

"ANYTHING TWO PEOPLE KNOW IS NOT A SECRET."



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Outlaw Saloon owner faces revocation of probation

"How much is that puppy in the back room?"

by DaveFEATHERLY

When Laramie County District Attorney Jon Forwood went to bat for Guy John Jedlicki (known as "Mitch" in Cheyenne) in front of District Court Judge James Burke nearly two years ago, it was to sell a plea agreement and sentencing on four original felony counts of check fraud.

The total amount of the four checks written to bull riding contestants and the stock provider for an event at the Outlaw Saloon was \$16,200.00. According to court documents, the account the checks were written on had less than \$175.00 in it at the time of the check issuance.

Each of the four Counts carried a possible sentence of 1-10 years and a \$10,000.00 fine. A jury trial was set for March 16, 2004 but a plea was arranged. Counts II, III, and IV were dismissed and Jedlicki pled guilty to Count I, with full restitution.

The prosecution (Jon Forwood) and defense attorney agreed to a sentence of 2-4 years, suspended - with three years probation.

At the sentencing hearing, Judge Burke commented that "I'm looking at that (sic) this is the fourth felony conviction."

The Cheyenne Herald has since learned the nature, place and time of the three earlier felony convictions the judge referred to on June 1, 2004.

What is surprising is that local law enforcement did not find the convictions when they did their background investigations on two liquor license applications and/or renewals where Guy J. Jedlicki is shown as a minority partner - but 10% or more ownership in both the Outlaw Saloon (40%) and Cowboy Rockin' Rodeo (10%).

Twice in the sentencing hearing transcript, the very capable Judge Burke commented on the four felony convictions. The Cheyenne Herald is covering a conviction of a guy out of Casper where his THIRD and questionable felony conviction brought the sentencing enhancement as a habitual criminal down on his head and his sentence was increased in a retrial after a first conviction was reversed by the Wyoming Supreme Court.

The judge, reluctantly perhaps, agreed to the plea from Jon Forwood. After the defense attorney brushed aside the earlier three felony convictions before saying that this conviction (remember, reduced from four counts to one of check fraud) was for bad checks that weren't payable to himself. As to sentencing, Forwood chimed in, "I would suggest it be on the low end, two to four, three years probation."

That is what the judge ordered.

Thanks to Jon Forwood's refusal to "accommodate" me with information about pending cases, I am forced to visit the District Court offices periodically to review certain files for myself. I have some case files pulled that I have been covering or am interested in reviewing.

On January 26, 2006, I found an "AFFIDAVIT FOR REVOCATION OF PROBATION" has been filed by Mr. Jedlicki's probation and parole agent.

According to the Affidavit, "On or about November 14, 2005, Said Defendant has admitted and signed a statement to consuming alcohol and drugs." Defendant is Guy J. Jedlicki. This is a "direct violation" of his probation on the check fraud matter.

The Affidavit further states: "On or about January 3, 2006, Said Defendant has admitted and signed a statement to consuming alcohol." That is another direct violation of his probation.

An Order to Show Cause Hearing is scheduled for February 6, 2006 at 3:00 pm. What will be the DA's position now?

Liquor license renewals are coming up soon for both the Outlaw Saloon and the Cowboy. Both Clerks (City and County) have been made aware of the three previous felonies, as has Cheyenne Police Chief Bob Fecht (by reading the Cheyenne Herald) and Laramie County Sheriff Danny Glick. Will they be renewed?

Legislation needs to be changed to require applicants to disclose not only that they have a felony conviction in the past, but how many, where and what for. In the meantime, what happens on these two?

In the last issue of the Cheyenne Herald, there was a story that asked the question: "Has the Cheyenne Animal Shelter become a seller of animals?"

That was a loaded question because I already knew the answer. Yes.

I've had an alarming number of calls, e-mails and letters commenting on a story about an expensive bird that was being sold on consignment at the Shelter.

A reader expressed concerned about the lack of cooperation from Shelter personnel in finding the owners of a dog that had come to her door. Recognizing that the Lhasa Apso was well-groomed, well-fed and healthy, the woman was sure the dog had an owner - it was not a stray - and thought the owner would contact the Shelter when the dog was missed.

The Shelter employee told the woman she would have to bring the dog to them - that they were too busy to be a matchmaker performing lost and found duties.

The resident had no intention of taking the animal out there and risking its future when an owner had to had to surface. So she took it upon herself to call the veterinarians and dog groomers in the City and located the owner.

The point of her call to the Herald was the lack of interest on the part of the Shelter in providing a service which could match lost pets to their frantic owners.

In confirmation of our earlier story - asking whether the Shelter was becoming the local Pets R Us and retailing animals - a woman sent an e-mail with her story. She said she visits the new shelter and wondered why there were no puppies available - only adult dogs. She said the "old shelter" had a puppy room for those seeking a young canine.

She was asked by a friend to go to the Shelter before Christmas and see if there were any small puppies available. Finding none once again, she went to the front desk and asked why they never had puppies - why there was no puppy room like in the old shelter.

Such is not the case, apparently.

She said she was shocked when the employee told her, "We have puppies. Would you like to see them? The area is closed to the public."

She accepted the offer and was taken "to the other side of the shelter" where she was shown a cage full of half-breed Chihuahua/dachshund mix puppies about six weeks old. She was told the puppies were being sold for \$400.00 each. There were about six puppies in that cage and more in other cages.

Her friend could not justify \$400.00 for a non-papered half-breed puppy, so they waited until after Christmas, thinking the price may come down. She didn't think the Shelter could sell them for "the ridiculous price" they were asking.

She called the Shelter after Christmas and was told that all the puppies had been sold.

A man who I know well sent me an e-mail with a similar story. A neighbor of his wanted a certain breed of dog and had called the Shelter to be put on a waiting list. On a Saturday last October, a military family turned in such a dog because they couldn't have pets in their new home. A Shelter staffer called the woman and told her the dog was there. She then decided that she didn't want the dog but had found out the price was to be \$150.00 for it. The neighbor immediately told my friend's wife about the dog and they sprang into action. The next day, an excursion to the Shelter with grandchildren led to everyone wanting to "adopt" that dog.

While processing the paperwork, he told me, they were informed that the price was now \$300.00. The explanation was that this dog, discovered to be "a rare and valuable breed much sought after, would cost \$900.00 to \$1,200.00 if purchased on the market." He had already told the grandchildren they could have the dog so the purchase was completed. The dog had spent less than 24 hours at the Shelter so couldn't have eaten much or been neutered in that time. The dog was given to the Shelter to have a good home found for it. It has a good home but the markup on the donation is shameful. This practice must stop and now!

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