S PRINTED ON

Subject of Federal Investigation

First!

Followed!

Wyoming Tribune-Eagle

UW's Barta eyes job in

Schools get tough on teen drinking

Looney moments hit the gallery

The Cheyenne Herald broke the story about Police Chief Bob Fecht on Monday, April 18, 2005.

The Wyoming Tribune-Eagle trailed the local advocacy journal with their story on Friday, April 22, 2005 - four days later!

Cheyenne's KGWN CBS Channel 5 website briefly reported (from the Cheyenne Herald's story) two days after it broke on April 18th and credited the source as "The Associated Press."

Mirror and pick-up stories are all over the US and internet now - wrongly attributed to the AP or to the copycat Wyoming Tribune-Eagle story - sometimes even the Casper Star - which never filed an original story on this subject of a bogus master's degree.

Fecht defends master's

County commissioners again piggyback on county residents lawsuit

After being taken for granted by the city once again, the county commissioners, by the narrow margin of 2-1, have authorized the county attorney to join another resident's lawsuit against the city.

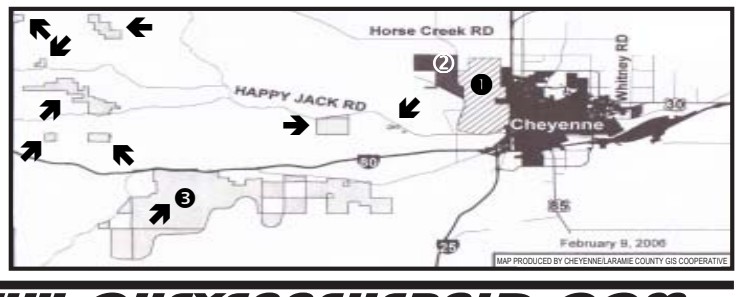
County resident after county resident strode to the microphone recently to implore the commissioners to provide them representation - something the mayor and city council have no duty to provide and do not. Influential voices from ranchers, lawyers, bankers and other county property owners made their case.

One related his poor experiences with the city on city wells on his ranch and the landfill. Non-city residents talked about attending city council meetings, only to have their concerns ignored. Some also own land or property in the city, as well as out in the rural county. It makes no difference. The mayor and city council members, as a group, never listen to or heed those concerns.

Gay Woodhouse, attorney for neighbors to a city approved annexation which includes the Grasslands Research Station and Ware Pump Station, presented her legal position on the city's action. She and attorney John Walker have prevailed at the Supreme Court on appeals ranging from rezoning county land after annexation, legal standing to appeal annexation, and an illegal annexation itself.

The city has retained an outside law firm to defend its past actions with illegal annexation. Perry Dray, et al, has been paid about $300,000.00 to represent the city - just on this legal subject.

After Ms. Woodhouse made her case to the commissioners, county landowners made known their various concerns. Included was the one mile boundary around any annexed land inside which the city would control the actions of the landowners. County residents do not want to be under the control of the city - if they can avoid it. Some fear the extended reach of the city, if Tom Segrave has his way. Segrave has made it known that he thinks the city should annex all land owned by it in Laramie County, regardless of the distance from the city proper.

The map below shows eight parcels of land in the county that the city now owns. They include the Belvoir Ranch (No. 3), as well as smaller parcels like the landfill, Sherard Water Treatment Plant and six other parcels stretching to the Albany County line. The map shows the pattern the city has taken north and east of the former city. Enclosures are being created by haphazard annexations. No. 2 on the map is the Grasslands Research Station and No. 1 is, of course, F.E. Warren Air Force Base. It is obvious that the satellite city of Grasslands would be a great distance from police and fire protection of the city.

The county commissioners must initiate these lawsuits, not piggyback on them.